

## THE BEACON

### Racial Disparities in Dane County

We have had a wonderful opportunity during Lent to hear about racial issues in Madison and Dane County from several guest presenters. In 2013 a Race to Equity Report was completed in Dane County with contributions from many local, state and

75% PERCENT OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILDREN LIVED IN POVERTY IN MADISON, IN 2011, AS COMPARED TO 5% OF WHITE CHILDREN.

federal agencies. The report is available online at the Race to Equity web site. Because of recent conversations and concerns raised by many members of this congregation, here are some statistics to consider that came from that report. According to the 2010 census report, Dane County had a population

of just over 488,000 people. African Americans made up 6.5% of that population or 31,300 people. The African American child population in 2010 was 8,804 or 8.5% of the total population of Dane County's children. That equates to 20% of the students in Madison Public Schools and 17% in public schools countywide. The unemployment rate in 2011 in Dane County was 5% for white people and 25% for black people. In 2011, 54% of African Americans in Dane county lived below the federal poverty line compared to 8.7% of whites. Seventy-five percent of African American children lived in poverty here as compared to 5% of white children. In 2011, African American third graders were 4.5 times more likely not to meet reading proficiency standards than their white classmates. African Americans had a 50% on-time graduation rate in Madison Public Schools while white children had an 85% on time graduation rate. In 2011, public schools

### PASSION MUSICAL

A very important part of the Easter story is what happens before the resurrection. You know that it involves betrayal, humiliation, death and burial. It's not the pretty part of Easter but there would be no resurrection celebration without a death and burial. Again this year, the musicians and Sunday school students at Lakeview will tell the story of Christ's passion through music and words on March 28 at 5:00 pm and March 29 at 10:00 am. It is good to hear this part of the story before you come to celebrate the resurrection on Easter morning. Join us. Bring a friend or neighbor who may appreciate the full story.

in Dane County reported 3,198 suspensions of black students and 1,130 suspensions of white students. On a typical day in 2011, there were 124 black children in the Dane County foster care program and 58 white children. Black teens in 2010 were six times more likely to be arrested than white teens. In 2012, African American adults were arrested in Dane County at a rate more than 8 times that of white adults. The report studied many other factors including the possible causes for such disparity in our county. It is a very thorough report and worth reading. The report does indicate that the racial equity problem in Dane County in 2013 is not the fault of any one group or interest or sector. *"We accomplish little by trying to single out any one entity, organization or institution as a scapegoat. The task of making change is not about assigning blame, it is about accepting shared responsibility."* The task before us in Madison and throughout Dane County is to pull our heads from the sand, recognize the situation, and then work together for justice and equality. Remember when the prophet Micah asked, *"what does the Lord require of me?"* He got the answer that we all need today as well, ***"Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God."*** As people of God from Lakeview Lutheran Church we will continue to become educated about racial disparities and we will continue to strive and promote racial justice and equality in our community.

### **Opportunities to Hear the Story**

On Maundy Thursday, April 2 we will gather in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm to hear the story of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples and

then telling us to "go and do likewise." In this story Jesus also issues us a new commandment to love one another. As we remember the final Passover Jesus made with his disciples, we will celebrate Holy Communion during this service. *(Passover for our Jewish sisters and brothers begins on April 3 this year).* The Maundy Thursday service does not end but continues on Friday evening, April 3. At this service we hear the story of Jesus death on a cross and his burial in a tomb by Joseph of Arimathia. There is no communion at this service and the mood is very somber. The service does not end on this day either but we return on Easter to hear the proclamation of the resurrection and the assurance of new life with God. Easter Sunday worship is at 7:00 am, 9:00 am and 10:30 am. The choir and other musicians will assist to lead the services at 9:00 and 10:30 am.

### **Easter Breakfast**

Jesus spent lots of time sharing food and table fellowship. Lutherans also spend lots of time sharing food and table fellowship. And that's most appropriate. On Easter Sunday morning



from 7:30 to 10:00 am, our high school youth will sponsor an Easter Breakfast. This is a wonderful opportunity

to gather with family and friends to celebrate the gospel through fellowship with one another. There will be good food and conversation so stop down to East Hall and have breakfast. A free-will donation will be taken and all proceeds will assist the youth with funding their summer trip to the ELCA

National Youth Gathering. If you would like to donate food for this breakfast and therefore reduce the costs for the youth, please sign up in the narthex. Food should be in the kitchen by the evening of April 3.

