



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: Ronnie Eckert-President; _____ President-elect; Anita Drydale-Secretary; Cindy Weidemann-Treasurer; Jessica Weidemann-Worship Committee; Karen Roemer-Stewardship Committee; Shelby Vaughn-Christian Education Committee; _____ Outreach/Care Committee; Brick Peele-Property Committee



Choose LIFE

Deuteronomy 30:19

Luther's Letter



Martin Luther Lutheran Church

FEBRUARY, 2020



Candlemas Service

Sunday, February 2 – The Presentation of our Lord – Candlemas

We will be doing something unique on February 2 this year. On that day we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple at Jerusalem. Ancient Jewish law required that, following the birth of a firstborn male child, the mother must come to the

Temple after 40 days for purification and for presentation of the child to the Lord.

The presentation of Mary's child, however, was different from most. This was the Christ Child, Jesus, the Savior, the Messiah, who had been promised. And he was recognized as such by the old prophet Simeon, who knew that this child was "a light for revelation to all nations". Thus the image of light carries an important part in this day's liturgy and links itself with the Christmas season and its lights of the Advent wreath, the decorative tree lights, and the many candles of the Nativity celebration.

To mark this particular feast, the ancient tradition calls for 1) the blessing of candles and burning oils to be used during

the year and 2) a procession "to meet the Lord", just as Simeon and Anna went to the Temple and found the Christ there. The liturgy is called Candlemas (the Candle Mass).

At the beginning of our liturgy, our children will gather in the chancel for a special children's sermon to hear about the significance of this day. After the blessing of the candles, they will represent the congregation in procession around the church as we all come into God's temple "to meet the Lord", who is the Light of the World.

Check out the readings for this day, especially the Gospel reading from Luke which tells of Jesus' visit to the Temple. Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 84; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40.

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 19

The following persons were re-elected: Jessica Weidemann-Worship Committee; Karen Roemer-Stewardship Committee; Anita Drydale-Council Secretary.

Remaining Council members are: President-Ronnie Eckert; Treasurer-Cindy Weidemann;



Christian Ed. Committee-Shelby Vaughn; and Property Committee-Brick Peele. Still needed is Outreach Care Committee chair.

Thanks to the outgoing officers for their service – Buck Williams and Tina Mikeska.

On the Endowment Committee are: Tina Mikeska who was elected, and remaining members are Vickie Schroeder, Linda Mattocks, Shelley Scheffer, and Diane Tovey.

On the Financial Review Committee are: Remaining members Karen Roemer and Marlene Waak.

(Financial Review Committee Member Needed:

One church member, who is not on the Church Council, is needed to fill a three-year term (2020-2022) on the MLLC Financial Review Committee. This committee meets once per year, typically in April or May, to do a general review of the church financial records. Contact the church office or Karen Roemer (Stewardship Chair) to volunteer. The previous volunteer for this role was unable to serve due to her already being a Church Council member.)

(See more Reports from the Annual Meeting in this newsletter.)



LENT BEGINS with Ash Wednesday service with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes, February 26. Worship schedule: 5:45 p.m. at Waldeck; 7:30 p.m. at MLLC. *Meals (no meals are served on Ash Wednesday, or during Holy Week).*

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



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

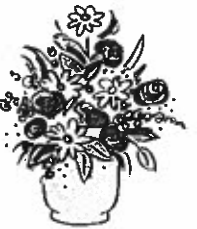
♦ **Confirmation Classes:** For the Spring semester, classes continue on Wednesdays, February 5, 12, and 19; (April 15, 22 & 29 if necessary). Unless otherwise noted, all of the classes will meet from 4:15-6:15 p.m.

♦ **The Choir will not sing in February.**

♦ **LYO's Souper Bowl of Caring** collection is this Saturday (Jan. 25th) and Sunday (Jan. 26th), and continues on Saturday & Sunday – February 1 & 2. Look for the LYO members holding the large soup pots after worship, and remember, cash or checks are accepted. Checks can be made payable to: MLLC LYO; memo line-- Souper Bowl. No amount is too small or too large. You may also give through the church website: mllccarmine.com/online-giving, and go to the link on that page which leads you to the section 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 recipient group—our local Fayette County food pantry: the A.M.E.N. Pantry.

♦ **Flower Chart for 2020** – As of this printing, the following dates are open: February 2, March 1 and 8, July 19, August 23, September 13, 20 & 27, October 4, November 1 & 22.

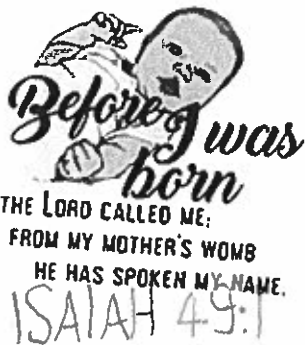


♦ **2020 Offering Envelopes** will be received in the mail every other month.



Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

-Fleece Blanket Tying Day is Saturday, February 8, from 10:00 a.m. until noon in the Mission & Ministry building.



--**Rebekah Group** meets on Thursday, February 13, at 2:00 p.m. Bible Study theme is "We are called!", Session 2: The Call of Jesus.

Bible study leader is *Susan Ray*; *Leonita Sanders* presents the offering meditation; and hostesses are *Dianna Gerland* and *Avalda Pohl*.

--**Regular quilting day** is Monday, February 10, at 9:00 a.m. in the Mission & Ministry building.

Seventy-five personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief were assembled and packed on January 15. Those helping were Joys Baird, Dianna Gerland, Sedalia Ullrich, and Nancy Eilers.

Dianna Gerland and Nancy Eilers took 28 quilts to Krause Center in Katy on January 15. They were given an informative tour of the facilities.

(continued on next page)

WELCA NEWS, continued—



BOLD WOMEN'S DAY

The fourth Sunday in February, the 23rd, is when Bold Women's Day is observed. Women of the ELCA's mission is to mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Some women may be bold by speaking up about issues. Others are bold by volunteering for leadership roles. Or, they may be bold through their hospitality, like helping with nursing home parties, funeral serving, or a ride to the doctor.

Women may be bold in the workplace, home, or community. They are living out their faith which compels them to make a difference in the lives of others. Who have been the bold women in your life?



Report on WELCA General Planning Meeting – January 6, 2020.

The MLLC WELCA General Planning Meeting was held on January 6, 2020 in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm with the objective to plan the 2020 year. In attendance were *Colette Wunderlich, Susan Ray, Leonita Sanders, Nancy Eilers, Sedalia Ullrich, Joys Baird, and Dianna Gerland.*

The group was welcomed by President Colette and then all recited the Purpose and Mission Statements. The opening devotion, God in Music, based on Psalm 33:3 was given by Colette, who then called the meeting to order. The minutes of previous meeting on June 9, 2019, were approved as given as well as the treasurer's report. Any memorials given to WELCA will be placed in the Quilting Fund that is reflected in the treasurer's report balance.

Reports from 2019 were given on nursing home parties by Sedalia, Mission Community; on salad supper, Thankoffering service and meal, and yearbooks by Joys, and thanked Nancy for all the work that she does with changes and printing of the yearbooks, Mission Growth; and on quilting, A.M.E.N. ingatherings, and offering collected for Mission Action. The Lydia Group is led by Cindy Weidemann by posting devotions on Facebook. The crosses on the Fellowship Hall wall are ongoing. It was noted that the quilted cross hanging was made by Darlene Etzel and given by Donna Mueller.



The Brazos Cluster Fall Happening and TX-LA Gulf Coast Synod Women's Retreat/Convention reports were given by Leonita. The possibility of buying a new sewing machine was discussed with funds coming from the Quilting Fund.

In planning for 2020, Mission Community: Sedalia will contact the following for birthday parties: Brenham Nursing and Rehab, Argent Court, and Bec's Blessing. Nursing home communion days with Pastor will continue in LaGrange at Care Inn, Jefferson's Place, and Monument Hill.

Discussion was held at the possibility of doing communion at the nursing centers when we have birthday parties; this will be discussed with Pastor. The funeral serving continues.

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WELCA General Planning meeting report, continued---

Mission Growth: Joys reported any yearbooks not given out will be mailed. The WELCA salad supper will be on June 3rd with social time at 6:30 pm and meal at 7 pm with the theme, Give Me That Old Time Religion. Decorating will be done the day before, June 2nd at 3 pm. Yearbook planning will start in October and assembled and given out in December.

The Thankoffering Service, with the theme, God's Work with our Hands at MLLC, by women of the church, will be on November 8th. The turkey and dressing meal will follow with Mantey Catering. Mission Action will continue with Lutheran World Relief kits ingathering as follows: January-baby kits, May-fabric kits, July-school kits, and October-personal care kits.

Deadline and dedication of LWR Kits and Quilts will be Palm Sunday, April 5th. The assembly and packing of kits/quilts will be Wednesday, April 8th at 2 pm with the shipping to Zionsville on Easter Monday, April 13th.

Quilting for Camp for All, Krause Center, and LWR will continue on the 2nd Monday of each month. A.M.E.N. ingatherings will be in February, May, August, and November. Offerings are to be collected for Brazos Cluster in the spring and for the Synod convention in late summer. We continue with collecting used postage stamps. The Lydia Group with Cindy Weidemann will do fleece blanket tying on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10 am.

