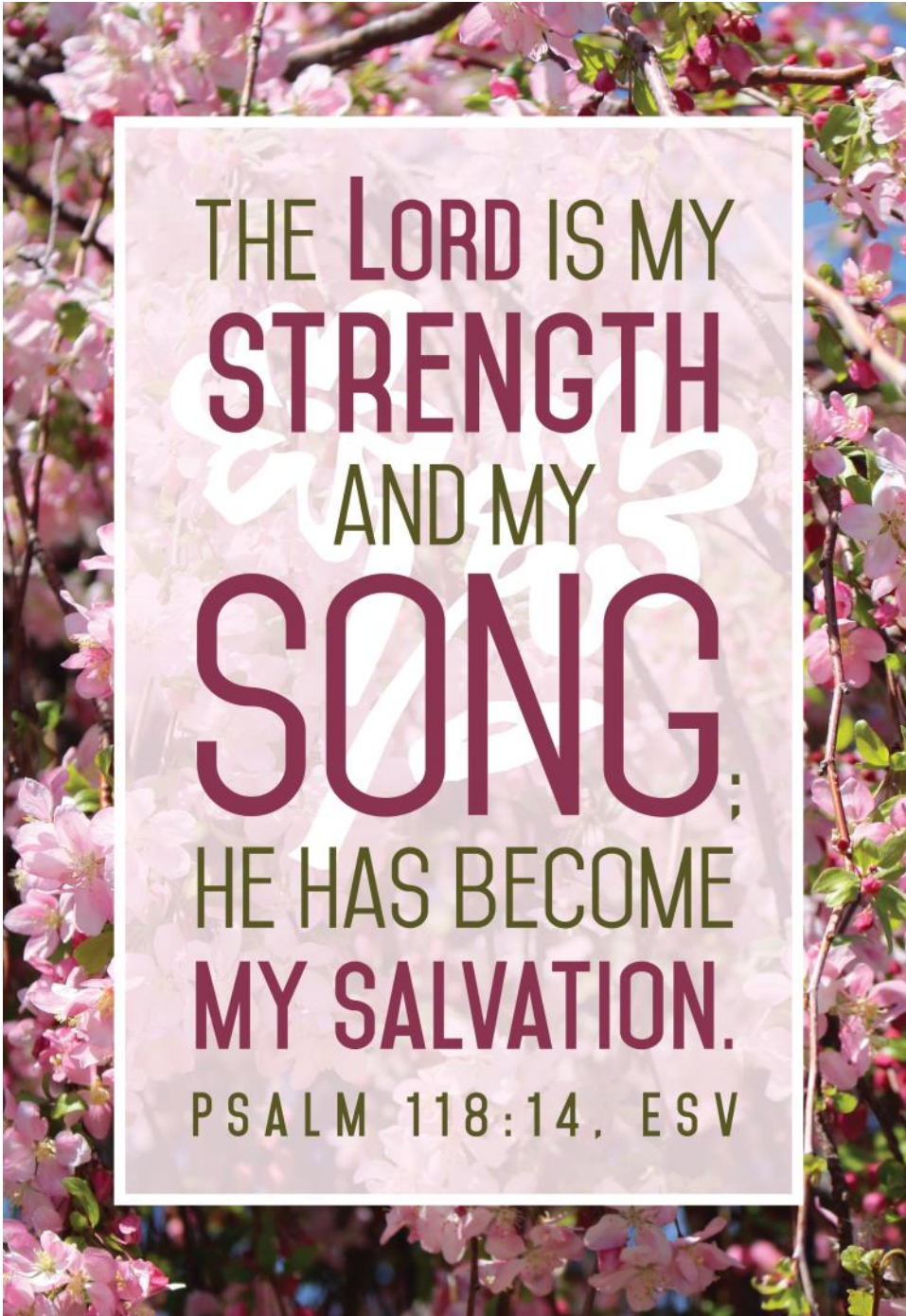


MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# LUTHER LINES

JAMES ISLAND, SC 29412      MAY 2024



## **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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# God's Eager Beavers

You may be familiar with the idea of Smoke Jumpers. They are fire fighters who are parachuted into remote areas of forested wilderness in order to quell the flames, saving not only the trees, but houses, towns, animals, birds, insects, and the ground cover as well.

