



PRESENCE

How many Lutherans does it take to gather for worship?

Do you know how many Lutherans it takes to gather for worship? Your church staff and elected leaders work hard to organize more than 120 volunteers each week to make sure everyone in the church has three opportunities for a full and rich Sunday morning:

- 1) An hour of worship;
- 2) 20-30 minutes of fellowship;
- 3) An hour of Sunday school or Bible study for all ages.

Sunday school and J-Church for our children takes volunteers. Our volunteers for leadership at Insight (adult education) have doubled in the last two years. There are some behind the scenes movers and shakers such as the money counters, Altar guild, church mice, coffee and treats, the sound board and PowerPoint operators – to name a few. Who is it that changes the paraments for the seasons, fills the wine cups, brews the coffee and advances the slideshow?

Then there are those we may notice each week: the greeters, ushers, readers, Communion assistants, musicians, worship assistants, choir and praise team. For all three services on a typical Sunday morning, we have as many as 30 volunteers helping make worship happen. That number is more than double when you include praise team, choir members, and special music.

Have you ever thought about being a lay volunteer during the week or on Sunday morning? It may be that little extra motivation you need to get you and your family here each week. How about lending your voice to the choir for a season? Maybe you prefer to be behind the scenes? Contact a pastor, the choir directors or the Director of Lay Ministry, Tom Bond, to talk more about how you might volunteer.

You would be amazed at the difference giving 10 minutes of your time to prepare the morning reading, or 10 minutes during the service to help distribute Communion adds to your ability to worship. Volunteering during the service rarely takes away from your worship experience but adds to it. There may be nothing more powerful than declaring to your church family members that Jesus gave his flesh and blood for them when you assist with Communion. Seeing you serve once a month sends your children a strong message that worship is just as much about how God uses us as it is the peace or courage, we get from being with God. Thank you for serving with joy and thanksgiving.

In Christ,



Thank you to Ken Skinner, Rowan Hedden, Kurt Skinner and Karen Nygard for the work they did putting in the pro -life crosses at Messiah. Each cross represents over 115,000 abortions that have taken place in the United States.

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Box distribution began on Sunday, October 27. We would love to collect 100 filled boxes. The boxes are used to spread the word of God around the world.

Living Alternatives is a faith-based organization that believes in the sanctity of human life. They will never recommend or refer for an abortion. They do not receive any government funding and rely solely on donations from the community and churches.

Updates from the Living Alternatives banquet:

- They served 4,077 woman and their families in 12 different communities across Illinois and Indiana.
- 1,688 pregnancy tests
- 1,969 ultrasounds
- 12,967 appointments

One of the services they offer is called Willow Story, which offers bereavement support to parents who have had a still birth baby or a miscarriage. We are blessed to have such a great organization in our community and are proud to help support them through our tithing.

Pat Burke, Director

Gerry Boe, Donna Stier and Gary Phillips

Stewardship Team

INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION (RMD)

If you are 70.5 or older, you can make gifts directly from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to Messiah. Use your RMD without paying federal income tax on the withdrawal.

How it works:

- You must be age 70.5 or older at the time the gift is made.
- You must request from the IRA plan administrator a direct transfer of funds to Messiah.
- Gifts can be used to satisfy your IRA required minimum distribution and will not be tax deductible. (Because such a transfer avoids paying federal income tax on the withdrawal.)

Call Sherri (our bookkeeper) if you're interested in making a distribution directly to Messiah.



PARISH FELLOWSHIP— HELP WANTED

We are in need of helpers for our Wednesday family dinners, for setup and cleanup. These jobs don't take long and if you could spare an hour every once in a while it would be greatly appreciated! Setup would begin at 4:30 or so, possibly earlier depending on building use that day, & consists of making beverages (lemonade, tea, etc.), preparing tables with utensils, napkins, etc. (Cleanup is self-

explanatory.) There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. We are also in need of volunteers to bring baked goods (homemade or store-bought) for

funerals. There is also a sign up sheet in the Narthex for this important ministry. Coffee hour is running smoothly and Carol Gordon has prepared the schedule through the

end of the year... but we could always use more help!

