

Messenger

Newsletter for MacArthur Park Lutheran Church and School

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“Live the Gospel. Change the world.”

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Volume 51

December 2011

Number 10

This Sunday, December 4, 2011: Second Sunday of Advent

Message by Pastor Tracey Breashears Schultz

8:30 am Worship Service with Holy Communion

9:45 am Christian Education Opportunities for ages 2—adult

10:45 am Worship Service with Holy Communion

SENIOR PASTOR

PAUL ZIESE

Dear Friend of MacArthur Park Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the opportunity to have a third sabbatical during my ministry at MacArthur Park Lutheran Church. I again had the chance to step back from my responsibilities here and experience life in other settings and in another culture. The time away must have been good for me because so many people say I look rested and have a suntan.

I began and ended my sabbatical with silent retreats at Lebh Shomea, a Roman Catholic retreat facility south of Corpus Christi near Sarita, Texas. I had time alone with nature and myself and the only conversations were at early morning daily mass and noon meal on Sunday. I used the first retreat to transition myself out of ministerial responsibilities here and I used the last retreat to set goals upon my reentry into Lutheran ministry at MacArthur Park. I observed animals, plants, stars, and all that is part of God's creation. I also did some reading and lots of reflecting.

The biggest part of my study leave was a four-week study of Spanish in Costa Rica. I stayed with a woman who was an excellent cook and went on tours of volcanoes, rain forests, botanical gardens, plantations, beaches, and cities. Weekday mornings were spent in Spanish classes. I hope to continue my study of Spanish here in San Antonio.

I also visited a number of churches in the area, including San Fernando Cathedral, First Presbyterian, Coker United Methodist, St. Paul Lutheran in Brenham, and the Country Church in Marion. I saw a variety of worship styles and received some ideas we might try here.

The most intense experience was a five-day emotional intelligence and human relations workshop in Austin. I received lots of affirmation and am trying some new behaviors in various settings. As of this writing, I intended to discuss what I learned about myself at Sunday school on November 20.

I also spent some time with Lynn who was quite supportive of me in this endeavor.

I want to thank Pastor Tracey and the rest of the staff for picking up additional responsibilities while I was gone. I was proud of the congregation for moving forward on so many fronts while I was away. I sometimes joke with people that I should go on sabbatical more often because the church does so well when I am gone.

Now I am ready to tackle new challenges here at MacArthur Park. I look forward to discovering what God has in mind for us in the future.

In Christ, Paul Ziese

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

TRACEY BREASHEARS SCHULTZ

Imagine for a minute that you are on the ballroom dance floor during a gala event. What can you see from there? Couples dancing near or around you. The DJ and sound booth. The refreshments and punch bowl on a table. Now imagine that you climb the stairs to the balcony so you can look down on the event and the dance floor. What can you see now? The tops of people's heads. The immense chandelier hanging down from overhead. Couples dancing and others standing against the walls. Those talking in corners and those preparing the refreshments. The floor and the surrounding walls and all the space in-between. We can always see more from the balcony than we can from the ground.

On his recent visit to our congregation as the guest preacher and as a consultant for our congregational council on October 16, Pastor Jon Lee shared this image as a description of a strategic planning process. In this process, we as a church take an opportunity to step back, to get higher off the ground, to take in a wider view of our programs, ministries, purpose, community, and leadership roles. In the coming months, you will hear the church council and staff refer to this strategic planning process.

As we seek to embody the purpose statement and guiding principles adopted by our congregation at the congregational meeting on August 28:

1. The council will appoint a strategic planning team which will be asked to identify three to five areas that Mac Park will focus on in the next 2-3 years. These will be presented to the council and to the congregation for input and conversation (in much the way as we worked with the vision task force last year to decide our purpose and guiding principles). This way, we aren't seeking to meet all our goals at once but are setting clear priorities for ourselves.
2. The congregational council will meet for a retreat on January 7, 2012. The purpose of this time is to take a look at all of Mac Park's ministries and programs and to determine if/how our programs align with the new purpose and guiding principles. We will begin to ask which programs we need to keep, which are no longer needed, and which new ones are worth considering.
3. The present structure of our congregational council is based on our prior mission statement. In addition to the process of determining programs, we will begin talking about how best to re-align council positions with programs so that all fall under the umbrella of the new purpose and guiding principles. *(Continued on Page 4.)*

(Continued from Page 3.)

