



Lutheran Church of Martha & Mary



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Zoom Worship Services

If you would like to join send us an email or Facebook message for the link.

Pastor's Corner

“Come, follow me,’ Jesus said, ‘and I will send you out to fish for people.’ At once they left their nets and followed him.” Matthew 4:19-20

Our fall focus will be on discipleship. What does this mean? In theory, we come to church because we want to follow Jesus. In theory, we are together as a group to be people who travel together through life, as followers of Jesus. This means we can enjoy one another, disagree with one another, care for one another, and show Jesus’ love to one another. However, it is important that church life doesn’t stop there. People at golf clubs also care for one another, disagree with one another, etc. What makes us different? Why are we a church? **Why are YOU here?**

I hope it’s to follow Jesus, while doing life together. There are many ways to follow Jesus. There are also many ways to draw others into a life-saving relationship with Jesus. We’re good at some of these things -- learning, growing, praying, reading, collecting kits for WINGS, helping get food to those who need it through the food pantry. You are invited, this fall, to listen carefully to sermons and newsletters, and to find ONE way to be a disciple that you’re not already doing. It could be a simple baby step.

1. You could learn a new prayer practice. I’m going to offer a new one in each worship service after Rally Day.
2. You could LIKE and SHARE our facebook posts. Sharing on your personal page is a great way to reach out.
3. You could e-mail links to the worship or sermon videos to your friends.
4. You could invite people to our upcoming events:
 1. [WINGS collection on Wed, Aug 19, from 5:30-7:30.](#)
 2. [Installation picnic on Sat, Sept. 12 at 4pm.](#) Invite any needing some socially distanced time with others. They can stay for the service at 5:30pm or not. Inviting people into our community matters, and treasuring any time we get with them is good. Even if they are different faiths or attend different churches.

3. Rally Day Outdoor Worship with Communion, Sun, Sept 13, 9:30am.
4. Pet Blessing, October 3rd, 11am, for anyone who wants to come. (HINT: Just click invite on our facebook events.)
5. You could join our Spark Faith group. If you're interested, please let me know. For our first group, we're thinking 12pm-1pm on Thursdays over Zoom. This will deepen your discipleship in incredible ways, and it included a group project to help provide direction for our community. You can read more about the version of Spark Faith for rostered leaders at <http://sparkfaith.net>. We'll do the version for congregations. Please let me know if you have comments, thoughts, or questions.

Thanks for being in this with me!

Pastor Jess Harren

Council Updates

New Council Committees

The Executive Committee (President: Nicole, VP: Ann, Secretary: Cindy) has restructured the committees at church to streamline them. Every committee will have council liaison(s). Please see the chart below for more information, and reach out to the council with any questions.

2020-2021 Church Council

Executive Committee:

President: Nicole Lehmann, Vice President: Ann Gay , Secretary: Cindy Rose

Name of Committee	Description	Council Liaison	Groups that report to these people for council consideration
Worship	Coordinating services, leaders music and liturgy to make our worship services run smoothly	Cindy Rose Ann Gay (Children)	Michael- Liturgy and Music Nancy- Altar Guild Any other group who plans on doing a special service on Sunday morning
Witness	Reporting on how our church bears witness to God's love in our church, community and world	Jen Bristow	Roxanne: Generosity Barb & Hank: Food Pantry Sue: WINGS Wayne & Priscilla: PADS Ann: Ryan's Fund Gayle: Mission Walt & Cindy: Kids Hope Sue: Cropwalk Gail & Larry: Refugee One ?: Living Nativity Rox & Walt: Church Roundtable Jen & Laura: Trunk or Treat
Learning	Coordinating all of the Christian Education opportunities in our church	Ann Gay Meghan Bowman	Nicole: Youth Janet: Women's Ministry Bible Study Rox & Gayle: Adult Bible Study VBS Committee: Ann, Laura N., Nicole, Cindy, Meghan, Jen and Laura S. ?: Synod Assembly
Service	Reporting on our how we serve our church's physical and social needs	Debbie Hammacher Rob Covey	Property Committee: Erik, Bob, Wayne, Jim, Larry M & Larry D Janet: Coffee Hour & Purchases of Property Items Linda Brady: Game Night Barb: Elly's Lunch Gail & Cindy: Memorial Committee
Support	Coordination of internal support that keeps our building and services running and accessible to congregation	Carl Hollenbeck Tim Freedlund Meghan Bowman	Walt: Financials Scrip: Carl Audit Committee: Larry D., Wayne, Deb and Ann Constitution Committee: Carl, Roxanne, Sue and Meghan Michael: Musical Instrument Service and Repair Ann: Phone Tree

All Committees and Council members abide by our church's mission statement:
 LED by the Spirit To LIVE the Gospel and to LOVE and serve all people

A Message From Your President

“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

- John 13:35

Happy end of summer to everyone! I hope you have been enjoying socially distant get togethers and travels in the nice weather! I know I have been strengthened by visiting with family and friends on my driveway or outside at public locations. I have been at the church for a number of reasons over the last few weeks, and it's so wonderful to see the faces of some of my church family in person, even if they are behind masks.

