

MISSION FRONTIERS

Mission Lutheran Church, Las Cruces, NM

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Pastor's Pen

Please see the guest article from Pastor Glenn Weber in a separate newsletter..

Upcoming Events:

- ◇ **April 5: Mid-week Lent service at 6:00 pm**
- ◇ **April 6: LWML meeting**
- ◇ **April 9: Palm Sunday**
- ◇ **April 13: Maundy Thursday services at 10:30 am and 7:00 pm**
- ◇ **April 14: Good Friday services at noon and 7:00 pm**
- ◇ **April 16: Easter Sunday**
- ◇ **April 22: LWML Spring workshop at Ascension in El Paso**
- ◇ **April 23: MLS children's Easter program at 3:00 pm**
- ◇ **April 29: Ladies' spring lunch at 12 noon in Luther Hall**



Prayer Ministry breakfast

You are welcome to join the Prayer Ministry Team for breakfast on Saturday, April 8, from 8:30—10:00 am.

Please bring prayer and praise reports to share. A short teaching on prayer will be provided by Pastor Glenn Weber.

Please sign up on the sheet in the church entrance area.

Good Friday Prayer Vigil

April 14, 7-11 am; 1-6 pm

Consider spending Good Friday in prayer for half an hour.

Prayer guides will be provided if you wish to use the suggestions.

Sign up for a time on the sign-up sheet in the church entrance.

Stewardship

Easter is a moveable feast. Easter isn't on the same calendar date every year in the way that Christmas is always celebrated on December 25. The date for Easter each year always falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring equinox. And once you find the date of Easter, everything else finds its place— Good Friday and Maundy Thursday, Ash Wednesday and the Transfiguration, the Ascension of our Lord and Pentecost.

All this is a long way of saying that Easter determines everything. Easter defines everything. It orders not only the entire church year, but it orders our very lives. It defines and gives meaning to our lives, as well to the things that happen in them. And since Easter defines everything, that means it changes everything too. It redefines who we are and where we stand with God and with one another. Easter makes all things new.

Without Easter, Jesus would not be raised from the dead. Without Easter death would still reign, we would still be in our trespasses and sins, and our faith and hope would be in vain. But Jesus is raised from the dead. Easter changes everything. It makes all things new. Therefore, darkness is overcome with light, wrath with peace, fear with hope, angst with rest, sadness with joy, hatred with love, sin with righteousness, and death with life. Easter changes everything, redefines everything, determines everything. Easter makes all things new.

Thus, Easter also changes our attitude about giving. For if God gave us His own Son into death so that we will live, how will He not give us everything else we need? He will, and He does. He provides for us. He even gives us the gifts that we give back to Him for service in the church. Easter demonstrates that we have a God who loves us, a God who provides for us, a God who presses us into His service, a God who has made us new in the death and resurrection of His Son.

For when you give to the church, you pass along those things that God alone has given to you. You pass along the message to others that Easter changes everything and makes all things new, even as it has done this for you. This is not a burden, but pure joy. For God has given you a part in the administration of His kingdom. He provides for the needy through your hands. He ensures that the Gospel is preached and the Sacraments are given out through the work of your hands and in the gifts that you give. And He honors and blesses this work and generosity as it redounds to those around you.

So when you sit down on the first day of the week to make your offering to the place where Easter is proclaimed and where the gifts of Easter are given out, remember: Easter changes everything. It makes all things new. More than that: Easter has changed you and made you new. Because Jesus who was crucified for our transgressions is raised for our justification.

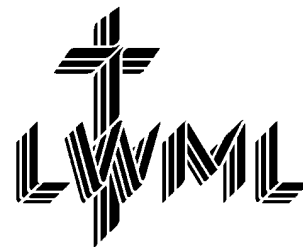
LCMS Free Stewardship Resources



LWML

The WINGS (Women IN God's Service) chapter of the LWML (Lutheran Women in Mission) meet the second Thursday of each month (September through May) at 7:00 pm in Luther Hall. All women who are communicant members of an LCMS congregation are automatically members of the LWML. We keep our meetings brief but meaningful, and we have many activities planned throughout the year. At our April meeting (moved to Thursday, April 6, because of Holy Week) we will discuss nomination of officers for 2017-18 and suggestions for the May meeting. Hope to see you there!

Questions? See Carol Moore in the church office, or call Jacki McCurley at 526-9182.



Wanted: Silk Fabric

Do you have any 100% silk ties, silk scarves, or other 100% silk fabric that you no longer have a use for?

Pat Duever is starting a project and needs silk fabric to complete it.

If you can help, please let Pat know by calling her at 649-7309 or sending an email to dnpduever@msn.com.





