



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

e-mail: mluther@industryinet.com

website: mlccarmine.com

Rev. David Tinker, Pastor

Cell phone#: 713-461-8007

e-mail: pastordjt@industryinet.com

office hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

Nancy Eilers, Carol Carmean, & Nancy Rosenbaum, secretaries

Worship schedule:

Saturday Worship w/Holy Communion 6:00 p.m.

Sunday School for all – Sundays 9:00 a.m.

Sunday worship w/Holy Communion – 10:00 a.m.

**Church Council: Buck Williams-President; Ronnie Eckert-
President-elect; Anita Drydale-Secretary; Cindy Weidemann-
Treasurer; Jessica Weidemann-Worship Committee; Karen
Roemer-Stewardship Committee; Shelby Vaughn-Christian
Education Committee; Tina Mikeska-Outreach/Care Committee;
Brick Peele-Property Committee**



In his days may
righteousness
flourish and
peace abound...

PSALM 72:17. NRSV

Luther's Letter



Martin Luther Lutheran Church

JANUARY, 2020



A NEW
YEAR
&
NEW
OPPORTUNITIES

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD – JANUARY 6. *“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord risen upon you.” Isaiah 60:1.* The Symbols of Epiphany include light, a star, a crown (or three crowns) and a globe or stylized portrayal of the world. Epiphany’s color is green to symbolize life, growth, hope and eternity.

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD – JANUARY 12.
“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.” Isaiah 42:1

The Year 2020 is Leap Year! Some thoughts to ponder in the new year:

“Our hope is not in the new year, but in the One who makes all things new.” (Author unknown)

“What a wonderful thought it is that some of the best days of our lives haven’t even happened yet.” – Anne Frank

“Not one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another.” --Charles Dickens



For
to us
a child
is born.
to us
a son
is given



Isaiah 9:6

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS for---

--the 11TH NIGHT CONCERT – Sunday, January 5, 1:30 p.m. –
St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus. The concert features the music of our Colorado River Conference churches.



Musicians, choirs, pastors, members are asked to present one of their Advent/Christmas songs. This year the offering is designated for the local Via de Cristo for scholarships to their retreats, which is a Lutheran ministry to renew and strengthen Christian faith. More information will be given at the concert. If you would like to participate, contact Tracy Baker at joyfulnoiselb@gmail.com.

Maria Augusta von Trapp (from “The Sound of Music”) stated that ‘Music acts like a magic key, to which the most tightly closed heart opens’.



★ **Confirmation Classes:** For the Spring semester, classes will meet Wednesdays, January 8, January 22 (from 4:15-6:30 p.m.), and January 29; February 5, 12, and 19; April 15, 22 & 29 (if necessary). Unless otherwise noted, all of the classes will meet from 4:15-6:15 p.m. On January 22 we plan to show a film about Jesus' life and ministry, and we will need a little extra time on that day.

★ **Installation of Auxiliary Officers** – January 5 during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. *This includes Men in Mission, LYO, WELCA, and Rebekah*

Group. Please report any changes in the officers to the church office by this Sunday, December 29.

★ **Next Choir practice--** January 5, at 9:30 a.m., and the group will sing "We Three Kings" during the service.

★ **Annual Congregational Meeting – January 19** after worship. Annual reports are due to the church office by January 6.

★ **LYO's Souper Bowl of Caring** is set for two Saturdays & Sundays – January 25 & 26, and February 1 & 2. (*See Pastor's article on this page about this project.*)

★ **Next Tone Chimes practice--** January 26, 8:30 a.m.

★ **Carmine Cemetery Association Meeting** is Sunday, January 26, after worship with the location to be announced.

★ **Flower Chart for 2020** – As of this printing, the following dates are open: January 26, and February 2, as well as other times during the year.

★ **2020 Offering Envelopes** will be received in the mail every other month.

★ **Blood Drive**—January 26, 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in our Fellowship hall. This is in cooperation with Bethlehem Lutheran, Round Top.

Souper Bowl of Caring
Collection Dates:
1-25 & 1-26, 2-1 & 2-2



The Souper Bowl of Caring is an Annual Fund Raiser for the local food pantries. All proceeds will directly and exclusively support our local Fayette County food pantry: the A.M.E.N. Pantry. The Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) of Martin Luther Lutheran Church has led this effort for many years.

