

# The Portico

Dr. Martin Luther Church

325 S. Main Street

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

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Email: [dmlc@globaldialog.com](mailto:dmlc@globaldialog.com)

Church Web Site: [drmartinlutherchurch.org](http://drmartinlutherchurch.org)

Cluster Web site: [lakecountrycluster.org](http://lakecountrycluster.org)

## January, 2010

### Pastor

Erik Gronberg (262) 443-9647

### Pastoral Assistant

Larry Henning (262) 716-6179

### Parish Nurse

Sue Konkell (262) 569-0505

### Director of Music

Heidi K. Graf (414) 380-1886

### Administrative Secretary

Mary Engel

### Volunteer Coordinator

Bobbie Dierbeck

### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Saturdays 5:00 PM Chapel Service

Sundays 9:00 AM Family Worship

10:30 AM Praise Worship

Education Hour Sundays at 10:15 AM

## Ministry Celebration Weekend February 7

We will have a celebration of the ministries of Dr. Martin Luther Church and receive Annual Reports during all worship services

## Next FREE Community Supper

Will be held on Monday, January 25

Serving from 5:00—6:00 p.m.

At First Congregational

United Church of Christ

815 S. Concord Road

Oconomowoc

*Please Note Change Of Location*

## From Our Pastor

Dear Partners in Ministry,

As I write this our Congregational meeting to consider our 2010 Mission Plan (Budget) has just finished in record time. We heard reports from our Treasurer of your faithful commitments to DMLC, of the growth of our worshipping community through our new 10:30am worship service, expressed thanks to our leaders for their service over the past year, unanimously passed a Mission Plan that will encourage and challenge us in 2010, elected a slate of 5 new council members and heard a report from our Master Planning team. It was a busy time and I am not sure if it was the Packer-Bear game kickoff time or simply the growth of our community in our trust of leadership that we were able to do so quickly and efficiently. I pray frankly that it is the trust you all have in your leadership, trust that is essential as we move forward in 2010.

On Sunday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> (Super Bowl Sunday) we will have a Ministry celebration weekend. At this time our teams will submit their 2009 Annual Reports, we will hear of all that God has done in our congregation in 2009 and look forward to 2010. This will be an exciting worship opportunity, I encourage everyone to be there.

Additionally on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> we will be collecting a special offering. The senior high youth of our parish will be sponsoring our participation that day in the Souper Bowl of caring. How vital it is, as we give thanks for all of God's abundance we have received in 2009 that we look forward to 2010 and give to help God's people, especially the least, lost and left behind among us.

As we kick off 2010, I give thanks for all God has done for us in 2009, for the hope and trust that is growing in our community and I look forward with hopefully expectation for all God will do in 2010. Epiphany is a season of light and truly we are living into the vision of our congregation to carry that light. "Centered on Christ, we are called to be an inviting beacon of light in our community." May it continue to be so in 2010.

In the Light of Christ,  
Pastor Erik

## Annual Reports Due

Thank you in advance to all ministry teams for your annual reports. Please have those to Mary in the office by Sunday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Welcome New Council Members

We give thanks for our new council members (to be installed along with our 2010 council on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>): Kristina Meuer, Candice Dierbeck, Andy King, Jason Post, Tim Potratz. These individuals join Dale Bartell, Natalie Everts, Tim Saeger, Tim Mainz, Tricia Wright and Dean Eppler as your 2010 Congregational Council. Thanks to John Wright, Irene Willing, Lesley Kountz and Chris Lewein for their service to the council in 2009.

## "Make It Simple" Commitment Campaign A Success

Thank you to all who completed a "Simple Commitment" for the life and ministry of Dr. Martin Luther Church in 2010. Our final tally was an increase in pledges of 13% and pledged income 12%. We are grateful to God that many were able to respond to our challenge to increase their giving that our average pledge has also grown. Thank you for your commitment to DMLC in 2010.

## Thank You To All Who Gave To Our End Of Year Giving Opportunity

God has been good to our community in 2009 and you have responded faithfully. *General giving to your parish is up almost 10% versus 2008* and we are grateful as that has helped partially offset the loss of income from the daycare. As we approach year end, we **encouraged you to consider a special end of the year gift** to your parish to help "make us whole" in 2009. We are calculating the numbers, and the initial results are positive. Thank you for your gifts!!!

