

The Luther Memorial News January 2017

*A community committed to making Christ's disciples, dedicated to worship,
study and prayer while serving all in need*

We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.

The Reverend Bill King, Pastor
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From Our Pastor...

Janus, the Roman god for which January is named, was depicted with two faces, one looking to the past and one toward the future. As we begin a new year at Luther Memorial it would be hard to find a better image of where we are as a congregation.

We end the year with profound thanksgiving for what we have been able to do in ministry together. We have housed the homeless, fed the hungry, welcomed new people into our community, and supported one another in the midst of addiction, grief, and illness. We also end this year looking back in thanksgiving for the ministry of Pastor Stallings among us, as we bid her Godspeed to take up a new call in North Carolina. I encourage you to express your appreciation to her for the ways she has touched you, our congregation, and our community. Plan to join us following the 11:00 worship service on January 8th for a reception and brief program, as we honor her service to LMLC.

At the same time that we look back we are beginning to look forward to new possibilities and directions in ministry. In the next months you will hear more about a capital funds campaign to ensure that our facilities allow us to serve in the best ways possible. We will be hosting a Bach concert as part of the 500th anniversary of Luther's posting of the *95 Theses*. We continue to strengthen our new *Luther's Lunch at 12:05* feeding ministry.

Perhaps the most significant new initiative which we are considering is becoming a congregation which hosts a seminary intern during 2017-18. There is a more extensive discussion of this possibility elsewhere in the newsletter.

- **There will be a congregational meeting on January 15th at 10:00am for the congregation to approve making application to the seminary to become an internship placement site.** I encourage you to read the explanation of this possibility and attend the meeting.

A faithful church is always two-faced: giving thanks for what has been and exploring what may be as God leads us into the future. It is an exciting time to be part of Luther Memorial.

Pastor King

Proposal that Luther Memorial Apply for a Seminary Intern

With Pastor Stallings' resignation Luther Memorial will no longer have a second pastor. This presents both challenges and opportunities as the congregation considers its ministries and appropriate staffing levels. The challenges are obvious; the congregation will have to determine how areas for which she has had primary oversight are to be managed. But this also offers the chance to consider new directions of ministry and staff configuration.

Several members of the congregation have suggested that Luther Memorial consider applying for a seminary intern for the 2017-18 academic year. This appears to be an idea worthy of consideration and this document is an effort to answer some of the questions regarding this proposal.

What is an Intern?

In order for a person to be ordained in the ELCA he or she must complete an internship year. This year normally occurs after two years of theological education, though it can happen after three years of study. The student is placed in a ministry setting (typically a congregation) where he or she is supervised by a pastor. The overarching goal is for the student to gain experience in various areas of ministry and thus be better prepared for ordination.

How Long is an Internship?

The exact beginning, ending, and length of an internship vary slightly, but generally the term is an academic year. Placement at LMLC would begin sometime between June and August, 2017

How Does a Congregation Get an Intern?

The congregation applies to a seminary to become a placement site. In the present case LMLC would apply to Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. This application is due at the end of January, 2017. The congregation is informed in February whether it has been awarded a placement. Sometimes the number of potential sites does not match the number of students ready for placement, so application does not guarantee a placement. Placement is made in consultation with the internship director at the seminary.

What is Required of the Congregation?

An estimate of expenses is attached to this proposal. Some expenses are fixed but a major variable is housing, which the congregation must provide. Housing needs vary depending on whether the intern is a single person or a person with a family. An educated guess would be a total of \$42-45,000 because of housing costs in Blacksburg.

In addition to financial support, the pastor will spend time in supervision and an internship committee will be formed to monitor and facilitate the internship experience. The congregation must also have a willingness to be a learning context for a pastor in training.

What Would the Intern Do?

A good internship is first and foremost an education opportunity for the student. Therefore, the intern will have exposure to most of the tasks and duties of a pastor. The intern will also have significant responsibility for specific ministries. These tasks and ministries will be determined, in consultation, with the congregational leadership and the supervising pastor.

