

The Christian Light

Volume 20 Number 2

February 2022

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Important Item Number One

The Leadership Team met offsite on Nov. 6 to plan our ministry for the next year and a half. The three areas we felt need the most attention among us right now are:

1. Increasing worship
2. Discipleship
3. Equipping Christian parents

This month we look at item number one: Worship.

Worship is a place where God's people hear the most amazing news in the world: God loves and forgives them even though they have failed God over and over.

Worship is like a spiritual hospital. It is where broken people who face spiritual attacks daily are healed and strengthened by the message that Jesus is their perfection and forgiveness.

Worship is a place to express our love for God in word and song.

Worship is a place where believers encourage one another (He 10:23-25). It is a place where we proclaim Jesus' death as we receive his body and blood for forgiveness and strength (1 Co 11:26).

If being at in person worship is not something you are comfortable with now or if your schedule does not allow it, then worship online at your convenience. Please take the time to register online or text 920-362-7118. When you inform us you worshipped online, it encourages your brothers and sisters in Christ.

We have been publishing the number of worshippers in person and online weekly in the announcements and monthly in the newslet-

ter. We include the percentage of our membership so that we know what these numbers mean. They are down significantly from years past. Our top priority in ministry now is enabling people to worship more frequently.

With all that being said, there is a very important question that needs to be addressed: What is your role in accomplishing this vital task?

Pray that more and more of our members worship in person or online. Also, please focus on another very important thing you can do. It is something almost all of you like to do, in fact, you do it every day. What is it?

Talk.

Talk to your friends and relatives who are members. Talk to them about worship and discuss why it is important in the life of a Christian. The simple truth is that hearing it from you is going to stick with people more than reading it in a newsletter.

I hear very often (even from people that provide articles for the newsletter) that they don't read it. I hear from people that they don't read the announcement sheet or the screens before church. I hear from people that they do not use social media or go to the website. We use all these means to communicate because the gospel of Jesus is the most important message we can share. But we understand everyone does not use each one. But they will listen to you!

So, please talk about the importance of worship areas and discuss with family and friends. That is not an invite to complain and criticize. It is a reminder that you are a vital link in sharing Jesus and his purpose for us with one another!



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



**MORRISON
ZION
LUTHERAN**

Congregational News



Leadership Team Notes

The Leadership Team (LT) reviewed progress on the work that is ongoing in the three areas of focus for this year. The new Parenting email has had its first issue go out. All other work is on track.

The LT discussed staffing the Care Committee for Called Workers. All the members of the committee are stepping aside at the end of the calendar year. We approved some names of those who will care for the spiritual well being of called workers. Next month we will bring names of those who can plan celebrations, arrivals, and other events for called workers. We also approved Lucas Soderlund as the head Thursday night usher. Kyle Laabs was approved as a member of the Finance Committee.

Average worship attendance for in person worship for 2021 was 225. Online attendance in December was down from 46 a week to 45. This comes to 36% of our membership worshipping in person or online in 2021. Please continue to encourage your brothers and

sisters in Christ to stay close to Jesus in Word and sacrament!

The LT will bring any suggested changes to the content of our offering envelopes to our next meeting.

The Treasurer reported the following December balances:

Income	\$113,215
Expenses	\$56,877
Monthly balance	\$56,338
Fiscal year to date balance	\$17,752
Checkbook balance	\$68,444
Gen. reserve fund	\$211,018
DPI reserve fund	\$15,807
High School	\$1,245
fiscal year total	\$9,090
2021-22 fiscal goal	\$16,990
Synod Mission	\$3,405
Calendar year total	\$43,971
2021 goal	\$29,500

The General Reserve Fund increased in December.

John Beyer will step down as the Treasurer at the end of his term. John presented the LT with a preliminary job description for the position of bookkeeper. This will be a paid service position. A member of the LT

will work with the Bookkeeper and sign the checks. John will continue to detail the job description more fully. At present it appears it will be a position of 400-500 hours in a year.

The LT discussed ways to provide Mrs. Kuchenbecker release time from the classroom to carryout her music responsibilities for the school and church.

