

The Christian Light

Volume 20 Number 4

April 2022

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Important Item Number Three

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 three: Equipping Christian Parents.

Israel was threatened by worship of Baal in the Old Testament. In 21st century America our children have become our society's Baal, something that many love more than they love God.

Children are most definitely a blessing from God's hand (see Psalm 127). Yet, blessings from God can become something that we love more than God. Jesus warns against not loving our children more than him (Matthew 10:37).

A noticeable trend in our congregation is that we are seeing fewer families with children in worship than we have in the past. Society tells us that if we truly love our children we will fill our time getting them to camps, events, and other activities that fill up their lives.

Jesus tells us that if we love our children we will listen to his commands (1 John 5). His command is to bring up our children in the training and instruction of the Lord (Eph 6).

Sometimes we have heard from people that they do not feel equipped to share Jesus with their children. They say that is why they bring them to church or school. Our role as a congregation

is to equip God's people for works of service (Eph 4). One of the ways we have set out to equip Christian parents is by providing resources and encouragement. We have started sending out an email to parents. We have resources available in our church library. We have offered Bible classes that focus on Christian parenting. We can only offer resources, we cannot parent in your place,

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 families put Jesus first in their lives. Pray that parents become more of a little Christ as they parent their children. Pray that they live and speak their faith regularly. 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.

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 parents actively serving Christ in the home 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



Open Forum	Voters Meeting
April 3 After 10:30 worship in church All welcome	April 24 After 10:30 worship in school commons

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. The 5 informational handouts will end in March. Training will be early in April (see page 8). 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 Partnering in Christ Seminar will also be offered in the Sunday morning commons Study. All plans are on track for the work we feel is most important.

The LT discussed staffing the Care Committee for Called Workers. We came up with more names to approach about serving on this committee.. We added Zac Ripp, Dave Mathies, and Mark Evenson to the Maintenance Committee.

Average worship attendance for in person worship in February was 271. The average for in person worship for the year is 238. Online worship av-

erages 43. This comes to 38% of our membership worshipping in person or online in 2022. Please continue to encourage your brothers and sisters in Christ to stay close to Jesus in Word and sacrament!

The LT approved a farmers market on our campus the 2nd Sunday of the month in May, June, August, September, and October.

The LT discussed removing masks and gloves for communion and gathering the offerings by passing the offering baskets during worship after Easter.

The LT approved the schools MVO statement and accepted a bid of \$5,625 to wax the school floors this summer and a bid of \$1,4765 to refinish the gym floor this summer.

The LT approved a door offering to offset the costs of the Enderle’s trip to San Antonio for the Grow in Grace Retreat at the end of April. The door offering will be gathered April 3. The LT also approved a door offering for Pastor Ken Nelson’s son, Stanley in May. Pastor Nelson has hosted our Mission Journey trips to South Shore, SD numerous

times. Stanley, a 30 year old, was diagnosed with cancer recently.

The LT approved hiring a bookkeeper in the new fiscal year. Randy Loppnow will interview those interested in this position.

The Treasurer reported the following February balances:

Income	\$94,112
Expenses	\$60,648
Monthly balance	\$33,463
Fiscal year to date balance	\$19,896
Checkbook balance	\$82,985
Gen. reserve fund	\$211,086
DPI reserve fund	\$15,810
High School	\$2,395
fiscal year total	\$12,470
2021-22 fiscal goal	\$16,990
Synod Mission	\$7,175
Calendar year total	\$9,580
2022 goal	\$29,500

The LT approved a budget for 2022-2023 of 859,328 to present to the annual meeting.

The LT granted a release to Crystal Beyer at her request.

The LT is looking for someone to serve as lay delegate to the District Convention in Appleton on June 14 and 15.

Christian Baptisms

On Sunday, Feb. 27 Durban Clayton Juern was baptized in a private service. Durban is the son of Wyatt and Brianna Juern. He was born on Oct. 14, 2021.

On Sunday, March 6 Sofia Elsbeth Tremml was baptized in a private service. Sofia is the daughter of Kelly and Alexandra Tremml. She was born on Jan. 23, 2022.

Please pray for God’s blessings on Durban and his family!

Christian Funeral

It has pleased our Lord to call the soul of Alice Uecker to her heavenly home. Alice died on Sunday, March 20. Her Christian funeral was on March 24. Please pray that God’s love in Christ comfort all who mourn!

