

# Mountain Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 995

Groveland, CA 95321-0995

Phone: 962-4064

Ralph B. Herman and Ginger DuMars, Pastors

Volume9, Issue 4

May 2007

*From Pastor Ralph*

## FEELING GOOD ABOUT YOURSELF

The key to feeling good about yourself justifiably is first to feel good about God. Keeping yourself busy won't do it. Becoming successful won't do it; someone will always be more successful than you. Trying to stay happy won't do it; happiness is elusive.

Looking at God, who he is and what he does, is the way to start. You feel good about God because he is a great and good Father who loves you. He created you to be his child. He redeemed you through Christ to be his forever. He regards you of eternal worth, even when your life is in shambles. He has his eye of love on you twenty-four hours a day. He won't let you go.

But our world is a stormy sea. Your little craft gets tossed about. The clouds are menacing, and you can't see the sun. Like the disciples of old, you're about to panic; then you remember that the Lord is in the boat, too. He, the master of wind and wave, the Lord of history who cares about you, has not abandoned ship. Why should you? The storms may rage longer and more fiercely than you want, but your little boat can survive—Jesus is there!

You can feel good about yourself because you know that God loves you and cares for you enough to have sent his Son to the cross to save you. And as long as you keep feeling good about your relationship with God through Christ, you are on the way to a new level of security and peace. You are very important! Anxieties about the future and your place in the world may still trouble you, but they won't crush you.

## HE IS RISEN INDEED!



### Church Council Members:

President	Dick Parker
Vice President	Harold Basey
Secretary	Audrey Fiance
Treasurer	Elden Bruha
Financial Secretary	Bob Smith
Member at Large	Tom Sweeney

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### Our Volunteer chairpersons for this year are:

Lay Assistants	Tom Carman
Altar Guild	Delores Van Brocklin
Publicity	Dorothy Parker
	Ginger DuMars
Craft Faire	Shirley Carman
Prayer Chain	Judy Basey
Newsletter Editor	Mary Bruederle
Refreshments	Judy Basey
Building Committee	Tom Carman

## MAY AND JUNE NEWS FROM PASTOR GINGER

**Alleluia! We are an Easter people who celebrate God's Gifts of Love & Grace & the Resurrection of Jesus, our Savior, every Sunday!** The 7 weeks of the Easter Season lead into the Season of Pentecost (or Ordinary Time) which emphasizes Spiritual Growth for Christians. This long season begins by celebrating the Day of Pentecost on **Sunday, May 27** this year, & continues for 5 months. Remember to wear red on **Pentecost Sunday**. Look for new banners for this season & look forward to choosing your favorite hymns as part of Summer Worship! You can also anticipate a celebration honoring the **Rite of Confirmation** for Bethany Wilkinson, Kristen & Hillary Mc Adams on **June 24**. They will have completed a 2 year study of Luther's Catechism by then as well as good beginnings in living & experiencing God's Gifts of Faith in their daily lives! Come & Celebrate God's Gifts of Faith – GIVEN to YOU – often! The work & power of the Holy Spirit are emphasized during the Season of Pentecost, so invite the Holy Spirit to GROW YOUR FAITH during this long season!

### ***Have you enjoyed our beautiful Easter Banners?***

Thank you – Judy Basey, Mary Bruederle & Jean Cox! Thanks also to everyone who brought **Easter Lilies** in honor of Jesus' Resurrection! Thanks to everyone who brought food, set up & cleaned up for our delicious **Easter Brunch!** Virginia Rayment's Swedish Pancakes are always a special

treat along with many other specialties – including Easter Eggs with Easter Greetings! Remember eggs are a symbol of new life in Christ! Butterflies & Spring flowers are also symbols of God's renewing & transforming power at work in our lives – all appropriate reminders of God's profound & powerful gifts given to us – through Jesus Christ & the Holy Spirit!

