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Morrison Zion Lutheran Church www.mzluth.org

Pastor Randy Ott 362-7118; ottrr@mzluth.org Pastor James Enderle 864-2348(home); 949-1038 (mobile); james.enderle@mzls.org

Announcements

Choir/Band Concert Thank you to all our musicians and singers for leading us in worship today! Your service to the Lord and his people is greatly appreci-

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 will not meet Dec. 18, 25, or Jan. 1. Youth Group will not meet on Sunday, Dec. 18. We will meet again starting on Sunday, Jan. 15 at 7:00 p.m.

New Life in Christ Class will meet this week at 10:00 a.m. in the church basement.

Thursday Worship there will be no Thursday worship this week (December 22),

Thursday worship will be at the regular time on Dec. 29.

Children's Christmas Program will be Saturday, Dec. 24 at 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Join us and bring a friend!

Christmas Candlelight Service will be Saturday, Dec. 24 at 11:00 p.m. Join us and bring a friend!

Christmas Festival Worship will be on Sunday, Dec. 25 at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Join us and bring a friend!

Voters' Meeting The voters directed the Leadership Team to not pursue selling the teacherage at the present time. Thank you to everyone who attended. Thank you to everyone for supporting the decision of the voters!

Sunday Book Study will meet Sunday at 7:00 p.m. at Christmas Cards are available in the library area of Nickel Funeral home on 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.

Last Week we had 227 worship in person and 40 online. That is 36% of our membership. Please encourage your brothers and sisters in Christ to stay close to Jesus through use of Word and sacraments!

New Year's Eve Worship will be Saturday, Dec. 31 at 7:00 p.m. Communion will be a part of worship. Join us and bring a friend!

Bible Reading Plan Go to mzluth.org or our Facebook page to join. Contact Pastor Enderle with any Volume 10 questions. Dec. 4-28: Advent; Dec. 29-31: Teach

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!

In December, the Soup for Souls Ministry delivered over 20 meals to members. It also included a Christmas card and devotion.

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 Paul Griepentrog is willing to take on the snow removal for this year. We are still looking for 1 or 2 more members to be back-ups. Please contact Randy Lopppnow (864-7584) if you are interested.

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.

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.

the church basement.

Mailboxes Members have checks, cards, etc. inserted them. Please empty them by Sunday, December 18th. On Tuesday, the 20th the mailboxes will be emptied and rearranged with the 2023 envelopes inserted. Items still in the mailboxes will be discarded.

Youth Skate Night is Saturday, Jan 2 from 7-10 pm and will cost \$8. We will leave from Morrison around 6:15. There will be a bus to take kids to and from skating. Speak to Pastor Enderle if you are interested or have any questions.

Issue 48

Dec. 15 & 18, 2022 4th Sunday in 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

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Weekly Calendar

Sun. 9:15 a.m. Elijah, Elisha Study, basement

9:15 a.m. Commons Study

7:00 p.m. No Youth Group, commons

Sat. 9:00 a.m. Children's Christmas program

6:00 p.m. Children's Christmas program

11:00 p.m. Christmas Candlelight worship

Sun. 8:00 a.m. Christmas Festival worship, communion

9:15 a.m. Elijah, Elisha Study, basement

9:15 a.m. Commons Study

10:30 a.m. Christmas Festival worship, communion

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace

Worship: 237 (49, 102, 76) Communion: 162 (44, 63, 55) Online Bible Class: 25 (x, 15, 4,) Youth Group Study: 3

Embrace the Cross—Anticipate the Crown

The 67th biennial convention of the

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod will be held at Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, Mich., July 31-August 3. This will be the first "normal" convention after the pandemic necessitated a scaled -back, partially virtual convention in 2021.

The theme of the convention will be "Embrace the Cross—Anticipate the Crown." The focus of this year's convention theme will be twofold. As a synod, we embrace the cross of our Savior Jesus in a number of ways. We embrace the cross as we look to what Jesus did on the cross to win forgiveness and salvation for us. We embrace the cross as we offer our thanks and praise for the sacrifice he made. We embrace the cross as we proclaim to a sinful world what the Savior's death on that cross means for them and for all people.

We embrace the cross in another way. As believers, we recognize that Jesus asked us to be willing to live under the cross in a sin-damaged world. Believ-

ers will experience hardships and tristant attack by Satan and his followers. The church will face difficulties. challenges, and, from our human point of view, setbacks and obstacles. But as a synod and as individuals, we are reminded that we can bear those crosses willingly, even joyfully, knowing our God will never leave us or forsake us and his Word will always accomplish his gracious purpose in our lives and in our mission.

As we embrace the cross, we also anticipate the crown. God's church, comprising all of God's believers, looks ahead to when all of God's promises will be completely fulfilled. We look ahead with confidence and trust to the time when God's church will be transformed from the church militant to the church triumphant. We eagerly anticipate when the King of Kings, wearing his crown of victory, will take us to his side and crown us with the gift of eternal life.

WELS News

So, this convention will focus on the als. The church itself will be under con- here and now, on the meaning of the cross for our lives and on recognizing the work of the church will be one of continued struggle and spiritual warfare. But it will also focus on the time when our victorious and living Savior returns to make his final victory our final victory as well.

> Serving with you in Christ, WELS President Mark Schroeder

Reminder: The deadline for submitting memorials to be printed in the Book of Reports and Memorials is Jan. 15, 2023. Memorials submitted after Jan. 15 and approved for convention consideration will be posted on the convention website, welsconvention.net, if they are received by June 15, 2023. Further directions can be found at welsconvention.net. Send memorials to the President's Office. N16W23377 Stone Ridge Dr, Waukesha WI 53188; carla.martin@wels.net.

News from our High Schools

MLHS called Pastor Larry Seafert to serve in the theology department. He currently serves at St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church in Kawkawlin, MI.

FVL Choirs Christmas Concert is Sunday, Dec. 18 at 1:00 p.m.

FVL Grads who were a part of the band program, please join us for a special alumni band performance at Musicfest on Sunday, Feb. 5. Details and registration are at fvlhs.org/musicfest and registration deadline is Jan.10.

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Wisconsin Lutheran Child & Family Service Appleton (WELS counseling) 731-9798

Living Hope Counseling Ministries De Pere (WELS counseling) 338-8699

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