

Messenger



God's work. Our hands.
MPLS strives to
Live the Gospel.
Change the
World.

Sunday, Sept. 11 was the day set aside by the ELCA to “be the church” out in the world. At Mac Park the efforts were spread over two or more days.

On Sept. 10, a shredder truck was in the MacArthur Park Lutheran Church parking lot to provide opportunity for congregation and community members to securely shred documents in order to prevent identity theft. Congregation members received a list of documents that should be shredded. The East Bexar County Chapter of Thrivent Financial provided the funds for both the shredder and the signs to advertise the GWOH events.

On Sept. 11, cookie trays were assembled for

delivery to first responders in remembrance of the efforts of the police and fire fighters in New York on and after Sept. 11, 2001. Congregation members baked or bought cookies ahead of time. Then workers put the trays together, and volunteers delivered the trays to fire stations and police stations near their homes.

Other GWOH volunteers joined a team that picked up litter along Nacogdoches Road and MacArthur View from MacArthur High School past CVS and back to the church. The group was led by David Stephenson.

In the Fireside Room of the church, volunteers tied 30 Komfort Quilts for distribution to Northeast Senior Assistance clients. Pat Richmond and the quilter’s group had made the quilts and prepared them to be tied. Kay Elsasser supervised the activity on Sept. 11.

Others in the Fireside Room picked up a stack of
(Continued on Page 3.)



Inside this issue:	
God's work Our hands Sunday	1
Mac Park School	2
Council Minutes	5
Women's Group	6
Thrivent Choice Dollars	7
Kid's Page	8
Quilters	9
Did You Know?	10
Statistical Reports	11



There is a little bit of cooler weather and the days are starting to get a little shorter—that can mean only one thing—fall is here! Fall is a favorite season in the school when we learn about harvest, apples, seasons and the many blessings the Lord has given us. One of the blessings we are very thankful for is Pastor Heather and Pastor Ziese. They give up at least one morning a week to hold chapel for our students. The children look forward to meeting in the sanctuary and seeing the Pastor. We thank them for all they do for the school and recognize their hard work during “clergy appreciation month”.

We would be remiss if we did not thank MPLC congregation for their

help with our annual rummage sale. The event was a huge success and was only possible due to everyone’s generosity. Church members donated, moved, sorted, helped sell, and cleaned tirelessly. Thank you, thank you, and thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Your kindness is immeasurable!!!

Our cookie dough fundraiser will be arriving in late October. There will be an announcement in the bulletin when it arrives. Our annual greenery sale will be held in October and it will arrive in early December. Also the school children will be singing in church on October 23 at the 8:30 service. It would be great to have a full church to welcome the school families to worship.

Once again, we thank MPLC for all the support and kindness you constantly share with the school. We pray you have an enjoyable fall!

MPLS staff & children

San Pablo congregation invites you to their 5th anniversary celebration service on Sun., Oct. 30 at 12:30 pm in our sanctuary. Rev. Sue Briner, Bishop’s Associate for the Southwestern Texas Synod will be present, and Pastor Heather Hansen will join Pastor Nelson Velázquez in presiding during Holy Communion. Following the service, lunch will be served in the Fireside Room and everyone is invited.



(Continued from Page 1.)

Christmas cards to write personal notes for veterans. Jan Hunt provided instruction and a general type of note that could be meaningful to veterans.

Also set up in the Fireside Room was a table for voter registration. Mac Park has three deputy registrars in the congregation. Lisa Hooter was the registrar available for the GWOH event.

Starla Sweda and Lisa Hooter did hemming and minor clothing repairs. This service was available to the public with a limit of two items per person.

Mary Jane Blair, Denise Bilderback and Jill Piazzi volunteered to do simple jewelry repairs. Again the two items per person limit was applied.

Outside of the church, many of the men in the congregation did courtesy car care. They checked fluids and oil, inspected belts and wiper blades and checked tire pressure. Jim Rath, George Pierce and Eddie LaFuente headed up the car care team.

In addition, there were opportunities for training for those interested in being ushers, communion assistants and assisting ministers. Pastor Heather Hansen provided the training in the sanctuary.

This event gave MacArthur Park Lutheran Church an opportunity to live out its mission to Live the Gospel and Change the World.---srp

Bring your cat, dog, rabbit, or frog,
your iguana or fish or whatever pet you wish, to the

Blessing of the Animals

MacArthur Park Lutheran Church
2903 Nacogdoches Rd., on the campus lawn

Sunday, October 2nd @ 10:45 a.m.



Join us as we sing, meow, bark,
and ribbit our praises to God,
the Creator of All.

Live music, prayers, and pet blessings!

Is your pet aggressive or overly sensitive? Consider bringing your animal in a pet carrier, or come instead with a picture of your pet.