Announcements of other events, not previously noted were the following:

National Human Trafficking Awareness, yearly on January 11th; Katie's Day, January 29th; World Day of Prayer, 1st Friday in March with theme, Rise, Take Up Your Mat and Walk, written by women of Zimbabwe; National Quilting Day, March 21st; Earth Day, April 22nd, Climate Action; Bold Women's Day, February 23rd; International Women's Day, March 8th, theme, #Each for Equal; World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, July 30th; Triennial WELCA Convention, Phoenix, AZ-July 14th-16th, Gathering, 16th-19th, Colette attending as voting member, Gathering registration separate;

The Scroll, available; Synod WELCA news at gulfoastwelca.org; churchwide news, study materials, resources, etc. at womenoftheelca.org.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.



Current Member Prayer Concerns: Robert Vaughn (at Texas Neurology, thankful for extended stay for rehab); David Eilers (upcoming surgery); Bobbie Weidemann (health concerns); and Johnny Dunham (health concerns).

Current Friends and Family Prayer Concerns: Jack Walsh (friend of Wade Eilers, recurring melanoma); 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);

Sam Doerr (former member Tommy Doerr's son, health concerns); Delton Koerth (friend from Greenvine, health concerns); Burnie & Nellie Wolff (Jenell Jaster's sister and brother-in-law, health concerns); Fritz Schoenst (friend from area, foot amputated); Carrie Bozarth (friend of Sedalia Ullrich, cancer); Paul Banks (friend of Shelby & Robert Vaughn, strokes); 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.

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PRAYER LIST, continued

Ongoing Friends and Family Prayer Concerns: Nina Kelley, Annie Pless, Stephany Hamrell, Pastor Willie Rotter, Carl & Linda Richardson, Mark Riffin, 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 Fuhman, Lloyd Pieper, C. J. Lehmann, Harris Kubos, Jr., and Sam Reeves.

Homebound Members: Nevilee Marburger (in Houston); Judy Yarborough, Peetsy Fischer, Shirley Mueller (at home at their Bed & Breakfast in Brenham); Gene Muehlbrad.

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.



With Sympathy

✝ Our Christian Sympathy to the families and friends of: Jack Weidemann, Dennis Marek (Darrell Marek's brother); Carolyn Rotter (sister of former Waldeck Pastor Willie Rotter); Shirley Tingley (Diane Tovey's mother); and Branch Neutzler (brother of Kay Schmidt, JoLynn Schoenberg, and Darrel & Vickie Neutzler; and William Biddle (brother-in-law of Terry McIntosh).

OFFICIAL ACTS IN JANUARY: Memorial Services

The Memorial Service for Louis Wesley Kartous was conducted by Pastor Tinker at MLLC on Saturday, January 4, 2020; and the Memorial Service for Jack Weldon Weidemann was conducted at MLLC by Pastor Tinker also on Saturday, January 4, 2020.



ALL ABOARD THE ROCKY RAILWAY

where Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through

SAVE THE DATE FOR 2020 VBS – Sunday, June 14 – Thursday, June 18
Registration will open on April 1st.

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.

Our Mission-Focused Congregation By Pastor David Tinker

In this world of sin, fear, hate, division, and death we all too often get distracted from doing what God has called us to do. It comes on so easily for us. This distraction is sometimes subtle and sometimes intense. We get distracted by our own interests. We get distracted by our own sin. We get distracted by the things which the world offers which seek to supplant Jesus in our lives. We get distracted by the sin or behavior of others. We remember what Jesus said in Matthew 7:3-5, “³Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ while the log is in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor’s eye.” That log is the sinful ways of our own ways, and that speck is the sinful way of others.

In all this, we get distracted by what divides us rather than seeking to find what unites us in our Lord Jesus Christ. In this, the Holy Spirit stirs in us to revisit what our lives and ministry are to be about. We are called back again to the mission of the Gospel. The Mission to which Christ has called us is not some vague mystery. Rather, it has been right in front of us for so long.

In 2003 Martin Luther Lutheran Church presented this statement as an expression of God’s call to mission for the congregation:
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.

This statement springs out of God’s Holy Word and the teachings of Jesus. That Word of God sets the agenda for the life and ministry of this and any Christian congregation. I have said it many times, and I will continue to say it over and over, that we must pay attention to what God has first told us about our life in the church.

Christians have long understood that certain scripture passages are central to what our Lord Jesus Christ has called us to do. Here are those central passages of God’s Word:

The Greatest Commandment: Mark 12:30-31

Jesus said, “...you shall Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”



The New Commandment: John 13:34

Jesus said, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.”

The Great Commission: Matthew 28:19-20

Jesus said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you...”