## Facility Master Planning Team To Present

As we heard from Tricia Wright at our congregational meeting on December 13, Simon-Plantenberg Consulting completed their financial feasibility study by conducting detailed interviews with 30+ member families to share some of the initial plans, receive feedback and discuss their hopes and dreams for this project. This study was presented to the church council and facility team October 21<sup>st</sup> and was very positive about our ability/willingness to give to a significant project in 2010. When bids for the master plan are completed that information will be shared at a congregational meeting in December or early January.

**Seasoned Lutherans**

will meet on Wednesday, January 27. Following the Noon Lunch, the Waukesha Civic Players are entertaining us with their Christmas show, "Poinsettias".

**Type 1 Diabetes Support Group**

You are welcome to join this group that meets the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30–8:00 PM. Questions call Mindy Voelker (262) 567-6991

**Attention Scrapbookers!**

The next time we meet is on January 9 from 9:00 am until 4:00pm, but you may come and go as you wish. Our main goal is to have fun (and we do!). Please contact Angie Lewein (567-5629) if you plan to attend. Bring a friend along with you!

**Community Meal**

The Free Community Meal will be served on Monday, January 25th from 5:00–6:00 p.m. The meals will be served at First Congregational United Church of Christ on Concord Road.

**Quilting**

The quilters will meet on Wednesday, January 20 at 9:00 a.m. to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Please join us in fellowship hall. You do not need to know how to sew to help with this project.

**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

**Church Women United of Oconomowoc Winter Study—2010**

**Tuesday, January 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th 9:00AM**

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church—ELCA  
145 Lisbon Road, Oconomowoc, WI**

**“Continuing Our Journey to the Sacred”  
Native American Study—Part Two**

**January 5th—“The Drum Circle”**

presented by Herb Heck—(Mountain Man) - from Ashippun

**January 12th—“Honoring The Earth”**

by Kim and Bruce Reyes—Kim has worked with the Milwaukee Public School System to plan the “We Indians” educational program. Bruce has been the “Media Man” for the Indian Summer Festivals for twelve years.

**January 19th—“Native American Spirituality”**

presented by Pastor Bob Thayer, from Zion Lutheran Church in Ashippun who is also a retreat leader.

**January 26th— the film “Living In Two Worlds”**

produced by the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. The film will be followed by a discussion time lead by Kim and Bruce Reyes.

**Our Study Will Include—** On the second week, making Native American bracelets, with Kim Reyes. On the fourth week, a Native American luncheon.

Program Sponsored by Church Women United  
**OPEN TO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY!**

**THANK YOU TO DMLC FOR CARDS AND WELL WISHES FROM FORMER DMLC INTERIM PASTOR, REV. PAUL PETERSON AND FAMILY**

Although Paul is undergoing treatment, we continue to receive such wonderful stories of hope and encouragement. After one of the most difficult times in his ministry, God sent Dad to Dr. Martin Luther Church ("DMLC") in Oconomowoc to serve as their interim pastor. DMLC was just what Dad needed at the time, and evidently we keep hearing that Dad was just what DMLC needed, too. God sure does know what He's doing!!! Anyway, while at DMLC, Dad was privileged to minister to a little guy with cancer. He and his twin brother were adopted by the family in the church and he was diagnosed with cancer at age 4 (or 5). Dad spent a lot of time with the family and would go to visit him at least twice a week. When he would go visit him in the hospital, the twin brother would give Dad Lemonhead candies to sneak in to his brother since that was his favorite. Guess what Dad got in the mail this week - yep, a box of Lemonheads with a wonderful note of hope and encouragement. The little guys are doing great and wanted to let Dad know that they were praying for him and it was their turn to send the Lemonheads to make him better. So awesome!!!

**Luke and Larry**

Pastor Larry will lead a six-week study on the Gospel of Luke **starting February 9**. No experience necessary! Luke is a powerful telling of Jesus' story and presents a desperately needed vision for how to live. You can come on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. or Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Look for the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary or just tell Pastor Larry.

