

A Note from PASTOR JOHN

A Song of Praise

“(The Lord) put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.”

Psalm 40:3a

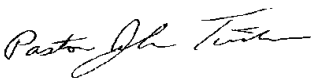
I’m sure you’ve heard it said: “All we ever get is bad news!”. Some days it sure seems like it. But I think we also need to look closer to home and ask: “How often do we share a word of praise for all that God has done, and continues to do?” These past few weeks we’ve been looking at the book of Psalms where we find many expressions of faith. We find words of hope, laments of pain, expressions of trust, and many songs of praise for the great things that God has done.

This past week I’ve been staying in my cousins’ lake home near Sturgeon Bay. This corner of Door County has been part of our family since my great-grandparents settled here over one hundred years ago. As the dogs and I took our morning walk through Potawatomi State Park, the old song of praise ran through my head: *“When through the woods, and forest glades I wander, I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.”* That old familiar song of praise comes to life in the canopy of green trees and breeze off the water.

But in a real way, it is also the echo of a song of praise that I heard in my grandparent’s living room, and in the small country church where they worshipped. Time for worship and prayer, and time to sing God’s praise, were essential parts of daily life for all those who went before me here. When I think about the way that praise has been sung throughout the years, I wonder what future generations with recall of our witness.

We will have times of pain, doubt, and uncertainty. We will lament the evils that still plague this creation. But will we pause, look around, and share that word of praise for the God who has done so much for us? I challenge you to take time this summer to pause in wonder, but also come to share that song of praise, so that we cement it in the memories of our children, and our community.

God’s Peace,



FROM THE INTERN'S DESK – Vicar Jason Xiong

What's Next

¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

–2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV)

My last Sunday with you is quickly approaching and the biggest question I have been asked in these past few weeks is “what’s next for you?” While that may seem an easy question I think there is more to it – for me, for all of us. Personally, I will return to studying for my Masters of Divinity this fall at Wartburg. I will continue to attend classes online so I will stay in the Madison area. I plan to be involved again at my home congregation which is exciting for me. If all goes according to plan, I will graduate May 17, 2020 and then begin the process of interviewing for my first call as an ordained pastor in the ELCA. What makes this all the more complex are the emotions that come with all of these “next steps” including leaving ELC. Leaving is never easy, and in ministry it is often scary for both the person leaving and the ones who are being left behind. With Paul’s reminder in the passage above that God is with us in the seen and unseen, we know that it will all be ok in the end. While my time with you has been temporary the effects on me and this community will be eternal. I have truly enjoyed my time with you over these past 11 months and have learned more than I ever expected to and that is because of YOU, the people of ELC. Thank you for taking the chance and becoming a teaching congregation. You have given me the greatest gift – the gift of love, the love you have shown through your faith in God through Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God!



YOUTH NEWS

Thank you VBS/Day Camp helpers Thank you to everyone who helped provide housing, snacks, lunches, dinners, helped lead our VBS group and our youth for assisting the counselors. It takes many hands to make a week turn out great! We had 26 Day Campers with Sugar Creek and 15 little ones for our Vacation Bible School. What an awesome week of memories!

Summer Yard Game Night - Tuesday, July 16th, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Children - ages through 5th grade are invited to a night of playing yard games on the ELC lawn. Bean Bag Toss, Frisbee, 9 Square in the Air - to name a few. Come and join us!

FUSE Fun Night (& Middle school too) - Thursday, July 18th, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm High school youth and Middle school are invited to an evening playing "9 Square in the Air" and a campfire on the ELC front lawn. Don't miss the fun!

ART FAIR Brat Stand: July 20th, 10:30 am - 2pm Come & enjoy a brat/hot dog, while enjoying our Mt Horeb Art Fair. Funds will support our ELC youth activities.

Sharing about Indianapolis - Plan on attending our worship services on July 20th and 21st to hear about our adventures to Indianapolis for our YouthWorks Mission Trip. We will share our photos and experiences. Thank you for supporting our group financially and with your prayers. We touched many lives.

Fleece Blanket donations - During our Service/Mission week, our youth will be making some fleece blankets to donate to Lutheran World Relief. If you are able to donate fleece fabric to make a blanket, please let Brenda know. Fabric must be 60 in. x 80 in.

Volunteers needed for ELC summer programming: For our service week to be a success, we need adults to help with driving to our destinations each day. You are also welcome to join us as well. It is a great feeling to give/help others. Please let Brenda know if you can help.