Anniversaries and Birthdays

April Birthdays

| | | |
|-------------|---------|----|
| Dodge | Joyce | 1 |
| Kenny | LaVerne | 1 |
| Koch | Kevin | 3 |
| Bloom | Don | 6 |
| Skelton | Marcele | 8 |
| Vance | Chari | 8 |
| Jakcsy | Bob | 9 |
| Murphy | Jane | 16 |
| McCurley | Jacki | 18 |
| Brennan | Frank | 20 |
| Baumgartner | Ruth | 26 |
| Montalvo | Trisha | 27 |
| Lessman | LaDonna | 28 |
| Uhde | Ordella | 28 |
| Lessman | Mark | 30 |

April Anniversaries

| | Date | # of years |
|-------------------|------|------------|
| Jakcsy Bob & Ruth | 17 | 49 |

*Happy Anniversary to all those couples married in
April.*

May God continue to bless you.

If your birth and/or anniversary date is missing or incorrect, please notify Carol Moore in the church office.

Save the Date!

*Vacation Bible School will be held Monday,
June 12, through Friday, June 16,
from 9:00 am to 11:30 am.*



DASH for MLS

Daily Activities to Support & Help Mission Lutheran School

Did you know there are things that you do every day that can help support Mission Lutheran School? Praying, shopping, searching the internet, etc.

Prayer: Pray for the school, the students, and teachers.

Box Tops: Cut them out and send them into school. The school will earn money and supplies.

Shoparoo: If you have an iOS or Android Phone you can earn money for the school by taking pictures of grocery receipts! Ask a teacher to send you an invite to earn even more!

SCRIP: Instead of using cash to shop, buy a gift card. The school will receive a percentage of the funds. The card costs you the same as spending the money at the store. They also make wonderful gifts. Go to www.scrip.com. First time users enter enrollment code for "Mission Lutheran School PTO/LC NM": LFB672A617797. **For school parents, a portion of your SCRIP rebate can be used for tuition!!!**

GoodSearch.com: Instead of Google, use Good Search as your search engine. The first time you use it enter "Mission Lutheran School."

GoodShop.com: Before you purchase items online, check GoodShop.com for the retailer and for coupons. Enter the store through Good Shop and a percentage is donated to the school.

Price's Give 'Em Five: Collect Price's caps and send them to school. The school will earn money and supplies.

MISSION LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting
February 21, 2017

President Greg Fant called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. Attending were Greg Fant, Jim Vance, John Guenther, Doug Lorenz, Frank Brennan, Megan Wood, Ruth Staffeldt, Dianne Wensel, Jan Peyton and guest, Carol Moore. Devotion and prayer were led by Doug Lorenz.

Minutes of the January 17, 2016, meeting were approved as submitted.

Pastor's Report: Greg reported that the final adult confirmation class has been rescheduled to Tuesday, February 28. Mary Provencio, Amie Springer, and Al Lujan are to be confirmed March 5.

President's Report: Greg said that he has appointed Robert Scaling and Kay Swedberg as the elected members of the Board of Fellowship, to be ratified at the next Voters' Assembly meeting.

Prayer Ministry: Jan Peyton reminded the Council that the Staff/Leadership Prayer Shield meets monthly. She and Carol Moore coordinate prayer targets for these sessions. Jan asked each member to contact her or Carol with your requests for prayer.

Treasurer's Report: See attached report submitted by John Guenther. John noted that two capital projects are being paid out of savings. These projects are reflected in actual results with transfer from savings to designated revenue and payments included in MLC expense. Because these offset one another, there is no impact on the budget bottom line.

Greg asked John if he had historical tracking of church attendance and general contributions. John does review these items and will provide a graph of each to the Council members.

Elders' Report: See attached report submitted by Doug Lorenz. The Elders have completed their review of the membership rolls. After discussion, the group agreed that those no longer wishing to be members would be removed from the official reporting. A few people did not respond to inquiries. Doug will identify these individuals at the Voters' Assembly meeting, asking for help in contacting these people. It is important to keep the rolls accurate, as we pay District a subsidy for each member.

Day School Board Report: See attached report submitted by Megan Wood. The LCSC Assessment Report received from Rob Cooksey is attached. Kathy Mailander was unable to attend the Board meeting so the fundraising items in the LCSC assessment report were not discussed. However, Megan has been able to talk with Kathy and learned that Kathy was somewhat disappointed. She did gather some useful suggestions, but Kathy felt that many would not apply to Mission School for a long time because we are small. For now, Kathy will be concentrating on identifying and contacting prospective corporate/business sponsors. She will reinstitute restaurant nights, as these have been successful in the past. Other fundraising activities to be discussed further include opening up the annual auction to the community and scheduling a pop-up

restaurant, with entertainment, and sell tickets in advance.

Trustees' Report: Frank Brennan reported that the painting in Luther Hall would be completed February 23. New blinds have been ordered for the library. We are still waiting for the gate to be repaired.

