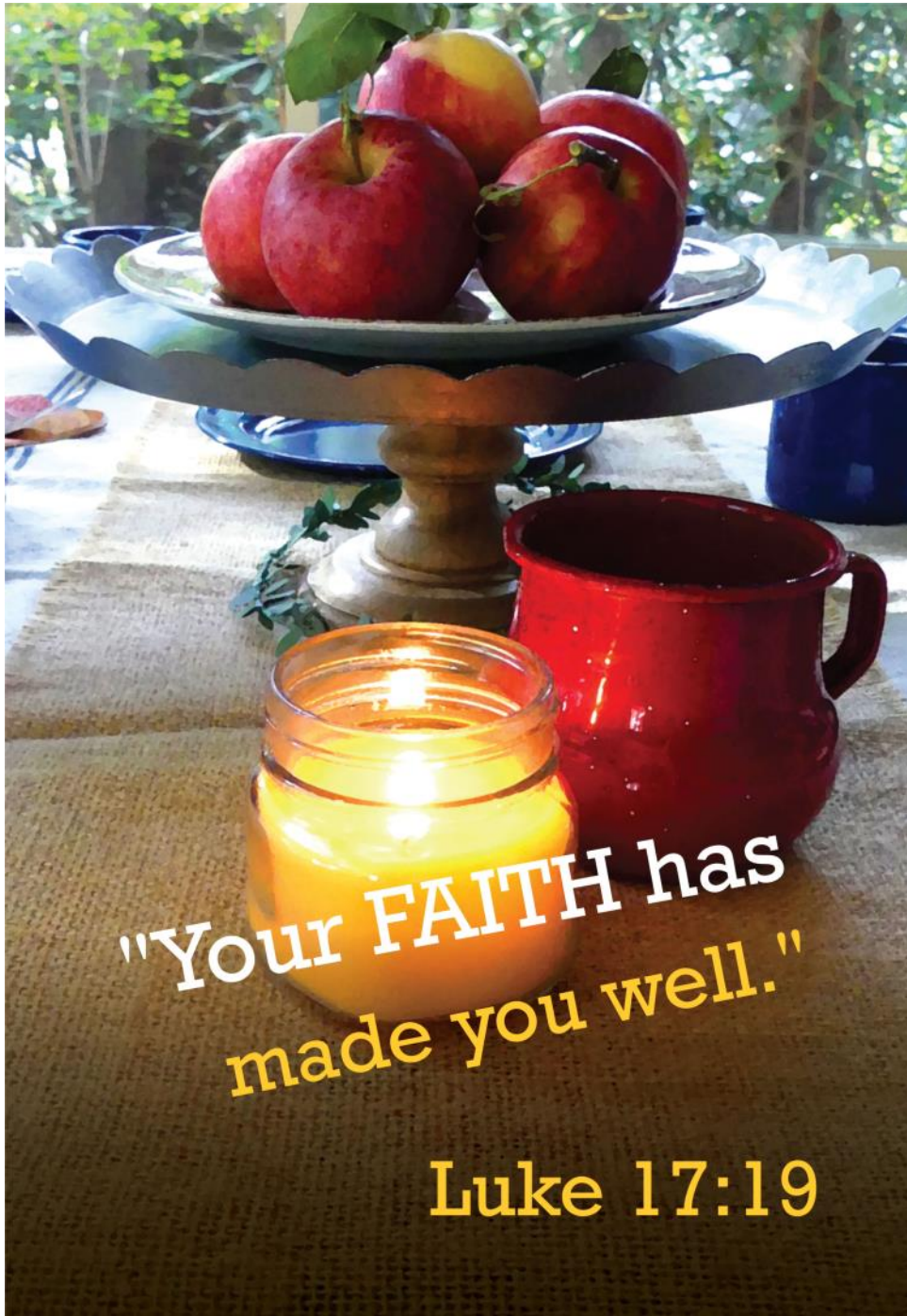


MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LUTHER LINES

JAMES ISLAND, SC 29412

OCTOBER 2022



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *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.*

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Stewardship Of Life

Here is a beautiful message from Queen Elizabeth II which resurfaced after her death in mid -September at age 96. In October, 2011 she addressed the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, the 22nd Meeting of the Heads of Government of the British Commonwealth of Nations – the association of 56 member states, the vast majority of which are former territories of the British Empire. It was held in Perth, Western Australia.

