



Marco Lutheran Church

THE SHIP'S MESSENGER

January 2023 - Happy New Year!



VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

By Pastor Tom Boeck

Happy New Year!

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.””

Revelation 21:1-4 (ESV)

In John’s vision in Revelation, he gives us a glimpse of the experience of eternity and it gives us hope for what will ultimately come to pass for all who believe in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. And we read this in what is a new year. How exciting is the new year for you? Is it as exciting as it’s ever been, or is it beginning to become just another turning of the calendar page?

I know for myself, I’ve always looked at the idea of entering a new year as being another fresh start. It’s another opportunity to reassess what I’ve been doing and to see if there are improvements to be made. With our congregational exercise in casting mission and vision this past fall, we

identified opportunities to expand our ministry, especially in areas of human care. For this reason, a call committee is currently working to present a budget and candidate recommendation to the congregation for a deaconess to fill that need. Please read the article by the call committee for more information.

As we look forward to another new year and an opportunity to expand ministry and grow closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus, let’s also as a church, look for more opportunities to make new friends in church and in our Marco Island and greater Naples community. With each new friendship, we have an opportunity to share the gospel with someone else.

Isn’t it great that we can make new friends and build the body of believers at the same time?

We have so much to look forward to in the new year. There is no other greater aspiration for us than that of eternity with God in the new heaven and the new earth. But while we remain on this earth, we can celebrate God’s gift of a fresh start for the new year and the gift of our Christian friends and our salvation through Jesus!

Pastor Tom

CALL COMMITTEE

By Mark Kuhnly

At the May 2022 Church Council meeting, it was approved to establish a Call Committee for Director of Church Ministry (DCM). The Call Committee was established with members including Mark Kuhnly, Chair, Bill Kaschube, Carolyn Ohman and Judi Vollmer, the Committee met throughout the summer. Church Council planned to present at the January Congregational meeting for discussion and approval to extend a Call for a DCM.

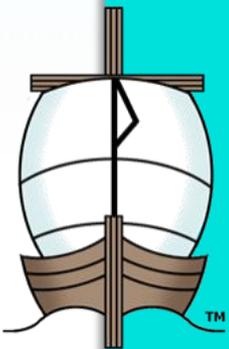
The DCM candidate that was going to be recommended to the congregation for approval to extend a Call, has chosen not to proceed. At the November Church Council Meeting there was discussion on how to proceed. With input from Pastor Tom and Council discussion on expanding the Ministry at Marco Lutheran Church it was decided to prayerfully consider a Deaconess in replacement of the DCM. Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) Deaconesses are synodically trained, professional woman church workers. They are Called to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through a ministry of teaching the Christian Faith and Spiritual Care. Deaconesses also assist with Human Care Ministry including visitation to the sick, grieving and those in need.

Why a Deaconess and not a Deacon? The LCMC Deacons are men primarily responsible for assisting with corporate worship. Expanding the Ministry at Marco Lutheran Church would be best filled with a Deaconess.

Church Council approved resuming the Call Committee for the Deaconess position. The Call Committee has started meeting and we will bring to the January 2023 Congregational Meeting an update on Calling a Deaconess to serve at Marco Lutheran Church.

Please pray for God's direction in leading Marco Lutheran Church with this new Ministry, by Calling a Deaconess.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING!



Sunday, January 22, 2023

9:30 a.m.

Please plan on attending!

(refreshments will be served)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

By Bob Harrison



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone! We are closing out 2022 and beginning 2023. It was a challenging 2022, but we are ready to begin the new year.

I would like to thank all of the people who participated in our worship services this year. Without your help we could not have enjoyed the positive impact that each and every one of you contributed to our worship experience at Marco Lutheran. I would also like to thank our Pastors and Board Chairs for their dedication and service.

We will begin this New Year with our congregational meeting at 9:30 a.m. on January 22. We ask that everyone plan to attend this meeting so that we can get your input on important decisions that will be facing us. This is our Church and everyone's input is valued.

As we move forward in this new year, may God direct and guide us to make Marco Lutheran a wonderful place to gather and worship.



Save the Date!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023

Fundraising Galafor

Amigos Ministries of SW Florida in Immokalee

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS OVER 60!

Wednesday, January 18 , 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

at MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH

Seating is limited, you must RSVP 239-259-5188

or lunchwithfriendsmarco@gmail.com

A partnership of Our Daily Bread Food Pantry, and the South Collier YMCA

Watch the Worship service anywhere and at anytime with any device that connects to the Internet.



Services are streamed “live” and are archived for later viewing. Use your computer, tablet, mobile phone or smart TV.

On our website at: www.marcolutheran.org



- 1  Click on **“CLICK HERE for our video page”** to get to the page with the videos.
- 2 On The VIDEO STREAMING page, click on the

Recent and older videos are available to watch on the same webpage.

