
The Lutheran Light

"As the Body of Christ, St. Mary's Evangelical Lutheran Church is called by the Father through the Holy Spirit to worship God and witness to others."

Vol. 33 No. 10, November 2011

The Pastor's Prism



Seeking Common Ground

On Thursday, October 13, Pr. Dieter Kuchenbecker of the Evangelical Lutheran Church Parish, Schlamersdorf, Germany, spent an evening with seventeen of us with fellowship and food in our parish house. Pr. Kuchenbecker and I have been in contact since February with each other regarding the possibility of establishing a "sister congregation" relationship as a part of our 250th year anniversary, which will occur in 2012.

Pr. Kuchenbecker's church, St. Jürgen (St. George) is located in the county of Segeberg (250,000 people) in the state of Holstein-Schleswig, which borders Denmark on the north. The church is in the Ploen-Segeberg Synod of the Northelbian Evangelical Lutheran Church.

St. George church has 1900 members but only 20-50 attend worship each Sunday. The religious population of the area is 67% Lutheran, 5% Catholic, and the remaining 28% claim no church membership. The area is strongly Lutheran, even today, because of the principle of *cuis religio, eius regio* (whatever the ruler's faith that was to be the religion of the region), which was a part of the 1555 Peace of Augsburg settlement between Lutherans and Catholics. The area has remained strongly Lutheran also because in general, Germans seem to be less likely than Americans to move from place to place. Schlamersdorf is made up of people with diversified occupations although it continues to be a strong farming community. Perhaps the biggest employer for the area is the Wohnideebilder furniture factory at Seevetal.

St. George's Church was destroyed by fire in 1870 but rebuilt in 1873. The church is kept unlocked during the day so that those who might wish to meditate and visit can have access. Theft and vandalism is not as great a concern as it is here.

St. George's church is active when it comes to children and youth. It has about 80 children involved in a pre-kindergarten school and a confirmation class of about 12. Pr. Kuchenbecker hopes to bring some of these youth and others to the United States in 2013, and connect with the youth here. He is encouraging us to make a similar sort of visit to him and his parish, along with touring "Luther land."

Pr. Kuchenbecker is married to Hannelore, an architect, and they have a 15 year old daughter, Irene. He enjoys playing soccer with a pastors' team for whom he has been playing some 24 years! Such benefit games are used to help raise money for groups like "Bread for the World." (Bread for the World provided support for a portion our Church World Service programming when Ann and I served in Greece during the 1970's.) He also enjoys playing "Skat," a German card game. He has a garden in which he grows vegetables like potatoes and sweet corn, and fruit trees of all kinds, including cherry, plum, and apple.

Pr. Kuchenbecker maintains an active interest in German-US relations and is president of the area's American Society. He is no stranger to the USA as he was an exchange student in McVeytown, Pa., in 1967-68, and graduated from Yale Divinity School in 1975.

Pr. Kuchenbecker also made a presentation to our Westminster

Conference of Lutheran pastors. He mentioned while there are some differences between the way Lutheran churches are set-up we share the common ground of trying to assist those with whom we serve to become the best they can because of the gifts which God has equipped them. Most significantly, we share in living and proclaiming in our own situations the Good News of Jesus Christ through all that which we are involved. We Americans and Germans alike have a common ground and tradition in the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective that has been handed down to us from our spiritual ancestors. Truly we can join with the one who wrote Psalm 117:

**Praise the LORD, all you nations!
Extol Him, all you peoples! For
great is His steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD
endures forever. Praise the LORD!**

+ "Pr. Lee

Almighty God, we praise and bless Your Name that You have created us in Your image and placed us in various nations around the world. Lead us into greater appreciation for one another so that we might grow in our understanding and appreciation for the uniqueness of others. Help us as we seek to build bridges of mutuality and fellowship with one another so that the Good News of Jesus Christ will grow among us and between us as we seek to do Your will in our differing contexts but united in celebrating our love in You. We ask these things through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. AMEN



Council Highlights

The Church Council met on October 10, 2011.

