



# MCFARLAND LUTHERAN NEWS

April 15, 2010

McFarland Lutheran Church

## Rogation Service

You are invited to walk or bike to church on Sunday, April 25, in honor of Earth Day (April 22). On April 25<sup>th</sup> our congregation will celebrate worship with a Rogation Service that includes the blessing of water, seeds and soil. The worship services will include creation Psalms, liturgy and prayers as well. Plan to enjoy the beauty of God’s creation as you walk or bike to church. Afterwards, take a moment to view Noah’s Rain Garden, the Prairie of Praise and the Garden of Eatin’. Check out the compost bins and the rain barrels at the Peterson Garage. If you would like to become part of the Care of Creation Ministry Team, please contact Dawn Bolstad at [tdajbolstad@charter.net](mailto:tdajbolstad@charter.net) or 838-4803.

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## More Signs of Health in a Congregation

I shared six different signs of health for a congregation in my last news letter article. Remember that the goal is not for we who make up this congregation to be perfect but to be faithful. What does faithfully living among each other in the life of a congregation then look like? Here are six more marks of a healthy congregation:

- In healthy congregations, leaders promote health through their presence and functioning (instead of techniques or skills)
- In healthy congregations, leaders challenge people (instead of comforting)
- In healthy congregations, leaders provide immune capacities (instead of enabling disease processes)
- In healthy congregations, people respond graciously and truthfully (rather than judgmentally or secretly)
- In healthy congregations, people develop caring relationships (rather than willful transactions)
- In healthy congregations, people empower others (rather than dominate them or cure them).

Each one of these marks can be talked about for some time. And we must do that. I say we must do that because in a healthy congregation there is not the concept of we/they, but an open acknowledging and believing that we are indeed a community of believers. As a community of believers we want to do for each other what is best for all. As we know from so many other places in life, what might be best may not always be what is popular or what feels good.

Leadership in any group is difficult and risky. Leaders tend to be targeted. In some congregations leaders are targeted if they act **or if they don't act**, if they take a stand **or if they don't take a stand!** My brother who pastors in another large congregation has this favorite statement that “dogs only bark at moving trains”! If the train isn't moving—if nothing is happening in the congregation—all is quiet **but potentially dying**. If the train is moving—if challenges are being presented and visions shared—then barking may be heard but **life is felt**.

In our midst we can learn from our past and prepare ourselves for the future. In our congregation I want to hear and experience movement and growth. I want each of us to live and move among each other as we believe Christ moves and lives among us. Our very health depends on each part of the body of our congregation faithfully sharing the gifts God has given.

Life is about relationships. Nothing is itself without everything else. We are bound up with one another. People of faith see beyond self-interest. They give to others without regard for merit or return.

May God continue to bless our growing and moving together.

Easter peace,  
Pastor Tews

**T**hank you to all on the Decorative Arts Committee, Banners Team, and Sacristans for sharing their gift of creating beautiful spaces during The Three Days leading up to Easter and again on Easter Sunday. These groups must gather and work after worship to change altar paraments and banners and to place flowers for Easter Sunday morning. Thank you for setting the tone and for making our worship and gathering spaces appropriate for the day.



#### COFEE WITH PASTOR JACK

Pastor Jack is hosting an informal gathering for conversation. It will be at the McFarland House Cafe on Wednesday, April 28, from 11:00am to noon and from 5pm to 6pm. You are invited to share God Moments, prayer requests, prayer experiences., hopes & prayers for MLC, or anything else that is on your mind or heart. No sign up. Just show up.



You are invited to Walk When the Moon is Full with members of the Care of

Creation Ministry Team.

Moonlight walks begin on Friday, April 30, when Ginny Dodson and Wes Licht will guide families on a nature walk at Lake Kegonsa State Park.

Please plan to meet at the church at 6:00 p.m. and carpool to the park. Come and listen to the love songs of frogs and woodcocks, hear selected readings from Aldo Leopold's **Sand County Almanac**, and learn about some of God's very interesting creatures.

These nature walks, held monthly during the time of the full moon, will provide a wonderful opportunity for families to spend time outdoors together learning to love and respect God's creation. For more information, please contact Wes Licht at 838-8178.

### You are Invited!

Sunday, April 18, 2010

12:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

(1:00 p.m. showing @ East Gate Cinema)

From the producers of *Facing the Giants* & *Fireproof* comes a heartfelt tale of inspiration, hope, and redemption. *Letters to God* is a story of what happens when one boy's walk of faith crossed paths with another man's search for meaning.

