

The Door

“Sharing the Love of Jesus Christ with All People”

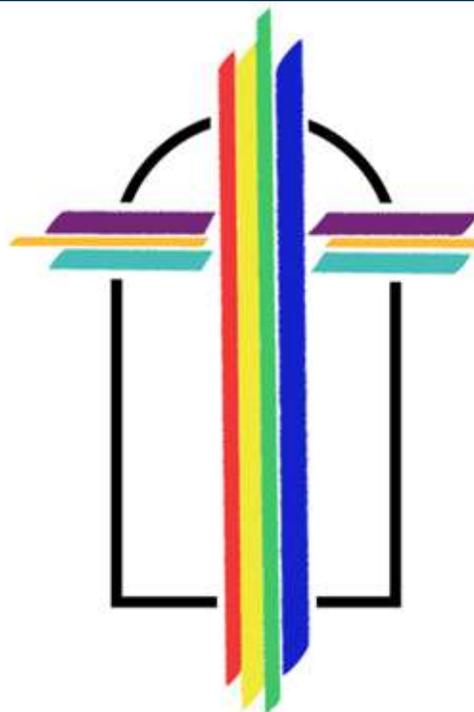
**Sunday School
Resumes**
Sunday,
September 16th at
9:15am!

Our 5 Cornerstones



Engaging The Bible
Giving in Service
Building Loving Relationships
Growing in Worship
Daily Acts of Faith

Martin Luther Church, as a congregation, welcomes and celebrates the richness and diversity of all God's people, regardless of where they've come from or where they are in their life's journey. We follow the teaching of 2 Corinthians 5:18: "All this is from God who reconciled us through Jesus Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." We believe that the good news of Jesus Christ is to be shared by all people without regard to age, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or physical or mental abilities. All are welcome as members of the Body of Christ, as workers in the kingdom of God, and at the table of our Lord.



**Our New Mission Statement and
Logo are here!!! Read more about
it on page 3!**

Rally Day

Sunday, September 9th!!!

There is a Backpack Blessing during worship time and a Ministry Fair and Ice Cream Social after both services! Stay to visit, have a treat, and learn about all of our amazing Ministries and Outreach at MLC!

Pastor's Page



New Things Happening at MLC

There's been a lot going on at MLC this year. In case you've missed any of it, I thought it would be good to do a quick summary of some of the bigger things.

New Logo and Mission Statement

We were excited to launch our new logo and mission statement in August, which you can see elsewhere in this newsletter. The Marketing and Evangelism team have done a great job trying to capture the essence of who we are and who we strive to be in a simple image and nine words that we can use to share ourselves with the community. Be sure to pick up stickers and magnets to show your pride and look for t-shirts coming soon!

Rally Day Ministry Fair

On September 9, we will be holding a ministry fair between services. We have many amazing ways to participate in God's work through our church, but we know not everyone knows

about them or how to get connected to something they are interested in. At the ministry fair, we will have representatives of all our major ministries with information to share with everyone. Come and learn more about how you might try something new this year. Rally Day will actually continue the following week, too, as we begin our fall education programming!

Stephen Ministry Beginning

We've been talking about Stephen Ministry for almost a year now, but we are officially kicking it off this fall, beginning with an interest meeting at 6:30 pm on September 27. Stephen Ministers are trained for visitation and companionship to people in grief or need. They work with the pastor to strengthen the pastoral care of the congregation. We hope to have 6-10 ministers begin training in October with some friends from Holy Cross Lutheran in Menomonee Falls. If you are interested, please RSVP to John Borgwardt or the office.

A New Look for the Sanctuary

Over the summer, we tried a few new things in worship, moving the announcements and rearranging the seating in the sanctuary. Part of the goal was to create more of a "community" feel to worship and to put the signs of Christ—baptism, table, and lectern—in the center of our space. After experimenting and trying a few different things with the furniture, we've heard positive feedback from most everyone

about the seating and will likely keep it for at least a season or two. The announcements will be moving back to the beginning of worship.

