

## Lutheran Lay Fellowship of Metropolitan Washington DC



### LUNCHEON MEETING Thursday, December 4, 2014 – 12:00 noon

Saint Luke Lutheran Church  
9100 Colesville Road at Dale Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

#### **Membership**

Printed copies of the 2014 Lutheran Lay Fellowship membership directory were available for pickup at the sign-in table. If you did not receive one, the directory may be downloaded in PDF format from our website. Go to <http://www.LutheranLayFellowship.org> and click on "Archive". Then under "General", select "New Membership Directory". However, note that for security reasons this file is protected. See LLF President, Bob "Sarge" Sargeant, the Priebe or our Webmaster, Dave Lambert for the password.

Also, membership renewal forms were available for pickup to cut down on the cost of postage. Any not taken last month or today will be mailed to current members. If you are new and wish to join LLF or have not received your renewal form, a blank form is available in the LLF "Archive" described above. Look in the "General" section and click on "Membership Application Form". For your convenience, the form is attached to these Meeting Minutes.

#### **Opening Announcements**

John Priebe opened the meeting at 12:10, noting that both Bob Sargeant and David Berg are unable to be with us today. There was one first-time attendee, Joyce DeVilbiss, and one person, Ken Wilson, celebrating his birthday this month.

Gifts were presented to Faye Coddling for Christmas gifts to residents of [Fellowship Square Foundation](#) homes. Faye said these gifts cards represent many things for the residents, as they touch the heart and soul of the resident. Pastor Klein will pass out the Bibles. There will be people who will say, "I never had my own Bible." Many of the residents have immigrated, and books are rarely brought on that journey. The gift cards will be inserted into a Fellowship Square Christmas card which was designed by residents. Faye asked that we remember the residents in our prayers, after which she offered a prayer of blessing of the gifts.

Faye also announced that Fellowship Square will be putting up a new website in January.

John noted that the 2015 membership forms are available, including opportunities for giving. Yearly Dues are not tax deductible but you may elect to give extra to the Fellowship Square Good Samaritan Fund, the LLF Scholarship Fund or the Wegener Chaplaincy Fund. You may also give an unrestricted donation to LLF in addition to your membership dues.

John also reminded us that as January 1 is the first Thursday of the month; we will not meet this month. Our February meeting will be on work with [Christian-Muslim relations](#).

Carolyn Sowinski linked Faye's message of hope for the residents to the [Gifts of Hope](#) program she coordinates. This is the busy time of year for Gifts of Hope through the website and congregational gift designations.

[St. Luke Lutheran](#) is hosting a [Lutheran Social Services](#) "Action and Compassion" dinner on 12/5.

Mr & Mrs. Bell, our hospitality hosts each month, were presented a gift basket as our gratitude for their service.

Apples were given by a member as a gift for all attendees.

Joyce announced a holiday benefit concert for wounded warriors with three choirs and brass, at [Hughes United Methodist Church](#) in Wheaton on Saturday night. The charity selected to receive financial support from the concert is the American Red Cross at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, for its program of caring for wounded warriors from Iraq and Afghanistan. For more information, see <http://www.rockvillebrassband.org/brass-voices-celebrate-holiday-benefit-concert/>

Sunday at 5 Rutter's Magnificat will be performed at St. Luke Lutheran.

### **Opening Devotion**

Bonnie Priebe led devotions based on the story of Jesse, relating it to the "Jesse trees" that many churches use to collect gifts for the needy. She also spoke on the guidance for Advent daily devotions, with today being the story of Abraham and Sarah.

## **Speakers**

The "speakers" for day were the joyful voices of those in attendance, accompanied by Stefan Brodd who is the cantor at First Trinity and St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Washington, DC, and for both the Church of Sweden and the Church of Finland in Washington. He has served as musical director and accompanist for many musical theater productions, and accompanies and arranges music for performers on Embassy Row and at gala events in Washington venues. Stefan holds a bachelor's degree in music and mathematics and a master's degree in computer science. At NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, he was particularly proud of his work on the Cosmic Background Explorer mission, which verified the Big Bang theory of the origin of the universe and earned its principal scientists the Nobel Prize for Physics.

## **Presentation**

Steve distributed song sheets he created for this LLF meeting. The carols were selected to represent various countries heritage and style of music. After the singing of each song Steve provided information on the text attributants. He noted that the Feast of the Annunciation coincides with the arrival in Maryland of the first settlers who celebrated the first worship service. "The Angel Gabriel" was in original Basque carol, a rare language. Martin Luther's eleven-verse "From Heaven Above" for which he later wrote a tune to match his original text. Next, "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" is a Polish mazurka carol. It first appeared in English in 1877. The best-known Norwegian carol, "I am so glad each Christmas Eve" which was translated by an Augustana College professor, Peter Aveeggen. "Go Tell it on the Mountain," the African American spiritual did not begin as a Christmas Carol. John Work, Jr. wrote the stanzas to make it a Christmas hymn. A detour into Epiphany was "We Three Kings of Orient Are" which was written for the Magi portion of the Christmas pageant by a General Seminary profession, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (Steve related an anecdote about the growing of Frankincense.) The most famous Christmas Carol, "Silent Night, Holy Night" was written to be sung a capella when the organ "went out." The priest, Joseph Mohr, wrote it, with music by Franz Gruber in the 19th century. The final carol was "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and is perhaps the second most well-known Christmas hymn." Charles Wesley wrote it but it was first sung to another tune. The current music is by Mendelssohn.

Steve announced a Nordic Christmas Eve service at [Augustana Lutheran Church](#) at 2:30. He advises to arrive early.

## **Closing Devotion**

Faye offered a benedictory prayer to send us on our way.



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- I am a current member of LLF
- I am a former member of LLF and plan to renew my membership
- I am a visitor today and wish to join LLF
  
- Opt-out of E-mail Newsletters
- Opt-in of hardcopy Newsletters (*dues-paying members only*)

---

Today's Date

---

Full Name

---

Name to appear on nametag

---

Street Address

---

City, State, Zip

---

Home Phone

Work Phone

Cell Phone

---

E-mail Address or write "NONE" if you do not have an E-mail address

---

Name of your church

---

City, State, Zip of your church

*Please return this form to LLF Treasurer, 5600 Inwood Street, Cheverly, MD 20785*

## Membership Options

- Volunteer to be an usher for the Reformation Service on the last Sunday in October.
- \$25 yearly dues for myself.
- \$25 additional yearly dues for my spouse.

---

Spouse's name, if applicable

---

Spouse's E-mail Address or write "NONE"

- \_\_\_\_\_ Tax-deductible Donation to the Fellowship Square Good Samaritan Fund
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tax-deductible Donation to the Scholarship Fund
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tax-deductible Donation to the Wegener Chaplaincy Fund
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tax-deductible Donation to the LLF (*in addition to Membership Dues*)

---

## Payment Options

- I will pay at this meeting
- I will pay at the next meeting
- I will mail my check to the Treasurer
- Bill me with PayPal so I can pay by Credit or Debit Card

---

*Please return this form to LLF Treasurer, 5600 Inwood Street, Cheverly, MD 20785*