



Martin Luther Lutheran Church  
211 Luther LN  
P. O. Box 362  
Carmine, TX 78932

*MLLC's Mission Statement:  
Martin Luther Lutheran Church,  
called by the Spirit to be a  
community of faith, welcomes all  
to a ministry of Word and  
Sacrament, that together we may  
grow in faith, and be equipped for  
service to God and our community.*

## Luther's Letter

a monthly publication of  
Martin Luther Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 362, 211 Luther LN, Carmine, TX 78932  
church office: 979-278-3388; fax: 979-278-3387

Rev. David Tinker, Pastor  
Cell phone#: 979/530-6091  
e-mail: [pastordjt@industryinet.com](mailto:pastordjt@industryinet.com)  
website: [mlccarmine.com](http://mlccarmine.com)

office hours: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Monday-Friday  
Nancy Eilers, Carol Carmean, & Nancy Rosenbaum, secretaries

### Worship schedule:

Sunday School for all -Sundays 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday worship w/Holy Communion - 10:00 a.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month - Worship w/Holy  
Communion 6:00 p.m.

Church Council: Blake Dooley-President; Tim Sanders-  
President-elect; Anita Drydale-Secretary; Cindy Weidemann-  
Treasurer; Jessica Weidemann-Worship Committee;  
Karen Roemer-Stewardship Committee; Dana Smith-  
Christian Education Committee; Cheryl Etzel-Outreach/Care  
Committee; Brick Peele-Property Committee





# Luther's Letter

Martin Luther Lutheran Church

January, 2018

May the Lord give strength to his people!  
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

Psalm 29:11



Eternal God, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in the new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event that gives us joy forever—the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who

lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (ELW, page 63 – Prayers for Occasions)

**THE DAY OF EPIPHANY - January 6** (We will observe Epiphany on Sunday, January 7.)  
"Arise, shine: for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you". Isaiah 60:1

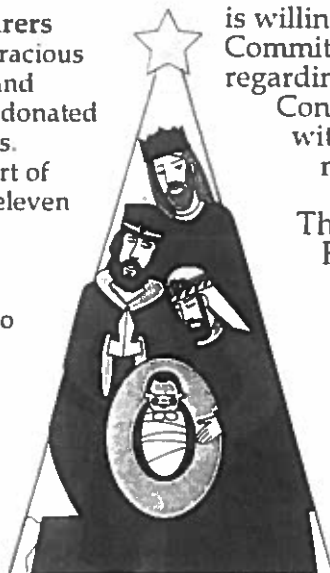
**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD - January 7**  
John the baptizer proclaimed: "I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit". Mark 1:8



## Christmas Boxes for Houston Seafarers

The MLLC Men in Mission thanks all of you gracious and generous MLLC Congregation members and friends for the many Christmas gifts that you donated to the recent Seafarers Christmas shoe box gifts. These are for the many sailors that visit the Port of Houston annually. This year your gifts filled eleven (11) more boxes than last year's 53. This year there were 64. Congratulations to all!

I am chairman of the Men in Mission. I want to offer a pat on the back to the following for spending 2 1/2 hours of their Monday night's time on November 27 to assemble, fill boxes, and beautifully gift wrap the shoe boxes with beautiful Christmas wrapping papers. These being: *Floyd and Jocie Braun, Joe and Bev Cucuzza, Ed Earle and Carol Carmean, Otto Fuchs, Jr., Brick and Debby Peele, Dianne Sager, Jennifer Tinker, and Dean Ultrich.*



A Light to the Nations

I just watched to verify that all went well. A big "Thank You" to Brick Peele for delivering these boxes to the Seafarers Center at the Port of Houston. Thanks to all for again making this program a great success. Keep MLLC strong. Yours, in Christ, Alvis Mueller, Chairman, MLLC Men in Mission

*The photo (on page 2 shows our boxes being gathered to bring to the ships for distribution to the seafarers.*

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING -** Sunday, January 14, following worship. Annual reports are due January 3.

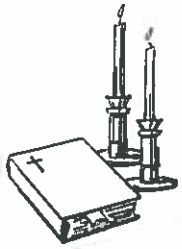
**Installation of Auxiliary officers:** January 7, during worship. This includes Men in Mission, LYO, WELCA, and the Rebekah Group. Please report any changes in officers to the church office by December 31.

**Church Council nominations:** Members of the congregation are encouraged to prayerfully consider serving on our church council. We are seeking individuals to serve in the role of **President-elect**. Someone has agreed to be nominated for Outreach/Care Committee and Worship Committee. Anita Drydale is willing to serve another term as Secretary and Karen Roemer is willing to continue with the Stewardship Committee. Please seek the Lord in prayer regarding your participation in leadership.

Contact Blake Dooley or Pastor David Tinker with questions or if you wish to have your name put forward for a role.

The installation of Church Council is set For Sunday, January 21, during worship.

**From the Dayschool Committee:** Guidelines for afterschool care program (see draft in this newsletter) is being presented to the congregation for review before the review before the annual meeting. More information will be placed in the packets available at the meeting.



**ALTAR GUILD and ACOLYTE TRAINING:** All Altar Guild members are asked to meet at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 7, to review new procedures.

All Acolytes are asked to meet at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 21, to review new procedures. Parents of those acolyting for the first time are asked to be present as well.

**OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER:**

✓ Dismantling of the Chrismon tree, wreaths and banners, and outdoor nativity scene will be after Worship on Sunday, January 7. Thanks to all who are able to assist with these tasks!



✓ Next Choir Practice is January 7 at 9:30 a.m.

✓ The Stewardship Committee will meet next on Tuesday, January 9, at 6:30 p.m.

✓ Waldeck Lutheran Church has turkey stew-to-go on Sunday, January 14, with pick-up from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$25 for a gallon and \$15 for a half-gallon. Please bring your own container. Tickets are available at Carmine State Bank and need to be purchased in advance.