Quoting an Aboriginal proverb, she said: “We are all visitors to this time, this place. We are just passing through. Our purpose here is to observe, to learn, to grow, to love... and then we return home.”

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I love this statement! I love this thought!

It's so true...so powerful...and so comforting.

As much as we appreciate it, this earth is not our home. We are members of God's Heavenly Kingdom, and we are only “temporary tenants” here. We are stewards of the earth and of all that God has given us, and we are responsible to God for how we care for the earth and the other people who share it with us.

God does not measure our lives by the number of days we have here, but by what we put into those days. God wants to use us for his good purposes.

So that can happen, we need to:

- * Keep our eyes open and really OBSERVE the world and people around us.
- * LEARN as much as we can about our world, God, ourselves, and how God wants to use us.
- * GROW in faith, knowledge, experience, and trust in God and in God's leading us.
- * LOVE ourselves and others with God's love.



Queen Elizabeth II lived that way, and she made her life really count during the 96 years which she had here. She was known...or known about...and loved all over the world. And she will be remembered for a long time by people all over the world.

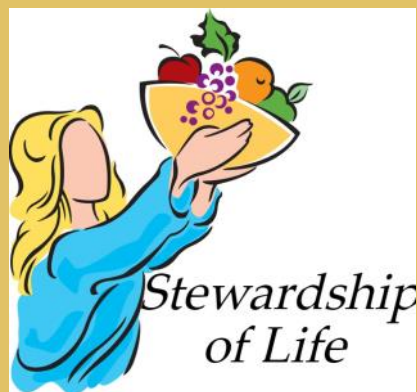
A long and very public life like Queen Elizabeth's is great! But it's not the most important thing. Some people can observe, learn, grow, love and make a larger impact on people's lives for God during just a few short years than others make during a long life.

Whether many people know and remember us or not, living for God and making a difference while we are here is what our lives should be all about. Some people may know and remember, but God will always know and remember...while we are here, and long after we return home!

And we likely will never completely know the impact that our lives have had on other people. That's ok, too. They know, and God knows, and God can tell us when we get home!

Making a difference in this world with our lives makes all the difference! Observe, learn, grow, and love. This Stewardship of Life fulfills God's purpose for us, makes people smile, and makes God smile, too!

Pastor Tom





SUNDAY

October 2

Our next wonderful First Sunday of the Month Fellowship Brunch will be held on Sunday, October 2 immediately following the 9 AM Worship Service. We are really looking forward to being together for this special time of laughter, feasting and fellowship!

***BRING YOUR FAVORITE FRUIT,
CASSEROLE, BISCUITS AND GRAVY,
CEREALS, MEATS, ETC!!!!***

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Blessing of the Animals



To bless our pets,
we ask you to bring
a picture of your pet
on

Sunday, October 2.

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.

We will share these pictures during our
October First Sunday of the Month
Brunch. 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.



SUNDAY SCHOOL



EMBRACING GOD'S WISDOM: A STUDY OF PROVERBS

Each Sunday (except Brunch Sundays) immediately following the 9 AM Worship Service. This new Sunday School Study will be led by Ada Arthur!