An Intern at Redemption

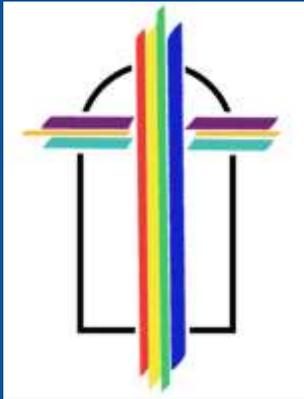
Vicar David Rebey is serving as the intern pastor at Redemption this year as they go through an interim period. It is an unusual arrangement where I am serving as his off-site supervisor, but it means we get to help a neighbor and our churches can explore ways to partner and share ministry. We have been invited to help with a Biker Blessing at RLC on August 31 and worked together to plan other activities throughout the year. Vicar David gets to learn from participating in two different churches.

Looking to the Future

Council and staff are preparing for some other things in the near future that you will be hearing about soon. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make these things happen. The church is never a building, it is a people, and this church is a great one to be part of. May God continue to grow new things.

In God's Amazing Grace,
Pastor Ari

P.S. Back in January, I challenged everyone to give 5 minutes a week to getting to know people at church, to learn or try something new, and to dream about how we might grow our ministry with a bigger budget. Have you been following through?



New Mission and Logo Statement at MLC!!

Martin Luther Lutheran Church
“Sharing the Love of Jesus Christ With All People”

Mission Statement

A mission statement is a clear, concise sentence or phrase crafted to communicate the purpose of an organization and why it exists.

Sharing the Love of Jesus Christ With All People

The **“love of Christ”** is central to Christianity and is the core of our purpose. Everything else flows out of that love. **“Sharing”** indicates relationships. Worship, faith formation, community outreach, social support, in fact all we do as a congregation, is in relationship, together in Christ’s love. We welcome **“all people”**. We accept all. We respect all. We value inclusion and diversity because all are equal in the eyes of Christ.

Mission statements are important because they serve 2 primary functions; communication and decision making.

People are most familiar with mission statements as an external (outside the congregation) marketing tool. It is a simple, honest message that tells everyone what is at the heart of all we do and is often used as a relationship opener. It can attract individuals to want to learn more. Internally, when leadership (like church council, staff, committees, etc.) is making decisions regarding the life of the congregation, the mission statement should be used to provide guidance. Does the issue, opportunity, program, activity, or action in question support or further the mission? Similarly, on an individual level, every member of the congregation can assess if their engagement at Martin Luther Church, and in the world, supports and furthers the mission.

Logo

A logo is a symbol, graphic or other visual depiction of an organizations identity and goes hand in hand with mission.

Cross: The cross is central to our faith. It is a symbol of Jesus Christ and a symbol of God’s ultimate act of love for all. Through Jesus and the cross, we meet God.

Rainbow: Since the Biblical time of Noah, the rainbow has been a sign of God’s promise of grace and mercy. In this context it has also become a symbol of hope and new beginnings. Today, the rainbow is an international symbol of diversity and welcome, two of our key values as a congregation. It is also a symbol of the LGBTQ community, reflecting our designation as a Reconciling in Christ congregation.”

Window: The arched windows are a distinctive part of our worship space architecture. A window allows light to pass through, reminding us that Christ is “Light of the World” (John 8:12) and calls us to “let your light shine” (Matthew 5:16). Windows are also symbolic of openness and transparency.

The whole picture: In our logo, the cross is intentionally the largest element and the focal point. In addition, the arms of the cross extend beyond the shape of the window, highlighting that we are called to carry God’s love out into the world and love our neighbor. The rainbow is integrated into the cross because we are all one and all equal in Christ.

From our Council President, Amy Fox

A BIG SHOUT OUT to all these wonderful people who have helped to make Martin Luther Church an awesome church home and our stepping down from their roles...

