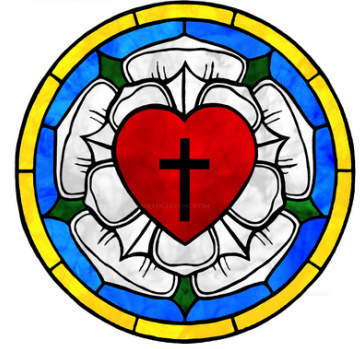


FEBRUARY, 2024

LUTHER'S LETTER

Monthly publication of Martin Luther Lutheran Church, Carmine, Texas



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.

*The
Season
of
Lent*



Revisiting our Mission as a Congregation

By Pastor David Tinker

In this world of sin, fear, hate, division, intense politics, 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? 4 Or how can you say to your neighbor, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? 5 You 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 told us first 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 sorry 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 have 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 (including MLLC), we will become the community of faith which God desires. For the sake of the Gospel and for our own walk of faith, each of us and all of us are called to revisit the core of our faith in Christ and our calling to follow his mission for us in as the Church in the world.

Ash Wednesday and Lent 2024

Lent begins in February with Ash Wednesday, February 14. For the five Wednesdays following that we will have a shared series with our partner congregations in the Crossroads Shared Lutheran Ministry. Round Top, Shelby, Waldeck, and Carmine.

The series is called, "The Lord is My Shepherd: Psalm 23." There will be teaching based on various sections of this beloved psalm. The Lenten medallion this year depicts aspects of Psalm 23. Pastors Tinker and Nedbalek will be on a schedule visiting all four of the congregations during Lent.



Here is the schedule for services for Waldeck and Carmine

February 14 Ash Wednesday 5:45 p.m. at Waldeck; 7:30 p.m. at Carmine
Pastor David Tinker will lead both of these services.

The following Wednesday dates will be at the noted location.

Meal at 6 p.m. and worship at 7 p.m.

February 21 Carmine February 28 Waldeck

March 6 Carmine March 13 Waldeck March 20 Carmine

The services will also include the reading of a portion of the Passion account from the Gospel of Mark. By attending all five Wednesdays (February 21 – March 20), one will be hearing the entire Passion account.

How do I know my child is ready to attend First Communion Class?

Only the first question (Has your child been baptized?) requires a "Yes" before your child can be considered ready to receive his or her first communion. Use the others to generate discussion and to plan, in consultation with Pastor David Tinker, for your child's preparation to begin receiving the sacrament and the gifts it brings.

Contact Pastor David Tinker if you have any questions about Holy Communion. He would be happy to help answer your questions.

The most important question is about God's gift of Grace for your child:

***** Has your child been baptized?

If your child is not yet baptized, please speak with a pastor to set a date for your child to receive this Sacrament. It is understood that Holy Communion is for the baptized children of God.

These observations and questions do not all need to be answered with a "yes," but can be helpful in determining when a youth will begin receiving the sacrament.

He/She may. . .

- *have expressed interest in participating in Holy Communion during worship, perhaps copying your movements at the altar
- *have begun to ask questions about why we take Holy Communion
- *have begun to reach for the Holy Communion elements which are offered to you
- *have a foundation in Christ through attendance in Christian education or worship, and through family conversations, devotions or prayer
- *be able to speak about God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) as loving and trustworthy
- *pray the Lord's Prayer and be able to say other simple prayers (such as at bedtime and meals)

Some questions:

- *Is your child comfortable in various locations around the church, like the altar?
- *Does your child have a basic, age-appropriate awareness that God loves him or her?
- *Does your child understand the idea of "right" and "wrong", and can grasp the basic notion of "forgiveness"?
- *Will your child extend his or her hands when asked to do so?
- *Will your child be able to understand the basic concept that Holy Communion is a gift from God to each person?
- *Does your child seem to have a basic trust that they are a child of God?
- *Does your child seem interested in what goes on in church during Communion?
- *Does your child interact enough with others to receive the bread and wine?
- *Is your child aware enough of others in the congregation and their needs to show respect for the communion experience?
- *Are you prepared to help make the process positive?
- *Are you prepared to continue to fulfill the promises you made at your child's baptism to bring him or her regularly to the Lord's Table?

