

The Luther Memorial News

October 2017

*We are a
Reconciling in Christ Congregation.*

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

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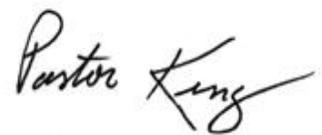
FROM OUR PASTOR...

Ah, October, such a wonderful month: football, warm days and cool nights, trees exploding into a vibrant riot of red and gold—and our congregation's stewardship emphasis. What, your heart did not swell at the thought of that last item? "Stewardship," that's just a church word for fundraising, isn't it? Maybe that is what you are thinking.

Actually, it's not. Stewardship does indeed involve thinking about money, specifically the money needed to fund the mission and ministry of our congregation. But our stewardship emphasis is more than a program to raise money; it is really about asking a centering question: "How am I using the many gifts that I have in the service of God and the world?"

Most of the time we just muddle through from day to day, doing the next thing on our list. But just as a friend's birthday gives us the occasion to express our appreciation for him or her, so our stewardship emphasis gives us a specific time to think about how we are using our time, money, and abilities. Maybe we decide we want to make some changes. But just as important we should use the time to celebrate what we are already doing in our life together.

So, as you receive stewardship materials this month, I hope you will indeed think about how you can support the ministry of our congregation in the coming year. But, just as important, take time to rejoice in the good things our congregation is doing, the ways you are blessed each day, the wonderful people who share this ministry with you at LMLC, and the privilege of sharing God's loving care for our world.



MEETINGS IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

The Committee on Campus Ministry will meet at 12:30pm on October 1st.

The Finance Committee will meet at 9:00am on October 4th.

The Congregational Council will meet at 7:00pm on October 15th.

Congratulations Tyler...

Congratulations to Jonathan Tyler Neeble who was awarded Luther Memorials' 2017-2018 Education Endowment Scholarship. Tyler, a 2016 graduate of Christiansburg High School, begins his second year after successfully completing the General Engineering requirements at Virginia Tech. He has selected civil engineering to be the focus for the remainder of his academic work. Tyler diligently pursues his vocation as an outstanding student and faithfully contributes to the life of our congregation and our community.

Brunch on October 8

The brunches held after worship during the summer seemed to be a big hit. So we are going to extend them into the fall. There will be brunch following worship on October 8. Bring something to share and linger for a time of fellowship and conversation. This would be a great opportunity to invite someone to experience our congregation.

The 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

The big month has arrived! The 500th anniversary of the Reformation. We have been planning for it for over a year. As the big day approaches, we are reading, discussing, and celebrating the Reformation, Martin Luther, and being Lutheran. So what does this mean for us? Specifically, if you were asked, "What does it mean to be a member of Luther Memorial", how would you answer? This is the question the committee wants you to consider as we enter our fall campaign. Just as important, how do we reflect it in our congregation? The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), introduced four emphases that she has invited us to consider in our understanding of this church. "We are church, we are Lutheran, we are the church together, and we are the church for the sake of the world". We would like our members to think about how these ideas fit Luther Memorial.

We have prepared materials for our fall campaign which will be placed in your church mailbox the second week of October. Please carefully read over them and think about how we can be engaged as members of Luther Memorial in worship, study, service, and giving. Pledge Sunday will be October 29, when we join with other Lutherans around the world to celebrate the Reformation.

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. The photos should be brought in Oct. 30 – Nov. 4. We will display the photographs in the narthex on November 5, the Festival of All Saints, as a way of recognizing the great cloud of saints who sustain community.

Please bring your photos between October 30 and November 4 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.

Thursday Group Studies Sacred Texts

On October 19th, the Thursday morning Faith Discussion Group will begin a new module, "Sacred Texts of the World." This course looks at the scriptures of many world religions including Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Islam. Join us in the conference room for an hour each Thursday at 10:00am.

Stewardship Emphasis: "We are...."

