

# The Light



## Rally Day—Sunday, September 11



Outdoor Worship with Blessing of the Backpacks 9:30 a.m.  
Carnival Games and Activities with lunch 10:45 a.m.

Invite your friends and family to join us as we begin our fall worship and education season. **Hot Dogs will be provided and you are invited to bring a potluck dish to share.**



## Worship Schedule: Returning to Two Services

**Beginning on Sunday, September 18 we will return to two services.** The times have changed a little. The first service (traditional) will begin at 8:30 a.m. Our second service will begin at 11:00 a.m. Sunday School for 3 year olds through adults will begin at 10:00 a.m.

## MLC Call Committee: The Pastoral Call Questionnaire is Here!

Enclosed in this issue of The Light is a questionnaire that provides you the opportunity to share with the Call Committee your ideas about MLC and what you want in our next pastor. We hope that every member of the MLC family will fill out a questionnaire. If you need extra copies, you can copy the enclosed questionnaire or obtain additional copies at church. **Please fill out and return the Pastoral Call Questionnaire to MLC by October 1.**

### **Why is the questionnaire important?**

Your Call Committee will read every questionnaire. We will use the information to help us fill-out the Ministry Site Profile, which we plan to present to the Oregon Synod Bishop by mid-November. In addition, the information we gather from the questionnaires will help us prepare questions we will ask prospective pastors during interviews. It is very important that we hear from as many members of the MLC family as possible. Your thoughts and ideas are important to us! Whether you have been coming to MLC for 6 months or 60 years, we want to hear from you.

### **Small group Forum discussions continue...**

In August the Call Committee met several times with members of the congregation in small groups to listen to your thoughts, hopes and concerns about the future of MLC and the calling of a new pastor. These small group sessions have been very informative. There will be additional opportunities to meet with members of the Call Committee this month (Sunday September 18th and 25th and Wednesday evening September 21st). If you have not already participated in one of the Forum small groups, we encourage you to do so this month. Look for the sign-up board in the narthex.

**The MLC Call Committee:** Dennis Bourdette (Chair), Kathy Olson (Vice-Chair), Beth Lillie (Secretary), Pastor Janelle Aldrich-Dale (Advisor), Guy Altman, Glen Hess, Barbara Johnson, Mark Korsness, Elmer Lampe, Les Larson, Kari Liebert, Melanie North, Linda Smith, Jean Storm and Shelby VanLeuven

## Milwaukie Lutheran

## September 2011

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## • From Our Pastor •



A few years ago a friend of mine sent this to me. I was thinking about it the other day and thought that I would share it with you.

### THE BUZZARD

If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

### THE BAT:

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkable nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

### THE BUMBLEBEE:

A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

### PEOPLE:

In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up!

Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, but faith looks up!

Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly and trust in our Creator who loves us.

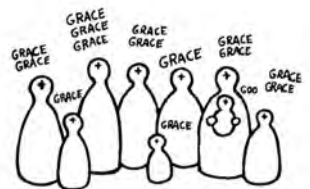
I've never been able to find out who wrote this, but when I Googled it today in hopes that I might find that information, I ran across a Snopes entry that amused me. There were several people who contributed to it in order to "debunk" it based on their own experiences with animal behavior. I couldn't help but think that they had missed that point. On further consideration, I think that they also proved the point. I have no idea if all these things are true, but this is not a scientific treatise on animal behavior – it's a parable that tells us where to look when our lives get complicated.

Summer is coming to an end, and we are already making plans for the beginning of the program year. As things begin to get busier, I hope that we can all appreciate the message of this little parable. May this school and program year be a blessing for all of us!

In Christ, Pastor Janelle

## • Baptized We Live Series for October •

Mark Your Calendars...This October, Pastor Janelle will be teaching a four-week series from *Baptized We Live* by Dan Erlander. It will be during the Sunday School hour at 10 a.m. Although this has been designed as a membership class it will not be limited to those who would like to join the church...It is open to everyone who would like to know more about "Lutheranism as a Way of Life". Be watching next month's newsletter and the weekly bulletins for more details. Books will be available for \$4 each.



