



VISIONS

MARTIN LUTHER LUTHERAN CHURCH

EMBRACING GOD'S LOVE BY WELCOMING, WORSHIPING, INSPIRING, AND SERVING

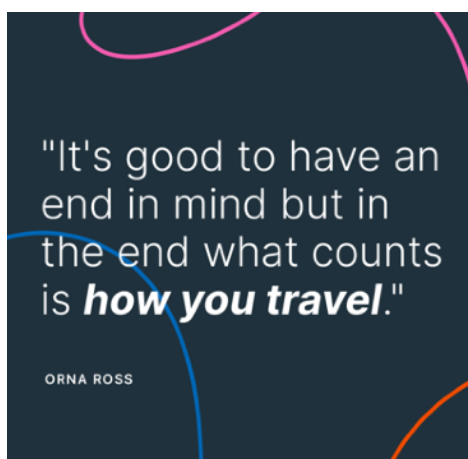
The journey is the destination

Were you the bored kid in the backseat of the family car during a long road trip? You know the one asking "Are we there yet?" every ten minutes. The journey may seem long, especially when we are seven years old. Even with GPS showing us the exact route, miles, and minutes of the journey ahead, the final breath of relief can't truly happen until we've pulled into the driveway of our destination, shifted the car into PARK, and turned off the ignition. Then the fruits of the road-trip really begin.

With this analogy in mind, it's fair to say that we still have roughly a month of roadtrip yet ahead before the hardest part of the journey - the journey's apparent end. Jesus is celebrated on Palm Sunday, but betrayed by Maundy Thursday, ridiculed by Good Friday, and dead before Sabbath even begins.

Are we there yet? Perhaps to the outside world, engaging in this Lenten rhythm sounds macabre. Because who wants to sit around thinking about Jesus' - or even their own - death? But what if doing so is *part* of the journey, if not the destination itself? And perhaps it is more bearable not in spite of Jesus' death, but because of it? Without it, after all, we would not have an Easter, because there is no resurrection without death. To the outside world, focusing on a 2000+ year-old grave does sound macabre. But thanks to its purpose as

experienced in Jesus' resurrection, the end of this journey is not the end for us. A new chapter can only begin if an old one concludes - an ending for one traded for a beginning of another.



It is with Easter joy that we celebrate another kind of end that will also bring a new life. After ten-years of ministry at MLLC, our church administrator, Linda McKaig, is fittingly retiring on Easter Sunday, March 31st. We will celebrate her later in the month on Sunday, April 14th after each morning service.

It's usually here where we include a scripture or two to emphasize a point. However, it's worth noting that retirement isn't mentioned in the Bible. People in Jesus' time worked until their bodies gave in and - that was it. But in the spirit of the resurrection, we are blessed with purpose and promise at every stage of our lives. Linda's "job" has been her ministry, and we celebrate this new chapter in her vocational journey.

We can attempt to tie this back into the Easter story through the many written instances of women named Mary supporting the ministry. But it goes without saying that we are thrilled that we have our own Mary to support our ministry going forward! Mary Honour has graciously applied for and accepted the position of Church Administrator, effective April 1st. Mary brings with her a wide variety of gifts and talents. Not only is she one of our resident worship leaders, council members, and VBS team leads, but also comes with 20+ years of experience in stage management and non-profit work. In fact, Mary's whole family is involved in Sunday worship - Mary's husband Eric plays the drums and edits much of our online worship content, while their children Sarah and Emily can be found running the AV booth!

Here's to resurrected beginnings!

- Pastors Christyn & Hans Koschmann

MLLC CHURCH COUNCIL

Angela Finn, President
Administration

Bob Crance, Vice President
Facilities

Stephanie Kramer, Secretary
Fellowship

Mary Honour, Worship

Meaghan Olsen, Outreach

Ray Seidelman, Treasurer

Rachel Welch, Education

Pastor Hans Koschmann

Pastor Christyn Koschmann

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sundays in March

organ service: 8:45 AM (followed by coffee fellowship)

band service: 10:00 AM (choir meets afterward weekly)

Kids' Sunday School: March 3rd, March 17th, April 14th

Wednesday Bible Study: 10:30 AM at Holy Spirit Catholic Church

Lenten Dinner and Service: March 6, 13, and 20 @ 6 PM

Maundy Thursday Service: March 28th at 7 PM

Good Friday Stations of the Cross: March 29th at NOON

Easter Sunday: March 31 services at 8:45 and 10 AM

with a brunch and egg hunt in between (roughly 9:20 AM - 9:50 AM)

Game Night: April 13th at 5:30 PM

The church office is open Tuesday - Thursday from 8AM - 2PM

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH:



The journey ahead starts here, together

Hope house is a local not-for-profit 501-C3 organization whose mission is to break the cycle of domestic violence by providing safe refuge and supportive services that educate and empower those impacted by domestic violence. Hope House offers comprehensive services to survivors and their children through individual therapy, donations, shelter and education.

Hope House has informed us that the most needed (new) items this month are: *Diapers and Pull Ups; pacifiers, baby wipes, formula, soap, lotion, and towels; chapstick; deodorant; paper towels; toilet paper; women's sweatpants & leggings (all sizes), coats, and shoes (sizes 7-9); Boys Coats (all sizes); QT, Target, or Walmart gift Cards*

Please leave donations on the high-top table in the fellowship hall.

Thank you for helping MLLC support Hope House!

LENT DINNER & DEVOTIONS

A light dinner provided **MARCH 6** Church Council

by church groups at **MARCH 13** Appetizers by the Knotty Ladies

6PM followed by a brief service at **7PM. MARCH 20** One Good Meal

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28th @ 7PM

GOOD FRIDAY

March 29th @ NOON

Happy Birthday!

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Bailee Eaton | March 5 |
| Janice Crance | March 8 |
| Diane Babbitt | March 9 |
| William Say | March 10 |
| Anna Fain | March 14 |
| Sharon Bockelman | March 16 |
| Christina Purnell | March 19 |
| Betty Kramer | March 21 |
| Dee Fuelling | March 29 |
| Linda McKaig | March 31 |
| Miki Courier | March 31 |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| John & Chrisi Means | March 5 |
| Rick & Sheila Drake | March 9 |
| Ralph & Melinda Dawley | March 18 |
| Michael & Lindsey Dodds | March 21 |
| Tim & Nancy Demorest | March 22 |

A Scout is

Reverent...

On March 17

we celebrate

Scouts of

every kind!

Current and

former Cub,

Boy, Girl,

and Eagle

Scouts are

welcome to wear their uniforms and

gather before the 10 AM service to

prepare for the flag ceremony and

Scout Law.



Volunteers needed

Ever thought about being an online lay assistant?

We are training new and current online readers on Sunday, March 10th at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Commitment is minimal but appreciated - please join the fun!