How to participate:

- *Look for the LYO members holding the large soup pots after worship on the 1st weekend of February.
- * Bring in monetary gifts for A.M.E.N. Place these in the "Soup Pots" at 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.
- *You can give through the church website:
<https://mlccarmine.com/online-giving/>. Go to the link on that page, and this will lead you to the secure giving site. Near the bottom of the page is a section for giving to "Souper Bowl of Caring".

- *All gifts will be processed by the LYO and forwarded to the two recipient groups.
- *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 your Souper Bowl of Caring gifts to the church office by March 1.

The LYO has Big Plans to help our neighbors in need:
 *Our goal is to collect at least \$500 for our local food pantry.
 *We have been generous here at Martin Luther over the years. Let's work together to make 2020 our best year ever as we serve our neighbors in need.
 *This is a nationwide effort. In recent years about \$8-10 million was generated by 8,000-10,000 groups across the USA each year.
 *The official website is: www.souperbowl.org.

REPORT OF CHRISTMAS BOXES FOR SEAFARERS.



At right: L-R, front row: Pastor Tinker, Jocie Jacob-Braun, Debby Peele, Dean Ullrich, Alvis Mueller, Floyd Braun
 2nd & 3rd row: Jennifer Tinker with James, Miles Tinker, Ed Eargle, Carol Carmean, Brick Peele, Bev Cucuzza,
 Joe Cucuzza, Bev's nieces, Samantha & Olivia, Floyd Etzel, Cheryl Etzel, Ronnie Eckert

The Men in Mission of MLLC had a fantastic year for their Seafarer's Boxes for Christmas Ministry. Thank you to all who donated items for this special project this year. These boxes for the Port of Houston Seafarers' Christmas were prepared on Monday, November 24, at MLLC.

With the various donations from church members, Thrivent Financial, and Home Depot, the Men in Mission of MLLC had enough items to fill 100 boxes. Last year they had

enough for 86 boxes. Through effort by over a dozen volunteers aging from teens to seniors, these boxes were packed, giftwrapped, and prepared for transport.

Later that week, Brick Peele took the items to the Seafarer Chaplain's office at the Port of Houston. Our boxes were soon included in a delivery to a ship to bring Christmas Cheer to those who are so far from home at this Christmas Time. The boxes were filled with practical and fun items

such as: pens, candy, scarves, playing cards, toiletries, etc.

About 10,000 boxes are donated each year to the Port of Houston Chaplain Seafarer's Center. For several years the MLLC Men in Mission have joyfully gathered, filled, wrapped, and delivered these Christmas Boxes. The goal is to deliver over 100 boxes in 2020. Thank you for your partnership in this mission of kindness and love for our neighbors at the Port of Houston.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA NEWS

New WELCA yearbooks are available for pick up in the narthex

High School graduates and new members have been added to the funeral serving groups.

Rebekah Group meets on Thursday, January 9, at 2:00 p.m. Bible Study theme is "*We are called!*", Session 1: Hearing God's Call. Colette Wunderich leads the Bible study; Edith Flinn presents the offering meditation; and hostesses are Sedalia Ullrich and Nancy Eilers.

continued on next page



WELCA NEWS, continued--

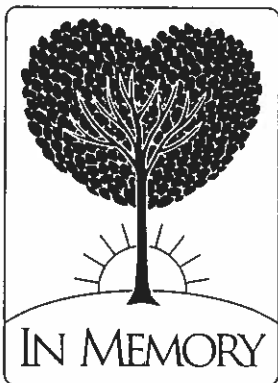
--The Unit Planning Committee and General Meeting are set for Monday, January 6, at 6:00 p.m. All ladies of the congregation are encouraged to attend. This is the yearly planning meeting for 2020.

--Fleece Blanket Tying Day is Saturday, January 11, from 10:00 a.m. until noon in the Mission & Ministry building.
--Regular quilting day is Monday, January 13, 9:00 a.m. in the Mission & Ministry building.