Sincere thanks to those already helping our committee! Questions? 815-531-9781

- Terry Anzalone, Parish Fellowship Director



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES Deadline is November 17

Boxes are currently available in the Narthex! Since 1993, God has used Samaritan's Purse to deliver **over 200 million** Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts to children in need and disciple 50 million of these boys and girls.

Messiah has been a proud supporter for many years! Gift suggestions and more, visit <u>https://</u> www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/



JOIN US FOR FAMILY DINNERS WEDNESDAYS 5:30-6:30PM FREE WILL OFFERING ACCEPTED * DESSERTS WELCOME!

PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX SO WE HAVE A HEADCOUNT FOR THE MEAL, THERE IS ALSO A SIGN UP LIST FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH SETUP/PREP & CLEANUP Enjoy a family meal and then, at 6:30, head to:

- MKW (K-5th grades)
- Head2Heart (6th-8th)
- F.A.M. (high schoolers)

Women's Bible Study will resume in January.

ALL SAINTS

Please join us for All Saints Service of Remembrance on Wednesday, **November 6** at 7 pm. You are invited to bring a photo of your loved one(s) to place on the Altar for this service.



FOR THE LADIES OF MESSIAH

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We will resume in January. Watch for updates!



YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO JOLIET AREA CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S

"CRIME PREVENTION!" LUNCHEON at Messiah Lutheran Church Wednesday, November 20, 11:30am-1:30pm, \$20.00 inclusive

> We will feature Officer Mascolino of the Joliet Police Dept. with lessons on how not to get scammed!

Guest speaker, Dr. Yemi of Winfield IL, a retired educator and psychologist will share with us how children learn.

RSVP by November 12 by contacting Barb at 815-439-2076 or <u>mrs.brutus56@gmail.com</u>, or call Sonya at 815-727-1626.

"Joliet IL Christian Women's Connection" - Like us on Facebook! Next luncheon Wed., December 11 www.stonecroft.org

MESSIAH KIDZ CLUB HAPPENINGS!



Kindergarten – 5th grade: Join us on Wednesday nights, 6:30-8 pm. Come at 5:30 for family dinner (see page 3).

Questions? Contact Beth Hohisel at <u>bhohisel@hotmail.com</u> or 815-735-7897

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school for pre-K through 5th grades is upstairs at 9:30 am.

MESSIAH KIDS REMIND GROUP

Parents of Sunday school aged children (K-5th grade) can join the Messiah Kids Remind group by texting the code mlcmk to 81010, or by going to:

https://www.remind.com/join/mlcmk

It will be used to send reminders and notifications about Sunday school and any events we have planned. Contact Kimber Drummond at <u>christianed@mlcjoliet.org</u> with questions.

J-CHURCH (NEW! Replaces MK11) Third Sunday every month at 11:00 am

Our newest ministry for kids and youth of all ages, J-CHURCH, will take place during the 11:00 am service the third Sunday of every month in the FLC! Please sign up in the Narthex. We meet next on **November 17**. Volunteers are needed so please see Leslie to get involved.





MESSIAH STUDENT MINISTRIES

Be sure to sign up for Messiah Student Ministries on Remind to keep up to date on this and other upcoming events.

Use this link <u>https://www.remind.com/join/messiahst</u> or use class code @messiahst within the app.

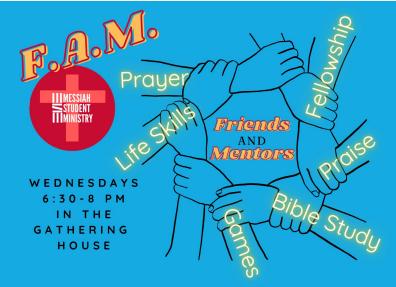


MAFIA NIGHTS



HEY 6th-12th GRADERS!

Sunday morning Bible study meets at 9:30 am. 6-8th graders meet in the youth room and high schoolers are currently joining in with the Insight group, with a breakout session in classroom 101. If you have questions, comments, or are looking to connect regarding youth news, events, ministries for students in 6-12th grades, please don't hesitate to reach out to Kate Richmond via email at <u>stumin@mlcjoliet.org</u> or call the church office.



