

News You Can Use

March 2/3, 2019

Altar flowers are given in honor of **Ava Thompson's 10th birthday** given by her family.

Communion wine is given to the glory of God.

Last week's attendance: 316

This week we thank Dave and Tim Halverson for helping at the Rainbow Center.

FAITH FORMATION



March 3 – Today: "Habitat for Humanity/Thrivent Build" – Last November, a team of 9 people worked on the construction of 3 homes in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana (40 miles north of New Orleans.) Roger Marty, MLC member and mission trip leader, will present stories and pictures of what happened on that trip. Room 113 at 9:15 am. **Next Week:** Start Lent off with a series from Pastor Tim.

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus will be unable to avoid reflecting that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see the glory of the Lord in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by the Spirit of God.

Talent Show Cancelled

This year's talent show has been cancelled due to a decrease in available performers. Thank you to all who were interested in participating. We need a certain number of acts to produce a full show and we were a bit short this year. And that's OK! Sometimes it's good to take a year off and gear up for next year. So keep thinking about what you'd like to do and we'll have another opportunity in 2020!



Blood Pressure checks will be available **today, March 3** in the Gathering Space from 9:15 -10:30 am.

Mortgage Reduction Initiative

We have begun a special appeal, the Mortgage Reduction Initiative (MRI), to reduce the principal on our loan for the new Sanctuary and renovated facilities underneath. Letters and pledge forms have been mailed to every member of MLC.

We give thanks to God because over the last four years, we have reduced our mortgage principal for the new Sanctuary by over \$600,000. Praise God! Now the Church Council, Finance Committee, and Pastors are asking the congregation to raise \$500,000 by April 2021 to substantially reduce the mortgage principal. Our remodeled Sanctuary and rooms underneath it continue to be a blessing for God's mission and ministries here, and we are so grateful for the generosity and faithfulness of members who have contributed toward reducing the mortgage principal.

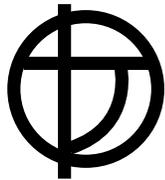
Listening sessions about the MRI will be led by Finance and Council members on

Sunday, March 3, 9:15 a.m., and Sunday, March 10, 11 a.m.

Both sessions will take place in the Family Life Center. In addition, information packets about the MRI are available at the Welcome Desk. If you have any questions, please contact President Sharon Mylrea, Treasurer Brent Odell, another member of Council or Finance or one of the pastors.

Thank you for your prayerful, generous support of this initiative! *"Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen!"* (Ephesians 3:20)





McFARLAND LUTHERAN NEWS

Lent Begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6!

Join us as we begin our Lenten journey, marked with the cross of ashes and fed with the bread of life. Our Ash Wednesday services will take place at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Our mid-week services will follow at the same times over the next 5 Wednesdays, thru April 10. Starting Wednesday, March 13, our evening worship time will feature the setting Holden Evening Prayer, which many in our faith community enjoy singing.

Our theme for Lent will be "Living our Baptism: Five Gifts of Discipleship." We will explore the baptismal covenant that God has made with us, and how we can live out these gifts in new and diverse ways. This will also be the theme for our Adult Faith Formation series during Lent, taught by Pastors Tim and Kelli, beginning on Sunday, March 10, 9:15 a.m., in the Education Room (113).

We will be studying Paul's letter to the Philippians and how his words inspire and encourage us to

follow the One who "humbled himself" and gave up his life on the cross (Philippians 2:8). All are invited to read and study this New Testament book during Lent, and all are welcome to join our mid-week worship and the faith formation class on Sundays.

We continue our tradition of eating together as well! On Wednesdays, a soup lunch will be served in the Family Life Center after the 11:00 a.m. worship, and a Souper Supper will be offered from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. before worship.



If you would like to provide a soup or salad, please contact Marilyn Vandenberg (for Souper Lunches) and Vicki Holten (for Souper Suppers). Thank you to everyone who helps coordinate and provide nourishing meals for these times of fellowship!

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus during our Lenten journey! (Philippians 4:7)

Daylight Savings begins March 10

Remember to turn your clocks AHEAD next weekend!



Uganda Mission Trip

On April 2, a group of 8 people from MLC and 4 from other congregations will be leaving on a mission trip to Uganda. This trip is being led by Hope 4 Kids. Formal dedication of the 2 wells MLC funded will be one of the activities, but we will also participate in activities to dress children, provide school supplies, help support widows and do medical outreach.

You can participate by helping us gather:

School Supplies (crayons, erasers, pencil sharpeners, pens, markers), **Medical Supplies** (antacids, over the counter pain relievers, bandaids, alcohol swabs, surgical gloves, antibiotic creams),

Gifts for Widows (scarves, lipstick, nail polish, needles & thread, reading glasses, solar powered calculators, toothbrushes),

Infant Clothing, pillowcase dresses for girls and T's for boys, plus toothbrushes, flip-flops and beanie babies.

Trippers are allowed two 50 pound checked bags free in which we will carry these much needed items to grateful recipients.

For a complete list, please see the Global Mission bulletin board in the grand hallway where you will also find a Hope 4 Kids collection bin.

Thank you for your generous hearts.



SHARE
GOD'S WORD

SHOW
GOD'S LOVE

SERVE
GOD'S WORLD