1. The congregation will be collecting canned goods during November for Carroll Food Sunday, please place your donations in the boxes in the overflow room.
2. If you have any new or gently used blankets or coats please bring them in during November and place them in the appropriate boxes in the overflow room to be given to Shepherd's Staff.
3. The congregational meeting will be held on November 20 in the Parish house after church services. The Sunday School will be providing a brunch before the meeting with free will donations being accepted for Mahantesh Baburaa, whom we support through World Vision.
4. The council is looking for people willing to serve on the church council for the upcoming term. If you are interested you can contact the church office or a current council member.
5. The church office is now equipped with Verizon DSL and as a result the new church email address is smelc@mail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Wisner

Annual Meeting

Annual Congregational Meeting of St. Mary's Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held November 20th at 11:30 a.m. in the auditorium of the Parish House. Purpose of the meeting will be to review the highlights of church's mission over the last year, consider a proposed budget for calendar year 2011, elect church council members, hold discussion and share some hopes for 2011. Prior to the meeting at about 10:45 a.m. the Sunday School will provide a brunch with a free-will offering collected to support Mahantesh Babura, and Indian youth, through World Vision.

Office Closure

The Church Office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday Thursday, November 24th & Friday, November 25th.

Please have information in to the church by 10 a.m. Wednesday, November 23rd for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

on
Wednesday, November 23rd,
at 7:30 p.m.

Offerings collected will go to
Shepherd's Staff.



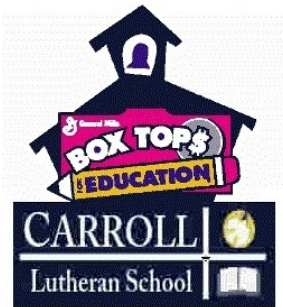
Non-Perishable Food Drive

Help us feed the needy in Carroll County during November. Non-perishable food items will be collected for Carroll County Food Sunday. Please place them in the designated box in the overflow room.



News Around the Parish

Box Tops - With the start of school comes the start of Box Tops for Education program. Last year Carroll Lutheran School earned \$1,143 from box tops! First submission deadline is October 31st. Please place your box tops in the box in the overflow room or box in church office marked "Carroll Lutheran School". We are also collecting used printer cartridges.



Now that the church office has high speed internet, we will be terminating service through QIS.net and will no longer have access to the stmarys@qis.net email address. Please send all email to: smelc@mail.com.

A Copy of the Carroll Lutheran Village Annual Report for 2011 is now available for your perusal on the radiator in the rear of the church.

Poinsettia Orders

It is time to order flowers to be placed around the altar for our Christmas Eve service.

White or Red Poinsettias

6" pot with total of 3 to 5 blooms\$9.50 each

(Price guide: 1 - \$9.50, 2 - \$19.00, 3- \$28.50)

Fill in this form and mail along with your **check made out to St. Mary's Lutheran Church** to the church office.

Please Print Legibly

Deadline for ordering: Sunday, November 20th.

Ordered by _____

Phone # _____

(How many) # _____ **White** Poinsettias @ \$9.50 each

Total paid? _____

In honor of _____

By _____

In memory of _____

By _____

(How many)# _____ **Red** Poinsettias @ \$9.50 each

Total paid? _____

In honor of _____

By _____

In memory of _____

By _____

Should you have questions, call Ruth Warfield 443-732-6030.

Contact Information

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. H. Lee Brumback, II 717-359-8882; **Council President:** Craig Fleischer, 410-346-6065; **Council Vice-President:** Dwyn Fleischer, 410-346-6065; **Council Secretary:** Gail Wisner, 410-346-7955; **Treasurer:** Art Wisner 410-346-7955; **Outreach & Welcome:** Jim Crist 410-848-4391; **Christian Ed Chairperson:** Laura Bennett 410-346-6729; **Property Committee:** Gary Meadows 410-346-6994; **Staff Support:** Rick Sparacino, 717-637-0067; **Stewardship Committee:**(vacant); **Worship & Music Committee:** Don Kaufman 717-637-9795; **Flower Committee:** Ruth Warfield 443-732-6030; **Altar Guild Coordinator:** Fran Crist 410-848-4391; **Lector Coordinator:** Jim Crist 410-848-4391; **Funeral Reception Committee:** Viola Haines 717-633-7648, Marion Matthias 410-346-7380; **Sexton :** Mark Ruby 410-346-6840; **Secretary:** Susan Blizzard 410-346-7146 (w); **Organist:** Joye Kaufman 717-637-9795; **Thrivent Liaison:** Donna Myers; **Carroll Lutheran School Delegate:** Jim Huber; **Carroll Lutheran Village Delegates:** Jim & Fran Crist; **Acolyte Coordinator:** Zachary Scott; **Stamp Coordinator:** Helen Wolf