But sometimes beavers are dropped from airplanes in boxes! They descend under parachutes, not to fight fires, but to reduce the fires' damage and provide a good environment and better quality of life for other creatures! That's a kind of epiphany! I didn't know that, did you?



Sherry's thought topic for this newsletter is "*How has God graced your Easter this year?*" Jesus, our Risen Lord, is our Good Shepherd. Because he's alive, he's surely blessed you and graced your life this year. Hopefully, you've been able to see where he's been and what he's done for you! Please share a story with Sherry because we all are lifted up by each other's stories!

Maybe Jesus is also like the Smoke Jumpers. He "drops in" on our lives, often in situations where we feel like our lives are "on fire", and he quells the flames, saves us, and helps us move forward with new life. How's that for an Easter image? He couldn't do that if he weren't still alive and with us!

Our Good Shepherd Jesus calls us to be "Junior Shepherds" and help him watch over and care for other people. Can we also be "God's Eager Beavers" and joyfully sign up to be "dropped in" to serve wherever he needs us? Yup! Sounds like an Easter Grace Adventure to me!

Blessings, *Pastor Tom*



# From the Music Director

May promises to be an exciting month in our church year! The season of Easter will come to a close on Pentecost Sunday, May 19th when the Holy Spirit rushes in and we receive the “breath of God” which empowers us for everyday ministry in our everyday worlds. The Holy Trinity is celebrated on May 26th as we worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; and explore yet again the mystery of Three in One and , One in Three. The music of these lesser festival Sundays is exciting and will hopefully inspire us as we join the songs of the angels praising our Awesome God with all that we have and all that we are! To God be the Glory! Amen and Amen!

## BIBLE STUDY



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

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



# GRADUATES

**We want to acknowledge our graduates (children, grandchildren, friends and loved ones).**

Please send to the church your graduates name, from where are they graduating and perhaps what plans they have—be it further education or joining the work force.

*Tell us of the achievements of our families and friends.*

# 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. Even if you have seen the series (or what has been produced of the story), please join us.*



The 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly will be held  
**June 8, 2024.**

It will be a one day online event.

Our Theme: Like Good Stewards

Scripture Reference: 1 Peter 4:10

Working with the overall theme, "Like Good Stewards," we have identified three subthemes to highlight. In our very own ELW, hymns under the title Stewardship are also referenced under Creation, Offering, and Justice & Peace. These three subthemes will be the areas that we will delve into throughout the day. We will be sharing stories from across the Synod of how congregations, organizations, and individuals are being good stewards of their gifts and resources to care for creation, to give financially, and to work towards justice and peace.



## Like Good Stewards

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” 1 Peter 4:10

*The Annual SC Synod Assembly will be held **virtually** this year – one day, Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Martin Luther Church is allowed one male, one female and one person under 20 to participate. Please see Pastor Tom, Sherry Fowler or Nancy Haynsworth if you are interested in participating in this wonderful virtual event.*

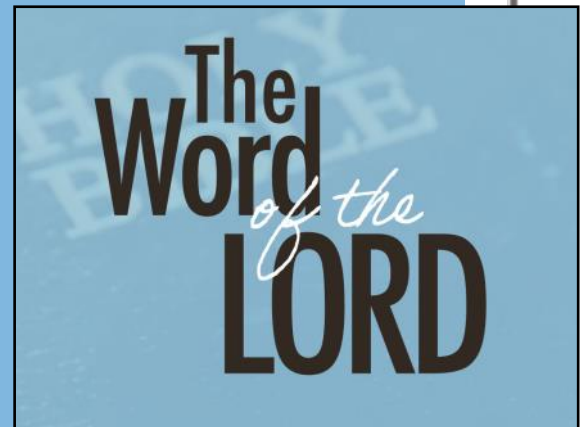
**Sunday,  
May 12th**



**Monday,  
May  
27th**

**Do you read your Bible Daily?  
What does your Daily Devotion  
look like?**

**Would you like a resource sent  
daily to your email from the  
ELCA?**



**You may click on the following link to subscribe  
to daily scripture readings from the ELCA.**

[Daily Bible Reading - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
\(elca.org\)](https://www.elca.org/Faith/DailyBible)