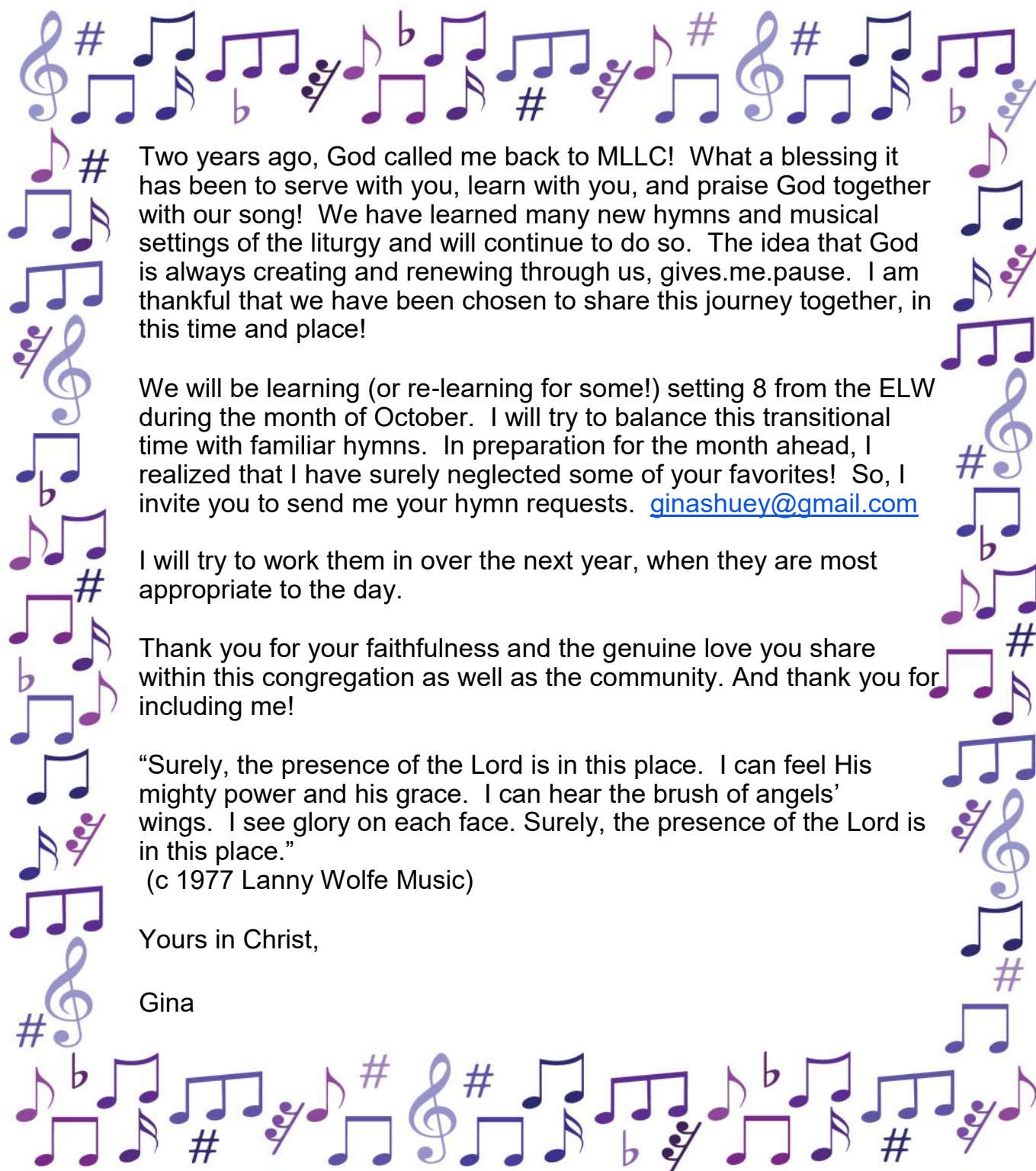
Please be sure to join us each Sunday for the study and refreshments!

AN OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY

Embracing wisdom is a bit like the dilemma of what to eat today. People won't necessarily see our moment-by-moment decisions to live according to God's principles, but they will glimpse our character transformed. They'll be able to witness the work of the Spirit as we become more loving, kind, peaceful, wise, self-controlled, giving, and gracious. These changes may show up in everyday moments – like putting someone else's needs before our own or holding our tongue when we're irritated or exhausted. Or they could influence the direction of our lives – such as exhibiting the courage to take a different job, to learn a new skill, to stand against injustice. The possibilities are as unique and individual as we each are.

