

# Messenger



Dear Friend of MacArthur Park Lutheran Church and School,

Is Pope Francis a closet Lutheran? What do you think? So much of what he says sounds Lutheran, though some of the vocabulary may vary a bit.

We are now in a year the pope calls the “Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy.” Many Catholic parishes are having special prayers and several in the San Antonio area have designated special doors to enter their sanctuaries on certain days of the current year.

Mercy is a major theme for Pope Francis. What the pontiff calls mercy sounds very much like what Lutherans call gospel.

Pope Francis, while not changing Catholic laws, is asking Catholics to promote acceptance over punishment. He is trying to change the tone of the Catholic Church and make the church less condemning of people.

In Lutheran circles, we would say he is trying to emphasize gospel over law. The law is not abolished, but the good news of the gospel is emphasized as Lutherans also try to be less condemning of people.

The purpose statement of MacArthur Park is a statement of mercy.

Live the Gospel is about living in the grace of God. Change the World is about creating a better world by practicing love.

When grace and love are put together, we experience God’s mercy.

In our day, mercy is in short supply as too many associate Christianity with rigid rules and lack of hospitality to those who are different. The current political campaign is not helping the cause of Christianity when so many “Christian candidates” say hateful things and in their positions oppose the teachings of so many historic churches.

I hope the Catholic Church is strengthened by the Extraordinary Year of

Mercy and I hope our congregation is strengthened every year as we try to show mercy to those we meet.

I also hope we will continue to live into our purpose statement – a statement which is serving us well.

Peace,  
Pastor Paul

  
*But the wisdom  
that comes from heaven  
is first of all pure;  
then peace-loving,  
considerate,  
submissive,  
full of mercy  
& good fruit,  
impartial & sincere.*  
*James 3:17*

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## MacArthur Park Lutheran School

April is a busy month at the school. We will be hosting our last big fundraiser of the year, as well as our annual Fiesta event. Both events are planned to be a great time.

April 1 is a spaghetti supper and shopping event. The school will be selling spaghetti plates and vendors will be set-up for your shopping convenience. Tickets for the meal are \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Plates include spaghetti and meatballs, salad, breadstick, a brownie and drink. There will be dining in the fireside room as well as "take-out". We hope you will come have dinner and support our vendors. Help with cooking, serving, set-up, and clean-up will be appreciated. Please watch for sign-up sheets or contact the school office to volunteer.

Our annual Fiesta event will be

Thursday, April 21 at 5:00 pm. We will be having a parade followed by a "mininiosa". Tickets and details will be announced as the date grows closer.



Our annual rummage sale is set for the end of September. While we do gladly accept donations, please be aware that staff and personnel are only available during business hours (Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.). We can try to accommodate other times but since these are not regular work hours staff is not always available. Please call the office in advance so that we can try to make accommodations if you need to drop items off at other times.

We are looking forward to a great and busy month! Please watch the bulletin, and e-mails with information as the event grows closer. —MPLS staff

**BUILDING TASK FORCE UPDATE:** The building task force met on Monday March 28, 2016 at 7:00 pm. The following is a summary of Monday's meeting:

1. The group narrowed the choice of designers to 2 companies: Structura and Boden.
2. A timetable was set for April and May:
  - a. On April 11, 2016, the task force will conduct 30 minute interviews with each company.
  - b. On April 18, 2016, the task force will hold a forum to discuss the information that was learned from the interviews. This is opened to the congregation and those who are interested are invited to attend. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm in the Fireside Rm.
3. On May 15, 2016, a congregational meeting will be held to select the company to begin the Mac Park building project. This will be a congregational vote. The time and place will be set in the April council meeting.
4. Main items discussed in the meeting:
  - a. Review proposals to select companies to interview.
  - b. Contact the Building Financial Task force to complete their group in advance of information needed for funding of the project.
  - c. A discussion of "renovate" or "build new". We will know more after we select a design company.
  - d. The need to add a person familiar with building codes, construction, bonding etc.
5. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm. ~Bill Sweda, Task Force member

# BECAUSE OF GOD'S GREAT MERCY



*a stewardship program for our congregation*

“Because of God’s Great Mercy” is the title of our stewardship emphasis this year. The scriptural basis of this focus on our stewardship of all that God has entrusted into our care is I Peter 2:9, “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness and into his marvelous light.”

We begin by proclaiming all that God has done for us, hence the title “Because of God’s Great Mercy.” God has made us God’s own people. We will also consider how generous giving is an important part of every Christian’s life, and how our combined generosity can make even greater things possible through our congregation.