✓ Tone Chimes practice will be on Sunday, January 21, at 8:30 a.m.

✓ The 2018 Flower Chart is posted in the narthex. As of this printing, altar flowers are needed for January 28, and other dates during the year.

✓ Student from Treehouse (the Lutheran campus ministry of Brazos Valley – Blinn & Texas A&M), will be our guest preachers on Sunday, January 28.

✓ Carmine Cemetery meeting is set for Sunday, January 28, at 11:00 a.m. (or after church service) at the Village Market.

✓ Semi-Annual Blood Drive is scheduled for Sunday, January 28, in our fellowship hall from 9:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

✓ The RT-C 4-H Bingo Party is set for Sunday, February 11, in our fellowship hall from 1:00-4:30 p.m. Bingo playing starts at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is invited!

✠ **CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE**

In 2018, classes will meet January 10, 24, and February 7. No classes February 14, March 31, Lent or Holy Week. Next classes will start April 4, 18, & 25.

**THE LYO'S SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**  
Collections are set for both Sundays – January 28 and February 4. (See Pastor Tinker's article in this newsletter for more information).



|                  |    |                    |    |
|------------------|----|--------------------|----|
| Helen Georges    | 02 | Terry Roemer       | 16 |
| Autumn Lehmann   | 02 | Ashley Weiss       | 18 |
| Sybil Matthews   | 03 | Aaron Frank        | 18 |
| Jennifer Tinker  | 03 | Thelma Hinze       | 20 |
| Reagan Williams  | 03 | Eugene Muehlbrad   | 20 |
| Makayla Smith    | 04 | Emily Wright       | 21 |
| LaVerne Kunkel   | 05 | Hannah Pawlak      | 22 |
| Todd Dooley      | 06 | Dawn Miller        | 24 |
| W. T. Marth      | 06 | Cherrie Wines      | 24 |
| Kirby Tappe      | 07 | Ronan Diehl        | 25 |
| Valerie Moore    | 08 | Mandy Schoenst     | 25 |
| Jill Eilers      | 09 | Beth Carmean       | 26 |
| Tess Eilers      | 09 | Dianna Gerland     | 26 |
| Michelle Pratt   | 11 | Patricia McCanlies | 27 |
| Brayden Scheffer | 11 | Michelle Kohring   | 28 |
| Colter Siptak    | 13 | Gaylon Mueller     | 28 |
| Jennifer Mohr    | 14 | Jimmy Loewe        | 29 |
| Ron Mueller      | 15 | Esther Kelley      | 30 |



MLLC boxes can be seen in the far lefthand corner of the picture. →

**WOMEN OF THE ELCA NEWS:**

**Correction to WELCA Yearbook:**  
Peetsy Fischer's phone no. is 979-830-5282

The Unit Planning Committee and General Meeting is set for Monday, January 8, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All ladies of the congregation are encouraged to attend. This is also the yearly planning meeting for 2018.



**The new Rebekah Group...** has its first meeting on Thursday, January 11, at 2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

The Bible Study Theme: Multiple meanings: Learning from other interpretations  
Session 1: Washing hands with distant hearts  
(Mark 7:1-12).

Colette Wunderlich leads the Bible study, with offering meditation by Edith Flinn. Sedalia Ullrich and Nancy Eilers serve as hostesses.

The monthly gatherings of Bible study, light refreshments, business meeting, and fellowship, will be on the second Thursday of each month at 2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Information on Bible studies and activities is provided in our yearbook that is currently available. All confirmed women of MLLC are members of the Women of the ELCA, and are invited to join us in our faith journey with either the Rebekah Group or the Lydia Group on Facebook. In Women of the ELCA, you will find support on your faith journey, opportunities to serve and make a difference in your community and around the world, to be a part of the community of women that prays together, participate in monthly Bible studies, and have the joy of faith and fellowship.

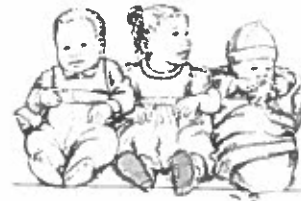
**QUILTING:**

The next regular quilting day is Monday, January 8, at 9:00 a.m., and the Fleece Blanket Tying Day is Saturday, January 13, from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., both in the Mission & Ministry building.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦  
**WORDS OF WISDOM  
FROM WELCA TRIENNIAL  
GATHERING, MINNEAPOLIS  
JULY 13-16, 2017**

Triennial Thought on Change

If Jesus had not wanted change,  
he'd have lived a long life and  
died in a nursing facility.



**Items needed in Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief:**

- Two lightweight cotton t-shirts, sizes up to 24 months
- Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers without feet
- Two receiving blankets
- Four cloth diapers
- One sweater, sweatshirt, or jacket with hood or include a baby cap
- Two pairs of socks
- Two bath-size bars of gentle soap
- Two diaper pins or large safety pins
- One hand towel, *dark color recommended*

(Wrap all items in a receiving blanket and secure with diaper pins).

**LADIES DECEMBER MEETING AND CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON REPORT:**



The Martin Luther Ladies Aid and Mary Group met on Thursday, December 14, 2017, at noon in the Fellowship Hall with a turkey, ham, & dressing meal with side dishes & desserts for lunch. *Happy Birthday* was sung for the following December birthday celebrants: Joys Baird, Jocie Braun, Joyce Eilers, Bernice Mueller, Shirley Mueller, and Dorothy Rothermel. This was followed by singing of the table prayer. In attendance were guests, Pastor David, Jennifer, and Miles Tinker, Susan Bathe, and Cheryl Etzel; Ladies Aid members, Nancy Eilers and Susan Ray; and Mary Group members, Diana Wunderlich, Leonita Sanders, Colette Wunderlich, Sedalia Ullrich, Joys Baird, Dianna Gerland, and Barbara Jacob.