Where can we find this wisdom? Direction on how to live wisely – in tune with the leading of the Spirit in day-to-day life – can be found throughout the Bible, but a great place to start if you long to grow in wisdom is the book of **Proverbs**. Packed with sayings, this book is not one that we'll probably read long passages from, but we can savor its words of wisdom and advice. Through applying its guidance, we can grow more like Jesus.

MUSIC NOTES



Two years ago, God called me back to MLLC! What a blessing it has been to serve with you, learn with you, and praise God together with our song! We have learned many new hymns and musical settings of the liturgy and will continue to do so. The idea that God is always creating and renewing through us, gives me pause. I am thankful that we have been chosen to share this journey together, in this time and place!

We will be learning (or re-learning for some!) setting 8 from the ELW during the month of October. I will try to balance this transitional time with familiar hymns. In preparation for the month ahead, I realized that I have surely neglected some of your favorites! So, I invite you to send me your hymn requests. ginashuey@gmail.com

I will try to work them in over the next year, when they are most appropriate to the day.

Thank you for your faithfulness and the genuine love you share within this congregation as well as the community. And thank you for including me!

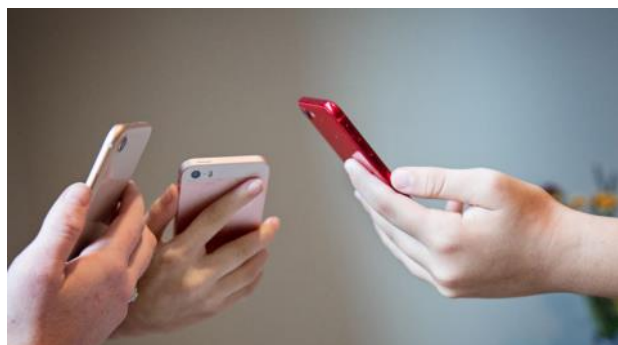
"Surely, the presence of the Lord is in this place. I can feel His mighty power and his grace. I can hear the brush of angels' wings. I see glory on each face. Surely, the presence of the Lord is in this place."

(c 1977 Lanny Wolfe Music)

Yours in Christ,

Gina

We Love to Tell the Story!



I wanted to share that after my mother passed, my sister and I started doing devotions together online using the Bible app because we don't live in the same city. They have guided plans that are anywhere from 3 days to 3 months and so many choices that can lead you to different studies. What started as a way to help us through a devastating time has turned into a beautiful morning ritual. It is so wonderful to grow in Christ's love with my sister. We have grown so much closer than we could have ever imagined since we were already really close! So oddly enough, my God sighting is on my I-phone, HE brings us so many ways to worship Him and share his love with others.

Laura Jordan

Many of you probably don't know that I raced cars in timed races from 1991 – 1999. My late husband, John and I would travel up and down the east coast from New York to Florida and west to as far as the Mississippi to race in these timed car races. In 1999, I even won the Women's SE Divisional Championship for Road Racing.

In 1992, John and I were in Cleveland at a race in which I participated in my Mazda Miata. From the time sheets and my calculations, I was the winner but the top trophy went to another lady with no mention of my name. I decided to remain calm and patient. Later and 2 weeks after my daughter died, I received a letter stating that a mistake was caught and that a correction was made and I was indeed the winner. I received a beautiful trophy.

I know that God was with me (and John) as we raced our cars. We enjoyed the time together and I wouldn't change it for the world.

Harriet Brunson



Many moons ago, a good friend of mine, Shelley, and I were enjoying an afternoon of fun and tubing down a local river in Virginia (along with a couple of other friends). We had a great time and packed up for the hour long trip back home. I drove myself and Shelley in one car, and my other friends rode in another car. It was early evening, and I quickly lost sight of my other friends as they sped off in front of us.