**Men's Bible Study**

**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.

**Prayer Group**

Join Pastor Gronberg Thursday mornings at 9:30AM in a time of prayer for our congregation, our community and those on our prayer list. Learn more about prayer and how you can make it a regular part of your life.

**Thank You to All!**

Thanks to all who made Christmas wonderful at DMLC including the decorators, special musicians, Festival Choir, Handbell Choir, and people who purchased Poinsettia plants.



**Portico News Deadline**

The deadline for the February issue of *The Portico* is Monday, January 18. All information must be submitted by this date. Thank you.

**Upcoming Youth Events! (Sign up ASAP)**

**January**

Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Senior High Refresh: Come help plan for Souper Bowl Sunday 4:30-6pm

Sun. 13<sup>th</sup>: All Youth Lunch and skating on rink in downtown Milwaukee. 11:30am-3:30pm

**February**

Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>: Souper Bowl of Caring (in worship): No Refresh, enjoy the Super Bowl Game.

TBD: Youth Ski/Snowboarding Trip

**Young(er) Women's Fellowship Gathering**

**First Sundays (January 3) 4:30-6:00PM**

*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.

**Thank You**

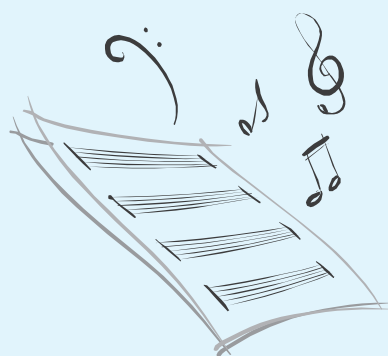
**ST. BENS**

Thank you to the following people for making St. Ben's another success this month: Jim and Arlene Johnson, Kathleen Kimball, Dennis Janecek, John Maas, John and Erlene Humphey, Betty Peters, Kristina Meuer, Tami Wick, Gordon Fleury, Audrey Lasse, Art and Leslie Boettcher, Don Scharfenberg, Betty Toepfer, Pat Siebrecht, Lee Gallert, Charlotte McMahon, Milene Wegner and Glenn Shong.

The next time we serve the meal is on Wednesday, January 6.

**BULLETINS AND NEWSLETTER**

Thank you to Charlotte McMahon, Esther Neumann, Milene Wegner, Joan Keating, Betty Till, Shirley Chatfield, Kathleen Kimball, Ann Schwalbe for assembling the bulletins and newsletter.



## Music Notes

*I want to say a heartfelt thank you to all of our musicians, singers and participants who gave so much of their time and talent to beautify our Advent and Christmas Services. It truly is a joy and an honor to make music to God with you.*

*God's blessing in the New Year!*

*Heidi K. Graf*

*Director of Music*

## From the Mailbox

Thank you to all who sent me get well wishes. I never realized how important it was to send get well cards to people. This is the first time I've had surgery and I really get the importance of sending get well wishes. It helps to know people care about you. I especially thank Pastor Erik and Heidi for their prayers and visits to the hospital. May God Bless you all as I have been blessed.

Mary Geszvain

## Stewardship Report November, 2009

### Monthly

	Actual	Budget
Income	\$35,068.14	\$29,243.75
Expense	\$27,427.03	\$29,243.75
Monthly Income—Expense		\$7,641.11

Year to Date	Actual	Budget
Income	\$293,082.34	\$321,681.25
Expense	\$310,816.06	\$321,681.25

Year to Date Income—Expense (\$17,733.72)

## Holy Baptism

**Tyler Alan Frivold**, son of Aanon and Melissa Frivold was baptized on Sunday, December 6. Sponsors for Tyler are Melinda and Mark Perkins.

**Aanon David James Frivold** was baptized on Saturday, December 12. Sponsors for Aanon are Elmer and Claudine Gandt.

We pray God's richest blessing be with Tyler and Aanon.

## DMLC Book Club News

The DMLC Book Club will suspend its meetings for the winter months. We will get together again in March. There are several suggested books for wintertime reading.



***On the Divinity of Second Chances***, by Kaya McLaren.

An Idaho family realizes it is in a big mess, but finds a way to start over. Mom, Dad, three teenagers, nutty grandma all are included in this narrative told from the point of view of the youngest daughter. Unconditional love and family ties eventually bring the story to a positive conclusion.