Helping Shepherd's Staff

Recently Shepherd's Staff has seen a great increase of households looking for help. Let's try to help fill their "**Blessing Closet**" - their is a great need for items. Boxes will be in the overflow room and parish house to put your donations in. Collection of the items listed below will be ongoing as long as there is a need.

Pull-ups (all sizes), disposable diapers (all sizes), baby care items, liquid food supplements, Depends/Attends (all sizes), shampoo, conditioner, paper towels, napkins, facial tissue, bath tissue, powder laundry detergent, all purpose cleaners, bleach (small bottles), feminine supplies, men's toiletries, dish washing liquid, trash bags, baby ointment, baggies, foil, toothpaste, toothbrushes, first aid products, light bulbs (energy efficient), bar soap, liquid soap, baking soda, vinegar, alcohol/peroxide, combs, brushes, and washclothes.

Shepherd's Staff have a "**Service Brown Bag**" project. These bags help those that come in hungry and need a meal or need a shower. Help bring in the following items and we'll see that they get bagged into the kits. Thanks! ~Jill Spriggs

Breakfast cereal bars, fruit cups, boxed fruit juice, raviolis, spaghetti o's, Jello cups, cup-a-soup, crackers, mac & cheese, apple sauce, pasta, tomato sauce, canned fruit, tuna helper, canned tuna fish, canned vegetables, rice, canned beans, travel size soap, travel size shampoo, disposable razors, wash clothes, and combs.



Christmas Bazaar

The Bazaar will be here before we know it. Donations of the following are needed –

Baked Goods. We will need baked goods, such as pies, cakes, breads and cookies. Be aware that under the Health Dept. permit baked goods cannot contain cream, meringues, or custards. Also needed are homemade fudge, brittle, candies, etc.

Donations can be dropped off Friday the 9th or early Saturday morning of the 10th.

Silent Auction. Put together several items to make a theme. Ex – toys and/or games for boys or girls or both. Bird feed along with a bird feeder, etc. Larger items can stand on their own. Also gifts certificates from various restaurants, grocery stores, department stores, hair salons are needed to add to some items. Several members have already begun putting together themes and/or soliciting donations from area businesses.

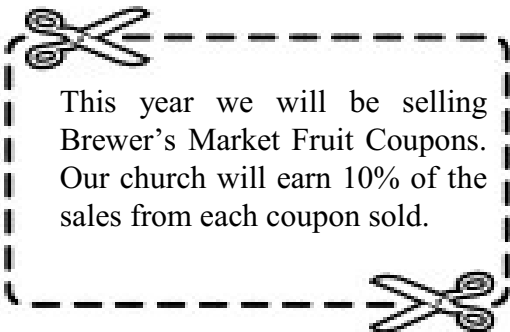
Donations for the silent auction should be in by December 1st to give us time to get paperwork ready.

Antique Quilt Raffle. Please help sell these tickets, pictures are available. All proceeds will benefit the Sunday School activities.

Bazaar Help. We need help with the welcome table, craft table, bake table, help in the kitchen, as well as floaters who will help where needed. See Jim Crist.

Monetary donations also appreciated to help with purchase of supplies.

Setup. We will need help setting up tables on Thursday, Dec. 1st.



Please join us for a day of FUN-draising and fellowship as we hold our annual Christmas Bazaar. A sign-up sheet is included below.

St. Mary's Luncheon & Christmas Bazaar Saturday, December 10, 2011 - 9 a.m. til 2 p.m.

The Outreach & Welcome Committee is asking for help again this year to make this fund-raiser a real blessing. Please hand in your sign-up sheet by December 4th.

Name: _____

I can donate the following baked items:
(Please list ingredients for each baked item.)