4. The above two goals are the work of the council. They may invite others in to guide their process, but they are energized for this work and have already begun to take action.
5. This process has already brought to light the need to clarify some organizational functions, such as who reports to whom, creating a clear decision-making process, review of job descriptions and a process for annual reviews, etc. The council will also put a team in place for oversight of these areas.

Much of what is presented here is the work that needs to be done in any organization or business to ensure good communication and to make clear the responsibilities for each leader. But, our process is a little different from *any* organization which might undertake this task, because ours is grounded in our purpose and guiding principles; these were carefully chosen through a period of prayer, Bible study, discernment, and mutual conversation. We trust that God is with us as we strengthen our structure, determine our goals, and look to the future. Isn't it wonderful that we will be getting the balcony view? Isn't it exciting that God calls us to live the gospel and change the world?

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Tracey



Merry Christmas!!!

The preschool staff and children would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. You are all invited to join us as we retell the Christmas Story in our annual pageant. **The pageant will be Thursday, December 15 at 9:00 a.m.** All are welcome.

MPLS Staff

CONGREGATION COUNCIL REPORT

November 14, 2011

By: Laura Seitter

President Bill Sweda called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, and Mark Hansen offered opening devotion and prayer.

Dan Bierstedt reported that operating receipts were \$1000 shy of the budget for the month. At the beginning of next month he will provide a bulletin insert or handout to inform the congregation about our current financial status, similar to what he did last year. The council approved the motion that this year's offering from the Thanksgiving service, held on 11/17, will benefit St. Pius food bank. Dan also reported that Beverly Buchhorn has been working with VanCo to develop an alternative option for weekly offerings through the church website or through congregation members' Smartphones. The council approved the motion to adopt this new system, and it will be presented in December.

Many members of the congregation are looking forward to attending TLU Vespers in December. The cost of the on-campus dinner is covered by the tickets and MPLC is spending \$560 for the bus to transport church members to and from Seguin.

A clarification was requested regarding computer upgrades and repairs for the church. On the 2011-2012 MPLC budget, the line item referring to computer maintenance applies to all computers on campus, including the preschool.

There are several fundraisers that are occurring in the upcoming months to benefit particular MPLC groups. Carla Lockett originally organized the Christmas greenery fundraiser for the MPLC preschool, and then invited the church youth group to participate as well. The proceeds will benefit both organizations. On November 20th, the youth group is selling breakfast tacos to raise funds for their trip to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering next summer. On December 4th the youth group is hosting a miniature golf tournament – a “4-person scramble” – to benefit the trip as well.

Dale Couffer reported that the contract to modify four church pews for handicapped visitors has been signed, and a date to complete the construction will be set soon.

As MPLC works to adopt our new purpose statement and guiding principles, the newly installed church council is working to reevaluate our continuing resolutions
Continued on Page 11.)

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES – DECEMBER 2011

Classes meet in the sanctuary, unless otherwise noted.



ADULT
ED

Studying the Scriptures

(on-going)

Often, we rely on curriculum and published material for Bible study helps, but what happens when we open scripture, ask thought-provoking questions, and discuss what God is showing us? Come join the conversation, every Sunday, as we study and discuss the lectionary texts a week before we hear them read in worship. Bring your questions and curiosities. Class is facilitated by Dale and/or Carla Lockett, in the choir room. Bring your Bible!

Nov 27—Program Church

How does a church that averages 150-350 act? What are the typical characteristics of a program church? Pastors Paul and Tracey will lead a discussion.

Dec 4—Miracle on 34th Street

In this popular holiday movie, a daughter and her mother wrestle with whether a man they have met, named Kris Kringle, might actually *be* Santa Claus. This movie raises questions about faith, doubt, belief, and knowing. We will watch clips of the movie and will apply these same questions to the God for whom we wait, during this season of Advent. Class is facilitated by Pastor Tracey.

