

# The Christian Light

Volume 19 Number 7

July 2021

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## Don't Go On The Gong Show

The Gong Show was an amateur talent show created by Chuck Barris. It aired from 1976-1978 and was redone in 2017. I remember watching the show from time to time in the summer when I was young. The acts were often horrible. When they were bad the celebrity judges had the option of bringing them to an early end by loudly banging on a huge gong. Some people sought out the gong by being terrible and others thought they were great, but were truly gong worthy.

In 1 Corinthians 13, God urges us to not appear on the Going Show. He is not talking about the TV show Chuck Barris created. He is talking about the show our sinful nature wants us to star in quite often.

In 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:3 the Holy Spirit had Paul write for the Corinthians and us:

Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

And yet I will show you the most excellent way.

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Our sinful nature has a burning desire to let others know how gifted, smart and right we are compared to them. If we give into the sinful nature's wishes to speak and act without love we are on the Gong Show. This is a show that God would love to see cancelled in our lives!

It is possible to be right and still be wrong. What in the world does that mean? God wants us to be right, doesn't he. After all, His Word is truth so we have to speak the truth, don't we? Certainly! But God also tells us to speak the truth in love.

If we speak the truth out of anything but Christ-like love we are sinning. If I speak the truth in a condescending, unloving way, I sin. If I speak the truth in a way that only wants to let you know how wrong you are and how right I am, I sin. If I speak the truth about someone or their behavior out of the desire to "put them in their place" and belittle them, I sin.

So how in the world do we avoid this "Gong Show"?

I need to grow in my love for Jesus so that I love like he does in all my thoughts, words, and actions. I will fail. But in Christ I am forgiven. That forgiveness moves me to want to get better at speaking and acting in Christian love.

Jesus loved me (and you) when we were wrong. He loved us when our actions were abhorrent to him. He loved us to the point of dying on the cross. That is why we will want to get better at living in "the most excellent way." That way is loving others the way Jesus loved us!

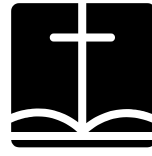


## Our Mission

is to  
**Glorify**  
 God  
 as we  
**Gather**  
 around the  
 Gospel  
 to  
**Grow**  
 in the  
 Gospel  
 and then  
**Go**  
 to others  
 with the Gospel



# Congregational News



## Voters' Meeting

July 11 in church

After late worship

Topic: Church air conditioning

### Leadership Team Notes

Sandy Pantzlaff will begin cleaning church in July. Don and Sandy Pantzlaff will take care of opening and closing church for special occasions. We still do not have anyone who is willing to open and close church for weekly worship.

The Leadership Team approved rubber mulch for the new playground that is not to exceed \$10,000.

The Leadership Team decided to have a voters' meeting to discuss air conditioning for church on July 11. We feel air conditioning would allow us to bring more Jesus to more people more often by removing avoiding worship because of heat and humidity. The quotes we have received so far are \$42,000-45,000, excluding electrical work. We are seeking quotes on the electri-

cal work before the meeting on July 11.

Average weekly worship attendance in 2021 through the end of May is 215 in person and 45 online. Worship attendance in May was very low in person and online. Bible class average attendance is 47.

The LT decided to place the hymnals and supplements back in the pews.

The Barnabas Ministry has callers lined up to call the people we sent a letter to in May. We are also organizing the meals for the outdoor services. Thanks Tamara Schultz for organizing the meals for us!

The LT granted Olivia Tasch's request to transfer to St. Marcus, Milwaukee.

The Treasurer reported the following May balances:

Income	\$86,733
Expenses	\$54,363
Monthly balance	\$32,363
Fiscal year to date balance	\$266,724
Checkbook balance	\$81,950
Gen. reserve fund	\$200,221
DPI reserve fund	\$14,011
High School	\$2,515
Calendar year total	\$12,931
2021 goal	\$13,000
Synod Mission	\$5,850
Calendar year total	\$26,859
2021 goal	\$29,500

The appeal received \$600 in offerings in May. In May there was \$6,290 in expenses from the appeal account. This account supports the expenses of having a second pastor. The balance in the appeal account is \$15,002.

### Christian Baptisms

On Sunday, June 20 Brooklyn Ann Baeten and Savannah June Baeten were baptized into Christ in the 8:00 service. Brooklyn and Savannah are the daughters of Adam and Jessica Baeten. Adam and Jessica are going through the New Life in Christ class to explore joining Morrison Zion. Brooklyn was born on August 12, 2016. Savannah was born on October 31, 2019. Please pray for God's blessings on the Baetens!