We will think together about how our giving to MacArthur Park Lutheran Church is an important part of our Christian faith, and how Mac Park uses our offerings to do God’s work within the congregation’s walls, in our community, and around the world.

“Because of God’s Great Mercy” will ask you to do two things. First, you will be asked to increase your giving to MacArthur Park Lutheran Church by at least ½ of 1% of your household income. Second, you will be asked to consider using an automatic funds transfer program that we already have in place for your giving.

“Because of God’s Great Mercy” will use mail, e-mail, and time in worship to share information with you. Please make a special effort to watch for material during this important time in our congregation’s life.

Yours in Christ,  
Beth Borstad, Inviting Chair, MacArthur Park Lutheran Church Council

## Shopping and Spaghetti MacArthur Park Lutheran School

- ◆ Event Date: Friday, April 1, 2016  
4:00p.m.-8:00p.m.
- ◆ Shopping and a meal
- ◆ Adult tickets are \$7.00, Children tickets are \$5.00
- ◆ Come and go as you please



For more information call 822-5374  
or

email [macparkschool@satx.rr.com](mailto:macparkschool@satx.rr.com)

All proceeds from the meal will benefit  
MacArthur Park Lutheran School



### **VENDORS NEEDED FOR THE SHOPPING PORTION**

- ◆ Reserve your table today!
- ◆ \$35.00 per table
- ◆ Great way to promote your product to the community
- ◆ Keep all your profits!
- ◆ Contact information same as above

*MacArthur Park Lutheran School is a non-profit organization*

## *Congregation Council Meeting Minutes ~ March 15, 2016*

In Attendance: Suzette Price, Maureen Folkerts, Robin Bullington, Beth Borstad, Abel Flores, Pastor Ziese, Paige & Charles Marg, Renee Staul (via phone)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with a video study and discussion. The group reaffirmed its commitment to the purpose statement and guiding principles.

### Actions:

- Minutes of the February, 2016 Congregational Council meetings were approved as printed.
- A written financial report was received from Treasurer Maureen Folkerts. February was behind by \$2797.21 for the month and behind by \$25,890.89 for the year. MPLC School was ahead by \$6125.71 for the month and ahead by \$34,814.39 for the year.
- Pastoral Acts – Marriage of Charles Duwane Krigbaum and Joel Madison Price
- Pastor Heather Hansen's housing allowance was revised to \$28,850.00. This was approved with a motion by Pastor Ziese and a second by Maureen Folkerts.
- A donation of \$100.00 will be given to LEAD and will come out of account 5199 (Miscellaneous benevolence fund). This was approved with a motion by Robin Bullington and a second by Abel Flores.

### Discussions:

- God's Work. Our Hands. will be on September 11, 2016
- Pastor Ziese reported that there should be a meeting for the ushers and greeters regarding guns in the sanctuary. Bill Sweda will organize the meeting. Abel Flores will look into Mac Park possibly being a sanctuary for immigrants.
- Equipping Chair Bill Sweda presented a written report. The school currently has 18 enrolled for the 2016-2017 school year.
- Inviting Chair Beth Borstad reported that the stewardship program "Because of God's Great Mercy" will begin in March.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Bullington  
Congregation Council Secretary

## **Mac Park sends quilts and kits** **Lutheran World Relief helps families**

Lutheran World Relief is a ministry of U.S. Lutherans, serving communities living in poverty overseas, according to its website.

One way that MacArthur Park Lutheran Church supports Lutheran World Relief is by making quilts and assembling baby care kits and personal care kits.

This year Mac Park is sending 368 pounds of items to the local drop off site at Texas Lutheran University. Pastor Heather Hansen will be delivering 26 boxes containing 30 quilts, 122 personal care kits and 48 baby care kits. Several groups and individuals including the Mac Park quilters, the women's group, Pastor Lynn Ziese, Dorothy Ziese and the San Antonio Florida State University alumni group participated in preparing those items.

For families who have lost everything due to a natural disaster or violence, small items of comfort — a warm quilt, a bar of soap, a set of pencils — let them know someone across the sea cares.

Lutheran World Relief is known for the efficient and economical way it distributes the quilts and kits.

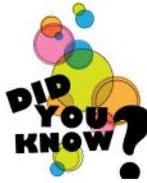


### *News Around Mac Park and Our Community*

**Our Christian sympathy** is extended to Woody Browning and family on the death of his wife Mary Catherine on March 14; to Maggie Rath and family on the death of her grandmother; to Evelyn Hicks on the death of her mother Dorothy Malvitz; to Jennifer Hoxie and family on the death of her father Dr. Frank Giesber; and to Pastor Nelson and Myriam Velázquez on the death of his mother in Florida.

