

MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# LUTHER LINES

JAMES ISLAND, SC 29412      OCTOBER 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.

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# A Piece of the Pie

Jesus instructed us: *“Love your neighbor as yourself.”*  
 Martin Luther once wrote, *“God does not need your good works, but our neighbor does.”*

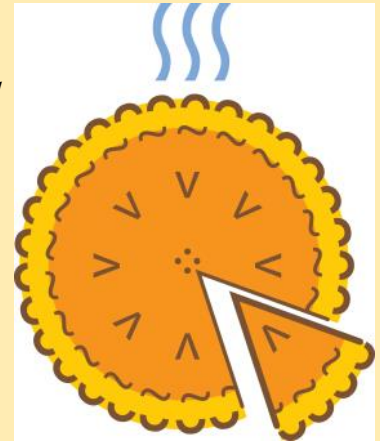
A teacher asked a boy in her class this question: *“Suppose your mother baked a pie and there were seven of you—your parents and five children. What part of the pie would you get?”*

*“A sixth,”* replied the boy.

*“I’m afraid you don’t know your fractions,”* said the teacher.

*“Remember, there are seven of you.”*

*“Yes, Miss Smith,”* said the boy, *“but you don’t know my mom. Mom would say she didn’t want any pie.”*



. + + + + +

I think Jesus would like this story! I’m sure he’d love that little boy! Talk about real love!

Rev. Bill Tomlinson says: *“Loving your neighbor as yourself means sacrificially putting other’s needs ahead of your own. Loving is what we, as Christians, owe to others.”*

He’s right! Sometimes that’s what we need to do...put others’ needs ahead of our own.

Why? People are watching us, and they need to see us do that. For, as the old camp gospel song says, *“They’ll know we are Christians by our love.”*

+ + + + +

What does God want you to do for somebody else? In my case, I know without a doubt that he does not want or need me to bake a pie! Buy one for somebody, maybe...but not bake one!

All humor aside... what does God want you to do to help somebody? Well, what hobbies do you enjoy? What talents, skills, and interests do you have that you can share? Would it help you to make a list? Maybe you can ask a family member or friend what you should put on your list.

Then be ready to put your list into practice! People are hungry for God, Jesus, God’s word, and Jesus’ love...even if they don’t know it! You can share all of those with ‘em.

And that’s no “Pie in the Sky”!

Blessings, *Pastor Tom*





From the  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR**

## Sing and Ring!

Rehearsals are held 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](mailto:Ginashuey@gmail.com).



**Join the Choir...**

**You'll Be Glad  
You Did!**

Come  
Ring  
With  
US



# 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.

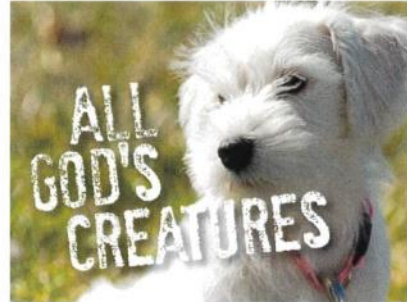


*Here at Martin Luther Church we will be watching the series and having discussion during the Sunday School time beginning **OCTOBER 1**. Even if you have seen the series (or what has been produced of the story), please join us.*



# **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

**To bless our pets, we  
ask you to bring a  
picture of your pet on  
Sunday, October 1.**



We want to honor our beloved pets and remember those no longer with us.

These pictures may be of a pet you have now, or a pet that has passed over the Rainbow Bridge.

So, please bring your pictures, label them with your name and the name of your pet, and be with us as we thank God for our loving pets.

# Quilts of Valor

On Saturday, September 16, 2023, Lucy Weber from All Saints Lutheran Quilts of Valor team presented



four Quilts of Valor to our Martin Luther Church Veterans. Right to left—Wayne Rimer, Bill Mariorenzi, Gary Frear and Sean Fowler (not present—his father, Richard Fowler received in his absence.)





# October is Pastor Appreciation Month



**We love  
our pastor!**

Thanks for ministering to our church.

## Confirmation Class



Martin Luther Church is hosting the first in a series of Confirmation Classes for students from Martin Luther Church, Faith Church, Holy Spirit Church, St. Mark's and St. John's on **Saturday, October**

**7th from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM.** We are so excited to get to meet and study together again! This first session will be focused on "Baptism". Please keep the students, parents and *Pastors* in your prayers.



