

MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LUTHER LINES

JAMES ISLAND, SC 29412

MARCH 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.

PASTOR'S PONDERING	2
MUSIC NOTES	3
SUNDAY SCHOOL	4
HOLY WEEK	6
QUESTION	16
PRAYERS	18
BIRTHDAYS	19



Don't Miss the Fun and Joyful Things in Life

The great architect Frank Lloyd Wright was fond of an incident that may have seemed insignificant at the time but had a profound influence on the rest of his life. The winter he was 9, he went walking across a snow-covered field with his reserved, no-nonsense uncle. As the two of them reached the far end of the field, his uncle stopped him. He pointed out his own tracks in the snow, straight and true as an arrow's flight, and then young Frank's tracks meandering all over the field.

"Notice how your tracks wander aimlessly from the fence to the cattle to the woods and back again," his uncle said. "And see how my tracks aim directly to my goal. There is an important lesson in that."

Years later the world-famous architect liked to tell how the experience had contributed to his philosophy in life. "I determined right then," he'd say with a twinkle in his eye, "not to miss the things in life that my uncle had missed."

Rev. Leonard Sweet observes: *"Frank Lloyd Wright saw in those tracks what his uncle could not: It is easy to let the demands of life keep us from the joys of living. We all recognize that any goal in life worth achieving demands a great deal of our energy. We could not live if we did not set goals and work to fulfill them. No sane person would argue otherwise.*

But here's what young Wright discovered at the tender age of 9, and what some don't learn until 59: The objective in life is not the goal but the journey on the way to the goal."

He's right! True success in life is not reaching the goal...it's the journey! Human relationship and motivation speaker and author Dale Carnegie used to say, *"People rarely succeed unless they have fun in what they are doing."*

Jesus knew that! He took time out to go to wedding feasts and to just enjoy time with his disciples and other friends...like hanging out with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus in their home.

He wants us to do the same! Life throws so much at us. Deal with it, of course. And take our responsibilities seriously, of course. Do what we need to do in our work and for our families. But don't get so focused on the things we have to do that we miss the joy of the journey, the things we enjoy doing, and the people we enjoy being with!

Dare I say: *"Frankly, that's the Wright way to live!"*?

(Bad pun, I know. But you get the idea!)

God's Blessings! *Pastor Tom*



From the Music Director

I love the turning of the seasons, especially when winter turns to spring. The symbolism of new life, new beginnings, and new hope associated with spring parallels the church calendar. We are currently making our way through the Lenten season. We have been learning to walk closer to Christ, as we focus more of our time and energy on God's will for us.

By month's end, we will have journeyed through Holy Week and celebrated the joy of Easter! Our music promises to reflect the spirit of these holy days. Our plea for mercy (Kyrie) will be replaced by the joyful declaration: "This is the Feast of Victory for our God" and we will raise all our Alleluias in praise of our Awesome God! Thanks be to God!!!

Blessings!

Gina

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!**

On Sunday, January 14th we welcomed Caitlin and Joseph Donaldson as they joined Martin Luther Church. Thanks be to God!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