***Would you like to help with Sunday Refreshments or Altar Flowers?*** You may sign up for a month of flowers on the calendar near the refrigerator. Yes, most flowers will last for a month if you put them in the refrigerator or if they are plants & get some water. Fabric flower arrangements are also appropriate. If you'd like to host the Coffee Hour & Refreshments, you may sign on the Coffee Hostess Chart on the same bulletin board near the refrigerator. If you want help – especially for the first time - just ask anyone who has already signed the chart. ***Thanks to everyone who hosts Coffee Hour & who donates flowers. Thanks also to the ladies who clean the church each month!***

**We continue to Thank God for this beautiful worship center & church facility!** We are beginning to receive requests for use of our church for funerals & memorial services, classes & workshops, weddings, etc. All requests need to be approved by the pastors & officers – especially for the sake of scheduling & having members here to operate the sound system, heaters & air conditioners, unlock the doors & lock up & offer hospitality & explain policies for clean up & monetary donations for use of

the church. Thank you, Audrey Fiance, Mary & Elden Bruha for offering hospitality & help for Ray Stevens' Memorial Service here; and to Judy Basey, Mary Bruederle, Jean Cox & Audrey Fiance for hosting the Pine Needlers Quilt Guild here – making pillow cases for special needs campers coming to Camp Tuolumne Trails this summer.

**Our congregation will be hosting a Summer Community BBQ – celebrating our first year of worshipping in our new church.** If you'd like to help, talk to Dick Parker. Details & ways to help will be announced soon. Dick Parker & Bob DuMars are working on a permanent brick BBQ to be built at the church. Our First Anniversary Community BBQ Celebration will be a great opportunity to invite your friends to a fun fellowship event at Mountain Lutheran Church!

**We are also hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Gospel Sing for all area Christian Churches on Sunday, July 29.** Singing begins at 6:00 p.m. with refreshments & fellowship at 7:00. This is another good opportunity to invite your friends to Mountain Lutheran Church. Of course **all Sundays offer opportunities to invite friends & family members, neighbors & strangers for Worship & Fellowship!** **The NUMBER ONE REASON people give for visiting a church is that a friend invited them!**

**May has 3 THRIVENT FINANCIAL Projects! Recycling & Flea Market** proceeds will be matched (up to \$1300) by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for our Building Loan Payments. Recycling continues – thanks to the Bramhalls & all contributors! We'll have a

couple booths at PML's **Flea Market on May 19**. We'll price & pack our "goods for sale" at church on Thursday, May 17 at 10:00. Ask Shirley Carman for more details. (Women's Bible Study will still be at 1:00 that day.) **On June 2**, anyone who would like to participate in a **"Join Hands" project benefiting Camp Tuolumne Trails** is most welcome. "Join Hands" is a nation wide effort to join Youth & Adults in projects to benefit their communities (or the world). Our Confirmation Teens decided that they would like to do some landscaping at Camp Tuolumne Trails & have invited the congregation's adults to help! This is NOT a fund raising project. Thrivent Financial gives us the money to buy the materials (plants, good soil, soaker hoses, etc.) for a Joins Hands Project. Judy Basey is coordinating the design & choice of plants that are the most appropriate & hardy for the area. We'll all have fun planting & playing in the dirt as well as watering & enjoying a Pizza lunch! **Thanks to the McAdams & Wilkinson Families for inviting us** to participate in this landscaping project! Go Girls! **Thanks to Thrivent Financial for funding this project! And, thanks to Tom Sweeney for all the volunteer construction work he is doing for the camp too!**

**A new Mountain Lutheran Directory is on its way!** A proof copy for everyone to check for accuracy, etc. will be available soon. If you haven't had your picture taken at our new church for this directory, talk to David Wilkinson. **Thank you, Judi Wilkinson**, for organizing, editing, printing, etc. **Thank you, David, for your great pictures!** We're looking

forward to having new updated pages to put in our directories.

**With Faith, Hope & Love,  
Pastor Ginger DuMars**

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## **ELCA Disaster Relief**

This is an article in the Synod Byte about how ELCA is helping.

