

STEEPLE ECHOES

January 2019

*A Monthly Newsletter
of Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Mount Horeb*



EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
of Mount Horeb

*A family of faith, reaching out
to share God's love with all
people*

WELCOME TO
ELC Mt. Horeb



WORSHIP SCHEDULE AT ELC

Holy Communion Celebrated 1st & 3rd Sundays at all services.

SATURDAY: 5:00pm-(in Chapel) Modified Traditional Worship

SUNDAY: 8:30am Traditional Worship using liturgies from
Lutheran Book of Worship & With One Voice

10:30am Contemporary Worship led by ELC Music Team

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY – THURSDAY: 9:00am – noon / 1:00 – 4:00

FRIDAY: 9:00 - noon

ELC'S STAFF

Pastor John Twiton

Pastoral Intern Jason Xiong

Accompanists: Carol Engstad, Ruth Heinecke, Barb Underwood

Agape Preschool Director: Amy Kellesvig

Bell Choir Director: Kristin Willcutt

Custodian: Brian Johnson

Junior Choir Director: Barb Underwood

Music team leader: Pat Doty

Office Assistant: Carol Engstad

Office Manager: Kathy O'Donnell

Organist/Senior Choir Director: Diane Dangerfield

Youth Director: Brenda Martin

A Note from PASTOR JOHN

A New Year to Shine More than a century ago, Tennyson shared "A New Year's Poem" which I've shared a few verses of here. What is striking is how desires of each age seem to ring true today as well. Much like the folks in Bethlehem so many years ago, we long for the coming of a new hope.

A NEW YEAR'S POEM

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light;
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind,
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809-1892)

But the good news is that the light of Christ does shine today as well. The only question for us is, will we share it with those around us, or will we retreat from the challenges of a world which lives in fear and darkness?

God's Peace,



FROM THE INTERN'S DESK – Vicar Jason Xiong

I resolve...

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” (2 Corinthians 5:17)

It's inevitable! 2018 has seemingly flown by and now we are on our way into the new year...2019. This happens every year, but it seems that once we come to it, time speeds up and before we know it we are here. What does that say about us? I am not sure it says anything bad about us other than we may be impatient at times. We want everything new to come quickly and when it seemingly does, we wish it hadn't. I know I am guilty of this. I can't wait for the new year to start – but then it will surely take me two months to stop writing the year 2018 on everything. It's ironic but inevitable. The other thing that is inevitable; new year resolutions.

Many of us will utter the words: “I resolve” at some point in the next few weeks and then wonder if what we have resolved to do is possible or even what we truly want. Often we let society tell us what is important or what our new year resolutions should be. This could be why I don't think I have ever heard someone say that they resolve to “come to church more often in the new year.” ☺

Our society has deemed what is important and because of the 24/7 flow of information we experience, these are the voices that are the loudest. So, what is my resolution for 2019? To listen more; to listen more to my own heart and to also try to listen more to the Holy Spirit. To live into the 2 Corinthians passage above. Every day we are created new – the old day is gone, all the previous days are gone and we are invited by God into a new relationship each day. A relationship that is renewed and full of hope and promise.

Happy New Year!



Vicar Jason Xiong, *Pastoral Intern*

YOUTH NEWS

PEER MINISTRY We are excited to announce that we are thankful for a grant given to us by the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Campaign through the ELCA. This grant will help with our costs for our training and will help our program to continue to grow and impact our community.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MOVIE/GAME NIGHT All high schoolers (9th - 12th) are invited to a movie/game night at church on January 4th. Our event will begin at 6 PM and end at midnight. A time to hang out with friends, enjoy movies, games and of course - FOOD! We will need some adult helpers throughout the event, including preparing food. Please sign up on my office door or email Brenda, if you can come or help out. We need participation in order for this event to occur.

TIME TO ORDER TROLL WAY PIZZA! Our favorite "Troll Way Pizza" returns again! Our youth are taking orders for our delicious "church-made" pizzas after worship services through January 13th. Pick up day for these unforgettable pizzas will be on **January 27th**, in Fellowship Hall. (after worship services) One great way to stock up on pizzas before the Super Bowl in February. Funds raised will benefit the youth attending the Mission Trip to Indianapolis in June, 2019. Thank you for your support!

