

The Portico

Dr. Martin Luther Church

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Cluster Web site: lakecountrycluster.org

May, 2011

Interim Pastor

Roger Black (847) 707-3331

Pastoral Assistant

Larry Henning (262) 716-6179

Parish Nurse

Sue Konkel (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 Worship

10:15AM Education Time

10:30 AM Praise Worship

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.

Sundays 10:15 AM Education Time

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

Since at least 1972 May has always been a “merry” month for me. That was the first year that I helped to celebrate Pam’s birthday (May 28th), when my wife and I were a couple during the latter part of our sophomore year at St. Olaf College. Then when our first daughter, Christy, was born in 1978 (May 1st) May got even more exciting! When in 1981 our younger daughter, Kari, was born on May 26th the whole month began to be filled. Then Christy married Doug in 2000, whose birthday happens to be May 10th, and we had another May event. Two years ago when our grandson, Colin, was born on May 14th, we had a May-full. Added to this were the sixteen celebrations of Norwegian Independence Day (Syttende Mai) which were the big annual celebration in Stoughton. Naturally with the consistently better weather which usually comes to southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois in May, the month has even been merrier for us.

I have increasingly discovered that the month of May can begin to be overwhelming. Like December the month can be so overwhelming at times that there isn’t any time to reflect on the importance of each person and each event. There is little time to get a perspective on things. You just have time to live it and then when the merry-go-round stops you look back and kind of wish that every person and every event had their month. Especially when the busy, merry month of May is over and is followed by less activity and family gatherings, it seems a little too bad that my life isn’t spread out with big events all along. Don’t get me wrong, I appreciate my family very much and appreciate the opportunity to celebrate everyone, but I just think a modicum of joy and happiness all along would be the best.

Each of us needs to take the time to reflect on the importance of family in our lives, whether they are with us in person now or are not. Part of the goodness of creation is that God created the human family. In recent years the shape of that family has continued to configure and grow. For many there are two parents for the bulk of their lives, but for a growing percentage there is one primary parent. For many there are grandparents and aunts and uncles for at least half of a person’s life, but many others do not even really know many people on the generation that went in front of them. Many people have children, and later grandchildren and maybe if triply blessed great-grandchildren. Some people go through life without many of these experiences of family. But whether we have a family-full life or not, we all need to be thankful for the “family” we have and show them and tell them how much we care about them. Above all, we should not take them for granted. They are a big part of what makes us who we are.

During the past two years I have been attending the “Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process” in suburban Chicago. The clinic helps us to get connected with our family of origin and our own nuclear family (the one we raised) toward the goal of becoming a more aware and helpful leader as pastors in congregations and specialized ministries. As a part of the clinic we have put together

our family diagram, which not only connects us physically to our past as in a genealogy, but also charts relationships that are closer or farther away, connected or separated. Although our major concentration has been with our parents’ generation and our children’s, I have learned a great deal about my grandparents’ and great-grandparents. There is much for which to be thankful, as well as some things that challenged those who went before me, and which continue to challenge me as a person and as a leader right now. Some things that make me who I am are: (1) I am the middle of three brothers, who because of being closer in age to my older brother grew up competing with him and standing up for my younger brother. In the family that I raised I tend to stand up for my younger daughter. In the life of a congregation I sometimes compete with those I instinctively connect with “my older brother” and stand up for those who are sometimes not treated as well by others. (2) When I married my wife, who was the older of two sisters, she and I shared a common thing—“we did not really know what it was like to live with and share a life with people on our level from the opposite sex.” This meant that Pam and I had to learn a great deal to “make our relationship work.” In the congregation not just on the gender level, but in other ways I must continually learn in order to lead other people. (3) As the father of two daughters, I need to continually break new ground with my sons-in-law, learning to listen to them and ask them about their lives. Sometimes I take the easy road of “playing with my grandchildren,” rather than doing that hard work of building relationships. I know that I always chose “fun things” over building relationships when I was growing up (don’t most of us?). In the life of the congregation it is a whole lot easier to spend time with and work with those that are most like our previous experiences in family and personal life.

I think that this reflecting on past generations, as well as those who are living now, is invaluable for anyone who wants to grow in their family relationships. There is good news for those who even are now separated by death or something else in their relationships today. You can still grow through reflecting on what they were like, how you interacted with them, and those with whom you naturally were closer or found hardest to relate. I can say one thing—it does make you appreciate the power of the family and the relationships of those with whom you are closest in your life. It helps you grow as an individual and see your own shortcomings. It helps you to appreciate how hard it was for your grandparents and parents and how hard it may be for your children or grandchildren now and in the future.

