

MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LUTHER LINES

JAMES ISLAND, SC 29412 SEPTEMBER 2023



MLLC's Mission Statement

We are a caring family of God brought together by grace and nourished by the Word.

Led by the Spirit, we are sent out in service to share God's love.

PASTOR'S PONDERING	2
MUSIC NOTES	3
BIBLE STUDY	4
HAPPENINGS	5
TGR	13
PRAYERS	16
BIRTHDAYS	18



LOOK UP

In The Idiot's Guide to Christianity King Duncan tells this fun story:

A substitute Sunday School teacher couldn't open the combination lock on the supply cabinet. So she went to the pastor for help.

The pastor started turning the dial of the combination lock, stopped after the first two numbers, looked up serenely toward heaven, began moving his lips silently, turned to the final number, and opened the lock.



The teacher gasped, "I'm in awe of your faith, pastor."

"Really," he said, "it's nothing. The number is on a piece of tape on the ceiling." 😊

King Duncan expresses what all of us probably think about this story when he says:

"I wish the answers to all of life's problems were on a piece of tape on the ceiling! Then, when we hit a difficult time in our life, all we would have to do is look up."

Sure would be nice, wouldn't it! All we'd have to do is look up.

But...wait a minute...isn't that the way it really is? Life's not easy. It can be difficult... very difficult at times. And as hard as we try, it can seem we don't have the combination necessary to unlock the door, open it, and pull out what we need to straighten things out!

But God has the combination. He can help us! He can open the door and get us what we need to straighten things out. How cool is that!

However, we have to look up. We can't be looking down all of the time. That just gets us depressed, and we can miss God when he comes to us with the combination!

So...keep looking up! God's there for you and always will be. He promised he would!

Blessings, *Pastor Tom*



From the
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Sing and Ring!

Rehearsals have
resumed on

Mondays!

Handbells 6-7 pm

Choir 7-8 pm

Music is a gift to be shared.

All are welcome!

Come, make a joyful noise with
us!

Contact Gina for more
information.

843 737 2113

Ginashuey@gmail.com

Let them
praise his name
with dancing,
making melody to him
with
tambourine and lyre.

Psalm 149:3, NRSV



BIBLE STUDY



The Martin Luther Church WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY
IS MEETING EACH
WEDNESDAY AT 11 AM.

They are studying the Daily Discipleship which follow the weekly lectionary. Pastor Tom is leading the Bible Study and **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Have you heard about the video series, “The Chosen”?

Get Used to Different. *The Chosen* is not your average Christian tv series or movie. This crowd-funded awe-inspiring series with global impact presents the accounts of Christ as He calls his first disciples. This dramatic series features remarkable casting, beautiful costuming, amazing locations and scenery, touching moments, and gives space for historically reasonable character development of those who encountered Jesus.



Here at Martin Luther Church we will be watching the series and having discussion during the Sunday School time beginning in September. Even if you have seen the series (or what has been produced of the story), please join us.



Exciting Things Happening at MLLC

In case you haven't heard about all the exciting things happening at MLLC, here is a brief list;

- ☞ Trees were trimmed and we now have a sun filled front lawn!!!
- ☞ The Audio/Visual equipment is going to be upgraded so that our Sunday morning videos and all other opportunities to worship online will be a better quality than we have been able to provide. This will happen soon!!!!
- ☞ The exterior of the church facility will be repainted in the next month.
- ☞ We will be offering a new Sunday School Class each Sunday after worship. We will be watching "The Chosen" series and have discussion and refreshments.
- ☞ The plans for a Columbarium (*A Columbarium is an outside niche system built to hold loved ones cremated remains*) are underway. The team will have some ideas to present to the congregation very soon!!!

Congregational Council

At the June 11th Congregational Meeting, the following were elected to serve Martin Luther Church as the Leadership Council.

