

St. Mark Lutheran Church

Elko, NV 89801

Branching Out For the Sake of the World

Your Monthly Newsletter



October
2011

277 Willow Street

(775) 738-5436

stmarkelko.com

BE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE!



www.stmarkelko.com

Worship Times
Holy Communion celebrated on the
2nd and 4th of the month at Sunday
9:00 a.m. services.

Divine Service:

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

Adult Bible Class: 10:30a.m.



Happy  Halloween



Thank You!

Thank you to all who submitted articles/reminders! The deadline for October's newsletter is October 20th. Please email, hand, or put in church mailbox your September minutes and articles to Jenette Fuller-Marilee Kuhl-or send them via church e-mail stmarkelko@frontiernet.net Any pictures (especially of congregation members) or graphics are greatly appreciated.

Your newsletter staff

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Thoughts With Pastor Hoffman



This morning as I was leading a devotion for the 4 and 5 year old preschool class, I told the children that God made the whole world. “And the stars too!” one girl sitting right in front of me protested. “Yes and the stars,” I replied. Later I repeated the phrase that God made the whole world. The girl in front of me furled her eyebrows and this time more emphatically stated, “And the stars!” She seemed very concerned that God would receive only partial credit.

I wonder how often we give God partial credit. We often credit him with the big stuff, the birth of a new child, recovery after illness, a dramatic financial turn around. It’s easy to miss out on giving credit to God for the small things as well. That bag of flour in the pantry, that was him. That little bit extra that allowed you to do that weekend away, you can thank him for that as well. Sometimes it’s easiest to see that God provides everything when we have very little.

During my first six months as a missionary in Taiwan my living stipend was 12,000 Taiwan Dollars a month. That may sound like a lot but it works out to about \$400. I was nearly flat broke at the end

of every month. My only mode of transportation was a too-small bicycle and one of my weekly Chinese classes was in another town about 9 miles away. Suddenly every small thing was a blessing, like when I was given a few dollars to put new brakes on the bike. After I was sent to Taipei to begin my service I got a raise to 17,000 Taiwan Dollars/mo (\$566) and man did I feel rich! I cherish that time in my life because it helped me to see how everything I had was provided by God.



Music Time!



Choir rehearsals will resume soon.

*Please watch the bulletin for details-
-and consider adding your voice to
the choir! Thanks - Sharon*





So next time you feel that you may be giving God only partial credit in your life, just remember that He made the whole world... and the stars too!



News From the Library

We're coming up on October and every good Lutheran knows what that means.....Reformation Sunday. When was the last time you delved into Luther's Small Catechism? We have new catechisms and one very old one that I happened to come across in my personal library from 1927 along with a very old Lutheran hymnal from 1912. Come and take a look.

When it comes to learning about Luther and his life, we have several books dedicated to his life story. Martin Luther by May McNeer and Lynd Ward is an excellent book for our young readers to check out while our newest edition on Luther's life, Life of Luther by Barnas Sears, D.D., was originally published in 1850 and the British spellings and formatting of the text have been kept as they were in the original book.

Have you ever been curious what it was that Luther posted on the church door way back on October 31, 1517? Now you can check out the small "handout" book from our library and read Luther's ninety-five Theses for yourself.

And we wouldn't want to forget Luther's one and only love in his life, Katherine. In Kitty, My Rib by E. Jane Mall you can read the heartwarming story of a woman of courage and devotion.



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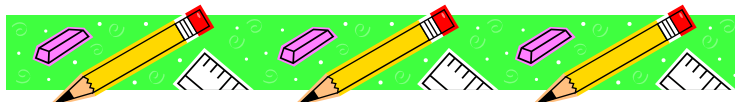
School News

Cheerful House fundraiser is underway! Product brochures and order forms are located in the rear of the sanctuary.

Looking for a reasonable gift?

Try a \$10.00 calendar to help our school. To purchase, see Deb.

Your help is greatly appreciated.



Library Continued

So many good books to read but what's that you say, you're too tired at the end of your long work day to read? How about watching the DVD Luther starring Joseph Fiennes? Yes, it is available to check out from our church library!

The above books and movie are just a few of the growing Christian books the St Mark Lutheran Church Library has to offer. Stop by the library cart on your way out of the Church next Sunday and "check it out".