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

Sunday Morning Bible Study On April 3 we will begin Ten Lies about God. The lessons are: 1. God want be to be happy. 2. There are many ways into God's presence. 3. God has grown soft of sin. 4. God helps those who help themselves. 5. God has made death a natural part of life. 6. A God of love wouldn't send people to hell. 7. It doesn't matter how God made the world. 8. God is distant and disinterested in what happens. 9. I don't need the Bible of worship to have a relationship with God. 10. God doesn't judge anyone, and neither should you. We meet in the church basement at 9:15 a.m. Join us!

Commons Bible Study Bring your kids to Sunday School and join us as we look at Christian Vocation. On April 17 we will begin the Partnering in Christ class. 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.

Sunday Night Book Discussion In April 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 plan to start another New Life in Christ Class after Easter. The day and time is yet to be determined. If you know anyone interested in joining our congregation or if you would like to review basic Christian doctrine, please talk to Pastor Ott about what days would work for you.

Men's Study will meet on April 4 to take a closer look at the readings from weekly worship. We will not meet on April 18. Meet us in the church basement and bring your questions as we grow in the Word.

Women's Study will meet to continue our Ephesians study in ladies' homes. We will meet on April 7 at 7:00 p.m.; April 14 no study on Maundy Thursday; April 21 at 6:00 p.m.; April 28 no study. We would love for you to join us, no prior attendance is needed. Reach out to Jen Enderle 920-372-3818 with any questions.

Partnering in the Gospel seminar with lunch will be April 23, 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, babysitting, and materials. We will meet on the 4th Saturday of each month. Join us!

English as a Second Language will meet after Easter. We meet on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the church basement. New volunteers are welcomed! .

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!

April 3-7	Navigating this season of wandering	April 18-22	No bones in the grave
April 8-12	Tough questions Part 1	April 23-27	Is Christianity the truth?
April 13-17	What happened during holy week	April 28-May 2	Have faith like a child

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 April

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. The online register has been simplified. You may also register by texting 920-362-7118. or 920-949-1038.

In April we conclude Lent, go through the culmination of the Church Year during holy Week and begin the season of Easter. The themes of each service follows.

April 3	Lent 5	Marks of the Messiah: Persistent call to return to God	purple
	Sermon: Luke 20:9-19	Hymns: GRW, 110, 392:3-4	Good Confession 10:30
April 6	MW 6	Philadelphia: Neglect—Locked out in death's night	purple
	Sermon: Rev. 3:7-13	Hymns: 184, 125, 331:1	
April 10	Palm Sun	Marks of the Messiah: Enters as a triumphant King	purple
	Sermon: Lk 13:31-35	Hymns: GRW, 434, 466:1-2 (confirmation 10:30)	communion
April 14	Maundy Thur	Laodicea: Complacency—Death by indifference	purple
	Sermon: Rev. 3:14-22	Hymns: 567, 313, 108:3	communion
April 15	Good Friday (11:00 a.m.)	Cross of Christ Service	black
		Hymns: 100, 105, <i>As the nails</i>	communion
April 15	Good Friday (7:00 p.m.)	7 words and 7 letters Tenebrae	black
	Sermon: Rev. 2:18-29	Hymns: 714, 139	communion
April 16	Vigil (8:00 p.m.)	Easter Vigil Worship	white
		Hymns: 260, 299, 145	communion
April 17	Easter	The Festival of the Resurrection of our Lord	white
	Sermon: Luke 24:1-12	Hymns: GRW, 304, 384:4	communion
April 24	Easter 1	Witnesses of the resurrected Lord walk by faith	white
	Sermon Gn 15:1-6	Hymns: 719, 165, 756	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 April: All the Altar Committee

Easter Lilies

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.

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday April 14
11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. communion
Good Friday April 15
Cross of Christ 11:00 a.m. communion
Tenebrae 7:00 p.m. communion
Easter Vigil Saturday, April 16
8:00 p.m. communion
Easter Festival April 17
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. communion

Concert

Our choir, junior choir and band will present a concert on Sunday, May 1. The concert will be presented at both services with the band beginning preservice at about 10 minutes before each service. The theme of our concert will be built around the meaning of our new congregational logo. We hope you'll join us for this special worship opportunity and invite your neighbors and friends as well.

Food Pantry

We are grateful for your generosity to the food pantry! We have been able to do extra fresh vegetables/ fruit, meat, dairy, laundry detergent, toilet paper and many other items due to donations. There are many different things that go into making the distribution possible every month. Thank you to everyone that has helped in small or large ways. A little from everyone has allowed us to have very nice monthly distributions. "You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God" (2 Co 9:11). It is a joy to see the thankfulness in the family's eyes and actions when they receive the monthly distribution. If interested in helping please contact Pam or Linda, We are especially looking for help on Monday evenings, 4:30-6:00. Items always needed include canned fruit, juice, cereal, pasta, rice, tuna, snack items, shampoo, toothpaste, laundry detergent, toilet paper, or baking items.

