# The Christian Light

Festival of Friendship Sunday

During the past few months you've probably heard or seen something related to a "Festival of Friendship" or "Friendship Sunday." You might be wondering, "What is it?" and, "How is this festival going to affect or involve me?"

Our Friendship Festival will take place on Thursday, September 14 and Sunday, September 17. Very simply, it's a special opportunity for all of us to individually express our Christians "friendship" toward family, friends, neighbors and work associates *by personally inviting and bringing* them to worship with us, so that they might become acquainted with our congregation, and especially with our "Best Friend," Jesus Christ.

The theme of the Sunday is also the theme for Morrison Zion Lutheran Church and School for the 2023-2024 year, "Rejoice in the Lord always!" from Philippians 4:4. A postcard invitation with the theme on it is included for you in this newsletter. More postcards are available at church. Mail them to a friend or hand deliver them.

What will make this Sunday a success are two essential ingredients. First is the blessing of our work by our Heavenly Father. And second, *Your Personal Cooperation and Effort*. Our goal is: One Friend In Church Through Each Member In Church.

Pastor Ott hosted several workshops on Friendship Witnessing, God's Great Exchange and Simple Law and Gospel Presentations, to equip people to be more comfortable with talking about Jesus and the Gospel and inviting them.

Even if you didn't attend one of the workshops, every member of Morrison (children, teens, as well as adults) can help by doing the following things:

Pray Regularly for our Festival of Friendship Sunday; for God's direction and guidance as you work to invite a friend to our Festival of Friendship Sunday; and for the salvation of all people who are currently without faith in Christ.

Identify Someone you know who is presently without a church home, who may be searching for a church home, or who may be inactive at Morrison Zion or in their church home. This won't always be an easy thing to do. It will take your time, thought and prayers.

**Spend Time With Your Invited** 

**Friend** before and after the Festival of Friendship. Get to know your friend better, especially in terms of his/her spiritual needs, hopes, and fears. Remember . . . in order to have a friend, *you* have to be a friend. Sit with your friends at church and help them become familiar with Zion and our worship service.

Follow up with them after the service to answer any questions. Invite them to come back to church and join us for worship the following week, September 24 for worship and our Breakfast hosted by the Youth Group. And finally,

Don't Say, "It Can't Be Done." With God's help, and with your cooperation, this can work, and work wonderfully. Our calling as Christians is to be his witnesses, and to work for him. It would be a blessing to have many new people at worship that Sunday and in the future. But the greater blessings (and what will make this Sunday a true success) will be realized as the friends we invite to worship the Lord with us come to know Jesus as their friend and Savior.

God will help us be his witnesses to our friends, neighbors, relatives, schoolmates, fellow workers, and other associates, all of whom need to better see and know Jesus as their Best Friend. The harvest is his and he will bless it. You can help with your prayers, your invitations, and your words and deeds in faith.

- Pastor James Enderle

Volume 21 Number 9 September 2023

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#### **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



## Congregational News



#### **Leadership Team Notes**

The Leadership Team (LT) discussed the *Serve in Love* devotional at our July meeting.

The LT discussed the progress on our 3 main emphasis. All of the parenting devotionals were emailed out. A follow will be held during a future PTA meeting. 10 people attended the Friendship Witnessing workshops in July. The service booklet was mailed to everyone in August. A form to fill out with areas of service was included.

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

The LT received Troy and Hera Morschauser, and their children Annika and Truman as a communicant members by transfer from St. Paul's, New Ulm, MN. We welcome their family! The LT granted transfers to the following: Natalie (Zirbel) Eickhoff to Our Savior,

Grafton; Lindsey (Doyen) Klingenschmitt to St. Paul, Beverly Hills, FL.

Pastor Enderle will attend the yearly CrossTrain Pastor Mentoring Conference and also the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (WLS) Symposium in September. Pastor was asked by WLS to mentor a new seminary graduate, Pastor John Jordan, who will be ordained and installed in Green Bay on Aug.

A guest preacher was approved for Sept. 7 and 10.

The Treasurer reported the following tentative July and Fiscal Year balances. They will be reviewed and approved after the August Financial Audit.