**Thank you** (from February) — “Thank you, thank you for all the prayers for me during and after my hospital stay. I know God was near and providing excellent care for me, and healing is moving along. Each day is a gift and I know it was because of all the prayers on my behalf. My family and I appreciate you, all our church family, and pray God’s blessings on all of you. Sincerely, Bjorn Dybdahl”

**From Vanco Simply Giving:** In our survey, 60% of respondents told us they favor e-Giving because it’s convenient and their churches benefit from consistent revenue. But they also told us they enjoy the satisfaction that comes from taking part in traditional giving and don’t want to miss out. Giving money to charitable organizations leads to the greatest happiness when it has a social connection. That’s why 39% of our respondents who prefer electronic options at church also strongly identified with “liking the feeling of giving when the plate is passed.” Whether or not your members give online, they can still take part in community giving at services. ‘I Give Electronically’ cards for e-Givers is a way to combine the convenience of technology with the satisfaction of social giving.



Making a stewardship pledge is very helpful to the Finance Committee as it prepares the spending plan for MacArthur Park Lutheran Church for 2016-2017. Just as in family finance, knowing what income is coming in helps to better plan for the year.

The MacArthur Park Lutheran Church and School financial year runs from Sept. 1-Aug. 31.

**By: Suzette Price**

According to the March 2016 issue of the Thrivent Magazine: It may sound like a Bible verse, but it's not. "God helps those who help themselves." is actually credited to Aesop (the Greek storyteller known for his fables) and Benjamin Franklin.

MacArthur Park Lutheran Church member **Robin Bullington** volunteers every Tuesday afternoon at CAM (Christian Assistance Ministry.) She says CAM is always in need of more volunteers!

The Lenten meal offerings for the five Wednesdays totaled \$504.00. The offerings help the youth attend the Disciple Project and confirmation camp.

**From RAICES (Refugee & Immigrant Center for Education & Legal Services):** "On behalf of RAICES, I wish to express our sincere appreciation for the donation received in the amount of \$105. Your generous gift helps to support the efforts of RAICES in providing free legal services to immigrants and refugees who might otherwise be unable to afford representation. Thank you for your kindness. Kind regards, Jonathan D. Ryan, Executive Director"



**From Lutheran Campus Ministry:** "Thank you for your kind and generous donation of \$500 to Lutheran Campus Ministry! That helps us provide about 3 home-cooked dinners for 20 students. Potentially, you've touched the lives of 60 college students! God bless you all, Tia Adams"

**From CAM (Christian Assistance Ministry):** "Thank you so much for your recent gift of \$1,000 to CAM! Every dollar counts towards our ministry, making it possible for CAM to serve over 50,000 people on an annual basis for 39 years. As you may already know or are just now noticing, our logo has changed. The wheat next to our name is new to CAM. So why wheat? The wheat logo references our commitment to sharing and caring for all of those in need by feeding them, clothing them, by providing financial assistance and by feeding their soul through grace and love. Historically most people planted, harvested and broke bread together for the betterment of their community. Today many of us work and gather our harvest in a variety of ways. Sharing our bounty with others is still incredibly important. Thank you and your church for making that possible. As always, keep us and those we serve in your prayers. Sincerely, Dawn White-Fosdick, Executive Director"



# PUZZLE

## A SPECIAL GIFT

Give thanks to God for this amazing planet, which he filled with people, animals and plants.

*Directions: Following the code below, fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse. Then color the earth.*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



The \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_, and  
 \_\_\_\_\_, the  
 \_\_\_\_\_, and  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 24:1, NIV

Answer: The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it, Psalm 24:1, NIV

# SHAVING CREAM EARTH

God created this wonderful world and told us to care for it. Remember that by making a unique painting.



**What you need:**

- A cookie sheet
- White shaving cream
- A wooden craft stick
- Paint (blue and green)
- A straw
- A paper plate

**What you do:**

1. On the cookie sheet, spray shaving cream in a circle (the same size as the bottom of the paper plate). Smooth it out with the craft stick.
2. Squirt the blue and green paint on top of the shaving cream in loopy, squiggly patterns. Swirl the paint around with the straw.
3. Place the bottom of the paper plate on top of the paint. Press it down gently so the whole plate bottom is covered in paint.
4. Lift up the plate and gently remove excess shaving cream with the stick.
5. After the painting dries, hang it on your wall.