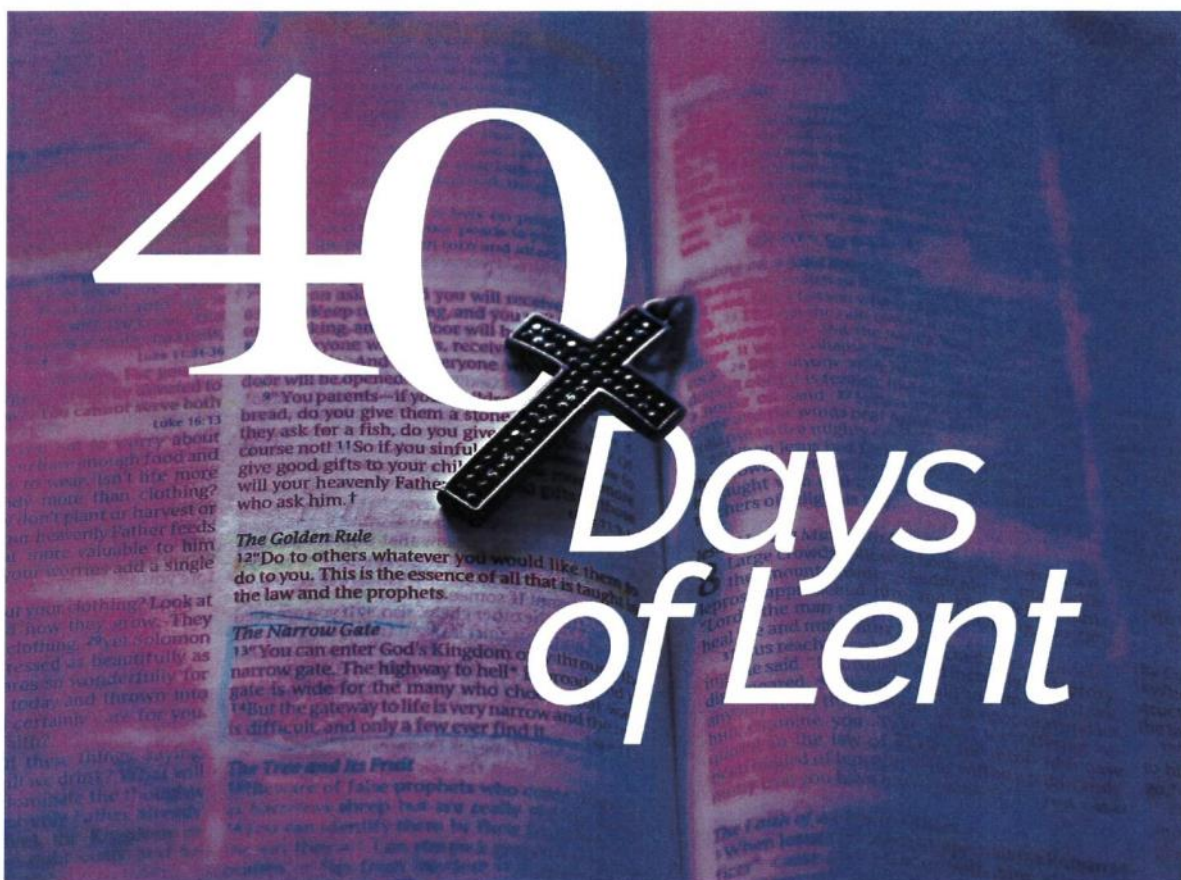
Get Used to Different.



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.





Wednesday, February 14 at Noon – Ash Wednesday Service

**Thursday, February 22 at 6 PM - Thursday Evening Lenten Meal
7 PM Lenten Service**

**Thursday, February 29 at 6 PM – Thursday Evening Lenten Meal
7 PM Lenten Service**

**Thursday, March 7 at 6 PM – Thursday Evening Lenten Meal
7 PM Lenten Service**

**Thursday, March 14 at 6 PM – Thursday Evening Lenten Meal
7 PM Lenten Service**

**Thursday, March 21 at 6 PM – Thursday Evening Lenten Meal
7 PM Lenten Service**



HOLY WEEK

HOLY WEEK BEGINS WITH THE PROCESSION OF PALMS ON PALM SUNDAY AND CONCLUDES WITH THE RISEN CHRIST ON EASTER MORNING!

PALM SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 9 AM SERVICE

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Martin Luther Church

THURSDAY, MARCH 28 AT 7 PM

GOOD FRIDAY

Faith Lutheran Church

FRIDAY, MARCH 29 AT 7 PM



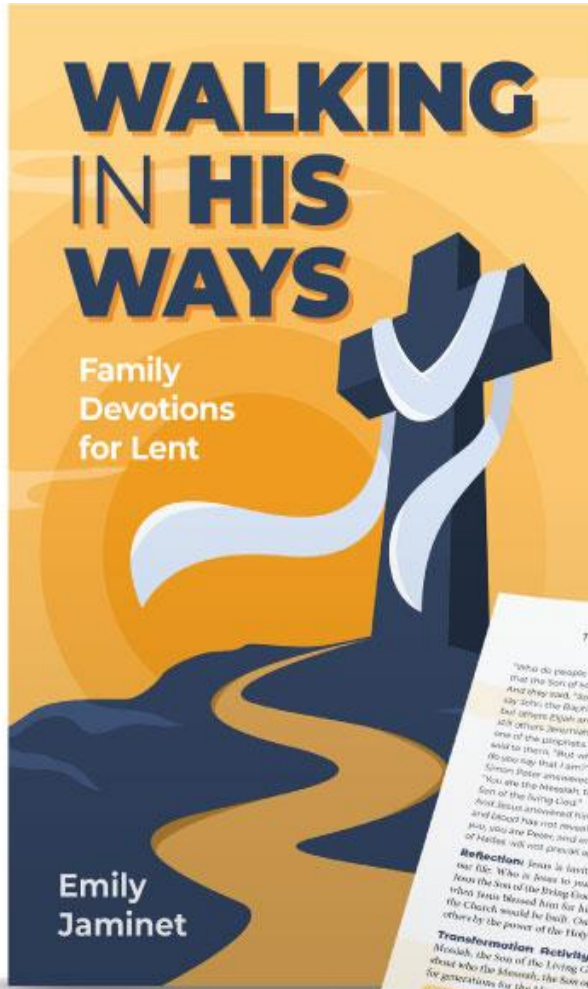
Sunday, March 31st

**ONLINE Sunrise Service begins at
6:00am**

**Joyful Holy Communion Service
begins at 9:00 am**

at Martin Luther Church
1605 Harbor View Road
James Island, SC 29412

You can also join us FaceBook Live for the live worship.



