

August 2010

## Pastor's Pen

### **STICKS AND STONES MAY BREAK OUR BONES BUT LOCKS AND KEYS CAN'T PROTECT US!**



Though we may feel very secure in our homes and church, the reality is that we still live in a flawed, sinful world. We perceive that we are physically secure because we lock our doors, live on a cul-de-sac, or have a barking dog or an alarm system. But sometimes even locked doors are prone to failure. We are finishing up the new locks at the church because a set of keys were taken this past year. We, as a congregation, were awoken to the reality of our situation and acted to change the locks at the church. We have begun the distribution of the keys for the new locks on the church doors, but we must remember that our feelings of security can be skewed. If you have the responsibility of holding onto a set of church keys, please understand that this responsibility comes with certain expectations. No one is to make duplicates of the keys (the keys even say to not make duplicates) unless authorized by the pastor or the church council. We are not to give or loan our keys to people that are not members of MLLC. At this point, if you would like to apply for a set of keys, please complete an application form in the Church Office. These new and more secure keys and locks also come with them a new financial obligation that has been picked up by the general budget, a purchase we hope to avoid in the future. I am compelled to go on about this topic at length because there are people that will intentionally target the church for theft or vandalism. We want to see the good in all people. We want to help all people, both others and ourselves. Jesus said, "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves" (Mt. 10:16). I pray that you will take this responsibility seriously with me.

### **Coming Attractions!**

The **Cub Scout's Religious Award**, which is called God and Family, will be offered for any boys in the 4th and 5th grades. The classes will meet at the church before services from August 8-29, and you should speak with Mike Ellis if you want to be part of this program.

**Spirit Fest** will be on September 12th this year! We will have music, activities, and vending booths. We hope that you can tell your friends about this great event and invite them to attend. If you would like to help, then please speak with Nancy Demorest!

Is there a member of your family interested in taking communion for the first time? We will have a **first Communion Class** after the services on September 12th and 19th. These classes are intended to be family events, so parents are encouraged to attend as well.

**Rally Day** is also going to be on September 12th! We will kick off the school year with introductory Sunday School classes and a servant fair. If you are part of a ministry or group at MLLC, then please talk with Rev. Hans about getting a table for the servant fair to talk with people about joining your ministry.

Are you interested in becoming an official member of Martin Luther Lutheran Church? We will have our **new members class** start on September 26th after the church service. We will welcome the new members to MLLC at the beginning of service on October 24th. Please speak with Rev. Hans if you are interested in joining!

**Stephen ministry training** consists of 20 weekly sessions of 2.5 hours each. The cost of the training and training materials are \$50. If you have any questions or are interested in attending classes, contact Karolyn Ellis at 765-5982

MARTIN LUTHER LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Visions

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## MLLC Church Picnic

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We are reviving a church tradition here at MLLC! We will have our church picnic on August 15th after the service. This year will be a potluck picnic, and we are asking that people or families bring food to share. Please feel to bring games to share with others. We will have a bean bag toss game and extra games from Paul. You may bring a blanket or lawn chairs to sit on the grass during the games. This event is for the general fun of the congregation. We always welcome friends, family, and guests to join us for these fun events, so bring someone with you!

## Give-A-Meal-A-Month

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Canned Meat    Baked Beans  
Peaches        Jell-o  
Any School Supplies

School starts on August 18<sup>th</sup> this year. Please bring your school supply donations early in the month. Janice will take the food and school supplies to Lee's Summit Social services. Questions-Janice Crance 816-525-6149



### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Special Election of Council Members  
July 11, 2010 – 11:15 A.M.  
Unapproved

The meeting was called to order by Bob Crance, Council President.

The purpose of the meeting was to elect new council members to fill the terms of the four council members who had their terms extended through June, 2010. The four are: Ramona Miller, Bob Crance, Rick Drake and Debbie Stone.

There were 55 members of MLLC attending the meeting. The quorum for the vote is 20.

The Nominating Committee, made up of Bob Crance, Ramona Miller and Mike Fischer, found four candidates to present to the congregation. One of those candidates made a decision to withdraw at this time. The remaining nominees were: Melinda Dawley, Ron Henke and Travis Olson.

Bob Boone made a motion to approve the nominees by a show of hands. George Bright seconded the motion. Bob Crance called for the voters present to raise their hands if they were in favor of accepting each of the nominees. The result was a substantial majority YES vote. The new Council members will be in their positions through December, 2011.

The Nominating Committee will continue to work on finding a candidate for the remaining empty Council seat and will make a recommendation to the Council. The council will determine whether to fill the remaining position by appointment or by congregation vote.

The Church Council will elect new officers at the July 18<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Nancy Demorest

# Ministry Spotlight



## Stephen Ministry

### **What is Stephen Ministry?**

Stephen Ministry is grounded in Jesus' command to love one another. People who are hurting receive the love and care they need for support through one-to-one caring relationships.

- Is life more than you can handle alone right now?
- Are your health, your attitude, or your relationships suffering?
- Are you adjusting to a new job, change in marital status, a serious illness, the death of a loved one, or a recent move?
- Would you like to have someone in your life who really cares?

Everyone goes through difficult times. Having someone to care, to listen, and to share God's love with you can help you get through the confusion, stress, or loneliness you may be experiencing.