Items needed in Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief:

- Two lightweight cotton T-shirt, 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
- One hand towel, dark color recommended

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



GORDON TINKER MEMORIAL SERVICE is set for 11:00 a.m. on Monday, December 30, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 7901 Westview Drive, Houston, TX 77055. The family will receive visitors beginning at 10:00 a.m. All are invited for light refreshments following the service. The church's number is 713-686-8253, and Pastor Tinker's number is 713-461-8007. Visitation is this Sunday, December 29, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. also at the church sanctuary lobby. *Mr. Tinker passed away November 7, 2019, at the age of 88. He was laid to rest at the Houston National Cemetery in November.*

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR LOUIS KARTOUS (member of MLLC) is set for Saturday, January 4, 2020, at 10:30 a.m. at MLLC, with committal at Giddings City Cemetery, with refreshments following the service in our fellowship hall. Mr. Kartous passed away December 16, 2019, at his home.



Current Member Prayer Concerns:

Robert Vaughn (back at Texas Neurology, thankful for extended stay for rehab); **David Eilers** (recovering from knee surgery); **Jack & Bobbie Weidemann** (health concerns); and **Johnny Dunham** (health concerns).

Current Friends and Family

Prayer Concerns: **Israel Castor** (uncle of Josh Aranzolo, Emily Cortiz, and Matthew & Nick Colpetzer, cancer); **Bill Clarke** (friend of Daryl & Susan Ray, stage 4 cancer); **Harry Brisco** (friend from Burton); **Brooke Pawlak** (relative of Susan Bathe); **Michiko Peters** (mother-in-law of Connie Peters, health concerns); **Burnie & Nellie Wolff** (Jenell Jaster's

sister and brother-in-law, health concerns); **Shirley Tingley** (Diane Tovey's mother, health concerns); **Fritz Schoenst** (friend from area, foot amputated); **Carrie Bozarth** (friend of Sedalia Ullrich, cancer); **Nina Kelley** (Christy Kelley's sister-in-law, health concerns); **Paul Banks** (friend of Shelby & Robert Vaughn, strokes);

(continued on next page)

PRAYER LIST, continued---**Current Friends and Family Prayer Concerns:**

Jason Weidemann (Jack & Bobbie's son, non-Hodgkins Lymphoma, chemo treatment); Edna Mae Krivacka (friend of Ed Eargle and Carol Carmean, at Care Inn, after back surgery);

Ongoing Member Prayer Concerns: Pauline Fischer, Ruby Renck, Linda Kovar, Jack Flinn, Vickie Neutzler, and Ashley Weiss.

Ongoing Friends and Family Prayer Concerns: Annie Pless, Stephany Hamrell, Pastor Willie Rotter, Carl & Linda Richardson, Mark Riggan, Bruce Muske, Shirley Neumann, Annie Pietsch, Branch Neutzler, Charles Marburger, Shirley Neumann, Frances Glueck & family, Pastor Bill Derrick, Sharon Johnson, Hunter Pomykal, Kay Griffin, Kevin Taylor, Berkley Fincher, Mikayla Peschke, Lucas Smith, El Gene Schulle, Dale Walker, Kaitlyn Fritz, Jimmy Alvarado, Russell Zickley, Kenneth Bishop, Steven Pratt, Joey Pomykal, Bertha Reuther, Don Steinbach,

Michael (Butch) Schulz, Mary Edwards, Josh Dow, Amanda Sebastian, Doris Fay Georges, Natalie Broadway, Kaitlyn Nienstedt, Edna Krause, Fred Kessell, Eugenia Furhman, Lloyd Pieper, C. J. Lehmann, Harris Kubos, Jr., and Sam Reeves.

Members in Care and Assisted Living facilities:

Joyce Lehmann and La Verne Kunkel (at Bec's Blessing in Giddings); Bernice Mueller (at Argent Court, Brenham); Dora Miller, Elvera Limmer, Verline Schulte, and Marge Morris (Brenham Nursing & Rehab); and Elvera Rudloff at a small assisted living facility in Houston).

Military Personnel:

MLLC member: Joseph Vogel

Family & Friends: Michael Martin, Jonathon Noak, Justyn Bearden, Kyle Slaughter, and all those who serve, known and unknown, in harm's way.



✠ Our Christian Sympathy to the families and friends of: Virginia Berger (sister-in-law of Helen Georges); Gladys Peschka (friend from Carmine area); Louis Kartous, Barney Georges (brother-in-law of Helen Georges); Francisco Flores (friend of Susan Bathe); Cheryl Iselt (friend of Kay Schmidt); David Garcia (friend from Burton); Judy Landgraf (Ronnie Eckert's sister), Pearly Els, Justin Wilson (former member, Jeremy Rosenbaum's brother-in-law); and Mary Lentz Hayslip (relative of Jimmy Loewe).