First Holy Communion Class begins in February
By Pastor David Tinker
pastordjt@gmail.com 979-278-3388

The First Holy Communion class will be offered February 25, March 3 and 24. on Sunday mornings, starting at about 11:15 a.m. in the Mission & Ministry Building. These session times avoid the RTCISD Spring Break for 2024. Make-up sessions for missed classes will be offered on March 10 and/or 17, depending upon the needs of students.

First Holy Communion at MLLC is most often offered to elementary age students, in 5th grade and younger. Our goal is to make sure youth who are part of MLLC have begun communing by the end of 5th grade. Older students who have not yet participated in this class are also invited to participate. The 5th grade tradition does not prevent younger students from attending the class and receiving Holy Communion. Many times in the past several years we have had youth in younger grades participating in the class. It is highly likely that most of the youth participating in the class will be younger.

Students are encouraged to bring a Bible for use in class, as well as paper/pen for any notes they might want to write. If students don't have access to a Bible, we have one for their use. Note that each student will be presented with a Bible on First Communion Thursday – March 28/Maundy Thursday – for his or her personal study and for use in Sunday School, Confirmation and Worship. Parents/Grandparents/Guardians are welcome and encouraged to be present at this class time. We will meet in the Mission & Ministry Building. We will also move to other places in the building for parts of the lessons.

The class will include instruction, discussion, videos, mini-field trips in the church building, etc.

Also, one of the classes will include bread baking by the students. This bread will be used at their First Communion service.

Here is the schedule:

Sundays, February 25, March 3 and 24

11:15 a.m. – about 12:30 p.m.

If one or more of these dates is/are not workable for your family, I am very glad to work out make up lessons for your student. The recommended make up dates are March 10 or 17. That way he or she will not miss out of the learning and special service this year.

Thursday, March 28, 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service, First Holy Communion Day

Presentation of Bible to students during worship – Church gives to Parent/Grandparent/Sponsor, then the parent/grandparent/sponsor presents Bible to student. We will go over this before that Thursday, so all are ready.

Students, please arrive by 7:00 p.m. to make sure all our plans are in order for what we will be doing at worship. Also, families may wish to take photos before worship, for this is the best time to do this. After worship, the altar area will be bare of all decorations, candles, banners, etc. due to the “Stripping of the Altar” during the service.

I look forward to exploring this wonderful sacrament with your child. This is a very exciting time of growth for these young people and for their families. If you have any questions or special needs, please feel free to contact me.

Church Council Highlights from January 16, 2024

Members Present: Josh Eckert - President, - President Elect., Pastor Tinker, Jason Schroeder - Secretary, Danielle Nelson - Treasurer, JoLynn Schoenberg - Outreach, Joys Baird - Worship, Amelia Williams - Christian Education, Vickie Neutzler - Stewardship, Todd Dooley - Property
Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Josh Eckert.
The devotion and prayer were led by Danielle Nelson.

Pastor's Report:

Items of Special Note:

Confirmation Class restarts with the same students again in January. Students from MLLC join youth from Waldeck and Round Top. Current enrollment is 16 youth from these three congregations.

*Thank you to the various volunteers and Pastor Phil Fenton for helping during my illness at Christmas and following my surgery earlier in the month.

Upcoming Events:

*Advent Wednesday Services: December 6, 13, 20 – meal at 6, worship at 7, at MLLC, shared with our Crossroads Shared Lutheran Ministry ELCA congregations. Pastors Nedbalek and Tinker leading.

*Upcoming Crossroads Shared Lutheran Ministry Meetings usually 9-10:30 a.m.

February 10, 2024 – Saturday Location: Carmine

*Ash Wednesday February 14 Worship at Carmine 7:30 p.m., worship at Waldeck 5:45 p.m.

*Lent Wednesdays 2/21 at MLLC; 2/28 at Waldeck; 3/6 at MLLC; 3/13 at Waldeck; 3/20 at MLLC

Men in Mission:

New Bible Study topic: The Road to Coronation – the rise of Jesus and his road to his death and resurrection. The group meets on the 4th Monday of each month. New participants welcome and invited.

Committee Reports:

Christian Education Committee: The Sunday School program was good with a number of children participating. A delicious fried pork steak meal was served following with a good number attending.

Outreach Committee: No new business.

Property Committee: Looking at the front door entrance of the church and the floor with the washing machine in the Fellowship Hall. The thermostat in the Mission and Ministry Building is fixed.