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.

Vacation Bible School

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

Cards Available

Confirmation cards and Easter cards are available in the library area on a card table

Soup for Souls

As we approach Holy Week and continue to reflect on the death and resurrection of our Savior, we are reminded of God's love for us in Romans 5:8, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." What an amazing message we can share with those around us every day. One ministry tool each congregation member can use when sharing the message of God's love is Soup for Souls. These meals are free and are located at school and church. There are cards that include encouraging messages of love that can be shared along with the delicious meal. We currently have mashed potatoes and turkey, fettuccini casserole, lasagna, garlic bread and chili available. If interested, donations for this ministry can be placed in the offering baskets at church.

Easter Eggstravaganza

This event is for ages 2 years old-2nd grade on Saturday, April 2. Parents can stay and participate! Check-In is at 8:45 a.m. The event is free. We are excited to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus together! Join us at Morrison Zion Lutheran School for an egg hunt and the greatest story ever told!

Youth Rally Fundraising

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

Online Church Directory

We have added many new members in the last few years since we did our last church directory. In order to help us know each other better, there is a new Online Directory. You can update your information and upload your own family picture. This directory is secure and private, just for our members. Look for an email from Instant Church Directory during the month of April on how to access and update your information.

Koiné Footsteps to the Cross Illuminated

Footsteps to the Cross Illuminated is Saturday, April 9 at Fox Valley Lutheran High School at 5:00 p.m.

Walk with Jesus from the Mount of Transfiguration to Mount Calvary, as two-time WAMI Award winner, Koiné, presents a musical passion play of hymns, scriptural narration, and dazzling video.

For over a decade, Koiné has delighted audiences throughout the world sharing their modern arrangements of traditional Christian hymns. Experience the Lenten message like never before in this very special presentation of Footsteps to the Cross Illuminated. Tickets are free, but space is limited. Seating is general Admission. More information is at koinemusic.com/events/appleton-wi-footsteps-to-the-cross-2022/

Fun Day

We will start Morrison Zion's Fun Day again this Spring on Thursday mornings! Jen Enderle along with Danielle Ripp will coordinate. If you would like to be a helping hand (to those in the 3-4 age group or help with younger siblings), please contact Jen 920-372-3818. If you have a child or know a child that would like to attend, look for information online and at church and school with details to come. Thanks!

School News

4K-5K Miss Holzhueter

It's finally Spring! 4K and 5K are excited to have more time outside enjoying the fresh air for both recesses, not just one. It's also exciting this time of year to reflect on how much social and emotional growth the 4K class has accomplished, and how 5K have become incredible readers and writers. I'm proud of their hard work. Spring also brings around the season of Lent, the "countdown to the cross," and the story that 4K has been asking all year for us to talk about: Jesus dying on the cross. God's blessings as you reflect on what Jesus has done for us throughout this Lenten season! We also enjoyed a "field trip" – a 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 1st library card!

Grades 1-2

Can you imagine? Imagine the excitement as the first and second graders completed their paws for reading challenge. Imagine the number of prizes won as many of the students completed the challenge not once but twice! Imagine the time studying as they improved their reading skills, practiced long vowels, unusual vowel pairs, and blends. They studied measurement, geometry and place value in math. Imagine the fun they had as they learned about patriotism and American symbols. Imagine the excitement as they watched FVL's production of The Little Mermaid. Imagine the fun they have playing in the spring sunshine. One thing we don't have to imagine is the great love that God has given us, as we've traveled the journey to the cross and Jesus' resurrection! Imagine the joy we'll have when we're in heaven with our Savior!

Mrs. Kuchenbecker

Grades 3-4

This year in Christ Light, we are studying the Old Testament, focusing on the words and promises of God. In Math the third graders have been measuring weight, length, volume, and mass. The fourth graders have been studying geometry. In Science we are focusing on predicting and preparing for extreme weather. 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 punctuate quotes in Shurley English. At the end of March we enjoyed a field trip to the Barkhausen Waterfowl Preserve to learn about making maple syrup. Please keep the third and fourth grade classroom in your prayers as we continue our school year!

