

The Christian Light

Volume 20 Number 3

March 2022

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Important Item Number Two

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 patents

This month we look at item number two: Discipleship.

A disciple is a follower of Jesus. Every Christian is a disciple. The question is are they a faithful disciple in the way Jesus desires or are they unfaithful?

God spells out what discipleship looks like in Romans 12. He uses a human body to illustrate:

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. (Ro 12:5-6)

He tells us that every believer has received spiritual gifts to put to use in active service in God's kingdom. They do this in the congregation and in their daily lives. So in essence you are a "body part" in the local congregation. Even though each part is different, every body part is important. If your big toe hurts, it affects the whole body. When you don't serve God faithfully as his disciple, the whole body of Christ suffers.

The Partnering in the Gospel seminar is designed to help you see how you can use your gifts in the congregation and in your daily lives. It meets at church the 4th

Saturday of every month, 10:30-1:30, with lunch and childcare provided. Join us when you can!

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 actively follow Jesus and use the gifts God has given to serve him in their daily lives. Make plans to attend a Partnering in the Gospel Seminar on whichever 4th Saturday of the month works best for you. 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 gong 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 actively following Jesus as his disciple 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 Barnabas Ministry revision will be fully implemented beginning in May. We discussed the need for more people willing to serve in this ministry that works to encourage people to stay close to Jesus through faithful use of the means of grace. The Sunday visits by the pastor not preaching will begin on non-communion Sundays in March. The first Partner in Christ seminar will happen at the end of February. All plans are on track for the work we feel is most important.

The LT discussed staffing the Care Committee for Called Workers. We are awaiting responses from people who we contacted. We are also awaiting responses from people we have approached to expand the Maintenance Committee.

Average worship attendance for in person worship in January was 211. Online attendance in January was 45. This comes to 34% of our member-

ship worshipping in person or online in January. Please continue to encourage your brothers and sisters in Christ to stay close to Jesus in Word and sacrament!

The LT approved tuition for the next school year at \$780 for 4K and \$1,225 for 5K-grade 8. This is an increase of \$25 for the year. The LT also approved the plans for spending EANS funds received from the government.

The LT plans to combine envelopes with an option to contribute with a number of our ministries on a single envelope.

The Treasurer reported the following January balances:

Income	\$42,164
Expenses	\$73,483
Monthly balance	\$-31,319
Fiscal year to date balance	\$-13,567
Checkbook balance	\$39,861
Gen. reserve fund	\$211,054
DPI reserve fund	\$15,808
High School	\$985
fiscal year total	\$10,075
2021-22 fiscal goal	\$16,990
Synod Mission	\$2,405

Calendar year total \$2,405
2022 goal \$29,500

The LT granted a release to Crystal Pischke and her son Nash at their request.

The LT approved renting a home for the Geidals so that it is ready for them when they arrive later this year.

Interviews will begin for the Bookkeeper position in April/May. The Nominating Committee and Budget Committee will begin their work soon for the annual meeting. Committee positions run from July through June. They no longer run on a calendar year. The annual meeting will be on April 24. The Open forum to prepare for the Voters' Meeting will be April 3.

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

Soup Suppers and Midweek Worship

Lenten midweek worship will be at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. We will look at what Jesus desires in local congregations based on his 7 letters in Revelation 2-3. The series begins on Ash Wednesday, March 2.

Join your brothers and sisters for a meal after the morning service or at 6:15 p.m. before the evening service. If you would like to cook or help serve, please talk to Tamara Schultz.

Open Forum

April 3
After 10:30 worship
In Church
All are welcome

Voters Meeting

April 24
After 10:30 worship
In the Commons

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

Sunday Morning Bible Study In March we conclude our study of *Romans Part 2*. We meet at 9:15 a.m. We will not meet March 13 and 27. The lessons for March are:

March 6: Romans 15:14-33 March 20: Romans 16
 March 13: No class March 27: No class

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 March we will continue 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!

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 We have a new Bible Study for those in their 20s and 30s. A member has offered to host this study. We will set a new time and night soon.

Men's Study meets every other Monday at 7:00 p.m. Join us March 7 and 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 gather for Women's Bible Study on Thursday evenings. We will meet in-homes at 7:00 p.m. to study, *Being Filled with the Fullness of God—Ephesians*. The study is one hour, so plan accordingly. Please join us and invite a friend! All ladies are welcome. Any questions, contact Jen Enderle 920-372-3818

Partnering in the Gospel seminar with lunch will be March 26, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. This is a one lesson seminar. It covers 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, baby-sitting, and materials. We will meet on the 4th Saturday of each month. Join us!