May has one other special event which I have come to appreciate over the years—Mother’s Day. I have to admit I have often been more attracted to Father’s Day (just kidding!), I have often thought that it was little more than a way to get the greeting card and florist companies some business. But taken within the context of what I have shared above, it can be a time of saying thanks to our mothers for all that they have done for us. As we say in our clergy clinic, even if we had mixed experiences with our mothers, they did the best that they could do under the circumstances. Certainly when all is said and done about each of us in our family relationships, we do the best that we can do with what we have. Truly the love and care of mothers for children and grandchildren is one that is almost always genuine and unconditional. The relationship that

From the Pastor (continued)

children have with their mothers, just as with their fathers, may not be perfect (nothing in life as we know it is perfect). But it is a relationship that has truly shaped us and made us who we are. We are now about helping to shape and care for those who are important and involved in our lives. With God's help perhaps we can do as good of a job with our relationships as those who went before us did with us.

May this May be a very merry month for you this year. As the weather becomes warmer, as the church begins to get its new direction, and as we near the end of another school year, we are thankful for many things. God has richly blessed us and continues to nurture us and support us. With God's help and guidance each and every one of us can leave a legacy that is the best that we can do under our circumstances. Ultimately it is not about us. It is about glorifying God and showing love and care to other people. For the two greatest commandments provide direction for our family life, our individual life and the life of the church. "Love God with all of your heart, soul, and mind; love your neighbor as yourself."

Thankful for all families!

Pastor Roger Black

Lake Walk and Grand Opening of Tricia's Troops Cancer Connection!

We are looking forward to a fun day in Oconomowoc on Saturday, May 7th for the Lake Walk! There is a pre-walk rally that begins at 9:00 AM at Fowler Park. All walkers please plan on meeting at 9:45 AM near the playground for a DMLC/Tricia's Troops group photo! The walk then begins at 10:00 AM.

Registered walkers with DMLC/Tricia's Troops are then invited to meet at Lakerz Bar and Grill after the walk to celebrate the Grand Opening of the non-profit cancer support organization...Tricia's Troops Cancer Connection! Food and drink will be served in thanks for all of your love and support this past year of Tricia Wright and her family. Tours of this organization will also be available, which will be next door at 120 E. Wisconsin Ave (overlooking Fowler Lake). This organization was founded in honor of DMLC. Please take great pride in knowing DMLC's kindness is being "payed forward" now to benefit our entire community of cancer fighters!

Quilting

The quilting group will meet on Wednesday, May 18th at 9:00 a.m. to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. You do not need to know how to sew to help.

Congregational Meeting May 15th

A special congregational meeting has been called by the council for Sunday, May 15th at 11 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on a candidate for senior pastor. Following extensive interviewing this candidate was unanimously approved by the call committee to be the next senior pastor. The council met on April 14th and unanimously endorsed the choice of this individual as well. Now the congregation will have the critical opportunity to review the candidate and take action on whether or not this candidate should receive the call to be the next lead pastor of the church.

A "Meet and Greet" to meet the candidate and family will be on Saturday, May 7th beginning at 5 p.m. in the sanctuary (during the Saturday evening worship service). There will be a "formal" introduction of the candidate during the service and an informal opportunity for conversation following the service. The congregational meeting time will also be announced at all services of worship leading up to May 15. According to the constitution (10.3) there will also be an additional written notice sent out in a mailing to all members reaching each home at least ten days before the meeting.

On May 15th we are planning a single Sunday worship service for all worshipers at 10 a.m. The service we had before the MET report on November 14th last year was well received and we look forward to worship together again before this important meeting. The 5:00 Chapel Saturday service will be held at its regular time on May 14. There will be no Sunday school on May 15, but child care for all ages will be available in the Fellowship Hall during the meeting.

Call Committee

The members of the committee are: Jo Schneider, Dick Zautner, Connie Higgins, Rick Hankins, Lauren King, Tricia Wright, Kristi Meuer, and Andy King. Gavin Zastrow was chosen as an alternate, with the possibility of his stepping in as a regular member of the committee if someone is unable to serve. Tricia Wright is serving as a representative from the MET team and Andy King is a special representative of the council.

**Healing Services will be held
May 7 and 8
along with Blood Pressure Screening**

Next FREE Community Supper

Will be held on Monday, April 25th serving from 5:00–6:00 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 815 S. Concord Road, Oconomowoc

Thank You to our Easter Musicians

Handbell Choir

Lisa Butschke	Tim Potratz
Caroline Driscoll	Susanna Rosario
Julie King	Emily Russart
Angie Lewein	Mike Schmitz
Nick Lewein	Becky Tearney
Dave Magedanz	

Festival Choir

Robin Hankins, Accompanist

Roger Black	Carol Potratz
Bob Burchardt	Cris Rosario
Chris Butschke	Julie Rott
Jacob Butschke	Lily Rott
Mary Geszvain	Sam Rott
Kathy Klug	Becky Tearney
Maddie Lewein	Abby Whaley

Instrumentalists

Jacob Grams, trombone	Dan Petersen, trumpet
Robert Grams, trombone	Tim Potratz, trumpet
Roger Koehler, organ	Karen Trepton, horn
Dave Magedanz, percussion	

"I wish I may, I wish I might. Have the wish I wish tonight."

