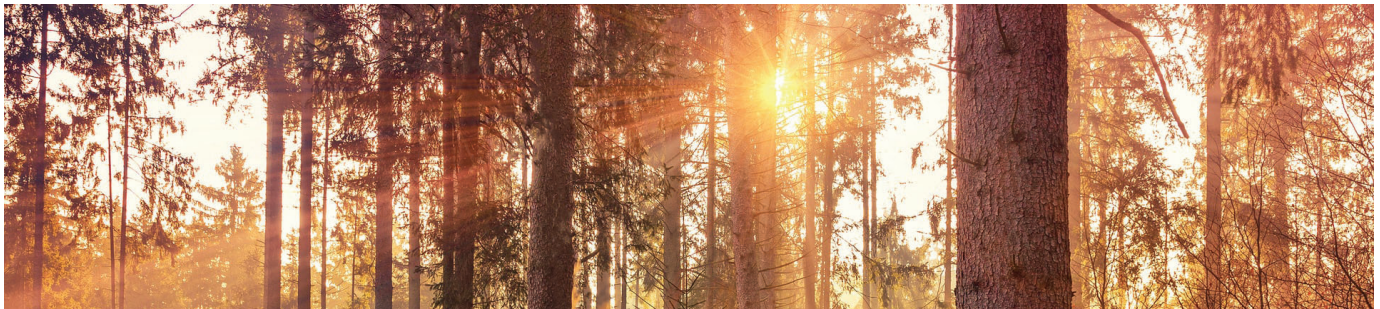




# McFARLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Welcome* to the new newsletter format! This weekly eNews is sent out in place of our paper copy. Due to the quarantine, we have suspended the paper copy and have started using this new email newsletter format.

Look for updated information every Wednesday!



## Join us for the 19th Sunday after Pentecost

**October 2/3**

**Sat. 5 pm In-Person**

**Sun. 8 am In-Person**

**Sun. 10 am In-Person & Sanctuary Live**

Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

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August Council Committee minutes are now available on the website:  
<https://www.mcfarlandlutheran.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/082421-Council-Minutes.pdf>

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## COVID Task Force Update (10/11/2021)



**As you are aware, Madison Dane County Public Health extended its requirement for wearing masks indoors until November 5, 2021.** The COVID Delta Variant remains at high levels with the 7-day average of approximately 921 new cases per week as of 10/11/21. The vaccination rate is increasing but with those aged under 12 remaining ineligible for the vaccine, county residents who are fully vaccinated has grown to 71.3%. The Delta Variant has a higher level of infectivity thus vaccinations remain paramount along with masks, social distancing, and good sanitation practices for indoor activities.

Our most recent recommendations on wearing masks for all church activities indoors remains in effect for those aged 2 and older. For outdoor activities we still encourage masks, but they are not required. The changes outlined for worship in our last communications remain. The task force will review our recommendations on/about November 5, 2021. Based on Madison Dane County Public Health's recommendations at that time and the state of COVID in Dane County at that time, we will then communicate revised recommendations for MLC, if any soon after.

[Read full article here](#)

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Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

I can only assume that at this point that pretty much everyone is aware of Pastor Tim's departure at the beginning of

November. With that being said, I would like to publicly say thank you and good luck to Pastor Tim as he embarks on his new endeavor. I have enjoyed working with him as a council member over the last few years. The continuity that I have seen between himself and Pastor Kelli has been second to none. I can not commend him enough for all of the creative ideas that he has used as we had to maneuver the pandemic over the last 18 months. He has been a steady pillar for this congregation for 10 years. For that, we have been lucky and thankful. Good Luck Pastor Tim.



Of course with Pastor Tim moving on, the congregation will need to begin the process of our search for a new senior pastor. Our first steps are to find an interim pastor and to form a call committee. I have contacted the Bishop's office. The council has a meeting on the calendar with Bishop Joy. There we will go through the process, get questions answered, and make the initial steps toward looking for that interim Pastor. The other item is forming a call committee. The council will be coming with names of individuals that would be a good fit to help complete this process. We will be putting that list together, and talking about individuals to contact at the next council meeting.

If you have a special asset that you feel lends itself well to being a part of this special process, and would like to be considered to be part of the call committee, please feel free to drop me a line. There I can offer you up more details.

With the Lord's blessings  
Gary Toboyek  
MLC President

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## Faith Formation

### **"In the Dust of the Rabbi" & "Walk as Jesus Walked"**

**Sundays: September 12 to November 14**

9:00 am - Rm 113.



### **10/17/21 "Run! The Passion of Elijah"**

Adult Faith Formation will begin screening the next volume in the Ray Vander Laan video series "Walk as Jesus Walked". See how the archaeological, geographical and historical context leads us to ask, "Are we passionate about our walk with Jesus?".

### **10/24/21 "Learning to Walk Like Jesus: Paul's Journey to Rome"**

Adult Faith Formation will continue screening the Ray Vander Laan video series "Walk as Jesus Walked". See how the archaeological, geographical and historical context helps us to consider, "When Paul decided to follow Jesus, did he have to learn to be like Jesus?".

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## Jail Ministry



**MALC**

The Madison Area Jail Ministry (MAJM) serves the spiritual needs of the 15,000 men and women who are incarcerated in the Dane County Jail each year. As spiritual caregivers they accompany people on the painful but necessary journey of reclaiming their lives and re-authoring their stories as beloved children of God. Through a ministry of presence our chaplain, a team of dedicated volunteers, and a network of clergy from various faith traditions provide weekly worship services, Bible studies, support groups, tutoring, and connections to community resources.

Chaplain Todd Marcotte

A link to the Jail Ministry's website is for those that would like to make direct **contribution of financial support, etc.** <https://www.madisonjailministry.org/home>

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## Our Help is Needed

There are things we can do right now to help the people affected by the earthquake in Haiti, the people in Afghanistan, and the people affected by the wildfires in the United States. Please use the resources below for yourselves and your congregations!



[Donate to Haiti Earthquake Relief](#)

[Ways to Help our Afghan Allies](#)

[Donate to Wildfire Relief](#)

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## Prayers



We pray that God's love & comfort will surround all those listed on the prayer page. If you see names on this page that should be removed, or to list someone on the prayer page, contact Carrie Kruzan at [ckruzan@mcfarlandlutheran.org](mailto:ckruzan@mcfarlandlutheran.org).

The prayer page is listed on our website: <https://www.mcfarlandlutheran.org/prayers/>