### **Kitchen Remodel Meeting**

At the annual meeting you heard about the cost to update our kitchen. We'd like you to have more information. Therefore, Verallyn

---

### **KITCHEN REMODEL MEETING APRIL 8TH**

---

---

Cline has arranged for a representative from Engineered Construction to come to Lakeview for a presentation about the kitchen and current building codes. This presentation will be on Wednesday, April 8 at 6:30 pm in East Hall and the kitchen. It is hoped that many people will attend to know what the needs are for the kitchen and to understand the difference between a residential kitchen and an industrial kitchen. There will be time for questions. Mark your calendars and come on down.

### **Road Home Training**

One of our very important local ministries at Lakeview has been hosting families through the Road Home Program in Dane County. Our congregation has committed to providing shelter for families who are homeless for 4 weeks out of the year. We are grateful for the space and the ability to do that. Each week when we host, we need many volunteers to make it happen. Many of you have been trained and offer a variety of your skills and

time during our host weeks. But we can always use more trained and interested volunteers. We ESPECIALLY need people who are willing to volunteer to stay overnight in the building. You can sleep. You arrive

---

### **ROAD HOME TRAINING APRIL 13TH**

---

---

around 8:00pm and depart at 7:00am. You prepare a simple breakfast of cereal, frozen waffles, bagels etc. and be sure the kitchen is cleaned. Road Home staff has agreed to come to Lakeview on Monday, April 13 at 6:30pm to provide volunteer training. We hope that people from our congregation will attend this training and that some of you will agree to stay overnight during our host weeks. Sign up to attend with Chris Anders.

### **Disaster Recovery Trip**

Lakeview will send 7 people including Rene Puzach, Mark and Kelly Olson, Leroy Mellum, Al Wessel, Dennis Strand and Pastor Dean, out to Crisfield Maryland on April 18. This volunteer work crew will return to Madison on April 26. While in Crisfield they will be rebuilding houses that were destroyed by Hurricane Sandy. Yes, people are still patiently waiting to return home since that storm. The Lakeview crew will be working with Lutheran Disaster Response. We'll be housed and receive meals in a former radio station. The crew will be driving to Crisfield. There are expenses to this trip and many of you have already helped by donating money or by purchasing butterflies for the Easter

butterfly tree. It is not too late to purchase a butterfly as long as you have your form/money to the church office by March 31. Thank you for supporting this work crew. And thank you to the volunteers for donating their time on this important recovery mission.

### **Senior Lunch/Euchre, Monday, Apr 20**

Warner Park is the site of the April lunch/euchre event. Please sign-up at the Information Station if you wish to participate. Lunch is served at 11:30am, a \$4.00 donation is suggested. The euchre tournament follows at around noon.

**Roses are red**

**Violets are blue**

### **IT'S TIME FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE**

**I'm ready – are you???**

OK, so I'll never be nominated for Poet Laureate!!! Guess I'll stick to working on the rummage sale!

We need a new kitchen and that new kitchen is going to cost a lot more money than we can make at the rummage sale. BUT we can make enough to defray the cost of part of the remodel – a new refrigerator for sure!! It will take lots of stuff and lots of volunteers to do that.

The sale is set for Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donations can be brought to church starting on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> (after Sunday School is complete for the year and all the tons of stuff that is donated can be stashed in the classrooms until the sale.)

Set up for the sale will begin Memorial Day weekend, including Memorial Day. By the time the lights in East Hall are turned off on

Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, everything needs to be priced and arranged for the (hopefully) hordes of shoppers that will be waiting when we unlock the doors at 7 a.m. on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

SO ... we need stuff. LOTS OF STUFF. It was said a few years ago that we couldn't sell a church pew ... ha!! We did!!! "If you bring it, they will probably buy it" so start filling those boxes and bags. A reminder that we'll try to sell anything but if it's something that St. Vinnie's won't accept, and it doesn't sell, you have to agree to take the item back.

And we need volunteers to mark and arrange and sell that stuff. LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS. The "work" is easy, we have a great time and it's for a great cause – the kids and the kitchen. A sign up will go up in early May for the days of the sale but please call or email me before then if you'd like to help, particularly with marking and set up, or with questions. Thanks!! Mary Cragin (235-5296 or 837-0718; antmry@gmail.com).

### **Bake Sale**

We will be looking for donations of homemade baked goods to sell at the annual rummage sale.

