



FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

STEWARDSHIP 2021



Luther Memorial Church



Dear LTM family and friends,

This has been the strangest year we've been blessed to see. The pandemic, political turmoil, long-standing racial injustices finally being addressed. Who could have imagined a year like this?

And yet other things are very familiar. The generosity of the people of Luther Memorial, for one thing. Together, we are meeting our operating and building budgets. We've committed to the installation of a new organ that will enrich our worship and draw in the wider community. We have given more than one hundred thousand dollars to individuals and agencies for pandemic relief. It has been a real and lasting privilege, as treasurer, to sign all these checks.

How fortunate we all are to live among such generous spirits, such cheerful givers.

Our capable and dedicated staff and volunteers have responded to this year's challenges with such creativity. We continue worshipping in person and electronically. Bible study, morning prayer, and other important events have continued without significant interruption. New audio and video equipment in the nave has enabled us to provide access beautifully to services and events. Education programs for all ages continue, though with modifications. Service ministries go forward.

Partnerships with our neighbors, such as Santa Maria and Lutheran Campus Ministry, grow stronger.

The future, though far from perfectly clear, is clearly perfect in the hope our Lord has promised.

We all pass other churches on our way to 1021 University Avenue. But here we are and here we stay. Won't you join Judy and me in pledging and giving generously to these efforts that, we trust, give all glory to God and so enrich us all?

In gratitude,
Bill Braham, LM Treasurer



Bill & Judy Braham

PARTNER MINISTRIES

Dear LM Family,

Lutheran Campus Ministry is so blessed to be in partnership with Luther Memorial as we accompany university students through their years in Madison. During the pandemic, the ministry of The Keep Food Pantry has been especially critical. Each week volunteers are nourishing students both physically and emotionally, providing not only essential food but also a climate of welcome, generosity and support. This fall, our student community is once again so blessed to be worshipping in the LM nave. Students deeply appreciate the time for reflection and prayer, a pause from the business of the week that strengthens them and reconnects them to God. I am so grateful for our partnership and looking forward to continuing to minister to students together.



In Christ,
Pastor Emily Tveite
Lutheran Campus Ministry

Dear hermanas y hermanos de LM,

It has been a joy to continue this journey together as siblings in Christ, learning more about one another and sharing space together in prayer and on Zoom. We started walking together before the pandemic flipped our world upside down, and in those first conversations—and in nearly all of them since that time—we would often comment on our shared excitement of gathering to share fellowship and food with one another. While my mouth waters just thinking about the pozole, tamales, brats and bars that we will one day share, please know that I am thrilled to continue this journey together in whatever ways the Spirit calls us, and that the bond of our sacred, shared meal at Christ's table is one that sustains us until that time comes. Thank you for your continued care and support.



En Cristo,
Pastora Kirsten Worzala Dumke
Parroquia Santa Maria

Food for the journey

In John's gospel, Jesus says that he is the new manna, the new bread from heaven. He invites his startled listeners to feast upon him. Manna fed Israel through the desert. Jesus' own body is to feed us through all of life.

When we gather together to receive Holy Communion, we are not just performing some archaic religious ritual that Jesus instituted a couple thousand years ago. No, when we receive him in this meal, we are nourished with the new manna, the new bread from heaven that sustains our lives.

The bread strengthens us to live as faithful Christians in a difficult and sometimes hostile world, making sure that we remain connected—one body—to the one who is the first born from the dead, Jesus Christ.

During those times when the pandemic prevents us from gathering around the communion table in person, we are always sustained by the Word. Prayers, scripture reading and caring for one another become our food for the journey through a desert time. Never alone, we travel in the company of Christ, the saints at rest, and all our sisters and brothers in Christ.

Together we are fed with the bread of life; together we journey onward as we have done. We feast on the Word, we feast on the bread of life, we feast together. Always.



Onward,
Brad Pohlman
Senior Pastor



PLEDGE TODAY

Please take time to prayerfully consider your support for 2022. Your pledge will help sustain the mission and ministries of Luther Memorial Church. You can direct your gift to two different funds:

Ministry (Operating) Appeal

Your gifts to the general ministry of the congregation go to support everything from Sunday School, bible studies, worship, the food pantry to light bulbs and snow shoveling. As we plan for ministry in 2022, we invite you to consider making a pledge toward our ministry, and if you have done so in the past, to consider a 3% increase from the current year.

Building (Capital) Appeal

Your gifts to the building fund go toward paying down our primary mortgage from the major remodeling done in 2017. In addition, for 2022 we are anticipating the need to replace parts of our heating and cooling system (our three boilers and the chiller). Your generosity helps us pay for these needed and critical items.

To pledge, simply go online to www.luthermem.org/pledge, or use the enclosed pledge form and return envelope. Extra forms are available at the welcome desk.

Have a question? Please contact Suelyn Swiggum, Director of Shared Ministry, at swiggum@luthermem.org or by calling the church office, (608) 258-3160 ext. 15.

Thank you!

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Luther Memorial Church | 1021 University Ave | Madison, Wis. 53715 | www.luthermem.org