- *Lani Knutson for her many years of service in leading Christian Formation Ministry
- *Kate Mattson for her many years of service in leading our Cross Generational Ministry
- *David Hearn for his many years in leading our Christian Care/ Outreach Ministry
- *Todd Wenzel for his many years in leading our Confirmation Ministry

We couldn't have done it without you and we wouldn't have wanted to. Thank you all so very much for giving of your time and talents, you will be greatly missed!

A Note from Vicar David Rebey at Redemption

Dear Siblings in Christ at Martin Luther,

It's hard to believe that I am already in my third month of internship at Redemption Lutheran with Pastor Ari serving as my offsite supervisor. I have really enjoyed meeting people at Martin Luther at council meetings and at Bible study on Wednesday morning. I am looking forward to meeting more of you in the months to come.

At Redemption we are busy planning for our Biker Blessing at Redemption on Friday August 31st and are grateful to our friends at Martin Luther who have been involved in helping us to plan this event. Our goals are to let our neighbors and the bikers visiting us see that God is up to something new at Redemption and that we are a welcoming congregation anxious to meet new people and to show God's love to everyone we meet. Even if you are not able to help with the event, I hope that you will stop by to say hello to your friends at Redemption and be a part of the fun we are planning for that day.

Pastor Ari and I are both committed to finding new opportunities for both of our congregations to work together and to collaborate in doing God's Work in the world around us. I have already said this to our congregation at Redemption and I want to share it with you too: "We are not in competition with each other. We are one church and we are stronger when we work together for the sake of the world."

Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers and for allowing Pastor Ari to be my supervisor. It's been a blessing to be on this journey and I thank God and you for being with me.

Vicar David

MLC Clean Up Days

WHO: Everyone who worships, attends, cleans, fixes, cooks, decorates, hosts gatherings and shares this space, etc...

WHAT: To organize, catalogue, purge and clean as you go, inside the walls of our Church home.

WHERE: In ALL the rooms of Martin Luther Church

WHEN: **Saturday September 22nd**, 9am start till? **AND Sunday, September 23rd** after the 10:30 service till 2:30....(A casual day at church)

WHY: Yes, why are we saving broken items? Why are there screw drivers in 5 different rooms? Why have we been saving the polishing cleaner can in the kitchen since 1970? Why are there so many torn books in the nursery?

By keeping MLC clean and organized we show it's a special place for everyone.

Saturday September 15th is the date to take a look at anything at church you want to keep.

Come be a part of LOVE IN ACTION. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Please sign up on the sheet outside the Sanctuary.

Refreshments (water, lemonade and juice) will be provided.

MLC Outdoor Landscape Work Days

October 20th and October 27th have been set aside for outside work days to begin the process of again beautifying the garden areas around church.

All areas around the church need help and should be addressed, however, concentration this year will be the more visible areas on the north and west sides of the building and the area around the main sign. The Memorial Garden is also being given an overall makeover.

You are strongly encouraged to help on one or both of the work Saturdays. A work plan for both Saturdays has been established. Work will begin at 9AM and take most of the day. Lunch will be provided. Please pick up a flyer in church with suggestions on what to wear and bring. Sign-up sheets will be in and around church. What's that old saying, "many hands make work light". The more hands that help on these two landscaping work days, the faster and more productive the days will be – and the beauty of the outside of our church home will be restored.

In addition to these two outside work days, members are being given the opportunity to "adopt" a garden area to maintain. By adopting a small area, we can all take "ownership" of the planted areas surrounding Martin Luther. Watch for the poster to sign up for your area to adopt.

Prayer Chain

Did you know that MLC has a Prayer Chain? If you like to pray for those on our Christ Care list and would like to receive a weekly email of all of the people on that prayer request list, please contact Ronna in the office at mlc.martinlutherchurch@gmail.com or 414-476-9411 and she will add you to the weekly email.