English as a Second Language will not meet during March due to Lent and Soup Suppers.

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!

March 1-14 In our place: Lenten devotions March 24-28 How to be patient
 March 15-19 God's Word to abuse victims March 29-Apr. 2 Certain comfort in uncertain days
 March 20-23 Is your life in focus?

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.

Vacation Bible School is a free event at Morrison Zion Lutheran School. It will be Tuesday, July 12-Thursday, July 14, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Children ages 3(and potty trained) through grade 6 are welcome! Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us! Registration link and more details will come soon.

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 March we begin Lent, a season of repentance and renewal. This year our midweek Lenten series will focus on Jesus' 7 letters to the 7 churches in Revelation 2-3. In this series we will see what Jesus wants his congregations to do and avoid. The themes of each service follows.

March 2	Ash Wed	Ephesians: Love lost, death found	black
	Sermon: Rev. 2:1-7	Hymns: 738, 533, 372:1	communion
March 6	Lent 1	Marks of the Messiah: He defeats Satan's attacks	purple
	Sermon: Luke 4:1-13	Hymns: GRW, 200, 204:3	
March 9	MW 2	Smyrna: Fear unto death vs. courage unto life	purple
	Sermon: Rev. 2:8-11	Hymns: 411, 121, 116:1,3	
March 13	Lent 2	Marks of the Messiah: Resolute in face of rejection	purple
	Sermon: Luke 13:31-35	Hymns: GRW, 434, 466:1-2	communion
March 16	MW 3	Pergamum: Idolatry is the deadliest sin	purple
	Sermon: Rev. 2:12-17	Hymns: 193, 284, 279:2-3	
March 20	Lent 3	Marks of the Messiah: He call us to repentance	purple
	Sermon: Luke 13:1-9	Hymns: GRW, 302, 325:1-2	
March 23	MW4	Thyatira: Immorality, highway to the grave	purple
	Sermon: Rev. 2:18-29	Hymns: 263, 98, 207:6	
March 27	Lent 4	Marks of the Messiah: He points us to God's lavish love	purple
	Sermon: Luke15:1-3,11-32	Hymns: GRW, 304, 384:4	communion
March 30	MW5	Sardis: Lethargy—Slow Death	purple
	Sermon: Rev. 3:1-6	Hymns: 203, 472, 462:2-3	

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 March: Sharon Faulds and Shannon Otto

Easter Lilies

The worship committee would like your help. Each year we make a visual contrast from Good Friday to Easter. We do this by decorating with black on Good Friday then lots of lilies on Easter. The worship committee will pick up Easter lilies for you. As in the past, you may purchase a lily in memory or in honor of a loved one. These names will be included in the Easter announcements. Please sign up in the church basement by Sunday April 10. The cost per lily is \$10.00. Order forms are available in the basement. Place your order and the money in a provided envelope and place it in the box. Please pick up your lilies after worship on Easter or by Sunday April 24. Thanks for beautifying worship.

Church Band

Let's do this! I know many instrumentalists are reading this! It's time to prepare for praising God in Easter worship. We need you all- from grade school students to rusty or not rusty adult players. Rehearsals are on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at school. Contact Mrs. Kuchenbecker if you have questions or suggestions for rehearsal options. Spread the word. Join us!

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 after worship. 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

Food Pantry

We served 24 families last month. I heard from some volunteers how heartwarming it is to see the appreciation in the eyes of our friends who utilize the food pantry. I am sure you have heard the news of prices going up. This will have a big impact on the food pantry as we will work with the higher prices times 20 families. Please give anyone needing the supplemental food at this time the food pantry phone number (920) 246-5435 or talk to Linda or Pam. Please pray that God will continue to bless the food pantry and our families. The items always needed are Cereal, juice, canned whole kernel corn, pinto beans, canned fruit, snack items, baking items, toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste, and laundry detergent.

Please Update Contact Info!

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. We cannot be accountable for souls we cannot reach. If we cannot contact people we will have to release them from membership because their whereabouts are unknown.

Local 20-30 Year Olds

Pastor Enderle wants to get to know those in their 20s and 30s from our congregation. Care packages to college students were sent out last fall. We have care packages prepared and a gift card from The River in Wrightstown for local 20-30 year-olds. Look for contact from Pastor Enderle or reach out to him to setup a time to meet.

