

Messenger



Dear Friend of MacArthur Park Lutheran Church and School,

We live in a time when people want to be treated equally, whether at home, at church, at school or work, and in the community. Yet, what is meant by equal treatment? What does equal treatment look like?

I am aware of two different understandings of equality which are different from each other – operational equality and strategic equality. Operational equality is treating each person the same. Strategic equality is treating each person with equal love. An example from my family might help.

As many of you know, I am blessed to have twin sons in addition to a daughter. As the boys grew up, I noticed one needed more sleep than the other, though they were the same age.

If I had practiced operational equality, I would have insisted both have the same bedtimes since

that would be equal. But instead I practiced strategic equality and tried to let each boy get the sleep he needed.

Did I treat each boy equally? In one way I did and in the other way I did not.

The same principle applies in church. Sometimes strategic equality, trying to do what is best for each individual, forbids operational equality, trying to treat each individual alike.

Strategic equality means different letters may be sent to different people and different people may be invited to different events. Operationally, this appears unequal. Strategically, it is equal.

People mature in their faith at different times and no two of us are at the same place in our spiritual journeys. Operational equality is not always appropriate. Strategic equality may be the more loving way to go.

Peace,
Pastor Paul

“O give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.”

Psalms 136:1

Turn clocks
BACK before
going to bed on
Sat., Nov. 4 –
Daylight Saving
Time ends
Nov. 5

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MacArthur Park Lutheran School

Fall is in the air! The children are enjoying playing outside as things have cooled down. We are so blessed to have such a beautiful campus. Fall also turns our minds to Thanksgiving and being thankful for all we have been given. MPLS is thankful for so many things it impossible to list them all but we would like to name a few: our beautiful school, our staff, our school families, volunteers, MPLC, our Pastors, School Board, and the generosity of all those who contribute to the school. We are truly blessed and thank God for all of you!

We would like to thank everyone one more time for their help with the rummage sale. It was the most successful one we have had yet! So many people enjoy the sale- the community, and volunteers alike. While it is a lot of work it is a great time had by everyone. Due to its success, we are going to try a new fundraiser in February. A clothing only sale will be held on February 24. The donations being accepted at this time for the sale will be clothing, handbags, jewelry, and shoes. We will be collecting gently used clothing and shoes starting now and moving forward till the date of the sale. **Please no underwear, socks, bras, or undergarments unless they are new and in the package.**

Our annual greenery sale is underway. Greens will be delivered to the school the first week in December. If you are interested in ordering please call the school office 210-822-5374 and we will help you.

You are cordially invited to join us for our annual Thanksgiving Chapel service on Friday, November 17 at 11:00 a.m. The service will be Thanksgiving themed and help get our hearts and minds ready for the holiday season.

The Thanksgiving Holiday is November 20-24. Please note the school is closed that entire week. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family. We pray your Holiday season is full of joy.

*Sincerely,
MPLS Staff and Students*

*We are
thankful
for all our
blessings!*



Congregation Council Meeting Minutes ~ October 17, 2017

In attendance: Beth Borstad, Melissa French Stephenson, Ellen Bridges, Maureen Folkerts, Courtney Grove, Jeanette Pierce, Virginia Stowell, James Vlasak, Hannah Hansen and Pastor Heather Hansen.

Melissa French-Stephenson led the devotion based on the Leadership Investment Team book, *Ask, Thank Tell*. Pastor Heather gave the opening prayer. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM. The group reaffirmed our commitment to the Purpose Statement and Guiding Principles.

Actions:

- * The September 19, 2017 minutes were approved as written.
- * A written financial report was received from Treasurer Maureen Folkerts. September operating receipts for the church were \$26,313.00 and total expenses were \$35,799.55 with a net deficit of \$9,486.55. Year to date operating receipts were \$26,313.00 and total expenses were \$35,799.55 with a net deficit of \$9,486.55.
The school had operating receipts of \$43,302.05 and total expenses were \$32,472.30 for a net surplus of \$10,829.75. Year to date operating receipts were \$43,302.05 and total expenses were \$32,472.30 with a net surplus of \$10,829.75.
- * Pastoral acts received: 10/16/2017 - Funeral service for Joseph (Joe) McFarland – by Pastor Paul Ziese and Pastor Heather Hansen.