What we do and what we plan to do as the people of God gathered at MLLC must be re-centered in this calling. To do this we return again and again to the core of our faith and calling. Luther reminds us in the Small Catechism the following: “(Baptism) signifies that the old person in us with all sins and evil desires is to be drowned and die through daily sorrow for sin and through repentance, and on the other hand that daily a new person is to come forth and rise up to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.”

For us both individually and in the church, we are called daily to seek to refocus our lives and energy on living out the mission to which God has called us. Each of us has our own struggle with sin and worldly distractions. Each of us has our own repenting of sin to work out. As we heed the call of Jesus for our lives and for his church (MLLC), we will become the community of faith which God desires.

**Congregational
Annual Meeting –
January 19, 2020**

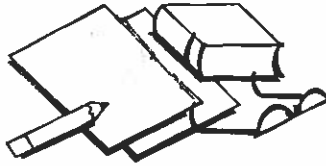
The Annual Congregational Meeting of Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Carmine was held on Sunday, January 19, 2020.

Written reports from various individuals, committees, and organizations are available in the printed packets. Extra copies are in the church office for review.

ELCA Resolutions
Discussion Report.

AMMPARO,

Sanctuary Church resolution and the Earth Charter. The Council sought and presented findings for a better understanding of the resolutions. The Council met with Bishop Rinehart for further information.



The MLLC Church Council has chosen the following actions in response to these discussions: 1) consider the Mission Support to the synod in a separate budget item vote at the 2020 congregational meeting. 2) to give a summary of the discussion for congregational information. 3) to seek more ways to serve and support our neighbors in need, in Carmine, our counties, our state and nation, and to the ends of the earth.

A committee is to be formed by the Church Council to look into more about ELCA resolutions and actions.

New Business:

The 2020 Budget was passed as presented.

Mission Support/
Benevolences to Synod.
Motion to strike synod mission support from 2020 budget passed by vote (22 yes-16 no). (See note with Church Council minutes regarding the follow up on this motion).

The Shared Ministry contract with Waldeck Evangelical Lutheran Church was renewed for the period of March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021.

Elections were held. See results on front page of this newsletter.

It was suggested by Brick Peele, Property Chair, that the Church have special work days to do more involved cleaning and maintenance. These would be jobs which are beyond the scope of our typical custodial work schedule.

ATTENDANCE & CONTRIBUTIONS:

Date	Attendance	General	School	Building
12-24	186	1,595.00 (Loose offering to LYO)	-0-	-0-
12-25	40	602.00	-0-	-0-
12-28-Sat.	14	325.00	-0-	-0-
12-29-Sun.	56	2,264.00	-0-	-0-
01-04-Sat.	18	530.00	-0-	-0-
01-05-Sun.	71	10,163.96	-0-	150.00
01-11-Sat.	31	530.00	-0-	75.00
01-12-Sun.	63	1,943.00	-0-	155.00
01-18-Sat.	13	185.00	-0-	-0-
01-19-Sun.	75	2,761.00	-0-	45.00

**BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH**

Tiffani Brooks	01	Vickie Neutzler	13
LaRissa Lara	02	Tiffany Jamail	16
Leonita Sanders	02	Ora Lee Levien	17
Jonathan Wunderlich	03	Tori Brooks	17
David Krause	04	Brick Peele	17
Jesse McDaniel	04	Josh Aranzolo	18
Ruth Schoenemann	04	Sara Eilers	18
Randy Zingelmann	05	Randall Kohring	18
Gracie Eckert	09	Roger Schoenst	19
Lane Jacob	09	Caden Medack	20
Aden Diehl	10	Dianne Sager	21
Yvonne Jackson	10	JoLynn Schoenberg	22
Breanna Leonhardt	10	Ila Nell Kieke	24
Marge Morris	10	Emma Baird	25
Emery Vaughn	10	Kyle Roemer	25
Tana Brooks	11	Kenneth Key	26
Brody Dooley	11	Ted Sager	29
René Zwernemann	12		

**4th QUARTER, 2019
MEMORIAL
REPORT**



Memorials to
General Fund -
\$120.00
Gordon Tinker

Martin Luther Lutheran Church Council Meeting January 20, 2020

Members present: Ronnie Eckert, Pastor David Tinker, Anita Drydale, Brick Peele, Cindy Weidemann, Karen Roemer, Shelby Vaughn, and Jessica Weidemann.

The meeting was called to order at 6:19 p.m. by Ronnie. The devotion and prayer were presented by Pastor.

The minutes from the December Council meeting were reviewed, corrected, and approved. The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved.



Special Note Regarding Synod Mission Support Vote

At the January 19 Congregational Meeting there was a motion passed which brought the amount of Mission Support for our Gulf Coast Synod (often noted as "benevolence") from \$8,500/year to \$0/year for 2020. This passed by a vote of 22 yes to 16 no.