ELCA Global Links

Inspiring International Women Leaders

A new video was shared at the 2016 Churchwide Assembly that highlights the International Women Leaders initiative. As Tammy Jackson, the director of the International Leaders program, says in the video, when you educate a woman, you educate a family, you change a community, you change a nation and you eventually change the world. [Learn more about this initiative](#) and consider the ways you can [support women](#) who are (and will be) changing the world.

Stories of accompaniment

Julie Gerrish is a Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer who is serving in Senegal this year – one of two new country programs receiving volunteers for the first time. After arriving in Senegal, [she wrote a blog](#) about the ways in which she has already experienced accompaniment. Read about how strangers and new friends ate, walked, taught languages and listened to stories with the new volunteers. Julie encourages her readers, “Look around and see who is accompanying you. ...They are there where you don’t always expect.”

ELCA World Hunger

Nearly 800 million people – that’s 1 in 9 people in our world today – are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Working with and through our [congregations](#), in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, **ELCA World Hunger** is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. [Learn More.](#)

Bread for the World Sunday will be observed here on Sun., Oct. 16. During the 9:45 am Christian Education hour, you are invited to participate in the Offering of Letters. This campaign engages congregations in writing letters to Congress to support an increase in funding for international maternal and child nutrition programs. If you would like to get a head start in writing, click on this link for a sample letter: <http://www.bread.org/sites/default/files/0116-sample-letter-july-25.doc>.



Congregation Council Meeting Minutes ~ September 20, 2016

In Attendance: Melissa French-Stephenson, Ellen Bridges, Maureen Folkerts, Renee Staul, Bill Sweda; Courtney Grove attended via audio bridge.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 with a prayer. The group reaffirmed its commitment to the purpose statement and guiding principles.

A presentation by Jessica Moes from Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) replaced the devotion.

Charles Hoyer of Reliance Commercial Property Services presented information on the estimated value of the Mac Park real estate. He met with Kevin Ott recently to review the property and surrounding community. He will provide a written report.

Actions:

- * Minutes of the August 16, 2016 Congregation Council Meeting were approved as printed.
- * A written financial report was received from Treasurer Maureen Folkerts. August operating receipts were \$22,116.05 and total expenses were \$35,841.17 with a net loss of (\$12,725.12). Year to date operating receipts were \$350,602.05 and total expenses were \$419,137.83 with a net loss of (\$68,535.78). For August, Mac Park School operating receipts were \$17,352.53 and total expenses were \$19,498.97 for a loss (\$2,146.44). Year to date operating receipts were \$272,823.44 and total expenses were \$243,324.56 with a net income of \$29,498.85.
- * Pastoral acts--Funeral service for James Loudermilk, by Pastor Ziese on 8/26/16; David and Pam Phillips were received into membership by transfer from Ascension Lutheran Church in Chattanooga, TN on 9/4/16. Tom and Kathy Jones, transferring from Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, San Antonio TX, were approved for membership with a motion by Maureen Folkerts and second by Bill Sweda.
- * Written reports were received from Renee Staul, Sending Chair; Bill Sweda, Support Chair (School report and Property report).
- * Bill Sweda recommended that Kevin Ott be paid mileage based on expenses incurred for using his own vehicle for Church/School related errands. This was approved with a motion by Maureen Folkerts and second by Renee Staul.
- * Bill Sweda made a motion to raise the rent for the Stampers group and The Friendship Force to \$40.00/month for each group. This was approved with a second by Ellen Bridges.
- * Executive Personal Committee approved hiring a staff member for MPLS. The individual subsequently declined the position.

Discussions:

- * Maureen Folkerts reported that ADP Payroll will begin processing payroll twice a month for both the school and the church staff. Beverly Buchhorn will stay on as bookkeeper. *(Continued on Page 6.)*

(Continued from Page 5.)

* Pastor Heather presented a report and stated she will be starting "new groups in new ways" in the future. A college student, Kim Wellnitz, will be working with her (at no charge) helping with education opportunities. She plans to be present all Sundays that Pastor Paul is on Sabbatical.

* The Church safety report will be moved to October, as more information is being gathered.

* The Building Finance Committee has interviewed three companies and is gathering more information. Pastor Heather noted that a feasibility study may be the next step, and that various options need to be explored.

* On October 16, Kevin Ott will be recognized for 15 years of service at Mac Park. He will be recognized during church service(s), and there will be a cake during fellowship at 9:30.

* On October 30, San Pablo will celebrate their 5th anniversary. Mac Park will present their congregation with a gift of not more than \$100. Pastor Heather will discuss needs/wishes with Pastor Nelson Velázquez. Mac Park members are invited to attend the service and the lunch following.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 with closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Bridges, Congregation Council



Women' group yearly plans made

October: Make cards for Meals on Wheels clients



The women of MacArthur Park Lutheran Church will meet on Thurs., Oct. 13 at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room.