©Daniel W. Erlander

## • Missionary Support •



Brian and Kristen Konkol

The Konkols moved from missionary service in Guyana two years ago to Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Together, they mentor young adult missionaries serving in education, social justice projects, community development, health and wellness, music, the arts and children's ministry.

We have promised to give a minimum \$1000 annual to support their work in South Africa. Envelopes are available in the bulletins the second Sunday of each month. You may also donate at any time. Make checks payable to Milwaukie Lutheran with "For Missionary Support" marked in the memo line.

## • Drought Relief Needs •

Two years of sporadic rain—and the driest year since 1951—have devastated the Horn of Africa. Crops have failed and drinking water is scarce, putting the lives of over 12 million people at risk. As a result, more than 3,000 refugees are flooding into refugee camps each day seeking food and water.

As a church that is called to do God's work in the world, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is already helping to provide enriched porridge for small children and safe water to all of the 500,000 people living in these camps. Thanks to the generosity of ELCA members like you, ELCA World Hunger has helped protect African families living in drought for over a decade. Each year, over a million dollars of aid has brought relief to people in drought-vulnerable areas of Africa. And thanks to special gifts of members to ELCA Disaster Response, an additional \$1.25 million has been committed to help those impacted by this crisis.

Your gifts now to ELCA World Hunger support long-term sustainable solutions to hunger and poverty. Your additional gifts to ELCA Disaster Response, designated for "Drought Relief," will be used in full—100 percent—in response to this disaster. Thank you for your generous offerings of prayer and financial support. Make checks payable to Milwaukie Lutheran and mark "Drought Relief" on the memo line or use the designated Disaster Response envelopes in the pews.

## • Back Pack Buddies News •

Time to think about school already! It was great to see our Backpack Buddies red tub receive food items for the kids even during the summer months, but we will have to start getting serious about filling the tub as the weekend lunches will start and that's when the food seems to fly out of the tub! We know Milwaukie Elementary School really appreciates the lunches. Shopping at Fred's on the first Tues. of the month - seniors get a discount. A food list will appear next to the tub. Soooo... thanks for all you have done for the kids and for all you will do in the future! Put a note in the Community Outreach mailbox if you would like to help shop, pack or deliver the lunches. THANKS TO ALL!

## • Sharing Our Abundance...Wine Ingathering •

As fall approaches and we begin to think about gathering our bounty from fields and farms, the Worship, Music and Arts Ministry Team would like to gather in wine to be used during Holy Communion. Everyone is invited to bring their favorite bottle(s) of **red** wine to worship on Sunday, September 25. The bottles will then be stored and used as needed. This provides everyone the opportunity to share with one another from our abundance and celebrate that as we worship at the table of the One who came *"that we might have life and have it abundantly!"*

## • MLC Women's News •

### The Women are having: A Gathering

*"...Where 2 or 3 are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matthew 18:20*

Tuesday, September 13th, at 6 p.m., women of all ages are invited to GATHER together in the fellowship hall for a salad pot-luck dinner and introduction to a Bible study on the book of Mark. This Bible study will run from September 2011 through May 2012. Pastor Janelle will introduce the study of Mark, and lead us in a discussion of the September Bible study. Studies will continue monthly and will be offered at various times. Select a time that works for you, or vary the time to meet your busy schedule.

Bible study groups (Gathering Groups) will meet the second week of each month. These groups have the option to meet either in group members' homes or at the church. Currently we have 3 Gathering Group times, all the second week of the month: Tuesday 10:00 a.m.; Tuesday 7:00 p.m.; and Friday 11:30 a.m. Depending on interest level, more times may be offered.

The resource for this Bible study is the monthly magazine "Gather", previously know as "Lutheran Woman Today". Former MLC Circles are encouraged to reorganize as "Gathering Groups" and invite women of all ages to join. The women of Creator Lutheran Church have been invited to join this introductory event and our Gathering Groups. Women of all ages and religious affiliations are also invited to attend. Consider inviting a friend, family member or colleague. If you subscribe to "Gather/Lutheran Woman Today", bring your copy and a Bible 9/13. Pastor Janelle also suggests we read the entire book of Mark. It will take you about an hour. Jot down any questions you have and bring them along.

