



# News From Zion



Morrison Zion Lutheran Church  
www.mzluth.org

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## Announcements

**Gospel Events Elijah** Join us Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the basement as we continue the study *Great Gospel Events in the Lives of Elijah and Elisha*. Join us in the basement as we see God at work in their lives and ours!

**Commons Study** Join us as we will look at *Everything New—A Study of Genesis*, at 9:15 in the commons.

**Sunday School** for age 3 through grade 6 meets at school at 9:15 a.m.

**Sunday Book Study** will not meet this Sunday. On Dec. 4 at 7:00 p.m. at Nickel Funeral home we will finish *Has American Christianity Failed? We will not meet again until Jan. 8 to begin our new book, Prepared to Answer*. This book equips us to share our faith using Bible narratives. Books are available from Pastor Ott for \$10.

**Youth Group** will meet on Sunday at 7:00 p.m. in the commons. Please join us!

**Men's Study** will meet on Nov. 28. Join us in the church basement.

**Church Band** will rehearse Tuesday, Nov. 29 at 6:30 p.m. Join us!

**New Life in Christ Class** will meet at 10:00 a.m. this Wednesday.

**Voters' Meeting** There will be a voters' meeting after late worship on Dec. 4. The voters will discuss whether or not we will sell the teacherage.

**Partnering in the Gospel** seminar is Dec. 17, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Please note the date change. We want every member (new and old) go through this seminar! We will meet on the fourth Saturday of each month. Join us!

**Last Week** we had 253 worship in person and 21 online. That is 37% of our membership. Please encourage your brothers and sisters in Christ to stay close to Jesus through use of Word and sacraments!

**Soup For Souls** Meals and cards are available in the freezers at church and at school. Please share the love of Christ in a tangible way by taking a meal and card to a friend, neighbor, or co-worker to brighten their day!

**Bible Reading Plan** Go to mzluth.org or our Facebook page to join. Contact Pastor Enderle with any questions. Nov. 29-Dec.3: Simply Pray; Dec. 4-28:

Advent; Dec. 29-31: Teach Your Kids.

**Books** are available in the church basement. New books are added each week. Take as many as you would like to keep. There is a box for any free will offering you wish to give. Take a look at these excellent resources to grow your faith!

**Snow Removal** If you are interested in removing snow from the sidewalks at church ad school this year please contact Randy Loppnow (864-7584).

**Can you help with tech?** We are looking for 5 people to help with slides in worship and 10 people to train to run the livestream Sundays at 8:00 a.m. If you are interested in helping, please talk to Pastor Enderle.

**Happy Birthday Jesus** for ages 3 (potty trained) through 2nd grade is Friday, Dec. 9, 6:00-6:45 p.m. in Mrs. Geidel's classroom. We will read stories about Jesus' birth, decorate cupcakes, and make a craft! Please register via the link on the Morrison Zion School's Facebook page or the church website ([mzluth.org](http://mzluth.org)).

**Blanket Drive** Please help our friends who visit our Food Pantry. We will collect new blankets to give out on Dec. 3. Donations can be brought to church or school in November and placed in the pantry carts.

**Poinsettias** Worship committee will pick up poinsettias for Christmas. Please sign up in the church basement by Sunday Dec. 11. Due to an increase in our cost, the price for a poinsettia increased from \$10 to \$12. We're sorry for any inconvenience. Please indicate on the sign-up sheet the name of the person the poinsettia is being purchased in honor of memory of. Please plan to pick up all poinsettias after worship on Christmas or by Jan. 8.

**Children's Activity Bags** By the balcony stairs you will find new activity bags for children during worship. There are bags for ages 0-2, 3-4, and 5 and older. Use these during worship then leave them at church. The items in the bag are to remain at church. Each service, look for an activity sheet that corresponds to the worship theme outside of the bags. Thank you to those who put the bags together.