Seasonal cards for Meals on Wheels clients will be designed and made at the October meeting of the Mac Park women's group. Women will make cards for Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day and Easter by the rubber stamping process.

For the October meeting, Susan Rath will give instructions and provide the materials for the project. Starla Sweda will give the devotion, and Patty Raney will provide the refreshments.

All women are invited and encouraged to attend.

Suzette Price led the September meeting during which plans were made for programs from October through May. The meetings are set for the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room. ---srp

Thrivent owners can direct Choice Dollars **Use this “free” money to help Mac Park**

Are you an owner of Thrivent Financial products? Have you directed your Choice Dollars? Have you applied for an Action Team?

Please talk to your Thrivent Congregational Advocate Suzette Price about Choice Dollars and Action Teams. She can help you with both.

Eligible Thrivent Financial members can direct where Thrivent Financial distributes a portion of its charitable outreach funds using a vehicle called Choice Dollars. Choice Dollars can be directed to enrolled charities such as MacArthur Park Lutheran Church and MacArthur Park Lutheran School.

Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership. Eligible members are designated from \$25 to \$5,000 Choice Dollars based on one or more of the following, according to the Thrivent website:

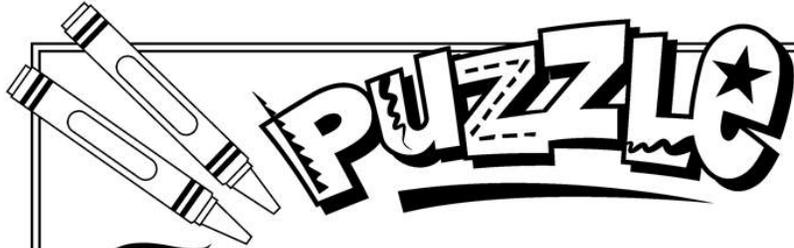
- The amount they pay in annual premiums for qualifying products— life, disability income and long-term care insurance.
- The total contract value of their qualifying products—annuities and life insurance.
- Whether they hold a qualifying Thrivent volunteer leadership position.

To begin an Action Team the website suggests that you think about an unmet need in your community and how you could help. Apply to lead your volunteer team in a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days. Once your project is approved, you'll receive a Thrivent Action Kit, including:

- Promotional banner.
- Invitations and thank-you cards.
- Thrivent Action Team T-shirts.
- A \$250 Community Impact Card you can use as seed money to purchase project supplies and create promotional materials.

The website, thrivent.com, explains all Thrivent members are eligible to lead a Thrivent Action Team. However, the number of teams each member can lead per year depends on his or her membership type. Benefit members are eligible to lead two Thrivent Action Teams per calendar year, and associate members are eligible to lead one per calendar year. ---srp





Friends in the Lord

Jesus offers a perfect example of friendship.
What does he do for his friends?

Directions: Follow the clues to fill in the blanks. Then write the completed Bible verse below.

1. Better than; rhymes with *crater*: _____
2. Opposite of hate: _____
3. Opposite of yes: _____
4. Three minus two: _____
5. Not _____ but that; rhymes with *hiss*: _____
6. To place something down; rhymes with *say*: _____
7. Opposite of up: _____
8. Opposite of death: _____
9. Best buds: _____

“ _____ 1 _____ 2 has _____ 3
 _____ 4 than _____ 5 : to _____ 6 _____ 7
 one’s _____ 8 for one’s _____ 9 .”

JOHN 15:13, NIV

Answer: “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:13, NIV

FRIENDSHIP WALL HANGING

Make this with — and for — a special friend.

What you need:

- Paper and pencil
- Scissors
- Cardboard
- Aluminum foil
- Tape
- Acrylic paint (red, blue, green)
- Paintbrushes
- Permanent marker
- Twine
- A friend



What you do:

1. Trace a palm-sized heart in the center of the paper. Cut out the heart to use as a stencil.
2. Cover the cardboard with foil. Tape the heart stencil in the center.
3. Fill in the heart “hole” with red paint. Let dry. Remove stencil.
4. Cover your hand with blue paint, and make a handprint to one side of the heart. Cover your friend’s hand with green paint and have him or her make a handprint to the other side of the heart. Let dry.
5. Write “FRIENDS” at the top.
6. On the back, tape twine to make a hanger.

Stitches from the Quilters



Quilter “Dude” of the Month: Bob Hunt (Part VII) In April of 1980, while Bob was working for the Texas Highway Department, he met Jan Ellingson at Boudro’s here in San Antonio. Evidently he knew a good deal when he saw her. They were married in August of 1980 at MacArthur Park Lutheran Church. In August of 2014, they were married 34 years. I wonder if it is going to last??????
(Part VIII in November)



Well, we see that Mary Rupard is busy starting on **“Omy Mae Couffer’s Diamond Jubilee”**. Mary is just like a worker bee... She is looking forward to quilting this quilt, because she knows Dale Couffer.