Dec 11—50th Anniversary

See page 7 for the festival worship and celebration schedule.

Dec 18—Christmas Pageant

The MPLC Children's Sunday School classes will be presenting a Christmas play called "Celebrating the Christmas Story." The play will be held on Sunday, Dec 18th at 9:45am in the Sanctuary. Come celebrate with the Children's Sunday School classes as they present a traditional Christmas pageant for all to enjoy. [Many thanks to Maureen Folkerts, Brenda Krueger, and Melissa French-Stephenson for leading and directing this special event.]





CELEBRATE!

Please join us for a gathering
of friends past and present
at the

50th Anniversary

of

MacArthur Park Lutheran Church

Sunday, December 11, 2011

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 10:00 am | Festival Worship |
| 11:30 am | Welcome and Slideshow |
| 12:00 noon | Catered Meal (<i>Tickets must have
been purchased by 11/28.</i>) |
| 1:00 pm | Program, Activities, Concert |

www.macparkelca.org

*The Lord has been our dwelling place
in all generations. Psalm 90:1*

Constitution, bylaws amended to implement Evangelical Mission Plan

Changes to the synod's constitution and bylaws have been made to implement provisions of the Evangelical Mission Plan. The amendments were approved at a special synod assembly held Oct. 22 at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin. Two hundred sixty-four voting members participated in the assembly.

The following changes were approved:

- The synod council will have 18 members, down from its current 24.
- Conference deans will be appointed by the bishop, subject to synod council confirmation. Deans were previously elected by the conferences.
- The treasurer of the synod may be elected by the synod assembly or may be appointed by the synod council. Previously, the treasurer was elected solely by the synod assembly.
- The nominating committee shall nominate at least one person for vice president and secretary. Previously, at least two nominations were required from the committee.
- There are now eight geographic conferences in the synod, up from the previous six. Each of the conferences will have a lay conference chair elected by the conference. Previously, only two conferences had a lay conference chair.

Each of the eight conferences will meet to organize, elect conference officers, and recommend nominees for the synod council and voting members to the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly between November 2011 and February 2012.

Chairs for the three new synod ministry teams will be elected at the May 19-20 synod assembly. The four current commissions will continue to function through the synod assembly, with the ministry teams beginning after the assembly.

Bishop Ray Tiemann was asked from the floor of the assembly if he will be available to be considered for reelection as synod bishop at the May synod assembly. Tiemann responded that he will not remove his name from the process and trusts that the Holy Spirit will guide the synod.

In this special season of thanksgiving and generosity, I want to express our gratitude to the Pastors, staff and members of MacArthur Park Lutheran for allowing us at Northeast Senior Assistance (NESA) to become part of the MacPark Family.



Your generosity in donating space in Faith House for our non-profit office has made such a huge difference and we feel especially blessed. We operate on a shoe string budget; yet, we would have ceased to exist without your help and hundreds of our clients could not have been served. May you continue to receive God's blessings.

Ruth L. Nancarrow, Executive Director

Women's Group

The women of MacArthur Park Lutheran Church met on Thursday, November 10th at 7:00 PM in the Fireside room. The devotional was given by Pat Raney and refreshments were provided by Bernice Raney and Pat Raney. We discussed upcoming events and planned our December meeting. The women then used their craft talents in making a Thanksgiving and Christmas card for our Meals on Wheels clients. A big thank you to Susan Rath for providing the materials and help in making the cards. Also, some of the women addressed Christmas cards for the Wounded Warriors project. This project is being done Mrs. Annice Guenther and she is hoping to have 400 Christmas cards with special notes in them for our military. These soldiers will not be home for Christmas and what a special way to let them know someone is thinking of them and appreciate what they have done for our Country and our freedom.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, December 8th, at 6:30 pm. We will be having dinner, a Cookie Exchange and our traditional White Elephant. We invite all women of MPLC to come and share the evening with us. The White Elephant exchange is a gift of \$5.00 and the Cookie Exchange is 6 bags with 6 cookies in each. Please bring the recipe for the cookie. The food has already been taken care of by the group.