## Stitches from the Quilters



### **Quilter “Dude” of the Month: Bob Hunt (Part II)**

What’s going on here, Bob. Well, Bob tells me that some years back, St. Mary’s Hall would allow boys in the first and second grades. I guess the powers that be didn’t want to take a chance on older boys. Oh well, he later transferred to Ben Franklin Elementary. He spent the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades in Redeemer Lutheran and Agnes Cotton Elementary Schools. He went to Mark Twain in Jr. High School and graduated from Jefferson High School in 1954. (See May for Part III)



**“Care Coordinator”:** Here we see Pat Richmond giving Betty Pomykal—the new Care Coordinator some of the “Kumfert Kwilts” for the people from the church who are ill. Great going—Betty!!!!



### **“Lady Lorraine” Quilt**

I want to remind you that there are only two more months until this quilt is given away!!! There is now \$1,520 in the “kitty” Make sure your name is in the drawing!



### **“Bernice Raney’s Double Wedding Ring Quilt”:**

Here I am with my grandson. It gives us pleasure to work on a quilt from a former church member.



### **“Omey Mae Couffer’s Quilt”:**

This is the next quilt to go on the frame. Dale and Carol Couffer donated this quilt. It was one that Dale’s mother made and the funds are requested to go to the Mac Park School. Pat Richmond and I decided to use one of the quilting templates that Cathy Browning donated years ago to the quilters. It will be gorgeous, and I am looking forward to quilting it, because I know Dale Couffer and Cathy Browning.

*Yours in Christ,  
Mary Alice Rupard*

## "Post"-ings from the Stamp Group

April 1, 2016 – NO meeting

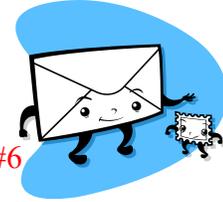
April 2, 2016: 9:30 a.m. – Saturday Bourse – small bourse - Bldg #6

April 8, 2016 – Auction – Come get some great bargains

April 15, 2016 – Bourse – Philatelic Flea Market – Come buy, sell and trade

April 22, 2016 – Program – (See program notes)

April 29, 2016 – Bourse – An extra time this month to get some good bargains



### *Program Notes ~ April 15, 2016 ~ "Railroad Covers" By George Garten*

George tells me that his presentation will include Railway Post Offices (RPO), First Day Covers and event covers with historical information from train magazines, *The Journal of the Philatelic Americans* and other publications. It will also include worldwide train covers and stamps but mainly the focus will be on USA railroads.

George has presented programs in the past that were very interesting and informative. George, we are expecting the same quality of program this time.

*Yours in Philately, Pat Richmond*



**Lutheran Campus Ministry in San Antonio's  
4TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
**Saturday, May 21 at Northern Hills Golf Club**  
8:00 am Check-In ~ 8:30 am Tee Time  
\$95 includes golf, lunch, donation to LMCSA  
Registration deadline is Friday, May 13. To register,  
contact Tia Adams, Lutheran Campus Ministry Director  
tadams@zionsa.org or 210-688-3090

**THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL JON'S RUN** will be held on **Sat., May 7** at Wheatley Heights Sports Complex. Although named for our first son who died in April of 2002 of SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome), this event honors the lives of all children who have died from any cause. Funds raised make this event possible and support SIDS research and prevention. For more info and to register or make a donation, please visit [www.jonsrun.com](http://www.jonsrun.com) and join "Team Jon" or form a team of your own. If you have questions, contact us at 210/920-0566 or [jonsrun@jonsrun.com](mailto:jonsrun@jonsrun.com). We are excited that Jon's Run, Ltd. will be a part of The Big Give SA so please consider supporting us on May 3<sup>rd</sup>! ~Blessings, Melissa, David, James, and Sam ~ Jon's Family



## RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Service	Feb 28	Mar 6	Mar 13	Mar 20	Mar 27	TOTAL
8:30am	72	166	86	74	Easter	398
10:45am	82	75	82	107	only 10am 239	585
Offering	\$5,560.26	\$7,448.78	\$3,312.00	\$3,090.45	\$4,058.10	\$23,469.59
Sunday School	26	No SS— School reception	20	21	No SS	67

Wed., 2/24: attendance 60; offering \$302.58  
 Wed., 3/2: attendance 51; offering \$306.59  
 Wed., 3/9: attendance 42; offering \$163.00

Wed., 3/16: attendance 33; offering \$117.00  
 Thu., 3/24: attendance 36; offering \$309.00  
 Fri., 3/25: attendance 63; offering \$298.00

### PRAYER REQUESTS

**Please pray for the following:**

Dale Beaver, Jr., Fred Beaver, Randy Bierdermann (Randal Shook's step father), Rhea Clouse, Evelyn Garza, Dorothy Imig, Dewey Johnson, Ryan Nunn, James Peters, Jonathan Petrutsas, Carlo Reyes, and David VanLydegraf.