No Confirmation for 7th & 8th on January 2nd.
Sunday School resumes on January 6th, 9:30 AM

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY We will have a Children and Youth Ministry meeting on January 8, at 7:00 PM. This is a time to give updates on our current and future activities for our youth. If you are interested in joining, please email Brenda.

Many blessings to the New Year!

Brenda Martin, Youth Director, brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org

COUNCIL NEWS

TREASURER'S REPORT - November 2018

| General Fund Activity (\$) | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Nov '18 | Nov 2017 | YTD 2018 | YTD 2017 | YTD Budget |
| Income | 24,042 | 24,769 | 269,140 | 276,191 | 296,639 |
| Expense | 25,696 | 27,183 | 304,716 | 280,889 | 300,338 |
| Net | (1,654) | (2,414) | (35,576) | (4,698) | (3,699) |

Year-to-date income (47 weekends), including \$4,250 from the Maxine Dimick estate, is 3% less than prior year (48 weekends) and 9% under budget. YTD expenses are 8% more than prior year, primarily due to mission outreach/synod gifts specified in the estate gift, staff raises, full year of youth director, leadership development, coffee, pastoral ministry, worship support, youth & family, maintenance/dishwasher repairs, supplies, technology, development, and utilities; YTD expenses are 1% more than budget, primarily due to the mission outreach gifts, maintenance/dishwasher, supplies, and development, partially offset by youth/family and insurance under budget.

| Building Maintenance (Capital) Fund Activity (\$) | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | Nov '18 | Nov 2017 | YTD 2018 | YTD 2017 | YTD Budget |
| Income | 595 | 779 | 11,111 | 146,098 | 6,644 |
| Expense | 0 | 0 | 14,150 | 96,928 | 11,000 |
| Net | 595 | 779 | (3,039) | 49,170 | (4,356) |

Year-to-date income, including \$2,500 from the Maxine Dimick estate, is less than prior year (which had \$9,800 in gifts from Endowment, \$47,698 from the Anna Halverson estate, and \$81,402 from the Designated Fund for stained glass repairs) and more than budget. YTD expenses, for the front door replacement, are less than the prior year which had outlays for the coffee station (covered by Endowment), refrigerator, and stained glass repair project.

| Mortgage Repayment Fund Activity (\$); (Loan Balance is \$217,644) | | | | | |
|--|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| | Nov '18 | Nov 2017 | YTD 2018 | YTD 2017 | YTD Budget |
| Income | 3,283 | 4,786 | 71,142 | 33,273 | 39,930 |
| Expense | 3,630 | 3,630 | 54,930 | 39,930 | 39,930 |
| Net | (347) | (1,156) | 16,212 | (6,657) | 0 |

YTD income, including \$15,000 from the Maxine Dimick estate, is more than prior year and budget. YTD payments are \$15,000 more than PY and budget due to an extra principal payment. Final payment is scheduled for Oct. 2024.

Respectfully submitted by Stephen J. Hall, CPA, ELCMH Treasurer

2019 ELC CHURCH COUNCIL

| COUNCIL MEMBER | HOME PHONE | EMAIL |
|---|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Diane Bartz Property | 444-1240 | barbarabartz@gmail.com |
| Ellie Berg Agape | 630-7954 | ellie.berg@me.com |
| Ben Brothers Social Action | 217-1202 | ben.brothers@gmail.com |
| Sandy Glaeve Stewardship | 698-3998 | sglaeve@msn.com |
| Suzy Grundahl Spiritual Growth & Fellowship | 437-7838 219-8023 | grundahl@mhtc.net |
| Steve Hall TREASURER Budget & Finance | 712-5154 | hall@urology.wisc.edu |
| Jeff Hook PRESIDENT Mutual Ministry | 437-4601 556-3287 | JeffHook@mhtc.net |
| Bruce Meister- VICE PRES Technology | 437-6443 | spgbam@mhtc.net |
| Julie Schmitz Inreach Outreach | 513-4805 | zanderjul@mhtc.net |
| Steve Steinl- SECRETARY Personnel | 345-1848 | sksteinl@mhtc.net |
| Becky Strube Worship & Music | 469-1748 | rebeccastrube@gmail.com |
| Katie Zelle Children & Youth | 235-1149 | kathrynzelle@gmail.com |
| Pastor John Twiton | 437-7091 | john.twiton@elcmthoreb.org |
| Brenda Martin, Youth Director | 576-6012 | brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org |
| Vicar Jason Xiong | | Jason.xiong@elcmthoreb.org |

