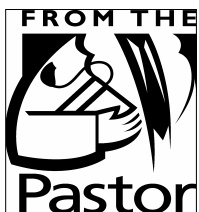


Transformation Times

Martin Luther - St. Paul Parish
The TLC Church



SOLDIERS IN THE ARMY OF THE LORD

I am a soldier in the army of my God. The Lord Jesus Christ is my commanding officer. The Holy Bible is my code of conduct. Faith, prayer, and the Word are my weapons of warfare. I have been taught by the Holy Spirit, trained by experience, tried by adversity and tested by fire. I am a volunteer in this army, and I am enlisted for eternity. I will either retire in this army at the rapture or die in this army; but I will not get out, sell out, be talked out, or pushed out. I am faithful, reliable, capable and dependable. If my God needs me, I am there. If He needs me in the Sunday School, to teach the children, work with the youth, help adults or just sit and learn. He can use me because I am there! I am a soldier. I am not a baby. I do not need to be pampered, petted, primed up, pumped up, picked up or pepped up. I am a soldier. No one has to call me, remind me, write me, visit me, entice me, or lure me. I am a soldier. I am not a wimp. I am in place, saluting my King, obeying His orders, praising His name, and building is kingdom! No one has to send me flowers, gifts, food, cards, candy or give me hand-outs. I do not need to be cuddled, cradled, cared for, or catered to. I am committed. I cannot have my feelings hurt bad enough to turn me around. I cannot be discouraged enough to turn me aside. I cannot lose enough to cause me to quit. When Jesus called me into this army, I had nothing. If I end up with nothing, I will still come out ahead. I will win. My God has and will continue to supply all of my needs. I am more than a conqueror. I will always triumph. I can do all things through Christ. Devils cannot defeat me. People cannot disillusion me. Weather cannot weary me. Sickness cannot stop me. Battles cannot beat me. Money cannot buy me. Governments cannot silence me and hell cannot handle me. I am a sol-

dier. Even death cannot destroy me. For when my commander calls me from this battlefield, He will promote me to Captain and then allow me to rule with Him. I am a soldier in the army, and I'm marching claiming victory. I will not give up. I will not turn around. I am a soldier, marching heaven bound. Here I stand! Will you stand with me? Guess what? If you've accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior and been baptized for the remission of your sins, you're already enlisted!

Question is, which part of the service are you in:

1. Active Duty: Serving the Lord faithfully, daily, and on duty 24-7?
2. Reserve status: Serving only when called upon once or twice a year: Christmas and Easter?
3. Guard status: Backing up the Active Duty group? or
4. AWOL! Absent with out the Lord?

I LOVE YOU FOR THAT REASON....

People come into your life for a reason, a season or a lifetime. When you figure out which it is, you know exactly what to do. When someone is in your life for a reason, it is usually to meet a need you have expressed outwardly or inwardly.

They have come to assist you through a difficulty, to provide you with guidance and support, to aid you physically, emotionally or spiritually. They may seem like a godsend, and they are. They are there for the reason you need them to be. Then, without any wrong doing on your
(continued on page 7)

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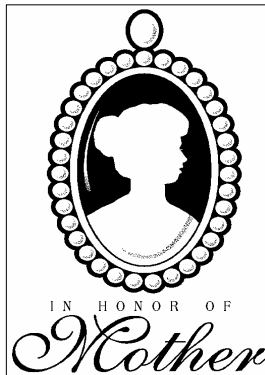


From the desk of the Parish Administrator

We've had the April showers, now it's time for May flowers! And as we travel through this Springtime month of May following the resurrection of our Lord Jesus let us take the opportunity to thank Him for providing the blessing of the salvation of Christ as we prepare ourselves for the events that this new month brings!

For the **National Day of Prayer, May 6th** MLSP will be open at 12 noon for meditation and a prayer service in national observance of unified prayer.

For all of the moms and grandmoms here's wishing you a very happy, loving and wonderful, fulfilled **MOTHER'S DAY May 9th!** There will be a special surprise for the moms of Martin Luther-St. Paul presented to them by the men of the church just to show them how special they are!