Driving down a two-lane road, suddenly, a pick-up truck came out from a side road without stopping and collided with us. I don't remember the actual collision very well, just knew that we were still moving and not on the road anymore. As quickly as I could, I got the car to stop travelling. This happened well before seat belt laws were strictly enforced, so I was not wearing one and had apparently hit the windshield (again, don't remember – it all happened so fast).

I sat there, I guess in shock, not sure where we were, what was around us, or what to do. I asked Shelley if she was ok, and she only made a noise – with that, I then kind of snapped into reality that this was not a dream and we were in serious trouble. The panic that I felt was something I've never felt before. Because of the injuries to my face, I could not see. I thought I had to get out of the car and somehow get help.

I know I was shaking and hyperventilating – but I went ahead and opened the car door, thinking I could find the road and flag down someone. As I opened the door, I realized (again, probably from shock), that my legs were like rubber and I couldn't stand up. It was then I heard a man's

voice that said something like 'stay in the car, help is on the way'. I can't describe the overwhelming relief that came over me, knowing that someone was there and I wasn't alone; I immediately calmed down.

This person never spoke to me again or came near to me. Sometime shortly after, the police and ambulances came and I left everything in their hands. Fortunately, I was not seriously injured, just some stitches (face and back) and Shelley spent one night in the hospital with a concussion.

The guy that hit us had a separated shoulder – and had been drinking. When we went to court, I was not allowed to testify (and Shelley could not remember anything). Turns out that I was not allowed to testify because they said I was not able



to recall what actually happened; pretty much that I was hallucinating about the man that I said was there and spoke to me. They had accounts from various people and paramedics about who came upon the scene first, and it was a couple, and they tried to render aid – but no man was anywhere around.

Now I know it's possible that this man was first on the scene and left before the couple arrived. But I find it hard to believe that someone would have left two young women, obviously injured, before being sure they were taken care of. I know, without a doubt, what I clearly heard and how it instantly calmed me down. I know God sent an angel to me that day.

Peggy Oxendine

On August 15, 2022, I had a doctor's appointment for my yearly physical. To tell the truth, I dislike going there. I worry what he's going to find. In the back of my mind, I know he's going to find something wrong. Years ago, I went to this one doctor (he was a great person) and he gave me this little bottle of pills that said, "Take two before coming to see me." The name of the pills was "Worry Wart Pills."

So, I went to the appointment I had – still didn't want to go. After getting there, they put me in this little room to wait. The nurse came in to take my vitals. They were not good. My blood pressure was high – 181/92. She told me the doctor would check it again.

Waiting for the doctor, all kinds of stuff was going through my head. So, I started praying. First, the Lord's Prayer. Then asking God to please bring my blood pressure down. Then I prayed for everyone else and for peace.



When the doctor came in, we talked about my Lab report (not good) and then he listened to my heart and lungs. He got ready to leave but stopped and said,

"Your blood pressure was high, let's check it again." It was better – 134/80. GOD DID IT! There's nothing my God can't do.

Debbie told me once, "Momma, don't pray for me cause God listens." You see, I used to ask God if the kids were doing something they shouldn't be, to please forgive them, but let them get caught. Every time my kids did anything wrong – they got caught.

Judy Simmons

JOY

For several months, I have been dealing with constant pain in my hip. Thankfully, it has not prevented me from playing the organ! Recently, a friend of mine who has been aware of my struggles gave me a sweet, stuffed Collie dog who lives on my hearth. My friend was totally unaware that I have always loved Collies. Because both the dog and my friend brought me great joy, I named her "Joy". Now, every time I see Joy my heart is warmed and is filled with joy. Is there any question that God was reaching out to me to assure me He is with me and will heal me when I have hip replacement surgery after Christmas?? Helena Bradford



At the 2022 SC Synod Assembly, we learned again the importance of "telling our stories".

