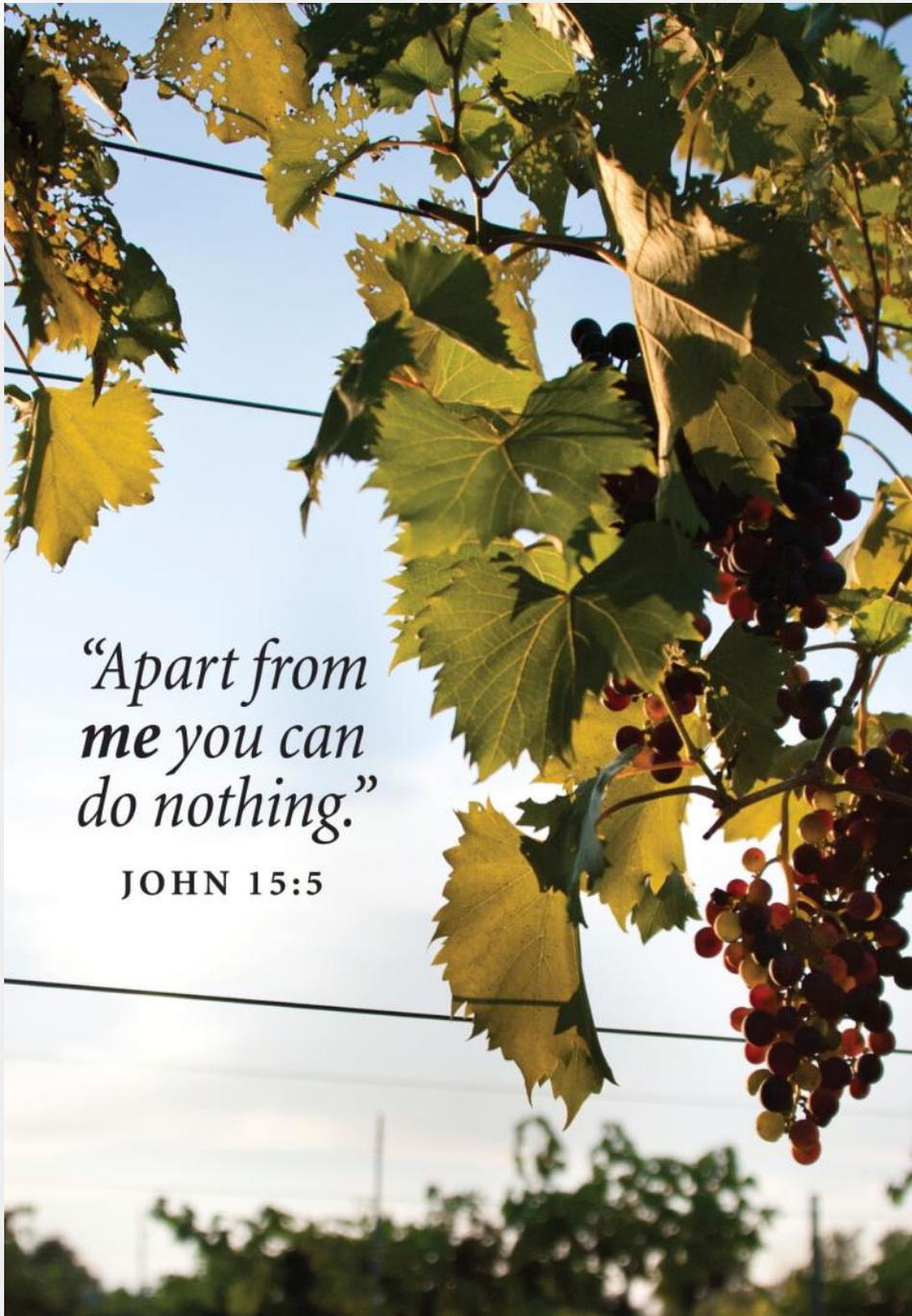


MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LUTHER LINES

JAMES ISLAND, SC 29412 MAY 2021



*“Apart from
me you can
do nothing.”*

JOHN 15:5



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Martin Luther Church is the only ELCA Congregation on James Island*
- *Martin Luther Church was organized on February 5, 1961.*
- *273 Disciples call Martin Luther Church their home church.*
- *Eight Pastors have shepherded Martin Luther disciples since its organization.*

