
The Challenge

A newsletter of Mt. Carmel Evangelical Lutheran Church

January 2012

There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither slave nor free, male nor female for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:16

St. Paul was a letter writer AND a traveling preacher. He went out into the non-Jewish world starting small little Christian churches, staying for a while and then moving on. One of these churches was in a place called Galatia, now modern Turkey and Asia Minor. He spent a lot of his time in the pagan, (non-Jewish) world.

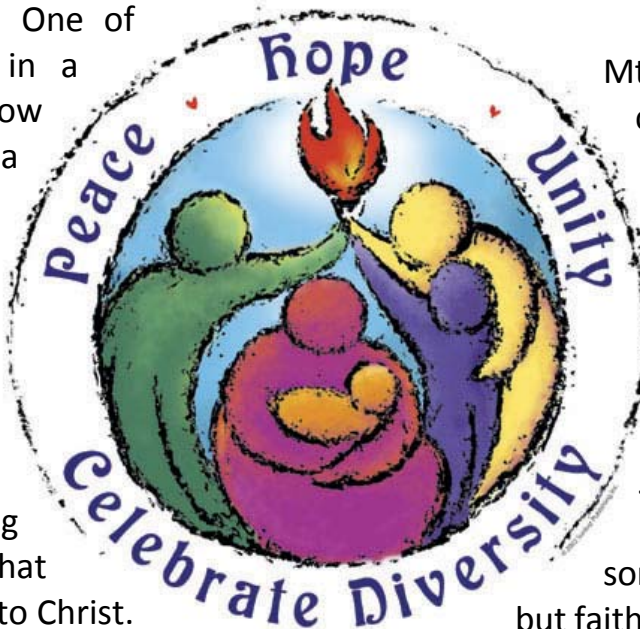
His message was clear; it was faith in Jesus and not following in the laws of Moses that brought people closer to Christ.

After he left these congregations he would get news about how they were doing. He wrote letters addressing problems from those congregations and the New Testament has a lot his letters.

Galatians is his letter to a group who, after he left, decided that you had to follow the laws of Moses and those who didn't were shunned. This really agitated St. Paul and he wrote to tell them they

were wrong. Jesus' message was to include all people.

Things that separate us are human and not divine. With this little letter he continued to break down the walls that separate people. *We are all one* was a radical notion.



Mt. Carmel is a faith community in SW Portland in 2012. We continue in the tradition of St. Paul to break down barriers that separate us from one another and Jesus who came to everyone. It will sometimes agitate others but faith is like that. It calls you

out.

So I end with what I think St. Paul would write today if he were still with us.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither slave nor free, male nor female black nor white, rich nor poor, gay or straight, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Pastor Glenn

MT. CARMEL ARTISTS PERFORM:

STEVE CLEVELAND with

The Barkers, WEDNESDAYS, at the Kenton Club,
8:30 - 10:30 pm, 2025 N Kilpatrick Street,
Portland 97217, www.thebandthebarkers.com

The Sportin' Lifers Jan 6th, 8 pm to 11 pm at the
Muddy Rudder, Jan 13th, 8 pm to 11 pm at Tony
Starlight's, www.sportinlifers.com

Chata Addy Jan 20th, 10 pm to 2 am at Jolly Roger
www.chataaddy.com

Johnnie Ward and the Sharkskin Review Jan 21st, 9
pm to midnight at the Mock Crest

KLAUS FERGUSON with *Quintillion* (Latin Jazz
Fusion)

<http://www.quintillionpdx.com>

JOHN KEYS with *Beltaine* (Celtic):

<http://www.beltainemusic.com>

MT. CARMEL MUSIC

SPECIAL MUSIC: Any time you would like to share a special piece of music with us at worship just let us know. Please contact Lisa Frenz.

JOIN US FOR CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsals resume, January 26. We meet Thursdays, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Everyone who enjoys singing is welcome. We generally sing at the 10:00 a.m. worship twice a month.

THE MT. CARMEL CHOIR SINGS:

Warm-up is at 9:40 a.m. on the Sundays we sing.



KEEP THIS INFORMATION HANDY: When Pastor Glenn is gone: Emergency Pastoral Care is available. Please call Pastors Donna and Timothy Herzfeldt-Kamprath at 503-656-0110 (w) or 503-884-4935 (h).

