

The Friendly Communicator

March 2017

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From the Pastor's Desk...

In *Inspiring Hymns*, one of the older hymnals on the shelf in my office, there is found the original version of the familiar prayer chorus "Spirit of the Living God." In this version the middle line reads: "Melt me, break me, mold me, fill me." I'm not sure when the text was changed, but apparently someone found the text lacking and changed the words to: "Melt me, mold me, fill me, **use** me." Whoever made this change is right. It's important to understand that the filling is not the end in itself, but only the means of action.

Pastor Mark

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FROM THE DIREKTR



The New Testament refers to singing as a corporate activity, and explains that singing in a congregational setting is a ministry where worshipers not only praise God but address each other in song and is an "avenue for Christian love." When we sing together, we are singing to God, expressing our thanks and praise as well as assisting the other worshippers in praising God.

Singing also affects how we pray, think, and feel. Our memories of songs that have been sung many times are strong, and the repetition can create a very strong connection between song and feeling, and between song and memory.

When we sing together, we get a glimpse of the hope of heaven where everyone - every tribe, tongue, and nation - will sing to God. The act of singing together helps us identify who we are as God's people and binds us together in times of celebration and sorrow. It reminds us that we are not bound by the individualism that is so important in our society.

Scripture calls us to sing to God - to sing a new song, to sing in Spirit and truth, to sing with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs - to praise, proclaim, and pray. Singing is a corporate activity that lifts us up and invigorates all who gather to worship. So join in the song!

Mary Schecher



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Prayer Concerns

Charles Graham, Michelle Caswell, Anne Wyszowski

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES ST. BEN'S MEAL PROGRAM

March 30th
June 29th
August 31st
November 30th

We will be serving at St. Ben's four times in **2017**. This ministry to the poor and homeless is one way we can live out Jesus' directive that we "feed the hungry." For you to plan ahead, I am advertising these dates now. If you want to donate cupcakes but cannot deliver them during the week, consider baking them ahead of time and bringing them on the Sunday before our service date. We can freeze them and take them out on the day of service. Carrots can be dropped off on the Sunday before as well. Sloppy Joe can be made ahead and kept in the freezer. We all live very busy lives and it is easy for some important dates to sneak up on us. Please choose one of these dates and put it on your calendar. That way, when the sign-up sheet goes up in the Education Wing, you will be ready to live out your faith!

Matthew 25:35-40

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Financial Income Report January 29, 2017

General Receipts		
Envelopes	\$	17283.00
Loose Offerings		172.05
Church School		93.33
Birthday		45.00
Christmas		70.00
New Year		5.00
Total	\$	17668.38
Miscellaneous Receipts		
Initial offer		46.00
Stained Glass Restoration		3000.00
A.B.Foundation	\$	438.61
F Communicator		100.00
Organ Fund	\$	10.00
Total	\$	3626.61
Communion Offering		
Fellowship Fund		302.00
Camp Tamarack	\$	100.00
Total	\$	402.00
Mission Offering		
Mission Project	\$	25.00
RMMO	\$	42.00
Love Gift by		25.00
Total		92.00
Deposited Total	\$	21788.99

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MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Adell Kupka
- 3 Diane Brophay
- 4 Antonio Wothe
- 7 Karrie Napier
- 18 Randy Brodhagen
- 19 Rosemary Valdes
- 20 Kim Drost
- 23 Barbara Reed
- 24 Rebecca Brockoff
- 28 Angela Thelen
- 28 Ellen Ribbink
- 29 Mary Schecher
- 31 Arthur Hawley

SUNDAY SCHOOL BIRTHDAYS

- 11 Isaac Byleen
- 26 Andrew Fictum

If we have inadvertently missed your special day, please accept our apologies, and let the office know so we can change our records.

A new Book Club, led by Becky Holl, will have its organizational meeting on Sunday, March 19, after fellowship time. The group will determine future meeting times and dates. First book: *Falling Free* by Shannan Martin (see Becky to get your copy).



Milwaukee Christian Center "Third Sunday"

FBCWA has a long-standing partnership with the Milwaukee Christian Center. Established in 1921 by a missionary from the Women's American Baptist Home Mission Society, MCC has continued to serve the needs of the community. Some of their programs include...

Emergency Food Pantry

Neighborhood Improvement Project

Community Empowerment

Youth Programs

Senior Support

Support from FBCWA helps keep their food pantry stocked. By supporting this one program, we free up MCC resources for other programs that are vital to the community.

Third Sunday is all about reaching out to those who need a helping hand. Watch the bulletin for announcements about specific collections.

Deut. 15:11 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'

SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME

Your help is needed in keeping the kitchen stocked and ready to host our Fellowship times as well as wedding and/or funeral dinners. The list below will help you keep these items in mind the next time you see a great sale!! Thanks for all your help.

COFFEE – REGULAR AND DECAF

SMALL PAPER PLATES

LARGE PAPER PLATES

NAPKINS

FORKS

SPOONS

KNIVES

COFFEE CREAMER

SOME FAVORITES ARE **IRISH CREAM, FRENCH VANILLA**

COOKIES CAKES



March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6PM Neshamah-ringers 6:30PM Jubilation ringers 7:00PM Midweek Bible Study	2	3	4
5 9AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:15AM Worship	6 6:00PM Praise team	7	8 6PM Neshamah-ringers 6:30PM Jubilation ringers 7:00PM Midweek Bible Study 7:30PM Chancel Choir	9	10	11
12 9AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:15AM Worship	13 7:00PM Boards & Council	14	15 6PM Neshamah-ringers 6:30PM Jubilation ringers 7:00PM Midweek Bible Study 7:30PM Chancel Choir	16	17	18
19 9AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:15AM Worship Noon: AB Women's Luncheon	20 6:00PM Praise Team	21	22 6PM Neshamah-ringers 6:30PM Jubilation ringers 7:00PM Midweek Bible Study 7:30PM Chancel Choir	23	24	25
26 9AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:15AM Worship	27	28	29 6PM Neshamah-ringers 6:30PM Jubilation ringers 7:00PM Midweek Bible Study 7:30PM Chancel Choir	30	31	