



The Door

“Sharing the Love of Jesus Christ with All People”

Lessons from D.C.

On June 15-22, six youth travelled with Amber Anderson and myself to Washington, D.C. to work with CSM (www.CSM.org) learning about urban poverty and God's heart for the city. During the week we served at six different ministries and spent time conversing with the homeless and other residents of the city. There are dozens of stories we have from our time there that we will share with the congregation in coming weeks, but in the immediate aftermath, here are a few ideas we ended up discussing again and again.

Unlearning Distance -- This was CSM's theme for the summer, based on 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. The passage includes the words we have on our bulletin every week -- "God reconciled us to himself in Christ Jesus and has given us the ministry of reconciliation" -- and we discussed how things like wealth, ethnicity, gender, and politics create divisions in our society, but God's desire is to break down the barriers between us and build connections. In one example, we sat and talked with a homeless man in a park for an hour and a half in a conversation many kids named as one of their favorite parts of the trip. The lesson: When we break down barriers, we often find the distance is not as great as we thought.

Give Dignity, Not Just Food -- One of the stories that stuck with our students was of a CSM director who stopped to talk with a man asking for change outside a store. When he did, the man started crying and shared he was the first person all day to even acknowledge he was there. We experienced the same in people who were just as grateful for company or a smile as they were for food or clothing. One student summed up the lesson by saying, "I learned giving someone dignity is more important than giving them food."

Start Small -- At least two of the ministries we served with didn't start with a plan to become what they are today, or even to be a regular ministry at all. They started when a homeless man asked for a cup of coffee and when someone tried to find a bed for a neighbor. Today they are helping hundreds of thousands of people in the D.C. area. The lesson: Not everything has to be planned out in advance or start on a large scale; offer love when you can, as you can and trust the Holy Spirit to do something with it.

These simple lessons are probably not new to many of us, but they are often forgotten in our daily activities or the rush of life, but they are profound and powerful. 2 Corinthians 5 also says that "we are ambassadors for Christ" in our lives and simple lessons like these give power to that work.

In God's Amazing Grace,

Pastor Ari

Synod Assembly



Our Beautiful Gardens at MLC



Youth Urban Mission Trip to Washington D.C.





Join us!

FISH FRY

Friday, July 19th at 5:30pm
Maxim's on 180th and Capitol
Sign up in the Narthex!



UPCOMING SUNDAY ADULT FORUM:

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

June 30th and July 7th at 9:15am

MANY GIFTS, ONE SPIRIT

Bible Art and Journaling Adult Forum

Sunday, June 30, July 7, and July 14 at 9:15am



JULY 30TH - AUGUST 1ST
5PM - 7:30PM

CROSS+GENERATIONAL FAITH ADVENTURE:

WELCOME TO HOLLYWOOD!



THIS FUN 3-DAY EVENT FOR ALL AGES WILL EXPLORE FAVORITE BIBLE STORIES AND TURN THEM INTO SHORT FILMS. DINNER IS INCLUDED EACH NIGHT WITH A "RED CARPET" PREMIERE FILM VIEWING EVENT THE LAST EVENING!

MLC LIBRARY NOW OPEN!

CHECK OUT OUR NEW LOCATION OUTSIDE THE CONFERENCE ROOM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

REDEMPTION LUTHERAN IS RUNNING A COMMUNITY BREAKFAST ONCE A MONTH THIS SUMMER: JUNE 22, JULY 20, AND AUGUST 17 FROM 8-10:30 AT REDEMPTION. PLEASE CONTACT VICAR DAVID AT DAVID.REBEY@GMAIL.COM.



Office Closed July 4th – Happy Independence Day

July Birthdays

	Date
Amber Anderson	July 27
Rhea Brylow	July 25
Jacob Burks	July 26
Nala Burns	July 27
Lois Daute	July 27
Kegian Fox	July 25
Michael Knutson	July 14
Barb Kroupa	July 01
Alyssa Lampien	July 25
Patricia Lampien	July 12
Angelo Masullo	July 30
Erica Maurer	July 24
Keith Maurer	July 21
Ethan Moore	July 18
Alexis Parkinson Shields	July 09
Ryder Rankin	July 24
Kim Shields	July 26
Ginny Smeiska	July 29
Jasmine Zabrowski	July 21

July Anniversaries

	Date	Years
Carrie & Rob Anderson	July 09	3
Barb & Dennis Benjamin	July 17	53
Tony & Sarah Breitlow	July 02	14
Rob & Wendy Buettner	July 18	21
Jennifer & Matthew Coyle	July 12	7
Cindy & Scott Fenske	July 19	39
Beth & Mike Halloran	July 14	7
Barry & Kathy Holat	July 26	33
Rachel & Colin Rankin	July 08	19
Russell & Melissa Watson	July 01	41

**Martin Luther Lutheran
Church, ELCA**

9235 W Bluemound Rd

Milwaukee, WI 53226

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. All are welcome as members of the Body of Christ, as workers in the kingdom of God, and at the table of our Lord.

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 President

Cell/text: 414.791.4870

Ronna Paradowski, Discipleship Coordinator/ Office Administrator

414.476.9411 Cell/text: 414.218.0272

Email: mlc.martinlutherchurch@gmail.com

Kelly Kuhl, Organist & Adult Choir Director

Cell/text: 262.642.6303

Vicar David Rebey, Redemption Lutheran Church

Cell/text: 262-909-5629