Susan Ray presented the opening prayer and the devotion, Joy to the World, and the calling that Mary had in becoming the mother of Jesus. Nancy Eilers then entertained at the piano with *Mary Did You Know*, *The First Noel*, *In the Bleak Mid-Winter*, and *Silent Night*.

The business meeting was called to order by Colette Wunderlich.

Dianna Gerland gave the Mary Group Treasurer's Report.

(continued on next page)

## WELCA News, continued--

**Mission Action-** Diana Wunderlich reported that Allyn McGilvra took the AMEN ingathering to LaGrange, and quilting was on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> with 9 quilts completed except for the tacking on some. It was reported that Dianna Gerland bought one roll of batting for the quilts, and Colette Wunderlich received Thrivent Action Team Dollars of \$250 to buy two rolls of batting for quilts.

**Mission Community-** Sedalia Ullrich suggested going to Jefferson Place and Monument Hill, both in LaGrange, every four months when Pastor does the Bible Study devotion and communion. This would possibly be in addition to having the birthday parties where we have members. This will be discussed at the January general meeting.

**Mission Growth-** Joys Baird reported that yearbooks are being handed out and thanks to Nancy Eilers for all she has done in keeping up with changes and the printing of the yearbooks. The theme for the salad banquet in June will be This Little Light of Mine. The Thankoffering service on November 11, 2018 will have Veterans Day theme, "Our God and Country", with Jolene Wickel and Julie Wantland.

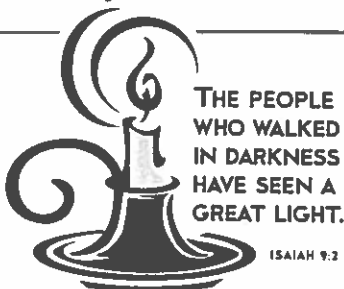
The **Ladies Aid** presented Pastor Tinker with a Christmas gift and also delivered ten poinsettias to members of the church in nursing care centers or assisted living.

**Correspondence** included thank you notes and letters from Shirley Mueller, the family of Clarence Jaster, Fayette County Rainbow Room, and Hospice Brazos Valley.

Colette gave the offering mediation on Advent and Christmas and the meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

## NOISY OFFERING REPORT for 2017:

From January 1 - December 20, 2017, a total of \$1,179.74 was collected for the Noisy Offering which is designated this year to the Fayette County Habitat for Humanity.



## ON THE PRAYER LIST:

Lindsey Eckert (wife of Josh Eckert, recently hospitalized); Dora Miller (health concerns); Pastor Bill Derrick (at Brenham Nursing & Rehab); Beth Purvis (niece of Praise Team leader, Jolene Wickel, health concerns); Bobbie Weidemann (recovering from knee replacement surgery);

Jimmy Flinn (health concerns); Mikayla Peschke (classmate of Jadon Weidemann, heart problems); Kathy Gray (friend of Paula Barrick, health concerns); and Jenell Jaster (ongoing health issues).

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:** Louis Kartous (stroke, back home); Lucas Smith (Cole Garlin's baseball friend from Columbus, Hodgkins-Lymphona); Izzy Depaz (10-year-old niece and granddaughter of workers at JW's, leukemia);

El Gene Schulle (friend from Brenham, health concerns); Gene Pawlak (Dale Pawlak's uncle, health concerns); Dale Walker (friend of Susan Bathe, health concerns); Paula Watkins (Carmine resident, RV park owner, cancer);

Kaitlyn Fritz (teenage friend of Bill Derrick from Brenham, rare disease); Jimmy Alvarado (friend Missy Weidemann's grandfather, health concerns); Perry Crow (friend of Cherrie Wines, health concerns); Russell Zickler (former band director and friend of the Weidemanns, cancer); Kalisa Pomykal (former member, for strength and peace);

Kenneth Bishop (Carmine City Council member Ginger Psenck's son-in-law, cancer); Dave Barney (Paula Barrick's daughter, Bobbie Hughes' boyfriend, treatment for cancer); Bobbie Hughes (Paula Barrick's daughter, for strength in difficult times); Steven Pratt (Valerie Moore's brother, cancer); Joey Pomykal (Paula Barrick's step-nephew, medical concerns);

Bertha Reuther (Esther Kelley's mother); Don Steinbach (former member, stem cell transplant); Michael (Butch) Schulz (Barbara Schulz's husband, health concerns); Herman (Ham) Kovar (Rick Kovar's father, back problems); Mary Edwards (Linda Kovar's sister, battling lupus); Nelson Neutzler (friend of Alvis Mueller); health concerns); Josh Dow (16-year-old friend of Wade & Nancy Eilers, cancer); Amanda Sebastian (friend from Blue Bell Creameries and Randall Kohring's cousin, brain tumor); and Lisa Mayer (health concerns).

**Members in Care and Assisted Living Facilities:** Gladys Koether (at Oakland Manor in Giddings); Joyce Lehmann (at private care facility in Giddings); Elvera Limmer, Verline Schulte, and Joyce Eilers, and Bill Derrick (Brenham Nursing & Rehab); Elvira Dallmeyer (Argent Court, Brenham); Angeline Zwernemann (Jefferson Place Assisted Living, La Grange); and Shirley Mueller (Kruse Village).

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PRAYER LIST, continued—

**Homebound Members:**

Nevilee Marburger (in Houston); Mamie Roemer, Judith Yarborough, Peetsy Fischer, and Elvera Rudloff (in Houston).

**Military Personnel:**

MLLC members: Joseph Vogel and Bryan Miller.

