



NOTE: All Bulletins, News You Can Use, & other paper used by the church is recycled.

News You Can Use

Today Altar Flowers and Communion Wine

are given in honor of Rick and Sandy Hall's wedding anniversary..

Last weekend's attendance was 277.

We welcome Linda Kuntz as our guest musician for our 8:00 and 10:30 worship services. Thank you Linda for sharing your musical gifts with us.

Befriender Training Class Informational Meeting

If you have signed up for the class beginning in September 2010 or if you would like more information about this training, please stop in Rm. 210 TODAY between 9:00 & 10:00 a.m. Betty Showers will be available to answer questions, get some input from you &/or collect forms that have not yet been returned. This is not a formal meeting, just stop in for however long you want with your questions etc. Thank you for your interest!

Bethel Bible Study returns beginning Wednesday, September 8, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 113. The Bethel Bible Study is a study of the whole Bible. Participants should plan to attend each lesson as they build upon and reinforce each other. Each class lasts approximately one hour. Bible reading is required to get the maximum benefit of the class. Contact Brock Chalmers, at 838-7823, or chalmers@charter.net

Be sure to pick up the new Worship Assistants Schedules in the great hall TODAY.

You are invited to a study called "Earthbound: Created and Called to Care for Creation".

This Sunday, August 29: Now/Forever (short-term benefit, or eternal creation?)

Next Sunday, Sept. 5: Enough/Too Much (Scarcity and abundance)

Why I Like the Bethel Series

The previous writer on this subject suggested trying to read the Bible cover to cover only to bog down in the book of Numbers. This means having gotten through Leviticus! I'm impressed.

I like the Bethel Series for two reasons. The first is that the Bethel Series gives the many Bible stories context. The concept of God can become fuzzy, like a big pile of cotton candy. The Series produces a God who is real, who leads a people who are (imperfectly) real, and leads us to a Savior who deals with our imperfections in a real way!

The method of teaching with the 40 posters as visual aids is the second reason for liking the Bethel Bible Series. We remember more of what we see than of what we hear. Picturing the Biblical concepts on the posters makes it possible for us lay persons to understand the meaning and context of the points being made.

Len Lane

NOTE: MLC Staff meetings are held Wednesday mornings at 10:00am. We encourage you to leave a voice mail message and staff will return phone calls as soon as possible after the conclusion of the meeting.

August 28 & 29, 2010

Inited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at the banquet table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

Celebrate CrossOver Group Today!

The musical group, CrossOver, is retiring after leading the music at the 9:15 service for the last time Today. We celebrate these gifted musicians with a cake reception in the central hallway following the 9:15 service. Come say thank you to CrossOver, comprised of Ken Kloes, Deb Nygaard, and Luanne Platt. We thank them for their tremendous contribution to our worship experience, and pray God's blessings upon them as they enter a new phase of their musical lives.

We are pleased to announce that Kristie Halverson has accepted our offer to become our organist and pianist here at MLC. Kristie will begin her work with us on September 1, her first Sunday being Sept. 5. She also will be sharing more of who she is and how she sees herself fitting into our music ministry in upcoming Newsletters and bulletin inserts. For now, Welcome Kristie.

After praying, studying, listening, and discussing how we can live out the vision and mission God has for us, we believe God's mission for us is:

- Sharing God's Word**
- Showing God's Love**
- Serving God's World**

More than 40 people participated in the first visioning workshop on August 7, and another 39 people submitted comments. On Saturday, August 21, council and church staff met to finalize wording and to set priorities. Our points of focus for the next five years, in priority order:

1. Provide a variety of dynamic and joyful worship opportunities
2. Equip and encourage involvement
3. Nurture and strengthen relationships
4. Encourage and expand ministry to youth and families

As we move forward, our mission statement and strategic focus will provide us with clarity and direction as we move into God's future.

More details to come!

Sandy Chalmers, Council President

Finance Report by month

August

<u>Week</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>MTD</u>	<u>Monthly Budget</u>
Aug1-Aug7	\$13,132.00	13,132.00	
Aug 8-Aug14	6,648.00	19,780.00	
Aug15-Aug21	8,621.00	28,401.00	
Aug22-Aug28	6,780.50	35,181.50	
			\$44,334

LOOKING AHEAD



In an effort to keep you informed about what's happening at McFarland Lutheran Church, highlights of Council meetings are published as "Minutes In Seconds". After the official minutes have been approved they will be posted on our web site and published in the newsletter. Please contact any member of the church Council for more details or answers to your questions.