BAD WEATHER CLOSURE PLAN: If there is a bad weather situation and a possible closure of Mt. Carmel call the church at 503-244-5143. We will change the greeting to indicate a closure at least two hours before service time. Pastor will also send an email to this list with the closure information. The Lewis & Clark inclement weather line is 503-768-SNOW and would also make a good source of local conditions for Mt. Carmel. Campus Safety posts adverse weather conditions/closures even during winter break and holidays.

LAST ONE LEAVING THE CHURCH: Please remember to close all inside doors when leaving Church, double check the front and back doors to be sure that they are locked and secure. Check coffee pot to make sure no red lights are on. Check to make sure that the library and sanctuary thermostats are set at 62 when leaving.

THE CHALLENGE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Items for THE CHALLENGE are generally due the 15th of the month: Email them to Lisa Frenz at frenz@lclark.edu

ANNOUNCEMENTS – DEADLINES: In order to shorten the time it takes to do announcements on Sunday morning, we are trying to get most of them into the bulletin. This means it would be best if any announcements for the Sunday bulletin could get to Lisa Frenz (frenz@lclark.edu) by Tuesday night.

Announcements for the e-news should get to her by Monday morning, as she tries to get this out sometime between Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning.

THE CHALLENGE DELIVERY METHOD: If you would like to receive *The Challenge* via email contact Lisa Frenz at frenz@lclark.edu.

WEEKLY UPDATES: If you want weekly e-updates on the doings at Mt. Carmel contact Lisa Frenz at frenz@lclark.edu and get “What’s Happening.”

PRAYER BOX: If you have a prayer concern please write it out on paper and place it in the “prayer box”, a wooden chest, on the shelf in the sanctuary. These are not taken out of the box but kept completely confidential. The *Prayer Circle* prays for those concerns at their Sunday meeting.

TAKE TIME FOR PRAYER: Join the *Prayer Circle* at 9:30 a.m. and prepare yourself for worship. We pray specifically for Mt. Carmel’s future and other prayer concerns.

WORSHIP – FIFTH SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH: On the fifth Sundays of the month we will have a Blessing For Healing as well as Holy Communion. The next fifth Sunday is October 30th, 2011.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH: After the Sunday morning worship Children’s Message, *Children’s Church* is now in session! Any child is welcome to participate in a brief lesson. They will return in time for Communion. *During Advent and Christmas we encourage the children to participate in the entire service. Children’s Church will resume in January*

COME CELEBRATE THE LIGHT!

✿ Sprout and ✿ Grow ✿ Worship ✿
✿ Family *Mukala* ✿



Be a kid.
Plus.....
Come hear the story.
Come be with others.
Come be with God.

Because...

Kids can dance. Kids can move.
Kids can sing. Kids can pray.

Our family *Mukala's* will be Sunday, January 29th at 11:30 a.m. Join us for these family oriented, kid-friendly services of song, prayer and movement.

✿ 'Mukula' is a Finnish word. It means both a flower bulb that we plant in the ground, and a nickname for small children, like our word 'sprout'. Parents, Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles: If you have little ones this is something for you and them.✿

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: *Growth Committee* will meet, Tuesday, January 3rd, 7:00 p.m. *Outreach Committee* meets, Sunday, January 8th, after worship. *Resource* (7:00 p.m.) and *Council* (8:00 p.m.) on Tuesday, January 10th. *Worship Planning Committee* meets on Sunday, February 5th, after worship.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST: We will meet Saturday, January 7th, 9:00 a.m. at the Golden Touch Restaurant, Barbur Boulevard & 19th Avenue. Come join us for a "dutch-treat" breakfast.

INTERESTED IN A SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB? Looking for a forum to discuss your deepest thoughts on life? A group is forming in January which will pick out a book to read and meet once a month for discussion. We are tentatively thinking about meeting on one Sunday afternoon a month at church. Options are open as to where people want to meet and if there will be food. I have agreed to be the initial contact person. You can email me at kdoylelawpc@aol.com if you are interested. *Susan Doyle*

PENNIES FOR JESUS: Our goal is about 2015 pennies for each birthday. Bring your spare change through January 8th, 2012 This goes to our *Birthday Fund* charities.