The LT will receive a preliminary job description for web site and social media work that is done for the congregation.

The LT approved a door offering to raise funds for Pastor and Mrs. Enderle's trip to San Antonio for the 10 year in ministry Grow in Grace Retreat that will be held in San Antonio this year. The congregation will cover conference, hotel, and flight expenses for the Enderles. The General Fund will cover any expenses that the door offering does not.

Funeral

Pastor Ott officiated at the funeral of Dan Rutter, the husband of our member Gail Rutter, on Sunday, Jan. 23 at Cotter Funeral Home. Dan died on Wednesday, Jan. 19. Please pray that God's love in Jesus comfort all who mourn Dan's death!

Can You Help?

We would like people to help with keeping our website up to date. If you are interested in taking on a role in this area, please talk to Pastor Enderle!

Call News

The Lord called Jacob Geidel to teach grades 5-6 at MZL next year. God also called Hillary Geidel to teach 4K-5K at MZL next year. The Geidels are married and presently teach at Zion Lutheran School, Rhinelander, WI. Please pray that the Spirit lead the Geidels to the decision that is best for God's Kingdom!

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

Sunday Morning Bible Study In February we continue to study *Romans Part 2*. This class is an in-depth study of the book of Romans. We meet at 9:15 a.m. We will not meet Feb. 6. The lessons for February are:

Feb. 6: No class	Feb. 20: Romans 13
Feb. 13: Romans 12	Feb. 27: Romans 14:1-15:13

Commons Bible Study Bring your kids to Sunday School and join us as we look at Christian Vocation. What does it mean to be a Christian in all the places and roles God has placed me? We meet at 9:15 a.m. in the commons. Join us!

Sunday School for children aged 3 to grade 6 meets at 9:15 am at school. Bring your children and join the study in the commons. Please talk to Pastor Enderle with any questions or if you wish to help.

Sunday Night Book Discussion In February we will begin to discuss *Being Lutheran*. We meet at Nickel Funeral Home at 7:00 p.m. Please park in the triangle in front of the funeral home and enter through the glass door. Join us! We will not meet Monday, Feb. 6.

New Life in Christ Class .We meet Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in the Bible Study room in the church basement. We will not meet Monday, Feb. 7. Please join us whenever you can!

Rooted This Bible Study for those in their 20s and 30s meets every other week on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. We will meet Feb. 14 and 28. We hope you can join us!

Men's Study meets every other Monday at 7:00 p.m. We will meet Feb. 21 to take a closer look at the readings from weekly worship. Meet us in the church basement and bring your questions as we grow in the Word.

Women's Study will meet on Saturday, Feb. 26 at 9:00 a.m. in a member's home. We will study *Being Filled with the Fullness of God* for an hour. Then we will meet on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. midweek Lenten worship begins March 2). Any questions, contact Jen Enderle 920-372-3818

Partnering in the Gospel seminar with lunch will be Feb. 26, 10:30 am – 1:30 pm. This seminar is for new members and any other members who would like a refresher on what it means to be a member and how we can partner in the Gospel to get more Jesus to more people. RSVPs are not necessary but will help us have enough food and materials. We will meet on the 4th Saturday of each month. Join us!

English as a Second Language meets Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the church basement. New students and new volunteers are welcome. You don't need any experience teaching. Talk to Pastor Enderle if you are interested in helping or if you have students who are interested but can't attend on Wednesday.

Bible Reading Plan Contact Pastor Enderle with any questions. Go to mzluth.org or our Facebook page to join us in as we grow in God's Word together!

Feb. 2-6 Justice against evil	Feb. 17-22 Answering skeptics-part 2
Feb. 7-11 God's Word to abuse victims	Feb. 23-28 Where do I go?
Feb. 12-16 Where is God's grace in your life?	

Yearlong Marriage Devotional on the book *The Meaning of Marriage – A Couples Devotional*. You can purchase the book on Amazon or speak with Pastor Enderle. We have set up a Facebook and texting group that sends out a reminder and allows for discussion of the devotions.