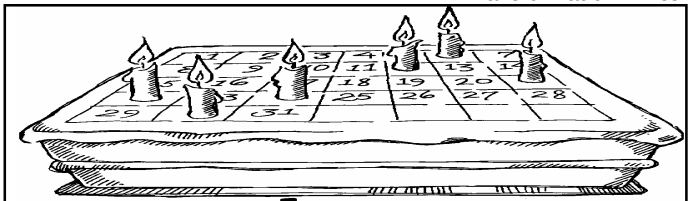


This year's Northeast Ohio Synod Assembly takes place May 13th-15th at the John S. Knight Center in downtown Akron, Ohio. Martin Luther-St. Paul Parish will be sending Pastor Charles along with Council President Martha Beckwith and Council Member Richard Beckwith to attend the assembly as votes in synod elections and issues presented on the assembly floor.

In support of our troops past and present we will be giving them well deserved honor on **May 15th Armed Forces Day** and **May 31st Memorial Day!** For everyone who has worn or wears a uniform in defense of our country we salute you!



Pray for Our Military

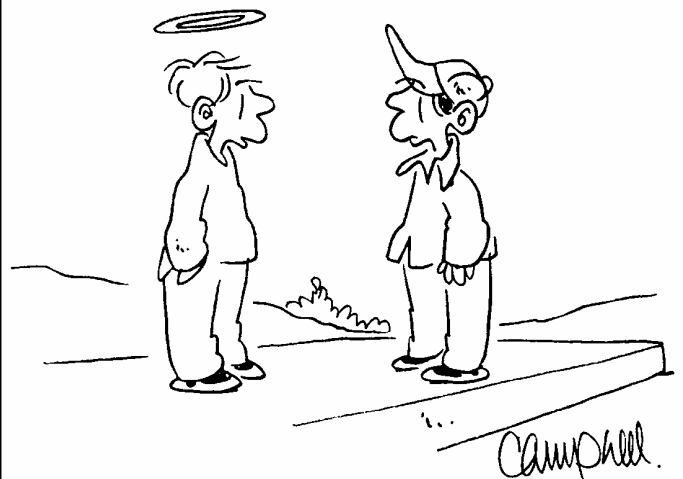


Birthdays This Month

Mabel Mehringer April 4th, Margaret Parker April 8th, Edward Parker April 11th, Naomi Miller April 20th. Make sure to wish these folks Happy Birthday on their special day!



"The motion passes to form a committee, to select a task force, to see why we can never get anything done in our board meetings."



"It's only for a day or two. Mother's Day present."

What's Going On At Martin Luther-St. Paul

MAY NEWSLETTER

Christ has Risen, ALLELUIA! Holy week was an very inspirational week, those of you who were unable to attend missed some very good services. Sunrise services were nice, no sun, but we had and have a beautiful "Son Rise". Afterward we went to St. Thomas for a very good pancake breakfast. It was very nice to be sharing the service with them again.

Our "Potato Bake" fundraiser went very well. We had potatoes that were the size of footballs. We made a profit of \$67.59.

Our council members attended a meeting at Northeast Ohio Synod offices for a Natural Church Development Seminar April 22nd.

I will be attending the second installment of the Synod's meeting concerning Anti-racism May 20th at Synod offices.

Pastor Charles and Carlton are members of and have been attending meetings of the Cleveland Chapter of the African-American Lutheran Association and will be attending the ELCA Commission for Multicultural Ministries, Lift Every Voice: A Multicultural Gathering in Praise, in Song, and in Dance Convention July 7 - 11, 2004 in Orlando, Florida. The Cleveland Chapter of African-American Lutheran Association will be providing a lot of the volunteers serving during the convention.

Richard, Charles, Carlton and myself attended the Bishop's spring gathering on April 27 concerning the abilities of the Synod to serve us better. On the 29th Carlton and I went to the Evangelism/Planning meeting at Trinity Commons in Cleveland between Episcopalian and Lutherans detailing efforts to work together.

Richard and I will be attending the Northeast Ohio Synod Assembly as delegates May 13-15 in Akron.

We had a very good first meeting for our VBS Monday night April 19th. The decision to hold it in the evening was made, the time is from 5:30p.m. to 8:00p.m. with supper at 5:30 p.m. to 6:00. This is our letting you know and to get prepared for V.B.S.

We are starting to received our phone books again so when you get your new ones be sure to bring the old ones into church so we can recycle them.

