

The Christian Light

Volume 21 Number 8

August 2023

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Parting Words

(part 2)

Over 21 years ago our van full of seven Otts arrived from Lake City, MN. That day, pick up trucks full of members of Morrison Zion showed up to drive U-Hauls with our assorted stuff. I still recall how Erv Zeamer was the first man through the kitchen door. One thought from that day has haunted me to this day: We left 10 minutes before Kay Siewert arrived with freshly baked chocolate chip cookies for the drive. I loved Kay's baking!

It seems as though I blinked and 21 years went by. A loud house of seven has changed to an apartment with two of us and an old cat. I used to have energy, now I take naps. I used to have a sharp mind, now I can't remember things I should know. I now look as though I am always eating powdered donuts and pouring the last crumbs from the bag on my head. So many things have changed as I look back to sleeping on an inflatable mattress in the parsonage living room that first night.

Change is a constant.

The congregation has grown. New members have arrived. Children have been baptized, confirmed and married. I have stood at the head of many friends' caskets. Physical changes have taken place in our facilities. As I write this, we are having the forecasted hottest week of the summer. As I look forward to worship tomorrow night and a wedding on Saturday, I am incredibly thankful that we have air conditioning now!

Change surrounds us daily.

But some things don't change.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. That served as the theme of our anniversary celebration a few years back. It is a truth that we can always count on. God's love for us in Christ has been there for each and everyone of us in the 21 years I have been here. It will still be here for each one of us for all the years the world exists after I leave.

The message of forgiveness through the perfect life and innocent death of Jesus in our place is the rock solid foundation of every moment of our lives. It does not matter who your pastor is, your salvation is certain because of Jesus. Jesus' work became your personal property when the Spirit gave you the gift of faith in Jesus. Your Triune God will keep you in that faith through his means of grace no matter what changes take place in your life. What an incredible comfort!

Now, I am packing and getting ready to "Go west, old man." I will miss Morrison Zion. I will miss watching kids grow. I will miss watching concentrate intensely on sermons with their eyes closed. I will miss picking on people in confirmation class and adult Bible study. I will miss many things. I am certain of all that. The only thing I am more certain about is this: I desperately want to see all of you again in heaven! Grow in God's grace!

Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Acts 20:32



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

Vacation

The Enderles will be on vacation Aug. 3-10.

Leadership Team Notes

The Leadership Team (LT) discussed the paper *Encouragement in the Ministry* at our July meeting.

The LT discussed the progress on our 3 main emphasis. Emails on parenting are being sent. Four people attended the Friendship Witnessing workshops in July. The service booklet will be mailed to everyone in the beginning of August. A form to fill out with areas of service will be included. The LT will discuss the booklet in August.

The LT decided to install new lighting at church. The cost of the lights will be about \$30,000. Installation will cost about \$5,000. We will need help moving pews to make room for lifts for the installation.

The LT discussed work on the Teacherage. A few items remain to complete.

Average worship attendance for in person worship in June was 248. This compares to 250 in June, 2022. The average for in person worship for 2023 year to date is 272. In 2022 it was 257. In 2021 it was 225. Bible Class average attendance in June was 40 (27 in June, 2022). Year to date average attendance is 49. In 2022 it was 36. In 2021 it was 48. Please continue to encourage your brothers and sisters in Christ to stay close to Jesus in Word and sacrament!

The LT granted transfers to the following: Jeremy, Holly, Paige, Brayden, and Brylie Zirebel to Immanuel, Manitowoc; Leah Kuchenbecker to St. Peter, Sturgeon Bay; and Matt Krueger to Salem, Loretto, MN.

Pastor Ott will pack on Aug. 22 and move to South Dakota on Aug. 23.

The Treasurer reported the following tentative June and Fiscal Year balances. They will

be reviewed and approved at the next meeting. The end of the fiscal year and missing statements did not allow for enough time for review before the meeting. We are still waiting for some of the reimbursements from Brown County for grant to cover money spent by the Food Pantry.

Income	\$30,696
Expenses	\$70,672
Monthly balance	\$-39,976
Fiscal year to date balance	\$-33,730
Checkbook balance	\$69,598
Gen. reserve fund	\$166,253
DPI reserve fund	\$2,504
High School	\$820
Fiscal year total	\$22,910
2022-23 fiscal goal	\$17,500
Synod Mission	\$2,690
Calendar year total	\$22,216
2023 goal	\$29,500

Our next meeting is Tuesday, Aug. 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Call News

The Lord called Rev. Thomas Mielke to serve as our associate pastor on June 24.. Pastor Mielke returned the call. Watch the announcements for information on a call meeting.