Youth Group meets Sundays at 7:00 p.m. 8th graders are welcome! Come and study the hope that we have in Christ from 1 Peter and stay for open gym.

Worship In February

Notes on Worship

Live stream is Sunday morning worship at 8:00 a.m. on YouTube and Facebook The service is available at any time after that as well. Our page is www.youtube.com/c/morrisonzionlutheran. Share the link with a friend! Resources for worship and an online friendship and communion register are at www.mzluth.org/online worship. You may also register by texting 920-362-7118.

In February we conclude the Epiphany, the season of Jesus revealing himself as the Savior of the world. The themes of each service follows.

Jesus is Revealed as the Savior by Powerful Words and Actions

Feb. 6	Epiphany 5	Revealed by his powerful call to serve	green
	Sermon: Romans 10:13-17	Hymns: 570, 93, 770:1,3	
Feb. 13	Epiphany 6	Revealed in blessings and curses	green
	Sermon: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10	Hymns:403, 283, 523:1,4	communion
Feb. 20	Epiphany 7	Revealed in love for enemies	green
	Sermon: Romans 12:14-21	Hymns: 493, 492, 479:1-2	
Feb. 27	Transfiguration	Revealed in glorious appearance	white
	Sermon: 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Hymns: 95, 97, Farewell	communion

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 February: Gloria Blauert and Connie Blauert

Choir

We know you're out there! Have you wondered even a tiny bit if you would enjoy singing in choir? Now is a perfect time to find out. We rehearse Wednesdays in the church balcony at 7:00 p.m. We're preparing music for Sunday worship, Lenten worship, Easter and a concert later this spring. Come and join us even if just for one rehearsal to see what you're missing

Church Band

Let's do this! I know there are many instrumentalists reading this! It's time to get together to prepare for praising God in our Easter worship. We need you all from grade school students to rusty or not rusty adult players. Rehearsals will be Tuesday, Feb. 15 and 22 at 6:30 p.m. at school. Then in March we will rehearse on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Contact Mrs. Kuchenbecker if you have any questions or suggestions for other rehearsal options. Spread the word. Join us!

Communion Registration

When you commune, please check your name on the sheets in the back of church, by the elevator, or in the basement. Thank you!

Men of His Word Conference

The 13th annual Men of His Word Conference is at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Convention Center in Oshkosh on Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022. Go to www.menofhisword.org to register.

Information Updates

If you or someone in your family has a new phone number, email address, or mailing address please email Nancy Pantzlaff (nancy.pantzlaff@gmail.com) so we can keep our records up to date. We are missing much of this information for children who no longer live at home. We want to keep everyone connected to Jesus and informed about the ministry God has entrusted to us all!

316NOW 15 Days of Prayer

316NOW mentors future Confessional Lutheran church leaders in Asia. China's New Year and Spring Festival celebrations begin on Feb. 1. These 15 days mark the most significant of China's holidays. 316NOW suggests we use these days to ask the Holy Spirit to bring the gospel to millions more in China and to strengthen the faith of Chinese Christians. Prayer guides for personal and family use are available in the back of church. Any questions, contact Pastor Enderle.!

Food Pantry

We served 28 families in January. What a great opportunity to plant the seed of the Gospel. We have been blessed with donations. Thank you to everyone who continues to help the food pantry succeed in many ways: Volunteering for groceries, reporting, serving families and coordinating the various opportunities we have. Thank you to all who have donated through memorials, Thrivent Action Teams, Hoops for Hunger, or other donations. We also have donations in grocery carts, dairy products and eggs donated monthly. When we all donate a little it turns into a wonderful blessing for these families. Please keep all the families in your prayers and ask God to help us continue to feed both their physical and spiritual needs. Items we could always use include, canned fruit, juice, ketchup, cereal, pasta and pasta sauce, canned meat, snack items, shampoo, soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper and baking items. If you know anyone in need of assistance please have them contact the food pantry phone (920-246-5435).