All Saints Sunday



All Saints Sunday is the Sunday that we remember those that have died. Remembering those that gave us our faith and now rest in the Lord.

This year the worship team is asking you to help us in remembering our saints/loved ones.

Please email or bring a picture of your saint(s) starting on October 14th through the 28th

Label Your Photo

Name

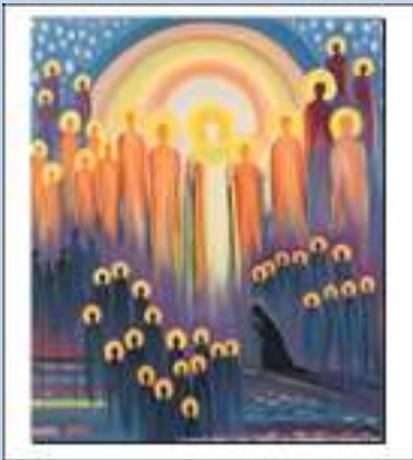
Related to: (optional)

Birth Date

baptismal date (if you know it.)

death date

(see sample below)



Sylvia M Rindt
Mother of Kelly Kuhl
April 15, 1933 – January 3, 2017

We will display our pictures of our Saints on Sunday, November 4th in the Sanctuary.

Please give Kelly Kuhl your photo/s or email them to kuhl.kelly@gmail.com

Any questions?

See Kelly or text her at 262-441-1861

Music Ministry

**Joining the Choir at Martin Luther is
easy, fun, and flexible!**

Just come to rehearsals
starting

Wednesday, September 5, 2018 @ 6:45 – 8:00 pm

Can't make rehearsals?

Be part of the **Semi-virtual** Choir -
practice on your own time
and

join us on the Sunday's we sing

Just contact

Kelly Kuhl

262-441-1861

kuhl.kelly@gmail.com

You gain member to member support
With laughter, tears, prayers and reminders of God's love in Christ

And finally:

You are singing praises to God in Christ – we are witnesses!



Summer Youth Trip to Mosaic



What does it look like to love your neighbor? August 4-11, five youth and three adults experienced the answer to that question as we travelled to Mosaic Bethphage Village in Axtell, NE, a ministry serving individuals with intellectual disabilities.

During the week, we socialized with the residents, hosted events like game nights, assisted the staff with their duties, and did projects to care for the campus. Most of us were nervous at first and uncertain about how to interact with individuals who may not be able to walk or even speak, but we quickly found ways to connect. Each of us found particular people we connected with and looked forward to seeing. And we learned that love can be expressed in many different ways.

We saw love in the residents who would greet us with hugs, smiles, and high fives. We saw love in the joy the staff took in their work. We saw love in the worship services that were perhaps chaotic and loud but filled with joy and participation. As with most service trips, we went expecting to help others, but left feeling we had received more than we gave.

Thank you to everyone who supported our trip. None of us knew quite what to expect before going, but we agreed on one more kind of love: we would all love to go back.



Christian Formation

Hi There – it's Sue Thinnes! Just a quick note to let you know that I've been asked to coordinate the Children's Christian Formation Program (aka Sunday School) this school year. I am super excited to "roll up my sleeves" and participate in this capacity! I have many thanks for those who have preceded me, and are now helping me acclimate to this new responsibility (note: I do have previous experience in this role, both here and at other Congregations 😊) Please know that I welcome questions/ comments/ ideas/ concerns/ help at any time. You can reach me at 608-799-0177 or sjthinnes5@gmail.comStay tuned for more info to come!

Wanted!