2019 Summer Fun at ELC - STILL TIME TO REGISTER! *Summer registration forms are available by the chapel or on our website \$25 per child, \$20 for additional sibling, per ELC program.*

⇒**Confirmation Camp at Sugar Creek July 21 - 26**, (7th & 8th grade) Register online at www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org A week of being with friends and enjoying the beauty of God's creation at Sugar Creek.

⇒**Explorer Day at Sugar Creek - July 30th, 9 am - 3 pm** (*Entering 1st - 5th grade in fall*) Come for an exciting one-day adventure at Sugar Creek. Explore what camp has to offer - games, nature, crafts, swimming, pony rides, Bible Study, singing and more! \$20 per camper, and adults are free! (We would leave at 6:45 am from church)

⇒**Mini ELC Service/Mission Week - Aug 13 - 15th; 9 am - 4 pm** (Middle-High School) Opportunities for youth to give of their time and abilities to share with others in need in our local area. Great time to hang out with friends, while helping others.

Summer Camp at Sugar Creek Bible Camp -Youth entering 2nd - High School have the opportunity to enjoy God's beauty, while experiencing games, Bible Studies, crafts, pool, horseback riding and much more. Invite a friend to go. Register online at www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org

Blessings,

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



COUNCIL NEWS

TREASURER'S REPORT – May 2019

CASH BALANCES FOR ELC MOUNT HOREB FUNDS (\$)				
	General	Bldg Maint	Mortgage	Designated
5/31/19	14,372	74,378	39,766	52,221
12/31/18	19,066	73,161	40,593	56,425
5/31/18	19,688	82,198	37,215	52,155

GENERAL FUND ACTIVITY (\$)					
	May '19	May 2018	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	YTD Budget
Income	19,243	21,113	142,621	123,087	137,152
Expense	27,998	24,820	147,240	149,563	142,324
Net	(8,755)	(3,707)	(4,619)	(26,476)	(5,172)

GENERAL FUND Year-to-date General Fund income (21 weekends) is 16% more than prior year (21 weekends) and 4% more than budget. YTD expenses (excluding intern compensation, covered by a transfer from the Designated Fund) are 2% less than prior year, primarily due to lower mission outreach and maintenance expenses, partially offset by higher spiritual growth expense; YTD expenses are 5% more than budget, primarily due to spiritual growth, snow removal, building maintenance, technology, and utility expenses, partially offset by savings in support staff.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE (CAPITAL) FUND ACTIVITY (\$)					
	May 19	May 2018	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	YTD Budget
Income	422	497	2,828	6,800	4,000
Expense	0	0	1,611	0	5,000
Net	422	497	1,217	6,800	0

BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND Year-to-date Building Maintenance Fund income is less than prior year and budget. YTD expenses (boiler repair) are more than last year but less than budget.

MORTGAGE REPAYMENT FUND ACTIVITY (\$); (LOAN BALANCE IS \$201,134)					
	May 19	May 2018	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	YTD Budget
Income	3,626	2,160	17,323	48,719	18,150
Expense	3,630	18,630	18,150	33,150	18,150
Net	(4)	(16,470)	(827)	15,569	0

MORTGAGE REPAYMENT FUND Year-to-date Mortgage Repayment Fund income is less than prior year, which included a \$15,000 estate gift from Maxine Dimick, and is slightly less than budget. YTD expenses are \$15,000 less than prior year, which included an additional \$15,000 principal payment. Final payment is scheduled for October 2024.

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

BENEVOLENCE

MAJM provides inmates a chance to change

Rev. Todd Marcotte's office is a former solitary confinement cell. "It's austere," he said, with a laugh. But aesthetics aside, his office is located in a place where he can make an impact at a level he never could have imagined: "If all these years I knew I could get closer to God in prison, I would've come here a long time ago." Marcotte is the chaplain for the **Madison Area Jail Ministry** (MAJM), which has been providing spiritual care to incarcerated men and women for 50 years. ELC has been supporting this program for many, many years, and will collect donations for MAJM in July through the Benevolence program.

Approximately 750-800 men and 80-100 women are held each day in the Dane County Jail, with many of them staying for just a few days or weeks. There, Marcotte works with a wide collection of volunteers to help these people through some of the darkest periods of their lives. "It's always a challenge, but one I like to face every day," he said. "We're up against impossible odds, and we need God to act. He does, and his presence is here. He makes a difference."