#### LAKEVIEW LITERARY SOCIETY 2015

#### READING LIST

MAY 4 – PHILOMENA (WE WILL BE  
WATCHING THE MOVIE AS  
A GROUP)

JUN.1 – DEAR LIFE BY ALICE MUNRO

JUL.6 – THE KINDNESS OF

STRANGERS BY KATRINA



A Word from  
Pastor Dean

Dear Friends,

This Easter we will be reading the resurrection story from the Gospel of John. We will again hear the first “pastor,” Mary Magdalene, proclaim the good news of the resurrection to the other disciples. She told them, after they discovered that the tomb was empty, that she had seen the Lord and that she had talked with him. We continue to give thanks that Mary Magdalene shared her good news and her good fortune with others so that we can continue to make that proclamation today- ***we have seen the Lord!***

So, have you seen the Lord? Have you encountered the resurrected Christ? We have an opportunity to do that as we recall these ancient stories and study them in our daily lives. There is no doubt that one-way to “see the Lord” is in the stories of our Holy Scriptures. For many, a second way may come in the beauty of creation. Particularly in spring when we see, smell and touch the rebirth of our land after a long and dead winter, do we see the Lord. Nothing is quite as phenomenal as the sight and smell of budding grass and trees and the blossoming of spring flowers after the cold and snow of winter. The Bible, the creation, seeing the Lord.

But what about each other? Do you see the Lord through your fellow human beings, created in the image of God, and called to care for the creation? Perhaps it’s just a handshake, a hug or a much-needed smile. Perhaps it’s a greeting or a reminder that someone is thinking of you. Maybe it’s in the provision of food in a pantry or housing when you’re homeless or

acceptance when you are returning to the community from prison. Maybe it’s the advocacy work to change ideas or policies or laws through active lobbying and dialog. When Jesus was on the cross, his hands were stretched wide in an image that suggests he is embracing the whole world. Outstretched arms are a sign of welcome and hospitality. Remember running into the security of outstretched arms when you were a child? Jesus’ inclusive welcome is made visible even in his crucifixion. How do we outstretch our arms to offer welcome and hospitality? What have you done this past week and what are your plans for the week ahead to express welcome and to let others see the Lord?

During this season of Lent, our attendance for mid-week devotions doubled over the past 2 years. Do you find it odd that I have seen the Lord in those numbers? I have seen the Lord in the interest and desire that the members of Lakeview have shown in racial issues/disparity in our community. I have seen the Lord in this deep interest from the congregation to address a difficult and important social issue in our community. I have seen the Lord in people who are upset when others are left out. I have seen the Lord in your desire to change systems and structures that still minimize justice for all.

As I get ready with gratitude for a summer sabbatical, I give thanks that I have the opportunity to serve in a congregation that never seems to be satisfied with that status quo. I give thanks that I get to serve a congregation where justice for all people is not just a thought, but an honest desire. I give thanks for a congregation that helps me see the Lord on a regular basis. You are a group of Mary Magdalenes and I pray that you will never change.

HAPPY RESURRECTION!

Pastor DEAN

## Butterflies for Crisfield

Purchase butterflies at \$10 each to remember or honor someone at Easter. On Easter Sunday there will be a butterfly on the butterfly tree with the name of every person being remembered or honored. Just complete this form and attach your cash/check. The proceeds from this butterfly tree will be used to send our disaster recovery work crew to Crisfield Maryland in April. They will re-build houses there that were destroyed by Hurricane Sandy.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Mondays to Fridays 8 a.m. — 4 p.m. [www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org](http://www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org)

Dean M. Kirst, Pastor, [pastordean@lakeviewlutheranmail.org](mailto:pastordean@lakeviewlutheranmail.org)

Laura Jasiczek, Office Administrator, [office@lakeviewlutheranmail.org](mailto:office@lakeviewlutheranmail.org)

Chris Anders, Ministry Coordinator, [coordinator@lakeviewlutheranmail.org](mailto:coordinator@lakeviewlutheranmail.org)

Lynn Najem, Organist/Choir Director; Regina Thomas, Custodian

### Easter Service schedule:

Saturday Apr 4, 5pm – Easter Vigil

Sunday Apr 5, 7am, 9am and 10:30 am – Easter Services

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MADISON, WIS.  
PERMIT NO. 1353

NEWSLETTER OF:  
Lakeview Lutheran Church  
4001 Mandrake Rd.  
Madison, WI 53704  
(608) 244-6181  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LAKEVIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH ON MADISON'S NORTH SIDE.  
A WARM AND CARING COMMUNITY SINCE 1856.