Why Should Luther Memorial Consider Applying for an Intern at This Time?

- LMLC is a strong congregation in a stimulating environment. LMLC offers many learning opportunities for a potential pastor.
- Preparing future leaders would be a new mission direction for LMLC, a direction to which LMLC brings significant human resources.
- An intern would bring new ideas and perspectives to LMLC which would enrich the worship, educational, outreach, and service ministries of LMLC.
- LMLC is at a point when it needs to consider its long term staffing needs. Hosting an intern has the virtue of providing some staffing for a year, as further discernment takes place. It should be emphasized that an intern is **not** simply cheap labor, but it is also true that the cost is less than hiring a second pastor and the congregation would have a second person with theological and pastoral training involved in the planning and implementation of its ministry.

Proposal:

The LMLC congregational council recommends to the congregation that it approve Pastor King submitting an application to Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary for placement of an intern in 2017-18

Farewell and Godspeed for Pastor Stallings on January 8th

Pastor Stallings' last Sunday in worship leadership at Luther Memorial will be January 8th. Immediately following the 11:00 service, there will be a reception and program in the fellowship hall to express the congregation's appreciation for her service to Luther Memorial and to wish her Godspeed.

Luther's Lunch at 12:05 p.m. will resume on Friday, January 6th. This is our community outreach to those who are food insecure. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Teresa Cassell if you would like to volunteer (Teresa.cassell@comcast.net) Volunteers are needed to prepare the meal, host, and clean up. The time commitment is from 11:15am to 1:15pm.

The Campus Ministry Committee will meet on Sunday, January 22 after Luther's Luscious Lunches.

Faith5 –Kick off the Year with Meet Martin Luther

The Faith5 will shift the focus of the lessons from Share, Read, Talk, Pray, and Bless. Students and families are encouraged to continue these practices at home. They are foundational stepping stones in our relationship with each other and God.

As we begin this year we will continue to build the scaffold of faith among our children and parents with lessons that focus on Martin Luther. This year marks the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. These lessons will be taught on the following dates:

- ✓ Sun., Jan.8 Sun., Jan. 22
- ✓ Sun., Feb. 5 Sun., Feb. 19

Adult volunteers are needed for these Sundays. Contact Fred Rencsok if you can lead one of the classes. (rencsok@verizon.net)

SMALL GROUP FORMING

Please save the date: Friday, January 27th on your calendar from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30. There will be a small group forming to work our way through "Eyes of the Heart" by Christine Valters Paintner. We will examine photography as a Christian contemplative practice. There are eight chapters. We anticipate doing a chapter each month and will meet every two weeks to discuss our thoughts and discoveries. ALL ARE WELCOME . . . men and women! We are all beginners. Let's meet in the narthex first to see how many of us there are, then we can find a room to fit in! Please email Jenny if questions: bluenorthernwind@gmail.com or call before 8 p.m. 641-4496.

Story of VICCC

We have a single father whose son attends VICCC. He is currently attending classes at a local college. He is hoping to have a better future for his son than he has experienced. The child's mother is not local and does not get to see him often. This father is a hardworking and enterprising individual. He goes to school every day to better himself and his position in life. His son goes to VICCC to learn to stand in line and love books and have gentle hands. These young men are going far.

Blacksburg Refugee Partnership: December Update

There is much for which to be thankful! Blacksburg's Syrian refugee family has done well in their resettlement. The school age children have adapted to their class routine and the after school tutoring. The parents are doing well in the ESL classes. And very importantly, the dad began a job in construction.

There is still much that you can do. The father does not drive as yet. He needs transportation to and from work which is in Price's fork. There are still financial needs.

I wish to thank our congregation for all that it has done thus far to make this family feel welcomed. We have donated \$2,630, some household items, and a number of rides to and from work.

HELP BRING BACH TO BLACKSBURG

2017 is the 500th anniversary of Luther's posting of the *95 Theses*, the event usually cited as the beginning of the Reformation. As part of the year-long celebration of this anniversary, Luther Memorial is planning to sponsor a program of Bach's music on Palm Sunday, 2017. We are well on the way to lining up musicians and soloists for an exceptional event. This will be a special expense for the congregation. If you would like to help ensure that this program takes place by making a special donation, please contact Pastor King.



