



Maricopa Lutheran Church ELCA

A Mission Congregation

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June 25, 2010

To our faithful members,

As you know, Maricopa Lutheran Church has been approved by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as a "Congregation under Development." This is a very important "next step" in our becoming a chartered congregation of the ELCA.

In order to reach that final step – chartering – there is much work to be done. The "must do" list as required by the ELCA is as follows:

- ✓ Create more disciples
- ✓ Be involved in more community events
- ✓ Find more prospects
- ✓ Find at least 10 new families a month

A big challenge to date has been space. The steering committee is diligently working to find that space. The ranch house has been a Godsend and has worked well for us, but it is too small to accommodate the growth that we need to become a chartered congregation. In order to get assistance from the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA in the purchase of land, we must

- ✓ Receive individual giving that is at least 3-4% of total membership income
- ✓ Have at least 125 attending worship regularly
- ✓ Have at least 50-60 giving units: 2 income family = 1 unit; 1 income family = ½ unit
- ✓ The community must be willing to pay 30% of the sale at the close of escrow (with some flexibility in this requirement)

The steering committee has made the decision to begin a Saturday evening service on July 17, 2010. This service will be at 5 p.m. It is hoped this will be a big step in increasing our worship attendance.

We have been truly blessed by God and the Holy Spirit has been watching over us faithfully. What was just a hope and a prayer in January of 2008 has become reality in such a short period of time. But we have a lot more to do and ***we need your help in order to do it.***

Please make a commitment to join us on July 10, 2010 at 9 a.m. at the church for our congregational retreat. We need you there to join in the discussions and help us plan for our future. We promise to feed you, too! Pastor Charles Newman from Grand Canyon Synod will be there to direct us in our endeavors. We will adjourn by 2 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you there!


Pastor Cora Aguilar
Mission Developer



Sue Fletcher
Chair, MLC Steering Committee