After the meeting it was discovered that this motion was not in line with our organizational rules, our congregational constitution. The initial error came from a misunderstanding by the church council about this issue prior to the meeting. The option of making the budget line for Mission Support to our Gulf Coast Synod as \$0/year was presented at the meeting and in reports. This was found to be in error because the council discovered it was out of line with our constitution. The church council apologizes for this error, and they have sought a solution for the 2020 Budget which does the best to honor both our constitution as well as the vote of the congregational meeting.

The specific parts of the constitution which relate to this are:

C4.03.g This congregation will motivate its members to provide financial support for the congregation's ministry and the ministry of other parts of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

C6.03.b This congregation pledges its financial support and participation in the life and mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

C12.05.d The Congregation Council will prepare an annual budget for adoption by this congregation and will supervise the expenditure of funds in accordance therewith following adoption. The budget will include this congregation's full indicated share in support of the wider ministry carried on in partnership with the synod and churchwide organizations.

C12.05.e The Congregation Council will ascertain that the financial affairs of this congregation are being conducted efficiently, giving particular attention to the prompt payment of all obligations and to the regular forwarding of benevolence monies to the synodical treasurer.

To remedy this, and to take the spirit of the vote at the congregational meeting, the church council took this action regarding the budget line.

Since the Mission Support check for January 2020 had already been sent earlier in the month (total \$708.33), the council voted to make the budget for Mission Support 2020 to be \$708.33.

This budget line, along with all other budget items as is the usual order of business, will be revisited for the 2021 budget year.

As part of the discussion at the congregational meeting and at the church council meeting, it is noted that people are welcome to give additional amounts for Synod Mission Support as part of their regular giving. This can be designated on one's offering envelope (note: Synod) or through the church web site giving page. There is a line for "Synod Mission Support – Benevolences". Go to the church web page: <https://mlccarmine.com/online-giving/> to see the link to the online and automated giving page.

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Church Council Meeting, January 20, 2020, continued---

Pastor's Report

Deaths in December, 2019:
Louis Kartous – December 16,
and Jack Weidemann –
December 28

The Pastor has one weekend of vacation time left for 2019, and will be finding a date in the next couple of months to take off to fulfill this vacation time.

Committee Reports:

Christian Education Committee met on Sunday, January 5th, and discussed having the LYO come and host another trivia morning with Sunday School students in February. Also discussed was that Sunday School would not meet on Easter Sunday, but will have an egg hunt to follow the worship service. It was voted to have a new attendance plan for the 2019-20 Sunday School year and forward; attendance will not be counted in the months of June and July, and not counted for the last two Sundays of the calendar year against a child's attendance. Students will still be required to make 90% of the Sundays for the remainder of the year to receive a year pin. The kit for 2020 VBS was ordered and we are starting to get the word out with 'save the dates' and through the newsletters for MLLC and surrounding churches. A time schedule for Lutherhill to come and lead Sunday School in March is being worked on. Additional hand-held mics for Sunday School programs is being requested.

Worship Committee met briefly and discussed the Candlemas for February 2, to commemorate the 40th day of Christmas. Also discussed--February 26- Ash Wednesday. Altar Guild and Acolyte Training will be in February.

Outreach Committee assisted the Worship Committee in hosting the December 4 Advent meal prior to worship, and was well

attended. Nothing pending at this time.

Property Committee reported the following significant issues addressed:

- Legacy Concrete contracted to remove and re-pour uneven sidewalks and correct uneven bottom steps for the fellowship hall;
- Repair of northwest corner of church slab;
- Replacement of parlor air conditioner compressor;
- Tree trimming of church, parsonage land, Mission & Ministry building grounds;
- Monitoring cracks in sheetrock of Mission & Ministry building—patched with spackling paste/painted;
- Several electrical outlets reported dead in the fellowship hall;
- Will need to check wiring in crawl space to determine if pests chewed on wiring.



Stewardship Committee: Met on January 6 with three members present, along with treasurer, Cindy Weidemann, and Pastor Tinker. The following dates were finalized for meetings: March 2, May 4, July 6, September 14, October 5 (Harvest Festival meeting), November 2. Lenten envelopes were discussed. This year the collection will go to ELCA – Lutheran Disaster Responses. The 2020 Review Committee (auditing 2019) will be 3rd term – Marlene Waak; 2nd term – Karen Roemer; 1st term – TBD from congregation. Funds were approved for Christian Ed needs; hand-held mics, can pull funds out of Designated Funds. New members are welcome to join our committee. Fresh ideas are always welcome.

Dayschool Committee: No update.

