

Lutheran Lay Fellowship of Metropolitan Washington DC



May 2016 Newsletter

In this Issue

*Opening Devotion
Fellowship Square
LSS/NCA Benefit Breakfast
Caring & Sharing
Three LLF Meetings a Month
Meeting Schedule
Call for Ushers*

Opening Devotion

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C

This year, the 6th Sunday of Easter is May 1st. But "Year C", what's that all about? Have you ever talked about Sunday's sermon with a friend from another denomination, or even Catholic, and he or she heard the same Scripture and a similar sermon? Here's why.

The church year is broken up into Seasons: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and the Season after Pentecost. The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) is a three-year cycle of weekly lections used to varying degrees by the vast majority of mainline Protestant churches in Canada and the United States. The RCL is built around the seasons of the Church Year, and includes four lections for each Sunday, as well as additional readings for major feast days. During most of the year, the lections are a reading from the Hebrew Bible, a Psalm, a reading from the Epistles, and a Gospel reading. During the season of Easter, the Hebrew Bible lection is usually replaced with one from the Acts of the Apostles. The lections from the Hebrew Bible are sometimes chosen from the Apocrypha.

For example, this Sunday's readings are [Acts 16:9-15](#), [Psalm 67](#), [Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5](#), and [John 14:23-29](#). You may have heard some or all of these scripture readings on Sunday. Some congregations make "Christ in Our Home" ([Augsburg Fortress ISSN 0412-2968](#)) available to members; individual subscriptions are also available. This devotional booklet follows the Lectionary.

The gospel readings for each year come from one of the synoptic gospels according to the following pattern:

- Year A - Matthew
- Year B - Mark
- Year C - Luke

Readings from the Gospel of John can be found throughout the RCL.

Jesus prays for all believers in [John 17:20-21 \(NIV\)](#): “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, **that all of them may be one**, [*emphasis added*] Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”

The things that divide us into denominations are of man and not of God. There is so much more that we have in common than things that divide us. The RCL was produced by The Consultation on Common Texts (CCT). Current members of the CCT are American Baptist Churches/USA, The Anglican Church of Canada, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Reformed Church in North America, Church of the Brethren, Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Free Methodist Church in Canada, Liturgy and Life: American Baptist Fellowship of Liturgical Renewal, Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, Mennonite Church, National Conference of Catholic Bishops of the United States, North American Lutheran Church, Polish National Catholic Church, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Presbyterian Church in Canada, Reformed Church in America, Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship, United Church of Canada, United Church of Christ, United Methodist Church, and Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

For more information about the Lectionary, see <http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu>

Fellowship Square

A concern for the low and moderate income elderly in need of adequate housing moved LLF members to sponsor, in 1960, creation of [Fellowship Square Foundation, Inc. \(FSF\)](#), a not-for-profit corporation to implement Federal housing legislation designated to relieve this need. FSF currently has five buildings on four campuses.

Fellowship Square, a faith-based, nonprofit organization, advocates for and provides safe, secure and affordable homes and an array of supportive services for a diverse population of low-income seniors and persons with disabilities.

The Fellowship Square Foundation (FSF) Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, April 30th. Here is an overview from Board President, Chuck Wortman. Over the past several years, he has called upon the Board of Directors to analyze each organizational component of the Foundation to determine the viability and necessity of each entity, as well as the inherent value and contribution to the FSF mission. In January 2016, FSF entered into an agreement to sell 20 acres of undeveloped land in Berryville, VA. Subject to all routine study periods and rezoning procedures, \$1 million is expected to materialize in 18-24 months. In February 2016, the Lake Anne Development Committee of FSF reviewed a proposal to preserve the affordability of 240 units at the Lake Anne Fellowship House.

For more information about Fellowship Square, see http://www.lutheranlayfellowship.org/menu/about_fsf.asp and <http://www.fellowshipsquare.org>

Lutheran Social Services / National Capital Area Expressions of Abundance Benefit Breakfast

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 8-9am
Founders Hall
George Mason University
3351 Fairfax Drive
Arlington VA 22201

Expressions of Abundance is their annual benefit breakfast, the one opportunity of the year for them to share with you how far LSS/NCA has come with your support and where they plan to go in the future. This event is open to the public and includes free breakfast. Come and hear several inspiring stories from those who have walked through their doors.

For more info, see the event page:

https://lssncaorg.presencehost.net/news_events/event_calendar/event/2016/05/11/expressions-of-abundance-annual-benefit-breakfast/116529

Please RSVP to Autumn Orme orMEA@lssnca.org 703-698-5026 x.112 if you are interested in attending. The George Mason location is Metro accessible from the Virginia Square/GMU station (Orange line).

Caring & Sharing

Is there something in your life or in the life of your congregation you would like to share with other members of the Lutheran Lay Fellowship to be published in a future LLF Newsletter? Send articles to webmaster@LutheranLayFellowship.org.

Three LLF Meetings a Month

LLF Wheaton - The Executive Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month at Panera Bread in the Wheaton Mall. All are welcome. Organizer: John Corkill

LLF Bethesda - Christ Lutheran Church is located at 8011 Old Georgetown Road in Bethesda. Join Dave Lambert for the "Lunch Bunch" on the second Wednesday of the month.

LLF Tyson Corner - Bob "Sarge" Sargeant invites you to a Northern Virginia meeting at Brio Tuscan Grille in the Tyson Corner Mall.

Meeting Schedule

1st Thursday, May 5	LLF Wheaton, 11:00-12:30
2nd Wednesday, May 11	LLF Bethesda, 12:00-1:30
3rd Thursday, May 19	LLF Tyson Corner, 12:00-1:30
1st Thursday, June 2	LLF Wheaton, 11:00-12:30
2nd Wednesday, June 8	LLF Bethesda, 12:00-1:30 (need a facilitator for Bethesda)
3rd Thursday, June 16	LLF Tyson Corner, 12:00-1:30

For updated information see www.LutheranLayFellowship.org and click on "Calendar"

Call for Ushers

Reformation Sunday is observed on the last Sunday in October, recalling Martin Luther's posting of 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517. The theses were theological issues Luther wished to debate with the hope that the church would reform its practice and preaching to be more consistent with the Word of God as contained in the Bible. The act sparked a movement in history known as the Reformation and laid foundations for the Lutheran tradition. LLF supplies the ushers for this service at the Washington National Cathedral. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact us.

<http://www.lutheranlayfellowship.com/menu/contact.asp>

For updated information see <http://www.lutheranlayfellowship.org> and click on "Calendar"