“Bernice Raney’s Double-Wedding Ring” We can see from this picture that Pat Richmond is basting (hand stitching) the binding on to Bernice Raney’s quilt. In case you are asking, the color is pastel mauve with little golden hearts on it.



When going through some bundles in the storeroom, Pat Richmond and Rosy Giglio found some sticker packages that Jan Kelly made for the kids in the hospital before her eyes played out on her. Thanks to Jan Kelly, we now have 500 extra sticker packages to send to the children in the hospital. Thank you, Jan!!!!

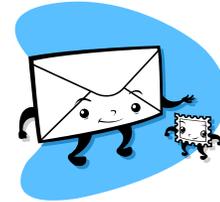


Pillow Forms. Delbert Richmond is busy getting a head start on the pillows that the quilters are giving people at Christmas. Thanks, Delbert!!!

**Yours in Christ,
 Mary Alice Rupard**

"Post"-ings from the Stamp Group

October 7, 2016: 6:00 – Juniors
7:30 - "Show and Tell" – Bring something interesting to share!!!!



October 8, 2016: 9 a.m. – Saturday Morning Bourse – Bldg #6 – Small bourse

October 14, 2016: 7:00 – Auction – Come find some good bargains!!!!!!

October 21, 2016: 7:30 – Bourse – Philatelic Flea Market

October 28, 2016: NO MEETING – HALLOWEEN WEEKEND



**Saturday, October 22
8:00 am**

Please join us as we continue repairs as a result of the April 12th hail storm.

Our focus will be on painting.

Contact our Property Manager Kevin Ott (885-8959) if you are able to assist.



Pastor Paul Ziese will be on sabbatical from Sept. 18-Nov. 17. He just celebrated his twentieth year of service at MacArthur Park Lutheran Church, and this is his fourth sabbatical.

Pastor Ziese will participate in a self-directed retreat at The Monastery of Christ in the Desert Benedictine retreat in Abiqui, New Mexico.

He will also spend time at Lebh Shomea House of Prayer at La Parra Ranch located in Wild Horse Desert, six miles due east of the small South Texas town of Sarita. Lebh Shomea stresses silent listening of the heart-contemplative prayer, according to the website.

Other activities will include reading about the Lutheran church fathers, organizing his church library and visiting tourist sites in San Antonio such as the missions and museums.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Service	Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25	TOTAL
8:30am	57	96	58	65	276
10:45am	76	only 8:30 service	68	57	201
Offering	\$6,308.50	\$2,496.25	\$2,850.00	\$2,262.00	\$13,916.75
Sunday School	21	no SS— God's work Our hands	29	21	71

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following:

Bill Barfknecht; Fred Beaver; Evelyn Garza; Kathryn Hancock; Dorothy Imig; Dewey Johnson; Ryan Nunn; James Peters; Carlo Reyes; and David VanLydegraf.

Those undergoing chemo and/or radiation treatments: Barbara Bowden; Collin Cash; Rob Milliman, Jr.; Montsho; and Virgil Peterson.

PASTORAL ACTS

8/26/16: Funeral service for James Loudermilk

9/4/16: David and Pam Phillips received by transfer from Ascension Lutheran, Chattanooga, TN



Our Christian sympathy to the family of James Loudermilk who passed away on August 20.

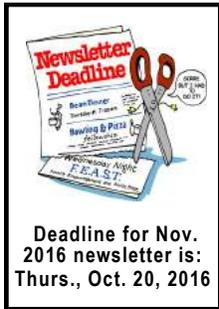


Congratulations! to Dan and Sheryl Bierstedt on the birth of grandson Micah Theodore Ackerman, born Sept. 1 in Lincoln Township, Ohio to parents Erin and Corey Ackerman. Micah weighed 9 lbs, 3 oz and was 21.5 inches long. He is welcomed by big sisters Ella and Ava. Congratulations also to aunt and uncle Libby and Blake Lavender, and cousin Max!

Congratulations also to Ted and Christine Macrini on the birth of Nolan Charles on Sept. 12, weighing 8 lbs. 6 oz. and he was 21 inches long. Nolan was welcomed by his big brother Thomas!

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A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America
www.elca.org



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We're on the web!
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

† 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 †

2016 — 2017 Congregation Council

Beth Borstad, President	Renee Staul, Sending Chair
Melissa French Stephenson, Vice President	Bill Sweda, Support Chair
Ellen Bridges, Secretary	Sheryl Bierstedt, Inviting Chair
Maureen Folkerts, Treasurer	Courtney Grove, 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

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