

The Portico

Dr. Martin Luther Church

325 S. Main Street

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

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Church Web Site: drmartinlutherchurch.org

Cluster Web site: lakecountrycluster.org

January, 2012

Senior Pastor

Larry Harpster (262) 567-3829

Pastoral Assistant

Larry Henning (262) 716-6179

Director of Music

Heidi K. Graf (414) 380-1886

Administrative Secretary

Mary Engel

Volunteer Coordinator

Bobbie Dierbeck

Custodian

Sue McMahon

Worship Schedule

Saturday 5:00 PM Chapel Service

traditional format

Sundays 9:00 AM Worship

Includes a variety of musical styles, a blend of hymns and contemporary songs so that there is something for everyone at each service.

Sunday School is held at 10:20 AM on Sundays

Sundays 10:30 AM Praise Service

“Roll the Stone,” our Praise Band continues to perform. Join us at this upbeat and energetic service.

From the Pastor

CAN WE CHANGE IN 2012?

I was wondering this week if it is really possible for me to change. I have been making New Year resolutions and they never seem to make any difference in my life. I plan to procrastinate less. I pledge to save more money. Every January I resolve to improve my health by exercising more, eating less and losing weight. I am not winning the battle.

I think if there is a message from God for us this New Year it is the message that change is possible for us. God's plan is that he changes us into the image of his son Jesus. That throughout our lives we become more like Jesus in the faith that we have and the way we interact with the world. We confess that God's Spirit can fill us and have an impact on our lives.

There are a couple of Biblical ideas that can empower change. First of all make repentance a regular part of your life. Repentance is not simply feeling sorry for something or just confessing. Repentance is to change your mind from being okay with something you know is wrong, to agreeing with God about how it is wrong. Reflect on it and turn away from it.

Secondly if we really want to change, we can fill our life with the things of God. Replace the shortcomings of our life with the activities of God that lift us up. Turn away from your bad habits and weaknesses and fill your life with service, worship, Bible study, and healthy relationships.

I know that I struggle to make changes by myself, but with God's Spirit there is still hope for me. There is hope for you as well. Become more like Jesus in the coming year.

Blessings,

Pastor Larry

Next FREE Community Meal

The next Free Community Meal will be held on Monday, January 31. The meal will be served from 5:00–6:00PM at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 815 S. Concord Road, Oconomowoc

Annual Congregational Meeting

We will have the annual congregational meeting on Sunday, January 29th. The meeting will be held after the 9:00AM service. There will not be a 10:30AM service on January 29th.

Annual Report Deadline

Please have your annual reports turned in to Mary in the church office by Sunday, January 15th. Thank you!

Additional Nursery

There is now a nursery open during the 9:00 am service! It is open to 2 - 6 year old children and located in the lower education wing.

The cry room at the back of the Sanctuary is reserved for infants - 2 years.

Healing Services will be held January 7 and 8

Office Closed

Please note that the church office will be closed on Monday January 2.

Seasoned Lutherans

Seasoned Lutherans (anyone over 50) will meet on Wednesday, January 25 at 12:00PM for lunch. Following lunch Pastor Larry Henning will be giving a presentation.

Portico News Deadline

The deadline for the February issue of *The Portico* is Monday, January 16. All information for the month of February must be submitted by this date. Thank you.

Young(er) Women's Fellowship Gatherings

Jan. 8, Feb. 5, Mar. 4, Apr. 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2
4:30—6:00PM in the Education Wing

Come when you can, leave when you must, childcare will be provided if requested

A gathering for young(er) women (define that as you choose) to gather for conversation, mutual support and a glass of wine. Meet to talk, listen, pray, laugh, relax, and enjoy time together to reflect on lives as women and children of God. Feel free to bring a favorite snack, dessert or bottle of wine. This group recognizes the crazy schedules many women keep, so come when schedules permit, enjoy the time set apart.

Panera Bread Pickup

Reminder! You are invited to stop by on Tuesday morning to pick up left over bread we receive from Panera Bread in Delafield.



Thank You!