Walking in His Ways includes 12 coloring and family activity sheets to download and print for your family to celebrate the season of Lent!



We will be following the devotional booklet “Walking in His Ways” and we invite you to get a copy of this booklet for your family in the Narthex. Call and we can mail one to you.



EASTER EGG HUNT AT MARTIN LUTHER CHURCH

1605 Harbor View Road
Saturday, March 23
11 AM—1 PM

Join us for an egg-citing day of
fun! Bring your baskets to fill
with Easter eggs and goodies!





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 2nd 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 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!!!!

Shrove Tuesday

A BIG Thank you to JB Bradley and Wayne Rimer for coordinating the Pancakes and goodies for the Shrove Tuesday event last week. These guys are awesome! And thanks to all who came out to enjoy the feast! Our new Mardi Gras Queen is Sammie Burke.



Martin Luther Church participated in the 2024 Souper Bowl of Caring and collected 116 non-perishable food items and \$127.50 each for James Island Outreach and Neighbors Together. Thank you to Heidi Frear for making these deliveries!

Giving Sundays

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024

Yes, We all LOVE Pastor Tom's exciting, colorful, funny and silly Socks!

In honor of Pastor Tom's silly socks, we wore silly socks to church on Sunday, February 4 and brought NEW warm socks for Neighbors Together! Thank you to Barbara and Andy Young for delivering over 75 pairs of socks to Neighbors Together.



On Sunday, January 21, we collected over 43 warm coats and these were delivered to Neighbors Together! Thanks to everyone who wrapped our community in a warm coat!!!

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

6:30 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

SCOUT SUNDAY



Scout Sunday at Martin Luther Church was Sunday, February 4, 2024. Boy Scout Troop 4 and Cub Scouts Pack 4 joined us for worship and shared information with us about their upcoming events—Pinewood Derby (*to be held on Saturday, April 2, 2024*), Camping, Outings and Community Service Projects.

We are very proud of our Scouts!!!

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.



Question of the Month

Our March Question of the month is

“Have you witnessed a miracle?”

Here is an awesome response.

☞ Hello I have witnessed a miracle....

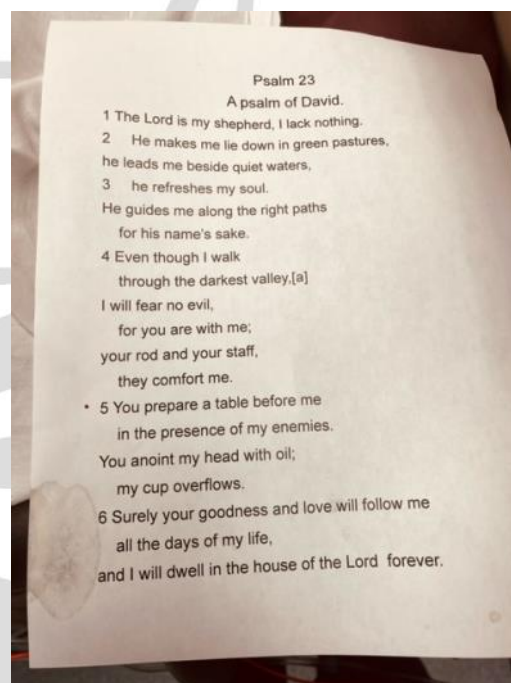
At MUSC I have been talking to the chaplains about possibly giving handed out prayer cards so that they can pray with the family privately prior to surgery!

Well this week I picked up my first patient with his prayer card in his hand. We had already dismissed his family from the room, but he asked if we would all pray WITH him again. We Did.

His daughter checked back in to see what the study was, and I told her your dad wanted to sneak one more prayer in, she stated “well it cannot hurt!”

Here is a picture of our prayer....

Heidi Marie Frear



☞ **Matthew 25:40—**“Verily, I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” - Joni Suggs’ favorite Bible Verse.

In April, we are asking each of you to bring (or email) a “Nature” photo that you have taken that represents peace and tranquility! *We will have a collage of peaceful scenes!*



We will be ordering Easter Lilies for this Easter season. You may obtain an order form from the church — return the form and your check (payable to Martin Luther Church) to the church office or place in offering plate. Those remembered will be listed in the bulletin insert on Easter Sunday.

*Orders must be placed by Sunday,
March 24, 2024*



Let's have a **SPRING CLEANUP** before our Easter Festivities! Join us on Saturday, April 16 from 9—noon at the church to spruce up the grounds and tidy up our supply closet!