The door prize was won by a newcomer, Sophia Petrutsas.

Mary Ann Anderson



Please mark your calendar for these special Christmas worship services :

Sunday, December 18, 9:45 am

Sunday School Christmas Program, Sanctuary

Saturday, December 24, 5:00 & 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 25, 10:00 am

Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion

No Sunday School

We invite you to worship with us this Christmas!

**DID
YOU
KNOW?**

MacArthur Park Lutheran Church member *Emily Nisi* is the November calendar model for the Down Syndrome Association calendar for 2011.

By: Suzette Price

Brett Paredes ran his final mile in the Kid's Rock 'N Roll Marathon on Nov. 12 in Brackenridge Park. Brett, a church member and student at Concordia Lutheran School, ran a total of 25.2 miles over the past two months as part of his school's fitness program.

(Continued from Page 5.)

in the constitution. Each member of council took a few minutes to discuss how their role on council advocates the new statement "Live the Gospel, Change the World." We will continue to discuss and pray as we seek to implement any changes that may be made to council structure. In conjunction with these actions, Pastor Tracey suggested that council host a forum to share with the congregation our experience working with Pastor Jon Lee and our plan of action. Council agreed to organize this forum after the first of the year. There was also discussion about organizing the church council retreat, to be held January 7, 2012.

Executive Personnel will meet on Tuesday, December 13. Council will not meet in December, due to the busy holiday schedule.

Respectfully Submitted, Laura Seitter, Congregation Council Secretary



Dear members and friends of Mac Park,

We thank you for your meaningful cards and many acts of kindness, not only at this special time of year, but all year long. We are so blessed to serve in a congregation of such thoughtful and caring members.

May God fill your life with love, joy and peace this Advent and Christmas Season and throughout the New Year.

Mac Park Church Staff

SOCIAL JUSTICE
Christ's Work, Our Hands
A Water Buffalo for Christmas

Did it all start with gold, frankincense and myrrh delivered to a tiny baby two thousand years ago? By “it”, I mean all the catalogs arriving in the mail, the multiple advertisements in the newspapers and on TV (especially on the children's programs), the glittering store displays, all persuading us to buy Christmas gifts.

As Christians, we celebrate the greatest gift given by God when he sent us Jesus Christ. Giving gifts to family and friends is a part of modern day Christmas observations. I am fortunate to have three grandchildren and a great-granddaughter here in San Antonio, and it is a blessing on Christmas morning to watch the joy in their faces as they open their presents.

But, often the gifts given on Christmas have a short life: a couple of months later, the gifts are broken, discarded and forgotten. Why not think of gifts that will never bore the recipient, will often multiply and will truly bring Christ's hope and help to people who need it? You can find these gifts at ELCA Good Gifts at www.elca.org, type in “Good Gifts” in the search box. Gifts of creatures in God's barnyard are listed at various prices as well as other gifts to aid the poor and hungry. Many ELCA churches make a Good Gifts as part of their yearly programs. A nice thing for Mac Park to do!

My personal favorite source of gifts is Heifer International, www.heifer.org/catalog or 1-800-698-2511. Heifer allows you to give a share of a large animal, when you have a limited budget. The catalog also tells the stories of participants in the programs. For example, a widow in Cameroon caring for her 8-year-old granddaughter was given two pigs, one male and one female. Soon, there were eight piglets, so she passed on two piglets to another deserving family (which is part of the program). With her earnings from the sale of the many forthcoming piglets, she was able to purchase mosquito nets to prevent malaria, provide food on her table and care for the future of her granddaughter. Other stories are also inspiring.

So think of gifts that, like pigs, will keep on giving and contact these organizations to select your gifts. The occasion does not have to be Christmas. Birthdays, memorials, honorariums and “Just Because” occasions will do. And gift yourself. What a better present for yourself than a water buffalo?