FRIENDS AND MENTORS (F.A.M.) A ministry for high school students and recent graduates.

F.A.M. is a chance to connect with peers and those who have navigated the path ahead of you, to learn life skills and other lessons learned along the way.

We play games, learn practical life skills, pray for each other, sing praise and more!

YOU belong here!

Come at 5:30 and join us for Wednesday Family Dinner (see page 3).

HEAD 2 HEART

H2H (otherwise known as Confirmation) meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. All 6-8th graders are welcome! Come at 5:30 and join us for Family Dinner most Wednesdays - see page 3 - (Soup Suppers during Lent) in Fellowship Hall. If you'd like to know more, just reach out to the church office and we'll get you in touch with H2H leader, Kersten Stier.

OPPORTUNITIES - GET INVOLVED!

ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY



Join us for adult Bible study on Sunday mornings at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall. On December 1, we kickoff a new 4-week Advent study entitled, "Just as He Promised." Individual study guides are currently on sale for \$15 and we will be placing an order soon - see Tom Bond to get signed up for one.

Just as He Promised: How the Birth of Jesus Proves God Keeps Every Promise He Makes will equip you to:

• Walk verse by verse through the birth narrative texts of Matthew and Luke.

• Identify the fulfilled Old Testament prophecies pertaining to Jesus's birth and the events surrounding it.

- Examine Christ's birth story chronologically.
- Observe God's sovereignty across history and within cultures to send His Son at just the right time—just as He promised.

Whether this is your first Advent study or you've been doing them for years, you'll love how God's Word and promises are illuminated during this special season. If you're in need of reminding that God keeps all of His promises, *Just As He Promised* is for you.



ALTAR FLOWERS - SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX

Our Altar flowers sign up chart is on the Connect Wall in the Narthex (outside the Fireside Room). If you'd like to help beautify our Sanctuary and sponsor Altar flowers in honor of a special occasion or to memorialize someone important in your life, please sign up. Arrangements are \$25 each.

DAYBREAK SHELTER



Volunteers are needed to serve dinner to needy people at Daybreak Homeless Shelter in Joliet. The commitment is from 5:30-7 pm on the second Monday of each month.

Food donations are also needed. Sign up in the Narthex or online at: mlcjoliet.org/life-groups

Messiah members will be serving at Daybreak on Monday, **November 11.**

Messiah Gives Back!

FAITH & BODY THURSDAYS

Tie up your shoes and meet in the Family Life Center for Faith & Body! We meet each Thursday from 9-10 am. It's exciting to think how many miles we will walk this year while simultaneously strengthening our faith! Please register here:

https://messiahlutheranchurch.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2426227

LIL LOVES MINISTRY

Lil Loves at Messiah aims to come alongside underserved parents and babies in the area by providing **FREE** assistance with diapers and much needed baby supplies. Lil Loves is available on a by-appointment basis, and those interested can sign up on our website.



Lil Loves thanks you for your donations of:

*Diapers and Pull-ups *Wipes *Baby Wash/Shampoo *Baby Lotion *Toiletry items for the moms such as deodorant, toothpaste, feminine hygiene, etc.

Trial-sized toiletry items are especially appreciated, rather than full-sized. If you'd like to donate, please place your items in the black bin in the Narthex. Call the church office for more information. Please note that we are **NO LONGER ABLE TO ACCEPT BABY FORMULA OR USED CLOTHING** (these items are happily accepted at the Pregnancy Resource Center, located at 903 Infantry Dr., Suite 600, in Joliet).

MEMORY BEARS

Messiah's Memory Bears Group meets here at the church from 9 am-noon once a month (sometimes twice!) to make stuffed teddy bears out of the clothing of people who have passed away, to comfort the grieving. We would love to have you join us! We have jobs that do not require sewing. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, **November 22 (please note this is a change to our normal meeting date)**. Text Cindi Souza at 815-931-8478 or email to regency118@comcast.net for more info.