We have been working on policies for the church in order to be able to allow small groups back in to use LCMM's facilities. Please see the information in this newsletter about what has been determined. As most places are, we are trying to move forward in getting some things back to the building while still abiding by state and local COVID-19 guidelines and trying to keep us safe. The council will be putting a survey out in the next few weeks to get an idea of what all your thoughts are on a number of topics, such as communion, in-person worship, etc.

I am looking forward to the upcoming outdoor services for Pastor's installation and Rally Day on September 12th and 13th. I think the LCMM community is still doing some wonderful things despite the limitations currently. Continue to be in touch with your neighbors and friends – share that good news that Jesus is here for us at all times and loves us!

Attached are the unapproved August Council Minutes.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. via Zoom due to COVID-19 stay at home order.

In attendance were Pastor Jess, Tim Freedlund, Debbie Hammacher, Cindy Rose, Ann Gay, Nicole Lehmann, Carl Hollenbeck, Meghan Bowman, Jennifer Bristow, Tim Freedlund, and Rob Covey.

Nicole Lehmann shared a devotion.

The Council reviewed the **Minutes** of the LCMM July Council Meeting. After review, *Carl Hollenbeck moved to accept the **Minutes** as presented and Meghan Bowman seconded the motion. The Council approved the motion.*

Treasurer's Report: We are doing well with revenue. Expenses are down. New mower was purchased from the major repair fund. The Wings missing rent check was lost, they will send another. Walt suggested that with no one in the building we are paying for subscriptions that are not being used (Celebrate insert, Portals of Prayer, Living Lutheran). Should we look into cancelling or suspending? Carl will ask Walt to provide an itemized cost of publications. Executive committee will make a decision regarding what can be suspended. We received the SBA loan, we can spend and as long as it is spent on salary, we don't have to pay back. Walt is working on application for forgiveness, he will give to Carl.

Ann Gay moved to accept the Financial Report as presented. Meghan Bowman seconded the motion, which passed.

Committee Reports: The Council reviewed highlights of the provided Committee Reports.

Pastor's Report: See attached report.

- Spark Faith, perhaps Thursdays 12 – 1? No one from council can volunteer at this time. Since this is such a crazy time with many schools starting remotely, and many of the council members having school-aged children, it was decided to postpone for now.
- Continuing education proposal. Cindy asked if there was a curriculum or program to be followed? Pastor answered no, it will be self-directed. Ann mentioned that perhaps this is not the best time for a spiritual retreat for several reasons. It will be tabled for now, wait until October/November.

President's Report: No report.

WORSHIP: See report.

- Survey regarding offering communion during worship
 - What about people who are far away? Out of state? Perhaps we can allow people to pick up communion cup and wafer sets, and allow others to use things from home. Ann will educate the children so they know that this is a temporary solution, that not all crackers and juice are considered the body of Christ.

WITNESS: See Report

- Roxanne would like to keep Generosity – all agreed this was a good idea since we are in year 2 of a 3 year program that she spearheaded.
- We will have a socially distant Pet Blessing on Oct 3rd at 11:00 since October 4th is St Francis of Assisi day. Meghan will include in newsletter and post on social media.

- Wings Annual Report Questions: reviewed Sue's written answers and discussed. Please submit any changes/questions to Sue by Wednesday or Thursday at the latest.
- It was decided that Garden of the Saints will fall under the "Worship" Committee.

LEARNING: See printed report.

- Pastor asked who handles confirmation. Ann and Nicole have always handled, they will have a conversation.

SERVICE:

- Property – Eric looked at the water issue in the basement. A tree branch fell on the roof and there was a lot of blockage in the gutters, which is probably what caused the leak in the window. Everything in the kitchen has been removed and cleaned. One dehumidifier broke; there was a lot of moisture in the basement. But now that they are both working, it is much better. It seems these random issues caused the water in the window well to build up more than usual and leak inside, and it doesn't look like it is a permanent problem.
- A couple weeks ago the door from the sanctuary (near the band) leading outside was open about a foot. Tim went over and nothing appeared to be stolen. But perhaps the door needs to be looked at because this is not the first time this has happened.