President—Nancy Haynsworth

Vice President—Sherry Fowler

Secretary—Vacant

Treasurer—Linda Leone

Congregational Care Team Leader—Joni Suggs

Property Team Leader—Gary Frear

Youth and Learning Team Leader—Heidi Frear

Evangelism Team Leader—Laura Jordan

Worship Team Leader—Brenda Burke

Youth Representative—Kaitlyn Frear



We are excited for this leadership team and we ask that you keep them in your prayers as they lead Martin Luther Church along with Pastor Tom!

Summer Fun



I just wanted to share a little of our Summer...

Kaitlyn was gone for 3 out of 6 weeks over the Summer. Go away camp at Clemson for the deaf and hard of hearing, Kaitlyn and another Christian friend Rosie led prayers/vespers each night for their cabin. This was followed by Lutheridge which is always the highlight of her Summer. She asked "how many weeks straight can she go next Summer, Mom is 4 too many?"

The fellowship and friendships she builds there are permanent fixtures in her life! It's too cute.

Then as pictured below she got to visit South Dakota where my Mom lives, hiking with cousins for a week so Gary and I could escape to the USVI.

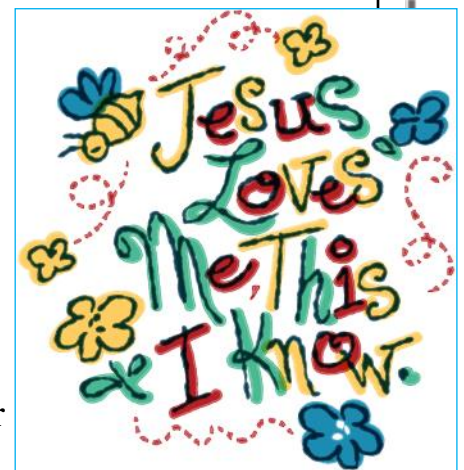


All in all our Summer per usual was fast paced, but coming home to our church family is always a sweet reward.

Heidi Frear

Good Memories

Written on Sunday, August 20, 2023—Today's sermon and music brought back such a sweet memory. In Philadelphia you lived in a "parish" and we were Lutheran. My daughter, who is now 60, went to Sunday School and loved her songs etc. One day I found her play teaching (at age 5) all the catholic kids on the block 'Jesus Loves Me'. You better believe I heard from some upset parents. Their children were Catholic and weren't allowed to know this. My retort was the same as Pastor Tom said. In heaven there is no separation of religion. Jesus loves them all. Not until this past year, sitting with my friend who is also 80, did I realize that they really didn't know the Bible nor had they read it. She was in shock because she had seen a show about David and didn't know he was a sinnerBathsheba. I now prepare her lol. I am so thankful that I can watch the service and keep my connection with my brother Rick [Beruf]. Thank you. Carole Cavanaugh



THANK YOU

I would like to thank the congregation for the beautiful cross that I was given. During my time on council, I worked alongside some very dedicated and spirit-filled people and I thank God for each and every one of them. Such an amazing church family that I am blessed to be part of – thank you all!

Peggy



THANK YOU

STOP SOLDIER SUICIDE released the final numbers for the 250-mile Cycling challenge. They raised over \$240,000 in July from this event. Amazing!!!!

*Regards,
Gary*



This picture is NOT Gary—but it could be!!!!

THANKS, GARY, FOR BEING A PART OF THIS EVENT - WE ARE THANKFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY!

Baptism

The Holy Baptism of
Codey and Rhett
Armstrong.



Sunday, July 9, 2023

We were filled with joy at the Baptism of Codey Armstrong and her son, Rhett, on Sunday, July 9, 2023. Thanks be to God!

CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation of Brooke-Lynn Burke and Drew Thomas.

Sunday, May 28, 2023



On May 28, 2023, the Day of Pentecost,
we celebrated the Confirmation of
Brooke-Lynn Burke
and Drew Thomas.