**OFFICIAL ACT IN DECEMBER: Baptism**

Kollyns Diane Kirts, daughter of Bryan and Shayne Kirts was baptized at MLLC on Sunday, December 22, 2019. Her sponsors are Ali Kirts, Megan Buro, Brian Scheffer, Robert Vaughn, and Clint Kuecker. Kollyns was born October 20, 2019, and has a big brother, Kooper. Welcome to the Lord's Family!

USED CHRISTMAS TREES, LIGHTED OR UNLIGHTED, ARE NEEDED FOR THE 2020 VBS WEEK. PLEASE PLACE THEM ON THE PORCH OF THE MISSION & MINISTRY BUILDING. FOR QUESTIONS, CALL SHELBY AT 979-230-3408.



PASTOR'S ARTICLE

Speaking the Truth with Love

By Pastor David Tinker

Interpersonal life in our world today, including the Body of Christ in this world, has been increasingly negative, divisive, destructive, fearful, disrespectful, hateful, dismissive, inflammatory, and more. As time progresses, I feel that we have less and less care, connection and kindness in how we relate with each other. There are all sorts of causes for this to which we can point. It all relates back to how we spend less and less time together as a culture. We relate more through social media, news media, texting, and the like, and less through face to face conversation and listening. We are relating less through love, and more through impersonal distance.

The deeper issue is that of sin. Yes, sin. When we treat others harshly or dismiss them as less than they are as the beloved of God, we are sinning. We are tearing down life. We are degrading the created dignity of our fellow humans. Some may say, "That is the way of the world, so get over it." By God's mercy and grace we are not to be overcome by the ways of this sin-filled world. And, this is the victory that has overcome the world---our faith." That faith is the gift and work of God active in our lives. Just because some or many do wrong doesn't mean we should do the same. We need to wake up, for the creeping progression of sin is overcoming us, both in the church and in society.

To address this, first the law of God – from Luther's Small Catechism:

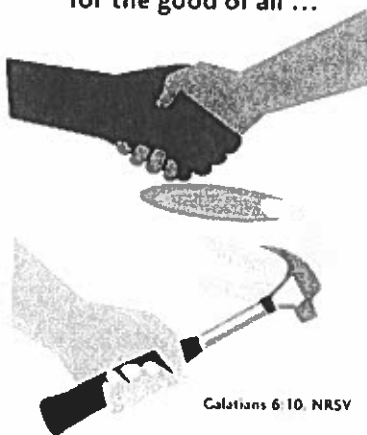
The Eighth Commandment

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. *What is this?*

We are to fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead we are to come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the best possible light.

One of the things that I have seen way too much of recently is what Luther addresses in this explanation. We are failing to speak well of others and failing to interpret everything they do in the best possible light. Within and outside the church I hear people or hear reports of people assuming the worst about the words or actions of others. It is most concerning when it happens in the context of a local Christian congregation.

... whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all ...



Now we have some good news:

We give thanks that God has first loved us in Jesus Christ. In 1 John 4:19, John states, "We love because he (God) first loved us." The suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus brings about the forgiveness of our sin. In response to the foundational action of God, Jesus teaches us that we are to love one another. Here is what St. Paul notes about we are called to

love one another. In Galatians 6:10, Paul writes, "So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith."

We are invited to the following things:

- 1) To look back at our recent actions, attitudes, words, and responses to situations. How have we disparaged others? How have we not given a person the benefit of the doubt? How have we failed to look deeper into a situation to make sure what we have heard is really true? How have we played into the disease of gossip? How have you assumed the worst about someone's role in life, statements, actions, and even one's faith?
- 2) To confess your sin to god. This can be during our general confession at worship. This could be in a conversation with a pastor or a Christian friend. This could be in a time of quiet prayer with the Lord. As you confess, be assured of God's powerful forgiveness of your sin.
- 3) To prayerfully ponder the teachings of Scripture, Creed, and Lutheran Confessional documents (such as Luther's Large and Small Catechisms). The statement above is from the Small Catechism.

(continued on next page)

Look at how you can strive to live according to these long-held teachings of Christianity.