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

HELP OUT THE HOMELESS! Volunteers needed for MOST MONTHS IN 2019! We are looking for volunteers to make Homeless Lunches. This is a great activity for a family, church circle, youth or civic groups. This will involve buying the groceries, making 50-80 sack lunches (depending on the month) and delivering them to the Men's Shelter between 7-9 pm on the 2nd or 4th Saturdays of the month at Grace Episcopal Church at 116 W. Washington, Madison. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board next to the church offices throughout the year. You will be sent a reminder with instructions about a week in advance of that 2nd or 4th Saturday. Thank you so much to all the volunteers who helped out with this mission in 2018.

NEEDED: ELC VOLUNTEERS FOR CLOTHES CLOSET As one of the 15 churches that supports the Community Clothes Closet, ELC pledges volunteers for that keep the facility running smoothly throughout January. A small donation of your time can make a huge difference in a family's lives, allowing them to access new and gently worn clothing, bedding, and footwear. That's particularly true in the cold winter months, when warm clothes are a necessity. Can we count on you to help? We're seeking four volunteers for each of the following dates: **Saturday, Jan. 12, 10am to noon; Thursday, Jan. 17, 5 to 7pm; Saturday, Jan. 26: 10am to noon**

Anyone can handle the duties in these shifts, which come with clear instructions. No experience necessary! If you'd like to help but can't work these shifts, the Clothes Closet could use your services to sort, fold, and straighten clothes during closed hours, at a time that fits your schedule. If you're interested, please contact Kate Hook at katehook63@gmail.com or 437-4601.

NEED FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANT VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for Bulletin Assemblers, Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants, Acolytes and Readers. You decide when and how often you volunteer. For Ushers, it's once every fourth Sunday, and for ALL other volunteers, it varies depending on how many volunteers we have. *This is a small commitment, yet extremely important volunteer opportunity!* Please contact Kathy or Carol in the church office (437-5012 or elc@mhtc.net) to volunteer. **YOU ARE NEEDED,** Thank you for taking the opportunity to be of service to ELC.

SINCERE THANKS TO DUANE AND LAURA MILLER for their many years of helping with the Food Pantry & Community Clothes Closet Donations. ELC is looking for someone to take over this task which involves collecting the food and clothing that people have dropped off at the church and taking it to the food pantry/clothes closet on a weekly basis.

GENERAL INFORMATION

WOMEN OF ELC On Dec. 8, the Women of ELC gathered for the annual **Advent Brunch**. It was a pleasure to have some men join us for the occasion. Don Hartman presented a program about the war memorial being built by the American Legion, the VFW, and the Vietnam Vets. During a brief business meeting, the financial report for 2018 was reviewed and the budget for 2019 was presented and read. It is with great appreciation for her work that we thank Ann Baumgartner who has completed her term as treasurer. Carol Nielsen has been elected as the new treasurer.

Early in January, the new **Women of ELC handbook** will be sent out. It will contain a calendar of events for 2019, a list of Coordinating Committee members, Circle lists, and (perhaps most importantly) the Social Committee lists. Every woman in the congregation is assigned to a Social Committee. These committees serve the meal following a funeral during their assigned month and sometimes help with other receptions. Grateful families often make a financial contribution to the Women of ELC for this service. Thanks to these generous donations, we were able to disburse \$5,100 at the end of the year.

In **2019**, look for the Spring Fling, an event to honor those women turning 80 during the year. We also look forward to hosting the Barneveld Conference Spring Gathering on April 27. We'll round out the year with another Advent Brunch. All women of the congregation are invited to attend these events.