Stewardship Committee: Memorial reports will be added to the newsletter quarterly. Lenten envelopes/coin folders will go to AMEN in 2024. May Mission Appeal envelopes will go to Cajun Navy. Camping envelopes need to extend over several months. Lenten meals are as follows: 2/21 will be Stewardship with Taco Soup & Ham Veggie Soup with trimmings and desserts: 3/6 will be Rebekah Group with soup and sandwiches; 3/20 will be Christian Education/LYO with possible taco bar. Lou Ann Stokes joined the audit committee.

Worship Committee: No new business.

Old Business: None

New Business: As per annual meeting, the council was authorized to appoint a VP/President-Elect. Blake Dooley and Robbie Tovey were nominated. After voting, Blake Dooley will serve as the VP/President-Elect.

The NALC representative, Jared Stillions, will meet with the council on January 31st at 6:30 pm. The forum will be set after this meeting.

Joys Baird will give the devotion at next month's meeting on February 13, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Jason moved to adjourn the meeting with a second by Mia. All approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm and Pastor led The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Schroeder, Secretary

MLLC Financial Information

December 2023 Monthly

Total Income	\$ 41,330.67
Total Expenses	\$ 27,572.84
Net Income(Loss):	(\$ 13,757.83)

December 2023 Year to Date

Total Income	\$ 295,185.45
Total Expenses	\$ 300,214.98
Net Income(Loss):	(\$ 5,029.63)

December Expense Highlights

Office Expenses	\$ 1,755.44
World/Community Benev.	\$ 2,681.94
Designated Offerings	\$ 935.00
Staff Salaries & Benefits	\$20,317.17
Property/Utilities	\$ 1,017.59
Worship	\$ 90.20
Harvest Festival Rent	\$ 500.00
Reimbursed Expenses	\$ 275.50

Attendance & Contributions

DATE	ATTENDANCE	GENERAL	ONLINE	BUILDING
12/02	12	\$1,180.00	\$265.54	\$150.00
12/03	33	\$2,022.00		
12/06	19	\$ 165.00	\$ 77.90	
12/09	09	\$5,680.00		
12/10	99	\$9,274.00	\$265.54	\$100.00
12/13	42	\$ 821.00		
12/16	18	\$ 330.00	\$216.07	
12/17	32	\$5,131.00		
12/20	51	\$ 130.00		
12/23	22	\$ 495.00		
12/24	31	\$ 872.00		\$100.00
12/24*	146	\$7,630.00		
12/25	38	\$ 855.00		\$ 50.00
12/30	20	\$ 400.00		
12/31	23	\$2,666.42	\$265.54	\$ 50.00

*Candlelight Service

Daily Bible Readings for February 1 thru 29

February 1:
Matthew 12:22-30
Hebrews 12:12-24
Psalms 78:41-72 † 80
Daily Chapter: Deuteronomy 32

February 2
Luke 2:22-40
Hebrews 12:25-29
Psalms 24, 81 † 84
Daily Chapter: Deuteronomy 33

February 3
Matthew 12:31-37
Jeremiah 1:1-19
Psalms 83 † 85
Daily Chapter: Deuteronomy 34

February 4
Matthew 12:38-42
Hebrews 13:1-17
Psalms 86,87 † 88
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 2

February 5
Matthew 12:43-45
Hebrews 13:18-25
Psalms 89:1-52
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 3

February 6
Matthew 12:46-50
Romans 1:1-17
Psalms 90 † 91
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 4

February 7
Matthew 13:1-9
Romans 1:18-32
Psalms 92,93 † 94
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 5

February 8
Matthew 13:10-17
Romans 2:1-16
Psalms 95,96 † 97,98
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 6

February 9
Matthew 13:18-23
Romans 2:17-29
Psalms 99,100,101 † 102
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 7

February 10
Matthew 13:24-30
Romans 3:1-8
Psalms 103 † 104
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 8

February 11
Matthew 13:31-35
Romans 3:9-20
Psalms 105:1-45
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 9

February 12
Matthew 13:36-43
Romans 3:21-31
Psalms 106:1-48
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 10

February 13
Matthew 13:44-52
Romans 4:1-12
Psalms 107:1-43
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 11

February 14
Matthew 6:16-23
Romans 4:13-25
Psalms 38 † 6, 32
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 12