- 4) To strive to bring reconciliation between you and those who have been mistreated by your thoughts, words, or deeds.
- 5) To recognize the influence of the sinful world as it possibly has brought you down to its harmful level. With

this recognition of truth in your life, find ways to push back against that influence. Look at your use of social media. Pay attention to how you watch and respond to news stories. Work on seeing how much you have participated in gossip or disrespectful words about others.

In all these, with God's help, we get to strive to put away such actions and attitudes. We need to be pushing back against the things which bring us down. We need to resist

things which draw us away from respect, kindness, building up others, praying for one another, listening to God and his Word, and speaking about others with the best intentions. With God's abundant help we can have healing of relationships between us and the Lord, and between each other. With God's help we can bridge the distance between one another, which will lead to more lovingly honest relationships and connections. With God's help we can speak the truth with love.



IN SINCERE GRATITUDE....

...to all those who helped set up and decorate the Chrismon tree; to those who placed the Advent wreaths; to those who set up the nativity scene in front of the church.

...to Mia Williams and Amy Dooley and all those who helped organize and direct the Children's Sunday School program, Jesus' Birthday Party, and potluck meal on Saturday, December 14. Thanks to all those who brought food and helped with serving.

...to those who provided special music on Sunday, December 22, for the Carol Service, and to Jessica Weidemann for her directing. Thanks to those who provided special music: Jennifer Tinker and Emma Baird, Cindy Weidemann, Tone Chimes, and to Nancy Eilers for accompaniment.

...to the LYO for leading the Christmas Eve Candlelight service.



...Jenell Jaster (MLLC member) sends her wishes of "Peace, Love and Joy this Christmas and always". She added that "I miss all my friends in Carmine and wish all a "Blessed Christmas". Her address is 4099 Teravista Club Dr., Unit 1104, Round Rock, TX 78665.

A.M.E.N FOOD PANTRY sent the following thank you dated December 11, 2019:

Dear Friends of Martin Luther Lutheran Church:

On behalf of A.M.E.N. Board of Directors, we thank you for your generous support in providing emergency assistance for our needed brothers and sisters in our area. Your generous monetary donation of \$55.00 received December 2, 2019, is very much appreciated.

Sincerely, Carolyn Rotter, for A.M.E.N. Board of Directors

And, thank you to the office helpers for December: Jocie Jacob-Braun placed supplies in pews; Ted & Dianne Sager assembled the January newsletter; Floyd & Cheryl Etzel folded bulletins, and Carol Carmean send bulletins to shut-ins and cards to visitors.

**Martin Luther Lutheran
Church Council
Meeting**
Tuesday, December 17,
2019



Members present: Ronnie Eckert, Tina Mikeska, Pastor David Tinker, Anita Drydale, Brick Peele, Cindy Weidemann, Karen Roemer, Shelby Vaughn, and Jessica Weidemann.
Member absent: Buck Williams

The meeting was called to order at 6:22 p.m. by Ronnie. The devotion was presented by Brick. The minutes and treasurer's report from the November Council meeting were approved.

Pastor's Report:

--Confirmation Class will resume after the new year. Confirmation Sunday is May 3, 2020. We have four youths who are on the list for that Sunday, pending completion of classes and Council approval.

--Continued work on mlccarmine.com website and some aspects of the Facebook page.

Upcoming events:



--February 26, 2020 – Ash Wednesday, Lent begins
Worship schedule: 5:45 p.m. at Waldeck; 7:30 p.m. at MLLC.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Christian Education Committee:

--Sunday School program went well on Saturday night, 12-14;
--Ordered VBS kit for 2020 – Rocky Rail Express.
--No class the next couple of Sundays; crafts instead in the fellowship hall. Will resume regular classes in the new year. Need Christmas trees for VBS.



Worship Committee:

--Met briefly to finish Advent meal planning; planned Carol Service for December 22.



Outreach Committee:

--Assisted the Worship Committee in hosting the December 4 Advent meal prior to worship; was well attended. Nothing pending at this time.

Property Committee:

--Fellowship hall – six hanging fixture incandescent bulbs replaced with LED bulbs (100-watt, 14-watt).



--Replaced A/C filters in Sacristy.

--Cracks in sheetrock in Mission & Ministry building recently noted; patched with spackling paste/painted – monitoring status of foundation ongoing.

--Several electric outlets inoperable in fellowship hall. Eldon Mikeska checked circuit panels and conducted inspection of crawl space necessary to determine specific re-wiring that may be necessary.