***Firefly Lane***, by Kristin Hannah

Friendship and competition between best friends. Tully becomes a journalist; Katie builds a marriage and family in Seattle. Katie's husband, Johnny, is smitten with Tully, and Tully, who is abandoned by her own booze-and-drug-addled mother, relishes the adoration from Katie's daughter, Marah. The twisting plot eventually reaches a positive conclusion.

***Moloka'i***, by Alan Brennert.

This novel tells the story of a young Hawaiian girl living in a quarantined leprosy settlement in the early twentieth century. The Washington Post describes this book as a "dazzling historical saga . . . a rare look at the rich history of a state most Americans think of largely in terms of tourism."

***A Moment in Time***, by Mary S. Hanson

This memoir is written by a local author. She tells an amazing story of how her family services incredible odds, after a car accident that leaves their college student daughter with paralysis, deafness and coma.

This book was recommended by Parish Nurse, Sue Konkel.

**We will begin meeting again on the third Monday in March, March 15, 2010. The time is 6:30 PM and the place is Books and Company in Whitman Plaza (Summit Avenue and Thackary Trail) Phone: 567-0106**

**Of course everyone is welcome. Come every time or only when your (not so) simple life allows.** Questions? Book ideas? Call Ginny Scholtz 567-5538

## Health Board Continues Alternative

### Medicine Programming:

### *Self-Massage*

January 24, 2010 10:15AM

The Health Board is bringing you the opportunity to learn about another of the alternative therapies used to heal pain and suffering, not just “cure disease”.

**On January 24, following the 9:00 A.M. Worship Service, the Health Board invites you to learn about Massage.**

Massage is one of the **healing touch therapies**. It relaxes the body, calms the mind and encourages healing and well-being. The focus of this program will be “**Self-Massage**”, but the Presenter, **Massage Therapist Mary Branson**, is an expert in many types of massage (I know personally!) Mary currently works for **Traub Chiropractic Clinic**. Mary Branson will teach us self-massage techniques to use at home to reduce anxiety, relieve the pain of sore and aching muscles, prevent insomnia, as well as other conditions.

Medicinal or Therapeutic massage successfully assists in managing physical conditions. *I use weekly massage to keep me mobile with my rheumatoid arthritis. I treat my arthritis with medication, but the massage keeps me more comfortable and much more flexible. It also relaxes me, which helps my immune system. I also used massage following surgery a few years ago to relax physically and assist with pain control. It was wonderful! A great foot massage or back rub relaxed my whole body thus preventing painful muscle spasms.*

The art of massage has benefits for many serious medical conditions, including cancer and high blood pressure, as well as pain related to exercise, migraine headaches or sinus problems.

**Choosing the right type of massage and even the right massage therapist is key.** Different therapists have different specializations, certifications and skills and **some massages are not appropriate for certain medical conditions.**

**Swedish massage** employs firm pressure to promote relaxation and relieve muscle aches, and gets your blood flowing with gliding strokes, tapping, kneading, and friction.

**Sports massage** incorporates deep tissue massage and stronger pressure than other forms. It can be used before, during or after a sports event to reduce pain and prevent injury.

**Deep tissue massage** targets deeper muscle and connective tissue and is used to get rid of the knots in your body consisting of toxins that have built up.

**Hot towel therapy** involves using hot towels to get the blood circulating, and then applying cold stones around the face, cheeks and sinuses to reduce inflammation.

**Reflexology** is a technique that involves applying pressure to different areas of the hand or foot that corresponds with different organs or body systems via energy pathways.

Another massage practice that addresses a specific condition is **lymphatic drainage** which can help relax tissue and increase lymph flow to reduce pain and swelling post cancer surgery.

My personal recommendation is to use massage therapy to **augment** your medical treatment, **not to replace it**. I personally believe the biggest benefit to massage is in overall well-being. The sense of lightness people often feel after treatment can also bring an increased awareness of their spiritual identity, harmonizing body and soul.