PASTOR'S PONDERING	2
SENSING GOD	3
MUSIC NOTES	6
NEWS	8
THANK YOU	10
PRAYERS	14
BIRTHDAYS	15



This was a real God-Sighting!



History was made on Monday, April 19th when NASA's Ingenuity helicopter flew for the first time on the planet Mars. Overcoming extreme cold and dangerously thin air, the autonomous copter spun its twin carbon-fiber rotor blades to rise about 10 feet into the thin Martian air. It hovered briefly in the breeze before safely landing at about 3:34 am ET Monday back on the ground. This was a "Wright Brothers Moment", and NASA plans up to four more flights during the next two weeks.

In honor of the historic flight, I flew my 2008 Blade CX2 helicopter in Martin Luther Church's fellowship hall for one of Respite Care Charleston's sessions. About 6 people were present and all enjoyed seeing my helicopter fly and talking about this marvelous Mars mission. I gave them some information about Ingenuity, and Director Sara Perry got more from her computer for us.



This was a real God-Sighting! The session really got into the interactive experience! We looked at pictures of Mars and the Ingenuity helicopter and Perseverance Rover, and talked about the many challenges involved in the discovery and exploration mission. People talked about whether or not they would want to go to Mars (one gentleman said he would!), about the rover, helicopter, helicopter flying, military service and military aviation, and flying RC models. One gentleman asked if he could get inside my little model and take a ride. I told him he'd have to lose a whole lot of weight to fit into it!

People used many senses:

SEEING – looking at my helicopter, pictures of Mars and heli, even watching me fly mine;

HEARING – discussion, my helicopter which makes noise when it flies

FEELING – they could feel the wind created by my helicopter's downthrust

I told them I've flown this helicopter in the church on Pentecost Sunday and how the bright red color, rushing mighty wind, and the loud sound compare to God's activity on Pentecost. So that brought faith into the discussion in a neat, new way.

We got much more interest, excitement, interaction, mental stimulation, and physical activity than we expected. It was a definite God-Sighting!

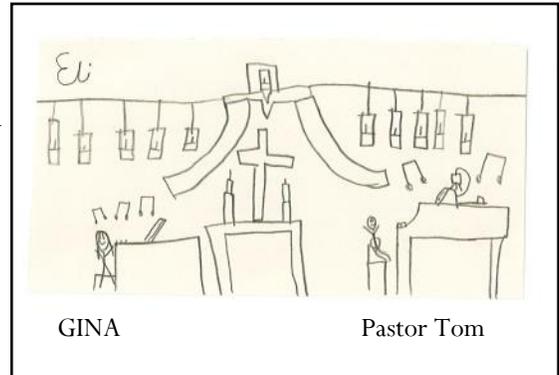
So keep looking for God's surprising activity around you. He's there, and up to some good stuff!

Blessings,

Pastor Tom

We “sense” God

During Lent I attended a weekly offering that allowed silence to spend time with God. She read a verse and then quiet music played and you sat in silence. This was repeated 4 times in the hour. One night I heard God several times telling me he was there, he had me in his hand and to Come!! It was so powerful to feel God’s presence like that. It was truly a great night for me and a highlight of my Lenten journey - Kathy Swittenberg



A drawing of the sanctuary by Eli Weakley.