Mrs. Muchka

Grades 7-8

Mr. Muchka

Happy Spring from the 7th and 8th grade classroom. March is traditionally “Academic Month”, and we were at it again in the classroom. In Christ Light we continue our topical studies of God's Word as well as a deeper dive into the new hymnal. In Reading we finished the WWII based novel, *The Boy in Striped Pajamas*. In Social Studies the upper graders completed a study on the Roaring 20's and began to study the Great Depression and World War II. The students also are working on their Social Studies Fair projects for the LLS Academic Fair. In March we took a field trip to Fox Valley Lutheran High School to watch the musical performance of the Disney classic, “The Little Mermaid”. Continue to pray for our students, parents, and teachers as we begin the 4th Quarter!

Grades 5-6

Miss Birner

In Catechism we are studying the Lord's Prayer and the petitions we make. During Christ Light we will learn about David and his life of faith. In Science, we are learning about cells by doing some online microscope lab investigations. We also just started reading our second novel for the year in reading class, *Hatchet*. The students are excited to read about this crazy survival story!

Spring Play

Grades 5-8 presented the play, *Blather, Blarney, & Baldedash*, on Friday, March 25. Thank you to everyone who attended to support these talented actors and actresses.

Academic Fair

The LLS Academic Fair is Saturday, April 9, 8:30 – 3:00 p.m. at MLHS. 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 will only be judged for grades 3-8. Come support our students as they use their gifts to glorify God.

2022-2023 School Year

The 2022-2023 school year will begin Wednesday, August 24 for grades 5K - 8. The first day for the 4K students will be Tuesday, August 30. The final day of school is Friday, May 26, 2023.

School Choice Application Period

The window for applications into the School Choice program is now open. 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 any question.

School Band

Please mark your calendars! Our grade school band will play the National Anthem at a Timber Rattler baseball game! The game is on Tuesday, May 31. The game is scheduled for 6:40 p.m. Tickets will be available at a group rate price of approximately \$15 each. As an extra bonus, for any tickets that we sell, \$3 will be donated back to our congregation. Watch for further ticket information in the near future. We hope you can join us for a fun evening of baseball and come out to support our grade school band and the Timber Rattlers.

MLHS Music Festival

On Friday April 8 our school will participate in the music festival at MLHS. Students from throughout the federation will participate. From our school, soloists on piano, instrument and voice will participate as well as our school band and junior choir. This year we have 35 events registered. Each will perform for a judge. Spectators are welcome to attend. Concessions are available on site. The festival begins at 4:00 p.m. Exact times for our students are unavailable at this time.

Athletic Fundraiser

We will have a flower fundraiser in partnership with Braun Acres to raise funds to support the ongoing costs of our athletic programs. All orders will be placed online and payment will be due at the time of pick-up. More details and the link to order can be found on our website: mzluth.org or on our Facebook Page - Morrison Zion Lutheran School. The deadline for placing an order is Sunday, May 8. Curbside pick-up will be in the church parking lot on Sunday, May 22, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Thanks in advance!

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

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THE CHRISTIAN LIGHT
APRIL 2022



MORRISON
ZION
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Our Mission

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Barnabas Ministry

All five handouts about our revised ministry are still available by the steps to the balcony at church. Here is what this ministry will look like: Contacts with members who have not been in worship will be made at the following intervals:

4 weeks absent: The Barnabas Minister assigned to the absent member makes contact by phone to see if everything is okay with the member. If there is anything we can do as a congregation to help with illness, etc. the minister will inform the Elder and Pastor assigned to this member.

8 weeks absent: The Pastor assigned will phone to encourage the member and see if there is anything they might need to meet to discuss.

12 weeks absent: The Elder assigned will send a letter and follow up with a phone call.

16 weeks absent: The Barnabas Minister makes contact by phone or in person to offer encouragement to walk close with Jesus.

24 weeks absent: The Pastor sends a letter asking to meet in the next week.

30 weeks absent: The Elder tries to visit in person.

36 weeks absent: The Pastor and Elder send a jointly signed letter that notes the seriousness of the situation. It will inform the member that if the absent member does not return, he or she will come under church discipline. It invites the member to contact the Elder or Pastor.

44 weeks absent: The Pastor and Elder attempt to schedule a face to face visit. If that is refused, the conversation may occur by phone, if that is refused, the process goes to step nine.

52 weeks absent: A letter is sent by the Pastor informing him or her that he or she is being removed from membership because they have self-excluded themselves from the congregation.

Training will be on Thursday, April 6 at 6:00 p.m. and repeated Saturday, April 9 at 9:00 a.m. Learn more at the Open Forum in church on April 3 after late worship.