Wedding

On Saturday, July 29 Erin Krueger and Samuel Ciha were united in marriage at a worship service at Morrison Zion Lutheran. Please pray for God's blessings on the newlyweds as they begin their married life!

Baptism

On Sunday, July 23 Ava Jean Hansen, the daughter of Craig and Kristin Hansen, was baptized in the late service. She was born on June 21, 2023. Please pray for God's blessings on Ava and her family!

Farewell

Pastor Ott's farewell is Sunday, Aug. 13 after late worship. We will have a meal of pulled pork, coleslaw, and cheesy hash browns. Please bring a dessert to share. After the meal there will be a program in the gym. After the program there will be a bounce house and dunk tank outside with ice cream treats. Join us!

Help Needed

Pastor Ott will have a trailer at Nickel Funeral Home on Tuesday, Aug. 22. He would love some help loading the items going to South Shore. We will start loading at noon. Thanks for your help!

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

Sunday Morning Bible Study In August we will continue a study on *Esther—Born For Her Time* from the God's People Series. Books are available at the study. We will discuss the life of Esther and apply it to our lives today. Join us for this 8 lesson course! We meet study Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in the church basement.

Aug. 6 Pages 8-11

Aug. 13 Pages 12-15 (circle phrases that indicate the motivation of different characters as you read: Xerxes' closest advisors p. 12; Persian provincial rulers p. 13; and Hegai p. 15)

Aug. 20 Pages 16-21

Aug. 27 Pages 23-26

Sept. 3 Pages 27-33

Sept. 10 Pages 34-36

Sept. 17 Pages 37-42

Sunday Night Book Discussion In August we will finish discussing *I Will* by Thom Rainer. We meet at 7:00 p.m. at Nickel Funeral Home. Park in the triangle and enter through the glass doors. We will not meet on July 2. Our last class with Pastor Ott is Aug. 6. Watch the weekly announcements for more information on a book study with Pastor Enderle.

Friendship Witnessing Workshop This workshop will focus on how to build bridges with people and earn the right to talk to them about Jesus. This one hour workshop will meet on Saturday, Aug. 5 at 9:00 a.m. and on Monday, Aug. 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement. This Fall we will have a Festival of Friendship in place of Welcome Home Sunday. Every member is encouraged to bring a friend to worship with them that day. Join us for this one hour workshop and learn how to build bridges and share Jesus!

Men's Study will meet on Monday, Aug. 21 at 7:00 p.m. Join us at the bonfire or in the church basement depending on the weather.

Women's Study We will meet on Saturday, Aug. 19 at 9:30 a.m. at Phyllis Wegner's. We will study *Rejoice Always! Really?*, based on Philippians. Please bring a bible and invite a friend. Any questions contact Jen Enderle (920-372-3818).

English as a Second Language will meet Aug. 10 and 24 at 5:30 p.m. in the pavilion or in the church basement. New students and volunteers are welcome!

Bible Reading Plan In August we will look at two devotional plans. Speak to Pastor Enderle if you would like to join.

July 31-Aug. 7: Name of God

Aug. 8-Sept. 4: Esther: Born for Such a time as This

Partnering in the Gospel Follow-Up Join us at school on Monday, Aug. 28, 6:30-8:00 p.m. for a follow-up to the Partnering in the Gospel Seminar. We will discuss several of the "take home" sections of the Seminar (Lies We Believe, Spiritual Healthy Discipleship, and the Spiritual Gift Inventory) along with in any other questions. Speak to Pastor Enderle if you have questions.

Sunday School will start after Labor Day in September! We are still looking for teachers, even if you are willing to help or be a substitute teacher, that would be of great help. No teaching experience necessary, just a willingness to learn and share Jesus' love with the kids. Please contact Jen Enderle 920-372-3818 or jen.enderle@Outlook.com if you are interested. Thanks! Look for more information about Sunday School in the weekly announcements and next month's newsletter.

Worship In June

Notes on Worship

After reliving the great events of the life of Christ, the worshipping Church spends half a year focusing on the teachings of Christ. The Church wears green during the season of Pentecost as the Spirit uses those teachings of Jesus to grow the faith of believers. The appointed lessons teach us the characteristics of the Holy Ministry, the Christian, the Church, our God, and the Christian life

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! 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 June :

The Christian...

Aug. 3/6	Pent.10	...seeks spiritual wealth	green
	Sermon: 1 Kings 3:5-12	Hymns: 421, 418, 325	
Aug. 10/13	Pent. 11	...trusts God to provide	green
	Sermon: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5	Hymns: 353, 349, 445, 482, 321	communion
		outdoor Sunday, Pastor Ott farewell	
Aug. 17/20	Pent. 12	...answers doubt with faith	green
	Sermon: Exodus 14:10-31	Hymns: 415, 384, 405	

The Church...

Aug. 24/27	Pent 13	...is meant for all people	green
	Sermon: Romans 10:13-15,28-32	Hymns: 539, 413, 756, 521:1,2	communion

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

Altar Committee members serving in August: Diane and Sally Suchomel

Outdoor Worship

Sunday, Aug. 13: Communion, Pastor Ott farewell, meal in gym to follow, bounce house and dunk tank after the meal.

Children's Bags

We have gone through the children's bags at church, and will replace some items in the bags. If you have a Thrivent Action Team we can use, please let Pastor Enderle, Jen Enderle, or Mrs. Geidel. Thank you!

Church Golf Outings

Join us Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. at Wander Springs to golf and spend time with other congregation members. Tee times are in the name of Charles Edinger. Join us and bring a friend!

Pastor Ott Retirement

The Otts invite everyone in the congregation to South Shore, SD on Saturday, Sept. 2 (Labor Day weekend) for a party. Please let Pastor Ott know if you plan to attend so we have enough food.

Choir

On Aug. 13 we will celebrate Pastor Ott's retirement. All choir members and former choir members are invited to join together to sing at the 10:30 service. We also invite anyone who's never been in choir to join us. This is a perfect opportunity to see what choir is like! We will rehearse on Wednesday Aug. 2 and 9 in church at 7:00 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Friendship Registers

We will begin using Friendship Registers in the pews again in August. Please take the time to sign the registers and pass them down the pew during the offering. Thanks!

Food Pantry

We served 36 families in July, with four new families. Our numbers are up by nine families from a year ago. We continue to be blessed with many volunteers who help with the distribution and shopping. It is heartwarming to see and feel the thankfulness from the families we serve.

We will accept any fresh fruit or vegetables from your garden for our Aug. 5 distribution. Please have them at school by 7:45 a.m. If you need to drop them off earlier than Saturday, please be sure items are put into one of the coolers to keep them fresh and let someone know you have brought items in. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. T

The food pantry is a great way to serve the community and show the love of Jesus. High school students you can count this time as volunteer hours. August 5 we will set-up 7:00–8:00a.m. Distribution starts at 8:00 a.m. and we usually are done around 10:00 a.m. Please consider helping. If you know anyone who could use some assistance, please have them call the food pantry phone to set-up an appointment. 920-246-5435. Have a great rest of your summer!

Vacation Bible School July 11-13

Morrison Zion hosted VBS on July 11-13. We shared Jesus with 65 little lambs and had over 30 volunteers. Our theme was God's Living Water. The first day we learned about creation, day 2 was about water from a rock, and our 3rd day we learned about the time Jesus washed his disciple's feet. Thank you to all who helped make this a success.

Morrison Marketplace

Join us this summer for the Morrison Market. The 2023 dates are Aug. 20, Sept. 10, and Oct. 8. The Market is 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the school parking lot. If you would like to be a vendor, crafter, farmer's market vendor, etc., please contact Alicia Stevenson 366-0523. Come for lunch and stay to mingle with the community and others from our church.

Church Lighting

The Leadership Team approved replacing the lights at church. The cost will be around \$35,000 for the lights and installation. We will need help moving pews to install the lights. Watch the announcements for the date of installation.

Soup for Souls

Meals have been restocked again and are in the freezer at school and at church. Currently we have broasted chicken and potato wedges, meatloaf and mashed potatoes, chili, tater tot casserole, and lasagna with garlic bread. Don't forget to take a card with your meal to share a positive message of love to those receiving the meal. The Soup for Souls ministry was blessed recently with a new freezer at church. Thank you to those who made that possible!

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7

Scrip

Reminder that any Scrip purchased will go towards tuition for the 2024-2025 school year. Please consider using this program. You have the opportunity when you shop with the gift cards you can help with a student's tuition or help and give your percentage to church. You are also able to use the RaiseRight App to shop. Here is our code for the RaiseRight app code: LCE5EE7B2774L. If you have any questions, contact Danielle Ripp.

Youth Group

Youth Group will meet monthly in summer for a bonfire, food, devotion, and fun.

Join us Aug. 12, 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Immanuel, Shirley.

The 2024 Youth Rally in Fort Collins, CO will have the theme "From the Mountaintops" from Isaiah 40:9. Look for more information coming soon!

Youth Group Breakfast

Youth Group will serve breakfast on Sunday Sept. 24 and all are invited! Join us anytime from 7:30 a.m. to noon in the gym. Menu will include breakfast burritos and hash browns. All donations at the breakfast will support the Youth Group's upcoming International Youth Rally trip to Colorado in summer of 2024. Youth group please plan to help this morning.

School News

Supply Drop Off

On Sunday, Aug. 20 you may drop off school supplies, 11:30a.m. -12:30 p.m. Teachers will be in their classrooms ready to take any supplies you would like to drop off

Grades 3-4 Mrs. Hagenow

Before we know it, the first day of school will be here! I hope everyone is having an enjoyable and relaxing summer! I am excited to begin a fun and productive year with 3rd and 4th grade. It is a blessing for me to be back in the classroom and to be able to share about Jesus' love everyday with your children!

Grades 7-8 Mrs. Muchka

Welcome back to school! It is a blessing for us to be back in the classroom. I pray that everyone had a safe and blessed summer! In Christ Light we will focus our study on our relationship with God and the promises he gives us in His word. The seventh and eighth graders will begin the year by learning about integers and rational numbers in math. We will also be studying American History as our focus in Social Studies. In Reading students will work on making predictions as we explore various texts. We're looking forward to a great school year! Please keep the seventh and eighth grade classroom in your prayers!

Back to School Game Day

Join us for Back to School Game Day on Sunday, Aug. 27, 2:30 -4:30 pm. Weather permitting we will enjoy outdoor games. Please bring any outdoor games for all to enjoy. Snacks and drinks will be provided

From the Principal

God's blessings as we are rapidly approaching a new school year! Remember that registration is Aug. 1-8 by 10:00 a.m. (Please contact Nancy when you would like to drop off your paperwork along with payment and she will make every effort to meet you at school at your convenience.)

This year our expected enrollment is 62 students, what a blessing to be able to daily share Jesus with 62 of his children. If you know of anyone who is looking to enroll their child at MZLS encourage them to email Mr. Geidel (school@mzls.org).

Our first day of school is Wednesday, Aug. 23; books can be dropped off on Sunday, Aug. 20. Please join us for our back-to-school game day on Aug. 27 for some fellowship and yard games as a school.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped getting the school ready for the new school year. We appreciate your time and energy.

If you have a student at MZLS this year, please watch your email for home visits. Home visits are mainly done with families who have a new teacher, but you are more than welcome to request a visit from a teacher even if you have visited with them before. Home visits depend on teacher availability around two weeks before the first day of school.

Morrison Zion Athletics

The students at Morrison Zion are blessed to start their fall sports seasons! They begin the year with volleyball and cross country. If you'd like to cheer on the Knights, game schedules can be picked up in the school office, or you can check our online school and church calendar. If you would like to volunteer, our athletic program is always looking for coaches or extra help at home events. Please contact Katie Muchka if you would like to get involved.

Morrison Zion Lutheran Church
of Morrison

Church: 7395 County Road W
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Pastor Randy Ott
Pastor James Enderle
www.mzluth.org
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Greenleaf, WI 54126
Principal Rick Muchka
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Meet Mrs. Hagenow And Family

Michaela was born in Appleton and grew up on a dairy farm in Neenah. She attended grade school at Immanuel Greenville and high school at Fox Valley Lutheran where she met her husband, Jason. After graduation at MLC, Michaela was assigned to teach at St. Matthew's in Iron Ridge, WI where she served as remedial teacher and later 5-6 grade teacher. For the past 13 years, Michaela had her own keepsake and jewelry business which focused on helping those that were going through the loss of a child. Michaela and Jason have 4 children: Kaden, Mason, Haddie, and Carter (who went to heaven in 2008). They live in Wayside and have been members at Morrison since 2014. In her free time, Michaela enjoys the outdoors, traveling, and time spent with friends and family.

Michaela feels very blessed that God has called her back to serve in the classroom after many years, and she is excited to share about Jesus with her students and watch them grow in their faith.