SALAMIS DUPREY

LWML NEWS

This is the LWML annual Ladies Night Out. We will be holding the event on Monday, October 17th, 6:00 p.m. at Luciano's restaurant which is located at 351 Silver Street. The theme this year is "Times to Pause" and there will be a couple of guest speakers and door prizes for those in attendance.

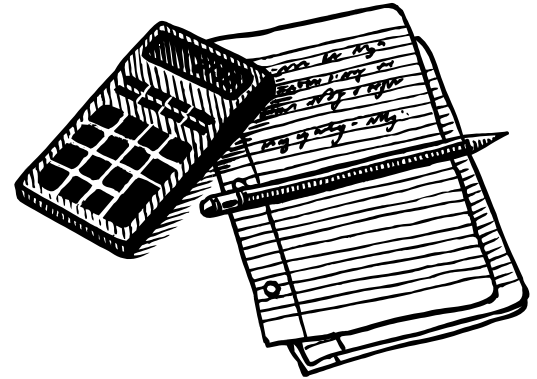
All women of St. Mark Lutheran are welcome. To sign up look for the sheet to be posted in October or contact Julie Pennell at church or by cell at 397-0267.

Our local Thrivent for Lutheran's chapter has granted us \$500 towards our event so depending upon how many sign up we will use this amount towards the bill.

(The cost of the meal is \$18.00 plus tax and gratuity and includes salad, appetizers, main course, dessert, soda, iced tea or coffee!) Hope that you will mark this evening on your calendar and come "Pause" with us!



MINUTES



SMLC Council

8-8 Minutes

Meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Chuck.

Minutes from July meeting, previously reviewed and approved via email, were unanimously accepted into the record.

Treasurer's report: Unanimously approved.

Financial Secretary: no report

Christian Ed:

Parochial board chair will now be reporting to the board on a monthly basis.

54 Kids signed up for Sunday school rally, plus postcards are going out to former preschool and VBS students.

Confirmation structure and plans: discussion.

Structure of SS idea is to include older children mentor/assist younger kids so that they can still be involved and may become interested in teaching in the future.

Have 5 teachers and a bible story person already signed up to help. List of teachers needed is full, along with a great list of substitutes.

Preschool:

Enough kids are registered to occupy 4 classes, MWF 4-5 yr olds plus T-TH -4 yr olds, two classes each.

Trustee Report:

Lots of work going on, ongoing projects making progress. Swamp coolers, rain gutters, weed removal, sprinkler system continued improvement & maintenance,

Council recognized Glen Santi for the beautiful lawn out front. It is greener this year than it has been in recent memory, thanks to Glen's direction and effort.

Approval was sought for the purchase/rental of an edger, addition of a valve for winterizing the sprinkler system.

Roof in new addition needs sealing in many areas.

In the back where the blacktop meets the treated lumber should be sealed & flashing installed to prevent water seepage. Ice/water buildup in this area is a problem in the winter. Many windows in the church need to be replaced, they cannot open or fall in when opened.

TRUSTEE WISH LIST, a la Glen Santi:

Parsonage: New timer for sprinkler system for more zones needs to be purchased. Another zone will be added to back yard for proper coverage. With the possibility of need sod in front of French doors. New roof in 3-5 years. Insulation improvements for attic and floor joists. Ductwork underneath the house should be replaced and insulated.

Church Lawn: One more line in center section needs to be replaced due to breakage from the tree. This will complete the repairs to the sprinkler system in front of the Sanctuary and Parish Hall areas.

Lawns in general: More fertilizer needs to be purchased.

Sanctuary: Furnaces should be replaced soon, this could include central air, as the swamp cooler is rusted through and should also be replaced.

Dale Clarke reported that Don Capp and Leah Hunsaker helped him work on the preschool playground so that it has a canopy to comply with state requirements, a sprinkler system and they also relocated gravel to even the area out.

Cooperation (financial and otherwise) between the church and the preschool on real estate enhancements of any type was discussed.

WARM BODIES NEEDED! Sunday August 21st breakfast burritos will be served to all able bodies to move parsonage furniture and old carpet in order to prepare for the new carpet installation on Monday the 22nd.

Pastors Report

Pastor's current focus is on his sermons and getting to know all of us. His goal is to meet with each of us by the end of next year. He is also working on developing children's messages to be delivered on non-communion Sundays. Adult bible study starts on the 28th of August. Mid week bible study is also under development, and it will have a different structure than the Sunday bible study. Ministry ideas include men's ministry, youth events, etc. For now, the fundamentals are a primary focus. Regarding the transforming for mission report from Pastor Ted and his team, Pastor Hoffman has studied the prescription and is still evaluating how to proceed. The structure, schedule, and requirements of confirmation are also under development. Ideas about how to engage youth in different ways were discussed.