A few years ago, a bad storm blew this bottlebrush plant over and pretty much out of the ground. I didn’t think it would come back at all – especially not stronger and more beautiful than before. I get a sense of the Master Creator saying ‘open your eyes, I have so much more to show you’. - Peggy Oxendine

Richard and I have been spending a lot of time this spring on our backporch, watching the birds, feeling the gentle breezes and playing with the new addition to our family, Choco, a chocolate Labradoodle. Choco’s fur is so soft and as he learns to obey, we are all using our senses of hearing, seeing, feeling, and smelling (when he is clean!) Our herb garden has provided us with wonderful tastes of spring with the fresh dill, basil, cilantro and kale. Earlier in the year, we enjoyed the lovely aromas of the tea olive bushes in the backyard. We are constantly reminded of the many blessings that God brings to us daily through our senses. Most of these blessings are taken for granted. Help us, Lord, to recognize and enjoy these blessings. - Sherry Fowler



Tributes to Mom

To celebrate the special woman in your life, use a quote a day the week before Mother's Day, or honor her with tributes the whole week after. Write one of these (or one of your own) on a card, make a message into a placemat, tape one to the bathroom mirror — get creative! Every day of the week is a good day to celebrate her love and show her yours.



"There is no way to be a perfect mother, and a million ways to be a good one." —Jill Churchill

"The art of mothering is to teach the art of living to children." —Elaine Heffner

"An ounce of mother is worth a ton of priest." —Spanish proverb

"When your mother asks, 'Do you want a piece of advice?' it's a mere formality. It doesn't matter if you answer yes or no. You're going to get it anyway." —Erma Bombeck

"The mother's heart is the child's schoolroom." —Henry Ward Beecher

"Mother love is the fuel that enables a normal human being to do the impossible." —Marion C.

Memorial Day



A Prayer for Memorial Day

We remember, O Lord, all those men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country. Do not let us breathe the air of freedom or claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship without remembering with great gratitude those who gave the last full measure of devotion - their very lives - for our benefit. May they now know the peace of eternity and the joy of your presence. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Over the years, Memorial Day has become a big holiday weekend. It's now the unofficial start of summer, rather than a day of tribute to the departed it was originally meant to be.

Even if we plan fun events for Memorial Day weekend, it's important to stop long enough to bow our heads and pay respect to our departed loved ones — especially those who fell in battle while helping preserve America's liberties. Let us take time to make the pilgrimage to various cemeteries and pause long enough to say, "Thank you, Father, for these special lives, for sacrifices made and for friendships we have shared."

MARTIN LUTHER CHURCH LIVESTREAM

A LIVESTREAM OF THE 9:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE FROM THE MLLC SANCTUARY IS NOW ON THE AIRWAVES ALONG WITH OUR IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE.

PREPARE YOUR COMPUTERS, MONITORS AND TVS FOR OUR NEW LIVESTREAM EACH SUNDAY AT 9:00 AM.