"Minutes In Seconds" August Church Council Meeting

- ✦ Council extended the interim contracts for Pastor Tews and Pastor Finney. Council was reminded that neither Pastor Tews nor Pastor Finney may be candidates to be called as our senior pastor, because of their interim duties.
- ✦ The new mission statement and initiatives / priorities for the future of McFarland Lutheran Church were finalized on Saturday August 21st by council members and staff. These will be used to provide strategic focus and direction for the next 3-5 years, and will also serve as a starting point for calling a senior pastor.
- ✦ Council members selected committees they will serve as liaison to during the next year. These assignments will be finalized and announced in September.
- ✦ Council approved the hire of Kristie Halverson as organist/pianist. She will begin on September 5. We are still in the process of finding a director of music ministry.
- ✦ Council members will be installed at the Sunday worship service on October 3rd.

It is that time of year School Kits for Lutheran World Relief

Please consider purchasing school supplies for children in need. A school kit may provide the only supplies for children returning to school after the disruption of war. School kits help parents continue their children's education, even while living in a refugee camp. School kits are of great importance to many children in varying circumstances. Purchase any of the items listed below and place them in the labeled boxes on the table in the central hallway.

- ✦ Notebooks of wide or college ruled paper (approx, 8 x 10 w/150-200 sheets)
- ✦ Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades are fine)
- ✦ Centimeter rulers or rulers with centimeters on one side
- ✦ Pencil sharpeners
- ✦ #2 pencils
- ✦ Erasers (approximately 2 1/2 inches long)
- ✦ Assorted color construction paper
- ✦ Box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ✦ 12" x 14" cloth bag with cloth handles or drawstring closure (These need to be hand made according to the pattern available at the School Kit display in the central hallway.)



At least 1,600 people have died and more than 20 million people have been affected by severe monsoon flooding in Pakistan. The ELCA has committed \$100,000 in response to widespread flooding in Pakistan through Church World Service. Initial offerings from ELCA members are falling short of what is needed. Please prayerfully consider helping your brothers and sisters in Pakistan during this time of disaster and crisis. Make checks payable to McFarland Lutheran Church with *Pakistan Disaster* written in the memo line. Thank you for your generous heart!

Blessing of the Backpacks This time of year supplies are gathered, packed up and carried off to school. Join us, and receive a blessing to carry with your backpack as you return to school. All ages of students and teachers are invited and encouraged to bring your backpack or school tote with you to any of the worship services (8:00, 9:15, 10:30) on **Sunday, September 12.**



Blessing of Animals/Pets Service will be held Saturday, September 25 at 3:00 pm in the parking lot behind church. Please call Jane Blank 516-6933 or Dawn Bolstad 838-4803 with any questions.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- || Randa Gabel* (George & Marlene Richard's daughter)
- || Dorothy Schiefelbein
- || Elena Lopez* (mother of Jorge Lopez)
- || Richard Blodgett* (Cindy Gilbertson's father)
- || Cheri Grover* (Marla Grover's daughter-in-law)
- || Ron Britten
- || Brian Frey* (friend of Tom & Dawn Blau)
- || Linn Ruscher* (Jack & Pat West's daughter)
- || Dave Herrmann
- || Jessica Roth (daughter of Rick & Judi Strauss)
- || Brenda* (friend of Rick & Judi Strauss)
- || Elaine Westby* (Greg Westby's mother)
- || Susan Thronson* (Greg Westby's cousin)
- || John Jones* (friend of Don & Dee Weikert)
- || Jack Thomas
- || Neil Simmons* (Carrol Vollmer's nephew)
- || Sue Egner* (Kim Henes' aunt)

- || Lyall Leverentz
- || Arlene Cliff
- || Marga Petzke* (in remembrance of Rick Petzke's mother)
- || Sharon Thieding
- || Charlotte & Jack Hoppe
- || Adriana Funfer* (Meg Nielsen's mother)
- || Eileen Richter
- || Marvel Edwards
- || Alta Ellestad
- || Russell Alsmo
- || Carol Stoeckmann
- || Willard & Mae Lund and their son, David Lund*

* Non Members

Prayers If you know of someone to include on the prayer board (Printed in the bulletin insert on Sundays and the Newsletter bi-monthly) or on the Prayer Chain (e-mailed to the Prayer Chain participants only), please call the church office: Monday—Friday 8am to 4:30 pm at 838-3184.