WELS Night at the Herd

The Wisconsin Herd will host their annual WELS Night on Saturday Feb. 12. The Herd is the G-League affiliate of the Milwaukee Bucks and play in Oshkosh. Tickets cost \$10. There will be many in-game promotions to celebrate WELS. All congregations can take a photo together on court after the game to commemorate the experience. Go to <https://fevo.me/herdwels> for more information.

Blindmen's Volleyball March 4 and 5

Gather your teams for this tournament on March 4 and 5. Youth group teams will play on Friday and adult teams will play on Saturday. Please indicate youth or adult on your registration form. If there are not enough youth teams all teams will play on Saturday. Deadline for entry is Feb. 18. A \$30 donation is encouraged for each team to help offset our youth's cost to International Youth Rallies. Registration is available online. Email Sophie Birner with any questions (sophia.birner@mzls.org).

Porky Breakfast March 6

Join us Sunday March 6 for a Pancake and Porky breakfast, 7:30 a.m. to noon in the school gym. Breakfast will pause during Bible Study. Any donations will support our youth's trip to the Rally. Youth group, please plan to help this morning.

Scrip

Scrip order dates:

Feb. 6 school after early service

Feb. 13 school after early service

There will be a Scrip informational meeting on Feb. 22 in the commons at 6:00 p.m. Come find out more about how the program works.

Soup for Souls

Do you know of someone who could use some encouraging words? If so, the Soup for Souls ministry has some delicious meals available for you to share along with a card that includes a message of love. These free meals are located at school and church. "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28).

Youth Rally

The 2022 International Youth Rally is June 28-July 1 at the University of Tennessee. Early-bird registration is \$375. Morrison Zion will pay travel costs (\$200). Those who missed out on the 2020 Youth Rally are still able to attend this rally if interested. Contact Pastor Enderle to sign up by Feb. 15. We will have an informational meeting in church after both services on Feb. 6.

Christmas Trees for Tuition

Thank you to all who cut a tree at Grandpa G's Christmas Tree Farm this past season. The designated proceeds from the sale of 100 trees were donated to Fox Valley Lutheran & Manitowoc Lutheran High School's tuition assistance funds. Thrivent matched the money through their employee giving program. It was a great way to get a fresh, local tree and help both of our area Lutheran high schools. Thanks again and see you next season! Paul Griepentrog (Grandpa G)

School News

4K-5K Enrollment

The registration deadline for 4K & 5K for the 2022-2023 school year is quickly approaching. Parents wishing to enroll their children for the upcoming year should notify MZLS by Feb. 1. If you have any questions, contact Principal Rick Muchka at 864-2349. If you wish to learn more about the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program, please also reach out to Mr. Muchka.

School Choice Application

The window for applications into the School Choice program begins Feb. 1. All families who wish to participate in the program will need to apply, even if they are already a part of the program this year. Contact Mr. Muchka with questions.

Concert Feb. 25

On Friday, Feb. 25, our grade school will present a concert at 6:30 in the gym. The school band will perform. Each instrumentalist will also perform a solo. Please come and support our young musicians.

Parent Teacher Association

PTA met in January. Topics discussed were continued Christian education opportunities for parents, the update to the Knights Return Plan 21-22, and a curriculum update. The next PTA Meeting will be Tuesday, May at 6:30 p.m.

Northern Wisconsin District Teachers' Conference

On Thursday, Feb. 10, our teachers will participate in the Northern Wisconsin District Teachers' Conference at Faith Lutheran School in Fond du Lac. We will have spiritual and educational growth opportunities. On Friday, Feb. 11, the teachers will have an in-service at MZLS. There will be no school Feb.10-11.

Grades 1-2

Mrs. Kuchenbecker

God's love for us is truly the best Valentine we can receive! We're amazed when learning the history of the Israelites, how God continued to bless them no matter how many times they messed up. It's a real comfort to know that same loving God is watching over us too. In math we studied basic facts, money and clocks. In phonics the second graders worked with blends and digraphs. The first graders worked with vowels. In grammar they worked with nouns and verbs. We studied earth systems and maps for social studies. We enjoyed reading on our tablets, survived winter MAP testing and enjoyed dressing up for spirit week. Our third quarter reading challenge is Paws for Reading. Prizes are earned as they read their way around the paw print map. Please keep these little lambs in your prayers as they learn and grow in God's love every day.