Family and Friends: Tyler Malinak, Rowdy Chaddock, Michael Martin, Wacey Lanier, Jonathan Noak, Justyn Bearden, Wade Friedrich, James Dunham, and all those who serve, known and unknown, in harm's way.

**Our Christian Sympathy to the families and friends of:**

James (Jim) Stueber (friend of Patti Hart and Susan Bathe); Dwayne Garlin; Amy Denison (daughter of Jim & Davy Denison, weekend neighbors of MLLC, and Sacred Harp Singer); Clifford Eichler (cousin of Dorothy Rothermel, confirmed at MLLC in 1933); Martha Leonhardt (Ronnie Hinze's aunt and cousin of Dorothy Rothermel); Frank Walther (friend from Round Top); And Barbara Oppermann Fulton (niece of Joyce Eilers).



☒ Thanks to all those who helped to decorate the chrismon tree in the sanctuary, place the wreaths and banners, and assemble the outdoor nativity scene. Thanks also to those who donated poinsettias in

honor/memory of loved ones during the Advent/Christmas season.

☒ Thanks to those who led and participated in Christmas programs: To Amy Dooley for her direction of the children's "Big Story, Big Big Story" during worship on December 10; to Mia Williams for directing the music and Dana Smith for helping direct, and to all the children who participated. Thanks to those who attended the Jesus' Birthday potluck dinner and brought food following the program.

☒ Thanks to Jessica Weidemann and Nancy Eilers for their direction and participation in the wonderful Carol Service during worship on Sunday, December 17. *Thanks to Cindy Weidemann who sang "Mary, Did You Know?"; to Emma Baird who played the ukulele and sang "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"; to the members of Tone Chimes who played "Still, Still, Still" and "The Friendly Beasts"; and to Dennis Smith who sang, "Do You Hear What I Hear?"*

☒ Also, thanks to the LYO youths for their leaders for their Christmas Eve candlelight service and drama presentation. Thanks for your hard work!

☒ Thanks to everyone for being there for me during my surgery in April and the continued chemo treatments. You lifted my spirits in so many different ways such as sending cards and food, taking me to Bryan and Austin, and I know your prayers contributed to my healing. My recent CT scan showed no evidence of malignancy. Your continuing cares, concerns and friendships mean the world to me and I thank our Lord for his many blessings. Have a wonderful Christmas and holiday season! Linda Mattocks

☒ And...thanks to the office helpers for December: Carol Hall folded bulletins, Cherrie Wines sent bulletins to shut-ins and cards to visitors, Jocie Jacob-Braun placed supplies in pews, and Carol Hall & Betty Porter assembled the January newsletter.

**CHURCH COUNCIL SUMMARIES - two meetings**

November 20, 2017

Members present: Blake Dooley, Cheryl Etzel, Brick Peele, Jessica Weidemann, Karen Roemer, Anita Drydale, Dana Smith, Cindy Weidemann, and Tim Sanders. Absent: Pastor David Tinker.

The meeting was called to order by Blake Dooley, Council President. The devotion was presented by Jessica Weidemann. The minutes from the October meeting and Treasurer's Report were approved.

**Committee reports:**

Christian Education Committee reported that Sunday School practices were underway, and they discussed the Jesus' Birthday potluck lunch.

Worship Committee discussed the Christmas carol service to be on December 17. Waldeck hosts the Advent services. MLLC had the opportunity to serve a meal at the December 13 Advent service. LYO would be doing the candlelight service on December 24.

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(November 20, 2017 Council minutes continued)

Property Committee reported that repair of stucco on southwest corner of fellowship hall was pending. Anchor hardware was located for repair of loose pews. The fellowship hall stained glass windows were reviewed with Diane Tovey. Five stained glass window panes are cracked and need to be replaced. Specific measurements will be confirmed to determine cost estimates. LED lights in the fellowship hall would be replaced in December.

Installation of LED bulbs in the church's main hall, office and bathrooms with quote of \$663.00 was approved. Installation of 40-ft. antenna tower behind parsonage was approved.

Stewardship Committee discussed the offering envelope process and decided to continue with the bi-monthly mailing. Three-five families set up an auto draft. End-of-year reports will be ready by January 31. Set up meeting schedule for 2018, discussed financial review. Per bylaws, review should be two stewardship members and one congregation member. 2018 Review Committee members are Marlene Waak (1<sup>st</sup> term); Connie Peters (2<sup>nd</sup> term); and Karen Roemer (3<sup>rd</sup> term).

Dayschool Committee discussed afterschool care only. Set up fees are nominal. Approve for 2018-19 school year; follow student calendar or RT-C. Review after six-month probation period for next school year. Then, present to congregation at the annual meeting.

Parameters to be determined for presentation to congregation at the annual meeting.

There was no old business.

New business:

- Renewal of RT-C yearbook ad was approved.
- Staff Christmas bonuses – built in to budget and were approved.
- Presentation of 2018 Budget – reviewed and will be approved at December meeting. Secretaries' salaries have been the same since 2005. Raise starting January 1 was approved.
- AMEN Food Pantry sent a thank you for our donation of \$600 received in October and thank you for emergency assistance during September of assorted grocery items. Reviewed request by Crosstrails ministries for donations. This was to be tabled and reviewed again at December meeting.
- Brick would clarify with insurance carrier that M&M building is on insurance policy.
- It was agreed to cancel Hansen directory service.

Blake would present the devotion at the December meeting. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer. The next Church Council meeting would be on Monday, December 18, at 6:15 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Anita Drydale, MLLC Council Secretary

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December 18, 2017

Members present: Blake Dooley, Cheryl Etzel, Brick Peele, Jessica Weidemann, Anita Drydale, Dana Smith, Cindy Weidemann, Tim Sanders, and Pastor David Tinker. Absent: Karen Roemer.

