
The Luther Memorial News

October 2016

*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...

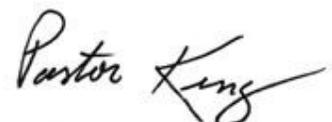
"Take the Plunge." Have you seen the poster in the narthex or a blurb in the bulletin and wondered, "What's up with that"? It's a graphic reminder that each of us can be a greeter and an evangelist.

I've heard our members say, "I am just not sure who I should greet. I would hate to go up and introduce myself to somebody I think is a visitor and discover they are a member. That would be so embarrassing!" A few thoughts:

- Yes, it is hard to approach someone you do not know and stick out your hand. I am an introvert; I feel your pain.
- It is not the worst thing in the world to introduce yourself to another member of the congregation. One of the challenges of having two services each week is that if you are regularly at one service you may not know someone who attends the other.
- A little embarrassment is a small price to pay to ensure that a new person in our midst does not feel ignored. If you think it is hard to welcome a new person, think how much harder it was for him or her to cross the threshold into the narthex.
- We try to have an official greeter at our worship services, but nothing compares to having a whole congregation eager to make the stranger feel at home.

Many of you remember Dot Blanchard, a longtime member of this congregation. When I think about what taking the plunge looks like I imagine her—flitting from one visitor to the next, finding out a little bit about them, and then making connections to Luther Memorial's members. Some of you on the faculty have experienced Dot tracking you down and saying, "This is John Doe, he is new to Virginia Tech and he is in your department." She conveyed genuine interest in new people and made it her mission to make them feel connected at Luther Memorial. Imagine what it would be like if we all had that same mindset.

The literature is clear. You can have eloquent sermons, dynamic programs, and inspiring worship. But if folks do not feel acknowledged and welcomed they do not invest themselves in a congregation. So this week **Take the Plunge: Politely Let Unknown Newcomers, Old-Timers and Guests, Experience a welcome at Luther Memorial through you.**



NOTES OF THANKS...

Kudus to the Fellowship Committee volunteers and Danny and Mara Knott for a wonderful BBQ picnic. The congregation appreciates your work to make good times roll and good eats available for all. What would a party be without cotton candy—thanks for sharing Mike and Erin Peterson. See you all next year!

The students and friends of the congregation appreciate the meal that John and Ann Hess provided for L Cubed. Thank you for spreading the table with good things to eat and creating an atmosphere of hospitality.

ACTIVELY CHRISTIAN TEENS

The youth of the church will meet on two Wednesdays:

- October 12th to finish a service project for the Women’s Center. Meal will be provided.
- October 26th we will walk over to Hwy 55 for dinner.

Christian Formation for 3-11 Year Olds- Faith Five

What’s happening for youngsters and families? If you have a three year old up to eleven years old we have some opportunities for you on the second Sunday of the month from 9:45am-10:45am in the Great Room of the Education Wing. This is an opportunity for faith formation. It’s about young people together with their families. It’s a chance to share faith, learn about God, and to meet other families in the church.

The focus will be the Faith Five...Sharing, Reading, Talking, Praying, and Blessing one another. We will use Dan Erlander’s book Manna and Mercy for the older children and Baptized with Live for the Younger children. It sounds basic, but we all know that Christian formation doesn’t happen unless we plan intentional conversations and set aside time to live into our baptism. 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Sunday, October 2

Sunday, October 16

Sunday, October 30

Festival of All Saints - Remembering those who loved us.

The Committee on Worship and Music invites you to bring a photograph of a person you remember as a saint who influenced your life. We will display the photographs in the narthex on November 6, the Festival of All Saints, as a way of recognizing the great cloud of saints who sustain community.

Please bring your photos between October 31 and November 5 and place them on the table in the narthex. When you bring your photo, please write the name of your beloved saint on one of the cards that will be on the table. We will place the name card with the photo on the display. Please pick up your photo any time during the week of November 7.

