

# The Christian Light

Volume 19 Number 5

May 2021

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## Dead Means Dead

*So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code. Romans 7:4-6*

Have you ever thought about what it means that we, who are Christians, are “dead” to the law as Paul says above? What does death do to our earthly relationships?

If a person who is serving a 30 year prison term dies in the middle of year 12, does the warden make sure his body remains in prison another 18 years? Of course not! His sentence ended when he died. It ended his earthly relationship to his sentence. If a hearse is pulled over for speeding on the way to the cemetery, does the policeman give the ticket to the corpse in the casket? Of course not! He is no longer under the control of the law!

What about us? As Christians, are we still liable to keep the law of God? Reread what the Holy Spirit had Paul write in Romans 7 up above before you are too quick to answer. God’s answer for us is “No.” We are not accountable for keeping the law because we died to the law in Jesus. He kept it in our place. We no longer have to keep it to be right with God. Now we live

in a new relationship to the law. “We have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.” The old way of keeping the law is do to it out of fear of punishment. Christ was punished in our place. We no longer live in that fear. We have been released. Now we serve in the way of the Spirit. We serve God because we want to thank him. We love him because he first loved us. We live in the “Get to” of the Christian faith, not the “Have to” of the law.

The written code operates by threatening the sinful nature. You know how your sinful nature reacts to commands. Think about it. What was the first thing you wanted to do the last time you saw a “Wet Paint: Don’t Touch!” sign? You know you wanted to touch it. Your sinful nature does not want to be told what to do.

That is what Paul is talking about when he says “when we were controlled by the sinful nature , the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies.” When we try to live under the written code our sinful nature gets riled up and moves us to rebel. When we live by the Spirit we do not focus on the commands of the law. Instead, we focus on the law as a guide that shows us ways that we can show our love for God.

Stop feeding your sinful nature the steroids of thinking that you have to obey the law in order for God to love you. Live in response to God’s love for you in Christ. Then the gospel will move you to do more for God in your life than you would ever begin to dream is possible!



## 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



## Leadership Team Notes

The Leadership Team (LT) met in person in April.

Average weekly worship attendance in 2021 through the end of March is 200 in person and 53 online. Bible class average attendance is 44.

The cost on the work on the bathroom in the teacherage has gone up to \$5,300 from \$3,000. There are a number of plumbing items that needed to be addressed to get up to code.

The LT agreed to continue having two serving tables for communion on Sundays.

The LT set a date of May 11 at 6:00 p.m. at school for a meeting of the Barnabas Ministry. We will plan what we can do, given our present circumstances.

The LT decided to purchase a refurbished copier for \$3,800.

Don Pantzlaff has handed in his resignation as church custodian as of the end of June.

The LT accepted Elizabeth Blauert, Sawyer Diny, Ayla Evenson, Riley Feldkamp, Conner Hutjens, Braydon Novitski, Fletcher Pahl, and Emily Plagenz as communicant members by way of the Rite of Confirmation. The LT received Keith Falck into membership by way of transfer from Good Shepherd, Downer's Grove, IL. The LT accepted Cam and Erin Braun and their children Alden, Callum, and Elliot by way of Profession of Faith. The LT granted Kara Schultz a Peaceful Release of membership from MZL at her request.

The LT approved the use of the commons by people as of June 1.

The Treasurer reported the following March. balances:

Income	\$44,603
Expenses	\$49,592
Monthly balance	\$-4,989

Fiscal year to date balance	\$247,835
High School	\$2,545
Calendar year total	\$9,441
2021 goal	\$13,000
Synod Mission	\$4,515
Calendar year total	\$16,591
2021 goal	\$29,500

The appeal received \$200 in offerings in March. In March 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 \$27,914.

In the 2021-2022 budget the expense of having a second pastor will be in the general budget instead of funded by the appeal. The appeal money will be used up by July. This means that the church budget will look like it has an increase of over 50%. The increase in spending is actually only 4%.

## Church Custodian

If you would like to learn more about this position that will be open on July 1, please contact Randy Lopnow (920-864-7584).

## Christian Baptism

On Saturday, April 10 Ella Mae Malcore Hendricks was baptized into Christ in a private service. Ella is the daughter of Emily Malcore. She was born on August 11, 2019. Please pray for God's blessings on your new sister in Christ and her family!

## Church Golf Outing

On Wednesday, May 19 we will begin our Wednesday Church Golf Outings at Wander Springs. Tee times will be in the name of Charles Ediner. We will golf on Wednesday at 4:45 p.m. We will golf each Wednesday until Sept. 1, weather permitting. Everyone is welcome!