The meeting was called to order at 6:17 p.m. by Blake Dooley, Council President. The devotion was presented by Blake. The minutes from the November Church Council meeting were reviewed and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was approved. Motion carried to amend last month's motion to move \$5K from the general checking into general memorial fund instead of \$10K.

Pastor's Report: Positive cooperation with Waldeck regarding Advent services.

Outreach Committee reported that the Advent meal on December 13 went well.

Christian Education, Worship, and Stewardship Committees had no updates or reports.

Property Committee reported: Replacement of existing ceiling lights in the sanctuary with 5-13 inch and 8-11 inch LED fixtures completed. Repair of stucco on southwest corner of fellowship hall is pending regarding repair schedule. Repair of loose pews in sanctuary, anchoring hardware located. Lifting jacks being fabricated. Antenna tower removal behind Anita Drydale's home complete. Pending installation of tower behind parsonage. Temporary patch of roof leak in storage closet in educational wing holding during minor rain events. Leakage displayed during more severe rain events.

Dayschool Committee report: Guidelines for afterschool care program draft to be presented to congregation through the January newsletter for review by congregation before annual meeting. Financial information, along with guidelines, to be placed in packet available at the annual meeting.

(See attached "Plan for A Prospective MLLC After School Program for 2018-2019" in this newsletter).

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(December 18, 2017 Council minutes continued)

**Old Business:** The 2018 Budget was presented and reviewed, to be approved by congregation at the annual meeting. All approved.

AED machine types and costs researched by Dana. Estimate is \$1,200. Dana is working with AirEvac for recommendations.

**New Business:** Annual congregational meeting is Sunday, January 14, after worship. Two positions are open on Council for 2018 – worship committee and president-elect. Tony Dooley is resigning from the Endowment Committee. Two new people are needed for the committee.

Thank-you letters were received from Treehouse Ministries for MLLC’s support; Lutheran Seminary Program in the Southwest for \$500 gift; and thank-you notes received from Nancy Rosenbaum and Carol Carmean for the Christmas bonuses.

Pastor will present the devotion at the next meeting – January 15, 2018, at 6:15 p.m. The meeting closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Anita Drydale, MLLC Council Secretary

**ATTENDANCE & CONTRIBUTION REPORT:**

| Date  | Attendance   | General   | School | Building |
|-------|--------------|-----------|--------|----------|
| 11-22 | 44           | 723.00    | -0-    | -0-      |
| 11-25 | 23           | 515.00    | -0-    | -0-      |
| 11-26 | 75           | 3,264.00  | -0-    | 30.00    |
| 12-03 | 60+          | 6,604.00  |        |          |
| 12-06 | (at Waldeck) | 90.00     | -0-    | -0-      |
| 12-09 | 22           | 505.00    | -0-    | -0-      |
| 12-10 | 122          | 3,609.00  | -0-    | 675.00   |
| 12-13 | (at Waldeck) | 160.00    | -0-    | -0-      |
| 12-17 | 83           | 17,877.00 | -0-    | 30.00    |
| 12-20 | (at Waldeck) | 40.00     | -0-    | -0-      |
| 12-23 | 16           | 942.00    | -0-    | -0-      |
| 12-24 | 49           | 2,523.00  | -0-    | -0-      |
| 12-24 | 137          | 5,829.00  | -0-    | -0-      |
| 12-25 | 44           | 1,443.00  | -0-    | 25.00    |



**OFFICIAL ACTS: Funerals**

**A Celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and the Funeral Service for Clarence Helmuth Jaster** was conducted at MLLC on Saturday, November 25, 2017. Mr. Jaster passed away at Round Rock on November 19, 2017.

The funeral service for Dwayne Garlin was conducted at MLLC on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, with committal at the Florida Chapel Cemetery. Mr. Garlin passed away December 16, 2017, in Brenham, at the age of 50.

Christian Sympathy to their families and friends.



Souper Bowl of Caring  
By Pastor David Tinker

Super Bowl Weekend February 4  
Collection Dates: January 28 and February 4

The Souper Bowl of Caring is an Annual Fund Raiser for the local food pantries across the United States. All proceeds will directly and exclusively support our local Fayette County food pantry: A.M.E.N. (La Grange). The Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) of Martin Luther Lutheran Church has led this effort for many years. This is a nationwide effort. In 2017, as of the December 26, 2017 update, \$10,115,948.00 was generated by 6,540 groups across the USA!

**How to Participate:**

- \*Look for the LYO members holding the large soup pots after worship on the last Sunday of January and the first Sunday of February.
- \*Bring in monetary gifts for A.M.E.N. Place these in the "Soup Pots" located by the sanctuary entrances. For gifts placed in the Soup Pots, Cash or check accepted. Make checks payable to: MLLC LYO; memo line: Souper Bowl. No amount is too small or too large.
- \*You may give using a designation on your regular offering envelope - note: Souper Bowl.
- \*If you will not be able to attend worship on the designated dates, or you simply forget to bring something to give on those dates, feel free to mail or drop off your Souper Bowl of Caring gifts to the church office by February 11.

You can also give to this project through the MLLC web site. Go to: <https://mlccarmine.com/online-giving/> click on the link which notes the link to the online giving site. When you get to that page there is a line for gifts to the LYO-Lutheran Youth Organization. Note "Souper Bowl" in the memo section. Thank you for supporting the LYO Souper Bowl of Caring.



## LOCAL AND AREA NEWS:

➤ **The Round Top Family Library** is offering a basic computer class on Wednesday, January 3, from 2:00-4:00 p.m., and a basic Smartphone class on Wednesday, January 10, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Library. The instructor is Randy Melton, and classes are free. Please call the Library at 979-249-2700 to sign up, or go to [www.ilovetoread.org](http://www.ilovetoread.org).