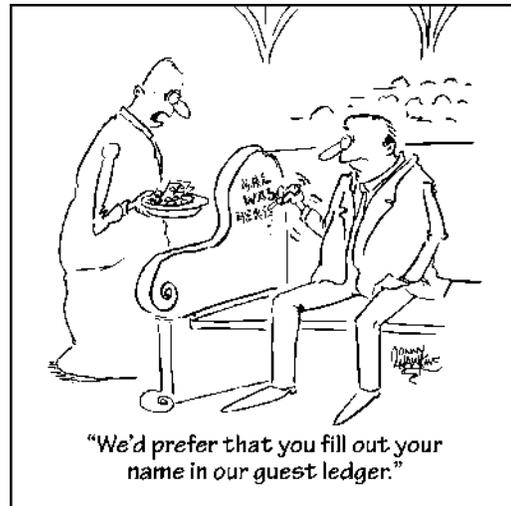
Family and friends of Catherine Browning, Maggie Rath's grandmother, Evelyn Hicks' mother, and mother of Pastor Nelson and Myriam Velázquez.

**Those undergoing chemo and/or radiation treatments:** Barbara Bowden, Collin Cash, Deborah McHorse, Rob Milliman, Jr., and Montsho.

### PASTORAL ACTS

3/5/2016

Marriage of  
 Charles Duwane Krigbaum  
 and Joel Madison Price



### E-MAIL UPDATE

Ruth Makela  
 papagma87@gmail.com

2903 Nacogdoches Rd.  
San Antonio, TX 78217  
church: (210) 824-7135  
fax: (210) 826-5146  
school (210) 822-5374  
Website: [macparkelca.org](http://macparkelca.org)

Email:  
[macparklutheran@satx.rr.com](mailto:macparklutheran@satx.rr.com)  
-or- [officemacpark@satx.rr.com](mailto:officemacpark@satx.rr.com)

A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)



Deadline for May  
2016 newsletter is:  
Wed., April 20, 2016

Like us on Facebook



**We're on the web!**  
[www.macparkelca.org](http://www.macparkelca.org)

## Welcome to MacArthur Park Lutheran Church and School

† MacArthur Park invites you for Sunday worship. †

### Our Worship Schedule

8:30 ~ 9:30 am 1st Service with Holy Communion  
10:45 ~ 11:45 am 2nd Service with Holy Communion

*Lutheran Hispano-Latino Spanish services at 9:30 am with Holy Communion every Sunday in our chapel. All Spanish speaking (first or second language) welcome to share the joy of the Spirit.*

Website: [www.pilhlsa.com/home](http://www.pilhlsa.com/home)

† Christian Education opportunities for ages 2 – adult at 9:45 a.m. †

† Our School has a Christian environment for students ages 18 months–1st Grade †

### 2015 — 2016 Congregation Council

Suzette Price, President	Renee Staul, Sending Chair
Melissa French Stephenson, Vice President	Abel Flores, Support Chair
Robin Bullington, Secretary	Beth Borstad, Inviting Chair
Maureen Folkerts, Treasurer	Bill Sweda, Equipping Chair

### Church & School Staff

Senior Pastor: Paul Ziese	Home: (210) 826-3071
Associate Pastor: Heather Hansen	Cell: (210) 317-8509
School Director: Carla Lockett	Home: (210) 824-2322
Music Director: Leigh Anne Seitter	Home: (210) 497-7113
Choir Director: Carla Lockett	Home: (210) 824-2322
Youth Choir Director: Melissa French-Stephenson	Cell: (210) 316-9404
Property Manager: Kevin Ott	Cell: (210) 885-8959
Care Coordinator: Betty Pomykal	Home: (210) 822-7055
Sextant: Jean Schriever	Cell: (210) 860-1688
Assistant Sextant: Sara Milam	Cell: (210) 355-8100
Administrative Asst.: Debbie Kennedy	Cell: (210) 325-8817

**MacArthur Park Lutheran Church**  
2903 Nacogdoches Road  
San Antonio, TX 78217-4595