Discussions:

- * A Congregation Council Retreat is planned for January 13, 2018 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.
- * Virginia will discuss the proposed “Meet the Council” event for the school families with Carla Lockett, MPLS director, to determine a time and date. Any council members who are available are invited to attend.
- * Beth Borstad presented a report from the *Rooted and Growing* Leadership Team, noting that Pastor Kathy Hauelsen will be at MPLC October 22, 2017 to give the sermon and provide Sunday School.
- * Mission Team reports were received: Virginia, School Committee Chair, presented a written report, and an “FYI” for school parents, regarding opportunities for school families to participate in Church activities. The “FYI” was discussed and revisions suggested. James, Support Chair, provided a written Property Report. Courtney, Equipping Chair, reported on the WELCA conference and the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Jeanette Pierce, Sending Chair, noted that the relationship with Oak Grove Elementary School continues, and that we need to maintain our focus on advocacy.
- * Council members are reading *Ask, Thank, Tell*, the book provided by Mission Investment Team. We will cover Chap. 2 in November. (*Continued on Page 4.*)

(Continued from Page 3.)

Announcements:

Sheryl, Inviting Chair, provided information that there will be a Dave Ramsey Live Stream Event on Tue., Nov 7, 7-10 PM in the Sanctuary. She will provide information to MPLS families. Child care to be provided.

Pastor Paul's evaluation is due in November. The evaluation form will be tweaked and emailed to council members to be completed and brought to the November council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Bridges, Congregation Council Secretary

ROOTED & GROWING - MACARTHUR PARK LUTHERAN'S CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

There are a variety of ways people can participate in this Capital Campaign:

Check with a financial advisor or tax consultant, as some of these will have implications on investments and tax liabilities.

- Gifts from your regular income set up on a weekly, monthly, or annual schedule.
- Gifts from savings, recognizing that this is an important opportunity in the life of our church.
- A portion of profits from sale of stocks, bonds or other securities and assets.
- Part of the cash value of an insurance policy.
- A portion of a bonus or income tax refund.
- A portion of mandated withdrawals from retirement savings accounts.
- Accumulated credit card points, converted to cash.
- Sale of a no-longer needed or wanted asset such as a boat, RV, or other major possession.

There can be tax advantages to giving in these ways, especially giving appreciated securities and the cash value of insurance policies or mandated withdrawals from retirement saving accounts. You should always consult your tax advisor or financial planner about such gifts. Gifts to our capital campaign qualify for a tax deduction as a gift to a non-profit organization.

Generosity benefits the giver as much as the recipient. Please prayerfully consider in what ways you can express your generosity as part of this important step forward for our congregation.



Professionals Claudia and Cory Torkelson to instruct Fitness the focus for women's group in November

Fitness professionals Claudia and Cory Torkelson will provide active guidance on fitness for the women's group at the Nov. 9 meeting at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Room.



Nancy Kusenberger will be the contact person for the speakers. Betty Pomykal will give the devotion. Sherill Whiteman, Susan Rath and Sara Milam will provide refreshments for the event.

At the meeting, women will sign up to bring the ingredients for the taco salad to be served at the December meeting.

As always, all women are invited to participate.

Meanwhile, at the October meeting the women's group made Christmas ornaments that will be given to the children of MacArthur Park Lutheran School and church in December. Patty Raney and Betty Pomykal were in charge of the service project. Rhea Clouse gave the devotion for the meeting. Jeanie Shrieffer and Ellen Bridges provided the refreshments. ~srp



MARK YOUR CALENDARS for **Tues., Nov. 7, 7:00-**

10:00 p.m., when Mac Park will serve as a host site for

Dave Ramsey's Smart MONEY Live Stream event.