In Christ, Joan Smith-Lawrence, Social Concerns Chair

The Importance of Family Traditions

By The Vine Wellness Group: A Counseling Ministry

As the Christmas Holidays are approaching, many of our conversations center around various family traditions that families have created throughout the years. Traditions are an important aspect of healthy families as they create intimacy and togetherness, essential characteristics that bind families together. Furthermore, the effects that traditions have on children are substantial. Children benefit tremendously from the feelings of unity and connectedness that are manifested through tradition. When families adopt traditions, children are able to sense a commitment to family that helps them to make healthy and balanced life choices.*



In addition to feelings of intimacy, traditions make it easier for family members to recall experiences shared, which are termed as markers. With traditions as markers, we are able to commit to remembering those special events or instances that might otherwise be forgotten.* The benefits of establishing traditions with your family are ample, so how do you find the ones that are right for your family?

First, families must commit to spending time together. Next families should consider a past time that will bring your family closer together. Begin this by taking inventory of the activities your family enjoys doing together, such as outdoor or indoor activities or outings. Be flexible with the time you have set aside and allow your children to be involved in the process. The process of finding things your family enjoys together is part of the fun. Once you find these activities, decide whether to make them weekly, monthly or yearly events. And there you have it...Traditions!

(*Excerpts taken from answerforme.com)

Annie M Viers, MA, LPC-S, LMFT * Celeste Inman, Med, LPC-S, RPT
15110 Jones Maltsberger Rd, #102 San Antonio, TX 78247
210-490-4419 www.thevinewellness.com

NEWS & *Notes*

Our Christian sympathy is extended to Steve and Linda Hammonds on the death of his sister Sharon; and to Joan Smith-Lawrence on the death of her cousin Patricia Mosely.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Volunteers are needed to help Property Manager Kevin Ott set up and take down the tables and chairs for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of MacArthur Park Lutheran Church. Help will be required on Saturday, Dec. 10 at 9 a.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. after the celebration. Those who can assist should sign up with Suzette Price, 655-3833.

50th Anniversary Cookbooks are still available through the church office for the great price of \$12 each. This is a great time to start your Christmas shopping!

Boxtops and Campbell's soup labels:

The School is still collecting Boxtops for Education and we have added Campbell's soup labels. By clipping both, the school benefits. Each boxtop is worth 10¢ and each label is worth one point. We are collecting for a popcorn machine and parachute. Thank you for all your help!

SAVIOR ORNAMENT

This Christmas, celebrate Jesus' birthday by making this keepsake ornament.

What you need:

- Wooden clothespin with round end
- Black permanent marker
- White cloth or felt
- Small wooden star (available at craft stores)
- Yellow paint
- Paintbrush
- Gold glitter (optional)
- Glue gun (and an adult)
- Straw-colored raffia
- Palm-size wicker wreath (available at craft stores)
- Ribbon

What you do:

1. On the clothespin's round knob, draw two dots for eyes.
2. Wrap the white cloth around the clothespin, like a swaddled baby.
3. Paint the star yellow; add glitter, if desired.
4. With the glue gun and adult supervision, glue the raffia to the bottom inside of the wreath. Then glue the swaddled clothespin atop the raffia and glue the gold star atop the wreath.
5. Tie a ribbon around the top, near the star.
6. Hang the ornament on your Christmas tree or tie it on a gift.

Stitches from the Quilters



(A)



(B)



(C)

Quilter “Dude” of the Month: (A) Bob Hunt (Part V): Bob has other hobbies besides volunteering. He enjoys hunting and golfing. He was always interested in traveling, also. When he was growing up, from the time he was 9 or 10 years old, every summer his family would choose a different area of the United States and Canada to explore. By the time he was out of school, he had been to 48 states. He has since completed his collection with Alaska and Hawaii.