Each month there will be a different \$5.00 or less item for people of the congregation to put in the Wishing well, which is located in the narthex. Items will be given to the Lake Area Free Clinic and/ or the Oconomowoc food pantry, as well as Pastor and Sue Konkel to distribute as they see the need, depending what the item is.

During the months of May and June we are asking for Bug Spray and/or Sunscreen.

If anyone knows of a need that would be good for a certain month, please contact Natalie Everts, 920.262.2050 .

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.



Sunday May 8, 9am

Mother's Day

Dr. Martin Luther Church



General Info

Sterling & Brass is dedicated to providing enjoyable, exciting brass music to all audiences. All of it's members are from the Lake Country area in south eastern Wisconsin. The members are:

Chuck Kuhtz - Trumpet
 Todd Wenzel - Trumpet
 Bruce Bush - French Horn
 Jack Schulze - Trombone
 Scott Paukner - Tuba

They combine their unique talents to perform the best in brass quintet literature. Their music repertoire ranges from Classical to Contemporary - including the audience-pleasing styles of Baroque, Jazz, Dixieland, Ragtime, Swing and Broadway.

Sterling & Brass performs for corporate, family and civic functions, wedding ceremonies, holiday festivals, parades, religious ceremonies, and traditional concert settings.

Thank You to the following people for purchasing Easter lilies to beautify the sanctuary for Easter!

Julie Ausprung given in memory of Edward and Carole Fisher
 Pastor Roger and Pam Black given in memory of Pam's parents, Arnold and Betty Johnson
 Joyce Bahr given in memory of Ken Bahr
 Bobbie and Tom Dierbeck given in honor of Tricia's Troops Cancer Connection
 Mike and Caroline Driscoll given in honor of their parents Al and Donna Eighmy given in memory of Daniel Eighmy
 Gladys Grulke given in memory of her beloved husband, Ted Grulke
 Jay and Jeanne Johns given in memory of loved ones Jim and Arlene Johnson given in memory of Julia and Edwin Johnson
 Kathleen Kimball and Family given in memory of Carl and Edna Polk
 Roger and April Koehler given in memory of April's father, Dave Polivick
 Anita Miller and Carol Rauen given in memory of Alvin F. Miller
 Rhodee Family given in memory of Ken Rhodee
 Ken and Karen Ruehlow given in memory of Roena Benner
 Carole Southcott given in memory of Roy Southcott
 Donna Tetzlaff given in memory of Julius Tetzlaff
 Heidi and Jessie Tetuteberg and Jenni Heiman given in memory of Audrey Manke, Matt, Will and Donna Teuteberg
 Betty Till given in memory of her parents, George and Elizabeth Till
 Gus and Kathy Vogt given in memory of their parents, Mike and Val Strey, Gus and Dorothy Vogt and nephew, Evan Strey
 Norb and Irene Willing in honor of their 5 great grandchildren
 Tricia and BJ Wright given in honor of my DMLC family for all of your love and support.
 Carol Zeutzius and family given in loving memory of Jerry Zeutzius

Seasoned Lutherans

will meet on Wednesday, May 25th at 12:00 p.m. for lunch. The program will be presented by Barb Elwood-Goetch and Barb Hirsch from the Oconomowoc Historical Museum will show and talk about "Oconomowoc Kings and Queens" referring to the old mansions.

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

Volunteer Recognition – We Thank You!!

At times throughout the year we honor disciples who have been involved in the fellowship, service, or outreach opportunities that exist at DMLC.

As we finally say good-bye to the winter of 2010 we must give a sincere thank you to the following members who stepped up and kept our sidewalks clear of ice and snow. Whether we had a snowstorm or a just a dusting of snow they took responsibility to make sure that these areas were safe for all of our members to attend meetings, social functions or weekly worship. It is with great pleasure that we recognize the following members: Mike Mitchell, Elton Timm, John Easton, Jay & Jeanne Johns, Jason Post, Andy King & Family, Gordon Fleury, Mike and Amanda Whaley. Thank you again folks for a job well done. Your hard work does not go unnoticed!

Now that Spring has Sprung it is that time of year when we are in need of weekly grass cutters. We ask that the lawn be mowed between Thursday and Saturday prior to the 5:00 pm worship service. The church does provide the lawn equipment. At this time, we have many dates available. Please contact Bobbie in the church office with any questions you may have.

Volunteering at DMLC is just seeing a need - and finding a way to do it. TOGETHER!! Thank you to ALL members of this congregation.