Cost: \$10.00 for movie & appetizers at Laredo's

Please RSVP no later than Thursday, April 15th. This event is open to all middle & high school teens, friends and families. Parent chaperones & drivers are needed. Please e-mail Bonnie to RSVP or if you're available to drive/chaperone.

Call Bonnie at 838-3184 or  
email [bonnieduerst@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieduerst@gmail.com)

## Assisting With Worship – April 17 & 18

Saturday Evening: Lori Shackett  
Assisting Minister: Deb Hettrick  
Coffee Hour: Kathy & Daryl Rupnow  
Lectors: (8:00) Holly Heuer (9:15) Betty Showers (10:30) Carrol Vollmer  
Communion: (8:00) Bonnie Dirks, Joe Schwartz (9:15) Bread-Brenda Moen, Connie Showalter Wine-Scott Potts, Betty Showers, Mike Catterall, Jane Blank (10:30) Dawn Bolstad, Carol Naze  
Ushers: (8:00) \*Don & Dee Weikert, Gudrun Sindermann, Marlene Richard (9:15) \*David Alsmo, Joe D'Amato, Daryl Rupnow, Jim Summers (10:30) \*John & Danette Vollmer, Tom Wendorf

Greeters: (8:00) Bill & Linda Langel (9:15) Betty Showers, Yvonne Swanson (10:30) Susan Schoch, Arn Vollmer  
Nursery: (8:00) John & Donna Thompson (9:15) Janell Moran (10:30) Cheryl Brown  
Sacristans: Sandra Latham, Kathy Buechel  
Welcome Center: (8:00) (9:15) (10:30) Betty Showers  
Tape Ministry: Don Weikert  
Door Keepers: Open: Don Weikert Close: Hugo Stoffel-Rosales

## Assisting With Worship – April 24 & 25

Saturday Evening: Don & Cindy Siebert  
Assisting Minister: Jon Landen (8:00 & 10:30)  
Coffee Hour: Vicki Holten, Gail Herrmann  
Lectors: (8:00) Harlan Hettrick (9:15) Bill Langel (10:30) Andrea Wendorf  
Communion: (8:00) Janet & Dennis Knutson (9:15) Bread-Marlene Richard, Sheri Gehrke Wine-Bonnie Dirks, Jeff Gehrke, Sandy Hall, Scott Potts (10:30) Deb Wellman, Kristin Yearm-Wise  
Ushers: (8:00) \*Ernie Thieding, Dick Southern, Joe Schwartz, Dave Herrmann (9:15)\*Scott Potts, Jack Thomas, Bill Langel, Don Schutt

(10:30) \*David Waller, Greg Larson, Denise Cook  
Greeters: (8:00) Diane Wells, Susan Brodd (9:15) Jerry Hrovat, David Alsmo (10:30) Betty Showers, Sallie Waller  
Nursery: (8:00) Jackie Voight, Elise Gehrke (9:15) (10:30)  
Sacristans: Deb Alber, Heleen Hayden  
Welcome Center: (8:00) Betty Ewing (9:15) Cheryl Ackley (10:30)  
Tape Ministry: Bruce Voight  
Door Keepers: Open: Dick Southern Close: Carol Naze

## Assisting With Worship – May 1 & 2

Saturday Evening: Don & Cindy Siebert  
Assisting Minister: Linda Ellestad  
Coffee Hour: Gudrun Sindermann, Kathy Buechel  
Lectors: (8:00) Ginny Dodson (9:15) Janine O'Rourke (10:30) Todd Naze  
Communion: (8:00) Ginny Dodson, Betty Showers (9:15) Bread-Marla Grover, Sarah Schutt Wine-Jim Boshers, Daryl Rupnow, Sandra Hall, Cheryl Brown (10:30) Bonnie Dirks, Dawn Bolstad  
Ushers: (8:00) \*Dick Southern, Phil Wildt, Robert Castleberg, Gudrun Sindermann (9:15) \*Dick Moen, Sandra & Rick Hall, Brenda Kritz (10:30)\*Dale Marsden, Deb & Rick Sawyer

Greeters: (8:00) Donna & John Thompson (9:15) Randy & Deb Engen (10:30) Betty Showers, Barb Liebhardt  
Nursery: (8:00) Dee Weikert (9:15) Janell Moran (10:30) Dawn Blau  
Sacristans: Devon Christenson, Leslie Birrenkott  
Welcome Center: (8:00) (9:15) Cheryl Ackley (10:30)  
Tape Ministry: Mike Catterall  
Door Keepers: Open: Mike Catterall Close: Dale Marsden



In an effort to keep you informed about what's happening at McFarland Lutheran Church, highlights of council meetings will now be published as "Minutes In Seconds". The Official Minutes will be approved at the next month's meeting and will be posted on our web site and in the church newsletter. Please contact any member of the church council for more details or answers to your questions.