We were pleased to have their loved ones here to celebrate
with us. **Thanks be to God!**



Contact Respite Care Charleston (843 647-7405) for more information about how to enter this support opportunity!



BLESSING BOX

The Cub Scouts have designed and mounted a Blessings Box to assist the hungry in our midst. They encourage all to take what you need and give what you are able. Along with the Blessings Box, two “Little Libraries” have been mounted beside the Blessings Box. One library is for children’s books and one is for adult readers. Thank you to Janice Knight for the Children’s books donated to the Little Library.

THE BLESSING BOX IS BEING USED DAILY!!! IT IS FREQUENTLY EMPTY. PLEASE HELP STOCK THE BLESSING BOX WHEN YOU ARE ABLE.



Quilt of Valor

On Saturday, July 8, 2023, Lou Gibson was presented with a Quilt of Valor. Lucy Weber from All Saints Lutheran presented this honor. Along with Lou's wife, Connie, Pastor Tom and Sherry Fowler were there to help celebrate Lou's Military Contribution. *I greatly appreciated the honor of being a recipient of the Quilt of Valor. The quilt is ideal for its comfort, warmth and what it represents. It was truly a privilege to serve my country with the Air Force for 20 years. I'm very grateful for this recognition. Thanks so much, Lou and Connie Gibson.*



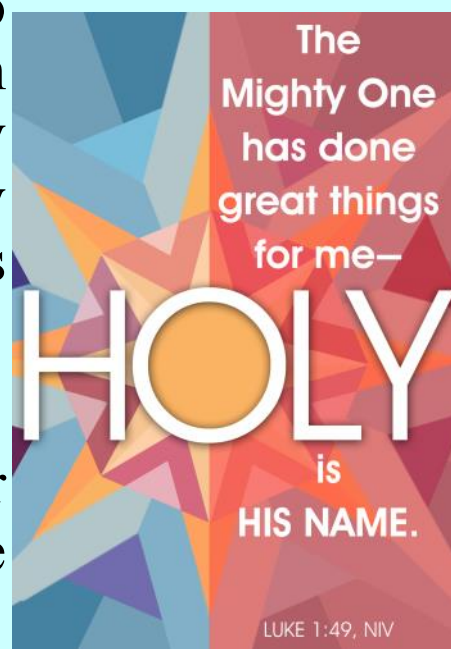
THE GREAT REEVALUATION

The Great ReEvaluation is a SC Synod sponsored program for church leadership growth.

We were involved with other SC Lutheran churches learning together under the direction of Rev. Mark Tidsworth. Our church participants were Pastor Tom, Nancy Haynsworth, Laura Jordan, Gary Frear, and Sherry Fowler.

The workshops have concluded, and our Great ReEvaluation Team has met. We will get with our Church Council to determine the next steps we will take to bring new spiritual vitality to our church's ministry. The council will also engage our full congregation in conversation about where the Holy Spirit is leading us and what new community ministry opportunities we should be active in.

Please keep our participants in your prayers as we move forward to serve our Lord and our community.



NEWS FOR YOU TO KNOW

Martin Luther Church is gladly accepting online contributions through Tithe.ly.com.

Anyone can access this new App through the MLLC website. Just go to the green Giving Option Button on the opening page! If you need some assistance, please give Sherry a call in the church office! Now you can give, even when you are out of town!!! Tell your friends and family that they can give to MLLC online!!!

VETERAN MINISTRY

Do you know a veteran or a military family in need?

Education... Housing... Health Benefits... Basic Needs... Assistance... Employment... Homelessness... Peer Support... Financial Crisis Management

Please contact or refer them to:

Tri-County Veterans Support Network
843-276-2840

www.TriCountyVeteransSupportNetwork.org

WE ARE ON FACEBOOK LIVE. JOIN US ON SUNDAYS AT 9 AM FOR OUR FACEBOOK LIVE STREAMING OF THE WORSHIP SERVICE FROM MARTIN LUTHER CHURCH.