Ongoing activities: 1) Maintenance of church grounds,

replacement of defective fluorescent lamps in church facilities, offices. 2) Replacement of A/C system air return filters ongoing. 3) Plumbing repairs ongoing as necessary. 4) Sheetrock repair in narthex ceiling (pending foundation repair). 5) Leveling and painting of propane tank behind playground.



Stewardship Committee:

All counters and schedule for counting are established.

Dayschool Committee: No update

Old Business:

--Budget – Changes were made as discussed last month. Corrections to secretaries' hourly wage: \$14.25 with raise to \$14.75.
--\$8,500.00 budgeted for benevolence in a separate line item in budget to be presented at congregational meeting – January 19.

New Business:

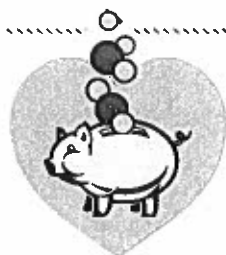
Tone Chimes compensation: Budgeted \$50 for each service at ten services for the year. Bonuses to be same as last year. Budget was approved.

ELCA Gathering Overview:

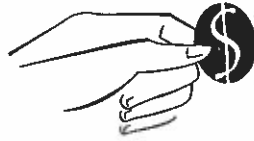
Discussion with Bishop Rinehart over the two resolutions from ELCA Gathering. There were questions and answers.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Pastor will give the devotion at next month's meeting – January 20, 2020, at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Anita Drydale
MLLC Council Secretary



NOISY OFFERING REPORT: The total given in 2019 for the Gulf Coast Synod Military Chaplains Scholarship Fund is \$918.17. The 2020 Noisy Offering is designated for God's Global Barnyard, a program of the ELCA Good Gifts to support livestock and agriculture, which help farmers and families with resources they need to thrive. Thanks for all contributions!



ATTENDANCE & CONTRIBUTIONS:

Date	Attendance	General	School	Building
11-23-Sat.	23	271.00	-0-	50.00
11-24-Sun.	103	1,650.00	-0-	25.00
11-27 Thanks. Eve		453.00	-0-	-0-
11-30-Sat.	12			
12-01-Sun.	40	2,919.00	-0-	40.00
12-04- Advent	35	3,188.57	-0-	-0-
12-07-Sat.	12	450.71	-0-	-0-
12-08-Sun.	63	2,027.00	-0-	130.00
12-11- Advent	40	212.00	-0-	-0-
12-14-Sat.	118	1,266.00	-0-	50.00
12-15-Sun.	38	6,213.00	-0-	-0-
12-18- Advent	30			
12-21-Sat.	13	232.00	-0-	-0-
12-22-Sun.	101	3,621.00	-0-	75.00

MLLC Financial Information

November 2019 Year to Date

Total Income	\$304,653.68
Total Expenses	270,887.72
Net Income:	\$ 33,765.96

November 2019 Month

Total Income	\$ 18,297.25
Total Expenses	22,047.39
Net Loss:	\$ 3,750.14

Year to Date Expenses Highlights:

Salaries and Benefits	\$151,932.83
Vaughn Fundraiser	28,327.00
Benevolences	20,851.63
Property Insurance	16,389.50
Utilities	14,349.78
Printing	7,607.29
Maintenance & Repair	6,986.73
Supplies & Forms	5,539.85
Reimbursements	4,705.42
2019 Harvest Festival	3,778.42
Bulletins & Envelopes	2,171.81
Confirmation Ministry	1,816.29
Postage & Handling	1,691.48
Convention Expenses	999.28
Pest Control	903.17
Miscellaneous	819.59
Camping Ministry	850.00
Equipment & Tools	667.65
2018 Harvest Festival	500.00



Helen Georges	02	Terry Roemer	16
Autumn Lehmann	02	Ashley Weiss	18
Sybil Matthews	03	Thelma Hinze	20
Jennifer Tinker	03	Eugene Muehlbrad	20
Reagan Williams	03	Emily Wright	21
Makayla Smith	04	Hannah Pawlak	22
La Verne Kunkel	05	Carsyn Pratt	23
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	Pat McCanlies	27
Brayden Scheffer	11	Michelle Kohring	28
Colter Siptak	13	Gaylon Mueller	28
Jennifer Mohr	14	Jimmy Loewe	29
Ronald Mueller	15	Esther Kelley	30
Sheryl Pratt	15		



UPCOMING CHILI COOK-OFF

The Round Top Family Library is sponsoring their chili cook-off on Saturday, January 18, at noon at the Stone Cellar in Round Top. If you'd like to participate, call the library at 249-2700 or go line at Ilovetoread.org.