Old Business:

- VP-President-Elect – RaChelle Kuecker has submitted her name.
- Change in time of Church Council meeting for 3rd Monday of the month at 6:15 p.m., to 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. beginning with the February meeting.
- Outreach Committee chairperson needs to be filled.
- 2020 Review Committee – Anita Drydale cannot serve as she is a Church Council member.

New Business:

- Renewal application from the Carmine Chamber of Commerce was approved.
- Church security – training by David Mohr. It was approved to have David come talk to the Council on Tuesday, February 18, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss safety issues.
- Pastor will coordinate the Endowment Committee meeting.

Thank-you notes received:

- Casa for Kids – for cribs
- ELCA – for gift of \$162 to ELCA World Hunger
- Thank-you notes/cards received for Christmas bonuses.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Karen will give the devotion at next month's meeting on Tuesday, February 18, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Anita Drydale, MLLC Council Secretary

Have mercy
on me, *God*,
according to your
steadfast *love*.

Psalm 51:1, NRSV

MLLC Financial Information

December 2019 Year to Date

Total Income	\$333,379.47
Total Expenses	291,783.70
Net Income:	\$ 41,595.77

December 2019 Month

Total Income	\$ 28,676.37
Total Expenses	20,895.98
Net Income:	\$ 7,780.39

Year to Date Expenses Highlights:

Salaries and Benefits	\$168,833.39
Vaughn Fundraiser	28,327.00
Benevolences	21,961.96
Property Insurance	16,490.50
Utilities	15,850.17
Printing	8,171.29
Maintenance & Repair	7,285.27
Supplies & Forms	5,577.96
Reimbursements	4,995.42
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
Miscellaneous	912.64
Pest Control	903.17
Camping Ministry	850.00
Equipment & Tools	667.65
2018 Harvest Festival	500.00

children 12 and under. Enjoy dinner, games, an auction and dancing. Sponsored tables of eight are offered at three levels: \$500, \$750, and \$1,000, which will feature reserved, priority, or premium seating, donor recognition and other benefits.

For more information, go to: rteducationfoundation@gmail.com, or www.rteducationfoundation.org, or call 979-249-7183. Donations may also be sent to: P. O. Box 85, Round Top, TX 78954.

➤ **Classes at the Round Top Family Library.** Instructor is Randy Melton assisted by Betty Melton. They will be teaching beginner basics on how to use your iPhone, and what you need to know before buying a computer. The classes are free, but please call the Library to sign up.

Basic iPhone Class – February 5, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Buying a Computer – February 12, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

For more information, check out www.ilovetoread.org, or call 979-249-2700.

➤ **Senior Citizens Gaming Party** is set for Sunday, February 9, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Round Top Family Library, 206 W. Mill St. in Round top. The Library is partnering with the RT-C 4-H Club (which, other years, was held at MLLC). Come enjoy the fellowship and win a prize!

➤ **A memorial service for Shirley Tingley** is scheduled for Sunday, February 23, at Covenant Presbyterian Church in College Station at 2:00 p.m. Shirley was a regular visitor here and is the mother of Diane Tovey. Her obituary is on the MLLC website.

➤ **A Fried Chicken Fundraiser** is set for Sunday, February 23, with drive-thru pickup at the Carmine Hall from 11:00-1:00, sponsored by the Cedar Creek Schuetzen Verein. Advance tickets may be purchased from any hall member for \$10. Donations for the fund-raiser are used for scholarships.

➤ **A fundraiser for Carrie Bozarth** to help with cancer medical expenses (sponsored by her friends) is set for Saturday, February 22, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. in the Burton American Legion (Community Center). A meal of barbecue pork butt, buttered potatoes, green beans with all the trim-mings (catered by Sandtown Catering) will be served from 4:00-6:00 p.m., dine in or to go, for a \$10 donation. There will be a raffle, silent auction, and live auction that begins at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are available from: Hair Depot, Dale's Automotive, Ram Optical, Shear Envy, Parts and More, or contact Jackie McCoy at 979-716-7428, or Nancy Guelker at 979-277-8395.

➤ **New Beginnings Life Ministry Banquet** is Thursday, March 5, at the Fireman's Training Center in Brenham. Doors open and silent auction begins at 6:00 p.m. Dinner and program are from 6:30-9:00 p.m. RSVP by February 27 to 979-836-0397.



➤ **The RT-C Education Foundation Fundraiser, "Small School, Big Hearts Celebration"** is set for Saturday, February 1.