Smart MONEY walks people through the steps to take to

get their financial lives on track. We will view the event

in the sanctuary as it takes place live in Phoenix. Best of

all, this is completely FREE! We hope you will bring a friend or family member

along. Arrangements are underway for babysitting to be provided. Watch for a

sign-up sheet in the sanctuary and more details about the event in the weekly

What's Happening emails leading up to Nov. 7.



“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.” 1 Cor 12:4-6

How are YOU being called to serve Mac Park? What gifts and talents do you wish to share? What services do you feel led to offer and what activities do you wish to participate in? Let us know by completing the **2018 Time and Talent Survey**. Forms will be available in the back of the sanctuary during the month of November. Please place your completed form in the box, also in the back of the sanctuary, or turn in to the church office NLT Nov. 29.

**TEXAS LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY
VESPERS
SATURDAY, DEC. 2, 2017
DINNER AT HEIN DINING HALL
\$30.00/PERSON
CHARTER BUS
LEAVES MAC PARK AT 5 P.M.
Save the date!**



Saturday Evening Worship



Please join us on the last Saturday of each month as we worship, fellowship, and eat together! We begin at **5:30 pm** in the Fireside Room. We hope to see you **November 25th**. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Heather.



MacArthur Park Lutheran Church members **Andrew Lockett** and **Alex Hansen** have earned places in region choir. Andrew won first chair in the Tenor II section, and Alex won fourth chair in the Tenor I section. The region choir will perform at Reagan High School on Nov. 4.

Mac Park member **Suzette Price** is now a member of the Southwestern Texas Synod Candidacy Committee. The Candidacy Committee guides people through the candidacy process toward rostered service in the ELCA. On a recent Sunday, Pastor Paul Ziese pointed out the Mac Park cornerstone. It is at one corner of the choir loft.

(From Pat Richmond) **Mary Alice Rupard** did ALL the quilting on Bernice Raney's Quilt! She considers her time as her donation to the school! If you have a chance some time, you should thank her for her time and energy!!

News Around Mac Park

Our Christian sympathy to Ruth McFarland and family on the death of her husband Joe on October 6 at the age of 86. Joe had been a member of MacArthur Park since 1987 and was very active in many areas over the years.

(Date change) Join the TLU School Of Music and Orchestra on Thurs., Nov. 2, at 7:00 pm here in our sanctuary at Mac Park for their first-ever tour. This event is free and open to the public. We hope to see you here!

Living Lutheran subscription discount: Now through Nov. 15 you can get 35% off a subscription to *Living Lutheran* magazine. For this limited time, you can get 12 issues for \$12.95. Order your subscription to get religious news, faith, reflections and stories from the ELCA delivered to your home. Go to <https://www.livinglutheran.org/subscribe/> and enter the "FALL SAVINGS" promotion code to order your discounted subscription. You can also view other subscription packages for congregations and leaders.

Audit Committee Report: On October 18, 2017 the Audit Committee members met and examined the financial books of MacArthur Park Lutheran Church and MacArthur Park Lutheran School for 9/1/2016 - 8/31/2017, and we found them in good order.

~Audit Committee members: Bill Sweda, Mark Hansen, Paul Halvorson

Stitches from the Quilters



Quilter of the Month: Mary Alice Rupard

Mary Alice Rupard was born Mary Alice Kraft on October 20, 1930 at home in Massillon, Ohio, Lincoln Hiway, in Stark County. She only weighed 2 lbs. (***You read correctly – 2 – count them - TWO pounds***). Thanks to God’s help and her grandmother, she lived. She was the oldest of 4 children. She had 2 younger sisters and 1 younger brother.

She graduated from Washington High School in Massillon, Ohio in 1949. She went to work at Isleys’ Dairy Store (creator of the Klondike Ice Cream Bar).



“Bernice Raney’s Quilt”- Well, the tickets for this quilt are steadily climbing!!!!

As of October 11, 2017 \$4,025.25 has been turned in. This amount still does not include any of the money that was collected in the Rummage Sale. If you want a ticket, you better hurry!!!!!!

Incidentally, since we are writing up Mary Rupard, maybe ya’ll should know that she did ALL of the quilting on Bernice’s Quilt!!