### Piecemakers Quilting

Do you know who we are? The Piecemakers are a group of 25-30 women who gather in the fellowship hall on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. What do we do? The Piecemakers make Comfort and Passage quilts for local hospitals, members, and friends. The Piecemakers completed over 500 quilts in 2010! *"But, I don't know how to sew."* Not a problem! All you need to know is how to tie a knot. The Piecemakers are always looking for those who cut and sew, but desperately need people to tie knots. If you want to learn more, experienced quilters are always willing to teach those who are interested. About 1/4 of the Piecemakers are non-members of MLC. Family and friends are always welcome. *"What do I need to do if I am interested in joining the Piecemakers?"* Come to the fellowship hall on the first and third Friday at 10 a.m. and bring a sandwich and a piece of fruit. Nothing else is required. All quilt materials are donated. The Piecemakers warmly look forward to greeting you and helping you get started.

### Knitting as a Spiritual Practice

A small group of women meet monthly in the church library to knit prayer shawls. Knitting has emerged as a spiritual practice that opens a way to meditation. Novice knitters learn from seasoned mentors. If this sounds like something you might enjoy, the Prayer Shawl Ministry knitters meet from 9:00-10:00 the first Friday of every month. Completed prayer shawls are donated to Milwaukie Providence Medical Center, congregation members and friends, and recently 13 prayer shawls were donated to the Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention.

Another group of women (*you know who you are*) knit hats for street youth and disadvantaged children in the Portland Metro area. Last year these ambitious knitters donated over 100 hats! Ladies, grab your knitting needles and join the first Friday knitters. We have a box of donated yarn and needles. No experience required! Bring your interest and we will get you started.

### Future Dates to Add to Your Calendar

Sunday, November 20, 2011: Thankoffering Sunday and Blessing of the Quilts

Sunday, December 18, 2011: Christmas Gift and Bake Sale

Tuesday, December 20, 2011: Women's Candlelight Communion Service

## • Music News for Fall: Singers and Ringers Wanted •

Milwaukie Lutheran Church's choir will resume weekly rehearsals on Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the choir room. Our first worship service of the fall will be Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. New singers are always welcome, and weekly rehearsal attendance is NOT a requirement! The choir takes part in an average of two worship services per month, as well as Christmas Eve and other special services. The MLC choir is an excellent opportunity to enhance one's worship experience, enjoy fellowship and serve God's people.

Calling all ringers! Come to Bell Rehearsal Thursdays 7-8 p.m. The first rehearsal is Thursday September 8th. Can't read music that is okay, not sure about your time commitment that's okay too. Come have fun and ring with the bell choir!

## Lutheran Choral Society Concert here at Milwaukie Lutheran Church Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM

The Lutheran Choral Association, based at Peace Lutheran Church in Portland, will present a concert in the sanctuary of Milwaukie Lutheran Church. A free will offering will be collected.

Since 1936, the Lutheran Choral Association has maintained an annual concert schedule of up to five concerts every fall, presented at Portland area churches. This choir, now consisting of nearly 150 singers, was created to praise God through the universal language of music. Over the years, Lutherans of different synods have united in this common goal. In the mid to late seventies, the Choir opened its membership to other denominations, and is now truly an ecumenical organization, welcoming all who wish to dedicate their time and talents to praising God with singing.

## • Bible Study and Craft Group Returns •

On Thursday, September 15 at 1:30 p.m. a group will gather to study scripture using Lectio Divina and then work on craft, knitting, and crocheting projects, etc. together. This is a weekly gathering. Everyone is invited to join in. For more info, contact Shirley Meyer at 503.658.6412 or Linda Millenbach at 503.239.1134

## • Women's and Men's Dinner Out •

Monday, September 19, the Women's Dinner Out will be at Ohana Hawaiian Cafe, 10608 SE Main St., downtown Milwaukie (near Ledding Library). Men's Dinner Out will be at McGrath's in the Milwaukie Marketplace. The time to gather is 5:30 p.m. All are invited to join together for good food, fun & fellowship.