Thank you all for the part you play in the Family of Faith here at ELC.

KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS, keep cranking out those baby caps! We'll resume meeting in the Faith Room in January on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 9am. Red caps are requested for the emphasis on heart health in February. Contact Ruth Heinecke with any questions at 444-4949.

THE CHRISTMAS AT ELC BENEFIT WAS A ROUSING SUCCESS! Thanks to everyone's generosity, \$2504 was raised to help the MHASD's Weekend Meals Program. Thank you to all the ELC musicians who generously donated their time and talent for the concert, Bonnie Kellog and Brian Johnson for heading up the kitchen crew, the men's group who made the chili, and Bill Miller from Miller and Sons who donated the chili supplies.



Come and check out our next "Wednesdays with Luther" coming up on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 from 7pm-8:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone of all ages is welcome to attend. **We will provide a homemade dinner of roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, rolls, and a dessert.** All you have to do is come. We will have a **short communion worship service** as we share dinner together and then participate in an **activity/service project**. A freewill offering will be taken to help offset the cost of the dinner. **Please contact Vicar Jason with any questions about our Wednesday's with Luther!**

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY *The Gospel of Matthew - a new beginning begins January 6th at 9:30 a.m.*

As we turn to the gospel stories for worship in January, we'll take a look at themes in Matthew's gospel. The eight sessions will look at the following topics:

- The Birth of the Messiah (Matthew 1:18–2:12)
- This Is My Son, the Beloved (Matthew 3:13–4:11)
- You Are the Salt of the Earth (Matthew 5:1-16 [17-20], 21-48)
- You of Little Faith (Matthew 14:13-36)
- Who Do You Say That I Am? (Matthew 16:13–17:9 [13])
- Where Two or Three Are Gathered in My Name (Matthew 18:1-22 [23-35])
- My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me? (Matthew 27:32-56)
- I Am with You Always (Matthew 28:1-10 [11-15], 16-20)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

PLEASE WELCOME JORDAN MARTIN SLOCUM into our church family. Jordan was baptized on December 15. He is the son of Steve & Allie Slocum and the brother of Joanna. His sponsors are Alex & Jessica Slocum.



Dave Field, Shane Krantz, Linda Luenser, , Emilie Van Galen's brother, Darrin, Patricia Flom, Pearl Vierima, Patsy Funk (Nancy McKinney's sister), Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl), Dianne Hirsch, Ashley Letheby (Lois Alm's granddaughter), Laurie Duden (Brenda's aunt), Michael Curtis (Ellen Cook's great-grandson), Barbara Bendlin (Connie Curran's aunt), Harlan Oimoen, Mary Jane Niles (Rubelle Zwald's daughter), Bill Steinhauer, Al Wilkening (Jan Ekenberg's brother-in-law), Irene Bruflat, Grace Aavang, Gary Fritz, Teresa Nichols-Trace, Mary Kohl, Dewey Wagner, Peter Toniazzo.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS our partner congregation **IGLESIA EVANGÉLICA LUTERANA DIVINO SALVADOR** (Divine Savior Lutheran Church) in Cataño, P.R

OUR SYMPATHIES AND PRAYERS are with

- † **Dave Edwards & family.** Dave's father, Jerry, passed away on December 9.
- † **the family & friends of Todd Martin.** Todd passed away on December 13.

MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY of



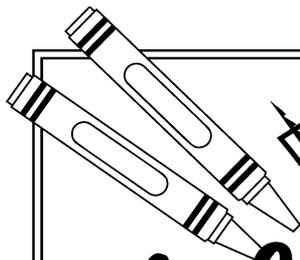
- † **Allan Baldwin** for the General Fund from his family
- † **Lorna Hamburg** for the General Fund from John & Helen Kahl