*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.*

# The Great ReEvaluation

Recently, a group from MLLC attended several training sessions entitled, “The Great Re-evaluation,” whose purpose was to learn the many ways that mainline churches and even Christianity itself is changing and to chart a course for the future.

At first glance, the statistics seem daunting. According to a Gallup poll, last year, Americans' membership in houses of worship fell below 50 percent for the first time since Gallup started its authoritative religion survey. In 1937 — the year the Gallup poll began — seven out of 10 Americans attended church. In 2020 — before the pandemic — only 47 percent of Americans belonged to a church, synagogue, or mosque, according to the survey, and has been trending downward since 2000. Young people are rejecting organized religion and some churches are facing an existential crisis. (Source: Religion, December 13, 2024. John Burnett).

According to The Great Re-evaluation author Mark E. Tidsworth, we need to begin to do church differently. But what does that look like? Tidsworth notes six expectations for the post-Pandemic churches as we move forward:

- Expect relationship shifting. There is a deep hunger for authentic and genuine community.
- Expect a ravenous hunger for robust spiritual enrichment.
- Expect participation pattern shifting.
- Expect resignations from and volunteering for church leadership.
- Expect more truth-telling, and less truth avoiding.

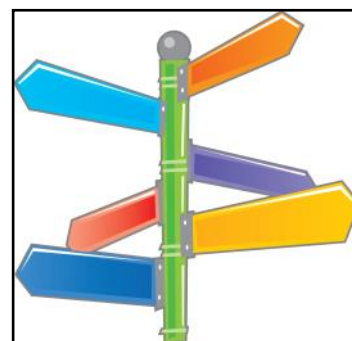
Yet there is much cause for hope. Prayerfully consider the following realities as put forth by Pastor Tom:

- \* Yes, these are challenging times. But they're also exciting times!
- \* People are searching for God and Jesus and relationships...even if they can't or won't say so!
- \* This is God's church...our Lord's church...not just ours!
- \* The church will survive...always has...always will!
- \* The church looks very different now than what it looked like when it started...and difference and change are part of its natural life course!
- \* God is responsible for the difference and change...we are just responsible for finding out what differences and changes he has in mind for us at the present time!
- \* God will always give us what we need to accomplish what he wants us to do as his church!

One of the areas that TGR committee is focusing on is a look toward revising our mission statement to reflect the changing needs of the world, community, and congregants most accurately. In the coming weeks, we would like your assistance in working on a revision to the existing MLLC 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.”** We will all be presented with an opportunity to weigh in on this!

Thank you for your assistance and God bless.

Nancy Haynsworth  
MLLC Council President





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.**



## 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](http://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

## PRAYERS



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

Robert Mallard  
 Steve Leasure  
 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  
 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.

The Citizens for Ukraine  
 for their safety and for  
 the end to the conflict  
 between Ukraine and  
 Russia.



**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

**BIRTHDAYS**

Claire Diffenderfer	11/03
Janet Kruger	11/10
Joe Sproles	11/11
Kaitlyn Frear	11/11
Delayna Guffin	11/12
Tracey Arthur	11/14
Ada Arthur	11/15
Marcia LaFrance	11/18
John Weed	11/18
Rich Hamill	11/19
Donna Blish	11/20
Bubba Brandt	11/23
Tait Arthur	11/24
Maria Namie	11/24
Pam Peterson	11/27
Russell LaFrance	11/28

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Lynn & Steve Shaddrix	11/27
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# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SCHEDULE

## OCTOBER

	<b>Lesson Reader</b>	<b>Prayer Leader</b>	<b>Communion Assistant</b>	<b>CPOD</b>	<b>Usher</b>	<b>Video</b>
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

## NOVEMBER

	<b>Lesson Reader</b>	<b>Prayer Leader</b>	<b>Communion Assistant</b>	<b>CPOD</b>	<b>Usher</b>	<b>Video</b>
11/5	Nancy Haynsworth	Nancy Haynsworth	Maria Namie	Sherry Fowler	Jimmy Knight	Sherry Fowler
11/12	Laura Jordan	Laura Jordan	Torren Thomas	Laura Jordan	Rick Beruf	Tracey Arthur
11/19	Mary Baldwin	Mary Baldwin	Maria Namie	Linda Leone	Wayne Rimer	Peggy Oxendine
11/26	Heidi Frear	Heidi Frear	Heidi Frear	Heidi Frear	Gary Frear	Heidi Frear

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