### Graduate Recognition

If you or a family member graduated from High School or College in 2020 or 2021 please send picture to Pastor Enderle at james.enderle@mzls.org Please include the graduates name and year, school graduating from, (for High School grads plans for next year), (for college students the degree you received). Thank you to those who have already sent your pictures.

### Christian Vow Renewal and Weddings

On Saturday, June 5 Kasey and Dana Doyen renewed their vows in a worship service at Morrison Zion, They were married in June 2020.

On Saturday, June 12 Edward Beyer and Joanna Pawlak were united in marriage in a worship service at Morrison Zion.

On Saturday, June 19 Paul Eichhorst and Stacy Danford were united in marriage in a worship service at Morrison Zion.

Please pray that God blesses all these couples as they seek to honor him in their lives as husband and wife!

## Grow and Keep On Growing in the Grace and Knowledge of Jesus

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** In July we will continue the study *One Another*. We meet in the church basement at 9:15 a.m. each Sunday. Join us! The lessons for July are;

- July 4: No class
- July 11 Encourage One Another
- July 18 Teach and Admonish One Another
- July 25 Carry Each Others' Burdens

**The Chosen Sunday Morning Bible Study** Join us in June in church Sundays at 9:15 a.m. for a study that looks at series called "The Chosen." We will watch season 2 in July. It focuses on Jesus and the disciples. Pastor Enderle leads this study which is suitable for all ages from young children to adults. You can also find the episodes and study material at <http://www.mzluth.org/the-chosen-bible-study/> This study and series can serve a great opportunity for you and your family to dig into scripture.

**Sunday School** We plan to have in person Sunday School this fall. We are in need of more teachers and helpers. Please talk to Pastor Enderle (920-949-1038) if you are able to help or if you have suggestions of helps. Thank you!

**Psalms 18:30** is a ministry for 18-30 year-olds. Join us for a bonfire and Bible Study on July 10 at 7:00 p.m. We also plan to have more gatherings and activities in the area. If you have suggestions, please contact Pastor Enderle (920-949-1038).

**Sunday Night Book Discussion** In July we will finish discussing the book, *Myth of the Millennial*. We meet at Nickel Funeral Home. Please park in the triangle in front of the funeral home and enter through the glass door. We meet Sundays at 7:00 p.m. Join us! We will not meet July 4 or July 25.

**Youth Group Bible Study** meets Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the school commons. Please join us for study with open gym/outdoor fun to follow

**New Life in Christ Class** . We meet Mondays at 6:30 p.m. or Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Bible Study room in the church basement. This course reviews the basic teachings of the Bible. Please join us whenever you can! We will not meet on Monday, July 5.

**Men's Study** meets Monday at 7:00 p.m. We are studying 1 Thessalonians. We meet around the bonfire as long as weather allows. We will meet in the church basement if it is raining. It is a blessing to gather around the Word and have iron sharpen iron.

**Women's Bible Study** will not meet in July. Look for announcements concerning times to get together over the summer and let Jen know if you have any suggestions moving forward with our Women's Bible Study

**Bible Reading Plan** Contact Pastor Enderle with any questions. Please join us in as we grow in God's Word together!

- July 1-5 Scarcity: Video Devotions From Your Time Of Grace
- July 6-10 Jesus' Water Works! Devotions from Time of Grace
- July 11-22 Luke
- July 23-27 Your Faith: Devotions From Your Time Of Grace
- July 28-August 1 God's Name: Devotions From Time Of Grace

**ESL Class** English as a Second Language will not meet in July. We will meet again in August on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the pavilion (weather permitting) or in the church basement. New volunteers are welcome to join. You don't need any experience teaching. Please talk to Pastor Enderle if you are interested in helping.

## Worship In July

### Notes on Worship

We will continue to live stream Sunday morning worship at 8:00 a.m. on YouTube. Our page is [www.youtube.com/c/morrisonzionlutheran](http://www.youtube.com/c/morrisonzionlutheran). Share the link with a friend! We are also testing livestreaming on Facebook at the same time. You can find recordings of all of our worship services on YouTube and Facebook. Resources for worship and an online friendship and communion register are at [www.mzluth.org/online](http://www.mzluth.org/online) worship. If you would like sermons printed and mailed or DVDs please contact with Nancy Pantzlaff (864-2349).

