



LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

Opportunities for Ministry

God gives each of us talents and abilities for service – and expects us to use them for his glory and for the sake of other people. Many of you are already quite involved in ministries within our congregation, through our congregation, and outside of our congregation – and for that God gets all the thanks and praise. However, in order to guide, shape, and direct these ministries it is helpful to have a certain amount of structure under which we function. Your church council has been discussing the four ‘umbrellas’ of ministry (Ministry Teams) under which all other ministries in our congregation are to be organized. We realize that our individual groups are functioning well, but the Ministry Teams, in most cases, really don’t exist. These Ministry Teams are defined by our bylaws as follows:

“Ministry of Nurturing” – Provides opportunities to learn more about God, Scripture, the sacraments, and our church; and oversees educational activities including Sunday Church School (youth and adult), Sunday morning nursery, Vacation Church School, Youth Groups, and Confirmation. They shall also promote communications through the use of the church’s newsletter, the church library, etc.

“Ministry of Sharing” – Leads the congregation to reach out to one another and to other people in order to share the Gospel and connect them to Christ’s Church. Ministries include such things as: Home visitation, Distribution of Communion to home bound members, Visitation of the sick, Intercessory prayer, Prayer chains, Women of the Church, Men of the Church, Funeral dinners, and mailing cards to members who are bereaved, college students, and those in the Armed Forces of the United States.

“Ministry of Stewarding” – Sees to the proper maintenance and protection of all property of the congregation. It also provides a property audit and shall project and plan for the future capital and financial needs of the congregation. This Ministry Team also provides financial oversight for the congregation

“Ministry of Celebrating” – Sees that the services of God’s house are conducted regularly and that competent ushers, deacons, lay readers, and other worship assistants are recruited and trained. This Ministry Team shall recommend and evaluate the music personnel and program, arrange for the care of paraments, vestments, and musical instruments and (in consultation with the pastor and the musicians) shall provide for music supplies needed in the worship services of this congregation.

As you may be aware – many of you are already involved in ministries which fall under these ‘umbrellas’. However, we are looking for more people who are willing to serve in oversight and planning for these various groups by serving along with other members on the various Ministry Teams. So, if you are interested in being a

member of one of the Teams, or if you have an idea for a new ministry, or if you would like to join a group that is already in existence please speak to the council member who serves as the liaison for the particular Ministry Team God is calling you to serve on. Your participation is a great service both to God and to His people, and your leadership will also be a valued gift to His Church.

Here are just a few of the areas of service which are available under each Ministry Team

Ministry of Nurturing

Council Liaison – Ann Burkey

- Team Leader –
- Children’s Sunday School Teacher/Helper
- Sunday School Snack Provider
- Adult Bible Study Leader
- Nursery Worker
- VBS coordinator or worker
- Newsletter Editor/Contributor
- Youth Group Leader/Coordinator
- LCMC Gathering Delegate
- Other

Ministry of Stewarding

Council Liaison – Jim Squires

- Team Leader –
- Finance Team
- Auditing Team
- Insurance Programs
- Property & Maintenance
- Stewardship Program
- Other

Ministry of Sharing

Council Liaison – Mike McIntosh

- Team Leader –
- Home Visitation
- Home Communion Distribution
- Prayer Chain
- Men’s Group
- Women’s Group
- Card Ministry
- Other

Ministry of Celebrating

Council Liaison – Bonnie Keller

- Team Leader –
- Usher
- Opening Prayer
- Assisting Minister
- Reader

- Altar Worker
- Choir Member
- Fellowship Time
- Other

Pastor Mark

We want to remind you that we are still offering a nursery for young children during our regular worship service - but we need people to sign up as nursery workers in order to be able to provide this ministry for our families with young children.

Are you interested in being a delegate to This Year's Annual LCMC Gathering? The theme is "*Back to the Future: First Century Principles for the Twenty First Century.*" The Gathering will be held October 2-5 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Denver Colorado. The event features a fellowship dinner, service project, speaker, and worship services, plus the ability to get connected with various mission and ministry organizations in the vendor area. The Annual Gathering is a great time to learn about what is happening within our association and meet other LCMC-ers!

If you are interested, or would like additional information, talk to Pastor Mark about this wonderful opportunity.

Please pray for the first KAIROS Weekend to be held at North Branch Correctional Institution from Thursday, May 12th through Sunday, May 15th,

CALENDAR EVENTS:

Saturday, May 20 - 10:00 am - Quilting

The first Sunday of each month is our Food Pantry Emphasis Sunday

The second Sunday of each month is "FellowshipTime" following worship