SUPPORT: See printed report

- Perhaps create a tech fund wish list of things we would like to buy.
- Should we look into sound system for future use? Should we look for inside use also? We are currently negative in tech fund. However, Wendy's memorial money was never moved into the tech fund to purchase streaming equipment. It was approved by Jeanne Fisher to use \$1500. Tim volunteered to look into pricing. Including mic receiver.

It was moved by Ann Gay and seconded by Meghan Bowman that the reports be accepted as presented. The motion passed.

Old Business-

1. Installation Picnic and Service/Outdoor service for rally day
 - a. September 12th beginning at 4:00 with a bring your own picnic, service begins at 5:30.
 - b. Rob to make sure there will be spray painted circles on the lawn to keep members 6' apart
 - c. Members need to stay 10' from front of worship space, maybe even a little further.
 - d. Encourage people to bring their own chairs or blankets
 - e. Please print bulletins at home and bring for your own use
 - f. Temp checks are probably not necessary, but encourage people to take their temp before they come. Hopefully we can live stream so anyone not comfortable attending in person can participate virtually.
 - g. Perhaps we should create a "Covenant of Care" document stating that by coming to the service you agree to the rules. Send to all members ahead of time and have them sign and return.
 - h. Adam will loan his band's sound board, and Tim can borrow one from a friend.

- i. If there is bad weather and the service has to be moved inside, it will be very difficult with the social distancing requirements to keep people safe. We would have to limit the singers, the band and 20 or less prechosen people inside in the sanctuary.
 - j. Contingency for Rally Day –live stream from inside the church
 - k. Ann will have a version of Sunday school after the service on Rally Day.
 - l. If you want to stay for coffee hour for Rally Day you MUST bring your own. There will be no food or coffee provided.
2. Endowment Committee: Tabled
 3. Hiring of custodian: Property committee should plan to meet as an entire group to get moving on the hiring of a custodian. This would be a great time to hire someone looking for a job, and train them while there are few events. We will need to have someone hired for when we are able to meet in person again due to the increased importance of disinfecting.
 4. SBA PPP: Money is in the bank.
 5. Mutual Ministries Committee: No discussion
 6. Procedure for restarting use of building:
 - a. TOPS: They had their first meeting yesterday, 8/10/20.
 - b. We will need more hand sanitizer. Ann will buy from Costco. See if Eric needs anything else.
 7. Constitution committee: Planning to meet in August
 8. Committee Restructure – Ann will create a document to be shared in the newsletter.

New Business

1. Lifeline: our date is 11/18/20. It was decided that there are too many risks right now due to covid. Nicole will tell them no.
2. Pastor Johnson's books: Jen will take to half price books for cash or credit
3. Jen brought up a question that for longer topics (such as the Installation Service and Rally Day discussed tonight), perhaps we can have special meetings at a different time? A few people agreed that having one longer meeting is typically easier.
4. Survey: It was suggested at the July council meeting that we should survey the congregation regarding their communion wants and needs. However, Cindy suggested that we should do a more in depth survey including everything from the zoom service, coming back and meeting in person, Spark Faith, and communion.
 - We should offer a paper copy to anyone who would prefer not to submit online
 - Goal is end of August to send to congregation
5. Important Upcoming Dates:
 - Expiration of WINGS Agreement – 10/31/20
 - Employee Reviews – November 2020

It was moved by Cindy Rose and seconded by Meghan Bowman that the meeting be adjourned at 10:21 p.m. The motion passed.

The September council meeting will be on September 8, 2020. Cindy Rose will provide devotions.

Submitted by Cindy Rose, Council Secretary

Generosity for Jesus

Did you know that between 70 & 90 people are joining worship each week? People are connecting and learning all about Jesus!

You can help in multiple ways. If you want to be a reader or assistant at worship on Sundays, let me know. The council is accepting applications for grants from our mutual aid fund. We are also collecting for live streaming equipment for when we gather again in person, and online tools for connecting now. You can use the other box in the online giving form, or the memo line of your check to write "Mutual Aid Fund" or "Tech Special Offering".

Thank you for being a congregation that cares so deeply about how the Gospel is Exploding through us!


Food Pantry

Our church has always been a strong supporter and provider for the Elk Grove Township Food Pantry and they need our help right now more than ever. Many families in the area are struggling with obtaining food for their family- a worry we would like to help eliminate. Our food pantry action team of Hank and Barb Maenner are making monthly trips to their location to help keep the shelves stocked. If you are able to donate any money for this cause, please send a check to church and mark it "food pantry" or you can use the link below for our online giving and put "food pantry" in the "other" box. Your donations will really make a difference to families in need at this time. Thank you and God bless!