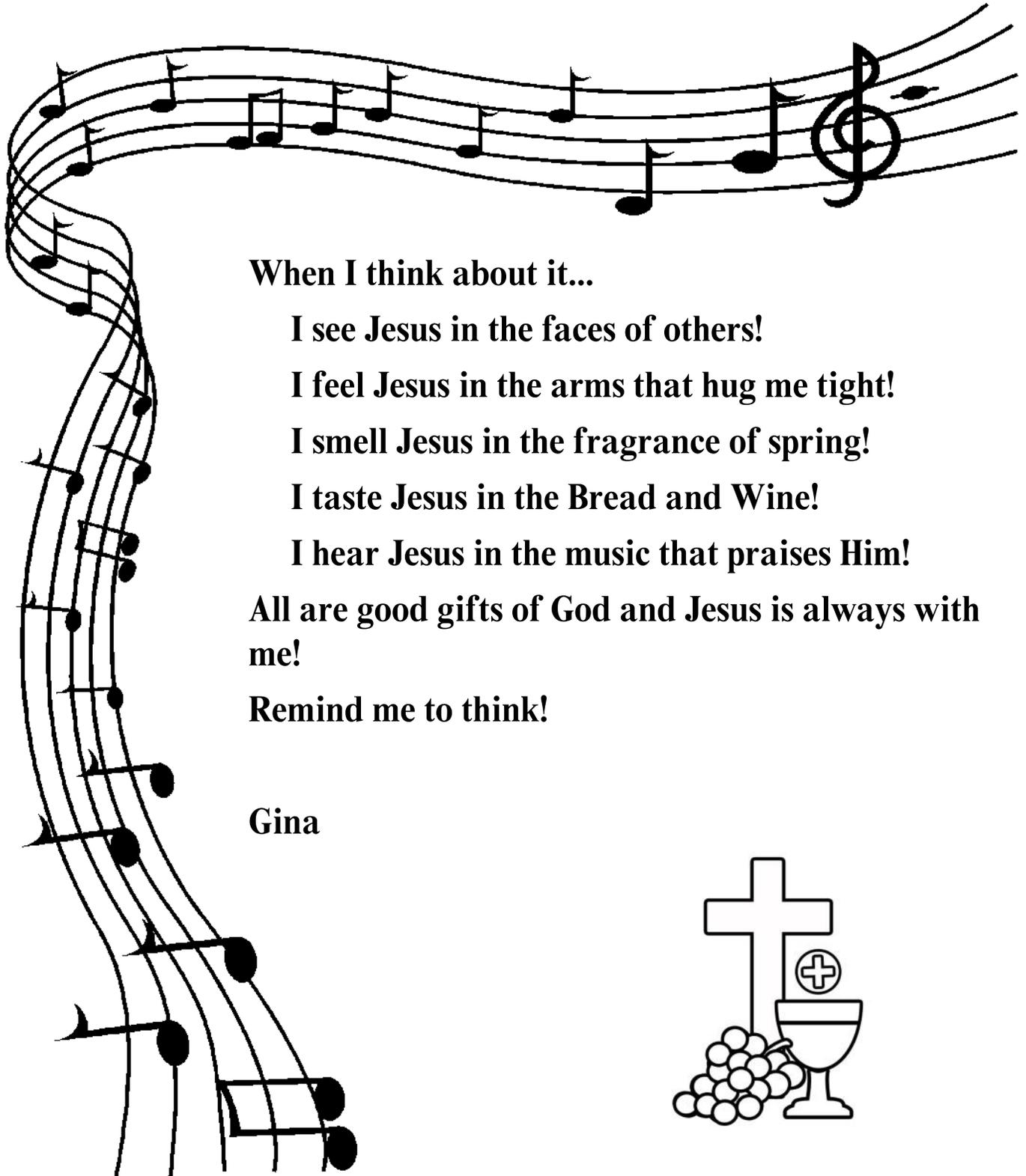
WATCH FOR THE YOUTUBE LINK IN YOUR EMAILS EACH WEEK, HAVE YOUR CANDLE NEARBY TO LIGHT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SERVICE AND HAVE YOUR HOLY COMMUNION KITS (which are available in the plastic bin at the front door of MLLC) AVAILABLE WHEN IT COMES TIME FOR THE HOLY COMMUNION.

THE LIVESTREAM FROM FAITH LUTHERAN WILL STILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT 11:00 AM EACH SUNDAY MORNING.



WE WILL NEED LESSON AND PRAYER READERS EACH SUNDAY SO IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COME IN AND MAKE THESE OFFERINGS, PLEASE LET SHERRY KNOW.

MUSIC NOTES



When I think about it...

I see Jesus in the faces of others!

I feel Jesus in the arms that hug me tight!

I smell Jesus in the fragrance of spring!

I taste Jesus in the Bread and Wine!

I hear Jesus in the music that praises Him!

All are good gifts of God and Jesus is always with me!

Remind me to think!

