

The Portico

Dr. Martin Luther Church

325 S. Main Street

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

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Email: dmlc@globaldialog.com

Church Web Site: drmartinlutherchurch.org

Cluster Web site: lakecountrycluster.org

October, 2011

Senior Pastor

Larry Harpster (262) 567-3829

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

Custodian

Sue McMahan

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 10:15 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

TO GIVE IS TO LIVE

When I was 24 years old I was a student pastor enrolled in the Lutheran School Of Theology in Chicago. I was driving one Sunday morning to the congregation that I was serving when the brakes on my 1968 Chevy BelAire went totally out.

I had no brakes so I just coasted to the side. I got the car over to the side and walked in my dress shoes across a muddy field to the church. When I arrived my Pastor Supervisor Bob Leshner saw a down, mud covered young man, who was very depressed. He cleaned me up and during church he had my car towed to a mechanic who fixed the brakes and he took me out for lunch while the brakes were being finished. To this day I still remember Bob as a man of God.

The theme for our Stewardship drive for this year is "To Give Is To Live". In October and November we will be reflecting on how life is about giving and how we are never closer to Jesus than when we are generous. I hope you have had a Bob Leshner in your life. I hope you can be a Bob Leshner to someone else.

God's Blessings,
Pastor Larry Harpster

VBS Sunday

On October 16 we are celebrating Vacation Bible School (VBS) Sunday! Wear your vintage VBS T-shirts! The Sunday School Children will be singing songs from this year's Bible School. Come and join the fun!

*Health and Wellness
Weekend
October 8 and 9*

Have you thought about your future Health Care and put it in writing? Here is your chance to take part in your wishes. On October 9th from 9:45—11:00AM a Pro-health Care social worker will assist you filling out Power of Attorney Papers free of charge. See you on the 9th! Any questions call Connie Tokarski at 262-569-1810. Extra copies will be with Sue Konkell.

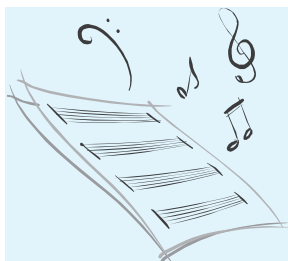
Your Health Board Team

New Member Get-Togethers

If you, or someone you know, would like to become members of Dr. Martin Luther Church we invite you to new members get-togethers on Thursday, October 27 and Thursday, November 3 at 7:00PM. Please call the church office or talk with Pastor Larry Harpster if you are planning to attend.

Stewardship Report August, 2011

Monthly		
	Actual	Budget
Income	\$29,716.04	\$29,914.75
Expense	\$28,269.62	\$29,914.75
Monthly Income—Expense	\$1,446.42	
Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget
Income	\$202,619.55	\$239,318.00
Expense	\$227,103.13	\$239,318.00
Year to Date Income—Expense	(\$24,483.58)	



Music Notes

Greetings!

It is difficult to fathom that summer has slipped away so quickly. Now we are well on our way in the fall program year. Already in September we have had some very special services. I wish to thank the brass and percussion players who gave us a heartfelt performance for the Commemoration of Sept. 11 and Rally Sunday. Special thanks also go to Oconomowoc High School and band director, Mike Krofta, for the use of the timpani. All of you created a moving service on a very difficult day.

Thank you also to the musicians and singers who participated in the installation service of our new pastor, Larry Harpster. It truly is a joyful occasion and so wonderful to have so many of you involved in the service as well as planning and working the reception afterwards.

Finally, I would like to update you on the status of the organ. Thanks to generous donations the pedals of the organ have been repaired. This was the smaller of the repairs that the Worship and Music Ministry presented to you last month. However, this is not the end of the organ difficulties. We are currently getting an estimate for rebuilding the organ console. This involves replacing all the circuitry and wiring within the console; so, please, continue to remember the organ fund when you wish to give a special donation.

Blessings to you,

Heidi K. Graf
Minister of Music

"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 month of October we will be collecting UMBRELLAS
(New or gently used)

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

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.

NEW!!! 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!

Young(er) Women's Fellowship Gatherings

Oct. 2, Nov. 6 and Dec. 4

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: Betty Peters, Dorothy Westgard, Gordon Fleury, Betty Toepfer, Diane Gaido, Connie Higgins, Pat Siebrecht, Art and Leslie Boettcher, Don and Phyllis Scharfenberg, Milene Wegner, Charlotte McMahon, Jeanne Johns, Lee Gallert, Dick Zautner and Glenn Shong.

The next time we serve the meal is on Wednesday, Oct. 5.

Bulletins and Newsletter

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

From Our Parish Nurse, Sue Konkol

A Soft and Compassionate Landing?

“So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you”

- John 16:22

I believe that when it comes time for us to shed our physical bodies and allow our beloved spirits to move on into the Presence of Christ, what most of us desire is that **we will come in for a “compassionate and soft landing”**.

If this is to be, **we must define for ourselves what our “soft and compassionate landing” will look like**. It is common with most healthcare providers to have stories about some avoidable *end of life issues* that could have been prevented with a **Power of Attorney for Healthcare Document (POA)** and a conversation with one’s family.

