

July 2016 Newsletter

Martin Luther Chapel

Letter from the Pastor

Greetings!

The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season. You open your hand; You satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Psalm 145:15-16)

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, many people think of God as a watchmaker. He created the universe, wound it up, set it into motion, now and again He might check on it. This is the false teaching of Deism. Our Lutheran theology teaches differently: God is sovereign over every aspect of creation. *"...He upholds the universe by the word of his power."* (Hebrews 1:3) This means that God is intimately involved in every aspect of His creation, from the laws of physics, the affairs of the nations, to the fall of a single sparrow. (Mat 10:29) This means He is intimately involved in your life at every moment, whether you are a believer or not.

Lutherans teach that God is the King of two kingdoms: the spiritual kingdom and the earthly kingdom. In both of these, God is active and works through physical means. For example, in the spiritual kingdom God works through the physical means of water, bread and wine and the spoken Word. So the Word and Sacraments of the Church are the means of grace by which God serves you in mercy and forgiveness.

In the earthly kingdom, God works through the means of vocation. So when we pray, *"Give us this day our daily bread,"* (Matthew 6:9-13) God actively meets our needs through our economy, employers and employees, technology, manufacturing, service industries and so on.

This is also true for the family. *"God invented families,"* as Gene Veith Jr put it, *"God ordained that new life come into the world—and be cared for and raised into adulthood—through the work of a man and a woman who come together into a family. Husband, wife, father, mother are vocations through which God extends His creation and exercises His love."*

What does this mean? God is just as active in His earthly kingdom as He is in His spiritual kingdom. Your vocation is a means of Grace. God is actively at work through you as you perform your daily tasks. Each one of us contributes according to our God given talents, gifts, and opportunities. No matter what our situation in life may be, we all are masks of God. Behind these masks, God is hidden and continually blesses and sustains his creation. This is why I like to remind you that, *"you are blessed to be a blessing!"* (continued on page 2)



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Upcoming Events

Activity Schedule - Page 6

The 2016 LCMS National Youth Gathering will take place on July 16th-20th in New Orleans! - Page 5

(continued from page 1)

A dear Lutheran friend of mine used to say, “*If you see something good to do, do it.*” This is good advice because as Luther says in the Small Catechism, “*God does not want us to be selfish but to share with those who are unable to work and to include them in our prayers for daily bread.*” So as the redeemed people of God—redeemed by the blood of the Lamb already—“*do not neglect to do good and share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.*” (Hebrews 3:16)

God serves us. We serve our neighbor.

In Christ,
Pastor Tony Mandile

For further reading please see Luther’s Small Catechism’s explanation of the fourth petition of the Lord’s Prayer and *The Spirituality of the Cross* by G. E. Veith Jr.



Isabella Nora Therese Axelsson

Jens Bernt Robert Axelsson

Natalie Rianne Grill

For two years, Jens, Natalie, and Isabella, we studied Luther’s Small Catechism together. It was a joy to work with all three of you. You are great students/theologians. It was an honor to walk you through a deeper understanding of your baptismal faith. Like every confirmation teacher, I encourage you all to continue attending the Divine Service, receiving the Lord’s Supper, hearing and reading the Bible, and yes, pick up the Small Catechism every now and then! Christians are lifelong learners.

Brother, and Sisters, remember who you are: baptized children of God who have a loving heavenly Father who created the universe and provides for all of your daily needs. Remember that it was the Son of God, Jesus Christ—the Word become flesh—who dwelt among us, suffered, died, and was buried and on the third day rose again, all for you. He did it all for the forgiveness of your sins. Remember that the Holy Spirit is constantly with you by the waters of your baptisms. Even more, through the Word and Sacramental ministry of the Church the Holy Spirit will always be with you until the day Jesus comes to take you to be with him forever in heaven. Living in the knowledge of this, your salvation, you will grow to love and serve your family, friends and neighbors.

God bless your Journey!

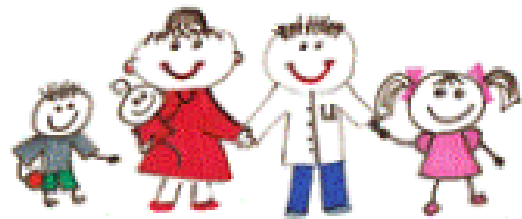
Pastor Tony Mandile
D. V. Deo Volente

Marathon Lutheran School News

We are in the midst of a busy summer at Marathon Lutheran School! Our current enrollment is three infants, five toddlers, and ten 2-3 year olds. We are not holding a school-age program this summer, but will resume with aftercare in late summer. Our goal is to always be a place of learning and growing for the children, as well as the staff.