PRAYER FOR PEACE: *Almighty God, all thoughts of truth and peace come from you. Kindle in the hearts of all your children the love of peace and guide with your wisdom the leaders of the nations, so that your kingdom will go forth in peace and the earth will be filled with the knowledge of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (ELW, pg. 63).*

Shared Lutheran Ministries

January 2020 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 979-278-3388

Located at the corner of

Luther Ln & Augsburg Ave,

just a block south of US 290.

<http://mlccarmine.com>

Find us on Facebook

Worship on Sunday – 10:00 a.m.

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

Sunday School – 9:00 a.m.

Pastor David Tinker pastordjt@industryinet.com

Cell 713-461-8007/home 979-278-3384

President: Ronnie Eckert

***Monthly Study/Fellowship Groups**

Quilting – 2nd Mondays at 9:00 a.m. in the Mission
& Ministry Building.

***Rebecca Group** – 2nd Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. in
the fellowship hall.

***Men in Mission** – 4th Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the
parlor – by church offices.

Christmas Epiphany Music Concert

Mark your calendar! Sunday January 5 at 1:30 pm
is the annual 11th Night Epiphany Concert to be
held at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus. The
church is located at 201 Veterans Drive, Columbus,
TX.

This concert features the music of our Colorado
River Conference churches. Musicians, choirs,
pastors, members are asked to 'brush up' one of their
Advent/Christmas songs and present it at the
concert. It is always inspiring and gives glory to our
newborn King! Admission is free.

This year our offering is designated to go to the
local Via de Cristo for scholarships to their retreats.
These retreats are a 3-day course of study designed
to renew the body, mind, and spirit and equip the
layperson to be the church in the world. It is a
Lutheran ministry to renew and strengthen Christian
faith. More information will be given at the concert.

Ash Wednesday. February 26

Worship at MLLC at 7:30 p.m.

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 pastordjt@industryinet.com

Cell 713-461-8007/home 979-278-3384

President: Audrey Sternadel

Ash Wednesday. February 26

Worship at Waldeck at 5:45 p.m.

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 ministry together.



Shared Lutheran Ministries

January 2020 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 1st Sunday at 8:30 a.m.
Noisy Offering on 1st 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



Noisy Offering will be January 5th.
Remember to bring all your loose
change so we can really make a lot of
noise when the Noisy Offering Buckets
are brought to the altar.

Christmas Epiphany Music Concert

Mark your calendar! Sunday January 5 at 1:30 pm
is the annual 11th Night Epiphany Concert to be
held at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus. The
church is located at 201 Veterans Drive, Columbus,
TX.

This concert features the music of our Colorado
River Conference churches. Musicians, choirs,
pastors, members are asked to 'brush up' one of their
Advent/Christmas songs and present it at the
concert. It is always inspiring and gives glory to our
newborn King! Admission is free.

This year our offering is designated to go to the
local Via de Cristo for scholarships to their retreats.
These retreats are a 3-day course of study designed
to renew the body, mind, and spirit and equip the
layperson to be the church in the world. It is a
Lutheran ministry to renew and strengthen Christian
faith. More information will be given at the concert.

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
Find us on Facebook
Regular Sunday Service time – 8:00 AM
– Sunday School @ 9:45 AM
Pastor John David Nedbalek pstrjd@cvctx.com
– cell 210-422-7599
President: Verlyne Aschenbeck 979-250-1442

Quilting – 3rd Wednesday each month

Noisy Offering – 3rd Sunday each month

Game Day – Note additional day per month
First and Third Wednesdays of each month
from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Open to the community.
Everyone is welcome. Bring snack, board game,
dominoes, etc.

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 ministry together.

**Faith &
Fellowship**



SERVERS FOR: JANUARY, 2020

Assisting Ministers: Susan Bathe (01-04, 01-19); Debby Peele (01-05);
Shelby Vaughn (01-11, 01-25); Jessica Weidemann (01-12);
Robby Tovey (01-18); Dianna Gerland (01-26).