The day begins with a Fun Run/Walk at 10:30 a.m. and 5K run at 11:00 a.m. Dinner, featuring performances and displays by music and art students from both campuses, begins at 5:00 p.m. Meal tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for



FEBRUARY 14 IS VALENTINE'S DAY

The 6th Annual Sweetheart Classic Car Show is set for Saturday, February 15, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on the frontage road on the south side of Hwy. 290 near the Carmine Depot. Call Bob Springer at 713-898-7667 or email him at texasbkb@swbell.net for more information.

Shared Lutheran Ministries
February 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.

Lenten Schedule for Waldeck and Carmine

The Lenten Services will be led by both Pastor
David Tinker and Pastor John David Nedbalek.
Each pastor will be at each of the 4 churches at least
once. Services will be held in the established
groupings of Waldeck/Carmine and Shelby/Round
Top. All services on Wednesdays.

February 26 – Ash Wednesday **No Meal**
Waldeck 5:45 p.m. Carmine 7:30 PM

March 4 – at Carmine
6:00 p.m. Meal. 7:00 p.m. Worship

March 11 - at Waldeck
6:00 p.m. Meal. 7:00 p.m. Worship

March 18 - at Carmine
6:00 p.m. Meal. 7:00 p.m. Worship

March 25 - at Waldeck
6:00 p.m. Meal. 7:00 p.m. Worship

April 1- at Carmine
6:00 p.m. Meal. 7:00 p.m. Worship

Holy Week – see next column

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

Lent Schedule

See left hand column for details.

Holy Week Services for Waldeck and Carmine

Maundy Thursday

April 9 5:45 p.m. at Waldeck
7:30 p.m. at Carmine

Good Friday

April 10 7:00 p.m. at Carmine

Vigil of Easter (Saturday)

April 11 7:00 p.m. at Carmine

The Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter)

April 12
6:45 a.m. – Sunrise Service at Carmine Cemetery
8:00 a.m. Waldeck Celebration Service
~9:00 a.m. – Waldeck Brunch
~9:20/9:30 a.m. – Waldeck Egg Hunt

9:00 a.m. – Easter Reception in Parlor - Carmine
10:00 a.m. Carmine Celebration Service
~11:00 a.m. Egg Hunt and Children's activity at
Carmine



Shared Lutheran Ministries
February 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

Lent 2020 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and St. Paul Lutheran Church - Shelby

The Lenten Services will be led by both Pastor David Tinker and Pastor John David Nedbalek. Each pastor will be at each of the 4 churches at least once. Services will be held in the established groupings of Waldeck/Carmine and Shelby/Round Top. All services on Wednesdays.

02-26-20 – Ash Wednesday
Bethlehem, Round Top 5:30 PM
St. Paul, Shelby 7:00 PM
No Meal

03/04/20 – @ St Paul, Shelby
6:00 PM Light meal 7:00 Lenten Service

03/11/20 - @ Bethlehem, Round Top
6:00 PM Light Meal 7:00 Lenten Service

03/18/20 - @ St Paul, Shelby
6:00 PM Light Meal 7:00 PM Lenten Service

03/25/20 - @ Bethlehem, Round Top
6:00 PM Light Meal 7:00 Lenten Service

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 –

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.

Lent 2020

See schedule in Lefthand column.

Our Name Together

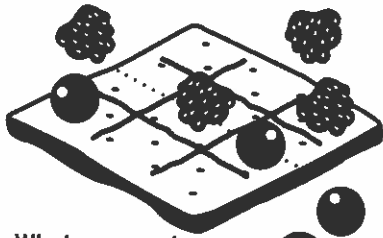
The name “Crossroads Shared Lutheran Ministries” is an unofficial name for our work together among our four congregations. We are four communities of faith which meet at crossroads in our small town and rural contexts. We are four congregations which have met a crossroads in our ministries, and we have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



Friendship Squares

This tasty treat doubles as a game to play with a buddy.



What you need:

- Graham crackers
- Chocolate chips
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Zippered baggie
- Scissors
- Raspberries
- Blueberries

What you do:

1. Gently break cracker sheets in half to form squares.
2. Heat chocolate chips in microwave for 30 seconds. Stir, then continue heating for 30 seconds at a time until melted.
3. Spoon melted chocolate into baggie and snip a small triangle from one bottom corner.
4. On each cracker, squeeze chocolate lines to form a Tic-Tac-Toe board. Let cool.
5. Using the fruit as X's and O's, play Tic-Tac-Toe with a friend. The winner gets to eat the treat!

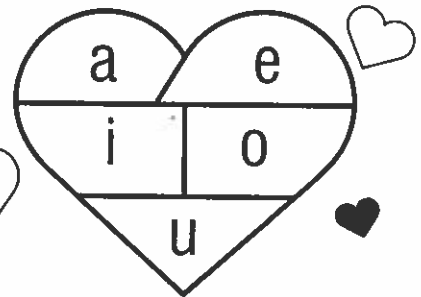


A friend in Jesus

In the Bible, Jesus shares what it means to be a true friend.