**Or type**

<https://www.elca.org/Faith/DailyBible>

**This follows our Martin Luther Church  
readings for the year.**

**Tips for Daily Scripture Reading**

1. Sit in silence.
2. Read God's word, letting it dwell in you.
3. Praise and thank God.



## POSTPARTUM SUPPORT CHARLESTON

### EVENT DAY SCHEDULE

May 11th

Philip Simmons High School  
3080 River Village Drive  
Charleston, SC 29492

7:00 a.m. - Event Opens!  
8:10 a.m. - Kids Dash Start  
8:30 a.m. - Moms' Run/Walk 5K & 1-Mile Walk Start  
9:45 a.m. - Award Ceremony  
10:30 a.m. - Event Close

**This is a rain or shine event. Please also note that we cannot allow animals at this event.**

### **A snapshot of 2023: A Year of Meaningful Impact**

550+ Volunteer Hours

1100+ Moms Supported

150 Support Groups

We are proud to share that we celebrated our 2<sup>nd</sup> full year of Beyond Deliver with a total of over **1200** meals and care packages delivered to new moms in the Charleston Tricounty area.

Sign up at [Moms' Run Online Registration \(runsignup.com\)](https://runsignup.com)



# VIA DE CRISTO RETREAT

## this Spring



*Could your spiritual journey use a tune up? Have you sensed a calling into a deeper relationship with our Lord and Savior?*

Through a partnership between Pastors and Lay Leaders with full reliance on prayer and the Holy Spirit, the SC Lutheran Via de Cristo has been helping people to enrich their relations with Jesus for MANY years.

**The SC Via de Cristo Community invites you to “Come and See”**

**May 2 – 5, 2024.**

For more information, visit [www.scviadecristo.org](http://www.scviadecristo.org) or any one of the following people would be thrilled to sponsor you to attend a weekend; Sherry and/or Richard Fowler, Heidi Frear, Laura Jordan, Peggy Oxendine, Wayne Rimer, Joni Suggs, Pastor Tom and Julie Carter. Just ask!!!!

# NEWS FOR YOU TO KNOW

**Martin Luther Church is gladly accepting online contributions through [Tithe.ly.com](https://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!!!

**WE ARE ON FACEBOOK LIVE AND ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL (MARTIN LUTHER CHURCH CHARLESTON). JOIN US ON SUNDAYS AT 9 AM FOR THE LIVESTREAMING OF THE WORSHIP SERVICE FROM MARTIN LUTHER CHURCH.**

## RESPITE CARE CHARLESTON

Upcoming Respite Care Charleston Support Group Meetings at MLLC

**10 AM — Tuesday Morning Respite Group**

**6:30 PM— Tuesday Caregiver Support Group Online**

**10 AM—Wednesday Caregiver Support Group 2nd and 4th Wednesday**

**10 AM—Wednesday Early Memory Loss 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**

## 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)**

In case you did not know—Sherry Fowler, our Director of Congregational Ministries is also a **Notary Public**.

If you need documents notarized, please call Sherry either at the church office (843 795-4855) or on her cell phone (843 442-3593). There is no charge for this service.

