

Lutheran Lay Fellowship of Metropolitan Washington DC



LUNCHEON MEETING Thursday, October 1, 2015 – 12:00 noon

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

Opening Announcements

President Bob Sargeant called the meeting to order shortly after noon. There were no first time attendants. There was some discussion of weather and travel delays impacting attendance. John Priebe celebrates his birthday this month, and Mr. Bell, our catering/host who celebrates on this day.

Bob explained the order of the meeting, including a business meeting for a second vote on the future of the organization.

Carolyn Sowinski of Gifts of Hope reminded of the benefit concert on 10/18 at First Trinity, Judiciary Square. She gave out flyers and information for the 2015 campaign. More than \$100,000 is raised each year for mostly Lutheran-related services.
(see attached flyer)

There will be an organ concert by a French organist at Holy Cross in Green 6905 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD on 10/17.

There will be a program on “The Forgotten Luther” at Reformation Lutheran Church on Capitol Hill, on November 6-7. Flyers were distributed. More information is available on the Metro DC Synod (ELCA) website.

LLF Business

Bob called the business meeting to order, opening for further questions. John Priebe spoke to the problems of finding new leadership if the organization is to continue. Dave Lambert shared a similar opinion that volunteers are needed to keep the organization going. It would be a shame to shut down something that has been going for some 75 years. There is scholarship money to distribute. Ushers are still needed for the annual Reformation Day Service at the National Cathedral. LLF still has a role in regards to Fellowship Square Foundation. Bob noted that a Yes vote is for the dissolution of the organization, No meaning to keep the organizational structure: noting that the wording is the reverse of the action.

Ballots were distributed, votes written. 14 votes were cast, 2/3 majority required. 8 yes's, 6 no's, 9.24 is the required 2/3. So, the organization continues. The November meeting is one of remembrance. We will share our stories. Bob also asked that those 6 who voted to continue, volunteer to keep the organization running.

Opening Devotion

Dave Lambert offered devotions related to his presentation. He drew from The Rule of St. Benedict, Chapter 35, regarding those who work in the kitchen. A key person in this task is the "cellarer" whose specific duties are outlined. Chapter 36 relates to care of the sick. The monks were vegetarian, unless when sick, when they were allowed to eat meat. Children and old people were served first. (*see attached*)

Introduction of Speaker

Bob Sargeant introduced Dave Lambert, our speaker, known to us as "Webmaster Dave" who has managed our website and member communication venue. Recently, he has served LLF as de facto Chaplain, preparing devotions in the absence of the Chaplain.

Presentation

Dave is Executive Director of Graceful Growing Together, Inc. This is a new venture of Christ Lutheran on Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD. The congregation recently celebrated its 80th anniversary. There are currently only 75 regular members, but more than 200 attended the anniversary celebration. The current site was purchased for \$7,000, which was raised in one week. It was originally an American Lutheran Church affiliated congregation, become ELCA upon the national church body merger. The church now owns 2.2 acres in downtown acres, appraised at \$5 million just for the land. The congregation decided to build a new structure, but Montgomery County officials rejected the first design. Changes were made, and a new multi-use structure was designed (see attached slide show).

Half of the property will be for condos built by the developer. Half will be for the 7-level community center; 2 floors will be for worship and other church uses. The site now is appraised at \$23 million. Proceeds for the sale of half of the land, plus a commission on each of the condos, which are estimated to sell for at least \$500 per square foot. It is possible that this project will have a small mortgage or possibly be debt-free. Christ Lutheran Church is the sole owner, but GGT is a separate 501(c)(3) corporation with its own Board of Directors. The sanctuary will seat 350, plus a small chapel.

Programs include:

- Bethesda Cares – a non-profit organization which cares for the homeless.
- Guiding Star Child Development Center – more than doubling capacity from 40 to 95 children
- AA, NA, Debtors Anonymous and other 12-Step Groups
- Office space for two social workers/counselors
- A culinary arts initiative. There is currently a 1950's vintage kitchen, licensed by the county, with a food service management training program. Dave Lambert is manager of this.
- There will be a non-profit village and business incubator on the 4th floor. Space will be rented at discount to other related sites
- A sports center with a JV basketball court
- A commercial kitchen which will be used for time-share kitchen rentals
- A teaching kitchen.

The basketball court (multi-purpose room) space can be set up for banquets, lectures, and a polling site.

A Community Café may be built on the model of “pay-as-you-can.” There is a greeter rather than a cash register. Panera Bread has four such sites, called Panera Cares. The first of this concept “One World – Everybody Eats” (OWEE) began in Salt Lake City, and is now a foundation. People who have no funds to eat can volunteer to help with maintenance or entertainment.

OWEE suggests 7 attributes to community cafes:

- Pay what you can pricing
- Choose your own portion size (helps eliminate waste)
- Healthy, seasonal foods, local sourced
- Volunteer to earn a meal
- Artwork by local, homeless people, dishes made by school ceramics classes
- Paid staff earns a living wage (not minimum wage).
- Community Table – the layout of tables – long ones so that more than one diner or group of diners sit together.

Attendees then discussed the presentation for several minutes and reported. One question related to management and maintenance of the various programs. Montgomery County Recreation Department is interested in running the sports programs. The congregation will meet in a theater while the new building is being built. It was suggested that other church models be explored to learn from their experience, e.g. St. Peter's NYC, Bethel Lutheran, Chicago.

Feedback: learn from others, find the right partners, a condo/parsonage for the pastor. Difficulty of providing food for large numbers of people, sanitation, etc.