Blindmen's Volleyball March 4 and 5

Join us for this fun tournament March 4 and 5. Youth group teams will play on Friday and adult teams will play on Saturday. 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 at sophia.birner@mzls.org with any questions. Youth group, please plan to help!

Porky Breakfast March 6

Join us Sunday March 6 for a Pancake and Porky breakfast, 7:30 a.m. to noon in the 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. Youth group, please plan to help!

Scrip

Scrip order dates:

March 6	school	after early service
March 13	school	after early service
March 27	school	after early service

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).

Easter Eggstravaganza

We are excited to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus! Join us at Morrison Zion Lutheran School for an egg hunt and the greatest story ever told! Watch for registration information on our website, Facebook, church announcements, and posters. This event is open to the community – invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join! It is for ages 2 years old – 2nd grade; parents stay to participate on Saturday, April 2 - Check-in at .8:45 a.m. Opening activity at 9:00 a.m. Cost: Free.

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). Contact Pastor Enderle ASAP if you are still interested in attending or have any questions.

Rally Fundraising

Anyone who is attending the Youth Rally and would like help in their portion of the cost, speak to Marie Panzlaff (mariepantzlaff@gmail.com). She used a Thrivent card to purchase a variety of candy bars for the youth group to sell.

Membership Spotlight

What do baobabs, Bulgaria, booyah and the Bible have in common? In addition to beginning with the letter “b”, they are all part of Nancy Roebke’s (nee Griepentrog) life experiences. A graduate of Morrison Zion Lutheran School (’82), Nancy and her husband John were married in Morrison and have been serving the Wisconsin Synod both overseas and domestically for 28 years. They currently reside in Lilongwe, Malawi where John works with the One Africa Team.



Christ for All, Great News for Africa

Although John and Nancy live 8,000 miles away from Northern Wisconsin, they are far from being inactive members. They appreciate staying connected to the events at Morrison Zion Lutheran and receiving Rev. Ott’s weekly devotions via email. They worship along with the members of Morrison Zion Lutheran via MZL’s YouTube channel.

The enthusiasm that MZL members have for sharing Christ’s love with their community inspires John and Nancy to encourage their African brothers and sisters. In these confusing and divisive times, God’s truth provides all of his followers with a foundation on which to build their lives and to bring peace to others. May God bless missionary efforts on both sides of the equator!

John and Nancy have two daughters who both live in Wisconsin. Lily works for Dungarvin, Inc. in Madison and is married to Chris Jannisch. Chrissy recently graduated from MSOE with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and works for Carlisle Interconnect Technologies in Franklin. John and Nancy are thankful to God for helping both of their daughters negotiate the transition to adulthood while their parents were living abroad.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship” (Rom. 12:1). The Roebke’s acknowledge that their loved ones have made many sacrifices to allow John and Nancy to bring the Gospel to distant lands. They trust God’s promise to use their brief lives for the eternal good of his kingdom.

School News

4K-5K Miss Holzhueter

4K and 5K continue to grow socially, emotionally, academically, and most importantly: spiritually. This past month, with Valentine’s Day as the major holiday, we have focused on 3 things: God’s love for us, our love for God, and love for each other. We have seen that especially in our Bible stories, as many of them have demonstrated God’s love for His people through his miracles. We especially enjoyed the story of the Good Samaritan, where we learned how everyone is our neighbor and God wants us to show love to all! We also enjoyed a “field trip” visit to our classroom from the Brown County Library for a story time program. Some of the 4K and 5K students even received their very first library card!

Grades 1-2

Mrs. Kuchenbecker

It may be cold outside, but the learning is heating up in grades 1-2. We studied clocks, measurement, place value to the hundreds, money and fractions. We learned about adjectives, adverbs, long vowels and suffixes. The second graders began writing in cursive. We studied maps and landforms. We enjoyed a trip to the Building for Kids in Appleton where we make maps of the continents. We enjoyed being artists, firefighters, pilots, truck drivers, store workers, doctors, bankers and other things that we could imagine. We continue reading books to follow the paw prints around our challenge maps. Many have almost made it around once already! Way to go super readers! Thank you to the parents who listen to the many book reports. We enjoyed celebrating the 100th day of school, Valentine’s Day, and dressing up for spirit week. We finally had our Thanksgiving celebration. We spent a day making pies, muffins, biscuits, homemade butter and mashing potatoes. Then we enjoyed a wonderful meal with our families. Thank you to our many head cooks that came in to guide us! We’re so thankful for all the wonderful blessings that God gives us throughout the year!