You can follow along with each Worship Service using bulletins that are always available located on the website’s **“What’s Happening”** page

BIBLE STUDIES

- WOMEN OF THE WORD—Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.**
- MEN’S BIBLE STUDY—Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.**
- THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY —Thursday with fellowship at 9:30 and class at 10:00 a.m.**
- ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Sunday after Worship at 9:30 a.m.**
- DISCOVER MARCO BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 5 AT 9:30 a.m.**



Dear Congregation

The Pastors and staff of Marco Lutheran would like to Thank You All, from the bottom of our hearts for the much appreciated Christmas bonus. It feels so good to be acknowledged and appreciated!

We wish you all a wonderful, happy, and healthy New Year!

Edwin *Betsy Sabbides* *Mick Killian*
Pasha Tom *Jaye Spencer*
Laurie *Scott* *Pastor Jeff* *Blair* *John Davis*



OUTREACH

By Lili Surber

Happy New Year! It's a new year and we are looking forward to the wonderful ways we can continue to work with our volunteers and community to reach out to those in need.

We will continue to collect food and hygiene necessities for Our Daily Bread and St.

Matthew's House. In March, we will once again collect shoes for Laces of Love, participate in Camp Able, distribute Blessing Bags, distribute Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, and more to come!

Outreach meetings will be held the first Monday of the month on All Boards night. The next meeting is scheduled for January 5 at 6:00 p.m. Please plan on attending, we welcome fresh ideas and new volunteers.

I'd like to thank all the volunteers for the time, talents, and energy they put forth to help with the assorted programs and projects throughout last year. Our past Outreach events have been successful, fun, and purposeful.

The Welcome Center is in need of volunteers to serve on Sunday mornings to greet our visitors for our 8:00am or 11:00am January-Easter services. If you are wanting to serve, please contact Lili Surber at 626 705-6550 or lsurber2011@gmail.com.

Remember, "The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness does not overcome it." (John 1:5) We are called to shine God's light on all. God's works – our hands.



Join Pastor Ken...

—GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP will meet every Thursday at 10:30 beginning February 2, 2023

—CHRONIC PAIN SUPPORT GROUP will meet every other Thursday at 12:30 beginning
February 9, 2023

UPDATED WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Our Saturday worship services begin on
Saturday, January 14 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Beginning Sunday, January 15, worship
will be at 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. with Bible
Study at 9:30 a.m. through Easter.**

BOARD OF HUMAN CARE

By Annette Bertelson

It's hard to believe we have started another new year. The BOHC had a very busy fall and are starting the new year a little slower to allow for members to participate in all the wonderful offering by other boards and committees.

We will be hosting refreshments during the upcoming Congregational meeting January 22. We wish all of you a very Happy New Year.

MUSIC NOTES

BY Craig Greusel

Marco Lutheran Church presents
A Community Theatre Project

PUBLIC AUDITIONS:

Sunday, January 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH

Actors should be prepared to sing a song of their choice and be able to sight read from the script. All participants will be tested on their vocal range as well.

For further information call 230-250-5200





VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM

AN OUTREACH ACTIVITY OF MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH

Award Winning Actress and Author,

Janine Turner

January 13 & 14, 2023

On Marco Island, at Marco Lutheran Church



Janine Turner is an Emmy and three-time Golden Globe nominated actress known to millions of fans for her role as Maggie O’Connell in the CBS hit, Emmy award winning show, Northern Exposure. Janine’s lustrous film career includes starring in NBC’s Friday Night Lights, in feature films such as Steel Magnolias, Cliffhanger with Sylvester Stallone, Dr. T and the Women with Richard Gere, Night of the White Pants with Tom Wilkinson and in Universal’s Leave it to Beaver as June Cleaver, as well as many more roles in both television and movies.

Acting isn’t Janine’s only passion or accomplishment. She is a four-time published author, creator of Front Porch Philosophy, an umbrella outreach which includes her latest two books, her daily podcast, Janine Turner’s God on the Go Minute, and an upcoming national Rocking Chair Wisdom tour encouraging “civil civic conversations – a dialectic seeking synthesis.” Janine produced and stars in the Christian yoga DVD, Christoga, is the founder and co-chair of the foundation, Constituting America, a radio show talk show host, nationally televised political analyst and a newspaper columnist,

LECTURE ONE – Friday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m.– “Don’t Give Up Before the Miracle”

LECTURE TWO – Saturday, January 14 at 10:00 a.m. – “Civic Duty, Community and God”

FREE BOXED LUNCH

LECTURE THREE – Saturday, January 14 at 12:30 p.m. – “God is in Everything”

LECTURE FOUR – Saturday, January 14 at 2:25 p.m. – “God on the Go: Meditation from a Christian Perspective”

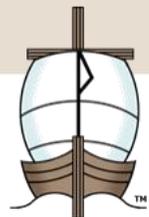


SUNDAY, JANUARY 15—SPECIAL CONCERT EVENT!