RESPIRE CARE CHARLESTON

Upcoming Respite Care Charleston Support Group Meetings at MLLC

10 AM — Tuesday Morning Respite Group

6 PM—Tuesday Support Group

10 AM—Wednesday Support Group

10 AM—Friday Morning Respite Group

If you know of anyone who might benefit from any of these groups, please invite them to join us!

Sara Perry

Executive Director RCC

843 647-7405

A POEM BY MARTIN LUTHER

Feelings come and feelings go,
And feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God –
Naught else is worth believing.

Though all my heart should feel condemned
For want of some sweet token,
There is One greater than my heart
Whose Word cannot be broken.

I'll trust in God's unchanging Word
'Til soul and body sever,
For, though all things shall pass away
His Word shall stand forever!

– Martin Luther



PRAYERS



The family Eda Laughlin
at her death on August
9, 2023

The family of Gloria
Irwin, mother of Joni
Suggs, at Gloria's
death on July 29, 2023

The family of Betty
Boliek, wife of the
first Pastor of Martin
Luther church, at her
death on July 10.

Carl and Judy Simmons

Polly Sutton

Ursel Harmon

Nancy Haynsworth

Judy Alcorn

Margaret Balzano

Joyce Guffin

Paul Bauersfeld

Claire and Buddy
Diffenderfer

Myrl Kluge

Mary and Jack Cooper

Bill Mariorenzi

Joe Sproles

Sawyer Arnold

Steve Leasure

Bob Walker

Linda Tidsdale

Kim Jordan

Bobbi Butler

Vicki and Dale
Dangerfield

Caren Clark

Luke Rankin

Cyndee and Kenny
Roumillat

Joe Coates

Eric Wohltman

Robert Suarez

Tim Frear

Jacob DuPree

Harold McMillan

Evan McMillan

Karen Ezell

Anna Bailes

Fran Lingenfelter

Autumn Young

Trey Crayton

Carlton Hartis

Johnny Hallman

Cyndie Hartsell

Josiah Parnell

Marc Bennett

Catherine Brack

Amy Fisher

Patty Langella

Jamie Foster

Yvonne Thompson

Peyton Sullivan

Mary Stevens

Joyce Salters

Mark Hair

Annie Flanders

Roger Nelson

Connie and Walt Wurster

Anita Sloan

Larry Miller

Whitney Greene

Jamison Ford

Mary Stevens

Dwight and Susan Hartsell

Linda Miller

Fran Williams

Rodney Fowler

Lucille Mullis

Michele Wallis

Marvin Sims

Rusty Sims

Alice Vendrick

Mary Ann Graff

Betty and Paulwyn Boliek

Will Coleman

Ramona Horres

Becky Cook

Sherry Cook

Carolyn Swittenberg

Mildred Woods

Ned Vendrick

Wendy Thomas

Ann Smith

Ruth Toney

Richard Haynsworth

Ronnie Suggs

Erik Wohltman

All those suffering with
the COVID-19 virus.

GRIEF WORKSHOP IN THE FALL

*Are you
or someone you
know
experiencing grief?*



Join us for a 6 week
Grief Support Workshop.
No charge. Non-members welcome.

Wednesdays at 1 PM
October 4, 11, 18, 25
and November 1 and 8.

Sponsored by
Martin Luther Lutheran Church
Meetings will be held at
1605 Harbor View Road
James Island, SC 29412
843-795-4855
(Please call to register.)

Directions: Take the Hwy 30 Connector from downtown Charleston toward James Island/Folly Beach. Turn right on Exit 2 (Harbor View Road) and then turn left onto Harbor View Road. Martin Luther Church is on the left side of the road just past the Marathon Station.