## 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.



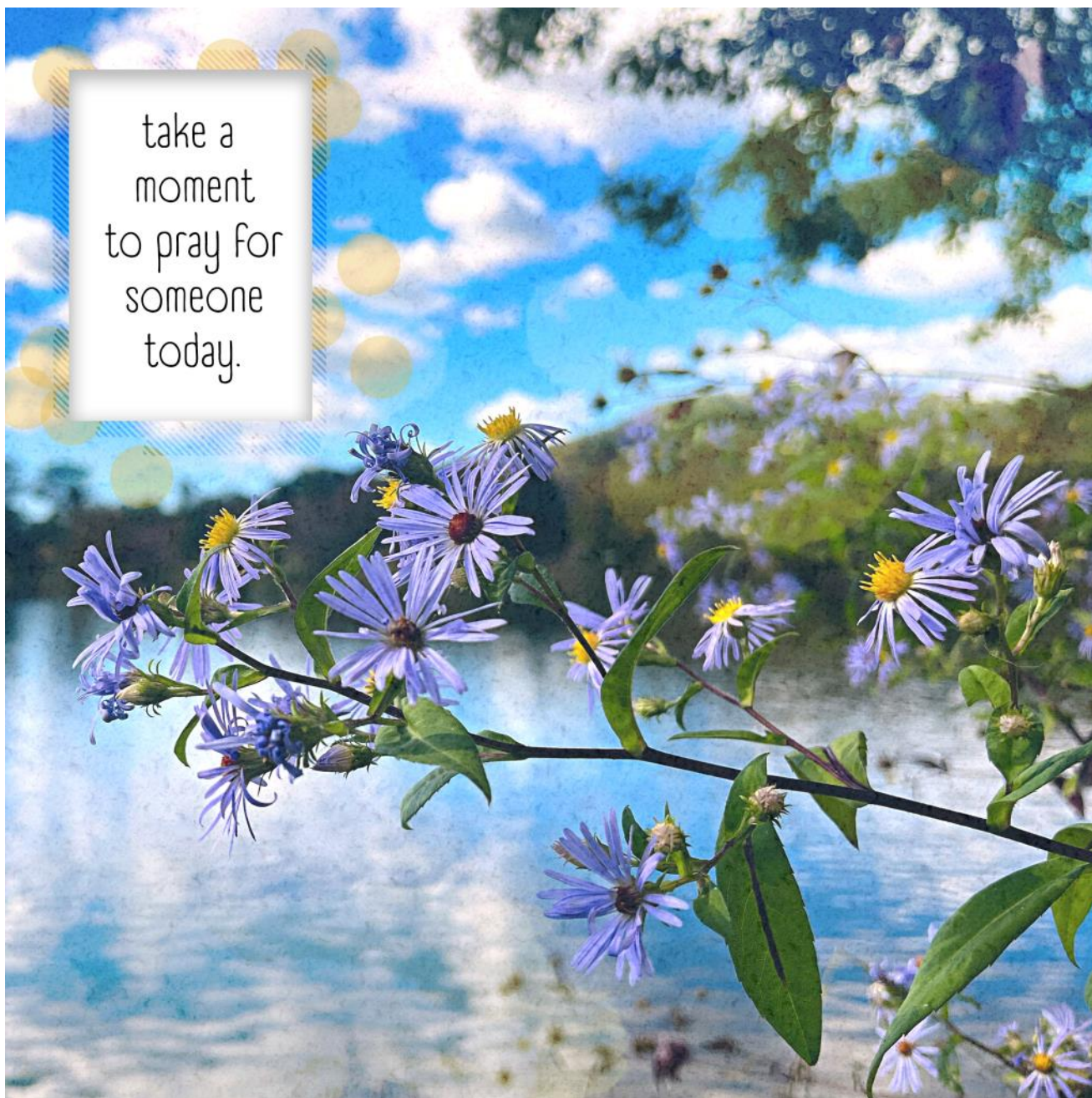
**THE BLESSING BOX IS BEING  
USED DAILY!!! IT IS  
FREQUENTLY EMPTY. PLEASE  
HELP STOCK THE BLESSING BOX  
WHEN YOU ARE ABLE.**





# What does your summer look like?

Are you planning on taking some time away on vacation? Do you plan to spend more time outdoors? As Pentecost nears, how important is the Holy Spirit in your daily life?





Respite Care Charleston and  
Aging Life Care Charleston

# ALZHEIMER'S AND YOU

**FREE FIVE-WEEK COURSE**  
ON THE UNIQUE CHALLENGES  
OF ALZHEIMER'S AND OTHER DEMENTIAS

**THURSDAYS, 6-8 P.M.**  
**BEGINNING MAY 2**  
**MARTIN LUTHER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
1605 HARBOR VIEW ROAD, CHARLESTON



### This series will cover:

- Dementia from the Inside Out
- Communication is Key
- Stages of Dementia - Part 1
- Stages of Dementia - Part 2
- Love Your Elder and Yourself

### Instructor: Karen Nichols

Karen Nichols, RN, CRCFA, NHA has spent more than 25 years dedicated to serving seniors. Karen is passionate about caring for and training people to care for people with dementia. Helping people understand them is her life's calling.



