



McFARLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH

Join us for Easter Sunday

March 30/31, 2024

Sat. 5 pm worship

Sun. 8 am Worship

Sun. 10 am Worship & Facebook Live



Sympathy

We express our prayers and sympathy **to the family of George Richard.**



Sympathy

We express our sympathy to **Sara Phalen and her family** on the death of her mother, Jennifer Asche.

New Worship Assistant Sign Up

New Worship Assistant Sign up

Sign up to help lead worship as an usher, lector, communion server, and more!

Sign Up Here!

[Saturday 5PM Worship Sign-Up](#)

[Sunday 8AM Worship Sign-Up](#)

[Sunday 10AM Worship Sign-Up](#)

[Ash Wednesday and Holy Week Sign-Up](#)

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Holy Week Worship Leaders

There are still opportunities to serve during Holy Week worship services!

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services are listed in the "Ash Wednesday and Holy Week" link above.

Easter weekend services are listed in the "5pm Worship, 8 am Worship and 10am Worship" links above.

Thank you for your leadership as we enter Jerusalem, celebrate the Last Supper, mourn at the cross, and celebrate the empty tomb!

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Weekly Calendar

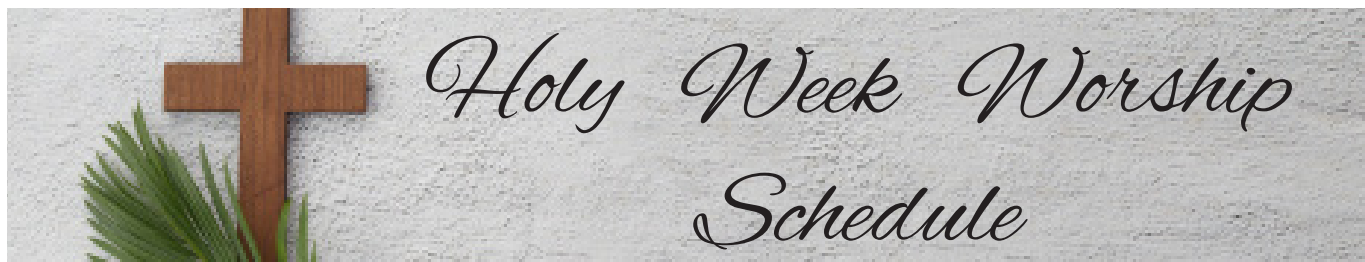
Click [HERE](#) to see a list of activities for the next week.

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Easter Flowers

Anyone who donated to the Easter flowers, may pick up a flower following the 10:00 am service on Easter Sunday or anytime after that.



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28 at 6:30pm
Communion, Hand Washing,
& Stripping of the Altar

Easter

Saturday, March 30 at 5:00 pm
Sunday, March 31 at 8:00 am & 10 am

Good Friday

Friday, March 29 at Noon
Prayer around the Cross at 7:30pm

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Greetings from CLM

Hello Everyone

Our school age friends and Rainbow North and South are having a fun, busy week at CLM. On Monday, we made and ate walking tacos for lunch. The whole first floor of the church smelled delicious and we decided that walking tacos are a favorite food! We also had tater tots and fruit, and finished with a homemade chocolate brownie. All of this definitely makes a Monday easier to slide into! On Tuesday everyone went on a field trip to "Play IN Wisconsin". On Wednesday and Thursday, we will dye Easter eggs, play games, and worship together. Friday is Good Friday and all CLM Programs will be closed.



It saddens me to write that Sara Phelan's mom Jennifer, passed into eternal life with Jesus last Saturday. Sara is our CLM Administrator and a dear friend. Sara is spending needed time with her dad and family. I ask that you keep Sara and her family in your prayers as they navigate through tears and sadness over this unexpected loss.

And in the midst of pain, we find hope in the promise of the resurrection of Jesus, so that we will all one day rise with him in eternity. All of our loved ones who have gone before us already know that living hope that will one day be seen by all of us. In that hope and promise, the entire staff at CLM wishes all of you a most hopeful and happy Easter. Be safe in your comings and goings and live Easter every day!

Deb

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Congregational Meeting

The Call Committee and Church Council are excited to announce that we have agreed upon a candidate for call to the position of senior pastor here at McFarland Lutheran Church. Our candidate has served his current congregation for over a decade. To honor his current call, we are keeping his name confidential until we hold our congregational meeting.

A Congregational Meeting is set to take place on Sunday, April 7, from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm, and all congregation members are invited and encouraged to attend. The agenda items for this meeting include a video introduction of our candidate for call, followed by a vote to approve this candidate's call.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

You Can Support the Mission and Ministry of MLC!