Speaking of staff, 6 of our 8 staff members just completed an Infant First Aid/CPR class generously paid for with a continuing education scholarship from the Marathon Chamber of Commerce! We are thankful for their support of our business.

On August 17 we will be opening our 3 year old classroom! We are excited about this next step in growth. Working with young children is very challenging and, at times, draining. Some things that make us smile are hearing the children singing our table prayer "Come Lord Jesus" to the tune of "Where is Thumbkin," or "Jesus Love me," with the hand motions taught by Pastor Tony. It is delightful to work in a place where we can constantly speak of our Savior, Jesus, and his amazing LOVE for us!!



How to pray for us:

- *Pray for our children and families that they would know of Jesus' love and that we would have wisdom in supporting them as they face the challenges of life
- * Pray for our staff: for energy, health and continued skills in working with young children and implementing good teaching practices
- * Pray for new staff as we expand our school
- * Pray for our School Board for wisdom in making decisions

THANK YOU for your constant support of this ministry to our community!! May we all continue to grow in Jesus together!



Congratulations to Michelle Rodriguez for the birth of baby Aaron! May God watch over you, your baby, and your family!

Virtual Yard Sale Fundraiser for MLS

If you have items that you would like to donate that would sell on Craigslist, we will work with you to post them for sale. The proceeds will then go toward our school. Large items, such as furniture and appliances, sell well. This fundraiser is on-going throughout the year. Call Peggy at 305-743-4408.

Birthday Month!



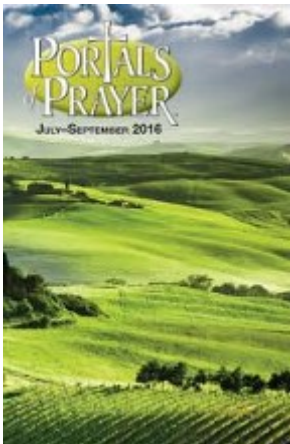
REQUESTS
FOR
PRAYER

4	<i>Lori Mandile</i>	25	<i>Marcy Palmenberg</i>
5	<i>Ken Larose</i>	26	<i>Greg Reiss</i>
8	<i>Debra Grill</i>	28	<i>Steve Bradshaw</i>
15	<i>Rita Haring</i>	28	<i>Ray Schnake</i>
19	<i>Loyal Eldridge</i>	29	<i>David Mueller</i>
23	<i>Renee Swaidan</i>	31	<i>Ed Moore</i>

Bruce Baumbarger
David Bradshaw
Sandy Eldridge
Jane Furr
Daniel Green
Lore Grob
Betty Hueber
Hilde Ireland
Samantha & Chuck
Bob Montgomery
Patsy
Suk Powell
Marcy Reed
Sue Reiss
Clare
Ruth and Ray Schnake
Dale Schultz
Kathy and Jim Schultz
The family of Pat Schultz
The family of LaVerna Solinger
Pastor Chris Todd
Mimi Young
Those with depression
Our families in the business community.
MLS Early Childhood Center



2	<i>Skip & Rita Haring</i>
30	<i>Pastor Tony & Lori Mandile</i>



Don't forget to pick up a copy of Portals of Prayer for your daily devotionals. We have them available at the Chapel back.



Welcome New Members!

Lillian Burke
&
Renee Swaidan



To everyone who helped us with the purchase and installation of our much needed new lighting:

THANK YOU!

A Special
THANK YOU

To all our volunteers and to those who are helping to fill-in for volunteers during their summer vacations! We couldn't do all we do without your efforts!

In the Community

K.A.I.R. Community Ministry Food Pantry

Please bring in canned and boxed grocery items & place them in the green K.A.I.R. donation box, located at the Chapel back. Needed food pantry staples include: macaroni & cheese, pop-top canned pasta, canned meats, canned stews, peanut butter, crackers, canned black beans, pop-top complete meals (i.e. vienna sausages, pork & beans, tuna), and pop-top fruits. The Food Pantry also carries nonfood items such as diapers, laundry detergent, cleaning agents, and personal hygiene items such as shampoo, and soap.



Youth to Attend the LCMS 2016 National Youth Gathering!

We would like to thank everyone who attended and helped out with our Youth's Sunday Service Performances and Pancake Breakfast Fundraisers! With your encouraging support, we were able to raise the funds needed to attend the 2016 National Youth Gathering, which will be held this month in New Orleans!

This Youth Gathering is held once every three years and is organized by the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod Youth Ministry in Saint Louis, Missouri. During the five days of the event, thousands of youth will have the opportunity to come together as a community, and spend time together in God's word, worship, service, and fellowship. We will hear and profess that it is in Christ alone that we stand!