Directions: Use the heart key to fill in the missing vowels from John 15:14, 17, NIV.



“Y _ _ _ r _ my fr _ _ nds _ f

y _ _ d _ wh _ t _ c _ mm _ nd. ...

Th _ s _ s my c _ mm _ nd:

L _ v _ _ _ ch _ th _ r.”

JOHN 15:14, 17, NIV

Answer: “You are my friends if you do what I command. ... This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:14, 17, NIV



FEBRUARY 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
				January 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 30 31	March 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 30 31		1 6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion/Souper Bowl of Caring collection
2 4 th Sunday after Epiphany Presentation of Our Lord Candlemas Service 9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion Collection for Souper Bowl of Caring 5:00 pm-AA meeting	3 9:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion	4 4:30 pm-Worship Committee	5 4:15-6:15 PM-Confirmation class 5:30 pm-Yoga class	6	7 Please remember to collect your loose change for noisy offering Sunday	8 10:00 am-Noon, Blanket tying for LWR in M&M building 6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion	
9 5 th 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	10 9:00 am-Quilting	11 Council Agenda Deadline	12 4:15-6:15 PM-Confirmation class 5:30 pm-Yoga class	13 2:00 pm-Rebekah Group meets	14 Valentine's Day Newsletter deadline	15 6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion	
16 6 th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion 5:00 pm-AA meeting	17 1:30 pm-Sr. Citizens' Domino Party 6:15 pm-Church Council meeting	18 Martin Luther died on this day in 1546.	19 4:15-6:15 PM-Confirmation class 5:30 pm-Yoga class	20	21	22 6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion/Baptism Remembrance	
23 7 th Sunday after Epiphany Transfiguration of Our Lord 8:30 am-Tone Chimes 9:00 am-Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 9:45 am-Hymn Sing 10:00 am-Worship with Holy Communion/Baptism Remembrance 5:00 pm-AA meeting	24 7:00 pm-Men in Mission	25	26 Ash Wednesday 5:45 pm-Lenten service At Waldeck 7:30 pm-Lenten service with Holy Communion at MLLC 5:30 pm-Yoga class	27	28	29 6:00 pm-Worship w/Holy Communion	





February, 2020 Sewers

Assisting Ministers: Susan Bathe (02-01, 02-16); Jessica Weidemann (02-02);
 (Volunteer needed--(02-08, 02-22); Debby Peele (02-09, 02-26 (Ash Wed.);
 Shelby Vaughn (02-15); Dianna Gerland (02-23); Tim Sanders (02-29).
 Send bulletins to shut-ins and cards to visitors: Carol Carmean
 Place supplies in pews: Betty Porter
 Bulletin folder: Betty Porter
 Offering Counters: Deposit-Cindy Weidemann; Tina Mikeska and Theresa Garlin
 March newsletter assemblers: Betty Porter & Carol Hall
 (the weekend of February 21 or 22)

Date	Acolytes	Ushers	Readers	Flowers	Communion assistants	Communion set-up
02-01		Volunteers				Joann Ullrich (white paraments)
02-02	Kalli	Team #10 -Glenn Treude, capt., Melvin Schoenst, Glenda Oakes, Renè Runge	Amber Dooley			Joann Ullrich
02-08		Volunteers				Susan Bathe (green paraments)
02-09	Avery	Team #11 -Tim Sanders, capt., Alvis Mueller, greeter; Steve Leppard, Amanda Leppard, Shayne Kirts, Jed Leppard	Vickie Schroeder	Todd & Amy Dooley	Karen Roemer	Susan Bathe
02-15		Volunteers				Debbie Eckert (ML banner)
02-16	Jace	Team #12 -Berrie Etzel, capt., Shelley Scheffer, greeter; Darlene Etzel, Tana Brooks, Shelby Vaughn, Connie Peters, Jordan Peters	Jessica Weidemann	Douglas & Sedalia Ullrich	Vickie Schroeder	Debbie Eckert
01-22		Volunteers				Shelby Vaughn (white paraments)
02-23	Drayton	Team #13 -Ronnie Eckert, capt., Avalda Pohl, greeter; Brooke Eckert, Debbie Eckert, Josh Eckert, Peyton Franklin	Amy Dooley	Brick & Debby Peele	Cindy Hinze	Shelby Vaughn
02-26 Ash. Wed.	Kennedy	Team #14 -Tony Dooley, capt., Amy & Todd Dooley, Blake & Amber Dooley	Robbie Tovey		Darlene Etzel	Jadon Weidemann (black paraments)
02-29		Volunteers				Connie Peters (purple paraments)