Gina



Postpartum Support Charleston



2021 VIRTUAL MOMS' RUN 5K

Monday, May 3, 2021—12:00 AM

through Sunday, May 9, 2021—11:59 PM

Honor moms everywhere by supporting a cause that helps women and their families suffering from postpartum depression and anxiety. Postpartum Support Charleston is hosting the 18th annual Moms' Run + Family Fun Day as a VIRTUAL RUN starting May 3rd through May 9th. Find your favorite neighborhood route or trail and let's all join together virtually and raise awareness.

Our annual 5K Moms' Run is Postpartum Support Charleston's largest fundraiser, allowing the organization to further its mission of providing support and resources to women and their families struggling with maternal mental illnesses (such as depression, anxiety, OCD, and psychosis during and after pregnancy).

***Register and support the Moms' Run by visiting
<https://runsignup.com/Race/SC/Charleston/MomsRun>***



NEWS FOR

CUB SCOUTS

The Cub Scout Pack 4 meets at Martin Luther Church each Monday evening at 6:30 PM. We love our Scouts!

Bring Your Bottles

ELKS BPO Drove # 231 is collecting empty prescription bottles. Bring your empty bottles to the church office any morning. Please remember to remove all labels. These bottles will be donated to local animal shelters.

BLESSING OTHERS

The Cub Scouts have designed and mounted a Blessings Box to assist the hungry in our midst. They encourage all to take what you need and give what you are able. Along with the Blessings Box, two "Little Libraries" have been mounted beside the Blessings Box. One library is for children's books and one is for adult readers.

RESPIRE CARE CHARLESTON

Upcoming Respite Care Charleston Support Group Meetings at MLLC May 4, 11, 18 and 25 at **10 AM—Tuesday Morning Respite Group**
May 11 and 25 at 6 PM—Tuesday Support Group
May 12 and 26 at 10 AM—Wednesday Support Group
May 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 10 AM—Friday Morning Respite Group

If you know of anyone who might benefit from any of these groups, please invite them to join us!

Sara Perry

Executive Director RCC

843 647-7405

YOU TO KNOW

VETERAN MINISTRY

Do you know a veteran or a military family in need?

Education... Housing... Health Benefits... Basic Needs... Assistance... Employment... Homelessness... Peer Support... Financial Crisis Management

Please contact or refer them to:

Tri-County Veterans Support Network
843-276-2840

www.TriCountyVeteransSupportNetwork.org

ONLINE GIVING

Martin Luther Church is gladly accepting online contributions through Tithe.ly.com.

Anyone can access this new App through the MLLC website. Just go to the green Giving Option Button on the opening page! If you need some assistance, please give Sherry a call in the church office! Now you can give, even when you are out of town!!! Tell your friends and family that they can give to MLLC **online!!!**

THANK YOU

Dear Friends,
Thank you so much for your love and support in the wake of my brother-in-law's death. Your prayers were felt and greatly appreciated! A special note of thanks to Pastor Tom for playing in my absence!
Love and Peace,
Gina

Harborview Elementary

STOCK THE SUPPLIES FOR TEACHERS AT HARBOR VIEW ELEMENTARY.

Among those things always needed are:

Boxes of tissues

Large bottles of hand sanitizer

Clorox or Lysol wipes

The Big Blue Box will be in the Narthex to gather the items.

Items are needed by May 2.

Thank you so much in advance for your generosity!

Join us to ring Handbells!



Handbell Practice is each Monday evening at 6 PM. Call Gina for more info.



ASCENSION OF OUR LORD



Forty days after each Easter, many Christians around the world celebrate the Ascension. It's the day when the resurrected Jesus was raised up from the earth into heaven. The Ascension is the prelude to Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon a gathering of people, including the apostles, in Jerusalem.

The Ascension is more important than many Christians realize. In his human body, Christ could be in only one place at a time. The risen Christ, however, can be spiritually present in any place at any time.

(The Ascension of Our Lord is on Thursday, May 13, 2021)

PENTECOST POWER

Ten days after Jesus ascended into heaven, the Holy Spirit descended onto Jesus' disciples. While they were gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish festival of Pentecost, the disciples saw flames among and on them, heard a rushing wind and began talking in many languages. As a result, the disciples were able to share the good news of Jesus in the native tongues of all the pilgrims assembled in the city.