February 15
Matthew 13:53-58
Romans 5:1-11
Psalms 111,112 † 113,114
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 13

February 16
Matthew 14:1-12
Romans 5:12-21
Psalms 115 † 116,117
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 14

February 17
Matthew 14:13-21
Romans 6:1-14
Psalms 119:1-48
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 15

February 18
Matthew 4:1-11
Joel 2:12-17
Psalms 119:49-88
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 16

February 19
Matthew 14:22-36
Romans 6:15-23
Psalms 119:89-128
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 17

February 20
Matthew 15:1-9
Romans 7:1-12
Psalms 119:129-176
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 18

February 21
Matthew 15:10-20
Romans 7:13-25
Psalms 118 † 120,121
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 19

February 22
Matthew 15:21-31
Romans 8:1-11
Psalms 122, 123 † 124, 125,126
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 20

February 23
Matthew 15:32-39
Romans 8:12-25
Psalms 127,128 † 129,130,131
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 21

February 24
Matthew 16:1-12
Romans 8:26-39
Psalms 132, 133 † 134,135
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 22

February 25
Matthew 16:21-28
Romans 9:1-13
Psalms 136 † 137,138
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 23

February 26
Matthew 16:13-20
Romans 9:14-29
Psalms 139 † 141,142
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 24

February 27
Matthew 17:1-13
Romans 9:30-10:13
Psalms 140 † 143
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 25

February 28
Matthew 17:14-21
Romans 10:14-21
Psalms 144 † 145
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 26

February 29
Matthew 17:22-27
Romans 11:1-10
Psalms 90 † 104
Daily Chapter: Jeremiah 27



Friends and Family Prayer Concerns: Matt Kelley (cancer, hospice care, Christy Eilers Kelley's husband) Floyd Braun (health concerns), Glenn Treude (health concerns), Betty Porter (recent knee surgery), Kathryn Raeke (health concerns, friend of Susan Ray), Greyson Steele (cancer – Grandson of a friend of Cherrie Wines), Dina Nelson (health concerns & comfort, relative of Susan Bathe), Jenell Jaster (health concerns), Jimmy Flinn (recent stroke) Stacy Mooney (treatments for returning brain tumor, niece of Sheryl Pratt), Anita Drydale (health concerns), Jose Ortiz (health concerns, father of Emily Ortiz), Sharon Rhome (recovering from back surgery; cousin to Wade Eilers & Susan Ray), Jerry Wickel (heart issues), Dorothy Marth (health concerns), Angie Colpetzer (health concerns), Bradley Rinn (health concerns, friend of Darrel & Vickie Neutzler), Earl Neumann (health concerns), Mark Hinze (cancer, son of Kenny Hinze), Kim Wunderlich Lewis (cancer treatment), Paula Barrick (health concerns).

Homebound Members: Jimmy Flinn, Thelma Hinze, Joyce Fuchs, Daniel & Ila Nell Kieke, Allyne McGilvra, David & Sara Eilers.

Members in Care Facilities: Judy Yarborough (The Manor, Benton, AR), Gladys Roemer (Argent Court), LaVerne Kunkel (Bec's Blessing, Giddings, TX).

Military Personnel: MLLC member: Joseph Vogel Family & Friends: Justyn Bearden, Michael Martin, Kyle Slaughter, Joshua Finke, and all those who serve, known and unknown, in harm's way.

SYMPATHY to the families of Ted Stardig, member of Fayette County Shared Lutheran Ministry and **Otto Wehring**, friend of our congregation and **Mary Bohot**, wife of former MLLC Pastor Paul Bohot..

2024 NOISY OFFERING RECIPIENT

We have chosen the Cajun Navy to be the 2024 recipient of the Noisy Offering. The Cajun Navy is a 501(c)3 registered nonprofit organization focused on helping make the world around us a better place. With the help of their tireless staff and volunteers, they organize search and rescue teams during natural disasters. United Cajun Navy offers support needs for children all across the United States. They provide relief efforts through fundraisers, community building events, and in-depth training sessions for their volunteers. They have several locations throughout the United States for their supply chain to reach people in need all over. United Cajun Navy has provided Holiday meals, toys, medical supplies, generators, and much more at no cost to those who need them.