Income \$40,334

Expenses \$69,278 Monthly balance \$-28,943 Fiscal year to date

balance \$-28,943 Checkbook balance \$31,483 Gen. reserve fund \$166,255 DPI reserve fund \$2,505

High School \$1,540

Fiscal year total \$1,540

2023-24 fiscal goal \$18,000

Synod Mission \$2,440

Calendar year total \$24,656

2023 goal \$31,000

Average Worship Attendance					
July		Yearly			
2023	242	2023	267		
2022	211	2022	257		
		2021	225		

Average Bible Study Attendance					
July		Yearly			
2023	37	2023	47		
2022	20	2022	36		
		2021	48		

Please continue to encourage your brothers and sisters in Christ to stay close to Jesus in Word and sacrament!

Our next meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 7:00

## Ladies and Daughters of Morrison Zion Lutheran

Let's sprinkle Jen and baby girl Enderle with some love! Mrs. Geidel is planning a little sprinkle for Jen to help welcome their newest addition. This event will take place on Sunday, September 17th at 12:00p.m. in the commons of school. We will have some lunch and play a couple of games! If you can make it, please bring a dish to pass for lunch. For the gifts, Pastor and Jen have many of the baby items but are looking to possibly get a couple of bigger items (like rocking chair and/or bassinet) and Honest Company diapers newborn and size 1. If you plan on joining us, please fill out this form to RSVP so food can be planned or contact Mrs. Geidel hillary.geidel@mzls.org, (262)-689-3492. If you have any questions or would like to help in any way please reach out to Hillary Geidel,

#### Call News

Rev. Thomas Mielke returned the call to serve as our associate pastor. A call meeting was held Sunday, Aug. 27 to call an associate pastor.

#### **Funeral**

It has pleased our heavenly Father to call the soul of Jessica Beyer to her heavenly home. Jessica died on July 30. Her Christian funeral was at Morrison Zion on Aug. 6.

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

Sunday Morning Bible Study In September we will continue our study on *Esther—Born For Her Time* from the God's People Series. We will discuss the life of Esther and apply it to our lives today. We meet study Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in the church basement.

Sept. 10 Pages 34-36

Sept. 17 Pages 37-42

On September 24 we will have a special one week Bible Study in the gym while the Youth Group Breakfast is being served. Grab your food and study God's Word together. The study will start at 9:30 and end by 10:10 to give people time before or after to get food and have fellowship.

**Sunday Night Book Discussion** will meet starting Sunday, September 10 at 7 p.m. in the church basement to discuss the book "The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness" by Timothy Keller. Books are available downstairs and the back of church for \$2.

Wednesday Confirmation Class for public school students 5th-8th grade begins Wednesday, August 30 from 5:00 pm to 6:15 pm. Classes are held at Morrison Zion Lutheran Church. Please contact Pastor Enderle with any questions james.enderle@mzls.org

**Men's Study** will meet on Monday, September 4 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 for Women's in-home Bible Study on Saturday, September 9th at 9:30am at Ruth Zeamer's home. Please bring your bible and invite a friend to join us! If you have any questions, contact Jen Enderle at 920-372-3818. This will be our last Bible Study of this year, as I (Jen) prepare for, welcome, and adjust to having a newborn.

**English as a Second Language** will move to Thursdays. We will meet Sept. 7 and 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the pavilion or in the church basement. New students and volunteers are welcome!

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

Sept. 5 - Oct. 6: Gifts from God—Devotions from Time of Grace.

**Sunday School** starts on September 17th! We will meet at school 9:15-10:15. Parents look for sign-ups at school and in the church basement for your child(ren). Sunday School is for kids ages 3 (potty trained) through 6th grade. If any teens are interested in helping that can be indicated on the sign up sheets or communicated directly to Jen Enderle 920-372-3818 or jen.enderle@outlook.com. Thanks

We would still love some extra helping hands, substitute teachers, or co-teachers for this Sunday School year. Connect with Jen if you have any interest or with any questions.

