

# Lutheran Lay Fellowship of Metropolitan Washington DC



## July 2016 Newsletter

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### **Opening Devotion Independence Day Prayer**

Lord, we stand today as our forefathers have stood before You in times gone by,  
Celebrating our history and revelling in all the great things that our country has achieved.  
On this day we rejoice in the favor You have graciously given us.  
We thank You for the blessings of liberty, for this generation and for the generations to come.  
We thank You for our independence, peace and for all those who have bravely given their  
lives in the defence of freedom and justice.  
We thank You that Your gracious and provident hand has given us so much.

Yet as a nation and people we have not always chosen the right way.  
We ask You to forgive us for these times.  
On this day we commit ourselves to wholeheartedly honoring and serving You.  
With everything that we are, we lay our lives before You.  
Make us a generous people,  
A holy nation,  
A people set aside to love You forever,  
For the sake of the land of the brave and free,  
And the peoples and nations of this world.

Today, we do not presume Your grace for our country.  
Our land is in need of You,  
Our people are in need of You,  
Our industry and business is in need of You.  
May we look only to You  
This Independence Day, dependent on You.

Please come now by Your glorious Holy Spirit,  
Breathe new life into the sinews of this nation.  
May justice flow like rivers,

And righteousness like a never failing stream,  
Until the whole of our country is covered with Your glory,  
As the waters cover the sea.

We ask all this in the wonderful name of Jesus,  
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit.  
One God, now and for all eternity.

Amen.

*Source: a modern prayer for the United States of America from [www.lords-prayer-words.com](http://www.lords-prayer-words.com)*

## **Food Insecurity**

1 in 7 Americans, that's 46.5 million people, struggle to get enough to eat. In fact, hunger or food insecurity exists in virtually every community in the United States. Many people believe that hunger only affects a certain population or area. In fact, hunger in the US affects the whole country's ability to thrive.

- Hunger and poverty often go hand in hand, but poverty is not the ultimate determinant of food insecurity.
- Seniors face a number of unique medical and mobility challenges that amplify the effects of hunger and put them at a greater risk of food insecurity.
- Food insecurity is harmful to all people, but it is particularly devastating to children. Proper nutrition is critical to a child's development.
- While hunger has no boundaries - African Americans are more than twice as likely to suffer from food insecurity as their white, non-Hispanic counterparts.
- The Latino population has nearly doubled in the past decade and Latino communities are disproportionately impacted by food insecurity, poverty and unemployment.
- The irony is that many food-insecure households are in the very rural and farm communities whose productivity feeds the world and provides low-cost wholesome food for American consumers.

Feeding America research studies look at facts and data then inform decisions about how we work as a nationwide network of food banks to get food to people in need. The Feeding America nationwide network of food banks secures and distributes more than 3 billion meals each year through food pantries and meal programs throughout the United States and leads the nation to engage in the fight against hunger.

For more information, see <http://www.feedingamerica.org>

## Cooperation with Fellowship Square

At the June LLF Meeting in Tyson Corner, George Davies highlighted critical needs of the Fellowship Square Houses. We discussed ways that LLF might be able to help such as Gift Cards for food as well as to pay for medical needs at the pharmacy. Many times transportation is also an issue. Stay tuned to hear more about closer cooperation between LLF and Fellowship Square.

## 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](mailto: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	July 7	LLF Wheaton,	11:00-12:30
2nd Wednesday	July 13	LLF Bethesda,	12:00-1:30
3rd Thursday,	July 21	LLF Tyson Corner,	12:00-1:30
1st Thursday	Aug 4	LLF Wheaton,	11:00-12:30
2nd Wednesday	Aug 10	LLF Bethesda,	12:00-1:30
3rd Thursday,	Aug 18	LLF Tyson Corner,	12:00-1:30
1st Thursday	Sept 1	LLF Wheaton,	11:00-12:30
2nd Wednesday	Sept 14	LLF Bethesda,	12:00-1:30
3rd Thursday,	Sept 15	LLF Tyson Corner,	12:00-1:30

For updated information see [www.LutheranLayFellowship.org](http://www.LutheranLayFellowship.org) and click on "Calendar"

## Call for Ushers

Reformation Sunday is observed on the last Sunday in October, this year it will be **October 31, 2016** 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>

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