➤ Trinity Lutheran of Frelsburg will host the **Christmas/ Epiphany Concert** on Sunday, January 7, starting at 4:00 p.m. Our Colorado River Conference Lutheran Churches gather together in early January to relax together, enjoy music, and raise money for a good cause. Congregations, choirs, and individuals are asked to brush up on something they've done for Advent or Christmas and bring it to 'new, appreciative ears'.

The offering will be given to *Live On*, the synod's endowment fund which gives grants to seminarians to fund seminary education, supports campus ministry, and funds new start congregations. For more information about Live On, visit [www.lfsw.org](http://www.lfsw.org). Cookies, punch, and fellowship follow the concern.

If you have a musical or poetry offering, contact Riana Jameson at [rianajam@yahoo.com](mailto:rianajam@yahoo.com) or call 979/732-1851.

### ➤ Attention, Seniors!

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Fayette County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences, is starting a program on Wednesday, January 10, called "*Stress-Busting for Family Caregivers*". This 9-week program emphasizes stress management and coping techniques. Participants will learn to take time for themselves, how to deal with chronic conditions, positive thinking, and choosing a path to wellness. Classes are free to the public and offered from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Fayette County Agricultural Building, Room 104, in La Grange. (See the brochure in the church office).

➤ Round Top Family Library, in partnership with RT-C High School, will be offering CPR & AED (*Automated External Defibrillator Equipped*) training on Saturday, January 27, with two sessions - 8:00 a.m.-noon, and 1:00-5:00 p.m. at RT-C High School. Please call the Library at 979-249-2700 to sign up for a class. The fee is \$15 for ages 12 and up.

➤ **The 2018 Austin & Central Texas Senior Fest** event will be held at Christ Lutheran Church (ELCA), in Georgetown, on Saturday, February 3. The keynote speaker will be The Rev. Dr. Gerald Kieschnick, the former national President of the LC-MS. He will be speaking on "*Being a Lutheran in 2018.*"

Registration will be from 8:30-9:00 a.m. with coffee fellowship, and program starting at 9:00 a.m. There will be a catered lunch at 11:30, and speakers and workshops during the day, concluding around 4:00 p.m. (See the brochure in the church office if you are interested).

## MLLC Financial Information

### November 2017 Year to Date

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Total Income   | \$239,437.47 |
| Total Expenses | \$218,693.98 |
| Net Income:    | \$ 20,743.49 |

### November 2017 Month

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Total Income   | \$ 20,839.06 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 17,668.68 |
| Net Income:    | \$ 3,170.38  |

### Year to Date Expenses Highlights:

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Salaries and Benefits     | \$137,949.67 |
| Benevolences              | \$ 18,705.75 |
| Utilities                 | \$ 13,309.00 |
| Property Insurance        | \$ 14,179.42 |
| Printing                  | \$ 6,346.65  |
| Supplies & Forms          | \$ 5,749.65  |
| Reimbursements            | \$ 6,231.83  |
| Maintenance & Repair      | \$ 2,469.78  |
| Bulletins & Envelopes     | \$ 2,314.72  |
| Postage & Handling        | \$ 1,741.36  |
| Camping Ministry          | \$ 1,312.00  |
| Equipment & Tools         | \$ 2,317.98  |
| Convention Expenses       | \$ 1,180.00  |
| Harvest Festival Expenses | \$ 4,486.07  |



...STARTS with Ash Wednesday, February 14. We will have worship services at both Waldeck and Carmine. The final schedule will be in the February newsletter.

# PLAN FOR A PROSPECTIVE MLLC AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR 2018-2019



The MLLC Church Council met on Monday, November 20, 2017. At the meeting the possibility of a MLLC After School Program was discussed. Based on the information provided by Buck Williams, the After School Investigative Committee Chair, the Council agreed to present an After School Program for the **2018-2019** school year to the congregation with the below guidelines for their vote of approval or disapproval at the annual congregational meeting on January 14, 2018.

## Council Guidelines for the potential After School Program

### Part 1

\*Choice of two Director/Teacher plans based on number of students\*

Plan A: 1 State Certified Director (must be certified prior to hire date) & 1 Teacher

Minimum of 10 paying students – Maximum of 20 students

-OR-

Plan B: 1 State Certified Director (must be certified prior to hire date) & 2 Teachers

Minimum of 21 paying students – Maximum of 35 students

Along with a Director and Teacher(s), there must be a minimum of 2 state approved substitute teachers that have completed a background check.

\* Staff will be paid at the designated rate provided by Buck Williams in the financial plan (this plan will be provided in the Annual Report for 2017 which will be made available the week prior to the annual meeting).

\* No overtime pay

\* No paid sick leave or vacation

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### Part 2

The After School Program will follow the "Student Calendar" for Round Top-Carmine ISD. It will only be open the days that students are attending school at Round Top-Carmine ISD.

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### Part 3

This plan will be voted on at the 2018 Annual Congregational Meeting for the 2018-2019 school year. Future school years will be voted for approval each year at the Annual Congregational Meeting (i.e. approval for the 2019-2020 school year would be voted on at the annual meeting in 2019)

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### Part 4

If the plan is approved by the congregation at the annual meeting, the church council will appoint a 5-member School Board to oversee the After School Program, along with the church council. The council appointed School Board will include 1 church council member.

Shared Lutheran Ministries  
January 2018 Happenings  
Waldeck Lutheran Church – St. Paul Lutheran Church – Shelby  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Round Top – Martin Luther Lutheran Church - Carmine

**Martin Luther Lutheran Church – Carmine**

211 Luther Lane; P O Box 362  
Carmine, TX 78932

Located at the corner of Luther Ln  
and Augsburg Ave, just a block south of US 290.

<http://mlccarmine.com>

Also on Facebook

Worship on Sunday – 10:00 a.m.

Worship on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of each month –  
6:00 p.m.