Who: Those who love children

What: **Sunday School Teachers**

When: 9:15am – 10:15am Sunday Mornings
Every week -or- every other week
(and minimal planning time)

Where: MLC Classrooms and Worship Area

Why: For great satisfaction and lots of smiles

Contact: Sue Thinnes
Director of Christian Formation
608-799-0177
Sjthinnes5@gmail.com

Outreach at MLC

Burbank

Burbank School Collection - The start of the new school year is coming fast, which means it is time to collect supplies for the hard-working teachers and students of Burbank Elementary. The list for the students reflects the items that they are specifically very low on at the school. **For students: backpacks for older kids (without cartoon characters...), notebooks, folders, scissors, pencil/supply boxes, glue bottles or glue sticks, colored pencils (* priority), colored markers (* priority).** **For teachers: sanitizing wipes, paper towels, tissues, hand sanitizer, and gift cards. Thank you! You can drop off items in the narthex!**

Mt. Meru Coffee Project

Thank you for all of your support to our partners in Tanzania. The Project provides small farmers with a fair price for their premium coffee. It enables the small coffee farmers living on the slopes of Mount Meru in Tanzania to have funds available to send their children to school, access and pay for health care, and to support local farm villages, markets, and merchants.

Coffee order forms are available by the display area near the kitchen. Thank you to Valery Meyer for keeping our display looking wonderful and taking care of all of the coffee ordering!

Serenity Inn

It's time to replenish the Serenity Inn Cleaning Closet. When you go to the store, pick up a couple of extra cleaning items for Serenity Inn: Pine Sol, Lysol, toilet bowl cleaner, Tide, dish soap, window cleaner, you get the idea. Any of those items would be very helpful.

Thank you to everyone who helps in every way. And your continued prayers and monthly contributions are greatly appreciated!

Tosa Cares

Thank you to all that have been contributing food and gently used clothing and household goods. A contribution point is set up at the Tosa Cares display in the narthex at Martin Luther.

The next distribution at the Tosa Cares Food Pantry will be **Saturday, September 29th** at Mt. Zion Church. In addition to food items, the focus for that day will be supplying sweatshirts, jackets and jeans from the clothing room.

Looking ahead, the annual Thanksgiving/Christmas distribution will be November 17th. We will distribute small Thanksgiving turkeys as the main food item.

On November 17th, we will also be distributing new and gently used Christmas items. Now is the time to get a head start on seeing what Christmas decorations you no longer need or use and consider giving them to Tosa Cares. The people that receive the Christmas items are so appreciative, as that's usually something that goes by the wayside in their budget.

Looking ahead a distribution is planned for January 12th.

Help is always needed in packing and distributing food for a couple of hours on distribution days starting at 8:30. Please consult the Sunday bulletin and Weekly Window for specific information.

We could also use the help of the youth of Martin Luther to assist in carrying out food boxes on distribution days. It only takes a couple of hours on Saturday mornings.

If you can help or if you'd like further information, please contact Mary Felkner, mryflk@aol.com, call or text 414-520-2378.

Lutheran World Relief

Women of Martin Luther Church volunteer to help people of the world by making quilts. No experience is needed to help with the quilts. The Quilting Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 10:00am in the Red Room.

Additionally, school, baby, personal and dress fabric kits are put together and sent to all parts of the world once a year.

Contact person: Ginny Smeiska 414-453-4931. Email ginnysmeiska1@gmail.com

A list of what we need to fill the kits:

School Kits

Notebooks (wide- or college-ruled)
Erasers (1x2 inches)
Pencil Sharpeners
Pencils (unsharpened)
Pens (no gel pens)
Scissors (blunt end)
Rulers (foot-long)
Crayons (16 or 24 per box)
Draw String Backpacks (Pattern available)

Personal Care Kits

Bar Soap
Toothbrush
Comb (sturdy)
Metal Nail Clippers
Bath Towels

Baby Care Kits

Sleepers or Gowns (up to 24 months, no feet)
Sweaters or Sweatshirts
T-Shirts/Undershirts
Bar Soap (mild)
Cloth Diapers
Diaper Pins
Receiving Blankets
Knit Caps
Hand Towels
Socks

Fabric Kits

3 yards of Material/Fabric
Spools of Thread

Monetary Gifts always accepted as well!