MESSIAH MEN'S MINISTRY (3M)

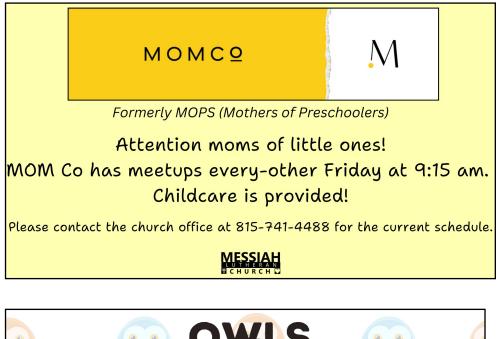
Hey guys - Need a break from the hassle of life? Join us as we spend an hour and a half in God's Word. Add your voice to the conversation. No judgment. No anxiety. No stress. Just men enjoying the fellowship of other men in the presence of God. Bring your Bible and your questions/comments and join us every second & fourth Tuesday from 6:30-8 pm. Our next meeting is **November 12**. Email Mike Brown at <u>gonzopal2017@cheerful.com</u> for more info.

MICRO PANTRY

Did you know that Messiah has a food pantry? This ministry is 100% donation-driven, and is maintained by the Evangelism Board. You can support this ministry through prayer, and through monetary and/or food donations. Contact the church office for more info, or leave your donations in the bin in the Narthex. EXPIRED ITEMS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.

MLC OFFICE HOURS

The office is staffed Monday-Friday from 9 am - 3 pm. Saturdays and evenings are by appointment. Staff is always available by appointment, so please don't hesitate to ask!



MOMCo meets every-other Friday in Fellowship Hall.



<u>OWLS</u>

We are trying something new this season of OWLS! Since we are without our chef, we ask that everyone sign up in the Narthex to bring an appetizer, snack, salad, or dessert (light finger-foods).

Hope to see you on November 12!

PRAYER CHAIN

Messiah uses an email-based (not in-person) Prayer Chain made up of people willing to pray for our members, community, and nation in times of crisis. Prayers are shared amongst the group via email, and are confidential and anonymous as much as possible. Text Cindi Souza at 815-931-8478 or email to regency118@comcast.net for more info.

PRAYER TEAM

Our in-person Prayer Team meets Thursday mornings at 10:15 in the Fireside Room for approximately one hour, to pray together over our prayer request list. For more info text Cindi Souza at 815-931-8478 or by email to regency118@comcast.net, or Beth Hohisel at bhohisel@hotmail.com.

QUILTERS

See page 12.

SANCTUARY CHOIR

Our Sanctuary Choir sings on Sunday mornings at the 9:30 service, September through May. When the Children's Choir is performing, we sing at the 8:00 service. Rehearsals take place on Thursday evenings from 7:15-8:45. We are always looking for new members! For more information please contact our Sanctuary Choir Director, Herb Alexander, at halex12240@gmail.com.

SING PRAISE

Are you passionate about worship and prayer? Are you seeking a community where you can dive deeper into your faith through blended worship experiences? Look no further! Sing Praise has created a space where individuals can come together to worship in a blended style, combining contemporary and traditional elements to create a dynamic and uplifting atmosphere. Whether you love to sing, play an instrument, or simply want to soak in the presence of God, you'll find a

a**y-n-**pla



home here. All are welcome! For more info, reach out to Justin Brown at <u>worship@mlcjoliet.org</u>. We meet every-other Saturday at 6:30 pm in the FLC - our next gathering is **October 12**.

Stay-N-Play is every Tuesday morning from 9:30-11! You may ask, "What is Stay-N-

Play?" We open our Family Life Center to the community for FREE open gym time for children five and under. It's a great place for caregivers and children to make connections with other caregivers and to have a safe place for children to play. Please like our Facebook page (MLC Stay-n-Play Playgroup) for additional information and share with your

friends and neighbors. We are also in need of a few more Messiah volunteers (once a month) to make coffee and welcome Stay-N-Play guests. This is a great way for outreach to the community and to let them experience a little of who we are here at Messiah. Please contact Sherri Unyi in the office for more info.