The Noisy Offering will be collected on Praise Team Sundays and as notified. We will have containers out in which people may place their Noisy Offering. Checks and cash may also be placed in these containers, or in envelopes. You may also give through the mlccarmine.com website.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Rebekah Group will meet on Thursday, February 8th at 2:00 pm.

The Bible Study theme: Scripture and nature: Teachers of Faith
Session 2: Creatures: Our siblings in praise and trust

The meeting will be hosted by Dianna Gerland and Joann Ullrich
Bible Study will be a Group Study
Leonita Sanders will present the Offering Meditation.

Quilting is scheduled for Monday, February 12, 2024 at 9:00 am in the Mission & Ministry Bldg.
AMEN Ingathering
Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024

New Bible Study

A new Bible Study is beginning which is sponsored by the **Men in Mission of MLLC**. All are welcome, not just the men of the church, to participate in this new study. Feel free to invite others to participate for learning, fellowship, and service. The meetings are held in the Parlor, the meeting room near the church offices.

Here are the dates and times for the study group:

Monday, February 26, 6 p.m.

Monday, March 25, 6 p.m.

Monday, April 22, 6 p.m.

Future meeting dates for May and beyond to be announced as needed.

One does not need to have been at any previous meeting to participate in this study and fellowship. You are welcome at any time.

The Bible Study is entitled: *Road to Coronation*

This study paints a vivid portrait of Jesus—a Servant King who welcomed outcasts as family, touched and raised the dead, performed miracles that made astonishing theological statements, and confounded the spiritual authorities of his day. Five days after Jesus entered Jerusalem, the center of religious and political power, his “coronation” took place ... on a cross. Vindicated in the resurrection and enthroned in the ascension, Jesus calls us to listen, believe, and follow.

Crossroads Shared Lutheran Ministries
February 2024 Happenings
Waldeck Lutheran Church – St. Paul Lutheran Church – Shelby
Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Round Top Martin Luther Lutheran Church – Carmine

Next Shared Ministry Meeting – February 10, 2024 – at Carmine

Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Round Top

412 S White St
Round Top, TX 78954
(979) 249-3686
E-mail: blc@cvctx.com
Find us on Facebook

Worship on Sunday – 9:30 a.m.
Praise Team Service – December 3rd
Noisy Offering – December 3rd
Pastor John David Nedbalek

Ruth Circle will be meeting in the Educational Building Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. All visitors and new members are welcome to attend.

Pastor John David will be leading Adult Bible Study Classes at Bethlehem Lutheran Church February 7, 2024, 2024. The Lesson for this month will be Mark 9:2-9. The classes will be on the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. in the Educational Bldg. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The Sewing Circle will be meeting in the Educational Building Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. All visitors and new members are welcome to attend.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Ash Wednesday service will be February 14, 2024, at 7:00 pm. No meal.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Mid-Week Lenten service will be February 28th and March 13th. There will be a meal at 6 pm and worship at 7 pm.

For All Four Churches: Confirmation Class. Class sessions will be held on January 31 and February 7, 4:15-6:15 p.m.

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 @ 9:30 AM
Pastor John David Nedbalek
pstrjd@cvctx.com
– cell 210-422-7599

Quilting – 3rd Wednesday each month ~9:00 a.m.

Game Day – First Wednesday of each month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Open to the community. Everyone is welcome. Bring snack, board game, dominoes, etc.

Ash Wednesday Service. February 14 at 5:30 p.m.

For All Four Churches: Confirmation Class. Class sessions will be held on January 31 and February 7, 4:15-6:15 p.m.

Martin Luther Lutheran Church – Carmine

211 Luther Lane; P O Box 362
Carmine, TX 78932 979-278-3388
<http://mlccarmine.com>

Worship on Sunday – 10:00 a.m.

Worship Saturdays – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday School – 9:00 a.m.

Pastor David Tinker pastordjt@gmail.com

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

Monthly Study/Fellowship Groups

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

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

Men in Mission – 4th Mondays at 6:00 p.m. in the parlor – by church offices. 12 noon in November. Bible Study for 2024 is called, “Road to Coronation.” It is about the Holy Week/Passion narratives in the Gospels.

Participants from all Crossroads congregations are invited, plus any friends who wish to attend.

Senior Citizens Meals on Wheels and fellowship Every Wednesday (excluding Federal holidays) 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. All seniors welcome. Small donation invited to cover cost of food. The group meets at 250 Augsburg Ave, in the Mission & Ministry building, across the street from the church.