WINGS is in need of items. If you would like to donate any items to WINGS you can use their [Amazon Wish List](#). Any orders placed through the Amazon Wish List will be shipped directly to WINGS. If you don't want to buy them items from Amazon but would still like to help you can donate a monetary gift with the WINGS website via [this link](#).

Our **LAST W.I.N.G.S Kit drop off is this Wednesday from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.** Bring a kit and get a free t shirt. We have lots of sizes and colors of Thrivent t shirts.



W.I.N.G.S is in need of kits to give to fulfill the basic needs of their new families.

Amy has a Thrivent action team that we will be using to buy some items and donate to W.I.N.G.S.

If you would like to put together a kit and drop it off at church we will get it to W.I.N.G.S. We will be at church on:

August 12th & 19th from 5:30 - 7:30 pm for you to drop off your kit.

W.I.N.G.S is looking for the following kits:

Baby kit - shampoo/body wash, baby lotion, baby oil, baby wipes

Ladies Pampering Kit - Body Wash/Bar soap, body lotion, deodorant, makeup remover, shampoo/conditioner, mousse/hairspray

Cleaning Kit - Multi-purpose cleaner (Comet/SOS), Pads Dishwasher detergent, garbage bags, Windex

Laundry Kit - Detergent, Fabric Softener, Bleach

Bathroom Kit - Bath Towel, Hand Towel, Hand Soap, Shower Curtain

Cozy Bedding Kit - (can be gently used) - Twin size blanket, Twin Size sheet set, pillow

Journeys or as we know it, PADS is also in need of help during this time. From the PADS website "Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all PADS Sites are now closed. Current shelter clients have been housed in area hotels. No new clients are being accepted at this time."



PADS is in need of monetary donations. Here is the link to [donate](#).

PADS also has an [Amazon Wish List](#) but would prefer the monetary donations to provide housing and food.

Scrip

We are going to be placing a Scrip order on **Sunday, August 23rd 2020**. If you would like to order please use the attached form, fill it out and then reattach it to the email. Please pay for your order by the 23rd. You will need to mail your check to LCMM or use the "other" box on our online giving page with the memo of "Scrip". Your order will be ready for pickup at the church later on that week. The order gets sent to Walt and then he brings it to church. We will email you when it is ready for pick up later that week. Additionally, if any member wants me to forward the weekly specials email to them I would be happy to do that as well.

Please note that **Walgreens is not available**.

Carl's email is carlhollen@gmail.com.

Amazon Smile

Our Amazon Smile account is still active. If you are not on it, simply go to smile.amazon.com. On your first visit to the site you will be asked to search for an organization, simply search Lutheran Church of Martha and Mary. Once you find it, it will save forever. Make sure you bookmark smile.amazon.com, if you shop at amazon.com it won't donate to our church.

Upcoming Events

Pastor Jess's Installation & Picnic



Saturday, September 12, 2020
4pm - ???

Back Lawn at LCMM
606 W. Golf Rd.
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

We will have an outdoor picnic beginning at 4:00, with the installation beginning at 5:30. Typically the installation is a full service. Communion will be a wafer and wine in an individually sealed package. Bring your own food, chairs, blankets, etc. because of COVID and sanitary purposes we can not provide chairs, food or blankets.

We will be marking the grass to indicate where families can sit. The circles will be scattered on the lawn by Golf Rd. They will be 6-10 ft apart. This will give us room to be able to sing, and talk in unison without any risks. **A mask will be required to wear at all times during the service.**

Rain Plan: If it is raining or cold we will be moving the service indoors. However, there is restrictions on who we can include in person. So the band, pastor and family, the Bishop and council will be present. We will then have everyone else join us over zoom.

WITH EITHER OPTION THE INSTALLATION WILL BE STREAMED
FOR THOSE THAT CANT JOIN US IN PERSON.



Sunday, September 13, 2020
Outdoor Worship Service - 9:30 AM
Sunday School - 10:30 AM

Lutheran Church of Martha & Mary
606 W. Golf Rd
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

Rally Sunday is our kickoff for the return to Sunday School and our fall schedule. Due to COVID, we are going to have an outdoor service so we can celebrate in person. Our Service will be held in our big backyard. Sunday school will take place in the Linda Avesing Garden.

We will be marking the grass to indicate where families can sit. The circles will be scattered on the lawn by Golf Rd. They will be 6-10 ft apart. This will give us room to be able to sing, and talk in unison without any risks. **A mask will be required to wear at all times during the service.**

Rain Plan: If it is raining or cold we will be streaming the service from the Sanctuary. We will then have everyone else join us over zoom. Sunday School will go into a breakout room on zoom and have their lesson.