**Fun Day** is a free program held in the Morrison Zion Church basement. The focus is to learn school readiness and the love of Jesus, while having lots of fun with peers. Children ages 3 & 4 (already potty trained) are invited to attend. Fun Day will start on Tuesday, September 12 from 8:30am – 10:30 am. In the church basement. It will be held every Tuesday morning unless there is no school at Morrison Zion. Please share with a friend or a neighbor! If you have any questions please contact Danielle Ripp at 920-621-3196 or <a href="mailto:danielle-

#### Church Band

Attention instrumentalists! It's almost time to brush off the dust, warm up the mouth pieces and get the chops ready to play. The church band will be back together again this fall. Keep an eye on the upcoming newsletter for rehearsal information. If you would like to play a solo before we begin all together, please contact Mrs. Kuchenbecker.

#### Worship In September

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. In September we are in a series discussing the Church.

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 920-949-1038.

Worship themes in September:

#### The Church...

Aug 31/Sep	ot 3 Pent 14	will stand forever	green			
	Sermon: Revelation 7:1-8	Hymns: 538, 536, 308:7				
Sept 7/10	Pent.15is mili	tant: first the cross, then the crown	green			
	*Sermon: Galatians 6:12-16	Hymns: 735, 465, 428, 452	communion			
* Guest Preacher - Pastor Jerome Enderle						
Sept 14/17	Pent. 16	Friendship Sunday	green			
	Sermon: Philippians 4:4-9	Hymns: 391, 304, 760, 411				
Sept 21/24	Pent. 17	forgives as God forgives	green			
	Sermon: Ephesians 4:29-5:2	Hymns: 306, 493, 392, 383	communion			

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

Altar Committee members serving in September: Connie Blauert

## **Keyboard Players**

We want to encourage our youth to become our future pastors, teachers, and leaders in our church. This also applies to our future music leaders. We are looking for young keyboard players who would be interested in helping lead worship. If you play keyboard or another instrument and are interested in playing for worship, please speak to Mrs. Kuchenbecker. Our goal is to use the gifts of our members while still making sure worship is done with excellence. As these young musicians lead us in worship, please remember that your words can encourage or discourage these future leaders. If you have any concerns or comments please speak directly to Mrs. Kuchenbecker, Pastor Enderle or a member of our worship committee.

## 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!

## Friendship Registers

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

#### **Choir Invitation**

Psalm 95:1 Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD, let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Where can you visit with friends, share a laugh or tear but most of all raise your voice in praise to God? In choir of course! Music is a wonderful blessing God has given to our congregation! But to keep it going strong we need more volunteers to use their voices to praise God! Our choir season will begin on Wednesday September 20th. Rehearsals will begin at 7:00p.m. in the church balcony. Even if you can't make it every week, please consider coming to choir. We're looking forward to seeing everyone back again this fall and welcoming many new voices. Please join our choir so that we can continue to offer our best praise to God in song.

## **Worship Committee**

The Worship Committee will meet on Monday, September 25th at 7pm

#### **Food Pantry**

We served 48 families on Aug. 5th, consisting of 186 people. We had 5 new families sign-up. Our numbers are on the rise once again. We handed out hot dogs, 1 lb. of hamburger, laundry soap along with the regular items. Fresh items included pineapples, strawberries, spinach and jalapeno peppers. We also were able to give fresh potatoes, zucchini and pickles that were donated from church member's gardens. We could use a Thrivent cards and donations of fresh produce at this time. Please put any garden produce in a refrigerated cooler to keep fresh, until our next giveaway September 2nd or drop off that morning by 7:30a.m. With the dry weather this summer our planting with a purpose garden failed to produce. If you would like to volunteer, we set-up between 7:00 & 8:00. Giveaways run between 8:00 a.m. & 10:00a.m. If you have any questions or are in need of assistance, please call 920-246-5435.

#### **Morrison Market**

Join us this summer for the Morrison Market. The 2023 dates are Sept. 10, and Oct. 8. The Market is 10:30 a.m.-1:30 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.

## 2024 WELS International Youth Rally

Signups for the 2024 Youth Rally, "From the Mountaintops," held June 25-28, 2024 will be coming soon. Registration is \$410. Please start planning early so you can attend!

## College Student Address

College students and parents of college students look for an email coming soon requesting your new address. If you signup at wels.net/refer and click "campus ministry" you can get free devotionals and other spiritual encouragement from the synod. You can also send your new information to nancy.pantzlaff@mzls.org.

#### Soup for Souls

The church and school freezers have FREE meals available to share with a friend or neighbor. Don't forget to take a card that includes an encouraging message of Christ's love for us.