Ash Wednesday. February 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Lent Wednesday Services. Led by Pastor Nedbalek and Pastor Tinker.

Meal at 6 p.m.; Worship at 7 p.m.

February 21 at Carmine

February 28 at Waldeck

March 6 at Carmine

March 13 at Waldeck

March 20 at Carmine

***For All Four Churches: Confirmation Class.
Class sessions will be held on January 31
and February 7, 4:15-6:15 p.m.***

Waldeck Evangelical Lutheran Church

6915 Waldeck Church Ln
Ledbetter, TX 78946 979-249-3802

Find us on Facebook

Worship on Sunday – 8:00 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

Pastor David Tinker pastordjt@gmail.com

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

Ash Wednesday. February 14 at 5:45 p.m.

Lent Wednesday Services. Led by Pastor Nedbalek and Pastor Tinker.

Meal at 6 p.m.; Worship at 7 p.m.

February 21 at Carmine

February 28 at Waldeck

March 6 at Carmine

March 13 at Waldeck

March 20 at Carmine

***For All Four Churches: Confirmation Class.
Class sessions will be held on January 31 and
February 7, 4:15-6:15 p.m.***



February

02/01 Tiffani Brooks

02/03 Jonathan Wunderlich

02/05 Marlee Leonhardt

02/09 Gracie Eckert

02/10 Aden Diehl

02/10 Breanna Leonhardt

02/11 Tana Brooks

02/13 Vickie Neutzler

02/17 Tori Brooks

02/17 Brick Peele

02/18 Sara Eilers

02/20 Caden Medack

02/23 Rebecca Mayer

02/25 Kyle Roemer

02/02 Leonita Sanders

02/04 David Krause

02/05 Randy Zingelmann

02/09 Lane Jacob

02/10 Yvonne Jackson

02/10 Emery Vaughn

02/11 Brody Dooley

02/16 Tiffany Jamail

02/17 Ora Lee Levien

02/18 Joshua Aranzolo

02/18 Randall Kohring

02/22 JoLynn Schoenberg

02/24 Ila Nell Kieke

Birthday Blessings

LOCAL HAPPENINGS/EVENTS/ AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



CONGRATULATIONS to Mason & Caroline Mikeska on the birth of their son, Harrison Kyle Mikeska. Harrison was born on Thursday, December 28th at 3:21 pm. He is welcomed by Grandparents; Eldon & Tina Mikeska; Great Grandparents: Jocie & Floyd Braun; and Aunt & Uncle Morgan & Jacob Daehnke.

Lutherhill Ministries 23rd Annual

GOLF

Tournament

The Golf Club at
CINCO RANCH
Katy, Texas

APRIL 26

Sponsorships + Registration @ lutherhill.org/golf

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF
fun and fellowship

TO SUPPORT THE OUTDOOR MINISTRY AT LUTHERHILL IN LA GRANGE AND GALVESTON!

Register to Play!

Early-Bird Registration | January 15th
\$165/golfer | Staff Alumni @ \$145/golfer

Shotgun start at 1:00 PM
Social & Awards Ceremony immediately following

Become an Event Sponsor!

Event sponsorships range from \$250 - \$5,000!

Tournament & In-Kind Donations are welcome!

MORE INFO & REGISTRATION:
www.lutherhill.org/golf
Questions? Contact Kristi Jastram at kristi@lutherhill.org

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CARMINE HALL

Fried Chicken Fundraiser

Half Fried Chicken w/ Trimmings

Sunday
February 18, 2024
Carry Out ONLY
11am to 1pm

\$15/plate

BAKE SALE

WHEN: FEBRUARY 14, 2024
8AM TIL IT'S ALL GONE!!

WHERE: ROUND TOP FARM & RANCH SUPPLY
2121 HWY 237 NORTH

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT:

CASA
FAYETTE COUNTY CHILD WELFARE
RAINBOW ROOM

PLEASE STOP BY AND PICK UP SOME
VALENTINE GOODIES WHILE SUPPORTING
OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

TO DONATE ITEMS OR FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:
LANA LIMMER 979-966-3477
OR
CAROLYN OEVERMANN 713-299-3150

Olive Wood Crafts
from Bethlehem Christian Families

On Saturday and Sunday, February 10 and 11, 2024, we will have a special opportunity to view products and creations in olive wood created by the hands of Christian artisans in and around the Holy Land region. The Rishmawi Family has been designated as the representative for these wonderful Christian artisans and has been authorized to show their olive wood carvings.