## Mothers Day Roses

The Bay Area Life Center (formerly known as the Pregnancy Counseling Center) will not offer roses on Mother's Day due to the Covid 19 Pandemic. However if anyone wishes to make a donation they may mail it to: Bay Area Life Center 743 South Monroe Ave Green Bay, WI 54301.

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

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** In May we will begin the study *Joseph*, based on the book of the same name by Lyle Luchterhand. This study is from the God's People series. A few books are still available from Pastor Ott for \$1. We meet socially distant in the church basement at 9:15 a.m. each Sunday. Join us!

**New Sunday Morning Bible Study: The Chosen** Join us for a new Bible Study in church Sundays at 9:15 a.m. The study is based off a new series called "The Chosen" that focuses on Jesus and the disciples. Pastor Enderle leads this study which is suitable for all ages from young children to adults.

**Sunday School** has a virtual option for families to do at home together. New lessons are available for delivery or pickup. Look to <https://www.mzluth.org/virtual-sunday-school/> for more all the videos and information. There is also a new Bible Study Sundays at 9:15 am in the upstairs of church based off of "The Chosen" which children and parents are invited to join. Contact Pastor Enderle for questions or comments.

**Psalms 18:30** is a ministry for 18-30 year-olds. We meet at the parsonage for lunch and study on Sundays. Join us at the parsonage following the 10:30 worship service. We are studying 1 John. Contact Pastor Enderle with any questions.

**Sunday Night Book Discussion** In May we will continue 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!

**Youth Group Bible Study** meets Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the school commons. We are discussing the benefits of being a part of the church. Open gym follows. 8th graders are welcome! We will not meet April 4. On April 25 we will meet at 6:00 p.m. for a pizza party, study, and games.

**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. It is the course we use to share what the Bible teaches with those who are exploring joining our congregation. It is a great review of basic Bible teachings for those who are members and want to review what they learned in confirmation class. Please join us!

**Men's Study** continues to meet Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the main church basement. Join us for time in the word and good fellowship! As soon as weather allows, we will move the study out to the fire pit by the parsonage. It is a blessing to gather around the Word and have iron sharpen iron.

**Women's Bible Study** will not meet in May. 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

**Taking God's Word Home** is a work at your own pace personal study for you to use at home alone or with others. Each week we have 3 studies of various formats on next week's readings that you can take home. They are available in the back of church. No one was picking any up at school.

**Bible Reading Plan** This month for the Bible Reading Plan we will read and discuss the Gospel of John and a Devotional on Prayer. We will read 1 chapter each day for the book of John. Go to [mzluth.org](http://mzluth.org) or our Facebook page to join. Contact Pastor Enderle with any questions. Please join us in as we grow in God's Word together! May 4 – May 24: John May 25 – May 31: Pray Continually: Devotions From Time Of Grace

**ESL Class** English as a Second Language meets Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the main church basement. New volunteers are welcome to join. We have had new students join us recently. The atmosphere is relaxed and fun. You don't need any experience teaching. We will move to the pavilion when weather allows. Please talk to Pastor Enderle if you are interested.

**Youth Group** meets in the school commons on Sundays at 7:00 p.m. We are discussing the benefits of being a part of the church and how we are blessing to others. 8<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to join us! After study there is open gym for those who are interested. Look for special outdoor events coming in June! Please join us and bring a friend!

## Worship In May

### Notes on Worship

We will continue to live stream Sunday morning worship at 8:00 a.m. and Wednesday 11:00 a.m. worship on YouTube. Our page is [www.youtube.com/c/morrisonzionlutheran](http://www.youtube.com/c/morrisonzionlutheran). Share the link with a friend! 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-worship](http://www.mzluth.org/online-worship). If you would like sermons printed and mailed or DVDs please speak with Nancy Pantzlauff.

Special Holy Week and Easter Worship times are on the back page. We worship in person at 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays starting on April 8. On Sunday we worship at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. Offerings can be given online at [www.mzluth.org](http://www.mzluth.org) or mailed to church (7395 County Road W, Greenleaf, WI 54126).

In May we conclude the week of weeks that is the Sundays of Easter. In May we will celebrate the minor festival of the Ascension of our Lord on Thursday, May 13 at 7:00 p.m. We will celebrate Pentecost, the third and final Major Festival of the Church Year, on Thursday, May 20 and Sunday May 23. Normal Thursday worship will not meet on Thursday, May 27. It is replaced by the grade school graduation service. Please join us on Sunday May 30 for the minor festival, Trinity Sunday. Our themes for each service in May is below.