He and Jan like to travel. They’ve been to about 22 countries in Europe, China, Egypt, Greece, Turkey, Australia and New Zealand as well as both South and Central America. They’ve been to most of the Islands of the Caribbean on cruise ships. In the Spring of 2011, they went to Paris and getting on a small boat on the Seine and go to Normandy. *(Tune in next month for Part VI)*

Making a Difference (B): Last month we told you about sending Kumfert Kwilts to victims of the Bastrop fires. (B) Shows Maritza Guzman and Pat Richmond stamping the church’s name and address on the corner of each Kwilt. Below is a copy of a thank you note from one of the victims:

Nov. 4, 2011

Dear Thoughtful Quilters,
 What a very nice gift to receive from such a kind and generous group of people! A friend brought me a pretty, lavender flowered quilt today. I'm not sure where she got it, but it will be enjoyed. I'm usually cold.
 Our home was gone on that Sunday about an hour after we were told to evacuate. My husband, Jim, and our poodle, Amiker, left with very little. I grabbed the dog, leash, dog bowls + dog food + my purse. My husband grabbed his work computer and our

home laptop. We feel very blessed to have what we do have. The laptop has been a great help trying to get contents figured for our insurance company. Our company has been very good so far + many had no insurance. I feel so sorry for them.
 We are living in a home near schools for now and do plan to rebuild. Our home was overlooking the river and we enjoyed every day we lived there.
 People have been so wonderful.
 Pat Berkner

(Continued on Page 16.)

(Continued from Page 15.)

If you want to “Make a difference”, come join the quilters and tie quilts, etc. We could certainly use the help.

“Colonial Log Cabin”: (C) Tickets are going nicely for the donation to the Mac Park Lutheran School. This quilt will be going to the sanctuary during the month of December. Tickets are still available from the quilters or from Debbie in the office and will be available after church on Sundays. They are \$1 donation each or \$5 donation for 7. Remember the monies go to help the school.

Yours in Christ, Mary Alice Rupard

“POST”-INGS FROM THE STAMP CLUB

December 2 – 7:30 – BLUE CHIP AUCTION – Items are catalog prices \$15.00 or over. Most were advertised in the Philatex, but some additional items will be available---(bring the “egg-money”!!!!!!!) You WILL find some bargains.

December 9 – 6:00 – CHRISTMAS PARTY AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS.
You don’t have to be a member to come to the party.
You just need to be ready to have some fun and fellowship.
Bring a dessert, salad or vegetable.
Meat and tamales are provided by the club.

December 16 – 7:30 – Bourse – Philatelic flea market, buy, sell, trade---GET BARGAINS!!!!!!!

December 17 – 9 a.m. – Saturday Bourssette – Building #6 – (Baby Bourse!!!—
Last chance of the year for some real bargains!!!)

December 23 – NO MEETING – CHRISTMAS

December 30 – NO MEETING – NEW YEARS (Be safe!!!)

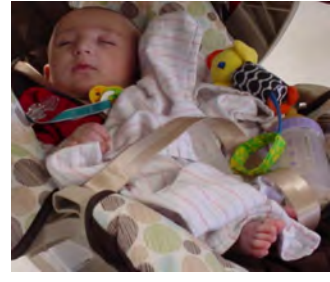
Notes from the Needlework Club



(A)



(B)



(C)

(A) Alexander Tomnbay and his sister Isabella Tomnbay are busy cutting stickers and bagging them for children in the hospital. Alexander is 4 years old and his sister Isabella is 3 years old.

(B) Here we see Mrs. Tomnbay and her two daughters, Heidi and Hannah are busy tying "Kumfert Kwilts" for the people in the nursing home. These two girls want to "Make a Difference." Incidentally, their mother took home two quilts that day and has since taken 3 more.

(C) Well, I guess we'd better have the whole family. Julius (3 months old) is busy sleeping so that the others can work diligently cutting stickers and tying quilts. (Do we have a future "Quilter Dude" here???? Who knows)

Pat Richmond tells me it was a pleasure to have Mrs. Tomnbay and her children come over after school on a Wednesday for 30 minutes or so to learn some helping skills. She welcomes others who are interested in bringing young people to learn some helping skills. (She wants the parent to stay with them during the 30 minutes before 3:00 p.m on Wednesdays.)