During October you will receive materials related to our stewardship emphasis. This year we are thinking about the four hallmarks which ELCA presiding Bishop Eaton has lifted up: We are church. We are Lutheran. We church together. We are church for the sake of the world. We will be celebrating our identity as Christians in a worldwide church. As you study your materials, part of which is a form to make a financial pledge, consider how you can be engaged in our common work in Christ's name. **We will receive pledges on October 29.**

Stock the Pantry – 30th Anniversary Celebration

The Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry will be celebrating its 30th anniversary on Sunday, October 15th at the Pantry at 706 Harding Avenue from 12:00pm to 3:00pm. There will be free food, face-painting, games, and music by Kat Mills, Panjammers Steel Drum Band, and the New River Valley Boys.

In honor of this celebration for **3 Sundays (October 1, October 8, and October 15)** Luther Memorial will be collecting food to help stock the Pantry for the winter months. After surveying the needs of the Pantry, it would be great if Luther Memorial could collect **cans of soup**. Soup is not an item that the Pantry purchases so the Pantry depends on donations from food drives, churches and organizations to stock their soup supply. All kinds are welcome.

For additional information about the celebration, check out the Pantry's Facebook page: **Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry**.

The Well: A Kick Start to the New Year

We've experienced a great start to the new year at The Well. We've seen fifteen individual new students attend multiple events, at Sunday worship or Tuesday meetings of the The Well. This is not counting one time visitors. We've got a great core group of young folks investing in the Lutheran Campus Ministry here at VT.

On top of that, our leadership team has shown great vitality for guiding our ministry. We've already secured more commitments to the regional Lutheran Student Movement retreat because of their leadership, as well as seen an increased interest in telling the story of Lutheran Campus Ministry. They're working hard in welcoming new students and already incorporating their character into the ministry's DNA.

Coming up we have a visit from a Young Adult in Global Mission recruiter, Acts of Public Theology, on the drill field, and a service project with Micah's Backpack. We're excited for what God has in store for the rest of this fall at The Well. If you'd like to meet some of our students, introduce yourself on Sunday morning or join us for our next L-Cubed. Thank you for your support of The Well: Lutheran Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech!

"The American Cemetery Movement, 1860-1915"

October 11, 2017 at 7:00pm

The Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Virginia Blue Ridge invites Luther Memorial members to the annual meeting at which Lee Sandstead will speak about the history of Cemeteries in America. The meeting will take place at Warm Hearth, Karr Activity Center on Wednesday, October 11, at 7:00pm.

Anyone interested in the educational activities of this non-profit organization is welcome to attend monthly board meetings. Monthly meetings of the Funeral Consumers Alliance are usually held the third Wednesday of each month in the Parish Life Center (Note that the Oct. 11th annual meeting will be substituted for regular Oct. board meeting)

Advent workshop

Sunday, 4:00-6:00pm, November 19, 2017

Plan Now to attend and bring friends

Come and share an evening of crafts, devotions, supper and fellowship.

Activities are designed to celebrate our community and witness to the dawning of the incarnation in a dark world. Mark your calendars now and invite others to join us. All ages are welcome.

Activities include:

- A focus on prayer, family prayer at meals, and bed time
- Rolling bees wax candles for your Advent wreath
- Advent poster to color
- Making Christmas cards and ornaments
- Printing Christmas wrap with stamps and marbles, yes marbles

Supper will be with the congregation preceding the Annual Meeting.

Contact: Ann Hess (annhess@verizon.net 540-382-8235) for more information or to join the team.

Worship on the Web

You may find both copies of the sermon and our audio recording of our worship on the Luther Memorial website, www.lmlc.org. Look under the "Worship and Devotions" tab.

Proposed Constitution and By-Laws Changes

The following changes to Luther Memorial's constitution and by-laws will be proposed at the annual meeting on November 19:

Reason for change: The present constitution has new members taking office in November, but new officers are not elected until January. Because old officers are almost always retiring members, there are no legal officers in December. The practice and intention at LMLC has been to have a joint council meeting in December to “hand off” issues to the new council and orient new members before they officially take office at the beginning of the calendar year.

Proposed Changes: Delete the text in italics below and insert, “Terms of members shall begin as specified in the bylaws.” Amend the bylaws to reflect preferred practice.

