



# McFARLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH

## A Note From Pastor Kelli

Lunchboxes, and backpacks, and glue sticks – oh my!

The start of another school year is officially here. My kids are thrilled for their next adventure – new friends, new teachers, and new things to learn. This time of transition happens around church, too!



CLM's summer program wrapped up, classrooms were prepped in record speed, and both new and returning students are buzzing in the halls, learning in the rooms, and playing outside. There is such joyful and excited energy in the building!

We also mark the beginning of MLC's programmatic year this weekend with the Backpack Blessing, Rally Day Event, and the Holy Smokes Cookout!

Students are invited to bring their backpacks to worship for a special Children's Moment and a blessing for the start of a new school year!

We celebrate Rally Day on Sunday at 9:00am in the sanctuary. We will hear an introduction to Sunday School, Confirmation, and Adult Faith Formation. All ages are welcome to come and learn what faith formation classes are available. (The first day of class is the following Sunday, September 15.)

The celebration of Rally Day continues with the Holy Smokes Cookout. Join us in the Family Life Center after the 10:00am worship service for a delicious meal and a great opportunity for fellowship.

Everyone is welcome, bring a friend, and celebrate Rally Day with us! See you there!

~ Pastor Kelli

## Greetings from Child Life Ministries

As we begin our new school year, we are excited to see familiar faces and also meet new families to CLM and perhaps new to the McFarland Community. There are children for whom the preschool and childcare experience is brand new, and we try our best to make them feel comfortable and safe in their new environment. It is also hard for mom or dad, or guardians to make that first drop off as



well, so these first days are filled with lots of emotion, sometimes tears, and hopefully lots of smiles. We are so thankful for families that choose CLM to be a safe harbor for their child. We pray for all families and their children this week, that the beginning of the fresh season is filled with excitement and anticipation.

We want to offer a huge gratitude of thanks for Chris Landerud, and the many ways he has shown his love and support to CLM. In addition to being a worship leader, Chris has assisted us in all of our programs and provided technical assistance many times. I will personally miss seeing Chris throughout the week, along with the occasional visits from Ernie, Chris's four-legged companion. We will keep Chris in our prayers, as he begins new adventures "out there", and that he is kept safe in all of his comings and goings.

Deb

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## Matching Donations Expiring Soon/Walk-4-Water News

Donations are steadily rising for our Walk-4-Water campaign which is raising funds for 2 borehole wells in rural Ugandan. Thank you so much to all who have contributed. Providing wells to rural villages saves lives, especially of children and grateful families.



A generous anonymous donor is providing a dollar-for-dollar match of all donations until September 8, up to a maximum of \$10,500. The offer of matching donations has elevated interest and contributions. Let's continue to make the donations flow to get the full matching amount!

GOD IS SO GREAT! Another generous member of our congregation is offering to match donations up to \$10,500! This is just so amazing - if our campaign can raise \$21,000 the money will be doubled! We will be able to drill FOUR sustainable bore hole wells! This is a huge opportunity! Please share this news with family, neighbors and friends so we can fully make this miracle happen!

Silent auction baskets, beautifully crafted wood charcuterie boards and a stunning quilt will be on display during the next four weeks. We hope to have the bid sheets available soon so people unable to attend the Walk4Water can place bids too. The final bids will be determined on-site at McDaniel Park on September 21st. The quilt donated by the Giving Quilt group is absolutely beautiful. Thank you to everyone that has donated items for our auction!

To learn more about the villages that will receive wells, register for the Walk-4-Water on September 21, or donate to the cause, go to <http://w4ki.org/w4wmcfarland> or use the QR code to go to the Walk-4-Water website.



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# BIBLE STUDY

## Men's bible study

First Saturday/month, 7:30 a.m

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, September 7th in room 125.**

Interested? Have questions?  
Please contact Jeff Gehrke at  
[jeffgehrke59@gmail.com](mailto:jeffgehrke59@gmail.com) or Scott Potts at  
[scottalan23@hotmail.com](mailto:scottalan23@hotmail.com)

## Women's bible study

First Saturday/month, 7:30 a.m

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, September 7th in room 210.**

Interested? Have questions?  
Please contact Sheri Gehrke at  
[sherilgehrke@gmail.com](mailto:sherilgehrke@gmail.com).