To Register call (843) 647-7405  
or email [info@respitecarecharleston.org](mailto:info@respitecarecharleston.org)



## PRAYERS



The Family of Lou  
Gibson at his death on  
April 25

Carl and Judy Simmons

Polly Sutton

Joyce Guffin

Mary Baldwin

Bill Mariorezzi

Brenda Burke

Margaret Balzano

Claire and Buddy  
Diffenderfer

Myrl Kluge

Joe and Linda Sproles

Ricky Suggs

Carol Sims

Dale Navarrette

Vickie and Dale  
Dangerfield

Chloe Spitzer

Denise Dinking

Carolyn Powless

Katie Carrole

Nancy Schwartz

Billy Miller

Linda Miller

Michael Schroeder and  
family

Collin Foster

Sara Perry

Melina Watson

Jerry Drake

Betsy Zafr

Zeke Nobles

Edward Knight

Bobby Bellah

Jean Lofton

Patty Langella

B.T. Bouton

Debbie Wilson

Patricia Davis

Corporal Lucas Watts

Julie Zerbst

Blake Dunn

Elizabeth Burgess

Tasha Higgins

Robert Mallard

Steve Leasure

Bobbi Butler

Caren Clark

Luke Rankin

Cyndee and Kenny  
Roumillat

Joe Coates

Eric Wohltman

Robert Suarez

Jacob DuPree

Fran Lingenfelter

Autumn Young

Trey Crayton

Johnny Hallman

Cyndie Hartsell

Marc Bennett

Catherine Brack

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

Mary Stevens

Dwight Hartsell

Fran Williams

Marvin Sims

Rusty Sims

Alice Vendrick

Mary Ann Graff

Paulwyn Boliek

Will Coleman

Ramona Horres

Becky Cook

Sherry Cook

Ned Vendrick

Ann Smith

Richard Haynsworth

Ronnie Suggs

The Citizens of Ukraine,  
Israel and other war-  
torn countries, that  
peace may prevail.



**BIRTHDAYS**

Todd Peterson 5/2  
 Greg Spain 5/3  
 Bob Spain 5/8  
 Laura Jordan 5/9  
 Nancy Gillette 5/24  
 Ashley Peterson 5/26

**BIRTHDAYS**

Connie Gibson 6/3  
 Joe Cockrell 6/13  
 Buddy Diffenderfer 6/22  
 Megan Browne 6/30  
 Nancy Haynsworth 6/30

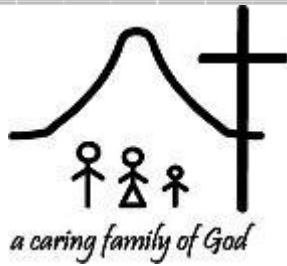
**ANNIVERSARIES**

Tricia & JB Bradley 5/29

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Florence & Wayne Rimer 6/4  
 Kristina & Steve Everman 6/5  
 Pam & Todd Peterson 6/12  
 Lori & Rich Hamill 6/16  
 Mary Lou & Al Hoover 6/17  
 Amanda & Richard Summers 6/24

<b>MAY</b>					
<b>DATE</b>	<b>Lesson Reader</b>	<b>Prayer Leader</b>	<b>Communion Assistant</b>	<b>CPOD</b>	<b>Usher</b>
May 5	Kathy Swittenberg	Kathy Swittenberg	Maria Namie	Nancy Haynsworth	Brandt Armstrong
May 12	Kaitlyn Frear	Kaitlyn Frear	Heidi and Kaitlyn Frear	Gary Frear	Gary Frear
May 19	Judy Simmons	Judy Simmons	Tracey Arthur	Joni Suggs	Ricky Suggs
May 26	Lynn Shaddrix	Lynn Shaddrix	Lynn Shaddrix	Linda Leone	Rick Beruf
<b>JUNE</b>					
<b>DATE</b>	<b>Lesson Reader</b>	<b>Prayer Leader</b>	<b>Communion Assistant</b>	<b>CPOD</b>	<b>Usher</b>
June 2	Peggy Oxendine	Peggy Oxendine	Laura Jordan	Laura Jordan	Jim Swittenberg
June 9	Judy Simmons	Judy Simmons	Maria Namie	Joni Suggs	Ricky Suggs
June 16	Ada Arthur	Ada Arthur	Sherry Fowler	Sherry Fowler	Richard Fowler
June 23	Kathy Swittenberg	Kathy Swittenberg	Laura Jordan	Linda Leone	Wayne Rimer
June 30	Sherry Fowler	Sherry Fowler	Lynn Shaddrix	Nancy Haynsworth	Rick Beruf



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> <i>Laura Jordan</i>  <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>	