Pet Blessing

Saturday, October 3, 2020
11:00 AM

Lutheran Church of Martha & Mary
606 W. Golf Rd, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
In the backyard in the Linda Avesing Garden

Bring your furry friends for a blessing by Pastor Jess.
All humans will need to be in masks and social distancing will be followed.



Justice Actions

36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'[c] 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'[d] 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Matthew 22: 36-40

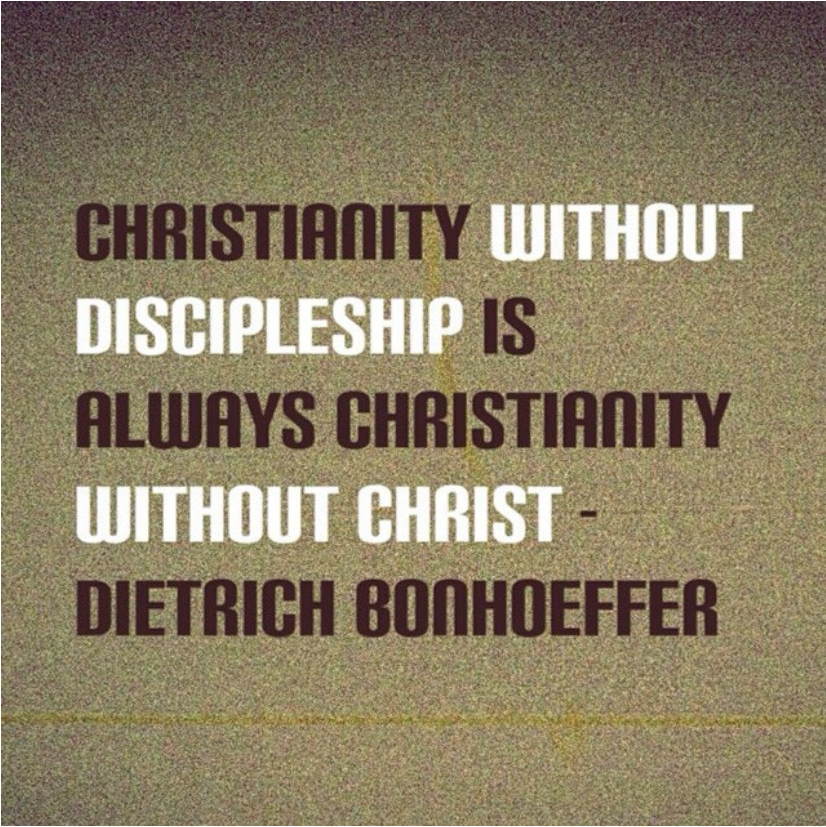
"We must reject calls for color blindness. That diminishes and washes out God's gift of diversity. We should be color amazed, recognizing the strength that comes with all our many colors. God as creator made all of us in God's image." - Rev Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop ELCA

This picture is by Danielle Coke, a Black artist. It was submitted by a member of the congregation to be included in the newsletter. From Pastor Jess: I grew up being taught that being color-blind was the best way to love my neighbor as myself. As a disciple of Jesus, I'm really committed to loving my neighbor as myself. I've learned, through many big and uncomfortable feelings, that being color-blind is not a way to love my neighbor. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton asks us to be color amazed. Our siblings and neighbors of color are crying out in pain. It's hard to learn something different than we were taught, but to be good neighbors, we're invited to do so. You are invited to reflect on the following image, and to reach out to me if you want to talk about it.



On Friday afternoons from 4:30-5:30PM, Lutheran Church of the Cross, our closest ELCA neighbor just a mile and half down Golf Road from us at 2025 S. Gobbert Rd, Arlington Heights, IL, is having a solidarity stand after their Black Lives Matter sign was vandalized.

If you have anything thing you would like to see in the newsletter please email it to Meghan at lcmmevangelism@gmail.com.



Birthdays

- Laura Swanson 08/08
- John Fisher 08/12
- Evalyn Nowak 08/16
- Andrew Tobolt 08/16
- Lou Krueger 08/18
- Cameron Bristow 08/21
- Wayne Gehring 08/23
- Jessica Snyder 08/25
- Bradley Bowman 08/28
- Kurt Gehring 08/29

Anniversaries

- Jim & Nancy Plucinski 08/06
- Gerry & Joy Covey 08/12
- Larry & Elaine Delzer 08/13
- Duane & Kathy Griffith 08/15



If you would like your birthday or anniversary added to our list please email lcmmevangelism@gmail.com.