## • MLC Book Club Update •

Attention Book Club Members: We will meet on September 20 at 7 p.m. at Kathy Olson's (6028 SE Alder Hill Loop) to pick our "reads" for next year with the help of wine and cheese. In October, we will read Andy's alternate selection, *Strength in What Remains*. If you are an ardent reader, please feel free to join us at any time. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month in the MLC library at 7 p.m., except for December. We would welcome newbies! For directions to Kathy's please call 503.659.1275 or 503.348.6637. We look forward to welcoming all of you who are interested.

## • Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study Resumes •

The Women's Tuesday morning Bible Study will resume on September 20 in the library from 10:00- 11:30 a.m. We'll do a couple of sessions on chronology, looking at world events and Biblical events. Then we will pursue wisdom, through a study on Proverbs. Hope you can join our "relaxed" group and will invite a friend. Questions? Call Chad Zabel, 503-786-1262 or Shirley Meyer, 503-658-6412.

## • Health Ministry •

We will be having our next HMT luncheon and speaker on Friday, September 23rd at 11:30 a.m. Our speaker will be Dr. Marsha Green, clinical geropsychologist. Her topic will be memory concerns, understanding and promoting brain health. To RSVP or if you need transportation, please contact Patty Shilling at 503.654.8525 or Connie Jackle at 503.654.5113

## • Proposed Mortgage Bond Sale Program •

### **Background**

Milwaukie Lutheran Church is exploring selling Bonds to retire the Mortgage on the Corner Property to conserve cash. If there is enough interest in the Bonds we would be able to proceed with the sale. Please call or e-mail Sheryl Ann Waage to indicate your interest. (503.653.0250 or milwaukielc@comcast.net)

### **Objective of the Program**

Sell \$50,000 in Bonds to save \$1,000 per month in cash flow. This would be a reduction of 57% from the current monthly mortgage payments.

### **Details**

- Bond collateral would be the Corner Property itself.
- Interest rates would vary from 3.0% to 4.0% depending on amount and term of the bond.
- A minimum of twelve Bonds would be offered with one maturing each year for 12 Years.
- Bonds would be in \$3,000, \$4,000 and \$5,000 amounts.
- Interest only would be paid bi-annually until each bond matures.
- Bonds would be continually callable.

### **Proposed Bond duration, amount and rates**

-One Year	\$3,000 @ 3.0%	-Two Years	\$3,000 @ 3.0%
-Three Years	\$4,000 @ 3.25%	-Four Years	\$4,000 @ 3.25%
-Five Years	\$4,000 @ 3.5%	-Six Years	\$4,000 @ 3.5%
-Seven Years	\$4,000 @ 3.75%	-Eight Years	\$4,000 @ 3.75%
-Nine Years	\$5,000 @ 3.75%	-Ten Years	\$5,000 @ 4.0%
-Eleven Years	\$5,000 @ 4.0%	-Twelve Years	\$5,000 @ 4.0%

## • Witnessing Ministry Team Update •

We are still in the process of updating our membership records...but we should be done by the end of 2011.

In updating the records, we are looking at the number of *“those baptized persons and those who have declared and maintained their membership in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.”* We also find in our constitution the reasons for removing persons from the Parish Records and the constitution states *“a confirmed member who, in the judgment of the Congregational Council, shows no interest in attending Church services and does not partake of Holy Communion; and does not contribute financially to the support of the Congregation for a period of one year, shall be presumed no longer to desire membership, shall lose the right to vote, and shall not be counted in the membership statistics of the Congregation.”* *“Such persons who have been removed from the roll of members shall remain persons for whom the Church has continuing pastoral concern.”*

This sounds rather harsh, but the membership rolls are so very important to all us at Milwaukie Lutheran, it tells us how many voting members we have, how big we really are, if there are people who have not been coming to services for a variety of reasons, and the pastor *“shall report these statistics to the congregation annually and, when required, to the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.”* We need an accurate counting because this also affects how many people from the congregation we send to Synod Assemblies as delegates.