April 29/May 2	Easter 5	<b>Separation is Rolled Away</b>	white
		Sermon: Acts 16:11-15	Hymns: 385, 168, 249
May 6/9	Easter 6	<b>Hatred is Rolled Away</b>	white
		Sermon: Acts 9:36-42	Hymns: 458, 377, 432 communion
May 13	Ascension	<b>Selfishness is Rolled Away</b>	white
		Sermon: Deut. 33:26-29	Hymns: 169, 341, 171
May 16	Easter 7	<b>Fear is Rolled Away!</b>	white
		Sermon: Acts 7:54-60	Hymns: 173, 359, 202
May 20/23	Pentecost	<b>The Life of the Church is Empowered by the Spirit</b>	red
		Sermon: Ezekiel 33:7-14	Hymns: GR, 176, 281 communion
May 27	Grade School Graduation		white
		Sermon: ?	Hymns: ?
May 30	Trinity Sunday	<b>God Reveals Himself as Triune</b>	white
		Sermon: Isaiah 6:1-8	Hymns: 436, 375, 452

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

Altar Committee members serving in May: Dawn and Dick Tisler

## Summer Outdoor Worship

We plan to have four outdoor services this summer, one on a Thursday and three on Sundays. 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 for June, July, and August (June 27, July 25, and August 22). Having three 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.

## Online Register

Please register your online worship! 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). Registering helps us to know who we are ministering to online. You can also send prayer requests online or by text.

## Youth Group Summer Outing

The Morrison Zion Youth Group is offering a 3-day-2-night trip and a 1-day option (no overnight stay) to Wildman Adventures Resort on the Menominee and Peshtigo Rivers from July 6-8, 2021 for all teens Grade 8-12. This trip is in coordination with several other WELS churches in the area. Please go to [www.mzluth.org/youth-group-2/](http://www.mzluth.org/youth-group-2/) for more information and to sign up. There you can find the cost for the two options. Signing up now is not yet a full commitment but letting us know you are interested. This trip is subject to certain conditions, but we hope circumstances allow this trip to happen.

5 guided adventures include: Menominee River whitewater rafting (large group rafts), Zipline Tour, Alpine Tower High Ropes Course, Peshtigo River whitewater rafting (individual rafts), Paintballing. You can also visit <https://wildmanranch.com/> for more information.

## Food Pantry

We really could use a few extra volunteers for distribution or set up. We are currently doing the first Saturday of the month and the Monday evening following. You can help just one month or help with setting up or taking down. Please contact Linda Bruegge or food pantry phone (920)265-5605 if interested.

If there is anyone needing assistance please contact the food pantry phone. (920-246-5435) If you would like to keep your use of our pantry private please just let us know and we can work it out.

The items always needed are juice, cereal, tuna, pasta sauce, shampoo, toothpaste, toilet paper, baking items and laundry detergent.

## Soup for Souls

Meals continue to be available in the freezers at school and church for anyone to take to share the love of Jesus with others. *We love because he first loved us.* 1 John 4:19

## Scrip

### Scrip order dates:

May 2 church 9:00-9:15 a.m.

May 16 church 9:00-9:15 a.m.

Drop orders off anytime during the week in the school office and Michelle Laabs will fill them when she is able. Contact Michelle (619-0626 or micjer.laabs@gmail.com) with any questions.

If you know of anyone joining out school next year, tell them about our scrip program that can help with their tuition for the following year. Or anyone that will be sending their child/children to start this year to have tuition credit built up for the following year when they start school.

## No Longer Collecting

We are no longer collecting Boxtops for Education labels, Campbell Soup labels, milk caps, and other plastic caps.

We will continue to collect the tabs from pop cans for the Ronald McDonald House's.

Thank you for all your past donations!

## Vacation Bible School

Planning has begun for this summer's Vacation Bible School! Please watch future newsletters for more details!

## School News

### 2021-22 School Year

The 2021-2022 school calendar is set with a starting date of Monday, Aug. 30 for grades 5K - 8. The first day for the 4K students will be Tuesday, Aug. 31. The final day of school is Friday, May 27, 2022.

### School Enrollment

If you know of anyone interested in a solid Christian education, please feel free to mention our school! Mr. Muchka is more than willing to set up a meeting with prospects, give them a tour, or just discuss their child's education. Our projected enrollment is 74, and we have room for plenty more children to learn about Jesus!

### Grades 1-2

Welcome spring! We sure enjoy going outside, but inside we continue to work. The second graders did 3 digit addition and subtraction. The first graders studied fractions. We studied adjectives, subjects and predicates, blends and vowel digraphs. We enjoyed preparing and presenting our class play, "The Little Red Hen." Thanks to those who helped make the props for our show, thanks parents for the awesome costumes, and kids for putting on a great show! During April, we visited the many habitats of our world through videos and books. We got to see some of the amazing creatures that God made. The students made models of some of the animals and habitats that they wanted to learn more about. We're excited to head to the Milwaukee Zoo May 5 to see some of these fascinating animals! Thanks to God; our trip to the zoo is being paid for through some very generous donations. Thank you to all. We'll tell you about highlights of our trip in the June newsletter. Be sure to check out our school facebook page to see pictures from The Little Red Hen and our fun day at the zoo.