Lutheran Campus Ministries At Virginia Tech

Our Mission Statement: *Because God loves us and calls us to love, we welcome and invite others to engage and grow in faith. Through discipleship and active service in our community, we are able to intentionally deepen our relationship with God and one another.*

All students are invited to participate in weekly meetings, informal gatherings, and service projects associated with The Well.

Welcome to Spring Semester

Weekly Meetings will resume at The Well on Tuesday, January 17th at 7:00pm. Come for dinner and reconnect with old and new friends.

L Cubed-Luther's Luscious Lunches will be on Sunday, Jan. 22 in the Campus Center immediately following the 11 a.m. service. All students are invited to join in this fellowship meal.

2016-2017

The Well Leadership Team

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| Meghan Rupkey, President | meghanr9@vt.edu | Casey Parrett, Vice President | pcasey8@vt.edu |
| Sam Dibiaso, Secretary | saman13@vt.edu | Tommy Hyres, Outreach Officer | tommy085@vt.edu |
| | Rachel Magri, Service Officer | rmagri@vt.edu | |

Notes of Thanks from the Church Staff

Thank You

At the end of another year as your pastor I want to say thank you. Thank you for your generous Christmas gift. But I am even more thankful for your partnership in the gospel. I feel blessed to serve among you; no pastor could ask for a community of faith more supportive, forgiving of mistakes, and willing to explore new directions.

Pastor King

Thank you very much for the Christmas gift. I have been honored to serve at Luther Memorial. Thank you for your generosity. In Christ, Joanna.

Pastor, Joanna Stallings

LMLC Members

A note of thanks to you for the Christmas gift and most of all your friendship. You were there to pray for me and my family when it was needed and your words of encouragement were always welcome. I appreciate each of you so much. I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Sharon Walker

Luther Memorial Family,

Thank up for the Christmas gift that you gave to me. It was a blessing to me and my family. I hope that each of you have a wonderful New Year.

Michael Spencer

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you so much for the gift for Christmas. You are so generous in sharing your time, money, and singing voices. I appreciate your many gifts of hugs, kind words, smiles and service for Luther Memorial and for me! May God bless another year of our ministry together.

With love, Gail King

Thank you for the very kind and generous Christmas gift. It remains an honor and privilege to serve the congregation of Luther Memorial. Again, thank you so much.

Tom Wilson

Stewardship Nugget for January 2017

*"If there by any truer measure of a man than by what he does,
it must be by what he gives.*

Robert South (1684-92). English Clergyman

Thank you notes...

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank all who supported the Christmas Outreach Project in 2016. With everyone chipping in, we were able to exceed our goal this year. With your continued support, we raised over \$4900.00 for the Valley Interfaith Childcare Center (VICCC). That meant we were able to provide financial support of \$180.00 to 25 low income families whose children attend VICCC. I also appreciated all the wonderful bakers who provided cookies for each child attending the center. That meant that we provided 10 cookies for each of the 50 children. I would like to thank Gail King who provided over 50 children books to include with the cookies. In addition to the cookies, each child received two books this year. VICCC also provides the same book each month to each child as part of their curriculum. We raised enough money to purchase at least one month of books and maybe half of the money required for the next month. We couldn't have done this with each generous member of our congregation.

Thanks Again.

In Peace, Teresa Cassell

Many thanks to Ann and John Hess for leading a meaningful Advent Workshop. It was a good opportunity for fellowship and crafts. Thanks to the other vendors; Jim Lang, Carla Liversedge, and Gail King for creating opportunities for interaction.

Thanks to Lisa Goodall and her family for the planting that appeared in front of the Campus Center. Thank you for making this spot on the LMLC Campus beautiful.