#### Scrip

If you would like Scrip please contact Danielle Ripp by phone (920-621-3192), email dani.pues27@gmail.com, or place an order in her mailbox at church. Please consider using this program. It supports the church as well as the school. If you are a family that is in school choice, please consider using this program and having it go towards your milk or hot lunch program for your children or giving what you earn to another family in school or to the church which also supports the students and teachers. You can drop off orders at school if it is more convenient.

Scrip is looking for a new assistant or two to help distribute physical cards. Contact Danielle Ripp or Pastor Enderle if you are interested.

## Youth Group

All Youth Group members are invited to a special Welcome night at Immanuel Shirley, Saturday, Sept. 9 6 pm - 9 pm. 8th graders are encouraged to join!

Sunday Youth Group will meet beginning Sept. 17 starting at a new time, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.. Shannon Otto (920) 412-7472 is helping organize snacks and contact information.

## 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 and with setup on Saturday, Sept. 23 at 10 a.m.

## School News

#### Grades 3-4 Mrs. Hagenow

Before we know it, the first day of

Welcome back to school! I hope everyone had a great summer! We will be studying about God's promises in the Old Testament beginning with creation. The students will be learning about multiplication and place value in Math. They will be studying complete sentences and types of sentences in Language Arts. To begin Social Studies, we will be discussing communities in our country and in the world. We will be exploring a hands-on unit on motion and matter in Science. I am looking forward to a great school year! Please keep our classroom and school in your pravers!

#### Grades 7-8 Mrs. Muchka

We're already a couple of weeks into the new school year, and things are going great! 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!

#### Truck Jam

Truck Jam will be held Saturday, October 21, from 9:30am-11:30! Do you have a unique truck, vehicle, farm equipment, etc. to share with kids to explore? Contact Mrs. Geidel if you would like to bring your special vehicle at hillary.geidel@mzls.org

#### From the Principal

We began our 2023-2024 school year on August 23rd. We are looking forward to all the ways that God will bless our students through our school this year. This year we have chosen the theme for the 23-24 school year: "Rejoice in the Lord Always!" based on Philippians 4:4-7



#### Grades 1-2

What happened to summer? It's school time once again! Snickers is excited to welcome 7 first graders and 3 second graders into Mrs. Kuchenbecker's classroom. We're looking forward to another exciting year! This year we're learning the Old Testament Bible lessons. We're studying air and weather in science. Our math study begins with shapes, we'll be learning "secret stories" and of course doing lots of reading. Thank you to everyone who helped get our classroom ready for the year and for the many donations to our class! Please keep us in your prayers as our new school year gets under way.

#### 4K-5K

We have begun another year and I am so excited to be teaching these little ones again. This year our 4K/5K class has 8 total students. We have 4 in 4K and 4 in 5K. The month of September will bring lots of learning about the routine in the classroom. We will begin with the creation of the world in Bible class. 5K will work with numbers 0 to 5 while 4K begins their unit on colors. 4K will begin learning the letters of the alphabet and 5K will begin the year reviewing the letters and the sounds they make. We have a field trip planned to go to an apple orchard this month where we will get a bag and get to pick our own apples to fill the bag. We are ready for a fun school year!