Spring Play

On Friday, March 25, grades 5-8 will entertain with a dramatic performance of *Blather, Blarney, and Balderdash*. Performances are at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. We hope you can join us!

Academic Fair

The MLHS Academic Fair is Saturday, April 9, 8:30 – 3:00 p.m. Students have the opportunity to prepare Art and Social Studies displays (which will be judged) or participate in a Forensics competition, Spelling competition, Math Meet, or Academic Bowl. Forensics and the Academic Bowl are open to students in grades 6-8, Social Studies, Math, and Spelling to students in grades 5-8, and Art to students in grades K-8. Art projects will only be judged for students in grades 3-8. Come support our students as they use their gifts to glorify God.

Grades 7-8

The upper graders used February to grow in their spiritual and academic knowledge. In Christ Light we learned about Daniel and also studied God's answers in my life. In Reading we completed a study on drama in literature and began a new novel "The Boy in the Striped Pajamas" about two boys living during World War 2. In Grammar the students are writing and presenting persuasive essays. In Social Studies we studied the Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression. It is wonderful to see the students using their gifts and abilities in a variety of ways.

Athletic News

Our school sports seasons finished the year with the A and B team basketball tournaments at the end of January. The 5th-8th graders will participate in a track meet on Wednesday, May 18. We are always looking for volunteers to coach or help with concessions. If you are interested in becoming involved with Morrison Zion athletics, please contact Katie Muchka.

Music and Movement

Free event for ages 2-5; parents stay to enjoy! Saturday, March 14, 9:30-10:00 a.m. Check-in 9:20
How do imagination and creative expression affect children's growth and development? How do we support this process? With music and movement!

Join us for a musical morning at Morrison Zion Lutheran School and witness the joy and learning that takes place with these simple activities. Each child will leave with a musical gift to enjoy at home! Watch for registration information on our website, Facebook, church announcements, and posters. This event is open to the community – invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join!

4K-5K Enrollment

Please talk to Mrs. Pantzlaff or Mr. Muchka to get your 4K & 5K enrollment materials. If you know of someone in the area that is looking for an early childhood education opportunity, recommend ours!

School Choice Application

The application period for applying for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program is open until April 21. Check out dpi.wi.gov/choice for a wealth of information about the program. If you plan to apply, please note deadline. If you wish to know more, contact Mr. Muchka anytime!

Grades 3-4

Mrs. Muchka

This year in Christ Light, we are studying the Old Testament. We will focus our study on the words and promises of God. In Math the third graders have been creating function tables, and the fourth graders have mastered long division. In Science we are focusing on predicting and measuring weather and the water cycle. The class really enjoys conducting lab experiments! In Social Studies we are learning about the importance of unique cultures in our community and around the world. Our class is also learning to identify compound and complex sentences in Shurley English. We enjoyed a field trip to the Barkhausen Waterfowl Preserve in mid-February. Please keep the third and fourth grade classroom in your prayers as we continue our school year!

Mr. Muchka

**Morrison Zion Lutheran Church
of Morrison**

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THE CHRISTIAN LIGHT
MARCH 2022



Our Mission

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Barnabas Ministry

A revision to our present Barnabas Ministry will begin in May. So far we have only been contacting people we have not seen in worship and encouraging them to stay close to Jesus. When the full revision begins there will be a definite road map we will follow. Handouts after worship to inform about this revision started Feb. 27. Five weeks of handouts are planned. A letter will also be sent to give you more information about this revision. Questions may be brought to the Open forum on April 3.

In the revision there will be nine contacts with those not in worship. The first contact starts at 4 weeks absent from worship. The contacts continue on a set timetable through 44 weeks absent from worship.

Contacts will be done by Barnabas Ministers, Barnabas Elders, and pastors. We definitely need help with more Barnabas Ministers. The Barnabas ministers make a phone call at 4 weeks and a visit/phone call at 18 weeks absent from worship. When we begin we will have around 200 contacts to make. We would like 50-60 people willing to make calls at first. Later we will need fewer.

Training will be done after Easter. We have resources for people to use in this ministry.

Pray that the Spirit uses our encouragement to move hearts to stay connected to Jesus. Talk to Pastor Ott if you are interested in helping.

Learn more at the Open Forum in church on April 3 after late worship.