*One such experience that I remember well was when I worked with a couple after the wife had a stroke. This lovely couple completed their POA papers and made it clear that they desired **not** to be kept on life support. Several years later, the wife had a second but massive stroke and **was put** on life support. The husband was distraught and wanted to honor his wife’s desires to transition peacefully as she had requested. One daughter, in her understandable grief reaction, was angry and adamant that all should be done not to let her mother die. No one could find the POA papers. This husband agonized for three days. He knew what his wife wanted, but he was torn by the pressure of his daughter, her anger, and possible long term consequences to their relationship. The following night, he had a dream where he was visited by his wife requesting him to remove her life support; she was peacefully at “Home”. He returned to the hospital the next day and compassionately honored her request accepting her liberating transition into the arms of her Savior. This gentleman wanted me to share his story. He hopes to spare others from going through these difficult circumstances.*

Because not all situations end with a “dream visit” as this one did, having a discussion with family members ahead of time helps everyone to be on the same page during a time when feelings of shock, grief, and sadness are present. The best chance of “coming in for a soft and compassionate landing” is by **planning** for it, **discussing** it with all those who will be involved, putting it in **writing**, and making sure your Physician, healthcare facility, and family members **have copies**. Having all these things in place provides a steadiness and constancy in the midst of untoward circumstances allowing for all involved to be able to be present to their necessary feelings, to each other, and to their loved ones who are transitioning.

From Our Parish Nurse, continued

God, this discussion is so difficult to have, empower my discernment and faith as I lovingly prepare for my transition into Your Loving arms, Amen

The Health Ministry at DMLC is offering an opportunity for you to get your questions answered and complete your own POA after worship on October 9. There will be Social Workers and Nurses available to assist you in Fellowship Hall. For those who cannot be present on October 9, and wish to take advantage of this opportunity, please call Sue Konkol and set up a convenient time to fill out your POA document.

Quilts for Lutheran World Relief Displayed in Church October 1 and 2

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.

Thank you to all who have helped make these quilts and for those who donated materials for this project.

College Goody Boxes

I would like to thank ALL the wonderful donors to the “College Goody Boxes”. We shipped boxes to twelve of our students. They were filled with crackers and cheese, soup, candy, gum, meat sticks, school supply items and a letter from the congregation, congratulating and encouraging them. Thank you again for your generosity in helping our young adults stay connected to their church, as well as adjusting to college life.

Couples Night Out/Bring a Friend Dinner

DATE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14th

TIME: Cocktails/Arrival At 6:15 - 6:40, We will then order dinner at 6:45ish

PLACE: Burkes Lakeside Dining, On Silver Lake in Oconomowoc

RSVP: By emailing me at wright1022@sbcglobal.net or signing up in the back of the church through Sunday, October 9th.

REMEMBER....CHURCHES THAT PLAY TOGETHER, STAY TOGETHER!!!! :)

Feel free to share this invite with anyone! ALL ADULTS ARE WELCOME!

Hope to see you all there!!! Cheers!

Tricia Wright

Seasoned Lutherans

Seasoned Lutherans (anyone over 50) will meet on Wednesday, October 26 at 12:00PM for lunch. Following lunch Barb Hirsch will bring artifacts from the Oconomowoc Museum. We will identify and discuss these things. If you have an interesting piece of Oconomowoc history, please bring it with you.

From the Family of Beau Nicholas Butschke

Thank you to Pastor Larry Harpster for the lovely service for our son Beau Nicholas Butschke on July 30th. It was very personal and special to us. We appreciate the hard work of the staff and the volunteers who worked to have the church ready for such a large group....on such short notice and in the heat. Thank you. We would especially like to thank Heidi and the Roll the Stone group for the music. It was perfect. . . We have made a separate contribution in support of their lovely music. Thank you so much. We would also like to thank the congregation as a whole for all the prayers and support that have been sent our way since Beau disappeared on the 14th of July. Your prayers continue to help us. Many of you have made generous contributions to the Beau Butschke Fund, as well as directly to the church in Beau's memory. Thank you. As a family, we have designated some funds for the air conditioning of the sanctuary - that makes us smile - as well as to the church general fund. Thank you in advance for any future donations to the church in his name.

May God continue to bless all of you,
Bob, Cathy and Brock Butschke

Oconomowoc Area CROP Walk Sunday, October 23

Registration 1:00PM—Walk Starts at 1:30PM

Fowler Park Shelter

Walk Route— Around Fowler Lake

Please be a part of the Dr. Martin Luther Church Walk Team to help end hunger one step at a time in this community service event.

For information please contact Charlotte McMahon at 262-567-9751 or Joan Genske at 262-567-1013

CROP = Communities

Responding to

Overcome

Poverty



Outreach for Hope Family Bike Ride Draws 200

Perfect temperatures, clear blue skies and excited participants, both young and old, combined to make the 4th annual Outreach For Hope Family Bike Ride a resounding success.