Happy Mothers Day! Mother's Day is this month, I hope all Mothers will have a very nice day.

The weather is getting warmer, and with children outside more, remember that they don't always pay attention so be careful when driving, especially in our neighborhoods.

I would like to leave you with a little saying by Albert Einstein: " A person first starts to live when he can live outside himself, when he can have as much regard for his fellow man as he does himself. It is the responsibility of every human being to aspire to do something worthwhile to make this world a better place than the one he found. Life is a gift, and if we agree to accept it, we must contribute in return. When we fail to contribute, we fail to adequately answer why we are here."

Until next month,
Yours in Christ, Martha

MARTIN LUTHER-ST. PAUL MONTHLY PLANNER

May 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
Apr 2004 <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr></table> Jan 2004 <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr></table>						S	M	T	W	T	F	S					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	27	28	29	30		S	M	T	W	T	F	S					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	27	28	29	30		1
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30 Memorial Day Sun.Sch 9:45am Worship 11am	31																																																																																									



Please pray for...

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Kathleen, Tiffany Fischer & family; Dave Garcia & family; Margaret Parker & the Parker family; Vivian Walker; Dave Anderson; Ann Rudd & the Browning family; Pastor Larry Mackey & his wife Lida; the Brennan family; Jonathon & Carrie Canterbury; Karl Adam; Cheryl Bazdar; Carol Davis; Jonathan Jones; Alice Nelson; God's direction for our parish; protection for those in the armed forces, especially Lee Johnson & Eric Thomas; Blessings on our community and our Mission Partners.

SICK & SHUT-IN: Anna Rudd; Clara Strauss; Margaret Dina; Elsie Dreher; Lillian Kamm; Evelyn Wynn; Nevada Brown. **Note:** Margaret Parker, Richard Salzer are in nursing homes locally; Richard Feightner is in a nursing home in Rittman, Ohio.

BEREAVEMENT: *Marge Salzer; Glenna Fischer; Harry Smith; Kay Guelker*

Please pray for those in our congregation who would attend service but cannot, and continue to pray for people outside our congregation that are sick and shut-in; weak and frail; and for those dealing with medical problems. Please pray for the hospitalized, the bedridden, the sick, shut-in or homebound.

Please pray for the homeless, the hungry, the unemployed, the impoverished and disenfranchised, those burdened with addiction and/or substance abuse, those that are mentally, physically, emotionally, or financially challenged, also those institutionalized or incarcerated.

Please pray for those in the military at home or abroad who are protecting us and our families during these times concerning war, praying for God's protection for those in the armed forces, especially, Ken Browning, Lee Johnson, & Eric Thomas.

Should you need to contact Pastor Charles, he can be reached at: (216)-631-6570. Should you need to contact Carlton Monroe, he can be reached at the church, Sundays: 9:30 am-1:30 pm; Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays: 9 am-1 pm; Wednesdays, 7 pm-8:30 pm; (216) 631-6570

Deacons



May	2nd	Naomi Miller Richard Beckwith
	9th	Mable Mehringer Glenda Eduardos
	16th	DEACON'S MEETING Naomi Miller Drema Pacheco
	23rd	Martha Beckwith Jack Brennan
	30th	Glenda Eduardos Richard Beckwith



May	2nd	Linda Browning
	9th	Martha Beckwith
	16th	Jack Brennan
	23rd	Carlton Monroe
	30th	Jonathon Canterbury



May	9th	MOTHER'S DAY David Garcia
	23rd	TBA



Here are scriptures for the month May. If you are the Worship Assistant/Reader and would like to familiarize yourself with or just like to know the reading for that Sunday's specific lectionary in advance they are highlighted and underlined in the bold print.