### Grades 3-4

Can you believe it's already May? In Christ Light the class is studying the New Testament. We want to share God's word and the love of Jesus with everyone we meet. In Math both the third and fourth graders are studying fractions. In Science we are starting a unit on electrical circuits. We are writing persuasive paragraphs for our Shurley English class. Much of April was spent working on our class play, Bugz. The third and fourth graders performed their play April 29-30! Please keep our third and fourth grade class in your prayers as we finish the school year!

### 4K-5K

Hannah Holzhueter

This personally is a fun, yet sad time for me. Fun, because the weather is getting nicer, routines move quicker, and the students are more mature by this time of year; sad, because my 5K students I've taught for the past two years and have gotten to know personally will leave my room for Mrs. K's. It is time to enjoy every last day we have together as a class!

4K and 5K finished their play, "Noah's Zoo," and I am proud of their hard work. Thank you especially to the parents who also took the time at home to practice too! It is daunting performing in front of a crowd for the first or second time, and my class did the best they could.

4K is wrapping up their math and reading skills, and they are also "training" to be the 5K leaders next school year by learning all the "5K" classroom jobs.

5K has one more standardized test to take in math and reading, which means they earn one more ice cream and candy treat from me. They also have studied things like trees, recycling, and learned about a few of the many jobs that are in a community. They have been working at reading and writing and are more than ready to take the next step into 1st grade!

Praise be to God, once again, that we are enjoying in-person learning in a Christ-centered environment!

Brenda Kuchenbecker

Katie Muchka

## Grades 5-6

Sophia Birner

5th and 6th grade have been continuing to grow in God's Word as we start to understand the sacraments and what they mean for us. We are also beginning to finish the New Testament books in our Christ Light Lessons.

In Science, students have been working on their science fair projects. We have all sorts of interesting topics such as "How tee height affects the distance a ball can travel?" and "How long does it take different types of milk to spoil?" Students planned and carried out all of their own experiments and shared their results with a poster board and research paper.

We are also starting new units in gym class. Students will learn how to play softball. Hopefully the weather cooperates and we'll be able to play a couple of games outside! We're all excited to finish this year strong!

## 5th-8th Grade Play

Due to gym use conflicts with volleyball, grades 5-8 students will perform their play in the morning and evening on Friday, May 14.

## Heid Music Big 10 Update

To celebrate Music in our Schools month, Heid Music held a photo contest. A photo of our school band was entered to highlight what music in our school means to us. Each day during March people were invited to vote. Thanks to everyone for their support and votes! Our school band ended in 4th place! The prize we selected is a Yamaha portable PA system valued at over \$1,000. This will be useful at both school and church. Again thank you to all who took the time to vote!

## Grades 7-8

Rick Muchka

God's blessings to you and happy Spring from the 7th and 8th grade classroom! In Christ Light, we are studying Paul's three missionary journeys and the Book of Acts. In Reading, we are getting ready to read Lois Lowry's award-winning novel, *The Giver*. Math class has taken our students into basic geometry and probability with statistical analysis. In Social Studies, we are currently studying the Middle East.

Continue to keep our students, parents, and teachers in your prayers as we venture into the end of the school year!

## Grade School Band

We had 24 students that were part of our school band this year. On April 16 they were able to perform a concert for a small audience, playing 4 songs together and solos. Even with the shortened year, the kids grew musically and played together very well! A few of them also performed at the MLHS music festival which was only available for solos and small ensembles this year. Thank you students for all of your hard work and dedication and thank you parents for allowing them to be a part of our band!

**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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THE CHRISTIAN LIGHT  
MAY 2021



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**Ascension Worship**

Join us on Thursday, May 13 for Ascension festival worship. Worship will begin at 7:00 p.m. Along with Christmas and Easter Ascension is considered one of the three “Festivals of our Lord’s Godhead.” It is a festival that has been celebrated since the early centuries of the Christian Church. Christians celebrated Ascension long before they celebrated Christmas. Join us!



**Pentecost Worship**



The third major festival of the church year is Pentecost. Join us as we celebrate The Coming of the Holy Spirit—The Day of Pentecost on Thursday, May 20 and Sunday May 23. Communion is a part of our festival celebration.

The Holy Spirit gives life to those who are born dead in sin. He does this through the means of grace, the gospel in Word and Sacrament. The Spirit is vital in the life of the Church. Not only does he give us the gift of faith, he also blesses us with growth in faith as we make faithful use of the Gospel! Join us and celebrate his work!