Sunday School – 9:00 a.m.

Pastor David Tinker

**11<sup>th</sup> Night Concert**

Sunday, January 7, 4-6 p.m.

See notice on either side of this newsletter insert.

**Campus Ministry Sunday**

January 28 – students from Treehouse – the  
Lutheran Campus Ministry of the Brazos Valley –  
Blinn and Texas A&M – will be our guest preachers  
on this special day.

Worship at 10:00 a.m.

*Dove — The dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. In the story of Jesus' baptism, the Spirit descends on him in the form of a dove. The three-rayed nimbus identifies the Spirit as a member of the Trinity. Shown without the nimbus, a dove is a symbol of peace.*



**Waldeck Lutheran Church – Waldeck**

6915 Waldeck Church Ln  
Ledbetter, TX 78946

Located at the intersection of  
FM 1291 and FM 2145

(979) 249-3802

Find us on Facebook

Worship on Sunday – 8:00 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

Pastor David Tinker

TURKEY STEW – January 14, 2018

Gallon \$25.00, Half Gallon \$15.00. Bring your  
own container. Pick up between 11:00 and 1:00.  
Call Margaret Bernshausen, (979) 249-5412, for  
tickets. Limited number available.

Parables Bible Study, January 24, 10:30 a.m.

**For all area Lutheran Churches**

**11<sup>th</sup> Night Concert**

A concert of various Christmas Musical pieces,  
Ready to enjoy an evening of wonderful  
Christmas/Advent music? In January? Our  
Colorado River Conference Lutheran Churches  
gather together in early January to relax together,  
enjoy music and raise money for a good cause. We  
ask congregations, choirs and individuals to brush  
up on something they've done for Advent or  
Christmas and bring it to new, appreciative ears.  
This year's concert will be on Sunday January 7 at  
Trinity Lutheran in Frelsburg beginning at 4:00 pm.  
Our offering will be given to Live On, the synod's  
endowment fund which gives grants to seminarians  
to fund seminary education, supports campus  
ministry and funds new start congregations. For  
more information about Live On  
visit [www.liveongenerously.org](http://www.liveongenerously.org)

Cookies, punch and fellowship follow the concert.  
If you have a musical or poetry offering, please  
contact Riana Jameson at [rianajam@yahoo.com](mailto:rianajam@yahoo.com) or  
979-732-1851. She will also answer any questions  
you may have. Blessed Christmas to you all!

Shared Lutheran Ministries  
January 2018 Happenings  
Waldeck Lutheran Church – St. Paul Lutheran Church – Shelby  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Round Top – Martin Luther Lutheran Church - Carmine

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Round Top**

412 S White St  
Round Top, TX 78954  
(979) 249-3686  
Find us on Facebook

Worship on Sunday – 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday at 8:30 a.m.  
Noisy Offering on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday monthly  
Pastor John David Nedbalek

First Thursday of each Month  
9:30 a.m. Ruth Circle Visitors Welcome

Second Tuesday of each Month  
9:00 a.m. Sewing Circle Visitors welcome

**11<sup>th</sup> Night Concert**

Sunday, January 7, 4-6 p.m.  
See notice on either side of this newsletter insert.



**Our Name Together**

The name “Crossroads Shared Lutheran Ministries” is an unofficial name for our work together among our four congregations. We are four communities of faith which meet at crossroads in our small town and rural contexts. We are four congregations which have met a crossroads in our ministries, and we have taken this opportunity to work together.

There have been no official contracts nor formal agreements to work together, such as at Shared Lutheran Ministry of Fayette County. The Round Top and Shelby congregations have a formal agreement together. The Waldeck and Carmine congregations have a formal agreement together. Even without a four church agreement, we have chosen to do some things together.

**St. Paul Lutheran Church – Shelby**

6814 Skull Creek Road  
Fayetteville TX 78940  
Located just a few blocks east of FM 1457  
(979)836-8972

[www.stpaulshelby.org](http://www.stpaulshelby.org)  
Find us on Facebook  
Regular Sunday Service time – 8:00 AM  
– Sunday School @ 9:45 AM  
Pastor John David Nedbalek

Quilting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month

Noisy Offering – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday each month

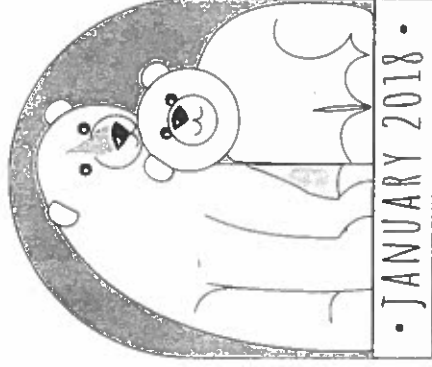
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**For all area Lutheran Churches**

**11<sup>th</sup> Night Concert**

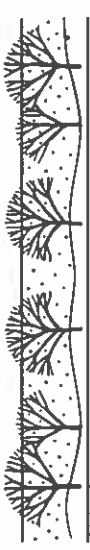
A concert of various Christmas Musical pieces, Ready to enjoy an evening of wonderful Christmas/Advent music? In January? Our Colorado River Conference Lutheran Churches gather together in early January to relax together, enjoy music and raise money for a good cause. We ask congregations, choirs and individuals to brush up on something they've done for Advent or Christmas and bring it to new, appreciative ears. This year's concert will be on Sunday January 7 at Trinity Lutheran in Frelsburg beginning at 4:00 pm. Our offering will be given to Live On, the synod's endowment fund which gives grants to seminarians to fund seminary education, supports campus ministry and funds new start congregations. For more information about Live On visit [www.liveongenerously.org](http://www.liveongenerously.org) Cookies, punch and fellowship follow the concert. If you have a musical or poetry offering, please contact Riana Jameson at [rianajam@yahoo.com](mailto:rianajam@yahoo.com) or 979-732-1851. She will also answer any questions you may have. Blessed Christmas to you all!