Birthdays

Name	Date
Steve Thinnes	September 01
Pat Olson	September 03
Fredric Meyer	September 05
Brianna Burks	September 07
Lori Avila	September 09
Wendy Buettner	September 09
Mary Smith	September 09
Mary Felkner	September 12
Lois Goetzke	September 21
Lois Fuhrmann	September 23
Justin Duwe	September 25
Evan Moore	September 26
Scott Manske	September 29
Tom Jones	September 30

Janice Bentz	October 05
Deb Burks	October 06
Rachel Rankin	October 06
Homero Avila	October 07
Jill Dahlgren	October 07
Don Lampien	October 08
Malinda Eccarius	October 11
Steven Westfall	October 11
Jane Breitlow	October 12
Robin Herrmann	October 15
Emily Fox	October 18
Bernice Muhar	October 20
Michelle Wenzel	October 20
Seth Westfall	October 21
Aase Mattson	October 22
Maurice Schaus	October 22
Amy Fox	October 23
Kaiden Restrepo	October 23

Name	Date
Karson Restrepo	October 23
Kei Westfall	October 23
Amber Restrepo	October 28
Luciano Matrise	October 30
Jordan Emmons	November 02
Judith Duwe	November 07
Cindy Fenske	November 09
Carl Solie	November 09
Dexter Brylow	November 10
Nancy Hansen	November 11
Terry Lemke	November 11
Jill Grob	November 12
Debra Haws	November 13
David Hearn	November 13
Abby Buettner	November 14
Deb Anderson	November 15
Ada Brylow	November 18
Israel Avila	November 22
Carolyn Kilday	November 27
Nancy Langlas	November 27



Anniversaries

Name	Date	Years
Marie & Jordan Emmons	September 27	4
Lois Fuhrmann & Don Lampien	September 29	17
Donna & John Hoppe	September 20	32
Lani & Tim Knutson	September 21	15
Amber & Juan Restrepo	September 12	9
Ginny & Jerry Smeiska	September 24	69
Michelle & Todd Wenzel	September 19	20
Laura Browne Manske and Scott Manske	October 11	32
Amy & Barry Burns	October 14	12
Karl & Mary Ihrig	October 12	33
Chris & Patricia Lampien	October 02	14
Carol & Tom Moore	October 04	43
Jeff & LouAnn Reed	October 10	37
Carl & Cyndi Solie	October 12	22
Judith & Paul Duwe	November 13	36
Amy & Mike Fox	November 20	25
Debra & Jeffery Haws	November 01	32
Mary & Fred Meyer	November 10	40

Deaths

Jon Ziemendorf November 11, 1950 – July 4, 2018

Women of the ELCA

- **The Christian Action Quilting Group** meets on the first and third Thursday of each month from 10 am to Noon. They will be meeting Sept. 6th & 20th, Oct 4th & 18th, Nov 1st and 15th. Please come to help cut, sew and tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Please call Barb Liedtke at 414-774-4245 if you have any questions.
- **Welca Bible Study** will be meeting on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm in the Conference Room on Sept 12th, Oct 10th, and Nov 14th. Pastor Ari continues to lead study on the Nooma Video Series by Rob Bell. The videos are excellent and lead to awesome conversations and fellowship, so please join us.
- **The Women's Study Group** meets the third Monday of each month at 4:15pm. They will be meeting Sept 16th, Oct 15th and Nov 19th.