**"Minutes In Seconds"**  
**Church Council – Monday, March 22**

- ✦ Summer Worship Schedule will remain unchanged from the current winter schedule.
- ✦ Sunday school Handbook is being up-dated.
- ✦ Research will soon begin on the process through which the remodeling of our Worship Center will take place.
- ✦ Establishment of an endowment fund is being discussed by the Finance Committee.
- ✦ Global Missions is planning activities throughout the month of October.
- ✦ Pastor Pribbenow is expected to return to part-time employment within the next 2 weeks.
- ✦ Pastor Finney will be connecting with individuals who have been trained as Hospital Visitors and Befrienders.
- ✦ Council members will participate in a mini-retreat with Pastor Tews to discuss the mission of our congregation.
- ✦ Investment policies have been up-dated and approved.
- ✦ A Youth Board to advise the youth ministry is in development
- ✦ A nomination committee to contact individuals to serve on the council has been established. Interested individuals should contact any council member for more information.



A one-hour organizational meeting for this year's Vacation Bible School program, Baobab Blast, will be held on Wed., May 5, at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to teach or help with VBS (from August 1 – 4), please contact Brenda Moen at [dbjkm@tds.net](mailto:dbjkm@tds.net) or 873-1634.



MLC Book Club is on Tuesday, April 27 at the Skaalen Village Clubhouse at 10:00am. The book is "**Krakatoa**" by Simon Winchester.



### **The Risk of Pride**

“Why are you so critical of your son, finding fault with everything he does?”  
“I don’t want him to get a big head.”

Yes, pride is a dangerous state, just like its opposite: shame. Tiger Woods, in his public statement about his indiscretions said, as many in his situation do, “I thought I could get away with whatever I wanted to do.” This is the entitlement and arrogance of pride.

But the answer to pride need not be the absence of joy in one’s accomplishments. The answer is gratitude. When good things come our way, accolades or rewards, it is healthiest to fully enjoy them while sharing the credit. As we recently saw, Olympic medal winners are wise to thank their families and coaches and countries for all they have done for them, and to share generously the rewards that come their way. When a football player points to heaven after catching a touchdown pass, he acknowledges his talent did not come from himself. It is a gesture of gratitude that can keep one from the dangers of pride.

The talents we have were given to us. The insight, the wisdom, the character, is not of our own construction. We did not create ourselves, nor do we ‘reinvent’ ourselves. When we relate to our abilities in a healthy way, we do so with gratitude and with generosity, so that others benefit from these gifts as much as we do.

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*Spirit of Hope*

### **McFarland Lutheran Church - - 838-3184**

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00-4:30

Pastor Tews 205-2240 • Pastor Pribbenow 345-6367 • Pastor Finney 873-6514

Child Life Ministries - 838-4425

church email - [mlcchurch@verizon.net](mailto:mlcchurch@verizon.net)

Church website [mcfarlandlutheran.org](http://mcfarlandlutheran.org)



We extend sympathy to Marty & Linda Croak and family on the death of Marty’s father, Philip Croak.

## Remember in Thoughts and Prayers

Sue Egner\* (Kim Henes Aunt)

Joe Kroda\* (father of Theresa Rossman)

Hunter Franklin

Dennis Lippman

Arlene Clift

Paul Siebert\*

Jenny Talarczyk (friend of Donna Thompson)

Sharon Thieding

Charlotte & Jack Hoppe

Marga Petzke\* (in remembrance of Rick Petzke's mother)

George Newton\* (Brother of Bonnie Hansen\*)

Deborah Mork

Alta Ellestad

Marvel Edwards

Deb Goodsell\* (Jen Goodsell's mother)

Florence McConnell

Lyall Leverentz

Steve Swanson (brother of Kathy DeChant)

Eileen Richter

Adriana Funfer\* (Meg Nielsen's mother)

Paula Hoem (Rogee Berg's niece)

Minnie Anderson

Russell Alsmo

Sallie Tedeschi

Peter Pierce

Carol Stoeckmann

Gary Entwistle

Willard & Mae Lund

David Lund\* (Willard & Mae's son)

***Please note:*** Please call the church office when someone may be removed from our list. If you wish to have your name or others included in the prayer list please call the office at 838-3184

- If we have missed someone, please notify the church office 838-3184



**Please remember in your prayers these members of the military, who are connected to our congregation.**

Aaron Weickgenant, Sara Maffet, T. J. Larson, Brent Langman, Patrick Doll, Matthew Maffet, Kristin Nowatzki, Ben Bowen, David Lofgren, Kevin Orloff, Andrew Berryman, Ritchie King, Jon M. DeBusk, Dan Ellestad, Joe Ellestad, Adam Ellestad, Aaron Jacobs, Justin Johnson, Emily Schroeder, Jeff Siebert, Brent Bartels

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINES**  
**Deadline for the next newsletter ( 4/29/10)**  
**is on Monday, April 19**  
**by 4:00 pm**

**April 17, 2010 through May 2, 2010**

Saturday, April 17

5:00 – WORSHIP

Sunday, April 18

FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAY

8:00 , 9:15 & 10:30 – WORSHIP

10:30 – Hueffner Baptism

10:30 – Sunday School

12:30 – Movie & Appetizers (Youth)

6:00 – Boy Scout Patrol Leader Council

Monday, April 19

5:00 – Finance Board

5:30 – CLM Staff

6:15 – Handbell Choir Rehearsal

6:30 – Properties Board

6:45 – Boy Scouts

7:00 – Bible Study Group

7:30 – Sr. Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, April 20

8:00 - Quilters

7:00 - Care of Creation Team

Wednesday, April 21

7:00 – High School Breakfast

10:00 – Staff Meeting

5:30 – Kingdom's Kids Choir

6:30 – Personnel Board

Thursday, April 22

9:45 – Caregivers Meeting

10:00 – Skaalen Village Bible Study

6:00 – CLM Board

6:30 – Men's Basketball

Friday, April 23

Saturday, April 24

10:00 – 2:00 Clean Up Day

5:00 – WORSHIP

Sunday, April 25

ROGATION SUNDAY

8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 – WORSHIP

10:30 – Sunday School

Monday, April 26

6:15 – Handbell Choir Rehearsal

6:45 – Boy Scouts

7:00 - Council

7:30 – Sr. Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, April 13

8:00 - Quilters

10:00 – Book Club @ Skaalen Village

6:30 – Ministry Fair Planning Team

7:00 – Tuesday with Terry @ McFarland

House Café

7:30 – Stewardship Meeting

Wednesday, April 28

7:00 – High School Breakfast

10:00 – Staff Meeting

11:00 – Coffee with Pastor Jack @ McFarland

House Café

5:00 – Coffee with Pastor Jack @ McFarland

House Café

5:30 – Kingdom's Kids Choir

6:30 – Mentoring

Thursday, April 29

10:00 – Skaalen Village Bible Study

6:30pm – Men's Basketball

Friday, April 30

Saturday, May 1

5:00 – WORSHIP

Sunday, May 2

HEALTH & WELLNESS SUNDAY

8:00 , 9:15 & 10:30 – WORSHIP

9:00 & 10:15 – Council Q & A re Budget

9:15 – Blood Pressure Checks

10:30 – Schuchardt Baptism

10:30 – Sunday School



More than 20 students will celebrate their First Communion on Sunday, April 18. Please affirm the students listed below who are sharing the Lord's Supper for the first time this coming weekend. If you know one or more of the students, you may choose to send a card or note of congratulations. These students have completed an important step in their faith journey. Please keep them in your prayers. The banners they created, with the theme ***Fed and Forgiven***, are displayed in the Family Life Center. The communion bread for all worship services on the weekend of April 17 and 18 was hand-made by the First Communion students at their preparation event. Not all of the following students are fifth graders. Some are younger students whose parents felt they were ready to receive instruction at an earlier date.