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## Rally Day and Sunday School, Confirmation, & Youth Group Registration

We kick off our year of Student Ministries on Rally Day September 8, at 9am in the sanctuary. Families stay with their students to hear about the fun planned for the upcoming year.



The first day of Sunday School and Confirmation is September 15 at 9:00 am.

Registration forms for Sunday School, Confirmation, and High School Youth Group are [here](#) or at the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space. Please complete a form for each student and return them to the church office by Rally Day.

We're excited for another year of Student Ministries at MLC!

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## No Game Night in September

There will not be a game night for the month of September but it will return in October!



# Backpack Blessing



## Backpack Blessing

Get ready for a new school year with a Blessing of the Backpacks! Bring your backpack with you to any service the weekend of September 7 & 8 for a special Children's Moment. See you there!

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## Holy Smokes Cookout - On Rally Day September 8th

The Welcome Committee invites you to lunch in the Family Life Center after the 10 am service. We'll be serving brats, hotdogs and a variety of salads and dessert from 11 to 12:30. Church members are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors to join us as part of an outreach effort. Anyone willing to contribute a side dish, salad or dessert please contact Sandy Hall at 608-215-3999.



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## Prayer Shawl Workshop

Join us **Monday, September 9 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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## Cemetery Walking Tour

Join church archivist and local historian Ron Larson, on a cemetery walking tour on Saturday, September 14, beginning at 3 pm at the cemetery across the street from the church. The tour, "Faith of Our Fathers: History of the McFarland Lutheran Church," will explore the early days of the Lutheran Church in McFarland, the church buildings, ministers and some of the early and influential congregants. The tour is sponsored by the

E.D. Locke Public Library. Registration is required and will open on August 29. To register, go to [www.mcfarlandlibrary.org/adult-events](http://www.mcfarlandlibrary.org/adult-events), or call Sara Hendrickson at the library, 608-838-9030.

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## **With Gratitude: Honoring Youth Director Chris Landerud's Dedication to MLC's Youth**

After the 10:00 a.m. service on September 15th all are welcome to a reception in honor of Chris Landerud and his years of service as MLC's Youth Director. As Chris' time in this position comes to an end let us join together in thanking him for his impact on our young people. (More details to come.)

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## **Movie Night**

The local missions committee, in cooperation with Sunday school, is planning a movie night. It will be on Friday, September 13 at 6:30 pm in the Family Life Center. The movie is "A Bug's Life". Wear your jammies, bring your own chair and blanket if you want. We will provide chairs, popcorn and juice boxes. It is free! Please invite a friend or neighbor.

THIS IS NOT A DROP IN EVENT. PLEASE ATTEND WITH YOUR CHILDREN.



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## **Bibles for 3-Year-Olds!**

All 3-year-old Sunday School students are invited to receive a Story Bible at any service the weekend of September 14 & 15. We are excited to celebrate this faith milestone with students and their families!

Please let us know which service you plan to attend by September 9 ([office@mcfarlandlutheran.org](mailto:office@mcfarlandlutheran.org) or 608-838-3184).

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## Financial Summary July 31, 2024

	BUDGET	ACTUAL
	1 Month	1 Month
Income	\$106,013	\$132,792
Expenses	\$118,386	\$106,850
Net Income/(Loss)	\$(12,373)	\$25,942
Mortgage Balance		
Outstanding	\$764,233	\$797,676
	As of 6/30/24	As of 07/31/24

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## Grief Support Group

A grief support group for those who have lost a mate is being offered starting in September. It is an 8 week commitment. On Sept. 15, between services at 9:30 there will be an informational meeting in room 210. A day and time for gathering will be determined at this meeting decided upon by the participants. If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Dirks at [dirksbl@charter.net](mailto:dirksbl@charter.net) or 608-630-0916.