Old Business:

Hymnal purchases: we have \$1,000 in a hymnal fund, and the costs will be \$2,000. Motion to purchase new hymnals, debiting the general fund for the overage, was made and passed.

Stephen ministry: Pastor brought full info to council for this. The fee to have the congregation join Stephen ministry is \$1700, then we pay \$4000 to train two Stephen Ministry leaders, who then train 15-25 lay care ministers from among the congregation. Pastor is not confident that his first year is the appropriate time to launch this initiative, but believes in this ministry.

Phone System update: The necessity for an improved phone system discussion has been tabled.

Carpeting in the preschool/fellowship hall: This has been discussed @ the preschool board level; this item will be carried forward to next month.

New Business:

Pastor updated the website. He has located a professional that will work as a consultant to get our website up & running in a polished, professional manner. This gentleman would charge \$50 per hour.

Motion was made and passed approving 15 hours of work on developing the website. Since we no longer employ an IT tech at \$235/month as we have in the past, these funds will not negatively affect our budget.

Discussion regarding the need for fiscal control policies prior to budgeting season. Pastor, Dale, & President Hill will work together to develop the scope and structure of an ad-hoc committee for this purpose, and then populate the committee by the next council meeting.

WHO, WHAT, WHEN list

Tana will contact Home Depot regarding structure, signatories, etc on the Home Depot charge account. DUE next meeting.

Tana will make contact with Frontier and negotiate ways to reduce telephone cost. DUE next meeting.

Dale will call Helen re: windows. DUE by 8-15.

The trustees will come to the next meeting with a plan for reviewing all service contracts and posting/renewing them.

Summer will get a new IT person to review the current setup and close the security loopholes by August 25th.

Summer will call Ralph Paoli, John Byers, and Julie Pennell regarding committee membership by August 15th.

Pastor, Dale, & Jason will form a new ad hoc financial committee that will be ready to begin conducting business by the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING September 19th at 7:00 PM.



Halloween Trick or Treat

Safety Tips

Travel in groups - never alone

Carry a flashlight and wear reflective clothing

Have adult check "treats" before eating

Plan route with parents

Have Fun!

Preschool Board Meeting

August 8, 2011

Present: Pasto Hoffman, Charlotte Schneider, Cari Anderson, Jenette Fuller, Diana DuBois, Dayna Kottwitz, Deb Clarke, Kristi Kraft

Opened with a prayer by Pastor Hoffman.

Motion was made and approved to accept minutes with spelling corrections.

Financial Report given by Charlotte Schneider, motion to accept report as read was moved and seconded. The motion carried.

Director's report given by Deb Clarke

The $\frac{3}{4}$ year old class has 20 students, with a possible 2 more from phone messages. The $\frac{4}{5}$ year old class had 25 signed up. The board recommends going for two $\frac{4}{5}$ year old classes and two $\frac{3}{4}$ year old classes.

Deb was interviewed for Elko television. She will be interviewed by the newspaper next week.

Fundraisers for the coming year will include calendars, Cheerful House and Christmas Wreath's. Deb will order 2 cases of calendars, which will be sold for \$10 each.

State Training will be August 15th through the 19th at GBC. Each teacher, assistant teacher and the Director need 25 hours of training every year.

Parent Orientation will be at 6:00 p.m. on August 17. Toy Wash is August 23 at 10:30 am. Open House will be August 24. The carpet will be cleaned August 26. Classes will begin August 29 for the MWF class, and August 30 for the T/ TH class.

Shirts will be bought from Eagle Eye Embroidery at a cost of \$13.98 each.

Cards should be sent to Don Capp, Dale Clarke, and Leah Hunsaker for all their work and support, and the congregation for their support.

New Business

Preschool Budget: The Revised #2 Budget was moved and accepted.

Preschool Books need to be audited. Dayna will find an auditor.

Money has been approved for the Preschool Budget (Building Reserve) for replacing the carpet, along with funds from the congregation. Preschool will share in the cost.

The next Preschool Board Meeting will be scheduled for 5:30 on the same day in September that Church Council will meet.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.