Eirinn Abu & Friends at 2:00 p.m.

**FREE LECTURE SERIES & CONCERT
At Marco Lutheran Church - Register online!**

www.marcolutheran.org



MARCO LUTHERAN FOUNDATION

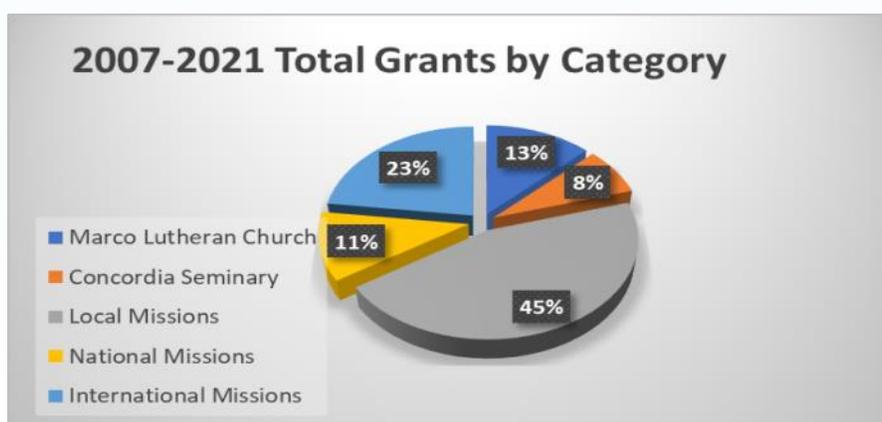
By Karen Kuhnly

Happy New Year!

“So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge- that you may be filled to the measure of all fullness of God.” Ephesians 3:17-18 NIV

These verses in Ephesians can be associated to many life circumstances. This New Year in 2023, I see these verses telling us that with Jesus ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE with *“so that Christ may dwell in hearts through faith”*. No problem, burden or circumstance is bigger than GOD. This is the faith and hope for the Grantees that request funds from the Foundation. Because as the verses state, *“...established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people”*that’s us at Marco Lutheran Church! *“...to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ”* We can give the love of Jesus in this beautiful way. Wow! Wow! I don’t know about you, but this gives me goose bumps.

I also see these two verses in Ephesians emphasis the perfect definition for serving and providing the Love of Jesus to ALL People in ALL the World. The Marco Lutheran Foundation has had the honor and privilege to grant over \$1.3 million to Christian Ministries locally, nationally, and internationally since 1999! Financial gifts and memorials have helped the portfolio grow so more can be given out to bless individual ministries.



This pie chart helps tell the story of where the grant funds have gone. International Missions for the poor and starving is 45% of the grant funds. These funds also bring help, training and harvesting so they can become self-sufficient....*“that all may be filled to the measure of all fullness of God.”* Blessings on your New Year!

BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY

By Linda Harrison

Happy New Year!

A big thank you to all who made the Christmas and Christmas Eve services beautiful and meaningful. A heartfelt thanks to the teams who served as lay ministers, ushers, and transporters on these holy days.

As we begin 2023, the Board of Lay Ministry would like to wish the Marco Lutheran community a very happy, healthy and peaceful new year. We invite you to join us in worship each week. Here is our worship schedule:

January 1—9:30 a.m.

January 8—9:30 a.m.

January 14—5:00 p.m.

January 15 through Easter: 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

To those of you who have been faithfully joining us online, we miss you! Please consider attending one of the services in person. There is plenty of room for continued social distancing.

If you will be attending services in person and would be willing to donate your time one Sunday a month to serve as an usher, communion assistant, or transporter, please contact Linda Harrison or any of the board members. We'd be happy to get you trained and ready to go. Here's to a wonderful 2023! Blessings to you and your families,
Linda Harrison, Bob Harrison, Doug Alger, Dennis Hess, Denny Johnson, Mark Kuhnly
Ron Lisch, Chuck Oestreicher

ARTIST SERIES

By Dave Tobiasz

Season Tickets are ready for pick up at the ticket desk.

**Ticket Desk open January 3 thru February 2:
Tuesdays 10am – 2pm & Thursdays 10am – 2pm
Sundays after the first service**

Individual show seats are on sale. \$30 per ticket, except Music of Billy Joel - \$40.
Thanks for the overwhelming response to this season!

Limited tickets remain – wait lists forming.

Excellent seating available for the Saturday, March 11, 2pm matinee: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee!

SAILING SOLO

By Nancy Piper



FOR OUR ANNUAL DECEMBER CELEBRATION we gathered in the Great Room for refreshments, holiday give-aways and a fascinating talk from the Salvation Army's Patrice Gabower.

We were astonished at all the Salvation Army does locally for our community. They are the true first responders in any disaster! We were thrilled to present a \$1,000 check to Patrice for the Collier County Salvation Army.



Our next meeting is **Sunday, January 22**. Join us when we will hear a presentation by Crystal Kinzel, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller for Collier County. Do you know what the Clerk does? No? Come and find out! Refreshments provided and find out what activities we have scheduled for January and February and add your name to the sign up sheets!

Sailing Solo is Marco Lutheran Church's singles ministry that meets on the 4th Sunday from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Join us for refreshments, discussions, programs, optional projects and lots of good fellowship and fun! For more information, please visit our website at: marcolutheran.org/sailing-solo

SAILING SOLO BOOK CLUB

By Betty Fry

Wednesday, January 18 at 5:30 p.m.



"Imagine that you could gather the people you've love - dead or alive- at one table, for one night, with a chance to heal yourself once and for all. The Dinner List is a heartbreakingly romantic book framed by such an evening. It's Serle's unflinching investigation into the triumph and failings of love that makes this book one of a kind. A touch magic, a touch tragic, and absolutely compelling from beginning to end."

-- Stephanie Danler, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Sweetbitter*

WOMEN OF MARCO

By Cindi Kramer

The Women of Marco Christmas Luncheon was amazing! Our entertainment was Barbara Malta, who portrayed a Victorian women's wardrobe. The amount of layers they wore was daunting! Everyone had a wonderful time, there were fabulous door prizes, a catered lunch by Kretch's and over 80 women in attendance! Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped to make the luncheon such a success and to all who attended...see you all next year!



We also added an Ugly Sweater contest at one of our Sunday morning sing-a-longs with a pot lock lunch, it was loads of fun!

Marco Lutheran Church is going to be 50 years old, and the WOM are creating an Anniversary Cookbook. We will be collecting recipes now through the winter season, with anticipation that the book will be designed and constructed next summer. The preferred format is a WORD document emailed to WomanofMarcoMLC@gmail.com, but you can also send your recipes to the church (secretary@marcolutheran.org). Drop them off or by mail c/o WOM!

WOM is still looking for a chair/president for Marco Lutheran Church LWML (Lutheran Woman's Missionary League) to be the MLC contact for this board. Anyone interested, please contact Cindi Kramer cynthiakramer@yahoo.com or 239-970-2091.

The rummage sale date is Saturday, February 25, 2023 and we need lots of volunteers! We are actively collecting hangars that have notches in shoulders designed for hanging straps or other small items.



The WOM welcomes all women of the church to join us in any of our activities.

We meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 1:30 p.m. and always have a full agenda of church activities! Give us a try, we're always open for new ideas and activities!



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Veli Lapinoja	Jan 1
Connor Knox	Jan 2
Jim Nyce	Jan 2
Tom Kramer	Jan 3
Bob Scholle	Jan 3
Ed Skrzyński	Jan 3
Rom Groenke	Jan 5
Riley High	Jan 5
Barbra Jaskiewicz	Jan 5
Gloria Uhl	Jan 7
Diane Sanford	Jan 8
Nancy Patterson	Jan 9
Carol Tobin	Jan 9
Dave Moenkhaus	Jan 10
Mary Ninker	Jan 10
Larry Sturzenegger	Jan 11
Marjorie Casey	Jan 12
Elaine Beck	Jan 13
Linda Meier	Jan 13
Ed Obrenski, Jr.	Jan 15
Ada Greaves	Jan 16
Karen Swanker	Jan 16
Betty Moenkhaus	Jan 17
Ken Garazin	Jan 18
Gail Craig	Jan 19
Sandra Wenzler	Jan 20
Carole Zimmerman	Jan 20
Dom Durinzi	Jan 22
Steven Hirsch	Jan 22
Barbara Damon	Jan 23
Audrey Gilbertson	Jan 23
Barry Noffze	Jan 24
June Cooper	Jan 26
Ashlyn Busch	Jan 27
Alby Golden	Jan 27
Thomas Rue	Jan 27
Laverne Henry	Jan 29
Jeanette Leonard	Jan 29
Sharon Boeck	Jan 30
Anne Buckman	Jan 30
Cara Jo Peck	Jan 30
Janice Werner	Jan 30



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Granville & Judy Thompson	Jan 12
Ed & Frances Silcock	Jan 13
Randy & Laurie Garden	Jan 14

YOGA

- gentle -

Mondays & Thursdays
at 12:30 p.m.

- chair -

Mondays & Thursdays
at 2:00 p.m.

\$5 per session