Put supplies in pews: Dean & Joyce Ullrich

Send bulletins to shut-ins and cards to visitors: Cherrie Wines

Bulletin folders: Boo & Gene Goolsby

Offering Counters: Deposit-Karen Roemer; Tony Dooley, Boo Goolsby

February newsletter assemblers: LouAnn Stokes and Marlene Waak

(the weekend of January 24 or 25)



Date	Acolytes	Ushers	Readers	Flowers	Communion assistants	Communion set-up
01-04		Volunteers				Connie Peters
01-05	Abby	Team #6 - LYO	Susan Ray	Daryl & Susan Ray		Connie Peters
01-11		Volunteers				Cheryl Etzel
01-12	Matt	Team #7-Jeff Flinn, capt., Wendy Flinn, Kennedy Flinn, Susan Leppard, Emma Leppard, Carson Flinn	Blake Dooley	Conway & Marlene Waak	Floyd Etzel	Cheryl Etzel
01-18		Volunteers				Jessica Weidemann (green paraments)
01-19	Cody	Team #8- Tim Weigelt, capt., Jadon Weidemann, greeter; Lori Weigelt, Justin Roemer, Hannah Roemer	Leonita Sanders	Brick & Debby Peele	Susan Ray	Jessica Weidemann
01-25		Volunteers				Susie Markwardt
01-26	Joshua	Team #9-Eldon Mikeska, Jr., capt., Mason Mikeska, Stuart Markwardt, Jimmy Loewe, Randall Zwernemann, René Zwernemann	Kayla Peters		Cheryl Etzel	Susie Markwardt



JANUARY 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Epiphany of Our Lord Sunday 9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 9:30 am-Choir practice 10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion/ Installation of Auxiliary Officers HOME COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION <i>(1:30 pm-11th Night Concert in Columbus)</i> 5:00 pm-AA meeting	Epiphany of Our Lord (Reports due for Annual Meeting) 6:00 pm-WELCA <u>General Unit meeting</u> 6:30 pm-Stewardship Committee meeting	December 2019 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	1 The Name of Jesus New Year's Day <u>Office closed</u>	2 2:00 pm-Rebekah Group meets	3 Please remember to collect your loose change for noisy offering Sunday	4 10:30 am-Louis Kartous Memorial service in sanctuary 6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion
5 Epiphany of Our Lord Sunday 9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 9:30 am-Choir practice 10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion/ Installation of Auxiliary Officers HOME COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION <i>(1:30 pm-11th Night Concert in Columbus)</i> 5:00 pm-AA meeting	6 Epiphany of Our Lord (Reports due for Annual Meeting) 6:00 pm-WELCA <u>General Unit meeting</u> 6:30 pm-Stewardship Committee meeting	7 4:30 pm-Worship Committee 5:30 pm-Yoga class	8 4:15-6:15 pm-Confirmation class	9 2:00 pm-Rebekah Group meets	10 Please remember to collect your loose change for noisy offering Sunday	11 10:00-Noon, Blanket tying for LWR in M&M bldg. 6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion
12 Baptism of Our Lord/ 1st Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion led by Praise Team/Noisy offering collected Property Committee after worship After worship-Christian Ed. Committee 5:00 pm-AA meeting	13 9:00 am-Quilting Council agenda deadline 5:30 pm-Yoga class	14 Council agenda deadline 5:30 pm-Yoga class	15 2:00 pm-Assemble and pack personal care kits for LWR	16	17 Newsletter deadline	18 6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion
19 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion AFTER WORSHIP-ANNUAL MEETING 5:00 pm-AA meeting	20 1:30 pm-Sr. Citizens' Domino Party 6:15 pm-Church Council meeting	21 5:30 pm-Yoga class	22 4:15-6:30 pm-Confirmation class	23	24	25 6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion/ Baptism Remembrance/Souper Bowl of Caring collection
26 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 8:30 am-Tone Chimes rehearsal 9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study Collection for Souper Bowl of Caring 9:30 am-2:00 pm-Blood drive in fellowship hall 10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion/ Baptism Remembrance/Carmine Cemetery Association meeting (location TBA) 5:00 pm-AA meeting	27 7:00 pm-Men in Mission	28 5:30 pm-Yoga class	20 4:15-6:15 pm-Confirmation class	30	31	February 2020 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