Advent Workshop is on Sunday, December 4

Do you have a project or a craft that would like to share with our church family that will help all ages prepare for Advent; stars, food item, ornaments? We will gather at 4:00pm on that Sunday afternoon, share our work, and then we will share a light meal. Would anyone like to make soup or chili to share? Please let Pastor Joanna know of your interest in leading a craft and preparing food. (jstallings@lmlc.org)

Birthday Fellowship: We are still in need of a host or hostess for our October 9th Birthday Fellowship after the 11:00am worship. If you are interested, please sign up! The sheet is on the kiosk in the Narthex.

Luther's Lunch 12:05

Lutheran Campus Ministry at The Well is expanding our ministry with students. We want invite you to be a part of it.

It is difficult to imagine that a student at Virginia Tech may not know when the next meal will be. "Food insecurity" is the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. Graduate students and their families often find themselves in this predicament.

How are we planning to address this? The Campus Ministry Committee and students at The Well will be sponsoring a simple, weekly lunch beginning on Friday, October 21 in the Campus Center. From 12 noon-1:30 p.m. we will be serving soup, bread, and beverage to anyone who drops in. This is a ministry of outreach and hospitality to a community that has long been the focus of LMLC ministry to the community.

How did this idea come about? Remember the visioning and dreaming day that was held in May 2016? This was one priority that emerged around which we can build an exciting ministry that shares our compassion for others. The Committee on Campus Ministry offered to lead the effort and to plan the specifics of the ministry. We are also sharing planning with the Committee on Social Ministry and others in the congregation with expertise in nutrition and enhancing the quality of life.

Remember that challenge Jesus gave his disciples? "You give them something to eat." as they looked with compassion across the multitude of hungry followers that had gathered that day in Galilee (Luke 9:13) How can you help in doing this new thing in our community?

Each week persons will act as host/hostesses, prepare the center for lunch, clean up when the meal is over, and prepare the meal itself. To begin, we will be using prepared soups so that ingredients can be readily identified, since some in our target population have dietary restrictions. Hence, food preparation will be minimal.

As we connect with students and their families we pray that we will learn from them as we share hospitality and nourishment. If you would like to help there are 11 Fridays between our opening date in October to the end of the year. Contact John Hess, Pastor Joanna or Meghan Rupkey for more information. A signup sheet has been posted on the kiosk in the narthex.

Reformation 500 Mile Challenge

2017 is the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's posting of the *95 Theses* in Wittenberg, the event which launched the Protestant Reformation. The Lutheran congregations of the New River Valley are creating a challenge to honor the anniversary and help our members get a bit healthier. Between Reformation Day, 2016 and Reformation Day, 2017 commit to walking, biking, running, or swimming 500 miles and you will receive milestone prizes, weekly quotes from Luther, and monthly history updates centered around significant places of the Reformation. **Sign up at <nrvlutherans@gmail.com> and check out the bulletin board in the hall outside the fellowship hall.**

Lost and Found is the VA Synod weekend retreat for youth in 7th and 8th grade and their adult advisors. We have **Large Group** gatherings that consist of singing, energy, comedy, worship and a presentation on our event theme. After each Large Group gathering each person is part of a **Small Group** made up of about 8 youth and a couple adult leaders where participants will get to know other Lutheran youth from Virginia and discuss life, faith and other topics that arise throughout the weekend. On Saturday afternoon there is large chunk of **Free Time** during which we will also hold out annual **Talent Show**. In the evenings you will relax in your **Cottage** and talk with other youth and adults from your congregation and other congregations about how the weekend is going. Please let Pastor Joanna know that you want to attend. The Youth Fund will pay half of the registration. On line-registration is available. <http://www.vasynod.org/event/lost-and-found/>

Death Cafe

The Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Virginia Blue Ridge is sponsoring a Death Cafe on October 26, 2016, 7:00pm to 8:30pm at Belkoom restaurant on Main Street in Blacksburg. Death Café is a discussion group rather than a grief support or counseling session. This global movement serves to bring people together for lively conversations about death over coffee and tea. Join us for a group directed and candid discussion on issues about death and dying. For questions or more information, contact Dianne Rencsok at 540-268-5977.