Closing Devotion

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

GIFTS OF HOPE Third Annual

Benefit Concert

Featuring



THE 18TH STREET SINGERS

First Trinity Lutheran Church
501 4th St NW
(Judiciary Square Metro)
Washington DC

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4:30 pm**

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The Rule of St. Benedict

St. Benedict of Nursia (c. 480-543)
Founder of Western Monasticism

CHAPTER 35

Of those who serve by week in the kitchen

All the brethren, except those who are hindered by sickness or by some occupation of great moment, shall serve each other by turns, so that no one be excused from duty in the kitchen, for thereby a very great reward is obtained. Helpers, however, are to be given to the weaker brethren, that they may perform this duty without being overburdened; thus let all have helpers according as the number of the community or the situation of the place may require. If the community is large, let the cellarer be excused from the service in the kitchen; likewise any others, as we have said, who are engaged in matters of greater utility. But let the rest serve one another in turn with all charity.

Let him who is retiring from this week's service on Saturday set everything in cleanly order. He is to wash the towels with which the brethren wipe their hands and feet; and both he who is finishing his service and he who is entering on it are to wash the feet of all. The utensils connected with his office he is to deliver up clean and in good condition to the cellarer, who in turn shall then consign them to him who is entering on his office, that he may know what he gives out and what he receives back.

An hour before the meal these weekly servers shall receive, over and above the appointed allowance, a portion of wine and bread, so that they may serve their brethren at mealtime without murmuring or excessive fatigue. On solemn feast days, however, they are to keep the fast until after Mass.

On Sunday, as soon as Lauds are ended, both the incoming and the outgoing servers for the week shall cast themselves on their knees before all and ask their prayers. He who is ending his week shall say this verse: "Blessed art Thou, Lord God, Who hast helped me and comforted me." After this has been thrice repeated, let him receive the blessing. He who is entering on his office shall then follow and say: "O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me." This also is to be repeated thrice by all; and having received the blessing, let him enter on his office.

"Blessed art Thou, Lord God, Who hast helped me and comforted me."

"O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me."

CHAPTER 36

Of the sick brethren

Before all things and above all things care is to be taken of the sick, so that they may be served in very deed as Christ Himself; for He has said: "I was sick and you visited Me"; and, "As long as you did it for one of these My least brethren, you did it for Me." But let the sick themselves consider that they are being served for the honor of God, and not grieve the brethren who are serving them by superfluous demands. Yet, they shall be patiently borne with, because by serving such as these a more abundant reward is obtained. Therefore, the Abbot shall take the greatest care that they suffer no neglect.

Let a cell be set apart for the sick brethren, and one be appointed to serve them who fears God and is diligent and careful. Let the use of the baths be granted to the sick as often as it shall be expedient; but to those who are well, and especially to the young, it shall be seldom permitted. The use of meats, too, shall be permitted to the sick and to the very weak, that they may recover their strength. But when they have recovered their strength, let them all abstain from meat in the accustomed manner. Let the Abbot take all possible care that the sick be not neglected by the cellarers or those appointed to serve them; for he is held responsible for whatever failures his disciples are guilty of.

CHAPTER 37

Of old men and children

Although human nature itself is inclined to consideration as regards these ages, namely, that of old men and children, yet the authority of the Rule should also provide for them. Let their weakness be always taken into account and let the full rigor of the Rule as regards food be in no way exacted in their regard; but let a kind consideration be had for them, and let them eat before the regular hours.

Source: <https://www.ewtn.com/library/PRIESTS/BENRULE.HTM>

Pay-What-You-Can Community Cafe

Dave Lambert, Director
Culinary Arts Initiative
Graceful Growing Together, Inc.

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Agenda

- What is GGT?
- Bethesda GGT Community Center
- Community Café Origins
- Community Café Attributes
- Discussion

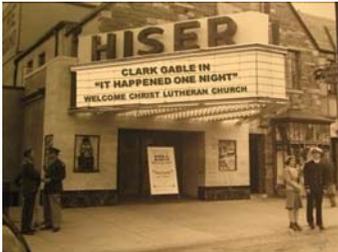
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What is GGT?

- A Church?
- A Non-Profit Organization?
- A Child Development Center?
- A Business Incubator?
- A MoCo Recreation Center?
- A Time-Share Rental Kitchen?
- A Community Cafe?

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What is GGT?



1934

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What is GGT?



1940's

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What is GGT?



Mid-1950's to today

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What is GGT?



The Future 2018-2020

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What is GGT?



No,
but a Church
that cares deeply for its community





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What is GGT?

Yes, a non-profit
501(c)(3) with its own Board of Directors




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What is GGT?

Yes, rent space to others




AA
NA
etc.




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What is GGT?

Yes, Culinary Arts Initiative





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Bethesda GGT Community Center

All this, and more . . .



Increase capacity from 40 to 95

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Bethesda GGT Community Center

Sanctuary for 350

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Bethesda GGT Community Center

Classrooms

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Bethesda GGT Community Center

Nonprofit Village & Business Incubator

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Bethesda GGT Community Center

JV Basketball & Other Sports

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Bethesda GGT Community Center

Time-Share Rental Kitchen & Teaching Kitchen

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Bethesda GGT Community Center

Cafe Kitchen & Seating Area

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Community Café Origins



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7 Community Café Attributes

- Pay-what-you-can pricing
- Choose your own portion size
- Healthy, seasonal foods
- Volunteer to earn a meal
- Volunteer for the community or training
- Paid staff earns a living wage
- Community table **(DISCUSSION)**

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Pay-What-You-Can Community Cafe

Dave Lambert, Director
Culinary Arts Initiative
Graceful Growing Together, Inc.

To learn more, visit
www.GracefulGrowingTogether.org

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