



MORRISON  
**ZION**  
LUTHERAN



# Weekly Announcements

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

## Gather

**Call Issued** On Sunday, February 23 a divine call to be Discipleship Pastor at Morrison Zion was issued by the voters to Pastor Andrew Hussman. Pastor Hussman currently teaches Latin at Luther Prep in Wtertown. His wife is a teacher at St. John in Jefferson, WI. Please keep Pastor Hussman, his family and all ministries involved in your prayers.

**Call Meetings** As announced during the pastor call meeting on Sunday, February 23, there will be a call meeting after 10:30 am worship on Sunday, March 9 to call Mrs. Richter to teach 5th and 6th grade and for junior choir. There will also be a joint call meeting between Shirley and Morrison held at Immanuel Shirley on Monday, March 10 at 5:35pm to approve a job description and compensation for an Early Childhood Ministry Director and to issue a call. The separate call meetings are happening because one is with Morrison only and one is joint between the two congregations.

**Lil' Sprouts Learning Center** The Early Childhood Ministry committee is thankful for your input on names. Lil' Sprouts Learning Center was chosen as the name for this new ministry that will be starting later in 2025.

**Farewell to Alleluia** On Sunday, March 2, we will say Farewell to Alleluia for the Lenten season by decorating the church with many Alleluias.

**Ash Wednesday Services** are Wednesday, March 5 @ 11:00am (lunch to follow) and 7:00pm (dinner before).

**Easter, Confirmation, and graduation cards** are now available in the church basement.

**Child Care for 8 am Worship** We're excited to announce a trial run of childcare during the 8 a.m. service on select Sundays (**March 2 & 16, April 6, and May 18!**) This is a great opportunity for parents to participate fully in the service

while their little ones are cared for in a safe and nurturing environment. We prioritize cleanliness and sanitize toys frequently. Scan the QR Code to sign up or to help volunteer.



**Thrivent Cards** are in need. You can donate to Lenten Meals (Tamara Schultz) and for the Blindmens Volleyball (Shannon Otto).

**Kitchen Supplies** If you have any ice cream pails or cool whip bowls that are empty we could use some in the school kitchen. Please leave your donation in the shopping cart at church or drop them off at school. Thank you in advance.

## Grow

**Beyond Burnout - Book Study** meets Sundays at 7 pm. We will begin Beyond Burnout by Pastor Mike Novotony on Sunday February 23. This book focuses on Physical, Spiritual, and Emotional Burnout. How can we rest better in our God in all three areas? Books are available for \$2 at church. You can also watch the sermon that is the basis for the first chapter by scanning the QR code.



**Sunday Morning Study** will be the study Unoffendable by Brant Hansen Sunday, March 2 at 9:15 am. "Can you choose to be unoffendable?" Many Christians find it their responsibility to be angry at the world. Is this the right response?

**Youth Group** All those in grades 8-12 are invited to join the Morrison Zion and Immanuel Shirley youth group. Please click here to sign up for Youth Group updates and to RSVP to events and to see the full calendar of events.

**Sunday, March 2: Old School Cards & Chili at 12:00pm at Immanuel. All are welcome!**

- Saturday, March 29: Blindman's Volleyball Tournament

**Meditations** are now available in the racks by the front entrance way or by the back door going to the parking lot from the basement. The cost is approximately \$5.00. Donations are greatly appreciated.

**Sunday School** meets Sundays from 9:15-10:15 am for all 3-year-olds (potty trained) through 6th graders.

**Small Groups** focusing on the weekly sermon are in session. Scan the QR Code to join

· *Monday 6pm @ the Brauns'* - Young Adults / Parents with young kids (parents are welcome to bring children to the study. They will

be able to play in another area while parents join the Bible study)

· *Tuesday 6:30pm @ the Ihlenfeldts'*  
- Retirees and Empty Nesters



|     |      |          |   |     |      |          |  |
|-----|------|----------|---|-----|------|----------|--|
| 3/1 | Sat  | 7:00 AM  | Food Pantry Set-up (Open 8-10)                          | 3/5 | Wed  | 5:00 PM  | Confirmation Class   |
| 3/2 | Sun  | 8:00 AM  | Transfiguration of the Lord (choir sings)               |     |      | 6:00 PM  | (Soup Supper) Ash Wednesday Service w/communion-Choir sing |
|     |      | 8:00 AM  | Child Care for 1-4 year-olds                            |     |      | 7:45 PM  | Choir in balcony   |
|     |      | 9:15 AM  | Sunday School   | 3/6 | Thur | 5:30 PM  | ESL Class  |
|     |      | 9:15 AM  | Bible Study   |     |      | 7:00 AM  | School Board   |
|     |      | 10:30 AM | Transfiguration of the Lord                             | 3/7 | Fri  | 7:00 PM  | Music Night @ School                                       |
|     |      | 12:00 PM | Youth Group Old School Cards & Chili @ Immanuel         | 3/8 | Sat  | 9:30 AM  | Women Bible Study @ Ruth Zeamer                            |
|     |      | 7:00 PM  | Book Study Beyond Burnout Ch. 2                         | 3/9 | Sun  | 8:00 AM  | First Sunday in Lent w/communion                           |
| 3/3 | Mon  | 6:00 PM  | Small Group Study @ Brauns'                             |     |      | 9:15 AM  | Sunday School  |
| 3/4 | Tues | 8:30 AM  | Fun Day   |     |      | 9:15 AM  | Bible Study  |
|     |      | 6:30 PM  | Small Group Study @ Ihlendfeldts'                       |     |      | 10:30 AM | First Sunday in Lent w/communion                           |
|     |      | 6:30 PM  | Church Band   |     |      | 6:00 PM  | Youth Group Bible Study w/open gym                         |
| 3/5 | Wed  | 11:00 AM | Ash Wednesday Service w/communion (lunch after) Jr Sing |     |      | 7:00 PM  | Book Study Beyond Burnout Ch. 3                            |