MAJM provides individual spiritual care for both inmates and Dane County Sheriff's Deputies, conducts religious services, connects them with mental health services, offers reading materials -- including Bibles -- and works to build or rebuild relationships between inmates and their family members.

Recently, one inmate was so moved by the work of MAJM that he made a \$20 donation to the program. Another shared with Marcotte that he was interested in finding a new profession after being jailed a second time on federal drug trafficking charges.

"He was looking for his life to take a different direction," Marcotte said. "I said, 'Let me point you the way.'" Marcotte emphasizes providing inmates the tools they need to break the cycle of recidivism and victimization, helping ease their re-entry into society after they leave the jail.

“Many are victims of their environment,” Marcotte said. “There is a lot of bitterness and resentment, and often that comes out in the form of violence. The reality is, it can be more toxic to the person holding it in than the person it’s intended for.”

MAJM works to stay in line with the needs of its community, so it is recruiting a volunteer chaplain to provide weekly ministry for combat veterans who have entered the legal system, to help them deal with the impact of PTSD.

MAJM is funded by donations. Please consider a gift to ensure this worthy organization can continue to make an impact.

On behalf of the Benevolence program

Adam Mertz

adammerz2@gmail.com

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

FAMILIAR WITH THE “ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY” PROGRAM? HOW ABOUT “ADOPT A PIECE” of ELC’s property? We’re looking for families/individuals to help keep our beautiful yard in pristine condition by taking care of the weeds and bushes. ***This will not include mowing.***

What’s required?

- a love of ELC
- desire to help maintain the yard
- time
- know a weed from a plant
- your own gloves, rakes, clippers, etc

A plan of the yard will be sectioned off, A sign-up for you to “own” a section of the yard. You can plan your own time to visit and maintain your section. If you sign on to help, you will be responsible for your section until it snows. If this works, we’ll try it again summer of 2020

LET’S GET STARTED!!

There will be a poster in the narthex with the areas identified. Watch for it! Thanks for the help we know we’ll get!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Sincere thanks to Brian Johnson for ordering and installing the new rug runners at the entrances. They are safe and cushy!

COMING SOON: “PRAY-GROUND”

Have you heard about the “pray ground?”

The church council has plans for a new way of ministering to the needs of our young families.



While “pray-ground” sounds a lot like “play-ground” that is not exactly what it is. The plan is to remove the first three pews on the side of the sanctuary next to the baptismal font and place a rug and a few quiet and appropriate toys and seats on the floor for our youngest worshippers. This will allow both children and their parents to stay and worship with the congregation in a developmentally appropriate way.

A number of other churches have created spaces like this, with great success. There was even an ABC News story about an ELCA church in Minnesota who created a “pray-ground” in their congregation. Copies of the article can be found on a table in the Narthax.

At this time there is not a solid timeline for this project, but we hope to have it ready before Sunday School begins in the fall.

We will not be getting rid of or damaging any pews or making any permanent changes to the sanctuary for this project. **Should you have any questions or wish to share ideas please contact any member of the church council.**

THE WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (Women of the ELCA) is a churchwide organization. Its Mission: "Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ" Its Purpose: "As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world."

We are challenged to live out our faith through word and deed, following the example of Our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. Women lead Bible study (Discipleship); make quilts and kits for those in need and address issues of Human Trafficking and racial equity (Justice); give offerings and Thankofferings to help with programs of the organization (Stewardship); raise funds for scholarships that change lives and communities (Katie's Fund); and the list goes on. The churchwide organization meets in convention in Phoenix in July, 2020. **ALL WOMEN** of the ELCA are invited to attend the Gathering that follows.

Our synod has an interdependent organization, the Synodical Women's Organization, that meets in convention every two years and offers other programs and services. The next Synodical Convention will be this year on September 21. It will be held at Good Shepherd West and **ALL WOMEN** of the synod are invited to attend. The worship, speakers, and workshops offer an uplifting experience. Ellen Cook will be our delegate to the business meeting of the convention.

The synod is divided into 9 conferences for communication and programming. We are part of the Barneveld Conference. In April, we hosted the annual Spring Gathering of the conference. The Spring Gathering offers a chance to work with other women in our area. **ALL WOMEN** of the conference are invited to attend.

Here in Mount Horeb, we are the **Women of ELC**, a congregational unit of the churchwide Women of the ELCA. We have small groups for Bible study and service called Circles. We have social committees that serve lunch following a funeral. We have a Coordinating Committee that meets monthly to keep things running smoothly.