Constitution, C12.02

The members of the Congregational Council except the pastors) shall be elected by written ballot to serve for 3 years or until their successors are elected. Such members shall be eligible to serve no more than one full term consecutively. *Their terms shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected.*

Bylaws S3.04

Add: “When the annual meeting at which members are elected is in November, terms for newly elected council members shall begin at the January meeting of the Congregational Council.”

Reason for Change: Luther Memorial has changed its financial procedures so that routine accounting is performed by a paid bookkeeper and the function of the financial secretary is now performed by the church secretary. Thus, there is no need for the financial secretary position.

Proposed Change: Delete text in italics to C11.01

Constitution, Officers, C11.01.

The officers of this congregation shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, *and financial secretary.*

Reason for Change: Due to the factors noted above the treasurer has much less day to day oversight of financial affairs. The present constitution would seem to require that the treasurer serve no more than two terms (which would be two years). This would seem to needlessly limit the ability of persons to serve in a position requiring some technical ability.

Proposed Change: Insert text in italics to C11.03.

Constitution, C11.03

No officer shall hold more than one office at a time. No elected officer *except the treasurer* shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

CHANGE for CHANGE IN OCTOBER WILL BE DONATED TO THE LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE



Lutheran Disaster Response is the October Change for Change Recipient:

Hurricanes, famine, earthquakes--it seems that each new disaster more brings a headline of suffering. We wonder how best to respond. Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is one of the most respected relief organizations operating in the world. LDR provides relief to victims immediately following a disaster, but long after a disaster fades from the headlines LDR is still on the ground offering long-term assistance as people rebuild their lives. LDR, a program of the ELCA, enables congregations and individuals to know their offerings are being used in the most effective and humane ways possible. You can make a donation by putting funds in the Change for Change container, placing a check in the offering, or by going to the LDR website:

<http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/>



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.

The Committee on Campus Ministry will meet on Sunday, October 1 at 12:30pm after L-Cubed.

REGULAR EVENTS

Our regular Tuesday meetings occur every Tuesday that class is in session. They include a meal made by students and time in discussion and prayer with one another. Different weeks emphasize worship, Bible study, guest presenters, service opportunities, and community building activities.

At L-Cubed, (first Sunday of each month) congregation members provide a home cooked meal after worship, which helps us stay connected with the Lutheran congregations that sponsor our ministry. You're welcome here!

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE WELL

October 31 *Continuing Reformation 1:00-4:00pm on the Drillfield (Come post the changes you want to see in the world on our inexact replica of the Wittenberg Door)*

November 3-5 *Lutheran Student Movement Regional Retreat (Leave at 4:00pm from the Campus Center)*

Fall Theme - Re+Formed People

Our journey this fall will commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation by exploring the ways that God's formed us and continues to reform us for Christ-like life in the world. We will worship, study, serve, and celebrate together the identities that God has given to us and grows in us.

<http://www.lsmvt.lmlc.org/>

Find us on Facebook: Search for The Well (Lutheran Campus Ministry @ VT)

Are you a member of Luther Memorial that wants to know more about The Well?

Please contact John Hess, Chair of the Campus Ministry Committee, Pastor Bill, or Pastor Drew.



2017-2018 Leadership Team for The Well

President	Meghan Rupkey	meghanr9@vt.edu
Vice President	Ethan Hodges	hodges96@vt.edu
Secretary	Anna Schmitt	annaschmitt@vt.edu
Outreach Service	Jayme Kikkonen	jaymek@vt.edu
	Rebecca Pettit	rebeck51@vt.edu
	Diane Cline	cdiane4@vt.edu