- Cookies (12 per bag) Cakes*
- Rice Krispie Treats Bread
- Other Holiday Goodies Pies
- Brownies Cupcakes
- Muffins Candy
- Fudge
- I can donate handmade craft items.
- I can donate a monetary contribution to offset the cost of paper supplies, soda and food items.**

I can help:

- Setup (Thursday, December 1st)
- At the craft tables ___ a.m. or ___ p.m.
- In the kitchen ___ a.m. or ___ p.m.
- At the bake tables ___ a.m. or ___ p.m.
- Cashier ___ a.m. or ___ p.m.
- Clean up

For more information contact: Jim Crist, Chairperson, Outreach & Welcome Committee at 410-848-4391.

* Additional cakes are needed for the "cake walk".
**Checks payable to "St. Mary's Lutheran Church", noted for Christmas Bazaar.

Thank You for your support!

Prayer Ventures

Prayer Ventures for November were not available for inclusion in this newsletter. www.elca.org/prayerventures

St. Mary's Veterans

In Honor of Veteran's Day (November 11th) we recognize the members of St. Mary's Evangelical Lutheran Church who have served our country.

Robert Adams, Jr. - US Army Reserves, 1972-1990. Active in Desert Storm 1990-1992. PA National Guard 1992-1996. Retired 1996, Staff Sergeant. 24 years of service.

Leonard Armstrong - US Marines, 1967 - 1970.

Bill Blickenstaff - Navy Crash & Salvage Rescue unit. 3 years of service.

Steven Bueker - U.S. Navy. 4 years of service.

Rodney Bupp - Army, 6/12/1967 - 6/12/1970

Allan D. Chrest - US Air Force, 1965- 1969

James A. Crist - U.S. Navy. 4 years of service (September 30, 1961 to September 26, 1965).

Jason Eyler - Army, 1997 - 2001

John Warren Haifley - 202 F.A. 3rd Army ETO. 2 yrs., 10 months of service.

Donald R. Lawyer, SP2 - 1954 - 1957 Army, Army Security Agency - Hawaii

Curtis D. Meadows - Corporal, Marines, 1965 - 1968

Gary S. Meadows - Army Specialist 4th Class, 66 Military Intelligence, 1969 - 1971

Cynthia D. Sparacino, CDR Retired - (US Coast Guard & US Coast Guard Reserve) 28 years of service (1977 - 2005)

Richard A. Sparacino, LCDR Retired - (US Navy and US Coast Guard) 29 years service (1971 - 2000)

Donald Stansbury - Army Specialist 4th Class, 60th Field Artillery, 1954 - 1956

Joshua B. Utz, PFC - 2010 - Present, Delta Company, 1st - 19th Infantry

Dominic A. Vonella, Army, 1996 - Present

(Please contact the church office with any updates.)

Christmas Program & Dinner

Sunday, December 11th, 2011

4:00 p.m. in the Parish House

Food from *Bentley's Family Restaurant*

Tentative MENU

Broasted Chicken	Baked Ham
Baked Potato	Green Beans
Roll/butter	Dessert
Iced Tea	Coffee



Free will offering at the door.

(Please give generously as the difference will come out of St. Mary's funds)

Please make your reservations **by December 4th** so that the proper amount of food and supplies can be purchased. Reservation sheets can be placed in the offering plate or call your reservations into the church office (410-346-7146) with the information requested below.

Yes, I (We) plan to attend St. Mary's Christmas Program and Dinner on Sunday, December 11th.

Name: _____

Adults _____ # Children (6-12) _____

Children under 6 _____

Hand in Hand Global Mission Support Blog Digest

Greetings from Jamaica!

David and Mary Kuck are serving in Jamaica.

David is a lecturer at the United Theological College of the West Indies in Kingston, and Mary teaches English at the college and for the Jamaican vocational training agency. To support the Kucks, or another of the ELCAs nearly 250 missionaries, go to www.elca.org/missionarysponsorship.



Kelly & Kraig are returning students.

Dear Friends,

We are settled back in Jamaica after spending most of the summer in the U.S. Our time spent visiting churches, family and friends was refreshing. To all who provided hospitality and assistance, we say thanks. We're sorry that we couldn't visit all of you who sponsor our mission, but we hope to see you on our next summer leave.