Preliminary receipts from registrations, contributions / pledges and matching gifts has reached \$47,000, with additional funds still being received.

The event, held at Corey Park in Dousman, WI on Sept. 10, brought together 141 bicycle riders, ranging in age from toddlers in burleys to seniors. They represented riders from 33 congregations in the Greater Milwaukee Synod. Plus an additional 10 congregations were represented as part of the picnic and celebration that followed. Riders had choices of a route on the Glacial Drumlin State biking trail as well as 30 or 45 mile road routes.

Following the ride, nearly 200 bikers, volunteers and Synod staff celebrated the success with a catered lunch and a highlight of Outreach for Hope ministries and supporters. The program featured OFH congregation, St. Paul's at Wisconsin Ave. and 28th St. in Milwaukee.

The Family Bike Ride has become a signature event for OFH. The annual fund raiser helps support 22 Greater Milwaukee Synod (ELCA) ministries in Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha through funding assistance for a variety of programs that serve communities of poverty.

Thank you to all the DMLC people for supporting this event. Outreach for Hope received \$447.00 from DMLC members.

What's New In Sunday School

What a great beginning! Sept. 11 was Rally Day at Dr. Martin Luther Church. Our Sunday School began with a "Celebration Sunday" with all the kids gathering in one big group to celebrate our faith together. Our Rainbow theme was an awesome springboard to discussing the promises God makes us and what promises we could make to God. Check out the promises we made! In our music room in the lower education wing, a rainbow of balloons is on display created by the DMLC Kids. Each balloon identifies a child and their promise to God. We also wrote our promises on a tag containing our church information inviting others to check us out and attached them to helium balloons we released from the front steps. What a gorgeous site!

We're excited to begin new adventures with new friends and look forward to the year ahead!
Your DMLC Sunday School Staff

Holy Baptism

Addyson Elizabeth Miller, daughter of Nick and Heidi Miller, was baptized on Saturday September 17.

Brayden John Schuyler, son of Michael and Stephanie Schuyler, will be baptized on Sunday October 2.

We pray that God's richest blessing be with Addyson and Brayden as they grow.



Quilting

The quilting group will meet on Wednesday, October 19th at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. You do not need to know how to sew to help. Please note that the quilters will not meet in November and December.

Portico News Deadline

The deadline for the November issue of *The Portico* is Monday, October 17. All information for the month of November must be submitted by this date. Thank you.

Scrapbooking

Please note that the scrapbooking group will meet on Saturday, October 8th 9:00am—4:00pm in Fellowship Hall. See you then!!!!

Sunday School Donations

Maybe teaching isn't your thing but you can still help Sunday School! Our new curriculum includes children's Bibles and we would be very grateful if we could have some donated. The cost is \$18.00 each. If you would like to donate a bible you can either mail/turn one in to the church office or use an envelope from the pews and place it in the offering plate. Please be sure to mark your donation "Sunday School Bible".

We could also use a few smaller items including Crayola water paints, Elmer's Glue Sticks and the tiny 1.25 oz. bottles of Elmer's Glue. These items can be placed in the basket by the back door.

Thank you all so much for your continued support of our Sunday School!

Confirmation Class Schedule

October 5	5:30 p.m.	7 and 8 grade students
October 12	5:30 p.m.	7 and 8 grade students
October 19	5:30 p.m.	7 and 8 grade students
October 26	6:00 p.m.	9 grade students, confirmation practice
October 30	9:00 a.m.	Confirmation Worship
November 2	5:30 p.m.	7 and 8 grade students

Next FREE Community Meal

Will be held on Monday, October 24h serving from 5:00—6:00 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 815 S. Concord Road, Oconomowoc. October is our month to prepare and serve the meal. Please see page 7 for ways you can volunteer to help. Thank you.

Healing Services will be held

October 8 and 9

along with Blood Pressure Screening

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 to help with the Community Meal



Community Dinner

The meal will be served on Monday, October 31st from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of Christ on Concord Road.

We are looking for donations of the following food items: (Please have your food donations to church by Monday, October 24 except for desserts and milk.) Monetary donations are appreciated to purchase meat and other needed items.

Items Needed:

- _____ Wide Egg Noodles (12 oz. bags) 15 bags needed
- _____ Cream of Mushroom Soup 45 cans needed
- _____ Cream of Chicken Soup 45 cans needed
- _____ Sour Cream (16 oz. containers) 23 containers needed
- _____ Gallon milk 6 needed
- _____ Vanilla INSTANT Pudding 10 large packages needed
- _____ 1# butter 6 needed
- _____ Miniature Marshmallows 6 large bags needed
- _____ Desserts (9x13 pans) 25 needed
- _____ Donation of money \$ _____

Workers:

- _____ Set up tables and chairs on Sunday, October 30 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at UCC Church
- _____ Set tables on Monday, October 31 at 2:30 p.m. at UCC Church
- _____ Prepare food on Monday, October 31 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at DMLC
- _____ Serve food on Monday, October 31 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at UCC Church
- _____ Clean Up on Monday, October 31 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. at UCC Church

Name _____ Phone # _____