Change for Change Bread for the World October 2016

*“Decide mother,
who goes without.
Is it Rama, the strongest
or Baca, the weakest
who may not need it much longer
or perhaps Sita?
Who may be expendable...”*

from *The Arithmetic of Poverty* by Appadura (India)

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging Congress to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, they help to provide help and opportunity at home and abroad. With the stroke of a pen, policies are made that redirect millions of dollars and affect millions of lives. Bread for the World strives to make our nation’s laws fairer and more compassionate. People who suffer chronic hunger don’t have the option of eating when they are hungry. They do not get enough calories, essential nutrients, or both. People who are hungry have an ongoing problem with getting food to eat. They have a primary need — how to feed themselves and their children today and tomorrow. By contributing to Bread for the World we help support their mission to alleviate poverty both in the United States and in other countries.

Kroger Rewards Card

If you have previously registered your Kroger Rewards Card, it may be time to renew your support for Luther Memorial. Each time that you use your Rewards Card, a percentage of your sale is donated to the church. To renew your card, **Login** to your Kroger account. Select the **Community** link and select **Kroger Community Rewards**. Scroll down and click the **Re-Enroll Now** button. Right-click on Luther Memorial’s Organization number and select **Copy**. Click **Re-Enroll**. Paste the number and click the **Search** button. Select **Luther Memorial** and click **Enroll**. That’s it.

If you have never enrolled your card, contact Sandy Hagman (sandy.hagman@comcast.net) and instructions will be emailed to you.



WELCA FALL GATHERING

We invite all of the ladies from the New River Lutheran Churches to this year's Women of the ELCA Fall Gathering. Our theme is "All Anew to Serve Others," the 2016 VSWO Richmond convention theme. We will begin with registration followed by our program, "Taking it to the Streets". Our special guest will be Mr. Charlie Barbettini from "Warming Station", the Pulaski program for homeless people. He will tell us the truly remarkable stories of how the street ministry in Pulaski and the Warming Station came into being; how it works and what it offers their clients. We will have two offerings. One will benefit the VA Synodical Women's Organization and the other, homeless programs. We invite everyone to bring a dessert to share after the program.

Date: Sunday, October 16, 2016

Time: 2:15pm check-in.

Program: 2:30pm

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church, Corner of 5th Street and Washington Avenue, Pulaski

We will again collect filled, unwrapped shoeboxes for the Head Start children of the Pine Ridge SD Indian Reservation. The plastic shoe boxes may be lined inside with tissue or holiday paper, so no gifts show from the outside. Secure the tops with 2 big rubber bands, (please no scotch tape, masking or duct tapes).

St. Michael will continue to accept shoeboxes, if you have more, until Saturday, November 12th.

Sunday, November 13th the youth and adults at St. Michael will organize and label the shoeboxes as a community project.

Assignments:

Luther Memorial – registration sign in sheets and nametags

St. Michael – coloring placemats and markers, bulletins

Trinity - music, devotions, table decorations and beverages

We'll need several volunteers as ushers

We invite all women from our NRV Lutheran churches to come, bring a friend, mother or daughter for the afternoon. At the conclusion of our program we'll enjoy a great selection of desserts.

We should conclude around 4:15 – 4:30.

Put this date on your calendars! If anyone has any questions, please call 552-6995 or email: aa_schneid@yahoo.com.

I'm looking forward to seeing you ladies,
Alice Schneider
NRV WELCA District Coordinator

Blacksburg Refugee Resettlement Partnership: Thank you to those who have already contributed to the LMLC pledge of monthly financial support. Our original goal was set at \$1200 (\$100 a month for a year). Your donations have exceeded this amount! However, there is still a need for financial support. If you would like to contribute to this support, you may write a check to LMLC with the memo 'refugee resettlement'. No amount is too little. You may give this to either Pastor King, Wava Vigen or you may place it in the offering.

Some of you have expressed an interest in donating furniture. For large items, the Restore (381-1155) will pick up and store items. You will receive a tax receipt through Habitat for Humanity NRV. For smaller house hold items please call Wava Vigen. If you have questions please contact Wava Vigen (571 276 5079 Wavaburg@gmail.com)

move out of your comfort zone

TAKE THE PLUNGE!!