*Sisters and brothers in Christ,*

*For the devastated town of Greensburg, Kansas, and other areas throughout the Great Plains affected by tornadoes over the weekend, the dawning of a new day means the beginning of a long road towards recovery. At least 10 people were killed and dozens were injured as severe storms spawned as many as 75 tornado touchdowns in Kansas and Oklahoma, and preliminary damage assessments have begun.*

*The majority of the media coverage for these storms has focused on Greensburg, a town of 1,500 residents that has suffered the loss of an estimated 90 percent of its infrastructure. Currently, the town is closed, except to residents and search and rescue teams. Volunteers are currently not being allowed access while the emergent phase of the disaster continues.*

*Roger Kruger, Lutheran Disaster Response coordinator*

*with Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, will be deploying to the affected region later today to perform initial assessments and connect with disaster partners in the area. Tomorrow, local Lutheran clergy and representatives from the LCMS Kansas District and ELCA Central States Synod will gather at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Pratt to discuss the immediate and long-term needs of the affected communities.*

*Lutheran Disaster Response is prepared to offer assistance, as needed, in the form of emergency hardship grants and spiritual and emotional care. Once the town has been reopened, we will also be working in coordination with local congregations to coordinate volunteer teams for debris removal and clean-up. Plans are being made for volunteer teams to begin working this Saturday. After initial assessment has been completed, we will help to organize residents in meeting long-term unmet needs, and volunteer coordination will likely continue through the rebuilding phase.*

*We lift up in prayer those who lost loved ones and suffered property damage in this sudden and tragic event. With the understanding that the loss of life could have been much more wide spread, we also offer prayers of thanksgiving for the warning systems that aided the*

*residents of Greensburg in preparing for the incoming storm.*

*A prayer from women of Uruguay:*

*O God, open our eyes that we may see thee at work in*

*The midst of the turmoil and chaos of the day*

*Open our hearts that we may receive the gift*

*Of thy love, given for the whole world.*

*In service,*

*Heather L. Feltman*

*Executive Director, Lutheran Disaster Response*

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### ***Pastor Rogers Resigns Bethany***

Most of you remember that Bethany Lutheran in Kerman, Michael Rogers, pastor, gave our congregation \$10,000 when they celebrated their centennial in 2005.

We received word that Pastor Rogers is resigning

effective June 30, 2007. His last Sunday will be June 24<sup>th</sup>. He has served 37 years in the parish ministry, the last 9½ years at Bethany.

He will be leaving the parish ministry but not ministry in general. He and his wife, Linda, applied and were accepted, to be volunteer missionaries through the Division of Global Mission of the ELCA. If the final details can be worked out they expect to leave for Slovakia in August where they will both be teaching English for the 2007-2008 school year.

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### **Flea Market**

Mountain Lutheran will be going to the Pine Mountain Lake Flea Market on Saturday, May 19, 2007, and Thrivent for Lutherans will be matching our funds up to \$1,300. The proceeds from the flea market will go to the building fund. We will also be having a bake sale, so get out those favorite recipes. The bake sale is very popular with all the bargain seekers.

If you have any items for the flea market please bring them to church or call Shirley at 962-5647 and she will pick them up.

We can take any knick knacks, kitchen dishes, pictures, small working appliances, etc., but not large pieces of furniture unless you want to bring it the day of the flea market and if it doesn't sell you have to come take it back when the flea market is over.

We will need tables to put the flea market items on, so if you have any tables let Shirley know.

We will be pricing all the items on Thursday, May 17 at the church at 10:00 a.m., so everyone is welcome to come help that day.

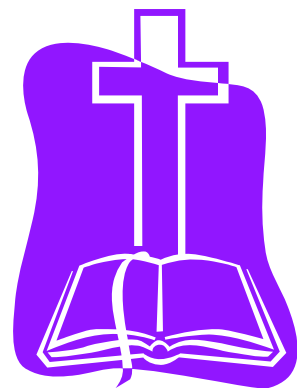
If you can help with the flea market, please call Shirley.

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### **Bud's Bit for the Byte**

Our Stewardship Specialist, Pr. Bud Egdahl, listened carefully to **Dr Mark Allan Powell** at our Assembly... here's a quote from Dr Powell:

"...*Growth* in giving is what is often most important and most faithful stewards can attest to having surprised themselves repeatedly by attaining and surpassing goals that once seemed unobtainable."





**Church on Easter Sunday**



**Easter Brunch**



**Easter Banner**

MOUNTAIN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

Mailing Label Here