St. Ben's

We thank the following people for donating, making and deboning the turkeys and serving the meal: Dorothy Westgard, Jim and Arlene Johnson, Betty Peters, Cheri Conners, Gordon Fleury, Donna Tufte, Betty Toepfer, Pat Siebrecht, Jeanne Johns, Connie Higgins, Diane Gaido, Art Boettcher, Don Scharfenberg, Charlotte McMahon, Barb Lee, Milene Wegner, Leslie Boettcher, Louise Pieper, Joyce Bahr, Dick Zautner and Glenn Shong.

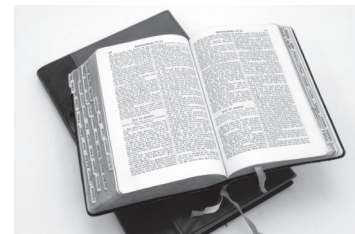
The next time we serve the meal is on Wednesday, January 4.

Bulletins and Newsletter

Thank you to Betty Till, Joan Keating, Pegi Drays, Charlotte McMahon, Esther Neumann, Kathleen Kimball, Milene Wegner, Kathy Vogt and Donna Tufte for assembling the bulletins and newsletter this month.

Men's Bible Studies

You are invited to participate in a great casual learning and fellowship experience that takes place on the **SECOND Saturday of every month** at the Pabst Farms YMCA from 7:30 - 8:30 am. You do not need to be a member of the YMCA to participate. Please contact Chris Butschke (262.966.0270) or Mike Driscoll (262.646.5605) for directions/additional details.



An additional night of Men's Bible Study will

meet every **fourth Thursday of the month** at 7:00 PM at the offices of Tricia's Troops Cancer Connection. The address for Tricia's Troops Cancer Connection is 120 E. Wisconsin Avenue, but the entrance is in the BACK of the building overlooking Fowler Lake. The office is in-between Laker's and the old On The Deck building, which now house's Root's Coffee Bar. Come and join us!

Lake Country Greetings

Lake Country Greetings distributes informational packets about our church and its programs to new residents in the Oconomowoc area. This is a great way to reach out to our community. Please call Diane Gaido at 262-560-1334 if your group or program has anything we could include in our packet. Thank you.

Christmas Parade

A big Thank You to our confirmation class for putting together the candles and invitations to our Christmas services (many hands make for light work). Also Candi Dierbeck for creating a beautiful invitation; Bob Schuett and Abby Whaley for distributing them along the parade route and everyone who donated cookies and cider to be served on the church steps during the parade.

thank you to our musicians

thank you to our musicians

Handbell Choir

Caroline Driscoll	Tim Potratz
Julie King	Susanna Rosario
Allan Kountz	Emily Russart
Angie Lewein	Mike Schmitz
Nick Lewein	Becky Tearney
	Will Tearney

Choir

Katie Bart, Accompanist

Chris Butschke	Maddie Lewein
Jacob Butschke	Carol Potratz
Amelia Graf	Cris Rosario
Nathaniel Graf	Dan Schlender
Susan Hassman	Jessie Teuteberg
Kathy Klug	Abigail Whaley
Paul Lee	

Instrumentalists

Hannah Bauman, flute	Nick Lewein, viola
Julia Driscoll, clarinet	Tim Potratz, trumpet
Jonah Felda, bass	Judy Rhodee, clarinet
Larry Henning, guitar	Emily Russart, saxophone
Kurt Kimball, percussion	Kory Schlender, trumpet
Allan Kountz, trumpet	Connor Trepton, violin
Dave Magedanz, marimba/ percussion	Karen Trepton, French horn
	Parker Trepton, trombone

THANK YOU!!!!

Thank you to the Sunday School teachers for helping the children prepare for the Christmas Program. Angie Lewein, Jacob Butschke, Maddie Lewein, Nick Lewein, Geri Kellen, Rachel Zastrow, Mindy Voelker, Abby Whaley, Abby Blunck, Julie Schulz and Tami Wick.

Volunteering is Alive and Well at DMLC!!

Thank you to all of our members who have taken the time to fill out and return their Time/Talent Survey. As I review and update each member's survey, I am amazed and excited at this year's results for volunteers. If you have activities that need my assistance, please feel free to contact me in the church office.

We all have a gift. It is up to each one of us as members to realize that gift and then share that gift with others. If you have not filled out your Time/Talent, please take a few minutes to do so. You will be glad you did. I promise!