May 2, 2004

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:36-43

Peter raises Tabitha from the dead

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd

Revelation 7:9-17

A multitude sings before the Lamb

John 10:22-30

Jesus promises life to his sheep

M Ezekiel 37:15-28

God will unite the flock

T Ezekiel 45:1-9

God promises a sanctuary

W John 10:31-42

The Son and the Father are one

Th Jeremiah 50:17-20

Israel will be fed

F Revelation 6:1--7:3

Israel sealed

Sa Psalm 100

We are God's sheep

May 9, 2004

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-18

God saves the Gentiles

Psalm 148

God's splendor is over earth and heaven

Revelation 21:1-6

New heaven, new earth

John 13:31-35

Love one another

M 1 Samuel 20:1-23, 35-42

The love of David and Jonathan

T 2 Samuel 1:4-27

David mourns Jonathan's death

W Luke 10:25-28

Love your neighbor

Th Leviticus 19:9-18

Love your neighbor

F Revelation 10:1-11

Eating the scroll

Sa Psalm 133

How good it is to live in unity

May 16, 2004

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15

Lydia and her household are baptized

Psalm 67

Let the nations be glad

Revelation 21:10, 22--22:5

The Lamb is the light of God's city

John 14:23-29

The Father will send the Holy Spirit

or John 5:1-9

Jesus heals on the sabbath

M 1 Chronicles 12:16-22

The spirit of God on Amasai

T 2 Chronicles 15:1-15

The spirit of God on Azariah

W Luke 2:25-38

The Spirit of God on Simeon and Anna

May 20, 2004

The Ascension of Our Lord

Th Acts 1:1-11

Jesus sends the apostles

Psalm 47

God has gone up with a shout

or Psalm 93

God's throne has been established

Ephesians 1:15-23

Seeing the risen and ascended Christ

Luke 24:44-53

Christ present in all times and places

F Revelation 12:13-17

The dragon makes war

Sa Psalm 125

The peace of God

May 23, 2004

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34

A jailer is baptized

Psalm 97

Light dawns for the righteous

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

Blessed are those who wash their robes

John 17:20-26

Jesus prays for the disciples

M Exodus 40:16-38 (continued on page 7)

May 23, 2004**Seventh Sunday of Easter****Acts 16:16-34****A jailer is baptized****Psalm 97****Light dawns for the righteous****Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21****Blessed are those who wash their robes****John 17:20-26****Jesus prays for the disciples****M Exodus 40:16-38****God's glory on the tabernacle****T 2 Chronicles 5:2-14****God's glory in the temple****W Luke 9:18-27****God's glory and discipleship****Th Ezekiel 3:12-21****God's glory commissions the prophet****F Revelation 19:9-21****The rider and the beast****May 29, 2004****Vigil of Pentecost****Sa Exodus 19:1-9****The covenant at Sinai****or Acts 2:1-11****Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds****Psalm 33:12-22****The LORD, our help and our shield****or Psalm 130****There is forgiveness with you****Romans 8:14-17, 22-27****Praying with the Spirit****John 7:37-39****Jesus, the true living water****May 30, 2004****The Day of Pentecost****Acts 2:1-21****Filled with the Spirit****or Genesis 11:1-9****God destroys the tower of Babel****Psalm 104:24-34, 35b****Send forth your spirit****Romans 8:14-17****The Spirit makes us children of God****or Acts 2:1-21****Filled with the Spirit****John 14:8-17 [25-27]****The Father will give you the Spirit of truth****M Joel 2:18-29****God's spirit poured out****T Ezekiel 11:14-25****God will gather the people****W Luke 1:26-38****God's Spirit comes on Mary****Th Numbers 24:1-14****Balaam speaks with God's spirit****F 1 Corinthians 2:1-13****About the Spirit of God****Sa Psalm 48****The God of Zion***(continued from page 1)*

part or at an inconvenient time, this person will say or do something to bring the relationship to an end. Sometimes they die. Sometimes they walk away. Sometimes they act up or out and force you to take a stand. What we must realize is that our need has been met, God's purpose fulfilled; their work is done. Your prayer has been answered and it is now time to move on. Next! When people come into your life for a season, it is because your turn has come to share, grow or learn. They may bring you an experience of peace or make you laugh. They may teach you something. They usually give you an unbelievable amount of joy. Believe it! It is real! But, only for a season. Lifetime relationships teach you lifetime lessons; those things you must build upon in order to have a solid emotional foundation.

Your job is to accept the lesson, love the person/

people (anyway); and put what you have learned to use in all other relationships and areas of your life. It is said that love is blind but, friendship is clairvoyant. I know why you are in my life and I love you for that reason...

Charles L. Edwards



Martin Luther - St. Paul Parish

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Compassion, Reconciliation & Restoration



Martin Luther-St. Paul Parish
The TLC Church