Many thanks to Lisa Goodell, Amy Roeder, Melissa and Bill Knocke, Jennifer Freeman, Carolyn Howard, Carla Liversedge, Mike and Erin Peterson as well as members of the confirmation class for leading, modeling, and sharing your faith with the younger members of the congregation.

Luther Memorial,

Thank you for your gift received on November 16, 2016. With your support, Bread for the World staff and members are urging congress to work together to pass legislation vital to hungry people before this congressional session ends. We are advocating for increased funding for maternal and child nutrition in developing countries. We are also pressing for the reauthorization of our nation's child nutrition programs – including expansion of summer feeding programs. I am grateful for your generosity as we work together to end hunger in our own country and abroad.

Sincerely,
David Beckmann, President

The Well,

My name is Holly Tysen and I am the student coordinator for 209 Manna Ministries at Wesley at VT. We thank you so much for your contribution and unending support of the food pantry. Your gift will go to great use in helping students of the Virginia Tech Community. Thanks again!

Holly Tysen

JANUARY 2017 SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

8:30am	January 1	January 8	January 17	January 24	January 31
Communion Assistant	Mara Knott	Everett Warner	Kathleen Parrott	Glenn Buss	Charlie Harris
Lector		Mark Barrow	Jay Crone	Chris Skogen	Ed Vigen
PW Greeter		Kevin Carlson	Mark Barrow	Everett Warner	Mark Barrow
Ushers	Danny Knott	Danny Knott	Danny Knott	Danny Knott	Danny Knott
	Carol Papillon	Carol Papillon	Carol Papillon	Carol Papillon	Carol Papillon
	Bill Knocke	Bill Knocke	Bill Knocke	Bill Knocke	Bill Knocke
Tellers	Gary Buss	Gary Buss	Gary Buss	Gary Buss	Gary Buss
	Janet Buss	Janet Buss	Janet Buss	Janet Buss	Janet Buss
	John Thorsen	John Thorsen	John Thorsen	John Thorsen	John Thorsen

11:00am	January 1	January 8	January 17	January 24	January 31
Communion Assistant	Diane Catley	John Anstrom	Phil Jordan	Tom Wilson	Tammy Heft
Lector		Linda Libey	Kay Jordan	Anne Devenport	Andy Hansbrough
Greeter		Betty Segar	John Hess	Teresa Cassell	Amy Roeder
PW Greeter	Betty Segar	Teresa Cassell	Irmtraut Hartenstein	Betty Segar	Teresa Cassell
Ushers	Gilli Freeman	Gilli Freeman	Gilli Freeman	Gilli Freeman	Gilli Freeman
	Mike Neeble	Mike Neeble	Mike Neeble	Mike Neeble	Mike Neeble
	Cooper Neeble	Cooper Neeble	Cooper Neeble	Cooper Neeble	Cooper Neeble
Tellers	Diane Catley	Diane Catley	Diane Catley	Diane Catley	Diane Catley
	Tim Larson	Tim Larson	Tim Larson	Tim Larson	Tim Larson
	Joe Straub	Joe Straub	Joe Straub	Joe Straub	Joe Straub

If you are unable to fulfill your position on a given Sunday, please arrange for a substitute and contact the church office with their names. Thank you for your service.

Jan. 1 Dillon Graham, Harvey Peterson
 Jan. 2 Meili Johnson, Rachel Magri
 Jan. 3 Bennet Cassell
 Jan. 4 Jessica Marickovich, Allison McDonald
 Jan. 6 Ruth Brians, Brian Kubin
 Dec. 8 Virginia de La Mota, Jan Gilbertson,
 Elena Johnson
 Jan. 9 Bill Crabtree, Jim McIntyre, Karen Schendel.
 Mandy Wilson
 Jan. 10 Jane Williams
 Jan. 11 Joanna Sunshine
 Jan. 15 Cheryl Holcomb
 Jan. 17 Betsy Crone, Cintia Easterwood
 Jan. 18 Nelda Buss, Joanna Stallings
 Jan. 19 Dori Marriott, Gwen Renscok
 Jan. 20 Rachel Peterson, David Wechtaluk
 Jan. 21 Rebekah Less
 Jan. 22 Whitney Akers
 Jan. 23 Molly Prater, Barb Shifflett
 Jan. 25 Kirk Holcomb
 Jan. 27 Amory Fischer
 Jan. 28 Michael McDonald
 Jan. 29 Adam Marickovich
 Jan. 31 Philip Gilbertson, Roy Vickers, Jr.