WE ARE SEEKING "MESSIAH AMBASSADORS" TO TAKE TURNS BEING PRESENT AT STAY-N-PLAY TO HELP WITH SETUP, WELCOMING GUESTS AND PROMOTING MLC EVENTS. Please inquire with Sherri Unyi.



STROLLER FIT MOM'S CLUB



WAYS TO GIVE

We will have an offering time during the services, but you can give any time during the week using one of the following ways:

- 1) Go to: bit.ly/MLCGiving
- 2) Download the Church Center app on your phone or tablet and follow the instructions given.
- 3) Text your dollar amount (with a dollar sign in front of it) to 84321.
- 4) Mail your check to the church at: 40 Houbolt Rd., Joliet, IL 60431

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

See page 4 for upcoming events for the ladies of Messiah!

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- <u>%</u> %%	Thank you for all of your prayers, cards and love since my fall and stay in rehab. I am truly grateful and blessed for your love and concern.	00 00 00 00
∼∞ <u>~∞ ~∞ ~</u> ∞ <u>~</u> ∞ ~	God bless you all, Judy Jelm	00 00 00 00 00 00

MESSIAH QUILTERS



The Messiah Quilters will meet on Tuesday, **November 19**, from 9 am – 2 pm. We have a lot of quilts ready to complete and if you can tie a knot, you can help us out. We even have jobs you can do sitting down. Think about stopping in to see what we do. You do not have to stay the entire time - whatever time you can give is appreciated. If you are unable to join us and would like to sew at home, we have kits

available with instructions that show how easy it is to put a quilt top together.

Per Lutheran World Relief, our quilts are being shared with our neighbors recovering from hurricanes throughout the Southeast. At least 10 semi-loads of quilts and kits have been sent. In Ashville, NC a facility for homeless veterans was flooded and 165 men lost nearly all of their possessions and the stability they were working so hard to rebuild. Two weeks after the storm, a local hotel was secured to become their home for the next 6+ months. Each of these men received a LWR quilt and, to say these men were grateful would be an understatement! In fact, one man returned after putting the quilt on his bed and said, "I put that new quilt on my bed and the room just shone with beautiful colors. Thank you for all the love in that quilt."

Our quilts DO make a difference around the world and here at home! **Thank you** to all our quilters and fellow parishioners here at Messiah, who contribute to this mission. Contact Kathy Mueller 815 -953-6601 at scpbklane@aol.com for more information or any questions you may have. Hope to see you on **November 19**!



NAPERVOICE FALL CONCERT 2024

Naperville's philanthropic choir with the mission "Sing well. Do good."©

NaperVoice Fall 2024 Concert is Sunday, November 17, at 4 pm at Grace United Methodist Church on Gartner Rd. in Naperville. Tickets are available at <u>www.napervoice.org</u>. Admission is \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors (60+) and students (13+). Please be sure to <u>reference Herb Alexander's name at checkout</u>.

As always, NaperVoice supports a different charitable organization at each concert. This time, all net proceeds will benefit The Conservation Foundation, with a mission to improve the health of our communities by preserving and restoring open space and natural lands, protecting rivers and watersheds, and promoting stewardship of our 12 environment in northeastern Illinois.

All Saints Service

of Thanksgiving & Remembrance

Wednesday, November 6, 7:00 pm Please bring a photo of your loved one to place on the Altar before the service.





THANKSGIVING EVE & wednesday evenings during ADVENT

Wednesdays at 7 pm



Please join us for worship: November 27 December 4 December 11 December 18

PRAYED PRAY JOLIET

SPECIAL PRE-ELECTION PRAYER GATHERING

> NOV4,2025 MONDAY • 7-8PM

In these times of division the Church must pray God's will be done. His kingdom. His power. His glory. Jesus above all. Amen.