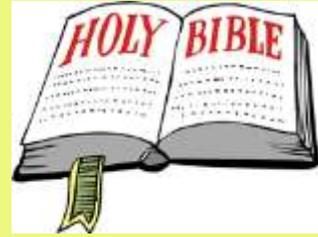
Looking Ahead: Dates for your Calendar

- Wednesday, Sept 5th, Welca Board Meeting, 7pm at MLC
- Wednesday, Sept 12th, Welca Bible Study, 1:30 pm
- Sunday, Sept 16th, Welca Coffee Hour
- Wednesday, Oct 3rd, Welca Board Meeting, 7pm at MLC
- Sunday, Oct 7th, Welca Coffee Hour
- Wednesday, Oct 10th Welca Bible Study, 1:30 pm
- Saturday, Oct. 13th, Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women's Organization Annual Convention at St. John's Lutheran Church in Brookfield.
- Monday, Oct 29th, Fall Pot Luck, 6:30 pm. Bring your favorite dish to pass and enjoy an awesome trip through the Holy Lands with Pastor Alexis Twito. Everyone is welcome!
- Sunday, Nov 4th, Welca Coffee Hour
- Wednesday, Nov 7th, Welca Board Meeting, at 7 pm at MLC
- Wednesday, Nov 14th, Welca Bible Study, 1:30 pm in the Conference Room at MLC.

Fellowship Opportunities: Everyone is Invited. Singles and Couples!

- Sunday, August 19, noon, Lunch Bunch (Restaurant to be announced)
- Friday, Fish Fry, September 7, 5:00pm, Radisson Hotel, Jimmy's Iguana Bar, Mayfair Rd @North Avenue
- Sunday, September 9 Rally Day, Ice Cream Social (after both services).
- Sunday, October 7, Homebound Recognition Service, Lunch following
- Tuesday, October 23, Tuesday, 5:00pm, (Restaurant to be announced)
- Are You Interested? Patio Players Performance????? February 3 or 10. Sundays, 2:00 pm. "Leaving Iowa" \$15.
- Spring Musical, "Wonderful Town" Sunday, April 28, 2:00pm OR Sunday, May 5, 2:00pm \$18.
- If you are interested in attending, please contact Darlene Freels, so we can plan next year's Fellowship schedule.

Bible Studies at MLC Come and Join Us!



Pastor Ari's New Adult Bible Study – Confirmation for Grown Ups meets the third Thursday of the month at 7pm. This is an excellent Bible study for people who are new to Lutheran Theology as well as a refresher course for everyone else, no matter what your level of experience may be!

The Women's Video Study meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:30pm. Pastor Ari continues to lead a study on the Nooma video series by Rob Bell. The videos are excellent and lead to awesome conversations and fellowship, so please join us.

The Adult Forum meets every Sunday between worship Services at 9:15.

Men's Bible Study - 2nd Mondays of the month at 7pm.

Women's Bible Study - 3rd Mondays of the month at 4:15pm.

Crossings Bible Study – Join us Wednesdays from 9:30am to 11:00am. All are welcome to join us as we study the weekly Gospel lesson using the Crossings method. Led by Pastor Steven Kuhl.

Online and Text Giving!

MLC's online and Text Giving options are now available!

Regular Gifts can be given with our electronic simply giving program. Speak with Ronna in the office or Carla Stensberg.

Occasional Online Giving or Special Giving - Simply go to this website to make an offering <https://martinluther-church.breezechms.com/give/online>

Text Giving - Send a text to this number: 414-269-6599 (type anything you want in the message box and send). You will receive a text back. Follow the link to set up your giving information. You will only have to put in your info the first time—after set up, any time you want to give, you will simply text the amount you want to give and send!

When You Need to Get in Touch

Office Email:

.....mlc.martinlutherchurch@gmail.com

Rev. Ari Mattson.....414.476.9411

Cell/text: 262.501.3996

Email: pastor.ari.mattson@gmail.com

Amy Fox,

Council President414.791.4870

Ronna Paradowski, Administrative

Assistant....414.476.9411

Kelly Kuhl, Organist &

Adult Choir Director.....262.642.6303

Vicar David Rebey, Redemption Lutheran

Church.....262-909-5629

Worship Service Times

8:00am Worship

9:15 Christian Formation

10:30am Worship

Martin Luther Lutheran Church, ELCA
9235 West Bluemound Road
Milwaukee WI 53226-4406

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED