

The Christian Light

Volume 21 Number 3

March 2023

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Why Worship? We Come to Remember

Most of us cannot remember the day we were baptized. We may remember the stories told about the day or the pictures taken that day. Perhaps the event took place in the Lord's house, but it might have happened somewhere else. We were much too little to remember the day.

On the day we were baptized, God the Holy Spirit worked through the water and the Word to make us believers. Acts 2:38-39 says "be baptized... for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children." Through the Spirit-given gift of faith, God washed away our sins and made us children of God. If you can remember anything about your baptism, it's that you always were a believer. You can't remember a time when Jesus was not part of your life. Although we can't remember the day, we remember what God did in baptism.

When we come into the Lord's house, we remember how our Christian life started. In our church the baptismal font is in the front to remind us that baptism was our entrance in the church of Jesus. It's a good spot because it helps us remember our baptisms and the promises God made there. In that forgiveness we find the power, courage, and energy to be the children God has made us.

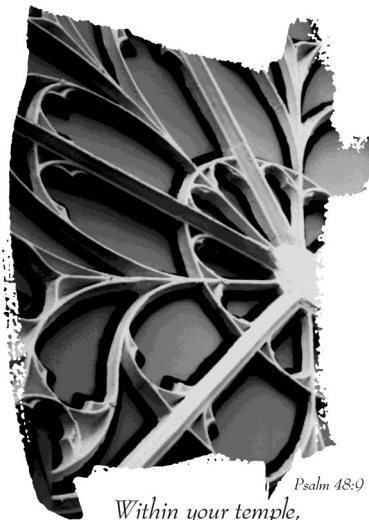
Baptism, of course, is not the only sacrament. The other is the Sacrament of the Altar, or Holy Communion. Jesus gave believers a special command for this sacrament. He said, "Do this in re-

membrance of me" (Luke 22:19). When we come together, we are to remember what Jesus has done, giving his body to be crucified and giving his blood from the wounds of the crown of thorns, the scourge, and the nails.

Holy Communion is much more than just a ceremony that helps us to remember him. Jesus said, "this is my body" and "This is my blood." The wafer is his body in a way that we cannot explain or comprehend. The wine is his blood in a way we cannot grasp. We come to his house not only to remember Jesus but to actually receive him—his body and blood.

We come into the Lord's house to receive the precious assurance of our salvation. Through this sacrament the Holy Spirit does not create faith the way he did in baptism, but he strengthens that faith and keeps it alive within our hearts. It is a means through which his power touches us.

Thousands upon thousands of believers come to the Lord's house for these sacraments. Like them, we come to remember and to gain strength for our journey through the dark days of trouble as well as the bright days of joy and celebration.



Psalm 48:9
 Within your temple,
 O God, we meditate on
 your unfailing love.



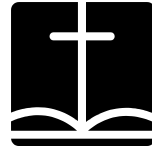
Our Mission

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



Principal Call Meeting

After late worship March 12
In Church

Leadership Team Notes

The Leadership Team (LT) continued a study on Jesus' Mission for his Church at its March meeting. We looked at *Jesus' Mission: The Ways and Means*

The LT discussed the plans for one areas of our main emphasis for 2023: Plans to Equip Christian Parents. We will follow up monthly on how the plans are being carried out.

Average worship attendance for in person worship in January was 234. This compares to 211 in January, 2022. The average for in person worship for the 2022 was 257. This compares to an average of 225 in 2021. Bible Class average attendance in January was 43 (43 in January, 2022 as well). Bible class attendance for 2022 was 36. In 2021 the average was 45. Please continue to encourage your brothers and sisters in Christ to stay close to Jesus in Word and sacrament!

The LT discussed how to proceed in calling a new princi-

pal for the school. We will have a call meeting after late worship on Sunday, March 12 to call a new principal.

The LT was informed a member will cover the cost of exterior lights that illuminate the front of church. We continue to look into new lights for church and carpet for the altar area.

The LT approved adding a teacher's assistance for the remainder of this school year if possible. We will add this position in the budget for the next school year.

The LT received Hunter Mayer as a communicant member by transfer from Lord of Lords, Casper, WY. Welcome Hunter! The LT transferred Keith Leiterman to Messiah, Bellevue and Ben Grobe and his son Axel to Bethany, Appleton.

The Nominating Committee is working for slate of candidates for the Leadership Team. They are also looking at appointments to various ministries in the congregation. The budget

committee will meet on Monday, Feb. 27.

The Treasurer reported the following January and Fiscal Year balances. .

Income	\$61,248
Expenses	\$109,849
Monthly balance	\$-48,678
Fiscal year to date balance	\$27,882
Checkbook balance	\$26,420
Gen. reserve fund	\$200,090
DPI reserve fund	\$2,501
High School	\$930
Fiscal year total	\$13,995
2022-23 fiscal goal	\$17,500
Synod Mission	\$2,333
Calendar year total	\$2,333
2022 goal	\$29,500

MZLC will provide a lay delegate to the synod convention in 2023. Paul Griepentrog will serve in this role.

Our next meeting is Thursday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m.

We will have an Open forum on April 16 to prepare for the Annual Meeting on April 30.

Dare to Lead

St. Mark Ministries will hold the Dare to Lead conference at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay April 24-25. Join us for a best practices conference, providing practical steps for your ministry. Registration is open and costs \$99. Speak to Pastor Enderle if you are interested in attending. There are discounts if we send 3 or more people from our church. More info at <https://stmarkministries.com/d2l/>

Call Accepted

Mr. Muchka has accepted the divine call from Manitowoc Lutheran High School to serve as the technology director and teach freshmen General Science. Please keep Morrison Zion in your thoughts and prayers as the Leadership Team begins to take the steps necessary to call a new principal for our school.

Baptism

On Sunday, Jan. 12 Waylon James Vande Hey was baptized into Christ. Waylon, the son of Alyssa Laabs and Walker Vande Hey, was born on Jan. 6, 2023. Please pray for God's blessings on Waylon and his family!

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

Sunday Morning Bible Study will begin the study, *Prepared to Answer* on Sunday, March 5. It is based on the book of the same name. Books are available from Pastor Ott for \$10. This study will help us to carry out one of our major emphasis for 2023 (p. 8): Equipping our members to share Jesus in their daily lives. 1 Peter 3:15. Join us!

Commons Bible Study We will not meet in March. We encourage you to attend the Bible Study in the basement focused on sharing our faith. This is one of our church's points of focus for this year.

Sunday Night Book Discussion In March we will begin a new book, *Lutheran Spirituality*. Do you want a closer relationship with God? Are there days when you feel far away from him? Instead of depending on your own strength, learn to depend on His! This book explores the rich depths of a distinctively Lutheran spirituality. It is a how-to for Lutherans wanting more out of their spiritual life written by respected Lutheran scholars. It will help leaders in the church discover reachable goals to strengthen their own faith and help others grow strong as well. Books are available from Pastor Ott for \$10.

God's Great Exchange Workshop Learn how to tell others the story of sin and grace with stick figures and equations! We will meet in the church basement on Saturday, March 18 at 9:00 a.m. The class will be repeated on Monday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement. In April we will repeat the Simple Law/Gospel Presentations workshop on April 15 and 17 as a part of our emphasis on equipping members to share Jesus in their daily lives.

New Life in Christ Class This review of the basic doctrine of the Bible meets Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in the church basement.

Men's Study will meet on Monday, March 6 and 20 at 7:00 p.m. Join us in the church basement.

Women's Study We will meet on Saturday, March 18 at 9:30 a.m. at Ruth Zeamer's home. We will study Psalm 32. Please bring a bible and invite a friend. Any questions contact Jen Enderle (920-372-3818).

English as a Second Language will meet March 1 and 15 at 5:00 p.m. in the church basement. New students and volunteers are welcome!

Bible Reading Plan We are reading the Gospels. There are summary videos. Daily questions and devotional thoughts will be shared. Scan the QR code to join! ; Feb. 15-March 11: Luke; March 12-31: John.



Youth Group will meet for Bible study on Sundays at 7:00 p.m. at school. Open gym follows. Join us for a Movie Night at Immanuel Shirley on March 4 and a trip to Badger Sports Park on April 22.

Rooted Game Night and Study Join us on Saturday, March 11 at 5:00 p.m. for food, games, and Bible Study at the parsonage. Anyone in their 20's or 30's can join us. If you have kids, they are welcome to join us as well. Food will be provided but you are welcome to bring a side, snacks, or desserts. Contact Pastor Enderle with any questions.

Meditations This daily devotional book is available by the front and rear entries of church. They are found in the racks. There is a place for you to place your gift to help cover the cost of the books. These daily devotions are a great way for you to grow in faith alone or together with your family! Pick up one the next time you are at church!

Worship In March

Notes on Worship

In March we continue our 40 day journey of Lent. The Sundays are Sundays “in” Lent, not “of” Lent. They are islands of refreshment in this penitential season, even though worship is muted with the absence of the song of praise and “alleluia.” Our series in Lent on Sundays is “Islands in the Son.” Midweek worship at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. focuses on “Acceptable? Sins. We often decry (correctly) the sins of the culture around us, but perhaps we do not so clearly condemn the sins we have grown accustomed to in our own lives. Join us to get better at seeing sins in our own lives.

Live stream is Sunday morning worship at 8:00 a.m. on YouTube and Facebook Wednesday worship will be live at 11:00 a.m. 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! Find resources for worship 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. Worship themes in January :

March 1	Midweek 1	Pride/Judgmentalism	purple
	Sermon: Proverbs 8:13	Hymns: GR739, 302, 304:6,7	
March 5	Lent 2	Islands in the Son: An island for all	purple
	Sermon: Ro 4:1-5,13-17	Hymns: 353, 391, 380	
March 8	Midweek 2	Irritability/Impatience	purple
	Sermon: 1 Co 13:4-5	GR739, 303, 304:6,7	
March 12	Lent 3	Islands in the Son: An island full of light	purple
	Sermon: Ep 5:8-14	Hymns: 367, 343, 774, 321:1-2	communion
March 15	Midweek 3	Silence	purple
	Sermon: Ez33:7-9	GR739, 305, 304:6,7	
March 19	Lent 4	Islands in the Son: An island with people ready to serve	purple
	Sermon: Ro 8:1-10	Hymns: 484, 486, 492	
March 22	Midweek 4	Selfishness	purple
	Sermon: Ph 2:3-4	GR739, 306, 304:6,7	
March 26	Lent 5	Islands in the Son: An island paradise that does not end	purple
	Sermon: Ro 8:11-19 (8:00)	Hymns: 392, 110, 728, 460:3-4	communion
March 29	Midweek 5	Unthankfulness	purple
	Sermon: Dt 11:10-18	GR739, 307, 304:6,7	

Consider using the hymns, readings and the sermon text as a personal or family devotion some-time before worship!

Altar Committee members serving in March: Sharon Faulds and Shannon Otto

Easter Lilies

The worship committee will pick up lilies for Easter. You may purchase a lily in memory of a loved one or in honor of one. These names will be included in the announcement sheet on Easter. Please sign up in the church basement by Sunday April 2. The cost per lily is \$12.00. Order forms are available in the church basement. Place your order and the money in a provided envelope and place it in the box. Please plan to pick up your lilies after worship on Easter or by Sunday April 16. Thanks for helping to beautify our Easter worship.

Music Fund

After more than 20 years, the stereo system that we use in the balcony was replaced. Thanks to the donations to our music fund, a new system is in place. The system is used by our choir and instrumentalists anytime their music has a recorded orchestra accompaniment. The fund is also used to purchase new music for choir and band. Thank you for supporting our music ministry!

Food Pantry

We served 46 families (198 people) on Feb.4. We had 3 new families. We continue to improve how we can serve. We are trying to get bi-lingual items. Most of our families are Hispanic. Can you imagine what it would be like to come to our pantry and not be able to speak or read any English? So this is an area we are focusing on now. We also had 9 new volunteers in February. Our pantry continues to be blessed with volunteers who are very compassionate. Thank-you to everyone who helps in any way, whether you donate food or volunteer. Our next giveaway is March 4, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. We set up at 7:00 if you would like to help. If you or someone you know needs pantry assistance call 920-246-5435 to make an appointment. Please keep the pantry in your prayers.

Soup for Souls

Soup for Souls Ministry has delicious meals available at school and church for you to share the love of Christ in a tangible way. Cards are available as well to share an encouraging message with a friend or neighbor. (Meals currently available: lasagna and garlic bread, meatloaf and mashed potatoes, beef stew, chicken dumpling soup, and assorted cookies.) Thank you for your offerings to support our ministry, your gifts are greatly appreciated. *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.* (2 Co 1:3-4)

VBS

Mark your calendar for Vacation Bible School, July 11-13. The theme is *God's Living Water: Covered in Jesus' Grace*. Please watch for more information. Invite your friends, relatives, neighbors.

Scrip

The RaiseRight app is the easiest way to use the program and the most cost efficient for both you and the church. E-cards and reloadable cards can be used instantly! They also run specials and bonuses that you will be notified of only through the app. The sign-up code is **LCE5EE7B2774L**. If you have any questions, Danielle Ripp is happy to walk you through it.

Please help! If you shop at Econo foods in Brillion. Please consider purchasing a scrip card for Econo foods. We will be discontinued after our current inventory is depleted. We have 4 \$50 cards and 8 \$100 cards left. Once gone this will help with being able to have more money to use for other cards to have on hand.

Blindmen's Volleyball

Gather your teams for this tournament March 24-25. 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 Friday, March 4. A \$30 donation is encouraged for each team to help offset our youth's cost to International Youth Rallies. Registration is available online. Email Pastor Enderle at james.enderle@mzls.org with any questions.

Porky Breakfast

Join us Sunday March 26 for Pancake and Porky breakfast, 7:30 a.m. - noon in the gym. During breakfast we will host a family Bible Study in the gym, 9:30-10:00 a.m. Donations support our trips to Youth Rallies. Youth group please plan to help this morning.

School News

4K-5K

Mrs. Geidel

It is crazy to think that it is March already! This month in Bible class we will focus on miracles Jesus' performed and then Jesus' path to the cross. In math 5K will learn how to decompose (break apart) numbers 11 through 20. 4K will learn how to compare numbers 1-10. In reading 5K has been working to learn new sight words. We can also spell words using a, e, i, and o. We have begun working on words with blends. 4K will learn letters R, S, T, and U. Our class is excited to take two trips this month. We will travel to the Green Bay Children's Museum and go to Manitowoc Lutheran for a play on Charlie Brown. God has truly blessed our year and we are excited to continue to learn about his grace and mercy!

School Choice Application

The window for applications to the School Choice program is open. It closes April 15. Families who wish to participate in the program will need to apply, even if they are already a part of the program. Contact Mr. Muchka with questions.

Piano Recital

Mark your calendar. The piano recital is Friday, May 5 at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited!

Music Knight

On Friday, March 10 our school will present a concert at 6:30 p.m. Instrumentalists in grades 5-8 will perform in the gym. Come and support our young musicians!

Grades 1-2

Mrs. Kuchenbecker

What's new in grades 1-2. We studied clocks, money, and place value to the hundreds. We learned about adjectives, adverbs, long vowels and suffixes. The second graders love writing in cursive. We enjoyed a trip to the Building for Kids in Appleton. We had fun learning about and making collages. We also enjoyed being artists, firefighters, pilots, truck drivers, store workers, doctors, bankers and other things that we could imagine. We continue reading many books to fly our rockets through the solar system on our reading challenge maps. Many have almost made it around once already! Way to go super readers! We learned about the pioneers and how travel has changed from the past. We made model covered wagons and pretended to take a wagon train to Oregon. What an adventure! We're so thankful for all the wonderful blessings that God gives us at all times of the year!

Grades 3-4

Mrs. Muchka

Happy March! In Christ Light we are studying the words and promises of our Savior Jesus. In Math the third graders are studying properties of addition and subtraction, and the fourth graders have been adding and subtracting fractions. In Wisconsin State History the class explored life in early Wisconsin and the path to statehood. In Shurley English the class just finished learning how to write a personal narrative. In mid-March, we will take a field trip to the Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center. There we will learn more dairy farming and agriculture in Wisconsin. Please keep the third and fourth grade classroom in your prayers!

Grades 5-6

Mr. Geidel

In Math, the 5th graders are learning how to divide with fractions, a natural transition from working with multiplying fractions. Sixth grade is studying measurements both customary and metric and how to convert between them. Both grades are celebrating reading *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* with a themed party. Each student will bring in a treat, drink, or snack that related to something in the book. We will have this party while we watch the movie. In Science, both grades are wrapping up their study of life and all God's creations and will begin to study weather and water.