Yours in Christ, Mary Alice Rupard

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Service	Oct 30	Nov 6	Nov 13	Nov 20	Nov 27	TOTAL
8:30am	105	107	87	97	85	481
10:45am	99	70	112	92	86	459
Offering	\$8,027.32	\$13,185.60	\$4,497.25	\$6,241.25	\$4,413.16	\$36,364.58
Sunday school	51	51	50	69	52	273

11/17 Thanksgiving service: 138 attendance; offering \$207.16 designated for Food Pantry at St. Pius X Catholic Church & \$70 regular offering

PASTORAL ACTS


10/28/11 Funeral service for Jon Michael Freiger

MEMORIALS


JON FREIGER: Mark & Brenda Kusenberger; Barry Green; Terry & Kathy Frost; Paul & Nancy Halvorson; Dale & Carol Couffer; Marcia Conard, Virginia & Bud Loxton, Pat & Casie Conard, & James Conard; Janice Zitelman; Floyd & Joyce Bland; Lloyd & Linda Hitchings; Allen & Donna Scheel; Bonnalee Freiger; Blake & Allison Cogbill; Charlen Rasleigh; Jebby Rasputnis; Margie & Bob Jones; Bjorn & Shari Dybdahl; Leigh S. Scott, PhD; Beth & Christopher Rashleigh; Finis & Dawn Davis; Skip & Shirley Whitehill; Chrystal Connolly; Linda Kavanagh; Debbie Kennedy; DHS/ICE/HSI Cyber Crimes Center staff; Wendi & Robert Taber; Ron Danforth, Olivia Muench, Stacey Young; Laura Cox; John & Betty Pomykal

Please pray for the following: Karoline & Jim Aulds; Dale Beaver; Nancy Beaver; Lou Anne Blankenship; Steven Boyd; Michelle Briscoe; Trina Camerer; Stephanie Cardenas; Norma Case; Thomas Colbenson; Sandra Couffer; Diana Beaver Dzern; Evelyn Garza; Andrea Hexel; Linda Hitchings; Evelyn Hicks & Lloyd Sellers; Leslie Huisman & baby; Josephine Huizar; Dorothy Imig; Anna Jenkins; Dewey Johnson; Felicia Johnson; Miles Juarez; Beverly Klaus; Robin & Barbara Kunkle; Eddie LaFuente; Jerelene Lopez; Bonnie McKisson; Mike Milliman; Georgia Nisi; Ronnie Nunn; Beatrice Page; James Peters; Jonathan Petrutsas; Andy Post; Elizabeth Ramos; Phyllis Ray; Mims Reid; Dot Rust; Sharon Saathoff; Nancy Stevens; David VanLydegraf; Jeannie White; Mike Young

Military stationed overseas: Matthew Guevara, Mike Hammonds; and all the other troops




PUZZLE




A PROMISED RULER

Prophets told of Jesus' birth hundreds of years before it happened. Never had a baby's arrival come with such a promise.


Directions: To read what one prophet (Micah 5:4, NIV) said about Jesus, complete the math problems below. Then fill in the words, using the math solutions as your guide.




7+6
strength




9+1
shepherd




30-5
the




7+5
ends




50-26
live




21-10
will



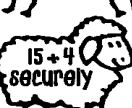
27-24
reach




10+7
flock




40-20
stand




15+4
securely




8+8
his



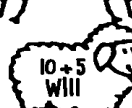
35-31
LORD



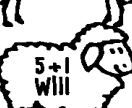
17-3
greatness



10-3
earth



10+5
will



5+1
will

“He _____ and _____ his _____
 15 20 10 17

in the _____ of the _____ And they _____
 13 4 11 24

_____, for then _____
 19 16 14 6

_____ to the _____ of _____.”
 3 12 25 7

M I C A H 5 : 4 , N I V

Answers: "He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth." Micah 5:4, NIV

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

† **Nursery** available Sunday mornings

from **8:00 am—12:00 noon** for infants thru age 3. †

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

† Our **School** has a Christian environment for students **ages 2 years–Kinder** †

2011 — 2012 Congregation Council

Bill Sweda, President

Beverly Frank, Equipping Chair

Mark Hansen, Vice President

Lisa Hooter, Sending Chair

Laura Seitter, Secretary

Dale Couffer, Support Chair

Dan Bierstedt, Treasurer

Matt Halder, School Board Chair

Denise Bilderback, Inviting Chair

Deadline for our next *Messenger* is **Thurs., Dec. 16, 2011.**