These items will be displayed on tables in the parlor (the room near the Sanctuary and the church offices). The items will be available both before and after our regular worship services. These are on Saturday, February 10, at 6:00 p.m., and on Sunday, February 11, at 10:00 a.m. Most, if not all, of the items on display will also be available for purchase. The sale of these items supports the Christian families and their ongoing witness to the Gospel in the land of Jesus' birth and ministry.

We have welcomed our Christian brothers and sisters from the Holy Land to MLLC over the years for we are united in our faith in the saving work of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Body of Christ stands together in faith, hope, and love.



The tradition of Olive wood carvings in the Holy Land has been handed down from father to son since the 12th century. Due to the difficulties the last few years in the Middle East, tourism has been dramatically reduced and these folks have suffered greatly. This is causing the Christian community to immigrate to different countries leaving the Christian population at 2% today from 25% fifteen years ago.

We invite you to visit their display tables and view some of the finest handcrafts available from the Holy Land. This Family strives to bring these fine carvings to our church.

You can view these beautiful items On-Line @ <http://www.bethlehem-art.com/>

“We call on our churches worldwide to recognize that the very presence of the Christian communities in the Holy Land is threatened by the severity of the present conflict and by the economic devastation the conflict has caused. When the Mother Church is endangered, the entire Churches must be involved.” - The Christian Bishops of Jerusalem

Souper Bowl of Caring Think Beyond the Bowl
Collection Dates: February 10 and 11

The Souper Bowl of Caring is an Annual Fund Raiser for the local food pantry. 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 Super Bowl on the weekend of February 10-11.

*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 web site: <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 A.M.E.N. Food Pantry.

*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 4.

Goals for 2024:

*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 2024 our best year ever as we serve our neighbors in need.

*This is a nationwide effort. In recent years about \$4-8 million was generated by thousands of groups across the USA each year.

*The official web site is: <https://tacklehunger.org>



Lent

Find these words having to do with the liturgical season of Lent in the puzzle below. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all directions.

H K Y G N I T S A F L F P W Z Z Y L G Y
F L T T Y P L N Y G Z R R C D F G Z X T
T R W W R R H H O N O O T R Y N L N K N
A S H E S A M T L P M M R A G K C K J O
Y V D H Y Y C K D J E D D Z E H X P S I
W Z L J J E P K K D R S H E P X R N A T
M P Z W P R R T I K E X W R K E W O C A
M L E K T M T T D N X Y M T P O D I R I
M M Q N L N A Z D X L J F A R C R X I L
G M Y G A T F E H O R M R R T P O I F I
Z N K C I N W Z H W X E O K P Q C F I C
H B I O R H C P V P L S Z O B N F I C N
T Y N V S M O E L X K Y F T W F X C E O
N K C A I H D T K T T O K B N V C U O C
T K S T P G W B S T W T L P M L Z R L E
W B T P L K S L W S W C Z W B C F C X R
R T N V R T L M Z N O C R N N T G P D N
G N E K Y I R W L F O R G I V E N E S S
Y N L K H N N C T A G T C R Q R B T M V
D N K J K L D G R E T S A E Z N X C V G

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alms giving	lent
ashes	meditation
Ash Wednesday	penance
cross	prayer
crucifixion	prepare
Easter	reconciliation
fasting	sacrifice
forgiveness	sorrow
Holy Week	spring

Luther's Letter

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Cell phone#: 713-461-8007

e-mail: pastordjt@industryinet.com

Office hours: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Vickie Neutzler, Audrey Sternadel, 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: Joshua Eckert-President; Blake Dooley-President-elect; Jason Schroeder-Secretary;

Danielle Nelson-Treasurer; Joys Baird-Worship Committee; Vickie Neutzler, Stewardship Committee;

Amelia Williams-Christian Education Committee; Todd Dooley-Property Committee; JoLynn Schoenberg, Care Outreach Committee

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please email us at mluther@industryinet.com or call the church office.

If you prefer receipt by e-mail only and are not already on the e-mail list, please provide a current e-mail address.

MLLC

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