OCTOBER 2017 SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

	October 1	October 8	October 15	October 22	October 29
Greeter	Betty Segar	Jennifer and Gilli Freeman	Anna Schmitt	Ann Hess	John Hess
Communion Assistant	Tom Wilson Marcia Barrow	Glenn Buss Mandy Wilson	Linda Libey Charlie Harris	Karl Pedersen John Anstrom	Mary Grems Tom Wilson
Lector	Bennett Cassell	Jay Crone	Ed Vigen	Leah Wechtaluk-McFarren	Chris Skogen
PW Greeter	Mark Barrow	Everett Warner	Teresa Cassell	Irmtraut Hartenstein	Betty Segar
Ushers	Kevin Carlson	Kevin Carlson	Kevin Carlson	Kevin Carlson	Kevin Carlson
	Bryce Carlson	Bryce Carlson	Bryce Carlson	Bryce Carlson	Bryce Carlson
	Virginia de la Mota	Virginia de la Mota	Virginia de la Mota	Virginia de la Mota	Virginia de la Mota
	Daniel de la Mota	Daniel de la Mota	Daniel de la Mota	Daniel de la Mota	Daniel de la Mota
Tellers	Brad Grems	Brad Grems	Brad Grems	Brad Grems	Brad Grems
	Kathy Valencic	Kathy Valencic	Kathy Valencic	Kathy Valencic	Kathy Valencic
	Mara Knott	Mara Knott	Mara Knott	Mara Knott	Mara Knott

STEWARDSHIP NUGGET FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER.

“God does not need your good works, but your neighbor does.”

Martin Luther

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER

10/02	Evelyn Brown Henley Collins Megan Lighty	10/26	Kevin Carlson Erin Hansbrough
10/04	Kate Buss	10/27	Elizabeth Mallery
10/05	Bill King Jim Wolfe	10/29	Dylan McDonald
10/10	Alex Depew Barry Johnson Ed Vigen		
10/12	Allen Price		
10/13	Kelby Zeiger		
10/14	Irmtraut Hartenstein		
10/18	Dennis Catley		
10/20	Elizabeth Roeder		
10/25	Judy Mattox		



LUTHER MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am Christian Formation 10:00am Worship Post Worship L-Cubed 12:30pm Committee on Campus Ministry	2 9:00am – Parents Morning Out 6:30pm - AA 7:00pm- Wilderness Road Chorus	3 5:30pm NRV Parenting Class	4 7:30am – Men's Bible Study 9:00am – Finance Meeting 9:00am – Parents Morning Out 10:30am – Get Moving Exercise. 7:00pm – Choir	5 10:00am – Thursday. Morning Faith Discussion	6 12:05pm Luther's Lunch	7 10:30am Sanctuary Reh.
8 9:00am Christian Formation 10:00am Worship	9 9:00am – Parents Morning Out 6:30pm - AA 7:00pm- Wilderness Road Chorus	10 9:00am – Newcomers 5:30pm NRV Parenting Class	11 7:30am – Men's Bible Study 9:00am – Parents Morning Out 10:30am – Get Moving Exercise. 7:00pm – Choir	12 10:00am – Thursday. Morning Faith Discussion 4:30pm – Dialogue on Race	13 12:05pm Luther's Lunch	14 10:30am Sanctuary Reh.
15 9:00am Christian Formation 10:00am Worship 7:00pm Congregational Council Mtg.	16 9:00am – Parents Morning Out 6:30pm - AA 7:00pm- Wilderness Road Chorus	17 5:30pm NRV Parenting Class	18 7:30am – Men's Bible Study 9:00am – Parents Morning Out 10:30am – Get Moving Exercise. 7:00pm – Choir	19 10:00am – Thursday. Morning Faith Discussion	20 12:05pm Luther's Lunch	21 10:30am Sanctuary Reh.
22 9:00am Christian Formation 10:00am Worship	23 9:00am – Parents Morning Out 6:30pm - AA 7:00pm- Wilderness Road Chorus	24 5:30pm NRV Parenting Class	25 7:30am – Men's Bible Study 9:00am – Parents Morning Out 10:30am - Get Moving Exercise. 7:00pm – Choir	26 10:00am – Thursday. Morning Faith Discussion	27 12:05pm Luther's Lunch	28 10:30am Sanctuary Reh.
29 9:00am Christian Formation 10:00am Worship	30 9:00am – Parents Morning Out 6:30pm - AA 7:00pm- Wilderness Road Chorus	31				



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Luther Memorial Lutheran Church

600 Prices Fork Road

Blacksburg, VA 24060