Your financial gift empowers the disciples of McFarland Lutheran Church to fulfill our mission to Share God's Word – Show God's Love – Serve God's World!

Click [here](#) to access our online giving platform and to share a gift via your credit or debit card. Use the drop-down menu and "Note/Memo" box to designate where you would like to direct your gift. Click the "Recurring Giving" box to arrange for a routinely scheduled gift.

Click [here](#) to print a copy of the Automatic Transfer Authorization form. You may turn it in to Rita Jenkins, MLC's Office Manager, to schedule routine gifts from your checking or saving account. Contact Rita with any questions (office 608-838-3184 or rjenkins@mcfarlandlutheran.org).

We are blessed by your generosity! Thank you for your support!

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Church Council

Council Corner

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:8

At the March 19 Council meeting, Council members discussed the importance of all the many devoted volunteers in our congregation who make it possible for McFarland Lutheran Church to carry out our mission: to share God's word, to show God's love, to serve God's world. The contributions of our many volunteers cannot be overstated or even comprehensively listed. We volunteer because we love God and because we truly are His hands and His feet reaching out to help and serve others. God gives us the personal gifts, the strength, and the opportunities to serve our congregation and each other. The Council wants to **SINCERELY THANK** the many people who volunteer in so many different capacities here at McFarland Lutheran Church. We also want to encourage all members to recognize their individual God-given gifts and to share those gifts with others whenever possible!



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No Nursery Attendant

There will be no nursery attendant March 31st. The nursery will still be open if families wish to be in there with their children.



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Prayer Shawl Workshop

Join us **Monday, April 1st at 6:30pm** for a prayer shawl workshop. These workshops will be held in the Gathering Space. For more information, please contact Norma Kohl.



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THRIVENT FINANCIAL®

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS ©

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Your Thrivent Choice dollars are an opportunity for you to make a difference. Please take a moment to allocate your Thrivent Choice dollars to support the ongoing ministry here at MLC.

The allocation **deadline is March 31st, 2024**. It only takes a few minutes to direct your personal Thrivent Choice dollars. To direct your dollars, please visit www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836 before the March 31st deadline.

Thrivent Choice Dollars and Thrivent Action Teams make a huge impact on the ministries you choose to support.

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Walk4Water

The Global Mission Team wants to invite a few more people to our innovative and fun W4W planning committee this year! The 2024 Walk4Water will be held Saturday, September 21st at McDaniel Park.



The time commitment is minimal and a lot is accomplished with emails. We meet as needed to establish timelines and divide up assignments. We will also be assembling the amazing and artistic silent auction baskets!

Over the past ten years, MLC has raised enough money to drill nearly eleven bore holes with sustainable wells in rural Ugandan villages. Thanks be to God, our church and the community for bringing safe, clean water to these very grateful people! The need for wells continues as so many people still rely on dirty and unreliable water sources.

We would really love to get some new people involved with planning the Walk. So if you have ever thought "WOW - the people on that committee seem to have such a great time" this is your big chance!

Please contact Gudrun Sindermann with questions, suggestions or to help us out at gudrun1213@gmail.com. Thank You and God's Peace!

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“The Most Fun You Will Have In A Yellow T-Shirt!”

Please join the Local Missions Committee and volunteer at the Madison Brat Fest on Saturday, May 25 between 10am-2pm, with check-in 20 minutes prior to your shift. The **INITLIVE registration website (see below) goes live on March 15 th at 10AM**. Volunteer shifts fill up quickly, so log in right away at 10AM to create an account and sign up for a slot. Positions are assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. Minimum age to volunteer is 14. Volunteers receive a yellow Brat Fest t-shirt, coupon good for a free food item, a free scoop of Chocolate Shoppe ice cream, and earn \$10 for every volunteer hour, which will go to McFarland Lutheran Church. More information to come closer to the Brat Fest date. If you have any questions or problems signing up, please contact Paul Hundt at (608) 225-0377 or hundtsi1@yahoo.com.



Click [here](#) to sign-up!

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CHILDREN SINGING GROUP

Our youngest vocalists shared their musical gifts in worship. It was such a hit that they're invited to participate again!

Rehearsals will be in the sanctuary on Sundays immediately following the 10:00am worship for roughly 15 minutes. Students will sing during the 10:00am worship.

Rehearsals on April 7 and 14. Sing on April 21.

All students are welcome to participate!

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BOOK CLUB

Book Club Schedule

The book club **meets on the third Tuesday of the month, 10:00 am** at the Skaalen Village Clubhouse. If you have any questions, please call Cheryl Ackley at 608-838-3329. Hope to see you there.