Shelette Altfeather  
Brooke Anderson  
Derek Boyd  
Molley Caviezel  
Emma Eckel  
Alex Elsner  
Nick Hildebrandt  
Taylor Larson  
Ross Lewandowski  
Taylor Marshall  
Cassie Newcomer

Madeline Posick  
Adam Pribbenow  
Jake Schwartz  
Rylee Schwedrsky  
Hans Schwoerers  
Shannon Sindermann  
Jillian Soderman  
Timothy Soderman  
Roy Stube  
Ryan Stube  
Tyler Trautner  
Jordin White



We rejoice in the birth of a son, Joseph William Gross, to Eric Gross and Kelly Ryan.

Help us support MLC servicemen/women:

Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their mentors will be assembling care packages for the MLC servicemen/women on April 28<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for the following donations: Chapstick, wet ones, sunscreen, toothbrushes, paperback books (new best sellers only), playing cards, men's socks (not acrylic), candy (not chocolate), beef jerky, power bars, sports drink powdered singles, nuts. Monetary donations are also good. ☺

Please put donations in the box marked servicemen/women located on the table in the hallway (before the library).

Bonnie Duerst  
Youth Ministries Coordinator

# Child Life Ministries

**Child Life Ministries offers childcare (3yr.-10 yr.) and preschool opportunities for children and families in McFarland and surrounding communities as an outreach ministry of McFarland Lutheran Church.**

The children are getting back into their usual routines after Spring Break.

It was great to have the preschool children return. This week the Pre-K children had some messy, painting (with their feet!) during class. There were giggles to be heard throughout the building from feet tickling, painting fun!

The school age children are back to attending only in the afternoons again for a bit, until the next day off of school. We recently welcomed a couple of new friends to the program and the children have enjoyed getting to know one another. The second and third grade class is anxious to get started building a recycled city. We have collected paper towel tubes, snack boxes and much more to construct a city. One week our focus will be buildings and the next will be details (landscaping, vehicles and people). I hope to have photos to share for the next newsletter so stay tuned.

## Be part of the family!

We have space available in our programs for summer and fall at Child Life Ministries. We would love to welcome you into our group. For more information call Becca or Deb at 838-4425 or email [kidsofclm@hotmail.com](mailto:kidsofclm@hotmail.com) or web [www.mcfarlandlutheran.org](http://www.mcfarlandlutheran.org).

We hope to hear from you!



**SERVICE OF HEALING**  
**May 9 at 4:00pm**

*T*hank you to all the readers who participated in the Prayer Around the Cross worship service on Good Friday evening and to everyone who helped with setting up and taking down the risers, the cross and the chairs. Thanks as well to the choir and musicians who helped make the worship meaningful.

**MOVIE & APPETIZERS**  
see PG 3

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mentoring for April

We will be assembling care packages for the MLC service-men/women

When: Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

Where: FLC

Time: 6:30 pm



LYO Excellent

Adventure ~ Lock-out!

This is a "lock-out" event where we will travel by bus to different locations in Madison throughout the night. Two of the events they are letting out of the bag are: Laser Tag at Ultrazone and glow in the dark games at a local park...

Who: All senior high youth in our Synod

When: May 7-8

Where: Begins and ends at MLC

Cost: \$40.



**Youth**

Summer Festival Camp  
Registrations Due

Please call or e-mail Bonnie if you need a registration form.

- Sr. High Camp: July 12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>
- Jr. High Camp: July 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>

Restoring Hope Transplant House Ride

Restoring Hope Transplant House will be a "home away from home" for patients who are in the Madison area for organ, bone marrow or other transplants. This 2<sup>nd</sup> annual event is a fun, family and community-minded bike event that will raise funds to finish the much-needed home renovations that are required in order to welcome transplant patients and their caregivers. The course start and finish line will be located near the Transplant House at Capital Brewery in downtown Middleton and offer three bike courses from a fun family course to a course for more serious bikers.

Date: Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

Time: 8:30 am to 2:00 pm

More information:

[www.restoringhope.org](http://www.restoringhope.org)

## MLC CLEAN UP DAY

Spring is upon us. That means it's clean up time. MLC Properties Committee is scheduling a clean up day for Saturday April 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Put on your work clothes bring gloves, rakes and clippers with you. We also need windows washed and brush moved to the curb for pick up. There will be sign up sheets at the Welcome Center for 2 hour work increments. If it rains, we will reschedule.

McFarland Lutheran Church invites you to grow deeper into  
Jesus and the community that bears His name

McFarland Lutheran  
Church



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