Grades 3-4

Mrs. Muchka

This year in Christ Light we focus our study on the words and promises of God. In Math the third graders are dividing one-digit numbers, and the fourth graders are multiplying multi-digit numbers. In Science we are focusing on predicting and measuring evaporation. The class enjoys conducting lab experiments! In Social Studies we are learning about the important effects of the environment on communities in our area and throughout the world. We also are learning how to write a persuasive essay in Shurley English. We enjoyed a field trip to the Barlow Planetarium and Weis Earth Science Museum in January. Please keep our classroom in your prayers as we continue our school year!

Grades 5-6

Miss Birner

In Catechism we finished learning about the Third Article and will begin to learn about Law and Gospel, specifically the 10 Commandments. We will also begin to learn about Joshua and Judges in Christ Light.

In Science, we are learning about chemical reactions. Students will take a "fizz quiz" where they will mix different solutions together and have to identify the materials based on the changes and fizzing that occurs.

In art we will learn about gothic art and architecture. Students will get to design a gothic style church that incorporates a rose stained glass window at its center. The students are excited to put their own flair into their sketches!

Grades 7-8

Mr. Muchka

Brrr? It sure is getting cold! But the cold weather hasn't slowed down the upper graders' learning. In Christ Light class we continue to study the major prophets. In Reading we are learning about drama in literature. In U.S. Social Studies, we learned about the Progressive Era of the early 1900s and the United States' rise to power. In Grammar, our students are utilizing more technology to write persuasive essays. It is pretty amazing to see the students using their gifts and abilities in a variety of ways. On Jan. 21, the 7th & 8th grade students went to MLHS for "Lancer for a Day". Continue to keep our students, parents, and teachers in your prayers as we continue to serve Him in the classroom with our gifts, talents, and abilities.

Asbestos Letter

January 14, 2022

Dear Called Workers, Employees, Students, Parents, and Morrison Zion Lutheran Church Members

Subject: Asbestos Abatement and Inspection

This letter is being sent to you as part of our requirement for our asbestos program. The program requires inspection to take place every 6 months and an annual letter be sent to the above personnel.

The following information regarding asbestos has been submitted for your review in the past and is once again being forwarded to you. Asbestos is a natural occurring mineral that was and is still used as an insulating and reinforcement material. Various diseases have been linked with the industrial exposure to airborne asbestos. The extensive use of asbestos products in buildings has raised concerns about exposure to asbestos in non-industrial settings. The presence of asbestos in a building does not mean that the health of the occupants are endangered. As long as the asbestos containing the material remains in good condition, and is not disturbed, exposure is unlikely.

Areas in our school which may contain asbestos include: Terrazzo flooring, the floor tile in the classrooms and basement, possibly the sheet vinyl flooring in the kitchen, the ceramic tile and grout by the toilets, and the fire door in the furnace room. If you should notice any degradation of any of these materials, contact a school official.

The school was last inspected on December of 2021 for this purpose and no changes or deterioration of condition were observed in the areas that contain asbestos. This report is on file in the church's secretary office under the title of "Periodic Surveillance Report" in the asbestos manual.

We had an inspection from the American Air Environmental Services on **March 8, 2019**. This inspection is done every three years.

Sincerely,
Richard Muchka
Principal
920-864-2349

**Morrison Zion Lutheran Church
of Morrison**

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Pastor James Enderle
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Partnering in the Gospel

Partnering in the Gospel seminar with lunch will be Feb. 26, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the church basement. This seminar is for new members and any other members who would like a refresher on what it means to be a member and how we can partner in the Gospel to get more Jesus to more people.

We hope to have every member of the congregation go through this seminar!

RSVPs are not necessary but will help us have enough food and materials. We will meet on the fourth Saturday of each month. Join us!