Twice a year we meet for Brunch, in Advent to set the mood for Christmas preparations and in the spring to honor our 80 year old members. **ALL WOMEN** of the congregation are invited to attend the brunches and participate with the Coordinating Committee.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE Join the Spiritual Growth and Fellowship Ministry for an evening of entertainment and fun.

JULY 24TH 7:00 - 8:45PM @ GRUNDAHL PARK

Featured will be the band PANCROMATIC STEEL. They are a steel drum band homegrown in Madison WI that plays island calypso, jazz, classical and familiar pop/rock. Admission is free, just bring your own lawn chair or a blanket.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to Lincoln Bull on his baptism on June 16.. He is the son of Jennifer Ekenberg & Mitchell Bull. Grandparents are Jim & Jan Ekenberg.



PLEASE PRAY FOR Mike Olson (Wendy Rasmussen's brother), Jenny Hubert (Mary Meister's neice), Ruth Ann Nemet, Gladys Gullickson (Mary Krantz's mother), Mary Krantz, Jeanette Richard, Dolores Church (Becky Strube's grandmother), Connie Fausett (sister of Diane Twiton & Jean Bower), Lois Alm, Lucia Lozano (Evonne & Vern Martin's granddaughter), Linda Luenser, Irene Bruflat, Pearl Vierima, Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl), Laurie Duden (Brenda's aunt), Michael Curtis (Ellen Cook's great-grandson), Harlan Oimoen, Mary Jane Niles (Rubelle Zwald's daughter), Bill Steinhauer, Al Wilkening (Jan Ekenberg's brother-in-law), Grace Aavang, Gary Fritz, 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:

- **John & Vicky Rosenbaum.** Vicky's mother, Deloris Olson, passed away on May 31.
- **Paul & Ruth Heinecke.** Ruth's mother, Eleanor Aho, passed away on June 1
- **John & Chris Coffin and family.** John's father, Bob, passed away on June 13.
- **Kerri Kittleson & family.** Her father, William Skinner, Jr. passed away on June 15.
- **Nancy Breed & family.** Nancy's mother, Joahn Hacker, passed away on June 18.
- **Holly Thompson & family.** Holly's father, David Calhoun, died in May.

A SINCERE THANK YOU to our ELC family for your warm outpouring of sympathy upon the death of my mother, Deloris Olson. It is greatly appreciated. Sincerely in Christ, Vicky Olson Rosenbaum and family.



MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY of

† **Larry Dangerfield** for the **Music Fund** from Connie Floan, Steve & Diane Mueller, Amy & Greg Kellesvig, Mary Stamm,

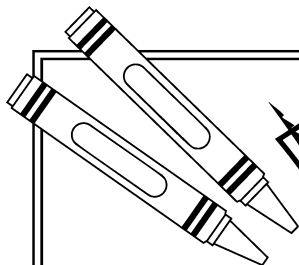
Vivian Stone, Linda Gerke, Jenifer Stone, Steve & Joan Stensby, Diane Bartz, Jody Morey, Irv & Judy Steinhauer and Ben & Linda Magnuson: for **Divine Savior Lutheran** from Bob & Sharon Schiefelbein; and for the **General Fund** from Kathy Conrad, Norm & Rita Hefty, Kathy & Pat O'Donnell, Mark & Becky Mostrom, John & Diane Twiton, Paul & Dawn Kellesvig, Jim & Cheryl Hanson, Wayne & Mary Knudson, Corinne Peterson, Dick & Carol Engstad, Vern & Betty Drape, Stephen & Janet Narveson, Gary & Marilyn Festge, Gordy & Margie Kahl, Beverly Eckel, and Gene & Vicki Spellman