The beginning of each academic year is challenging and exciting, as we create our new schedules and start working

with incoming students. We have a small entering class of those preparing for the ordained ministry, but the graduate programs that David coordinates continue to attract a good number of students. These graduate students come from Evangelical and Pentecostal churches as well as from the mainline denominations, so that the ecumenical nature of our institution is expanding. It's a great opportunity to help all the students explore and deepen the foundations of their faith.

Mary has been asked to take on a new project this fall. For a number of years United Theological College has had an ongoing training program for ministry to those affected by HIV and AIDS. Out of these seminars grew an outline for a handbook for pastors and other church workers to help their congregations understand HIV and AIDS and minister to those affected. In August, Mary was asked to edit and expand the outline into a full handbook. It is interesting and challenging work, involving research, getting in touch with other folks in Jamaica who are involved in HIV and AIDS work and just the difficult task of writing. You will hear about the project again when the book is finished.

For now, however, we wish you all a renewing start to the academic "New Year" with every blessing!

David and Mary

Visitor to St. Mary's



Pastor Dieter Kuchenbecker visited us on October 13th. He is pictured here flanked by Craig Fleischer, St. Mary's ELC Church Council President and "Pastor Lee".

Altar Flowers






Give glory to God by placing flowers on the altar. The flower chart is in the narthex. Sign-up today. You may place flowers in honor of someone, in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a birthday or anniversary. Thank You!

~ The Flower Committee

Live flowers are given and placed for worship services (including weddings and funerals) as an act of worship. Flowers symbolize the new life we have in Christ and are not meant to reflect anyone's taste or budget. Flowers from one's garden are just as appropriate as those from a florist.

November 2011

Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. 11 a.m. /Sunday School/Confirmation Class	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Anniversaries Robert & Kelli Scott - November 4, 1995 John & Brenda Middleton - November 5, 1988 James & Ann Pearre - November 8, 1975 James & Frances Crist - November 24, 1963 Dennis & Shirley Hare - November 30, 1969</p>		<p>1 All Saint's Day</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 </p>	<p>5 Before Bed  Set your clocks back  Eastern Standard Time Begins</p>
<p>6 All Saint's Sunday - White Revelation 7: 9 - 17 Psalm: 34: 1 - 10, 22 1 John 3: 1 - 3 Matthew 5: 1 - 12 Basket Offering - St. Dymas Prison Ministry Daylight Saving Time Ends</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Kaitlyn Powell</p>	<p>7 Arthur Wisner Roxanne Wood</p>	<p>8 Helen Wolf </p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Martin Luther's Birthday, 1483</p>	<p>11 Frances Crist Veteran's Day</p>	<p>12 Jordan Blizzard</p>
<p>13 22nd Sunday after Pentecost - Green Zephaniah 1: 7, 12 - 18 Psalm: 90: 1 - 12 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 - 11 Matthew 25: 14 - 30</p>	<p>14 Church Council Meeting - 7 p.m.</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 Newsletter Deadline - 10 a.m.</p>	<p>17 Richard Carpenter Craig Fleischer</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 11 a.m. Brunch, support Mahantesh Baburao Christ The King - White Ezekiel 34: 11 - 16, 20 - 24 Psalm: 95: 1 - 7a Ephesians 1: 15 - 23 Matthew 25: 31 - 46 Congregational Meeting Following Worship</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Sunday Bulletin Deadline - 10 am Thanksgiving Eve Service - 7:30 pm</p>	<p>24  Office Closed Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>25 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 First Sunday in Advent - Isaiah 64: 1 - 9 Psalm:80: 1 - 7, 17 - 19 1 Corinthians 1: 3 - 9 Mark 13: 24 - 37 Social Hour - Council Members</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Donald Phillips, Jr.</p>	<p>30 Doris Blickenstaff Carrie Eyer Anniversary Committee - 6:30 p.m.  Andrew, Apostle</p>	<p>Worship Helpers Acolyte: Victoria Sparacino, Anna Ruby Usher: The Wisner Family Altar Guild: Crystal Ruby / Tammy Fairbank Communion Asst.: Dwyn Fleischer</p>		