April 16: *Finding Me: A Memoir* by Viola Davis

May 21: *Gertrude Bell: Queen of the Desert, Shaper of Nations* by Georgina Howell

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BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study

Men's Bible Study

First Saturday/month, 7:30 am

Come and join the MLC Men's Bible study group as we delve into God's Word and enjoy fellowship time together. We are meeting on Saturday, April 6th in room 125.

Interested? Have questions?
Please contact Jeff Gehrke at
jeffgehrke59@gmail.com or
Scott Potts at scottalan23@hotmail.com.

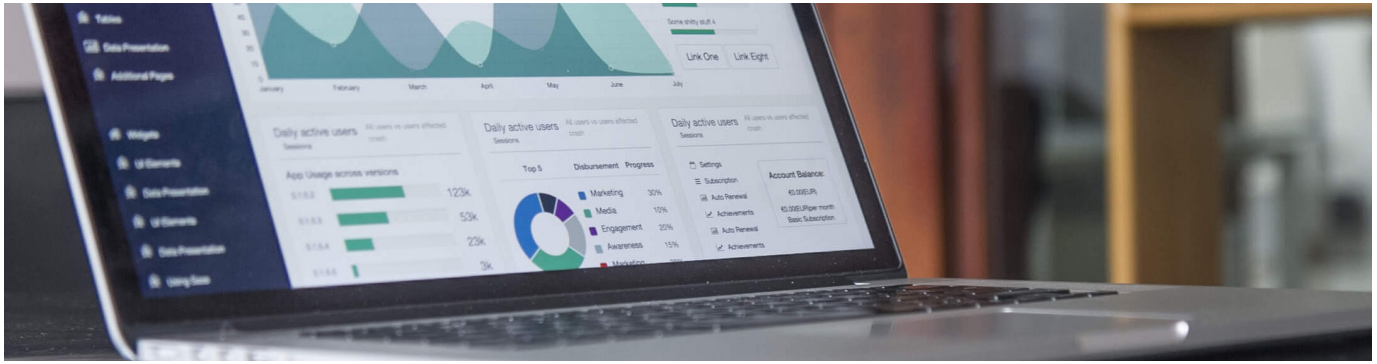
Women's Bible Study

First Saturday/month, 7:30 am

Come and join the MLC Women's Bible study group as we delve into God's Word and enjoy fellowship time together. We are meeting on Saturday, April 6th in room 210.

Interested? Have questions?
Please contact Sheri Gehrke at
sherilgehrke@gmail.com

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Financial Summary

As of February 2024

	BUDGET	ACTUAL
	8 Months	8 Months
Income	\$869,538	\$874,656
Expenses	\$881,461	\$763,904
Net Income/(Loss)	\$(11,923)	\$110,752
Mortgage Balance		
Outstanding	\$814,892	\$773,121
	As of 6/30/23	As of 2/29/24

McFarland Lutheran Church has been rich in God's blessings for many generations. God's gifts surround us throughout our church property. In recent years, however, MLC has had a significant amount of needed property maintenance deferred or delayed. Some of our maintenance issues have been deferred far too long. It is time for our congregation to begin addressing those issues.

The end of our fiscal year June 30th will show a "surplus" in the congregation's bank accounts. We need to use that "surplus" to begin resolving our deferred maintenance issues. We won't get everything done quickly, but it is time to begin.

Our "surplus" is caused, in part, by prudent fiscal management of the gifts God has given us. The "surplus" is also, in large part, because MLC has had multiple vacant staff positions for large portions of this fiscal year. Those vacancies include the senior pastor position, minister of music and office administrative assistant. Having these positions open caused us some pastoral and operational problems while simultaneously allowing our bank balance to grow.

Our staff vacancies are expected to be fully filled soon. MLC's expenses will go up. Our need for generous stewardship will continue as we move forward. Our budget "surplus" will go away but the services our congregation needs and expects will finally be fully met again. The surplus, while real, will be consumed by equally real needs within our beloved church facility. MLC will continue to need the active stewardship support of our members. We hope that all of our members will prayerfully consider your own stewardship during this time.

McFarland Lutheran Church has enjoyed a long and deserved reputation as a remarkably welcoming and generous congregation. We joyously look forward to again benefiting from a full staff, the overdue maintenance upgrades and the renewed service to our Lord and our congregation.

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Join Us For Game Night

Game night is open to everyone who is interested in playing games. Join us every second Saturday of the month at 6:00 pm in the FLC. **Our next night is on April 13th.** Enjoy fun, fellowship and games!

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