January

BIRTHDAYS

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Boettcher | Pat | 11 Ellestad | Patricia | 22 John | Chloe |
| | Jayne Martinson | | Lisbeth Gibney | | Diane Mueller |
| | Debby Schneider | | Art Hage | | Sonja Rosborough |
| 2 Rollins | Julia | 12 Zelle | Mae Jean | | Karen Tetzlaff |
| 3 Iverson | Jim | 13 Kahl | Devin | 23 Vesely | Alexa |
| | James Morey | | Kim Kelliher | 24 Bower | Samantha |
| | Michael Powell | | Breanna Nesheim | | Morgan Monroe |
| 4 Cannon | Sandra | 14 Bartelt | Tom | 25 Brothers | Sarah |
| | Zach Klassy | | Steve Hall | | Kelly Doty |
| | Louis Thomas | | Pamela Larson | | Robin Paske |
| | Peter Toniazzo | | Kathy O'Donnell | | Aaron Schmidt |
| 5 Field | Amanda | 15 Killinger | Skylaar | 26 Jenkins | Larry |
| | Ross Nesheim | | Christine Rinabarger | | LeAnn Klaetsch |
| | Matthew Nielsen | | Betty Rosenbaum | | Stacy Kreul |
| | Colin Schulz | 16 Kahl | Helen | 27 Anderson | Tim |
| | Amber Schulz | | Renee Littel | | Megan Ferrell |
| 6 Appleby | Kaylie | | Bob Schiefelbein | | Gabriel Guenther |
| | Gordy Kahl | | Karli Schulenberg | | Hadley Kahl |
| | Ethan Wittman | 17 Breed | Nancy | | Graham Schloesser |
| 7 Hanson | Grace | | John Rosenbaum | 28 Hustad | Kari |
| | Andrew Knudson | 18 Errthum | Jaclyn | | David Powell |
| | Alycen McKinney | | Erik Iverson | | Owen Rothamer |
| | Kristina Nielsen | | Ashley Segebrecht | 29 Fischer | Valerie |
| 8 | Daniel | | Kevin Thorsen | | Rodney Fisher |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Edwards | | |
| Ken Schulenberg | 19 Spellman | Cord Logan Heiting |
| Pearl Vierima | 20 Jewell | Beverly 30 Irene Field |
| 9 Leah Gaulke | Ann McCue | Kristine Aeschlimann |
| Stacy LaBorde | Conner McCue | 31 Deb Dangerfield |
| 10 Lois Alm | Evelyn Rameker | Jenafer Festge |
| Lydia Martin | Karen Stamm | Tim Killinger |
| Amy Mertz | 21 Heinecke | Paul Jeff Rasmussen |
| Ethan Stange | Ethan Sutter | Allie Slocum |
| 11 Matt Anderson | Kristin Willcutt | Sara Thompson |
| If we've missed you or a member of your family, or if we've listed your birthday incorrectly, please contact the church office. | | |



PUZZLE

A fresh start

Baptism is a blessing because it changes us and gives us hope.

Directions: Write the boxed letters in the squares below. Then unscramble those letters to form two words that complete the Bible verse and represent the gift of baptism.



We were therefore buried with him
through baptism into death in order that,
just as Christ was raised from the dead
through the glory of the Father,
we too may live a _____ .

Romans 6:4, NIV

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Answer: f i e l e w n y, n e w l i f e



CIRCLES & BIBLE STUDIES

FAITH CIRCLE will meet at 10:00am on Tuesday, January 8, at the Homestead.

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet in Fellowship Hall at 10:00am on January 15 Read introduction and Chapter 1 in "The Girl's Still Got It".

SARAH CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, January 15 at 7:00pm. Place to be announced.

SEWING CIRCLE meets Thursdays at 9:00am to sew and tie quilts. All are welcome. As of this newsletter, 28 new quilts have been completed.

MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY will meet the first & third Fridays, January 4th & 18th, at 6:30am. Come join us for coffee and conversation about the week's Bible readings. Everyone is welcome!!

WOMEN OF ELC COORDINATING COMMITTEE will not meet in January.



THANK YOU to Social Committee #12 for serving funerals in December. Betsy Baguhn & Cathie Field are co-chairs,

SERVING FUNERALS IN JANUARY: Social Committee #1, co-chairs: Diane Bartz & Linda Magnuson