### **What is a Stephen Minister?**

#### **A Stephen Minister IS...**

A child of God who walks beside a person who is hurting; a caring Christian friend who takes the time to really listen; a lay person who has received 50 hours of training in how to provide distinctively Christian care.

#### **A Stephen Minister is NOT...**

A counselor or therapist; A problem-solver; A casual visitor

### **What are the needs with which Stephen Ministry can help?**

#### **We help those who are...**

Hospitalized, Terminally Ill, Bereaved, In a job crisis, Disabled, Homebound, Lonely, New church members, In a spiritual crisis, Looking for a caring, Christian friend.

### **How exactly does the referrals process work?**

- (1) A person – either you, a relative, or a friend – is hurting and in need of Christian care.
- (2) The Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator learns about this need for care from a Pastor, a friend, or from the person in need of care. Only after the person in need of care has granted permission does the coordinator assign a Stephens Minister to help.

If you are interested, check out the Coming Attractions article in this issue of Visions for information on how to become a Stephen Minister.

# Worship Leader Schedule

<b>Lay Assistants</b>	
August 1	Christyn Koschmann
August 8	Nancy Suske
August 15	Kathy Jenkins
August 22	Melinda Dawley
August 29	Melinda Dawley
September 5	<b>Open</b>

<b>Altar Guild</b>	
August 1	<b>Open</b>
August 8	<b>Open</b>
August 15	Leeann Juncker
August 22	<b>Open</b>
August 29	<b>Open</b>
September 5	<b>Open</b>

<b>Acolytes</b>	
August 1	<b>Open</b>
August 8	Caleb Ellis
August 15	<b>Open</b>
August 22	<b>Open</b>
August 29	<b>Open</b>
September 5	<b>Open</b>

<b>Ushers</b>	
August 1	The Mike Ellis Family
August 8	The Mike Ellis Family
August 15	The Del Johnson Family
August 22	The Del Johnson Family
August 29	The Henke Family
September 5	The Henke Family

<b>Greeters</b>	
August 1	<b>Open</b>
August 8	<b>Open</b>
August 15	<b>Open</b>
August 22	<b>Open</b>
August 29	<b>Open</b>
September 5	Holiday

<b>Doorstep</b>	
August 1	<b>Open</b>
August 8	<b>Open</b>
August 15	<b>Open</b>
August 22	<b>Open</b>
August 29	<b>Open</b>
September 5	Holiday

## Jolly Trolley

The Jolly Trolley is a group of people committed to helping those members no longer able to drive to come to Church service weekly. Each family takes one week a month to bring members to church. We have the 4th Sunday and the occasional 5th Sunday open for anyone who is interested in being apart of this. Please contact Celia at the church office for more details. (816) 524-2540

<b>Jolly Trolley</b>	
August 1	The Demorest Family
August 8	The Jenkins Family
August 15	The Bauman Family
August 22	Dee Fuelling
August 29	<b>Open</b>
September 5	The Demorest Family

# August 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 10 am Service	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 12 pm Pastoral text Study 7 pm NA Mtg	<b>4</b> 10 am Bible Study 1 pm Picnic Planning	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9 am Cub Scout God & Family Mtg. 10 am Service	<b>9</b> 7 pm Thrivent Mtg	<b>10</b> 7 pm NA Mtg	<b>11</b> 10 am Bible Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 8 am Work Day/ Picnic set up
<b>15</b> 9 am Cub Scout God & Family Mtg. 10 am Service Church Potluck Picnic	<b>16</b> 	<b>17</b> 7 pm NA Mtg	<b>18</b> <i>NS School starts</i> 10 am Bible Study	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <i>Relaxer Sunday</i> 9 am Cub Scout God & Family Mtg. 10 am Service 7 pm Youth Movie Night	<b>23</b> 	<b>24</b> 7 pm NA Mtg	<b>25</b> 10 am Bible Study	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8 am Work Day
<b>29</b> 9 am Cub Scout God & Family Mtg. 10 am Service	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 7 pm NA Mtg				



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*"We welcome all people to our faith community. We call each other to grow in love, faith, and understanding of our spiritual gifts. We go out to be disciples with our unique gifts to share the grace of Jesus Christ."*

**We're on the Web!**  
**mlchurch.org**

## Wedding Anniversaries

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Todd & Brenda Dominik	8/1
Paul & Janis Krey	8/8
Gary & Gail Wesselschmidt	8/11
Aric & Shellie Weingartner	8/14
Willard & Shellie Larson	8/18
Ray & Sandy Seidelman	8/18
Jim & Renee Pierson	8/20
Bill & Joan Nixon	8/22
Breezy & Audrey Breezawitz	8/25

## August's Birthdays

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Jonathan Crance	8/1
Sheila Drake	8/2
Doug Burrell	8/6
Juanita Lanham	8/8
Cathy DeBortoli	8/9
Chris Owens	8/10
Max Janke	8/11
Shelby Fuhrman	8/14
Tyler Fuhrman	8/14
Kalynn Burrell	8/17
Kay Collison	8/18
Emily Purnell	8/25
Connor Henderson	8/26
Norma Cook	8/30
Mary Jarvis	8/30
Leeann Juncker	8/30