

## Lutheran Lay Fellowship of Metropolitan Washington DC



### LUNCHEON MEETING Thursday, December 6, 2012 – 12:00 noon

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

#### **Opening**

Bob Sargeant opened the meeting at 12:05, wishing all a “Happy New Year” (this being Advent, the beginning of the church year.) There were no birthdays, anniversaries, nor guests this month, so “Happy Birthday” was sung to Jesus.

#### **Devotions**

Chaplain Schmidt led devotions focused on the season, specifically John 1:14 “The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.” He read from “A Christmas Carol” about Scrooge describing this character as the antithesis of what we are called to be, rather than as St. Paul noted, “we all have sinned, all fall short of the Glory of God.” It was noted that today would have been the jazz musician Dave Brubeck’s birthday; his passing yesterday was noted. His obituary noted how his music contributed to international thawing during the Cold War. A hymn by Ernest Sands was sung to Brubeck’s “Take Five” tune – with gusto!

#### **Business**

Membership forms were available for annual renewal (January 1+) and contribution to various funds. Those who do not renew at the December or January meeting will receive their renewal forms by mail in mid-January.

## **Announcements**

There will be carol-singing in German at 20<sup>th</sup> and G Streets at 5: p.m. Christmas Eve. St. Luke's was recognized with a contribution of \$300 in thanks for all the years of hosting LLF. Gifts of Hope are now available both online ( [www.metrodcelca.org](http://www.metrodcelca.org) ) and at congregations. Career Groups at First Trinity continue to meet as support for the unemployed. The Georgetown memoir-writing group meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. Fellowship Square is holding services at each home during this month. Largo Landing is 12/21. See Chaplain Fred Klein for details for each home. The Bell's, who cater our meeting lunches, were given a gift basket and gift cards for Whole Foods and Trader Joe's, in gratitude for their service to LLF.

Emergency kits for residents of Fellowship Square houses are still being assembled. They estimate the need for 250 kits. Food store gift cards are also welcome for use during power emergencies. In the new year contributions will be welcome for a personal items pantry, as well as household cleaning supplies. This need is listed in the Gifts of Hope catalogue (#30).

Jana Broughton announced that she will be leaving Fellowship Square as of 12/31 to become Executive Director of The National Lutheran Communities Home at Rockville.

## **Program**

David Berg told several humorous stories as Ruth Manchester from St. Luke's prepared the slide show presentation on The Mérode Altarpiece in the Cloisters of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. The Cloisters is a repository of medieval art. The Robert Campin tryptic (1425-28) regarding the Annunciation was viewed as Ruth read the Annunciation story from Luke. She explained the symbolism and theology represented in this work of art.

Afterwards, David told more stories related to Christmas, after which members were invited to share their Christmas stories. A number of family stories were shared. Those interested in learning more about the German Belsnickle version of Santa may visit <http://www.the1840stonehousecollection.com/GERMANBELSNICKLES.html> David also told of Bethlehem, PA being founded by Moravian in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and still providing special musical events in that tradition today.

Christmas carols were sung accompanied by of Grace Planalp Baltimore. Prior to the benediction Chaplain Schmidt offered thoughts related to the Advent of the Spirit of Change among us.



**Fellowship Square**  
Foundation, Inc.  
50 Years of Caring 1960-2010

## Emergency Supply Kits for Residents

First Aid Kit  
Duct tape  
Plastic Sheeting or Clear Shower Curtain  
Rain Poncho  
Can Opener (*manual*)  
Glow Sticks - 12  
Hand Sanitizer  
Protein Enriched Foods  
Disinfectant Wipes  
4-5 Large Garbage Bags  
Paper Towel Roll  
Flashlight/Batteries  
Clear Plastic Container (*that will easily fit under a bed*)

\*Air Tight Sealed Dried Fruit/Nuts  
\*Canned Meat/Fish  
\*Cans/Jars Fruit  
\*Radio/Batteries

\*We will be purchasing these at bulk grocery stores or other supply houses and would appreciate cash (or check) donations for these items.

You may want to put together a few kits or you may just want to collect some of the items we need and we will combine them with others to assemble the kits. Or you may want to send a check and have our volunteers assemble the kits.

If you would like to create kits to donate we will be collecting them through December 4, 2012 and will distribute them at the holidays to residents at each location.

We will assist in making arrangements to pick up donations if needed. We need approximately 700 kits if we give one to each household. For more information please contact the central office at 571-471-5370.

Thank you making a difference in the life of a low income elderly or disabled person.

Fellowship Square. 250 Exchange Place. Suite G. Herndon VA 20170

Mérode Altarpiece  
Robert Campin 1425-28

Luke 1:26-35

The Mérode Altarpiece  
In the Cloisters  
Metropolitan Museum of Art



Right panel

"The cross of the Lord  
was the devil's  
mousetrap; the bait by  
which he was caught  
was the Lord's death."  
St. Augustine's sermons

Also depicted--wine-  
making equipment  
Symbolizing the Eucharist



• Left  
panel