**BIRTHDAYS**

Judy Alcorn	9/2
Marybeth Brennan	9/4
Stephen Harmon	9/7
Mary Cooper	9/10
Myrl Kluge	9/13
Brenda Burke	9/15
Emily Schroeder	9/16
Craig Bauersfeld	9/19
Rick Beruf	9/20
Robert Browne	9/21
Elizabeth Cockrell	9/23
Cayla Congdon	9/26
Wayne Rimer	9/28
Lynn Shaddrix	9/30
Pam Arnold	9/30

ANNIVERSARIES

Claire & Buddy Diffenderfer	9/10
Mary & Jack Cooper	9/11
Mary & Joe Cockrell	9/20

**BIRTHDAYS**

Linda Sproles	10/6
Ryan Hamill	10/7
Peggy Oxendine	10/7
Brandt Armstrong	10/9
TJ Peterson	10/10
Bade Thomas	10/11
Sherry Fowler	10/12
Connie Baker	10/14
Evelyn Browne	10/23
Robin Richard	10/25
Jack Cooper	10/25
Carley Congdon	10/26
Al Hoover	10/28
Ursel Harmon	10/31

ANNIVERSARIES

Robin & Marty Richard	10/16
Judy & Carl Simmons	10/25



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

	Lesson Reader	Prayer Leader	Communion Assistant	CPOD	Usher	Video
9/3	Tracey Arthur	Tracey Arthur	Tracey Arthur	Joni Suggs	Rick Suggs	Peggy Oxendine
9/10	Kaitlyn Frear	Kaitlyn Frear	Heidi and Kaitlyn Frear	Heidi Frear	Gary Frear	Heidi Frear
9/17	Mary Baldwin	Mary Baldwin	Laura Jordan	Nancy Haynsworth	Wayne Rimer	Sherry Fowler
9/24	Kathy Swittenberg	Kathy Swittenberg	Maria Namie	Gary Frear	Rick Beruf	Tracey Arthur

OCTOBER

	Lesson Reader	Prayer Leader	Communion Assistant	CPOD	Usher	Video
10/1	Lynn Shaddrix	Lynn Shaddrix	Sherry Fowler	Linda Leone	Jim Swittenberg	Sherry Fowler
10/8	Judy Simmons	Judy Simmons	Judy Simmons	Laura Jordan	Jimmy Knight	Laura Jordan
10/15	Ada Arthur	Ada Arthur	Maria Namie	Joni Suggs	Rick Suggs	Peggy Oxendine
10/22	Heidi Frear	Heidi and Kaitlyn Frear	Heidi Frear	Heidi Frear	Gary Frear	Heidi Frear
10/29	Kathy Swittenberg	Kathy Swittenberg	Kathy Swittenberg	Nancy Haynsworth	Brandt Armstrong	Sherry Fowler

These schedules are subject to change. Please let the church office know if you will not be able to serve on the date assigned.





MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1605 Harbor View Road
Charleston, SC 29412

843 795-4855
Email: mllc@knology.net

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.MARTINLUTHERCHURCH.ORG

**“A CARING FAMILY OF
GOD”**

STAFF AND CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

<u>STAFF</u>	<u>CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL</u>	<u>COUNCIL MEMBERS</u>	SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:
Pastor The Reverend Thomas Cassem Director of Congregational Ministries Sherry Fowler Director of Music Gina Shuey Office Hours are Monday—Friday 8 AM to Noon	<i>Officers</i> <i>President—</i> Nancy Haynsworth <i>Vice President—</i> Sherry Fowler <i>Secretary—</i> VACANT <i>Treasurer—</i> Linda Leone <i>Financial Secretary—</i> Vacant	<i>Worship Team Leader—</i> Brenda Burke <i>Service Team Leader—</i> VACANT <i>Evangelism Team Leader—</i> Laura Jordan <i>Learning Team Leader—</i> Heidi Frear <i>Congregational Care Team Leader—</i> Joni Suggs <i>Property Team Leader—</i> Gary Frear <i>Youth (one year term) -</i> Kaitlyn Frear	