POLITELY

LET

UNFAMILIAR

NEWCOMERS, OLD-TIMERS, AND

GUESTS

EXPERIENCE A WELCOME AT
LUTHER MEMORIAL THROUGH

YOU!



Yes, it's hard to be vulnerable and greet new people, but what a gift it is to offer a smile and a welcome. So if you do not know someone you meet before, during, or after worship – take the plunge!



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.

Tuesday at The Well in October: Free meal and programs for all students.

- **Oct. 4:** Eat on Campus before the Clybourne Park play at 7:30pm. (Tickets have been purchased. If you would like to go and can purchase a ticket—please join us.) We will talk about the experience after the play.
- **Oct. 11;** 7:00pm at the Campus Center, Young Adult in Global Ministry guest speaker
- **Oct. 18:** 7:00pm at the Campus Center, Bible Study
- **Oct. 25** 7:00pm at the Campus Center, Pumpkin Carving

Luther’s Luscious Lunches will be served on Sunday, Oct. 9th. All students are invited to enjoy this lunch that will be served in the Campus Center after the 11:00am worship service.

Volunteers for Game Day Parking on Thursday, Oct. 20 are needed. Talk to Rachel Magri (rmagri@vt.edu) to sign up for a slot. Some really amazing tailgate food will be provided for all volunteers.

Saturday, Oct. 22, leave at 3:00pm for Sinkland Farm \$10 per person plus cost of a pumpkin. Carpools available. We will return to the Campus Center for dinner, camp fire, and a movie. Our Episcopal friends from the Canterbury House will be joining us.

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



Happy October Birthday Wishes

Oct. 01	Wyatt Mills	Oct. 02	Evelyn Brown, Henley Collins, Megan Lighty
Oct. 04	Kate Buss	Oct. 12	Allen Price
Oct. 13	Kelby Zeiger	Oct. 14	Irmtraut Hartenstein
Oct. 18	Dennis Catley	Oct. 20	Elizabeth Roeder
Oct. 24	Kami Reece	Oct. 25	Judy Mattox
Oct. 26	Kevin Carlson, Erin Hansbrough	Oct. 27	Elizabeth Mallery
Oct. 29	Dylan McDonald		

Home Communion in October

Oct. 16 Danny and Mara Knott 8:30am

October Bulletin Assembly Teams

Oct. 07	Jan Spahr & Nelda Buss
Oct. 14	Betty Segar & Irmtraut Hartenstein
Oct. 21	John Hess & Rhoda Myers
Oct. 28	Lisa Goodell, Betty Jo Prater, Betty Everett

Mowing Teams for October

Oct. 01	Graham Hoskins, Tim Larson, Danny Knott
Oct. 08	Neeble Family, Zeiger Family
Oct. 15	Everett Warner, Betty Segar, Fred & Dianne Rencsok
Oct. 22	Barry Johnson, Kevin Widner
Oct. 29	Glenn Buss, Andy Hansbrough, Kevin Carlson

New Address Changes:

Gary and Denise Schroeder's new street address is:
121 Rothfield Circle, Daniels WV 25832.
 They are no longer using the P.O. Box.



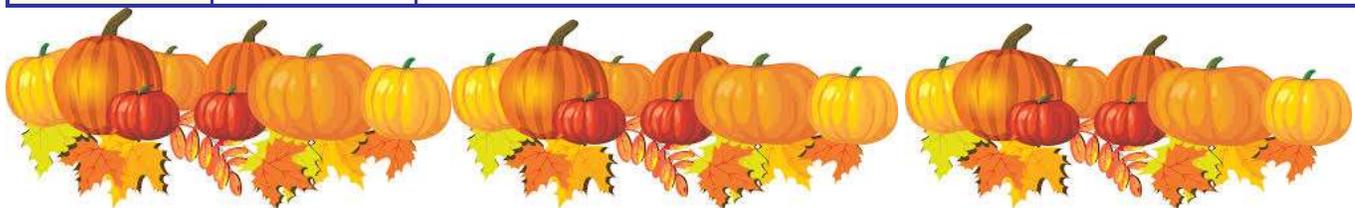
Mary Powe's new address is:
1000 Litton Dr. 39B, Blacksburg, VA 24060

Your visits are appreciated and your time is the most important thing. Thank you for all that has been done to lift her spirits.