Word of Life Church 1500 Cedarwood Dr. Crest Hill, IL



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Ryan & Kathryn Kittler
- 4 Brian & Christy Werner
- 15 David & Kateryna Calderon Herb & Jackie Zite
- 18 Dan & Melanie Brozman





- 1 Joyce Smith
- 2 Tom Bond Kim Ciuffini Zayden Lawler Jim Weller
- 3 Cindy McPhail Mark Snider
- 4 Tim Boe Diane Santorineos
- 5 Kenny Howard
- 6 Jason Beavis
- 7 Carol Thompson
- 8 Trish Gillman
- 9 Joey Beavis Jane Stukel
- 10 Andrew Nygard Julia Remus Maxwell Remus
- 11 Marcy Vickers Evelyn Weiss Presley Weiss
- 12 Ryan Southcomb
- 13 Jesse Cohoon
- 14 Abigail Burnetti Chris Hoelscher Elena Prybell
- 15 Elizabeth Stutte
- 16 Olivia Bowman Kathy Mueller Christy Werner

- 18 Greg Gipes
- 19 Greg Dole
- 20 Austin Bernhard
- 21 Bennett Kerber
- 22 Gary Ally Tessa Stutte
- 23 Nikolai Stier
- 24 Sharon Anderson
- 25 Bentley Steffen
- 26 Beth McDonald Janet Potts
- 27 Kenny Fowler Ryan Liberty Darlene Strong
- 28 Jenny Fowler Courtney King Keith Thompson
- 29 Anthony Burnetti
- 30 Bev Korby Marsha Smith

NOVEMBER SERVERS

Counters

11/03/24	Dan Stukel, Zach Hoelscher	11/03/24	Laure
11/10/24 11/17/24	Gayle Arko, Wayne Lauffer Stan Buhr, Joy McClintock	11/10/24 11/17/24	Randy Greg [
11/24/24	Judy Fowler, Deb Dole	11/24/24	neede

Ushers 8:00

11/03/24	Jerry Buchenau, Dan Stukel	11/03/24	
11/10/24	Paul Allen, Don Cyborski	11/10/24	/
11/17/24	Wayne Lauffer, Bob Miller	11/17/24	
11/24/24	Craig Stone, Don Cyborski	11/24/24	I

Ushers 9:30

11/03/24	Bill Unyi, one needed
11/10/24	Jeff Holmes, Alan Costello
11/17/24	Roger Gordon, Josh Johnke

11/24/24 Alan Costello, one needed

Ushers 11:00

11/10/24	Tom & Tammie Eigenbauer
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- Gary Phillips, one needed 11/17/24
- Darryl Hoelscher, one needed 11/24/24

Communion Assistants 8:00

11/03/24	Bev Korby, Paul & Marvina Allen
11/10/24	Marvina Allen, Randy & Laurel Ling
11/17/24	Pat Anderson, Greg Dole, one needed
11/24/24	Pat Anderson, Paul & Marvina Allen

Communion Assistants 9:30

11/03/24	three needed
11/17/24	three needed

Communion Assistants 11:00

- 11/03/24 three needed 11/17/24
 - three needed

Readers 8:00

1/03/24	Laurel Ling
1/10/24	Randy Ling
1/17/24	Greg Dole
1/24/24	needed

Readers 9:30

11/03/24	Marcy Vickers
11/10/24	Angie Mitchka
11/17/24	Doug Potts
11/24/24	Matthew Fiday

Readers 11:00

11/03/24	needed
11/10/24	Sarah Prybell
11/17/24	needed
11/24/24	Kate Richmond

Greeters 8:00

11/03/24	Gerry & Pat Boe
11/10/24	Wayne Lauffer, Nancy Bertnik
11/17/24	Bev Korby, Darlene Matison
11/24/24	two needed

Greeters 9:30

11/03/24	Beth Hohisel, one needed
11/10/24	Darryl & Cindi Souza
11/17/24	two needed
11/24/24	Darryl & Cindi Souza

Greeters 11:00

11/03/24	Roger & Carol Gordon
11/10/24	two needed
11/17/24	two needed
11/24/24	two needed





40 Houbolt Rd. Joliet, IL 60431 (815) 741-4488



Worship Coordinator Justin Brown Tech Coordinator Nikolai Stier Youth & Building Administrator Kate Richmond Children's Ministry Director Leslie McFarland Office Coordinator Vicki Dallmann

Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover Associate Pastor: vacant Choir Director Herb Alexander Children's Choir Director Season Lawler Organist Rose Ann Sochan

info@mlcjoliet.org

815-741-4488