Bobbie Dierbeck

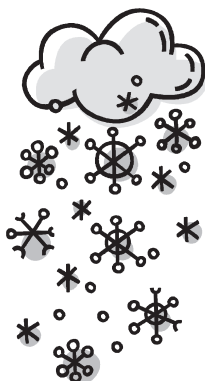
Volunteer Coordinator



Volunteer Recognition—We Thank You!!

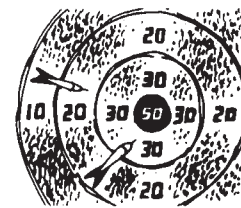
We would like to thank the following members for their gift of time in assuring that our grass this past summer had been mowed. They also were responsible for keeping our lawn trimmed, sidewalks swept, flowers planted and assured that our cutting machines were well maintained. Elton Timm, Al Eighmy, Andy & Julie King, Dave Graupman, John Easton, Lee Gallert, Ken Ruehlow, Bill Post, Todd Rosch, Gavin Zastrow, Gordon Fleury and Rhodee Florist. Thank you again folks for your commitment.

It is that time of year when we are looking for snowshoveler/ice removal volunteers. The sign-up sheet is placed on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Please consider this much needed volunteering opportunity. Many thanks to each and every one of you, who so willingly give of your time and talents in making Dr. Martin Luther Church a place that we all can be proud of. Your dedication does not go unnoticed.



Bobbie Dierbeck
Volunteer Coordinator

Dartball Schedule: Mondays @ 7:30PM

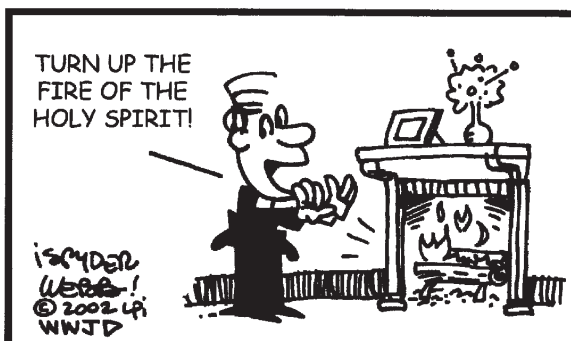
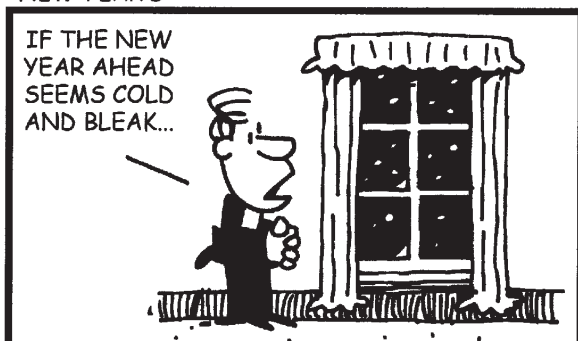


- January 2 DMLC at St. John's, Watertown
- January 9 Immanuel, Watertown at DMLC
- January 16 St. Mark's #1, Watertown at DMLC
- January 23 DMLC at Zion, Ashippun
- January 30 DMLC at St. John's, Ashippun
- February 6 Bye Week
- February 13 DMLC at Cross, Ixonia
- February 20 St. Mark's #2, Watertown at DMLC
- February 27 St. Paul's, Ixonia at DMLC
- March 5 Make Up Night
- March 12 2nd place vs 3rd place in each division
- March 19 First Round Winners vs. 1st Place in each division
- March 26 Championship Match & Captain's Mtg.
- April 2 League Banquet @ Plattduetcher Hall 7:30 PM

Child sponsored through Compassion, International

Outreach has sponsored Silenat Temesgen, age 8 yrs from Ethiopia. You are invited to write Silenat, forms and information are on the kiosk. All correspondence should be sent to: Child Correspondence Dept., Compassion International, Colorado Springs, CO 80997-0001

NEW YEAR'S

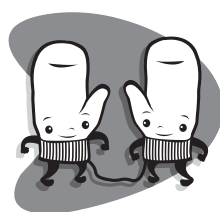
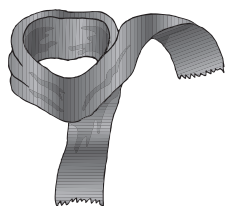


ISCYDER
UBAA!
© 2002 LP
WWJD



Dr. Martin Luther Church is once again collecting hats, scarves, and mittens for the tree in the narthex.