Stockings for the hospital delivery in November!!!! Here we see Delbert turning some of the stockings that will be delivered at

Thanksgiving. As of October 11, 2017, the whole 150 stockings were finished and ready for delivery. Good going, folks.



“Omy Mae Couffer’s Diamond Jubilee” is now at the half-way mark. Mary, being our only full time quilter seems to making great strides for the quilt. Keep up the good work, Mary!!!!!!!!!!



Rosy Giglio is stuffing therapy dolls with some of the stuffing donated by the congregation! We still need PILLOWS!!!!!!

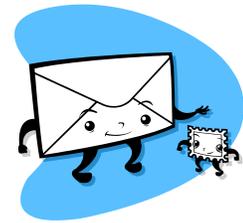
***Yours in Christ,
Mary Rupard
and Pat Richmond***

“Post”-ings from the Stamp Group

November 4, 2017

7:30: – Meeting

7:45 – “Show and Tell” – bring something interesting to share.



November 5, 2017

9:00 a.m. – Saturday morning Boursette – Building # 6 – Senior Building

November 10, 2017

7:00 – Auction

November 17 – Bourse – Buy, sell, trade – get Good bargains!!!!!!

November 24 – NO MEETING – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.

Community Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 19th, 6:00pm

Northeast Baptist Church

2930 MacArthur View

(across from MacArthur High School)

210-824-7235



Multiple church denominations and languages will be participating with music and worship. MacArthur Park Lutheran Church will be one of the participants.

Bring refreshments to share after the service.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Service	Oct 1	Oct 8	Oct 15	Oct 22	TOTAL
8:30am	67	64	49	55	235
10:45am	72	61	197	58	388
Offering	\$5,347.00	\$4,675.00	\$4,024.16	\$6,264.96	\$ 20,311.12
Sunday School	27	14	16	24	81

9/30 Sat. Evening Worship: attendance = 8

NOTE: The offering totals listed above are the amounts received at the worship services. They do not reflect contributions received through the *Simply Giving* program or automatic bank drafts.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following:

Alan Abernathy; Richard Attkisson (Sylvia Seiler's brother-in-law); Dorothy Imig; Dewey Johnson; Gert Lewis; Ryan Nunn; James Peters; Joel and Gayle Rupard; Doris VanDyke; and David VanLydegraf.



Those undergoing chemo and/or radiation treatments: Collin Cash; Beverly Frank; Miriam Miller; Rob Milliman, Jr.; and Sylvia Sieberns (Carol Couffer's sister).

PASTORAL ACTS

10/16/2017

Funeral service for Joseph (Joe) McFarland – by Pastor Paul Ziese and Pastor Heather Hansen

MEMORIALS

JOE McFARLAND: Dale and Carol Couffer; Roger and Pat Knisley; C. Buckley; Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Pizzini; Edwin and Katherine Rossow; Ruth Makela; Beverly Steinhagen; Jimmie Boeck; Gloria Schwanenberg; Gene and Sharon Nunn; James and Barbara Samsel

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 fax: (210) 826-5146
 school (210) 822-5374
 Website: macparkelca.org
 Email:
 macparklutheran@satx.rr.com
 -or- officemacpark@satx.rr.com

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



**Deadline for Dec.
 2017 newsletter is:
 Tues., Nov. 21, 2017**

Like us on Facebook



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

† **Christian Ed opportunities for grade 1 – adult at 9:45 am** †

† **Last Saturday of each month at 5:30 pm:** Food, fellowship and worship †

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

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

2017 — 2018 Congregation Council

Beth Borstad, President	Jeanette Pierce, Sending Chair
Melissa French Stephenson, Vice President	James Vlasak, Support Chair
Ellen Bridges, Secretary	Sheryl Bierstedt, Inviting Chair
Maureen Folkerts, Treasurer	Courtney Grove, Equipping Chair
Hannah Hansen, Youth Rep	Virginia Stowell, School Mission Team

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
Volunteer Coordinator: Suzette Price	Home: (210) 655-3833
Administrative Asst.: Debbie Kennedy	Cell: (210) 325-8817

**MacArthur Park Lutheran Church
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