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## Welcome Committee Requests Assistance in New Outreach Effort

The Welcome Committee along with Local Missions is planning an outreach effort to the McFarland Community with a booth at the Community Festival on September 28 from 10am to 4 pm. The plan is to provide FREE Rice Krispie Bars and offer a FREE drawing for a variety of prizes to people who visit our table. The committee is requesting church members donate a gift certificates if willing and able. Suggested gift certificate amounts would be \$25, \$50 or whatever you would like. A list of suggested gift certificates include: McDonalds, Culvers, BP Gas Station, Kwik Trip, McFarland House Cafe, Lukes, Ace Hardware, Maple Tree, Green Lantern, Toby's, Angelo's, Spartan Pizza, Spartan Bowl, and The WineHouse. As this list is not all inclusive, gift certificate donations

from other businesses of your choice are also appreciated and valued. Our Giving Quilters have already pledged a quilt along with Anderson's Pumpkins and Marsden's honey products. Of course, informational flyers about MLC will be available at the table.

We are also looking for volunteers to help staff the informational table from 10 am to 4 pm . If you are able to contribute a gift certificate or spend time at the table that Saturday, please contact Paul Hundt (hundtsi1@yahoo.com or 608-225-0377) or sign up [here](#).

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### 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.

**September 17:** The Pilot's Wife by Anita Shreve

**October 15:** *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus

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### Save the Date: Ministry Expo on Sunday, October 6

One of the wonderful things about McFarland Lutheran Church is that there are so many ways for congregation members of all ages to be involved and live our faith.

On Sunday, October 6, a special gathering will showcase some of the 25 committees and ministries at MLC. Everyone is welcome to enjoy fellowship in the Family Life Center at 9 am or 11 am, where MLC ministry volunteers will have tables sharing information about involvement opportunities.

We hope everyone plans to attend and explore how you can use your gifts to support MLC's mission: Share God's Word, Show God's Love and Serve God's World. Please reach out to a member of the Stewardship Committee if you have any questions.



Sarah Schutt, Joe D'Amato, Amanda Geisinger, Paul Hunt

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## Outreach for World Hope

Guatemala Mission Trip - January 16 - 21, 2025

For mission trip information and registration click this link or get a packet at the welcome desk:

[OWH Guatemala Mission Trip – January 16-21, 2025 - Registration & Info](#)



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## Lions Shoe Collection

The Care of Creation committee was asked to assist with the McFarland Lions athletic shoe collection at MLC. The collected shoes will be recycled rather than thrown away. There is a bin in the long hallway on the table near the Care of Creation bulletin board. There are very specific restrictions on what shoes may be recycled please see the list below. Shoes can be placed in the bin and we will make sure the Lions club receives them.

**Accepted styles of shoes:** Running, basketball, gym and training, cleats (rubber only), lifestyle and casual

**Specific Brands accepted:** Adidas, Allbirds, Altra, APL, Asics, Brooks, Columbia, Converse all stars, Fila, Hoka One One, Jordan, Keen, Merrell, Mizuno, New Balance, Nike, On, Puma, Reebok, Salomon, SAS, Saucony, Skechers, Sorel, Timberland, Topo, Under Armour, Vans

All foot wear is required to measure equal to or greater than 8 inches

**Not accepted-** all non athletic foot wear including but not limited to: Boots, Dress shoes, Heels, Sandals, Wedges, Flip flops, Water socks

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## Volunteer to Help in Worship

Sign up to help with worship as an usher, lector, communion server, and more! Your assistance is needed and appreciated!

\*Sign Up Here!\*

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

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

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

### Weekly Calendar

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

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### Join us for Worship This Weekend

16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 7/8, 2024

Sat. 5 pm Worship

Sun. 8 am Worship

Sun. 10 am Worship & [Facebook Live](#)

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### Thank You for Your Offering

We offer simple and secure online giving for either one-time or reoccurring donations. Click [here](#) to access our online giving page.

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### Watch our Worship Service Online

To watch the worship service live or at a later time, click [here](#) for Facebook.

The service will be uploaded to our YouTube by noon on Monday's. Click [here](#) for our YouTube channel.