THE BIRTHDAY CLUB – GIFTS OF LOVE: We began in Fall 2001 asking members and friends of Mt. Carmel if they would consider celebrating their birthday by making a special gift to Mt. Carmel for mission purposes. We send out invitations near your birthday to consider a gift of some multiple of your birthday years; e.g. \$.01, \$.10, \$.25, \$.50, \$1 or even \$5 per year, as we used to do in our Sunday School Opening. Most gifts have been about \$1/year. Please mark you gift "Birthday Fund".

Since we began, we've collected and distributed thousands of dollars to worthy agencies, churches, and special projects. Each year, another list of recipients is voted on at our annual meeting in January, and we begin distributing our gifts.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE BIRTHDAY CLUB, please send your birthday and mailing address to Lisa Frenz (frenz@lclark.edu or 503-768-663) or the church office.

This is also the source of the birthday and anniversary prayers in our Sunday Prayers of the People.

NOMINATE A BENEFICIARY: If you would like to nominate a beneficiary for the *Birthday Fund* send the name of the agency, program, etc. to the office (office@mtcarmellutheran.com) by January 18th.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU..... On Sunday, January 15th, we'll be having a get acquainted luncheon after church. We have some wonderful new people worshiping with us and this will be a chance to talk with them and get to know them. It will also give you "newcomers" a chance to get to know us "oldies". And maybe some of us "oldies" can reconnect. Please plan on staying that day and enjoying a meal together.

EPIPHANY PARTY: Teri Gerlt is hosting our Epiphany Party, Friday, January 6, 6:30 p.m. Choir members and family, as well as anyone who is interested in the choir, are welcome. It is potluck goodies. Plus bring a gift for our gift exchange (\$0.00 - \$5.00). Contact Teri for directions to her house, gerlt@msn.com or 503-452-2452.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Please stay for our annual meeting on Sunday, January 22, after worship.

Annual Reports are due to Grieg Anderson (grieganderson@comcast.net) by Thursday, January 12th.

DATES TO GET ON YOUR 2012 CALENDAR:

Ash Wednesday: February 22, 2012
Palm Sunday: April 1, 2012
Good Friday: April 6, 2012
Easter: April 8, 2012
Synod Assembly: April 27-29, 2012
Pentecost: May 27, 2012
Women's Retreat: Friday, September 28th - 30th, 2012
Thanksgiving: November 22, 2012
Advent Starts: December 2, 2012
Christmas Eve: Monday, December 24
Christmas Day: Tuesday, December 25

TAKE A LITTLE TIME TO HELP: If you would like to deliver and serve our First Friday Meal to the Transition Project's Hoyt Street Shelter, please sign up on the sheet on the hall bulletin board. If you have questions contact the church office.

HERE WE GO! Have you ever had an idea that you're excited about, but then you don't move forward because you let fear stop you? I have, and I've let that four letter word (as Pastor calls it) - FEAR, stop me time and time again. Well, no more.

Here is my idea that has been approved by both Church Council, and the Growth Committee. As Pastor Glen has talked about many times, it is important that we create a sense of community here at Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, so that others will feel welcome, comfortable and perhaps end up joining us for worship. I believe my plan will help continue to grow that sense of community.

Every month I will do a speech, or a story to illustrate the goodness that we all have in us, and the many lessons I've learned along the way, that I use to lift others up as well as myself. The first one I have planned is called "How I Found Dignity in a Bean Burrito." It is about a homeless man I met in Los Angeles and the huge lesson he taught me. I believe you will be entertained, as you laugh, or cry along the way.

It is my feeling that the more we expect from technology, the less we expect of each other, and that desperately needs to change. I believe one person can change the world, (look at Jesus) and (NO, I am not comparing myself to Him) and I'm on a mission to do so.

Am I a dreamer, perhaps? However, I feel like I'm on the right path and I am determined. Call me "old fashioned, but I think we long to go back to the days of: please, thank you, it's my pleasure, and the big one . . . "You're welcome!" I think we are tired of "no problem", or "it's not a problem." It's about gratitude, it's about kindness and courtesy, it's about respect and the need to be understood. Again, you may wonder, "Is she dreaming?" I don't believe so. We need to look at each other face to face, shake each other's hand, and respond back, when someone says "hello" to us.

Yes, we can always text, or e-mail, and let's face it, that inner office memo saves lots of time, but after the work is done, we all deserve more of each other. Our words have great power. It may sound like I'm preaching and I don't want to do that. That is Pastor Glen's job. So I will stop.