We will be publishing stories submitted by our members and friends, to help us all become more familiar with each other.

PLEASE submit your stories as they occur, or tell us stories of your past that will engage us in further discussion, joy and fellowship!

Submit your stories to mlc@knology.net.

Here are a few stories that we have received that you will enjoy!

PRAYERS



Eda Laughlin
 Mickie White
 Judy Alcorn
 Margaret Balzano
 Joyce Guffin
 Emily Schroeder
 Ralph Shrivalle
 Paul Bauersfeld
 Leslie Carter
 Claire and Buddy
 Diffenderfer
 Harriet Brunson
 Polly Sutton
 Myrl Kluge
 Carl and Judy Simmons
 Mary and Jack Cooper
 Bill & Edna Mariorenzi
 Joe Sproles
 Ellie Hamill
 Peggy Oxendine
 Torren Thomas
 Jimmy Bradford

Joe Coates
 Jacob DuPree
 Bobby Webb
 Harold McMillan
 Evan McMillan
 Karen Ezell

Anna Bailes
 Josiah Parnell
 Yvonne Thompson
 Sylvia Stroud
 Peyton Sullivan
 Fran Williams
 Mary Stevens
 Joyce Salters
 Mark Hair
 Mikalynn Burke
 Charlie Smith
 Helena Bradford
 Connie and Walt Wurster
 Annie Flanders
 Roger Nelson
 Anita Sloan
 Chieko Jordan
 Larry Miller
 Whitney Greene
 Jamison Ford
 Mary Stevens
 Joyce Salters
 Dwight and Susan Hartsell
 Fran Williams
 Rodney Fowler
 Lucille Mullis
 Michele Wallis
 Marvin Sims
 Fran Lingenfelter
 Autumn Young
 Trey Crayton
 Carlton Hartis
 Johnny Hallman
 Cyndie Hartsell
 Alice Vendrick
 Mary Ann Graff

Linda Miller
 Betty and Paulwyn Boliek
 Will Coleman
 Ramona Horres
 Becky Cook
 Sherry Cook
 Carolyn Swittenberg
 Mildred Woods
 Ned Vendrick
 Chip Guffin
 Wendy Thomas
 Ann Smith
 Anna Hiott
 Ed Knight

All those suffering with
 the COVID-19 virus.

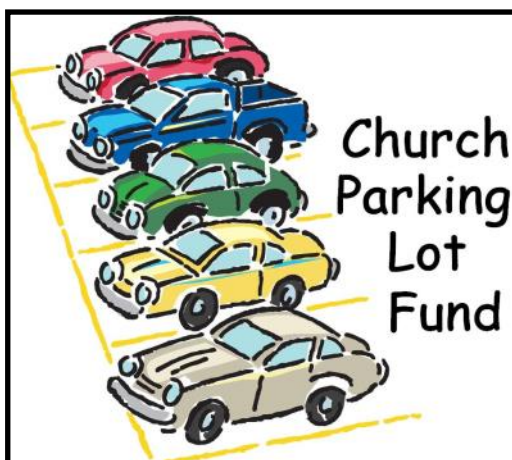
All those who serve in the
 military and those who
 protect our country,
 state, and communities.

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

Ice Cream Social—Sept. 25, 2022



**WE SCREAMED FOR
ICE CREAM—ALL
HAD A WONDERFUL
TIME—PROVIDED
BY THRIVENT
FINANCIAL.**



The Martin Luther Church Congregation Council agreed on Tuesday, February 15th that a "Parking Lot Fund" would be established to completely repave our parking lot. We have patched and patched the potholes as much as possible. The surface needs to be fully repaved.

Please give generously to this fund.

Thank you to those who have given already!

Thank you to all who have contributed. We will need near \$90,000 to repave the parking lot.

Overeaters Anonymous

OA is a community of people who through shared experience, strength, and hope are recovering from an unhealthy relationship with food and body image.