Even today, the power of the Holy Spirit fuels the "flame" that ignites Christians' outreach efforts. Only by the Spirit's power can we know Christ and make him known throughout the world.

Poet William Blake (1757-1827), who's been described as a passionate, Pentecost kind of person, wrote this poem about the Spirit's power:

Unless the eye catch fire,
The God will not be seen.
Unless the ear catch fire,
The God will not be heard.
Unless the tongue catch fire,
The God will not be named.
Unless the heart catch fire,
The God will not be loved.
Unless the mind catch fire,
The God will not be known.



Sheep Scale Prayer -- Kay Stenta

The Good Shepherd reminds me that the silly sheep belong to him,
and that Jesus probably stuck his tongue out to his disciples and friends.

God leads me beside still waters, so that, at times, I am a contented sheep.

When I am a frazzled sheep, overwhelmed and tired, God restores my soul.

Even when I want to hide my meager sheep's head in a bucket,
or wander away from the fold

--God sends the Holy Spirit to lead me back on the path of righteousness.

And when the path wearies, God gives us a deep and uncompromising sleep,
for The Good Shepherd's name's sake.

Like a sheep, I am clothed in the beauty of your mercy;
your rod and your staff comfort me... You surround me with love.

Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
half hiding, half jumping at shadows... you are with me.

You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows,
and I pant in anticipation of the feast
awaiting all of your sheep in heaven.

Even in the presence of my enemies,
you bless food so it somehow still tastes good.

Some days I leap for joy,
remembering that goodness and mercy will chase after me,

And someday I will be able to gambol
in the house of the Lord, my shepherd,
'til the end of my life.

So we give thanks to you our Lord and Shepherd,
--we the silly sheep...the resting sheep...the frazzled sheep...
...the hidden sheep...the exhausted sheep.

Help us to see
the sheep who are clothed in grace
and the sheep who are jumping at shadows,
the sheep who hunger for the kingdom
and the sheep who remember to leap in joy.

Remind us that there is no wrong kind of sheep,
and that we...each and every one of us...belong to the shepherd.

In Christ's name we pray.
Amen.

Kay Stenta says:

What kind of sheep are you?

There is a common game to play on social media, where a picture of a person or animal is shown with different emotions and the question is asked: Which one are you today?

There is a wonderful sheep one that prompted me to write this prayer, because our shepherd cares for all kinds of sheep in all kinds of states. It does this by naming what is going on in each picture and pairing it with Psalm 23. It is important to take stock, where are you, how are you and to remember that no matter what, you can bring your full self to the shepherd today. Because the shepherd is always good, and we can count on that, especially when we aren't feeling well. We can lean and rely on Godself instead of our own capabilities that day.

Check out the Sheep-Scale on the next page and use it as a scale on how you feel each day!!!!

**From Wool for Every Day
#IWOOLWOOLYOU**

On this sheep-scale, how do you feel today?



WOOL FOR EVERY DAY #IWOOLWOOLYOU

PRAYERS



The family of Bonnie
Martin, Peggy
Oxendine's cousin, at
her death.

The family of David
Bostian, Gina Shuey's
brother-in-law, at his
death

The family of Ann Parris,
Laura Jordan's
mother, at her death on
April 6.