These events will take place on Wednesday (community day) in the later part of the afternoon. I plan on taking roughly an hour to do this, sometimes less. I will be doing it pro bono with no donation plate out. I don't want folks thinking they have to "pay" to attend. I will take care of the public relations part of it, doing press releases for the local papers, or any other ideas you may have. Of course word of mouth is always the best, so let's all start talking!

I'm curious to see where this takes us, and where it ends up taking me. I'm sure I will learn lots from the folks in the audience . . . that means you! Come any way you like. You can even wear your pajamas if you like. I'll start working on those bed time stories right away.

Thank you kindly. Tamara J. Hufford-Wong

THE LUTHERAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION begins its 75th season with a Christmas Concert, January 8, 2012 at 3 pm at Peace Lutheran Church in Portland. The church is west of I-5 exit 304 at 2201 N Rosa Parks Way. The 125-voice choir has members from more than 60 churches and several denominations in the metropolitan area. Sue Thompson Armentrout is in her first year directing the choir, accompanied by Karl Jurisons. There is no admission charge. An offering will be taken. 503-289-8641

CAMP LUTHERWOOD: Summer staff recruitment has begun! Staff applications are available at <http://lutherwoodoregon.org/summer-staff>. They are looking for young adults to be part of our awesome staff this summer.

January 2012

Pastor Glenn's Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. Feel free to stop in.

Fall Into Jazz: February 12th
 Ash Wednesday: February 22nd

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>1st Sunday of Christmas</i> <i>Name of Jesus</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship	2	3 7:00 p.m. Growth Committee	4 12:00 p.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. RCPB	5	6 <i>Epiphany of Our Lord</i> 5:00 p.m. Burnside Meals 6:30 p.m. Choir Party @ Teri's	7 9:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Golden Touch Restaurant
8 <i>Epiphany Sunday</i> <i>Baptism of Our Lord</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:15 a.m. Outreach Committee	9	10 7:00 p.m. Resource Committee 8:00 p.m. Council	11 12:00 p.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. RCPB	12	13	14
15 <i>Second Sunday after Epiphany</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Getting-to-Know-You Lunch	16	17	18 <i>Confession of Peter</i> 12:00 p.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. RCPB	19	20 Noon Jean's Meals	21
22 <i>Third Sunday after Epiphany</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Annual Meeting	23	24	25 <i>Conversion of Paul</i> 12:00 p.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. RCPB	26 7:00 p.m. Choir	27	28
29 <i>Fourth Sunday after Epiphany</i> 9:30 a.m. Prayer 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Family <i>Mukula</i>	30	31	When Pastor Glenn is gone: Emergency Pastoral Care is available. Pastors Donna and Timothy Herzfeldt-Kamprath 503-656-0110 (w) or 503-884-4935 (h)			

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

A "Reconciling In Christ" Congregation
We warmly welcome all people regardless of age, race,
ethnicity, sexual orientation or identity.

515 S.W. Maplecrest Drive, Portland, Oregon 97219-6417
(503) 244-5143 ✉ office@mtcarmellutheran.com
www.mtcarmellutheran.com
Mt. Carmel, Open Doors Open Hearts.
Where traditional faith intersects progressive values.

JANUARY 2012

CARING FOR THE WORLD

LUTHER WORLD RELIEF HELPING WITH WORLD HUNGER:



From Myanmar to India, to Angola, the U.S., and points in between – we are aware that there is need--the need to have security, housing, clothing, and food. ELCA World Hunger responds to global hunger and poverty addressing root causes. Through programs of relief, development, education, people are connected to the resources they need to make changes in their lives. Between 70 and 75 percent of funds collected thru ELCA World Hunger go to work internationally; the rest are spent in the United States. Every cent you give provides support for the church's hunger ministry. Less than a dime out of every dollar goes to administration. Much of the work of this ministry is carried out by volunteers. We do make a difference in someone's life.

The month of January will be designated for World Hunger, ending with heart month (February) as a goal for turning in contributions.

You've all seen the little blue boxes displayed on the table at the back of the church. Pick one up if you don't already have one. Drop your change in as you say a little prayer. See what wonderful things we can do as we turn our hearts, minds, and hands to the problem of hunger.

Half of the money collected will stay here locally; the other half will go to World Hunger.