*“I give thanks for my peaceful moments with God – moments when my body is relaxed and my mind is at peace. I know these moments are sacred. They renew me in mind, body, and spirit.” -Daily Word*

**Join us on January 24 and find out more!**

### Healing Services will be held January 9 and 10 and Blood Pressure Screening

**Blood Pressure Screenings** will be taken in the Parish Nurse Office, room 206 of the education wing on January 9 and 10 after the services.

### Additional Evening Office Hours

Through May 2010, our Parish Nurse Sue Konkel will have additional office hours on the third Wednesday Evening of each month from 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. Come and see her!

## A message from Herbert W. Chilstrom and H. George Anderson

*Dear friends in Christ and brothers and sisters in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:*

We write today to invite you to join us in prayer and action for the mission and ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Like you, we became children of God in the waters of Baptism. And, like you, we have found our primary identity with this church through local congregations, including the ones to which we now belong. This is where we receive Word and Sacrament that keep faith alive. We have also been blessed through the other two expressions of this church: our synods and the churchwide organization of the ELCA. All are gifts from God. Through them: Our faith was nourished in Sunday church school.

Our gifts for leadership were nurtured in youth ministry.

Our education at our colleges and seminaries enhanced our witness and service.

Our vocations to serve Jesus Christ as pastors and leaders have been opened for us.

Our call to minister to the poor and hungry and those treated unjustly is fulfilled.

Our connection to believers in companion churches around the world has enriched us.

All of this, and much more, has happened because we have been part of the ELCA, a church whose roots reach all the way back to the beginning of Lutheranism in this country.

In recent months, our society and this church have been sailing through rough waters. Personal income is down for many; some are unemployed. We recognize that some sisters and brothers in Christ were disappointed in the decisions regarding human sexuality at the churchwide assembly, although we believe they were the right decisions. As a result, some have withdrawn or reduced support for our mission. The consequences of these events are painful. This church's mission and ministry have been diminished.

Our troubled world needs the Good News of the Gospel and all that flows from it. Our differences must not divide us at a time like this. We are absolutely certain that we can continue to live together and serve as one family in the ELCA.

This is why we are calling on you, our brothers and sisters in the faith, to pray daily for the unity of this church and its mission.

We ask you to join us as we step up our support of the ELCA with a generous gift. You may wish to do so before the end of the year and on occasion in the months to come. You may make your gift to the ELCA's Vision for Mission in one of three ways:

+ Online at <http://www.elca.org/supporttheelca>

+ By check made payable to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and sent to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

PO Box 71764

Chicago, IL 60694-1764

+ By credit or debit card by calling 800-638-3522.

This effort is entirely through the Internet. **We urge you to send this e-mail message to your friends who share our concern for this church.**

Sincerely in Christ,

**Herbert W. Chilstrom** ELCA presiding bishop, 1987-1995

**H. George Anderson** ELCA presiding bishop, 1995-2001

## Attention Business Owners, Professionals and Self Employed

Liturgical Publications, Inc. (LPI), our newsletter publisher, will have Mike, our parish representative, visiting our church January 11-14 to service our newsletter. We would like to thank our present advertisers for renewing their ad and thereby continuing their support for our church. **For those interested in placing a new ad, this is your opportunity.** As an added bonus, LPI has formed an advertisers buying group of 100,000+ businesses called LPI Family. Advertisers now can save more than the cost of an ad in buying group savings. Membership in the LPI Family buying group is free to all advertisers. To learn more about how LPI Family can reward you for being our advertiser please check out their website at [www.4LPI.com/family](http://www.4LPI.com/family).

To obtain information about advertising for the new publication year, please contact the church office and we will have Mike get in contact with you.

We want to say THANK YOU to all our 2009 advertisers!

## Dartball Schedule

January 4	St. Peter's Lebanon at DMLC
January 11	DMLC at Immanuel, Watertown
January 18	St. Mark's #1, Watertown at DMLC
January 25	DMLC at Zion, Ashippun
February 1	DMLC at St. Paul's, Sugar Island
February 8	St. Paul's, Ixonia at DMLC
February 15	DMLC at Cross, Ixonia
February 22	St. John's, Ashippun at DMLC
March 1	DMLC at Immanuel, Lebanon
March 8	St. Mark's #2, Watertown at DMLC