On March 17, when we remember the Christian missionary St. Patrick, Irish blessings abound. Here is a benediction to share with friends in the faith:

*Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you. Amen.*



PRAYERS



The family of Dick Kranzler (Bill Mariorenzi's brother in law) at his death on January 26.

The family of Dana Tallent (Sherry's niece) at her death on February 9.

Carl and Judy Simmons
 Polly Sutton
 Joyce Guffin
 Mary Baldwin
 Bill Mariorenzi
 Brenda Burke
 Margaret Balzano
 Claire and Buddy Diffenderfer
 Myrl Kluge
 Joe and Linda Sproles

Mike Shuey
 Dusty Reese
 Dale Peek
 Jerry Drake
 Betsy Zafr
 Zeke Nobles
 Edward Knight
 Glenn Lawley
 Joey Paxton

Bobby Bellah
 Jean Lofton
 Patty Langella
 B.T. Bouton
 Debbie Wilson
 Patricia Davis
 Corporal Lucas Watts
 Julie Zerbst
 Blake Dunn
 Debbie Jones
 Becky Schleppegrell
 Jim and Joanne Johnston
 Elizabeth Burgess
 Kai Shuey
 Tasha Higgins
 Robert Mallard
 Steve Leasure
 Bobbi Butler
 Caren Clark
 Luke Rankin
 Cyndee and Kenny Roumillat
 Joe Coates
 Eric Wohltman
 Robert Suarez
 Jacob DuPree
 Harold McMillan
 Evan McMillan
 Karen Ezell
 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
 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
 Carolyn Swittenberg
 Ned Vendrick
 Wendy Thomas
 Ann Smith
 Ruth Toney
 Richard Haynsworth
 Ronnie Suggs



BIRTHDAYS

Gary Frear 3/05
 Caitlin Donaldson 3/05
 Will Waters 3/07
 Linda Armstrong 3/08
 Elisabeth Diffenderfer 3/19
 Tom Cassem 3/26
 Judy Simmons 3/26
 Richard Fowler 3/27
 Pam Harris 3/28

BIRTHDAYS

Ashley Harris Wright 4/3
 Matthew Harris 4/4
 Tricia Bradley 4/6
 Mary Lou Hoover 4/12
 Ned Balzano 4/18
 Luke Rimer 4/21
 Lori Hamill 4/27
 Julie Carter 4/28
 Gina Shuey 4/29
 Jerri Snider 4/30
 Torren Thomas 4/30

ANNIVERSARIES

Linda & Joe Sproles 3/1

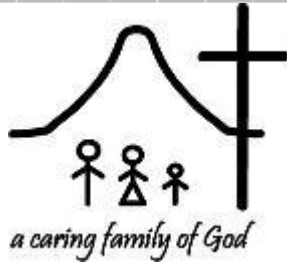
ANNIVERSARIES

Sherry & Richard Fowler 4/7
 Barbara & Andy Young 4/21
 Laura & Eddie Jordan 4/23



MARCH

DATE	Lesson Reader	Prayer Leader	Communion Assistant	CPOD	Usher
March 3	Kathy Swittenberg	Kathy Swittenberg	Maria Namie	Sherry Fowler	Brandt Armstrong
March 10	Kaitlyn Frear	Kaitlyn Frear	Heidi and Kaitlyn Frear	Heidi Frear	Gary Frear
March 17	Judy Simmons	Judy Simmons	Lynn Shaddrix	Joni Suggs	Ricky Suggs
March 24 Palm Sunday	Lynn Shaddrix	Lynn Shaddrix	Lynn Shaddrix	Linda Leone	Rick Beruf
March 31 Easter	Sherry Fowler	Sherry Fowler	Sherry Fowler	Sherry Fowler	Richard Fowler



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	<i>Officers</i> <i>President—</i> Nancy Haynsworth	<i>Worship Team Leader—</i> Brenda Burke <i>Service Team Leader—</i> VACANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Luther Church is the only ELCA Congregation on James Island • Martin Luther Church was organized on February 5, 1961. • 273 Disciples call Martin Luther Church their home church. • Eight Pastors have shepherded Martin Luther disciples since its organization.
Director of Congregational Ministries Sherry Fowler	<i>Vice President—</i> Sherry Fowler	<i>Evangelism Team Leader—</i> Laura Jordan	
Director of Music Gina Shuey	<i>Secretary—</i> VACANT	<i>Learning Team Leader—</i> Heidi Frear	
Office Hours are Monday—Friday 8 AM to Noon	<i>Treasurer—</i> Linda Leone <i>Financial Secretary—</i> <i>Vacant</i>	<i>Congregational Care Team Leader—Joni Suggs</i> <i>Property Team Leader—</i> Gary Frear <i>Youth (one year term) -</i> Kaitlyn Frear	