#### 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.

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#### B Team Volleyball Schedule 2023 Soccer Day is set for Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Tuesday, September 12th, HOME 4:30 Morrison vs. Wayside New Holstein 5:30 Reedsville vs. Wayside C Team Basketball Schedule 2023-2024 6:30 Morrison vs. Reedsville Saturday, December 9th at Trinity Brillion Tuesday, September 19th, AWAY at Kiel C Girls 9:00am 5:30 Morrison vs. Bethany 2 C Boys 10am 6:30 Morrison vs. Kiel Saturday, December 16th HOME vs. Immanuel Tuesday, September 26th, AWAY at Bethany Manitowoc 4:30 Morrison vs. Bethany 2 C Girls 9:00am 5:30 Morrison vs. Wayside C Boys 10am Tuesday, October 3rd, HOME 4:30 Morrison vs. Rantoul A & B Team Basketball Schedule 2023-2024 5:30 Rantoul vs. Algoma Friday, November 10th HOME vs. Brillion 6:30 Morrison vs. Algoma 5:00 B Girls B Team Tournament-October 7th 6:00 B Boys 7:00 A Girls A Team Volleyball Schedule 2023 8:00 A Boys Friday, September 8th HOME Wednesday, November 15th HOME vs. Kiel 4:30 Morrison vs. Kiel 5:00 B Girls Friday, September 15th, AWAY at Wayside 6:00 B Boys 4:30 Court 1 Morrison vs. Wayside 7:00 A Girls 5:30 Court 2 Morrison vs. Howards 8:00 A Boys Grove Friday, November 17 AWAY vs. Two Rivers 6:30 Court 2 Morrison vs. Bethany 1 5:00 B Girls Saturday, September 16th Tournament 6:00 B Bovs at Shepherd of the Valley in Appleton 7:00 A Boys Friday, September 22nd, AWAY at Sturgeon NO A Girls BayFriday, December 1st HOME vs. Algoma 4:30 Court 2 Morrison vs. Newtonburg 5:00 B Girls 5:30 Court 1 Morrison vs. Sturgeon Bay 6:00 B Boys 6:30 Court 2 Morrison vs. Immanuel 7:00 A Boys Friday, September 29th, AWAY at Reedsville NO A Girls 4:00 Court 1 Morrison vs. Reedsville Friday, December 8th AWAY vs. Trinity Brillion 5:00 Court 2 Morrison vs. Luxemburg 7:00 A Girls 6:00 Court 2 Morrison vs. Brillion 2 8:00 A Boys Friday, October 6th, AWAY at Brillion Friday, December 15th HOME vs. Sturgeon Bay 4:30 Morrison vs. Bethany 2 5:00 B Girls 5:30 Morrison vs. Maribel 6:00 B Boys 6:30 Morrison vs. Brillion 1 7:00 A Girls Friday, October 13th-14th, A Team Tournament 8:00 A Boys Friday, January 5th AWAY at Luxemburg **Cross Country Schedule 2023** 5:00 B Girls Mount Olive Cross Country Meet-Monday, 6:00 B Boys September 11th at 4:30 7:00 A Girls Fox Valley Lutheran High School Meet-Monday, September 18th at 4:30 8:00 A Boys St. Mark's Cross Country Meet-Monday, Friday, January 12th AWAY at Wayside 5:00 B Girls September 25th at 4:30 6:00 B Boys Manitowoc Lutheran High School Meet 7:00 A Girls (Held at St. John's Two Rivers)-

#### Soccer Day

Monday, October 9th at 4:00

B Team Tournament January 19-21

NO A Boys

## Morrison Zion Lutheran Church of Morrison

Church: 7395 County Road W

Greenleaf, WI 54126 Pastor James Enderle www.mzluth.org

School: 7373 County Road W

Greenleaf, WI 54126 Principal Jacob Geidel

Phone

864-2348 (Church) 864-2349 (School

Pastor Enderle 920-949-1038

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THE CHRISTIAN LIGHT SEPTEMBER 2023



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#### Thank You

The farewell you all gave me and my family on Aug. 13 was an incredible blessing! I am so very thankful for all the work people did, for all the kind words that were shared with us, for the meal, the presentation, the time to laugh, and the time to thank God for each other!

Thank you especially to Steve Laabs and Don Heise (from Lake City, MN) for each smoking 60 pounds of pork for the day. Thank you to Howard and Tamara Schultz for the sweet corn. Thank you to the kitchen help (even Annette). Thank you to all the speakers at the presentation. Thank you to Liz and Claire for setting up the John Cena memory boards. Thank you to everyone else who I am forgetting to name.

Thank you also to Scott Baeten, owner of Nickel Funeral Home. Scott has not only been a great landlord, but I have also come to deeply value him as a Christian friend!

The time God has given our family has been a blessing! We have shared joys and sorrow. We have had our faith strengthen by Word and Sacrament, as well as refined by fire. But every time we all looked to the Lord he strengthened and sustained us! I thnk God and you all for each day!

As I think back to the farewell, I start to get emotional all over again. I imagine this is somewhat like the feeling I will have this year after the Lions win the Super Bowl! Thanks again! God bless and be with you all always. Please stay close to Jesus so we will all have a great meal again in heaven!

— Randy Ott