In July we continue in the second half of the Church Year. This half focuses on our life in Christ. Our themes for each service in July:

July 1/4	Pentecost 6	<b>Worship prepares us for the ultimate test</b>	green
		Sermon: 2 Timothy 1:8-14	Hymns: 405, 448, 619
July 8/11	Pentecost 7	<b>Faith overcomes persecution</b>	green
		Sermon: 2 Timothy 3:10-4:5	Hymns: 284, 544, 541 communion
		<b>Faith responds...</b>	
July 15/18	Pentecost 8	<b>Faith responds by sharing the Word</b>	green
		Sermon: 1 Timothy 3:1-7	Hymns: 575, 525, 572
July 22/25	Pentecost 9	<b>Worship is a joyful response of faith</b>	green
Outdoors Sunday		Sermon: Hebrews 13:7-8,17-21	Hymns: 528, 362, 283

Consider using the hymns, readings and the sermon text as a personal or family devotion some-time before you join us at worship or online!

Altar Committee members serving in July: Diane and Sally Suchomel

## Summer Outdoor Worship

We plan to have four outdoor services this summer. We plan outdoor worship on Thursday, July 1 before the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. We also planning three outdoor services on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month in July, and August (July 25, and August 22). Having outdoor services will give people the opportunity to attend (either in chairs in the park or in their vehicles) and receive the sacrament. If you are able to help, we will need help taking the keyboard outside and chairs and also returning them after 10:30 worship.

## Outdoor Concert

On Sunday August 8, members of our congregation will provide an hour of music along with pie and ice cream to raise money for the Preaching/Teaching Fund. This fund gives \$1000 to our members who are preparing for the gospel ministry in the WELS at MLC or WLS. We will begin at noon. Bring a chair, bring a friend, and enjoy the music!

## Online Register

Thank you for letting us know when you worship online. Text your names and the date to (920) 362-7118 or (920) 949-1038. You can also register online at [www.mzluth.org](http://www.mzluth.org). Also you can say "Good Morning" in the comments section on Facebook or YouTube so others know who they are worshipping with! You can also send prayer requests online or by text.

## Youth Group Kickball Tournament

The Youth Group will host a summer kickball tournament on Saturday July 24. Each team will need a minimum of 7 players. Anyone 8<sup>th</sup> grade and over is welcome to join including adults. Look for more details on how to signup at [mzluth.org](http://mzluth.org) and on Facebook.

## Church Golf Outing

Join us for our Church Golf Outings each Wednesday at Wander Springs. Tee times are in the name of Charles Edinger. We will golf on Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. each Wednesday until Sept. 1, weather permitting. You don't have to golf well to join us. Come out and have a good time with your brothers and sisters in Christ!

## Soup for Souls

Frozen meals are restocked in the freezers at church and school. We currently have a "Summer Picnic Meal" and chocolate chip cookies packaged and also have more cards with encouraging messages of love to give with the meal. If you are interested in making a monetary donation to this program please place the donation in the collection baskets. Thank you to Charlie and Annette Lemke for doing an Action Team for the Soup for Souls program this past month. "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." John15:12

## Food Pantry

Psalm 115:1 "Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, But to Your name give glory, Because of Your mercy, Because of Your truth!" I use this verse quite often when thinking about our food pantry, We have so many blessings to thank God for. The donations, both monetary and groceries, from many different organizations and our congregation, the volunteers who are willing to work every month, the families who are using the food pantry and we are able to share God's promises with and all the prayers to help us succeed. Last month we served 25 families. Summer is a great time to volunteer at the food pantry if you are available the first Saturday morning of the month or the following Monday evening please contact Linda Bruegge. Items always needed are laundry soap, toilet paper, shampoo, baking items, cereal, canned fruit and juice.

We can use more volunteers to help with the food pantry on July 3 and August 1. If you could help 7:00- 9:30 a.m. either of these days please contact Pam Mueller or Pastor Enderle. Thank you!

# School News

## School Registration

We will use PowerSchool's Online Registration this summer. Much of the information we need for registration can be submitted through this online registration format. Some paper documents will still need to be completed.

Registration materials can be found online at the church and school website. If you need paper copies, please contact Mrs. Nancy Pantzlaff to make arrangements for pickup. Registration will be Sunday, August 15, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and Monday, August 16, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

## 2021-22 School Year

The 2021-2022 school calendar is set with a starting date of Monday, August 30 for grades 5K - 8. The first day for the 4K students will be Tuesday, August 31.