Bobbie Dierbeck
 Volunteer Coordinator

Young(er) Women's Fellowship Gatherings

(May 1, June 5)

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.

Thank You

St. Ben's

We thank the following people for donating, making and deboning the turkeys and serving the meal: Lesley Kountz, Dorothy Westgard, Gabriele Heiden, Betty Peters, Carol Navine, Bob Schuett, Don and Phyllis Scharfenberg, Betty Toepfer, Pat Siebrecht, Charlotte McMahan, Joyce Bahr, Steve Vogt, Milene Wegner, Carol Potratz, Barb Lee, Cheri Connors, Pegi Drays, Lee Gallert and Glenn Shong.

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

Bulletins and Newsletter

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

From Our Parish Nurse

The Easter Promise, an Invitation to a Changed Life

"If you understand what I'm telling you, act like it – and live a blessed life!"
-John 13:17

There is something about Easter that I always get excited about! It is the thought that since I believe that Christ has risen, then there must be a relevant connection to my daily life!

The choices we make every day involving our well-being are inseparable from our core beliefs. In other words, if we believe that we are beloved children of a loving God, and that we are filled with the risen Christ spirit, then why are we living our daily lives in the spirit of such powerlessness? Why are we not like David (in I Samuel 17:32-37) facing our Goliath's with confidence greater than any of the (so-called) 'powerful' people around us?

Our current times certainly can make us feel overwhelmed and powerless. If David had listened to the pessimism of Saul or the threats of Goliath, he would have done nothing. Instead, he acted with the courage and knowledge that **he served a vibrant, alive God who was invested in his very real and every-day battles.** *That's all you need to do; be willing to consider the possibility that this is true!* Live in the empowerment that comes when your actions are in sync with your beliefs!

So what are you battling? Poor lifestyle choices? Unsettling relationships? Financial giants? Your own demons of unhealthy thought patterns? **Then I ask you, do you believe that your Christ has risen?**

God's activity is alive and strong in you, that's the Easter Promise! Believing this promise put yourself out there as an "empowered" presence. **Live "Big"!**

And, oh yeh, be encouraged by every small change you make! Christ is not some distant and remote figure we read about in the Bible, Christ is an intimate personal relationship, available, touchable, and seeking to be included in our everyday struggle with our "giants".

Be open minded to your concept of God. Pay attention to how you act. Who you are and who God is to you is exhibited by the way you express yourself through what you eat, the way you live, the way you respond in your day and the choices you make. Belief and behavior intersected brings healing, making us empowered to live out that for which we were created.

Put your "big girl" pants on and get out there! You serve a Risen Christ!

Sue Konkel, Parish Nurse

Waukesha County Drug Collection will be held May 14, 2011 at Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital (9 a.m. – 12 pm.) 791 Summit Ave., Regional Cancer Center Entrance.

You can bring: Prescription medication, over the counter medication, ointments, sprays, inhalers, creams, vials, herbals, pet medications and mercury.

Do Not Bring: Biohazardous material (including sharps), household hazardous waste, bulk prescription drug samples and personal hygiene products.

The DMLC Book Club meets on the 3rd Tuesday evening at 6:30 pm in the Books and Co. store, 1039 Summit Avenue. Transportation available. Call Ginny Scholtz, 567-5538, with suggestions, questions, etc.



In May : ***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks***, By Rebecca Skloot

Scientific research using "HeLa" cells helped medicine to combat polio, cancer, viral illness and other physical ailments. All the cells have been derived from the daughter of slave who has been dead for over 60 years. A look at the ethical challenges of modern medicine.

In June: ***Major Pettigrew's Last Stand***, By Helen Simonson
Story of a blooming friendship between an English country gentleman and a Pakistani widow. A relationship that challenges tradition and cultural norms.

We haven't chosen titles for the rest of the season, but there are a lot of good books waiting for us. We chat, informally about the book of the month, other books we like and other stories we know.

Stewardship Report March, 2011

Monthly	Actual	Budget
Income	\$29,789.16	\$29,914.75
Expense	\$27,201.44	\$29,914.75
Monthly Income—Expense		\$2,587.72
Year to Date	Actual	Budget
Income	\$75,467.62	\$89,744.25
Expense	\$82,300.90	\$89,744.25
Year to Date Income—Expense		(\$6,833.28)

Portico News Deadline

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

Fashion Through the Decades

Mother / Daughter Tea

Saturday, May 21

12:30 Coffee, Punch, and Dessert Served

1:00 Goodwill Fashion Show

Tickets are \$5.00 per person

Bring the special woman or girl in your life for a nostalgic trip back in time. See models in women's clothing and accessories from the early 1900's through the 1980's. Enjoy the history of fashion through the years.

Contact Lesley Kountz for more information

262-468-4114 or lesley.kountz@yahoo.com