Norm Bakken information update:

His current phone and address are 540-776-2206 – 3804 Brandon Avenue Apt 206
 Roanoke VA, 24018

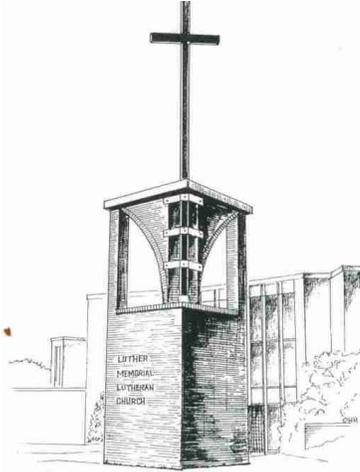
LMLC October 2016 Calendar of Events						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10:00am – Sanct. Rehearsal
2 8:30am – Worship 9:45am – C.F. 9:45am - Faith Five 11:00am - Worship	3 6:00pm – Boy Scout Troop 6:30pm – AA 7:00pm WRC	4 5:00pm – Parenting Class 7:30pm – The Well, Clybourne Park	5 7:30am – MBS 9:00am – PMO 10:30am – Get Moving	6 10:00am – TMFD 6:30pm - AA	7	8 10:00am – Sanct. Rehearsal
9 8:30am – Worship 9:45am – C.F. 11:00am – Worship 12:00pm – Disabilities Aware. Training 1:00pm Campus Ministry Mtg.	10 6:00pm – Boy Scout Troop 6:30pm – AA 7:00pm WRC	11 9:00am - Newcomers 5:00pm – Parenting Class 7:00pm – The Well	12 7:30am – MBS 9:00am - PMO 10:30am – Get Moving 6:00pm - ACT	13 10:00am – TMFD 6:30pm – AA 4:30pm – Dialogue on Race	14 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	15 10:00am – Sanct. Rehearsal
16 8:30am – Worship 9:45am – C.F. 9:45am - Faith Five 11:00am – Worship 2:15pm – WELCA at Trinity Lutheran 7:00pm – Congregational Council Meeting	17 6:00pm – Boy Scout Troop 5:30 – Christian Ed. Comm. Mtg. 6:30pm – AA 7:00pm WRC	18 5:00pm – Parenting Class 7:00pm – The Well	19 7:30am – MBS 9:00am – PMO 10:30am – Get Moving	20 10:00am – TMFD 1:30pm - FCA 6:30pm - AA	21 12:05pm – C.M.C. Luther's Lunch	22 10:00am – Sanct. Rehearsal
23 Food on Fourth 8:30am – Worship 9:45am – C.F. 11:00am - Worship	24 6:00pm – Boy Scout Troop 6:30pm – AA 7:00pm WRC	25 5:00pm – Parenting Class 7:00pm – The Well	26 7:30am – MBS 9:00am – PMO 10:30am – Get Moving 6:00pm - ACT	27 10:00am – TMFD 6:30pm - AA	28	29 10:00am – Sanct. Rehearsal
30 8:30am – Worship 9:45am – C.F. 9:45am - Faith Five 11:00am - Worship	31 6:00pm – Boy Scout Troop 6:30pm – AA 7:00pm WRC	Notes: CF - Christian Formation WRC – Wilderness Rd. Chorus MBS – Men’s Bible Study PMO – Parents Morning Out CMC – Campus Ministry Center TMFD – Thursday Morning Faith Discussion				



In time things will Fall right into place.

Luther Memorial News

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



Stewardship Nugget for October 2016

“To give without any reward, or any notice, has a special quality of its own.”

Anne Morrow Lindbergh (1906-2001), American aviatrix and writer.