† **Vergeane Martin** for the **General Fund** from Sharon Collins

† **Sybella Opsal** for **Benevolence** from Mary Curtis

† **Eleanor Aho** for the **General Fund** from Grace Aavang

JULY BIRTHDAYS		If we've missed you or a member of your family, or if we've listed your birthday incorrectly, please contact the church office.			
1	Connie Curran	11	Madeline Hamburg	22	Teresa Schult
	Ryan High		Gary Hellenbrand		Bowen Wells
	Heather Johnson		Adam Knudson		Jon Winkler
	Kylie Littel		Marilyn Wilson	23	Veronica Laabs
2	Aiden Aeschlimann	12	Ruth Heinecke		Chris Underwood
	Roxanne Fauque		Gabriel Kroll		Dan Van Galen
	Carson Faust		Dillon Ziebarth	24	Ellen Cook
	Bernie Johnson	13	Hazel Hermann		Ryan Gaulke
	Helen Martinson		Brandon Anderson		Pamela Knutson
	Diane Pladziewicz		Kelly Hurda	25	Robert Davis, Jr.
	Diana Rothamer		Teri Kroll		Michael Erickson
3	Lynn Festge		Evan Kroll		Colby Johannung
	Todd Schroeder	14	Ryan Knuteson		Rose Klir
4	Martha Hartman		Hanna Stensby		Joseph Kroll
	Noah High		Vivian Stone		Megan Scheele
	Jeff Kaletka	15	Ron Fargo	26	Julia Olson
	Sonya Tetzlaff		Leo Helwig		Melanie Siltala
	Debbie Winkler		Grace McKinney		Hannah Twiton
6	Eric Albrecht	16	Diane Dangerfield		James Williams
	Diane Bartz		Isaac Kittleson	27	Neil Densmore
	Charlie Kahl		Brenda Schmidt		Kaylen Hastings
	Riley Mortvedt	17	Mara Parks		Stacy Schloesser
	Kevin Sadowski		Karl Zelle		Anne Woolard
	Liza Spellman	18	Shelby Fritz	28	Gary Doty
	Betsy Truman		Catherine Stange		David Field
7	Rita Hefty		Megan Van Orsdel		Kevin Hanson
	Eisleigh SKibba		Rubelle Zwald		Vanessa Rameker
8	Hayden Anderson	19	Laurie Freitag	29	David Vogt
	Leah Mason		Kaden Stapelmann	30	Justin Green
	Kevin Schnieder		James Woolard		Shirley Thompson
	Ellen Walton		Ann Wyss	31	Larry Kaletka
9	Michael Collins	20	Barret Kreul		Shirley Martinson
	Dianne Hirsch	21	Lyle Fink		Mary Stamm
	David Losenegger		Samantha Forbes		Michelle Stange
	Abby Nesheim		Dennis Johnson		
10	John Larson		Jeremy Kahl		
	Karl Mueller		Nicole Lichte		








PUZZLE

"IN DEPENDENCE" DAY!

Always live "in dependence" on God.

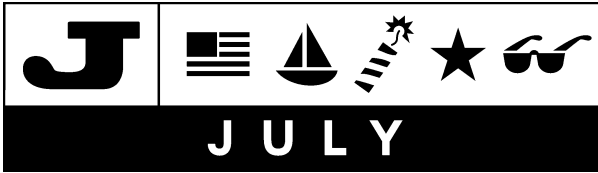
Directions: Use the vowel code to complete Psalm 16:8, NIV.

A= 	E= 	I= 	O= 	U= 
--	--	--	--	--

_ k _ p my _ y _ s
 _ lw _ ys _ n th _ L _ RD.
 W _ th h _ m _ t my
 r _ ght h _ nd,
 w _ ll n _ t b _ sh _ k _ n.
 Ps _ lm 16:8, N _ V

Answer: I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Psalm 16:8, NIV

PARKING ALERT* Please be aware that if you park in the parking lot off Front Street during the week (Monday-Friday) before 5:00pm that you **MUST** have a Parking Pass displayed in your vehicle or you can be issued a parking ticket. Parking enforcement is now taking place by the Mt, Horeb police. Please see the church office for a parking pass should you need to visit the church during the week.



CIRCLES & BIBLE STUDIES

FAITH CIRCLE, REBECCA CIRCLE, SARAH CIRCLE and W/ELC will meet again in September.

SEWING CIRCLE meets **Thursdays** in Fellowship Hall, beginning at 9:00am. No experience necessary, just stop in and we'll teach you what to do. The Circle has completed 130 quilts for Lutheran World Relief this year. LWR Quilts and Kits will be shipped on Sept 14 this year. Donations of fabric, sheets, blankets, mattress pads, and any other large pieces of fabric are greatly appreciated.

MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY will meet **July 12, at 6:30am.** Come join us for coffee and conversation about the week's Bible readings. Everyone is welcome!!



THANK YOU to Social Committee #6 for serving funerals in June. Diane Dreger, Jennifer Mullendore & Linda Wahlgren are co-chairs,

SERVING FUNERALS IN JUNE: Social Committee #6, co-chairs: Cindy Holzkopf and Barb Underwood