Janice Knight
Buddy Diffenderfer
Paul Bauersfeld
Joan Cunningham
Don Rankin
Polly Sutton
Anna Harmon
Ralph Shrivalle
Barbara Crews
Todd Peterson
Mickie White
Melody Alcorn
Judy Alcorn
Carl and Judy Simmons
Myrl Kluge
Mary and Jack Cooper
Bill & Edna Mariorenzi
Alice Scheld

Joe Sproles
Vicki Becker
Sean Fowler

Stacia Brown
Muriel Bellah
Lucille Mullis
Michele Wallis
Fran Lingenfelter
Autumn Young
Trey Crayton
Preston Vinson
Johnny Hallman
John Bischoff
Cyndie Hartsell
Alice Vendrick
Mary Ann Graff
Linda Miller
Betty and Paulwyn Boliek
Frank Oastwalt
Will Coleman
Lynn Nash
Maggie Bennett
Ramona Horres
Becky Cook
Sherry Cook
Carolyn and Linwood
Swittenberg
Mildred Woods
Eugene Alexander
Ned Vendrick
Darby Kress
Thomas Soyden
Eliza Cate Volousky
Dwight Hartsell
Wilma McLelland

Mark Danehey
Larry Alexander
Paige Osbon
Alissa Baker
Randy Oxendine
Michael Burke
Rose Burke
Rafael del Valle
Michele Miller
All those suffering with
the COVID-19 virus.

All those who serve in the
military and those who
protect our country,
state, and communities.

**Holy God, your beauty
shines forth from the
manger and your love
flows from the cross. As
you gather us around
these signs of your love
come among us, warm us
to extend your care
among the hungry and
all in need. In Jesus'
name we pray. Amen.**



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
MAY

BIRTHDAYS

Anniversaries

Todd Peterson 5/ 2
 Greg Spain 5/ 3
 Bob Spain 5/ 8
 Laura Jordan 5/ 9
 Nancy Gillette 5/ 24
 Ashley Peterson 5/ 26

Vicki & Paul Becker 5/ 28
 Tricia & JB Bradley 5/ 29

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
JUNE

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Anniversaries

Connie Gibson 6/03
 Jan Clinkscales 6/12
 Brooke Dark 6/12
 Joe Cockrell 6/13
 Buddy Diffenderfer 6/22
 Mark Kruger 6/25
 Nancy Haynsworth 6/30

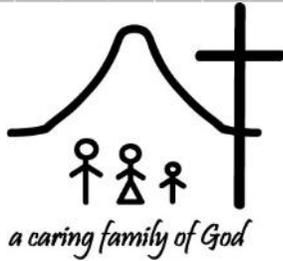
Florence & Wayne Rimer 6/04
 Kristina & Steve Everman 6/05
 Pam & Todd Peterson 6/12
 Janet & Mark Kruger 6/14
 Lori & Rich Hamill 6/16
 Mary Lou & Al Hoover 6/17
 Amanda and Richard Summers 6/24



Highway of life

While we're speeding down the highway
 Let's count mileposts in sequence.
 They all seem so close together,
 Almost like a picket fence.
 Our birthdays, too, are in the fast lane,
 Which should make this thought serene:
 From life's milestones to its tombstones,
 There is little space between.
 Hence, this moral: Let's start giving
 Much less time to stress and strife;
 While we race to make a living,
 Let's take time to make a life.
 —Dave Wadley





MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Charleston, SC 29412

843 795-4855
Email: mllc@knology.net

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.MARTINLUTHERCHURCH.ORG

**“A CARING FAMILY OF
GOD”**

STAFF AND CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

STAFF

Pastor

**The Reverend Thomas
Cassem**

Director of
Congregational Ministries

Sherry Fowler

Director of Music

Gina Shuey

Office Hours are

Monday—Friday

8 AM to Noon

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Officers

President—

Peggy Oxendine

Vice President—

Nancy Haynsworth

Secretary—

Heidi Frear

Treasurer—

Janice Knight

Financial Secretary—

Vacant

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Worship Team Leader—

Brenda Burke

Service Team Leader—

Laura Jordan

Evangelism Team Leader—

Vacant

Learning Team Leader—

Pam Peterson

*Congregational Care Team
Leader—***Mary Lou Hoover**

Property Team Leader—

Wayne Rimer

Youth (one year term) -

Torren Thomas



Council Members
serve two year
terms with the
exception of the
youth members,
serving a one year
term.