## School Enrollment

Our enrollment stands at 75 students for the next school year. If you know of someone you work with, live close to, or anyone else who might be interested in Christian education, please have them contact Mr. Muchka. He is more than willing to sit down with them to discuss our school mission and give them a tour. You are the best promoters of our school!

## Scrip

### Scrip order dates:

July 11 church 9:00-9:15 a.m.

July 25 church 9:00-9:15 a.m.

Contact Michelle (619-0626 or micjer.laabs@gmail.com) with questions.

## Vacation Bible School

VBS will be in person at Morrison Zion Lutheran Tuesday, July 13-Thursday, July 15, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Our theme is Rainforest Explorers: Jesus Leads the Way! All children age 3 (and potty trained) through grade 6 are welcome! There is no cost. Students entering grade 7 and above are welcome to join us as classroom helpers. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us! Sign up at <https://forms.gle/Awui4bKWR4ptgYbU7>

There will be a helper training/decorating day on Sunday, July 11 at 11:45 a.m. Pizza will be served for lunch. Contact Abbey Laabs, Shannon Otto, Hannah Holzhueter, or Katie Muchka with questions.

## Member Spotlight

This month our member spotlight is on new member Abbey Ossmann-Marek. Abbey, originally from Oshkosh re-located to our area to be with her husband Scott Ossmann. Abbey and Scott have three kids in their blended family. The youngest is Abbey's daughter Aerilyn who is 7 and will be in second grade this fall. Scott's kids are Alexis and Brandon. Alexis is 19 and just finished her first year of college at Bellin. Brandon is 24 and works as a guard at the prison.

Plants of all kinds and family time are a couple of things that Abbey really enjoys! There is also a new puppy in the family so the puppy currently takes up a lot of Abbey's "free" time! In the summer you will find Abbey outside almost all of the time. She loves doing yard work and can always find something to do outside! Abbey's husband Scott is a fantastic cook so she loves inviting their families over to eat his cooking! After dinner they enjoy sitting around the fire for some relaxing family time. During the winter months Abbey enjoys crocheting all sorts of projects or you might find her immersed in a good book!

Abbey's connection to MZL actually goes back a few years. Her grandma attended Morrison Zion years ago and so did her husband's mother. Abbey's brother-in-law Jason also sent his kids to MZL. So they just knew it was the right place for them!

Originally they simply decided to send Aerilyn to Morrison Zion Lutheran School because Scott's niece and nephew attended and they only ever heard great things. Abbey had always wanted to send Aerilyn to a small private school and MZLS sounded perfect. After making that decision final, Abbey saw the job posting for the school custodian position. At the time Abbey was working full time in Neenah, and was really stressing about the commute and hours and how they'd work out with Aerilyn's busing and childcare. Abbey (kind of jokingly) showed her husband the job posting and suggested she quit her job and become the school custodian instead. To her surprise, he was all for it! Abbey had always ALWAYS dreamed of being the mom that could be there for everything but had always been so limited because of having to work. Being offered the position at school has been a dream come true for the family. Abbey is able to be 100% present for everything. She loves being able to be at school every day and getting to interact with all of the kids. Being new to the school, everyone was so amazing to Abbey and Aerilyn and they made them feel included and more than welcome!

Abbey was baptized Catholic but attended both Catholic and Lutheran schools as a young girl. She knew she wanted to become a member of Morrison Zion Lutheran church so she took the New Life in Christ class with Pastor Ott. Abbey really enjoyed the class. Not only did she learn a lot, but she gained so much understanding that she never even knew she needed! Pastor Ott answered ALL of her questions (and there were a LOT) and made the class a very fun interactive time. Abbey completed the class and was able to officially become a member a few months ago.

Abbey's favorite Bible passage is a portion of Psalm 91:4, "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge...". What a beautiful reminder that God is our shelter and protection no matter what the situation!

Thank you to Abbey for sharing a little bit about her life and her family with us! Welcome to Morrison Zion Abbey and family. We are so happy you are here!





**Morrison Zion Lutheran Church  
of Morrison**

Church: 7395 County Road W  
Greenleaf, WI 54126  
Pastor Randy Ott  
Pastor James Enderle  
www.mzluth.org  
School: 7373 County Road W  
Greenleaf, WI 54126  
Principal Rick Muchka

Phone 864-2348 (Church)  
864-2349 (School)  
Pastor Ott 362-7118 (mobile)  
Email: ottrr@mzluth.org  
Pastor Enderle 920-949-1038 (mobile)  
Email james.enderle@mzls.org



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JULY 2021



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