These items will be distributed to various facilities in the county, where the need is the greatest.



They can either be gently-used or new, and for children or adults.

Items will be collected through January 8
Thank you 😊

Thank You!

Thanks to all who donated cookies for the Homebound Cookie Bags. Also thanks to all who packed the bags and delivered them to our homebound.



The church office will be closed on Monday, January 16 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Scrapbooking/Crafting

Please note that the scrapbooking/crafting group will meet on Saturday, January 14 9:00am–4:00pm in Fellowship Hall. You can bring any craft you like to work on during this time. See you then!!!!



Stewardship Report November, 2011

Monthly	Actual	Budget
Income	\$27,198.94	\$29,914.75
Expense	\$27,931.57	\$29,914.75

Monthly Income—Expense (\$732.63)

Year to Date	Actual	Budget
Income	\$281,173.05	\$320,062.25
Expense	\$316,494.62	\$320,062.25

Year to Date Income—Expense (\$35,321.57)

DMLC Gift List:

Members of DMLC often ask if there is something specific they can give that will uplift our ministry. Here is a list of items that could be given to our congregation as a gift. If you have any questions, please talk with one of the staff.

New Acolyte and Assistant Minister rope belts	\$100
Office Scanner	\$250
New Computer monitor for office	\$100
New lights for Sacristy	\$140
New Counter and Sink for Sacristy	\$586
New Cabinets for Sacristy	\$814

If you would like to make a donation for any of these items, please mark it for which items it is to be used for. Thank you!

Dear Friends,

I wanted to take an opportunity to thank you for all of the beautiful ways this congregation has supported me and my family this past year. First of all, it has been 2 years since my diagnosis and I know it is the prayers from all of you that keep me going strong. I know my cancer diagnosis will not always be smooth sailing, but through your encouraging words and warm hugs...I will NEVER feel alone in my fight. Anytime I start to waiver in strength, it is members of this congregation that are the first ones with a phone call, email or greeting card that encourages me to fight harder.

I know we are supposed to learn about Faith through the Bible, but this church does more. You LIVE YOUR FAITH daily and help others do so as well. Through DMLC's generous support, we have been able to open Tricia's Troops Cancer Connection, a non-profit cancer support organization in 2011. This year DMLC choose our charity to be the benefactors of the profits made at DMLC's Annual Golf Outing. Thank you to the amazing individuals, families and Thrivent who helped make that event so successful and fun! The donations from the golf outing was part of the seed money that allowed us to start our missions this past Summer.

The beauty of Christ radiates through all of you. That was demonstrated to the community with the gorgeous Faith-Walk by Candlelight our church hosted in November. That event brought renewed Faith and Hope to many who needed a spiritual lift...especially me. Through inspirational music and heartfelt prayers by our praise band, Roll the Stone...hundreds were touched by the holy spirit here at DMLC. You then took that spirit, glowing by candlelight, out into the community to let your spirit shine through downtown Oconomowoc. Thank you to all of the organizers, volunteers, bakers, musicians and DMLC staff who donated so much personally to make that event successful! It was truly one of the most beautiful nights of my life.

You carry me when I am weak and lift me up to get strong. I am forever blessed.

Thank you,
Tricia Wright

Mission Quilts

So Much More Than a Blanket

"There is, indeed, a transforming moment when a Quilt passes from our hands into another's, and they embrace it."

Kirk Betts, Former Chairman of the LWR Board of Directors, upon distributing LWR Quilts in Niger

When you make and send a Quilt, you are not only comforting someone you have never met, but providing an object that is useful in ways you probably never imagined. In addition to being a cozy, clean new bed cover, it can be:

- a baby carrier, tied around a mother's back;
- a market display, spread on the ground and piled with vegetables;
- a sack for transporting those goods to market;
- a sunshade;
- a shawl; and most importantly
- a constant reminder that someone, far away, cares a lot.

Join us on Wednesday January 18th at 9:00 a.m. in fellowship hall as we begin a new year of making quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