Frank presented an estimate from RT Electric Co., copy attached, to replace the exterior lights, including the parking lot, with new LED light fixtures. RT Electric identified that El Paso Electric Co. will pay part of the cost of the upgrade. Frank moved, and Doug Lorenz seconded, that this capital project be submitted to the Voters for approval. The motion passed.

Christian Education: See attached report submitted by Dianne Wensel.

Stewardship Report: See attached report submitted by Jerry Stickles.

Christian Service and Missions: See attached report submitted by Ruth Staffeldt. Ruth indicated that the work with the young man discussed in the last paragraph would be ongoing.

Evangelism Report: Nothing to report.

Fellowship Report: Doug Lorenz reported that a FUN Night would not be scheduled for March 7, as the weekly Lent soup supper will be offered the next day.

The next meeting will be held March 21 at 6:30 p.m.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice F. Peyton, Secretary

**TREASURER'S REPORT – MARCH 2017 COUNCIL MEETING
Mission Lutheran Church and School**

Report Preparation Date: March 20, 2017

| <u>Budget Status:</u> | <u>Month of February 2017</u> | | <u>FY Thru February 28, 2017</u> | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| | <u>Budgeted</u> | <u>Actual*</u> | <u>Budgeted</u> | <u>Actual*</u> |
| <u>Income:</u> | | | | |
| MLC General | \$22,200.00 | \$18,478.78 | \$194,250.00 | \$171,850.71 |
| MLS Total | \$18,480.00 | \$14,051.31 | \$156,760.00 | \$150,638.26 |
| Designated / Other | \$476.67 | \$155.20 | \$3,813.34 | \$61,850.23 |
| | <u>\$41,156.67</u> | <u>\$32,685.29</u> | <u>\$354,823.34</u> | <u>\$384,339.20</u> |
| <u>Expenses:</u> | | | | |
| MLC Total | \$14,195.53 | \$14,382.62 | \$127,170.91 | \$186,284.55 |
| MLS Total | \$26,009.98 | \$22,717.82 | \$214,935.10 | \$191,398.26 |
| | <u>\$40,205.51</u> | <u>\$37,100.44</u> | <u>\$342,106.01</u> | <u>\$377,682.81</u> |
| Net Difference | \$951.16 | -\$4,415.15 | \$12,717.33 | \$6,656.39 |

*Note: Actual figures also include income and expenses not originally budgeted for the fiscal year.

Church General Fund Contributions – FY 2016/17 (Through March 19, 2017):

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Average Weekly Contributions Needed: | \$5,550.00 |
| Average Weekly Contributions Received: | \$4,873.34 |
| General Fund Contributions Year-to-Date: | \$185,186.79 |
| General Funds Budgeted Year-to-Date: | \$210,900.00 |
| Surplus/Shortfall Year-to-Date: | <u>-\$25,713.21</u> |

Assets / Liabilities (As of March 20, 2017):

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Current Assets: | <u>Checking:</u> | \$30,014.96 |
| | <u>LCEF Savings:</u> | \$122,794.32 |
| | (- Calls) | |
| | Rey de Reyes | \$40,031.06 |
| | MLS | \$11,043.51 |
| | Sabbatical Acct. | \$11,500.00 |
| | Other | \$942.81 |
| | Savings Available | <u>\$59,234.94</u> |

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Liabilities: | <u>Mortgage Loan:</u> | \$62,761.73 |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------|

Notes:

1. Actual figures reflect \$60,876.31 for designated revenues (from LCEF savings) and non-budgeted expenses for the two capital funded projects. Overall impact on approved annual operational budget is zero.

2. MLS expenses less than budgeted due to hiring a classroom assistant versus hiring a new full-time teacher as originally budgeted.

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 mlsecretary@qwestoffice.net
 mlschool@qwestoffice.net

Alleluia, Christ is alive!

Elder on call: Jerry Stickles (575) 640-8436

We're on the web!

<http://missionlutheran.net>

<http://mlschool.net>

“Touching Hearts
 through God’s
 unchanging Word in
 an ever-changing
 world.”

Officers and Board Chairpersons for 2017

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| President | Greg Fant | Christian Education | Dianne Wensel |
| Vice President | Jim Vance | Sunday School Supervisor | Toni Roof |
| Secretary | Jan Peyton | Evangelism | Carol Cooper |
| Treasurer | John Guenther | Christian Service & Missions | Ruth Staffeldt |
| Financial Secretary | Beth Fant | Stewardship | Jerry Stickles |
| Elders, chairman | Doug Lorenz | Day School Education | Megan Wood |
| Elders, vice-chairman | Paul Vakselis | Fellowship | Robert Scaling |
| Trustees | Frank Brennan | | |