**The First Bible You Ever Meet** WELS NEWS

Do you remember your first Bible? Do you know where your first Bible is? Mine is an old study Bible that some relatives gifted to me at my confirmation. Throughout the years, the margins have accumulated helpful notes and comments, different dates of when I visited that same text, and other scribbles that have made this Bible mine. It's practically tethered to me and has logged thousands of miles crisscrossing different cities, states, and continents.

Have you ever thought that you might be the first Bible that someone meets? Not that you are the Way, Truth, or Life of Scripture, but that you might be the first look at what a justified, grace-filled Christian life looks like in the world? Why would that matter at all?

You may have seen some of the latest articles that tell us that more Americans aren't going to church like they did even five years ago. Church shopping rates are down, but there are more people who are turning away because of what their churches in the past had done. They also feel happy and content to do what they are doing now. What's more surprising is that more people are completely unexposed to what the gospel message actually is.

It's a real concern in my community. Trinity, Fla., is a place that was conceived under the idea that you could be "born, work, and die" all in one place. As I've learned, chatted, and had coffee with some of the people that live in our community, there is a growing resentment that "the people inside the church don't act like Jesus would." To put a number on it: Trinity currently sees 71.6 percent of its community inactive in any faith community, up 10 percent in just five years. Or to put it another way: About three out of the ten people you see in your grocery aisle this coming weekend are connected to religion in some way. The other seven are unattached to the means of grace and the sacraments.

Something will fill that void. The spiritual needs today aren't different than at any point in human history. There will always be a real need for relationships, forgiveness, justice, comfort, purpose, and salvation. Humanity needs to hear it. God's given us the message to speak to it.

As a home missionary in the United States, this excites me. We have a real opportunity to show Christian love to people who have no idea what it looks like. We are Christ's ambassadors, as though he is making an appeal through us! With more people unexposed to what the gospel message is, we may have to be more proactive about going and showing what a redeemed life looks like rather than asking someone to come and see. One helpful pastor I know said, "Where is the most unlikely place you will find an unchurched person? Inside of a church." We often lament that this is a darkening and dimming world. That just means we need some lights to guide our way. That can happen through prayers for our worker training programs and for your pastors, but also for your brothers and sisters who are sitting in the seats of church along with you, that they may be bold in their witness of the gospel and unashamed of its message. Include yourself in that prayer too.

Because to someone you've never met or someone you know extremely well, you might be the first look of what living out the Scriptures actually is. So what are they reading?

Written by Rev. Ben Bitter, home missionary at Peace Lutheran Church in Trinity, Fla.

| Gather Numbers | Members    | Visitors  | Total      | Communion  |
|----------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| 2/20 Thur      | 25         | 6         | 31         | 22         |
| 2/23 8:00 AM   | 89         | 3         | 92         | 70         |
| 2/23 10:30 AM  | 98         | 8         | 106        | 87         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>212</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>229</b> | <b>179</b> |
| <b>Online</b>  | <b>16</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>16</b>  |            |

| Grow Numbers |               |           |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|
| 2/18         | Fun Day       | 10        |
| 2/18         | Small Group   | 6         |
| 2/19         | Catechism     | 7         |
| 2/20         | English Class | 4         |
| 2/22         | Women's Study | 7         |
| 2/23         | Sunday Study  | 20        |
| 2/23         | Sunday School | 15        |
| 2/23         | Youth Group   | 9         |
| 2/23         | Book Study    | 9         |
| <b>Total</b> |               | <b>87</b> |

| Birthdays |          |            |
|-----------|----------|------------|
| 3/2       | Cathy    | Laabs      |
| 3/3       | Gloria   | Edinger    |
| 3/3       | Bonnie   | Isley      |
| 3/4       | Roy      | Downham    |
| 3/4       | Steven   | Uecker     |
| 3/4       | Olivia   | Blauert    |
| 3/5       | Nicholas | Obry       |
| 3/7       | Bella    | Isley      |
| 3/9       | Diane    | Dobberpuhl |
| 3/9       | Kayla    | Evenson    |

**Bible Reading Plan**  
March 2-8

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Sunday, March 2</b>    |
| Job 31<br>2 Corinthians 1 |
| <b>Monday, March 3</b>    |
| Job 32<br>2 Corinthians 2 |
| <b>Tuesday, March 4</b>   |
| Job 33<br>2 Corinthians 3 |
| <b>Wednesday, March 5</b> |
| Job 34<br>2 Corinthians 4 |
| <b>Thursday, March 6</b>  |
| Job 35<br>2 Corinthians 5 |
| <b>Friday, March 7</b>    |
| Job 36<br>2 Corinthians 6 |
| <b>Saturday, March 8</b>  |
| Job 37<br>2 Corinthians 7 |

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