# Servers for:



**Assisting Ministers:** Dianna Gerland (01-07); Susan Bathe (01-13, 01-28);  
 Jessica Weidemann (01-14, 01-27); Dana Smith (01-21);  
**Offering Counters:** Karen Roemer, Todd Dooley, Boo Goolsby  
**Put supplies in pews:** Tony Dooley  
**Bulletin folder:** Gene & Boo Goolsby  
**Acolyte organizers:** Parents of January acolytes  
**Send bulletins to shut-ins and cards to visitors:** Nancy Eilers  
**February newsletter assemblers:** LouAnn Stokes & Marlene Waak  
 (the weekend of January 26 or 27)

| Date  | Acolytes | Ushers   | Readers             | Flowers                  | Communion assistants | Communion set-up                                    |
|-------|----------|--|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---|
| 01-07 | Janette  | Team #12-Berrie Etzel, capt.,<br>Shelley Scheffer, greeter;<br>Darlene Etzel<br>Tana Brooks, Shelby Vaughn               | Leonita Sanders     | Daryl & Susan<br>Ray     |                      | Debbie Eckert                                       |
| 01-13 |          | <b>Volunteers</b>  |                     |                          |                      | Jadon Weidemann<br><small>(green paraments)</small> |
| 01-14 | Drayton  | Team #13-Karen Roemer, capt. &<br>greeter, Dennis Smith, greeter;<br>Darrell, Esther & Emily Kelley                      | Amy Dooley          | Debby & Brick<br>Peele   | Dana Smith           | Jadon Weidemann                                     |
| 01-21 | Megan    | Team #14-Ronnie Eckert, capt.,<br>Avalda Pohl, greeter; Brooke<br>Eckert, Debbie Eckert, Connie<br>Peters, Jordan Peters | Bobbie<br>Weidemann | Terry & Mike<br>McIntosh | Vickie Schroeder     | Karen Dooley  |
| 01-27 |          | <b>Volunteers</b>  |                     |                          |                      | Connie Peters                                       |
| 01-28 | Kennedy  | Team #15-Tony Dooley, capt.,<br>Karen Dooley, Amy & Todd<br>Dooley, Amber & Blake Dooley                                 | Dana Smith          |                          | Darlene Etzel        | Connie Peters                                       |



# January 2018

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY   | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY                                    | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| <b>7</b><br>Baptism of Our Lord<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany<br>9:00 am-Altar Guild meeting/9:30 am-Choir practice<br>9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study<br>10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion/Installation of Auxiliary Officers<br>(4:00 pm-Christmas/Epiphany Music Concert at Freisburg)<br>5:00 pm-AA meeting                                       | <b>1</b><br>New Year's Day<br>MLLC office closed                                   | <b>2</b><br>6:00 pm-Worship Committee meeting                                | <b>3</b><br>Annual Reports due               | <b>4</b><br>2:00 pm-Rebekah Group meets                              | <b>5</b><br>5:00 pm-wedding rehearsal  | <b>6</b><br>Epiphany of Our Lord<br>♥ 2:00 pm-Jeff Hinze-Megan Duckworth wedding                      |
| <b>14</b><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany<br>9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study<br>10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion led by Praise Team/Naisy Offering collected/Annual Congregational meeting after worship<br>11:00 am-Christian Ed Committee meeting<br>Property Committee meets after worship<br>11:00 am-Christian Ed Committee<br>5:00 pm-AA meeting | <b>8</b><br>9:00 am-Quilting<br>6:00 pm-WELCA Planning Committee & General Meeting | <b>9</b><br>Council agenda deadline<br>6:30 pm-Stewardship Committee Meeting | <b>10</b><br>4:15-6:45 pm-Confirmation class | <b>11</b><br>10:00-1:00 BLANKET TYING FOR LWR? SATURDAY→             | <b>12</b><br>Fellowship Hall used<br>REMEMBER TO COLLECT YOUR LOOSE CHANGE FOR THE NOISY OFFERING SUNDAY | <b>13</b> † 6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion/<br>6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion/Baptism Remembrance |
| <b>21</b><br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany<br>8:30 am-Tone Chimes practice<br>9:00 am-Acolyte Training<br>9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study<br>10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion/Installation of Church Council<br>LYO meeting after worship<br>(8:45 am-Carmine Cemetery meeting--Lions Bldg.)<br>5:00 pm-AA meeting                                      | <b>15</b><br>1:30 pm-Sr. Citizens' Domino party<br>6:15 pm-Church Council          | <b>16</b><br>4:15-6:45 pm-Confirmation class                                 | <b>17</b><br>Newsletter deadline             | <b>18</b><br>Fellowship Hall used<br>7:30 a.m. until early afternoon | <b>19</b><br>Fellowship Hall used<br>7:30 a.m. until early afternoon                                     | <b>20</b><br>Fellowship Hall used<br>7:30 a.m. until early afternoon                                  |
| <b>28</b><br>4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany<br>9:45 am-Hymn Sing<br>9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study<br>10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion/Baptism Remembrance/Treehouse speakers<br>(9:30-2:00, Blood drive in fellowship hall)<br>5:00 pm-AA meeting  | <b>22</b><br>7:00 pm-Men in Mission  | <b>23</b><br>4:15-6:45 pm-Confirmation class                                 | <b>24</b><br>4:15-6:45 pm-Confirmation class | <b>25</b><br>4:15-6:45 pm-Confirmation class                         | <b>26</b><br>4:15-6:45 pm-Confirmation class   | <b>27</b><br>6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion/Baptism Remembrance                                     |

December 2017

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 31 |

February 2018

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |