

Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 2020

Third Sunday in Advent

**If Participating in the  
Service from Your Vehicle  
Please Tune Your Car Radio to 93.1 FM**



**SAINT MICHAEL'S**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH • LCMS

W I N C H E S T E R ✦ T E X A S

Worship God. | Love One Another. | Serve All People.

700 Frio Street  
Winchester, Texas 78945

Office: 979-242-3444  
Pastor's Cell: 979-966-8036

Rev. Nate Hill – Pastor  
Mark McClain – Minister of Music  
[www.stmichaelswinchester.org](http://www.stmichaelswinchester.org)  
[pastor@stmichaelswinchester.org](mailto:pastor@stmichaelswinchester.org)  
[secretary@stmichaelswinchester.org](mailto:secretary@stmichaelswinchester.org)

## **NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE:**

Our service today will take place in the sanctuary. We ask that you only participate in the service in the sanctuary if you are free of any COVID-19 related symptoms and have not been exposed to anyone with COVID-19. All who participate in the sanctuary are asked to sanitize their hands upon entry, wear a mask for the entirety of the service, and leave at least six feet of lateral space in each pew between groups. Every other row has been marked off for increased distancing between groups.

For those who would prefer to continue to participate in the service from their vehicles, you are able to do so. Please park on the east side of the church building and you will be provided with a bulletin.

- By tuning your car radio to 93.1 FM, you will be able to hear the service taking place inside. Please participate fully in the congregational responses, singing, and prayers!
- In order to register your attendance with us today, please fill out the attendance sheet on the back cover of your bulletin. You will tear this page off and hand it in with the offering. An usher will come to collect the offering and attendance sheets from you during the final hymn.
- The Adult Bible Study will be broadcast over the FM transmitter on the same frequency used during the service. If you would like to listen in on the Bible Study but do not want to enter the sanctuary, you are welcome to do so from your vehicle.

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### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

Saint Michael's Lutheran Church exists to worship God, love one another, and serve all people according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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## **DIVINE SERVICE SETTING TWO**

**Prelude**

Selected Music

**Ringing of the Church Bell**

Ushers

**Welcome and Greeting**

# Reception of New Members – Hugh Hall and Dana Hall

Opening Hymn “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

LSB #338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;  
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Born to reign in us for-ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

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## CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Matthew 28:19b; (18:20)*

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*1 John 1:8-9*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*(John 20:19-23)*

**C** Amen.

### SERVICE OF THE WORD

**Introit**

Read Together

*Ps. 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: Ps. 85:7*

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.

Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,  
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to  
folly.

Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

Yes, the Lord will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness will go before him  
and make his footsteps a way.

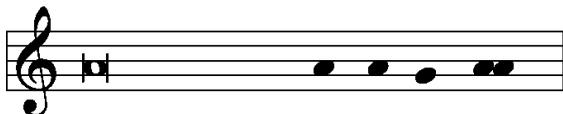
*Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;*

*as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.

# Kyrie

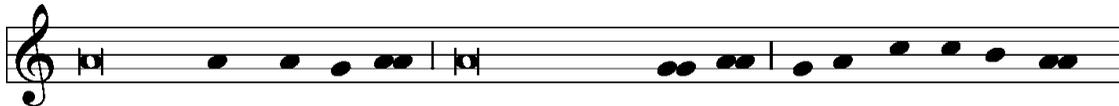
Mark 10:47



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



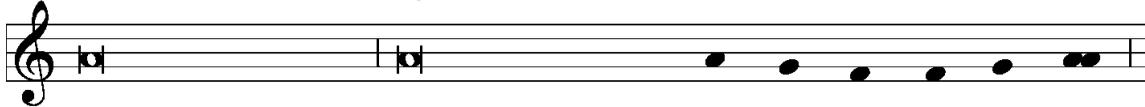
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



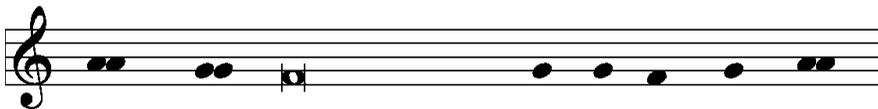
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

### Hymn of Praise

### *“Gloria in Excelsis”*



**A** Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we



praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the  
 Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-  
 lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,  
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;  
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;

<sup>3</sup>to grant to those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;  
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

<sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins;  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

<sup>8</sup>For I the Lord love justice;  
I hate robbery and wrong;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

<sup>9</sup>Their offspring shall be known among the nations,  
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge them,  
that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed.

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the Lord;  
my soul shall exult in my God,  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to sprout up before all the nations.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

## **C** Thanks be to God.

### Psalm

Psalm 126

<sup>1</sup>When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.  
<sup>2</sup>Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
then they said among the nations,  
“The Lord has done great things for them.”  
<sup>3</sup>The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are glad.  
<sup>4</sup>Restore our fortunes, O Lord,  
like streams in the Negeb!  
<sup>5</sup>Those who sow in tears  
shall reap with shouts of joy!  
<sup>6</sup>He who goes out weeping,  
bearing the seed for sowing,  
shall come home with shouts of joy,  
bringing his sheaves with him.

### Epistle Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup>Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Do not despise prophecies, <sup>21</sup>but test everything; hold fast what is good. <sup>22</sup>Abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup>Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup>He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Alleluia and Verse

*John 6:68*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>19</sup>And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” <sup>20</sup>He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” <sup>23</sup>He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

<sup>24</sup>(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup>They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” <sup>26</sup>John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup>even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” <sup>28</sup>These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is  
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the  
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with  
 4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the  
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near,” we hear it say. “Cast a - way the  
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all  
 par - don down from heav’n. Let us haste, with  
 world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us  
 Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!”  
 sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv’n;  
 with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.  
 liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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**Sermon**

*“He Confessed, and Did Not Deny”*  
*John 1:6-8, 19-28*

Rev. Nate Hill

**Apostles’ Creed**

**☑ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died and was buried.  
 He descended into hell.  
 The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

*(1 Timothy 2:1-4)*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

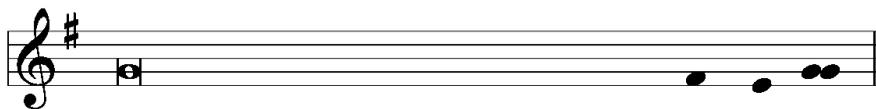
**☐** Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

**☉ Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

# Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.



**C** A - - - men.

# Announcements

Pastor

# Closing Hymn

“Hark the Glad Sound”

LSB #349

*Those participating in the service from their vehicles will have an usher approach their vehicle during the closing hymn to collect the offering and attendance sheet.*



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him  
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His  
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.  
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.  
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

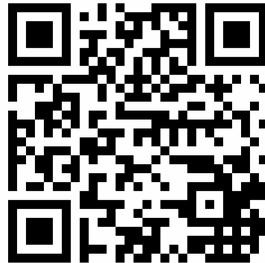
## Postlude

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### Offering

Ushers

*The offering will be collected today as you exit the church building. Please consider transitioning to making your regular tithe or offering online at [www.stmichaelswinchester.org/give](http://www.stmichaelswinchester.org/give)*



*Please also fill out the attendance register on the back page of your bulletin, tear it off and place it into the offering basket.*

*If you will be joining us for the Adult Bible Study in the Sanctuary, please remain in your seat.*

*The Adult Bible Study will be broadcast over the FM transmitter on the same frequency used during the service. If you would like to listen in on the Bible Study but do not want to enter the sanctuary, you are welcome to do so from your vehicle.*

## **PRAYERS AT SAINT MICHAEL'S**

### **MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:**

- Marie Ashutabi
- Megan Hart Burch
- Sherry Cook
- Charlene Franke
- RC Franke
- Marian Fritsche
- Kathy Griffin
- Larry Griffin
- Tracy Griffin
- Anna Jakobeit
- Delores Karisch
- Morgan Ray Karisch
- Thelma Kieschnik
- Bea Kilian
- Marie Kilian
- Audrey Koenning
- Rose Lehmann
- Kevin Margeson
- Mark McClain
- Roy Medack
- Jodi Miller
- James Nawara
- Lillian Pietsch
- Raymond Schulz
- Barbara Spence
- Amy Wagner
- Sandy Zoch
- Thelma Zoch

### **SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES:**

- Warren Evans – US Army – Fort Wainwright, Alaska
- Kevin Gonzalez – US Marines – San Francisco, California
- Jake Hagood – US Army – Fort Hood, Texas
- Damien Hernandez – US Marines – San Diego, California
- Ryan Spray – US Air Force – San Antonio, Texas
- Byron Taylor – US Army – Fort Knox, Kentucky

### **MISSIONARIES:**

- Julie Aftab – People of the Book Lutheran Outreach – Houston, TX

## **THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL'S:**

### **Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:00am –Worship Service – *Sanctuary and Parking Lot*
- 10:15am – Adult Bible Study – *Education Building*
- 10:15am – Children's Christmas Eve Practice – *Sanctuary*
- 1:00pm – Youth Confirmation – *Education Building*

### **Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

- 7:00pm – Board of Finance – *Education Building*

### **Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

- 7:00pm – WACA Book Club – *Zilss Hall*

### **Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30am – Bible Class – *Education Building*
- 7:00pm – Advent Midweek Service – *Sanctuary and Parking Lot*

### **Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:00am –Worship Service with Communion – *Sanctuary and Parking Lot*
- 10:15am – Adult Bible Study – *Education Building*
- 10:15am – Children's Christmas Eve Practice – *Sanctuary*
- 4:00pm – 4-H Meeting – *Education Building*

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**Children's Christmas Eve Service:** We will be having our annual Christmas Eve service led by the children. \*\*Please keep in mind that COVID could halt these plans at any time and we would have an alternative service. \*\*

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**Offering Envelopes:** The 2021 offering envelopes are now available at the back of the church. Please be sure to pick yours up.

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**WACA Decorating Contest:** The Winchester Area Civic Association met this past week and determined that the Annual Community Christmas Party will not be held this year due to COVID-19 concerns. However, WACA will sponsor an Outdoor Christmas Decorating Contest for the Winchester area. First, second and third place prizes will be awarded. If you are interested in participating in

the outdoor decorating, please contact Richard Schafer, Chairman, by December 15<sup>th</sup> at 254-644-1193 or [richardbarbschafer@gmail.com](mailto:richardbarbschafer@gmail.com). Judging will be conducted on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

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**Historic Church Window Preservation Project:** Work to repair and preserve our historic church windows needs to be done to ensure that they are well maintained for decades to come. At the July Voters' Meeting, the congregation approved contracting with Willet Hauser Architectural Glass to make all necessary repairs to our existing windows and add a separate protective window covering over each window to protect from future damage. The total cost of the project is \$63,159. To help fund this important project, we are asking members of the congregation to consider making a generous donation to help cover the cost. A contribution of any amount would be greatly appreciated, but the following contribution amounts will be acknowledged on a commemorative plaque in honor or memory of the person or thing of your choice:

- \$3,500 – The amount equal to the cost of preserving one window
- \$1,750 – The amount equal to half the cost of preserving of one window
- \$875 – The amount equal to a quarter of the cost of preserving one window

Any funds raised in excess of the total cost of the project will be retained for use in future capital improvements. Donations can be made by writing "Church Window Project" in the memo line of a check written to Saint Michael's. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Marceil Prestridge at 832-567-8636.

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### **End of Year Giving**

In Proverbs 2:6, God's Word promises: "The LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding." Faith Lutheran High School exists to instill Christ's wisdom in His Word to prepare faithful leaders for tomorrow. Thank you for being a part of this mission through your prayers and financial support. The Board of Directors encourages faithful giving during this time to further the ministry and mission of FLHS. Please prayerfully consider how you can give to further Lutheran education in our area. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck at (979) 242-2889.

### **"Faith at Christmas" Program**

The students gave a marvelous performance at Faith at Christmas this past week as we celebrated the birth of our Savior through "Peace has Come." We were incredibly blessed to give this performance to those in attendance and those viewing from at home. The video of the program can still be found on our Facebook page if you were unable to watch it on Tuesday.

### **Shadow Days**

Shadow days are a great opportunity for

prospective students to follow us for a day and experience what FLHS is all about. Parents, call us today at (979) 242-2889 to set up a shadow day for your child.

### **Raffle Items**

The Spring Raffle is just around the corner. The Board of Directors is currently looking for valuable items or monetary donations to be used in the raffle. Please contact Nikki Kueck if you have something to donate! Thank you!

### **Accreditation Visit**

FLHS had a very successful accreditation visit on November 8th - 10th. FLHS has been officially been accredited in good standing, with no major deficiencies. Praise the Lord for the wonderful blessings He continues to bestow on FLHS.

### **Thank you!**

Everyone at FLHS is blessed by each gift that we receive from our supporters. It's not about the size of the gift, but the cheerful attitude that gives thanks to God (2 Corinthians 9:7). Whether your gift seems big or small, it is greatly appreciated and makes a bigger impact than you know!



**SAINT MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION**

**DATE:** December 13, 2020

**NAME(S) AND CONTACT INFORMATION\***

		MEMBER	VISITOR	DESIRES A CALL	COMMUNING TODAY?
NAME(S)	ADDRESS				
PHONE	EMAIL				
NAME(S)	ADDRESS				
PHONE	EMAIL				
NAME(S)	ADDRESS				
PHONE	EMAIL				
NAME(S)	ADDRESS				
PHONE	EMAIL				

**\*NOTE:** VISITORS, PLEASE PROVIDE ALL CONTACT INFORMATION; MEMBERS, UPDATED INFORMATION ONLY