School Band

Mark your calendars! Our grade school band will play the National Anthem at a Timber Rattler game! The game is on Saturday, May 20. The game is at 1:10 p.m. Tickets will be available at a group rate price of \$14 per ticket. As an extra bonus, for any tickets that we sell, \$3 will be donated to our congregation. Watch for further ticket information. We hope you can join us for a fun day of baseball and come out to support our grade school band and the Timber Rattlers.

Grades 7-8

Mr. Muchka

The upper graders used February to grow in their spiritual and academic knowledge. In Christ Light we learned about what God says about issues that are controversial in society. In Reading we completed a study on the research process in literature. In Grammar the students gave an interpretive reading forensics presentation. In Social Studies we studied the history and cultures of Germany and Russia. It is wonderful to see the students using their gifts and abilities in a variety of ways. Continue to keep our students, parents, and teachers in your prayers as we continue to serve God in the classroom with our gifts, talents, and abilities.

Lakeshore Lutheran Schools Academic Fair

The LLS Academic Fair is Saturday, April 22, 8:30-3:00 p.m. Students will have the opportunity to prepare Art and Science 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 on out and support our students as they use their gifts to glorify God.

4K & 5K Registration

The registration deadline for 4K & 5K for the 2023-2024 school year is approaching. Reminder students must be 4 years old by Sept. 1 to enter 4K and 5 by Sept. 1 to enter 5K. Please notify MZLS as soon as possible if your child will attend. If you have any questions, please contact Rick Muchka at 864-2349. If you wish to learn more about the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program, please also reach out to Mr. Muchka.

Concessions Committee Needed

Shannon Otto will take care of planning the hot food for the concession stand next school year. Thank you, Shannon! I am still looking for at least two others to help with the planning and purchasing of concessions. Please contact Katie Muchka if you'd like to help. Thank you!

Coaches Needed

If you are interested in coaching cross country, soccer, volleyball, or basketball next year, please contact Mrs. Muchka. We are always looking for additional coaches and assistants!

Fun Day

Fun Day will meet March 2 and 16. Fun Day is 8:30-10:30 a.m. for 3 & 4 year olds (already potty trained). Have children bring a small snack and water bottle. This is a free program held in the church basement. The focus is to learn school readiness and the love of Jesus, while having fun with peers. Please invite a friend. Contact jen.enderle@Outlook.com or 920-372-3818 if your child plans to attend or with any questions.

Spring Play

On Friday, March 31, grades 5-8 will entertain with the dramatic performance, *The Girl With the Golden Locks*. They will perform at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Join us!

Dr. Suess

Dr. Seuss Story Time at Morrison Zion Lutheran School is March 3, 6:00-6:45 p.m. Wear your pajamas, listen to stories, make a craft, and eat a snack! This free event is recommended for children 3 (potty-trained) through 2nd grade. Parents are welcome to stay. Join us and bring a friend!

Barkhausen Presents

Join us on March 4 for Barkhausen Presents Live Animals, Furs & Skulls at Morrison Zion School. This free presentation begins at 9:00 a.m. and is best for children 3 and up. Interact with native Wisconsin animals both living and non-living, learn basic identification skills, and similarities and differences. Children need to be accompanied by an adult during the presentation. Please join us and invite a friend.

**Morrison Zion Lutheran Church
of Morrison**

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THE CHRISTIAN LIGHT
MARCH 2023



**MORRISON
ZION
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Our Mission

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Glorify
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Leadership Team Sets Three Main Areas of Focus for 2023

In November of 2022 the Leadership Team met to plan the main areas of emphasis for the ministry of MZLC in 2023. The LT decided on these three areas of focus.

1. Equipping Parents to be faithful Christian Parents.
2. Develop A Mission Mindset Among Members, All Are To Share Jesus.
3. Equip Members to Serve our of Love for Jesus.

This month we will look at emphasis number 1: Equipping Parents to be faithful Christian Parents. Here is our goal and how we will work to carrying it out.

We want to equip the parents in the Morrison Zion Lutheran family to act as the primary teachers, mentors, and encouragers of their children in the Gospel.

- We will help parents study and understand God's plan and role for parents as the primary influence on the spiritual lives of their children.
- We will motivate, educate, and encourage good parenting with the Gospel.
- We will provide them with tools to strengthen their faith and increase their confidence and ability in sharing the Word with their families and equip them to have healthy Christian families that prioritize and emphasize the Gospel at home, at church & school, and in the world.

Please pray for God's blessings on our efforts in this area!