Activity Schedule at MLC

Worship Service	Sundays	9:00am
Fellowship	Sundays	10:00am
Sunday School	Sundays	10:15am
Bible Study (Revelation)	Sundays	10:15am
School Staff Meeting	Tues, Jul 7	5:30pm
Island Harmony Rehearsal	Tuesdays	6:30pm
Bible Study (Large Catechism)	Wednesdays	1:00pm
School Board Meeting	Thu, Jul 5	5:30pm
Church Council Meeting	Thu, Aug 11	5:30pm

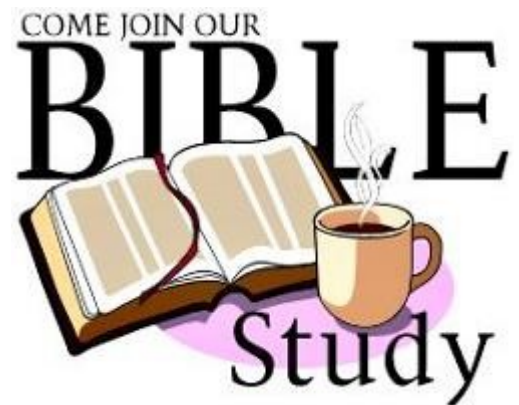


Altar Flowers

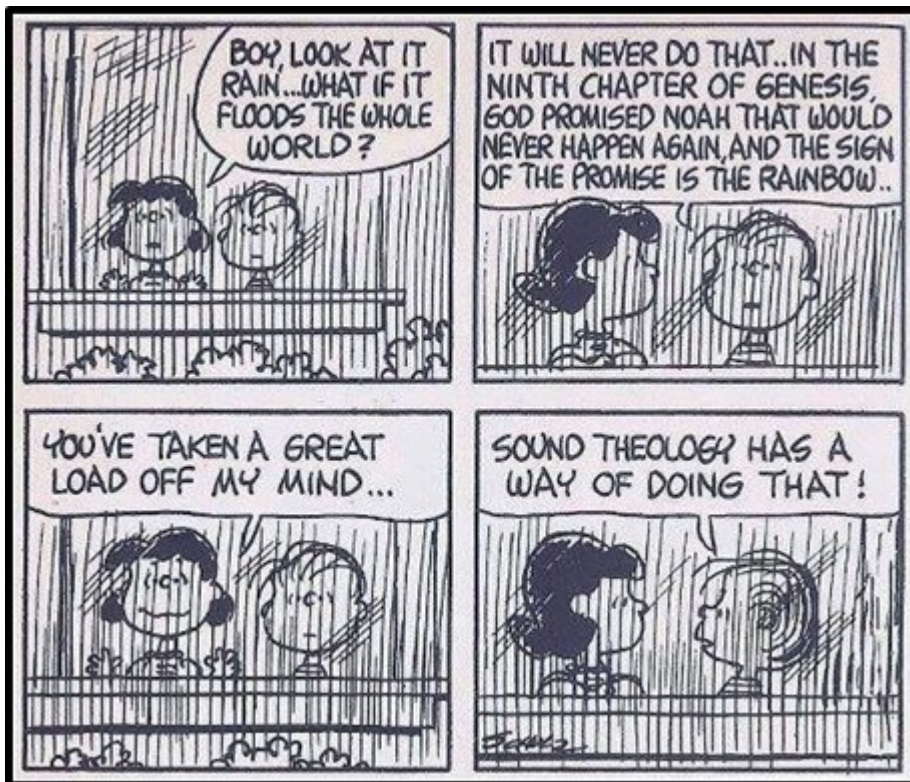
Would you like to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, special occasion or place a memorial? A gift of \$25 to the Flower fund will place two vases of flowers on the altar on a Sunday that you designate. Please take the flowers home after the 2nd service. The flower chart is located at the Chapel back.



Join us for fellowship after Sunday's Divine Service. There is a signup sheet if you would like to help make coffee and bring goodies to share, and we still need volunteers for July & August!



Join us for our Bible Study on Sunday after Worship and Fellowship. We are studying Saint John's Revelation of Jesus Christ. You may find our approach to the Bible different from what you have seen in the past. We are following two principles in our interpretation. First, all scripture is Christ centered. Jesus said, "The Scriptures . . . testify to me" (John 5:39). This is a Christological approach. Secondly, we adhere to verbal inspiration. Since all scripture is divinely inspired, we use scripture to interpret scripture. In following these principles, our theology is Biblically grounded and Christ centered. The Revelation of Jesus Christ then becomes a book of hope and comfort, a blessing to all who read it! Please join us.



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