OA is patterned after Alcoholics Anonymous, using the 12 Steps of recovery.

The Saturday 4:00 PM OA meeting is an ABC- Anorexia, Bulimia, and Compulsive Overeater Step meeting. Each month we explore and share on one of the 12 steps.

There are no dues or fees to join. If you think you're one of us, come check it out!

BIBLE STUDY

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

We will be studying the Daily Discipleship which follow the weekly lectionary.

Pastor Tom will be leading the Bible Study and

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Cub Scout Popcorn Sale



The Pack 4 Cub Scouts are again selling Popcorn at the Lowe's on James Island every Saturday morning. If you are in the store, please stop by their stand at the exit of the store and say hello—and maybe buy some popcorn!!!

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!!!

As many of you may know, a young Webelo Cub Scout in the Martin Luther Church sponsored Pack 4 passed away suddenly earlier this year. Sullivan "Sully"

Jones will be greatly missed by his pack (and by his classmates at Harbor View Elementary School.) The

MLLC Council has established the "Sully Jones Scholarship Fund" to aid children in joining Cub Scout Pack 4. All funds donated will go directly to assist with fees associated with the application to join the Cub Scouts and for any other needs (including uniforms, outings, etc.)

BLESSING OTHERS

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.

RESPIRE CARE CHARLESTON

Upcoming Respite Care
Charleston Support Group
Meetings at MLLC

**Oct. 4, 11, 18, and 25 at 10 AM
— Tuesday Morning Respite
Group**

**Oct. 11 at 6 PM—Tuesday
Support Group**

**Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 10
AM—Wednesday Support
Group**

**Oct. 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 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

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**OCTOBER****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
Edna Mariorenzi	10/29
Ursel Harmon	10/31

ANNIVERSARIES

Robin & Marty Richard	10/16
Edna & Bill Mariorenzi	10/21
Judy & Carl Simmons	10/25

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**NOVEMBER****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

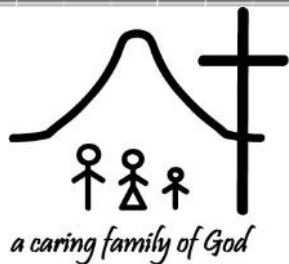
ANNIVERSARIES

Amanda & Josef Burke	11/13
Beverly & Jerry Weed	11/21
Lynn & Steve Shaddrix	11/27

We're On Facebook

Worship Assistants for October

	Lesson Reader	Prayer Leader	Communion Assistant	CPOD	Usher	Video
10/2	Sherry Fowler	Sherry Fowler	Sherry Fowler	Peggy Oxendine	Jimmy Knight	Peggy Oxendine
10/9	Laura Jordan	Laura Jordan	Torren Thomas	Laura Jordan	Rick Beruf	Tracey Arthur
10/16	Mary Baldwin	Mary Baldwin	Sherry Fowler	Nancy Haynsworth	Richard Fowler	Sherry Fowler
10/23	Lynn Shaddrix	Lynn Shaddrix	Lynn Shaddrix	Heidi Frear	Mary Lou and Al Hoover	Heidi Frear
10/30	Charles Pingree	Charles Pingree	Mary Lou Hoover	Mary Lou	Jimmy Knight and Ricky Suggs	Sherry 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

STAFF

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

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Officers

President—

Peggy Oxendine

Vice President—

Nancy Haynsworth

Secretary—

Heidi Frear

Treasurer—

Janice Knight

Financial Secretary—

Vacant

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Worship Team Leader—

Brenda Burke

Service Team Leader—

Laura Jordan

Evangelism Team Leader—

Vacant

Learning Team Leader—

Pam Peterson

*Congregational Care Team
Leader—***Mary Lou Hoover**

Property Team Leader—

Wayne Rimer

Youth (one year term) -



**Are you on
Facebook?**

If you are, then join us
on Sundays at 9 AM for
our Facebook Live
streaming of the
Worship Service from
Martin Luther
Lutheran Church.