**Christmas Cards** are available in the library area of the basement.

Volume 10  
Issue 46  
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Nov. 27, 2022  
1st Sunday of  
Advent

Our  
Mission  
is to  
**Glorify  
God**  
as we  
**Gather**  
around  
the  
Gospel  
so that we  
**Grow**  
in the  
Gospel  
and  
**Go**  
with the  
Gospel



### Weekly Calendar

- Sun. 9:15 a.m. *Elijah, Elisha* Study, basement
- 9:15 a.m. Commons Study
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Group, commons
- Mon. 7:00 p.m. Men’s Study, church basement
- Tues. 6:30 p.m. Church Band, school
- Wed. 10:00 a.m. New Life in Christ Class, basement
- 5:00 p.m. Confirmation class, basement
- Thurs. 7:00 p.m. Advent 2 Worship
- Sun. 8:00 a.m. Advent 2 Worship
- 9:15 a.m. *Elijah, Elisha* Study, basement
- 9:15 a.m. Commons Study
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Advent 2 Worship
- 7:00 p.m. Book Study, ch. 11 Nickel
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Group, commons

### Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace

Worship: 253 (26, 153, 74) Online: 21 Bible Class: 61 (3, 8, 4, 30, 2, 10, 4) Youth Group Study: 8

### WELS Synodical Council Fall Meeting Highlights

### WELS News

The Synodical Council (SC) held its fall meeting in November. Four new members attended: Mr. Brent Nemmers (South Central District lay rep.), Mr. Chris Kestner (Michigan District lay rep.), Rev. Phil Hirsch (Conference of Presidents rep.), and Rev. Jonathan Schroeder (chairman of the Board for World Missions).

The SC reviewed the 221-2022 financial results of the synod. Congregation Mission Offerings (CMO) totaled \$23.1 million, the first time that CMO has exceeded \$23 million. That compares to \$22.6 million the previous year, an increase of 2.2%. These higher-than-planned CMO receipts, coupled with underspending by areas of ministry, enabled the synod to end the fiscal year in solid financial shape. Synodical subsidiaries (WELS Church Extension Fund, WELS Investment Funds, WELS Foundation, Northwestern Publishing House) all reported strong financial results.

For the first quarter of the current fiscal year, CMO support remains strong (4.3% higher than the previous year). Expenses are in line with the adopted plan.

The SC approved the first draft of the ministry financial plan (budget) for the 2023–2025 biennium. The proposed plan outlines planned synod support of \$32,841,000 in the first year of the biennium and \$33,742,000 in the second

year. These are increases of 4.3% and 2.67%, respectively. Compensation for called and hired workers will increase by 2.5% in each year of the biennium. CMO expectations for the next biennium are expected to exceed \$23 million in each year, continuing to remain above historic levels. The SC will revisit the ministry financial plan (including proposed compensation levels) in February 2023 and will make adjustments if the financial situation changes. Once the plan is adopted in February, it will be forwarded to the synod convention in July 2023 for consideration.

The SC set the new relocation reimbursement rate. Since moving expenses are taxable for all workers, lay workers will be reimbursed at a rate of 19.65% of the moving cost and called workers will be reimbursed at a rate of 27.3% of the moving cost. These rates assure that workers are reimbursed for additional taxes they may incur. All calling bodies are encouraged to follow this policy.

The SC approved a change to the compensation guidelines, encouraging calling bodies to review annually cash housing allowances for called workers who rent. This change was made because of the rapidly rising cost of renting.

The SC received progress reports

from ministerial schools regarding potential construction needs on the campuses. Master campus planning and feasibility studies are taking place at Martin Luther College, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, and Luther Preparatory School.

The SC discussed a proposal that was submitted to the Conference of Presidents for consideration. The proposal is to change the synod convention from a biennial to a triennial convention. As was the case with the Conference of Presidents, the SC discussed both the pros and the cons of such a change. Such a change requires an amendment to the synod constitution (not just the bylaws). This means that if the COP decides to forward this proposal to the synod convention in 2023, it would need to be approved by the 2023 convention and discussed at 2024 district conventions, with final consideration happening at the 2025 convention. The COP will determine what to do with this proposal when it meets in January 2023.

The SC received an update on the work being done to develop the next long-range strategic plan to present to the 2023 synod convention.

### News from our High Schools

MLHS Jr. Lancer Band Concert is Sunday, Dec. 11 in the gym, 3:00-4:30pm

FVL and FVL Schools Bands will hold their concert in the FVL auditorium on Saturday, Dec.10 at 11:30 a.m.

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Wisconsin Lutheran Child & Family Service Appleton (WELS counseling)	731-9798
Living Hope Counseling Ministries De Pere (WELS counseling)	338-8699

**Glorify**

**Gather**

**Grow**

**Go**