**HAPPY
JANUARY
BIRTHDAY!!**



Ministry Assistants this Month

Bulletin Preparation

Jan Spahr Nelda Buss	01/06/16
Betty Segar Irmtraut Hartenstein	01/13/16
John Hess Rhoda Myers	01/20/16
Lisa Goodell Betty Jo Prater Betty Everett	01/27/16

Lay Communion: Carol Papillon, Gail King,
Marcia Barrow

Hosts for Birthday Fellowship at 8:30am on January 8th are Tim and Jamie Worley



JANUARY 2017 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

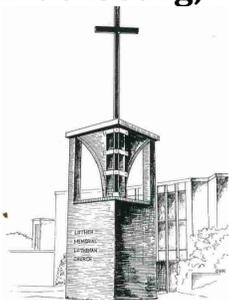
1 11:00am – Worship	2 9:00am –PMO 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm – AA - SSC 7:00pm - WRC	3	4 7:30am – MBS 9:00am – PMO 10:30 – Get Moving 6:00pm - ACT	5 10:00am TMFD	6 6:30pm AA Mtg in FH	7 10am – Sanct. Reh.
8 8:30am – Worship 9:30am Birthday Fellowship 9:45am – Christian Formation 11:00am - Worship	9 9:00am –PMO 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm – AA - SSC 7:00pm - WRC	10	11 7:30am – MBS 9:00am – PMO 10:30 – Get Moving 6:00pm - ACT	12 10:00am TMFD	13 6:30pm AA Mtg in FH	14 10am – Sanct. Reh
15 8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Christian Formation 10:00am – Special Cong. Meeting 11:00am Worship 7:00pm – Cong. Council Mtg.	16 9:00am – PMO 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm – AA - SSC 7:00pm - WRC	17 9:00am Newcomers Mtg. 5:30 – Christian Ed Mtg.	18 7:30am – MBS 9:00am – PMO 10:30 – Get Moving 6:00pm - ACT	19 10:00am TMFD 1:30pm FCA Mtg.	20 6:30pm AA Mtg in FH	21 10am – Sanct. Reh
22 8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Christian Formation 11:00am – Worship Campus Ministry Committee Mtg. after LLL.	23 9:00am – PMO 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm – AA - SSC 7:00pm - WRC	24	25 7:30am – MBS 9:00am – PMO 10:30 – Get Moving 6:00pm - ACT	26 10:00am TMFD	27 9:30am Eyes of the Heart 6:30pm AA Mtg in FH	28 10am – Sanct. Reh
29 8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Christian Formation 11:00am – Worship	30 9:00am – PMO 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm – AA - SSC 7:00pm - WRC	31				

PMO – PARENTS MORNING OUT

WRC – WILDERNESS RD. CHORUS

MBS – MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Luther Memorial News
Luther Memorial Lutheran Church
600 Prices Fork Road NW
Blacksburg, VA 24060



Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program
Change for Change
January 2017



**Where would you go if your lights were cut off,
you were running short of food,
or you needed help keeping your house heated?**

The last couple of months we have experienced the beginning of winter. Many of us dread checking the amount of our next utility bill. Because of this, our thoughts and prayers go to those who struggle daily to keep up with the basic expenses. As a way to help our neighbors, The Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program (MCEAP) is our designated recipient for January Change for Change. Since 1975, MCEAP strives to assist families and individuals in immediate, temporary and emergency situations. This month, your contribution will help provide home heating assistance to those who are facing cut-off notices. We still have a long winter ahead. Your donation can help provide warmth to a child, family and or elderly person who needs this vital assistance. The Social Ministry Committee hopes that you can respond favorably to this appeal.