We want to assure everyone that all are welcome and no one will be turned away, but this is something that has to be done. The Constitution also tells us that the person who has not taken part in the congregation's life for the one year, *“that name shall be kept in the files for a period of five years thereafter. If he/she resumes activity within the five-year period, he/she shall be restored to the active membership list.”*

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shirley Meyer, Witnessing Ministry Team Chair

*(Ed. Note: The italicized portions of this article are from our current MLC Constitution)*

## • Thank You •



Thank you to all that attended the annual Young at Heart Picnic on Wednesday, August 10th. And a big THANK YOU to Elmer Lampe for having us each year. The weather was nice, food delicious and everyone enjoyed the fellowship. The group voted to donate any funds exceeding the cost of the chicken to the Bell Choir for refurbishing the hand bells, \$40 has been credited to that designated fund.

~Paula Krewson and Deanne Vegge



For all your prayers, cards, flowers...the service...the music...We would like to say thank you for your gifts to us as we experience the loss of my brother, Neil Roman.

~Cheryl Ragnone and family



To those faithful people who “held down the office fort” on Mondays and Fridays this summer—THANK YOU!! Thank you Barbara Fairbanks, Karen Hicks, Sue McKenzie, Amy Noble-Tuomi and Marianne Wisner—you all are such a blessing to me!

~Sheryl Ann

## • Prayers •

Marta G, Grace A, April R, Earl J, Barbara C, Marilyn D, Myra C, Dick P, Vi H, Palmer L, children in crisis, Marilyn K, Audrey M, David S, Todd K, Ernie R, Faith C, Doris B, Bethany H, Bob S, Andre B, Wally R., Doug F., Leona M., Carl and Jean A., Helen W., Joanne P., Helen Y., Charity C., Nathan W., Maureen S., Ann McE., Dorothy C., Jeanette N., Michelle F., Doug L.

**The Grieving:** Cheryl and Nick Ragnone and family on the death of Cheryl's brother, Neil Roman

**General Prayers:** The President of the United States and our elected officials, the people of Iraq, Iran, Palestine, Israel, Afghanistan, Liberia, Sudan, Libya, Tunisia, Egypt, Somalia, the Horn of Africa. All people around the world in military service for their country.

**For those serving Christ around the world:** Marian Hungerford-Cameroon; Pastor Steven Ray-China; Our new missionary couple: Pastor Brian and Kristen Konkol-Republic of South Africa

**Address Correction:** for Scott Borison & Laura Schroeder—1915 NE Cesar E. Chavez Blvd., Portland, OR 97212. Phone number is the same.

## Outdoor Worship August



## • Light News Deadline •

Submissions due by September 15 at noon. Please submit news items to [editor@milwaukielutheran.org](mailto:editor@milwaukielutheran.org) or place in the “mailbox” on Sheryl Ann’s office door.

**Milwaukie Lutheran Church**

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**Leadership Council**

**Greg Jenks.....President**  
**Dennis McDermott.....Vice President**  
**Linda Millenbach.....Secretary**  
**Tom Giese.....Treasurer**  
**Cindy Dunn.....Advocate**  
**Connie Jackle.....Advocate**  
**Shirley Meyer.....Advocate**  
**Lisaana Otter.....Advocate**  
**Andy Quale.....Advocate**

**Church Staff**

**Janelle Aldrich-Dale ..... Interim Pastor**  
**Brian Brown .....Director of Youth & Family Ministry**  
**Sheryl Ann Waage.....Administrative Assistant**  
**Maya Story.....Pianist/Organist**  
**Owen James.....Choir Director/Contemporary**  
**Music Director**  
**Kari Liebert.....Volunteer Bell Choir Director**  
**Carolyn Schoenemann ..... Bookkeeper**  
**Patty Shilling.....Volunteer Parish Nurse**

**Milwaukie Lutheran Pre-School**

**Phone: 503.659.9881**  
**Barbara Johnson ..... Preschool Administrator**

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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.