

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE is temporarily suspended, but we will hold modified, **outdoor services on December 13** at 10am. Worship services are available on line each Sunday morning at elemthoreb.org or ELC Facebook page.

OFFICE HOURS Our building is closed until further notice, but the church office will be staffed every morning from 9am to noon. Phone messages may be left at 437-5012.

ELC'S STAFF

Pastor John Twiton

Pastoral Intern: Tamara Siburg

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

Waiting in strength and hope

". just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 1:6-7

Advent is always a season of waiting and anticipation. During this dark season of the year, we light candles in preparation and hope as we look to the coming of Christ into our world. But this year it feels very different. While we know that Christmas will arrive on schedule, so much else is clouded in uncertainty.

Still, the light will shine in the darkness. God's people have been sustained through plagues, famines, persecutions and hardships of many varieties. Paul writes to the congregation in Corinth that they will not lack any spiritual gift as they wait, and neither will we. I've been heartened by the many ways people have continued to witness to the faith, extended compassion, and expressed concern for others in these difficult days. In the midst of it all, there are good things happening as well:

- Thank you to all who attended our annual meeting, and to all those who agreed to serve in leadership roles for the coming year.
- Our first grandchild, Miriam Joy Swedlund-Twiton, was born October 25th, a few weeks early, but is at home and progressing very well.
- We look forward to a 'virtual' Christmas at ELC.

The conditions around us have continued to get worse, but we will be sustained. The light of Christ will shine, and in time the world will emerge into a new day. Until then we rely on the unending grace of God's love and strength.

God's Peace,



WAYS OF "BEING CHURCH While the building is closed, and we don't gather as usual, worship continues. You can participate in online worship by joining us on Facebook on Sunday morning at 8:30am, or watch the video later on the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mt. Horeb Facebook page, or on the church website at: http://elcmthoreb.org/home/worship/sermon-archive/Worshipservices are also available on YouTube at: Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mt. Horeb

LISTEN TO SUNDAY SERVICE "LIVE" ON YOUR PHONE

CALL: 855 - 514 - 2017 We have set up a telephone-based that will provide a recording of the current Sunday service for anyone who wishes to listen to the service over the phone. We are providing this so that those without an internet connection can access our weekly services, but the service may be used by anyone who dials the access number.

MORNING DEVOTIONS by Pastor John on the ELC Facebook page at 8am Monday through Saturday

CD RECORDINGS of the services are also available. Contact the church office if you would like one mailed: 437-5012 or **elc@mhtc.net**

WHAT MATTERS Stay Connected To Synod Happenings, News, & Events! Grow in your faith and leadership! Stay connected to exciting events and stories of our faith in action in our synod! To sign up for synod news, please email Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Life, Deacon Vicki Hanrahan at vickih@scsw-elca.org to be added to "What Matters."

PASTORAL INTERN

Dear siblings in Christ,

Greetings to you this Advent and Christmas season. I am aware that this season looks and feels so very different from the normal hustle and bustle that is so often in the air when anticipating the coming festivities. Thank you for letting me be a part of dreaming what Advent and Christmas at ELC will look like in this difficult year.

The weather is no longer always conducive to distanced meetings outside but I am still willing and looking forward to finding times to chat with you. Let me know if you'd like to set up a time for a zoom chat or if you would like to receive a phone call from me so we can chat and learn more about each other. Feel free to e-mail (tsiburg@mthoreb.org) or call (360-731-2937) me at any time.

The Young Adult group is a go! We plan to start meeting in the evenings of the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month. Let me know if you or anyone you know might be interested in joining and I can get all who are interested the zoom link for our meeting times.

I look forward to spending this Advent and Christmas season with you. Let me know if you have any comments or questions for me.

May you be surrounded by the peace that passes all understanding during these difficult times. Peace,

Intern Tamara Siburg 360-731-2937 tsiburg@mthoreb.org

COUNCIL NEWS

2021 ELC CHURCH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBER	PHONE	EMAIL
Diane Bartz, Property VICE-PRESIDENT	444-1240	barbarabartz@gmail.com
Ben Brothers, PRESIDENT Mutual Ministry	217-1202	ben.brothers@gmail.com
Steve Hall TREASURER Budget & Finance	712-5154	hall@urology.wisc.edu
Andy Mullendore Technology	437-4678	mullendore@live.com
Vicky Rosenbaum, Agape	798-2768	jvrosen@tds.net
Carl Sieg Children & Youth	437-8217	Carlsieg1@gmail.com
Amy Sinner, Stewardship	438-9292	amylsinner@gmail.com
Becky Strube SECRETARY, Worship &	469-1748	rebeccastrube@gmail.com
Barb Underwood Intreach/outreach	577-9266	underwod@mhtc.net
Ethan Wittmann, Spiritual Growth	509-2463	Ejmad2350gmail.com
Katie Zelle, Social Action	235-1149	kathrynzelle@gmail.com
Jenni Zupan, Personnel	695-2403	abjk@mhtc.net

Congratulations to Jason Xiong who was ordained Friday, November 13th at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Beloit, Wi. If you wish to send him a card, his address is:

Pastor Jason Poole-Xiong c/o Our Savior's Lutheran Church 749 Bluff Street Beloit, Wi 53511

ELECTION RESULTS FROM ANNUAL MEETING:

COUNCIL: Diane Bartz, Vicky Rosenbaum, Carl Sieg, Amy Sinner, Becky Strube, Barb Underwood, Katie Zelle and Jenni Zupan

TREASURER Steve Hall

AUDIT: Irv Steinhauer

ENDOWMENT: Amy Hall

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Gary Hastings, Kris Kiel and Kristi

Schulenberg

PERSONNEL: Cheryl Schlesser, Holly Thompson and

Emilie Van Galen

SYNOD VOTING MEMBERS: Diane Bartz, Jim Cook, Helen Kahl

A BIG THANK YOU to Bruce Meister, Sandy Glaeve, Greg Kellesvig, Ann Baumgartner, Sandy Fischer, Gary Hasting, Kris Kiel, Lindsey Schulenberg, Diane Twiton and Sue Kaletka for their dedication and service.



DRIVE UP WORSHIP DECEMBER 13 at 10 AM

Worship in December will be online each Sunday, but in addition we will have Drive-up worship in the parking lot with Holy Communion on December 13th.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP OPTIONS

At Christmas, we will have online options for worship, but we will also have a 'Drive Up' Christmas Eve worship in the parking lot at 5:00 p.m. We encourage you to bring a battery-operated candle or small flashlight so that we can sing carols in our cars, and have a candlelight type worship.

TREASURER'S REPORT October 2020 Financial Report

GENERAL FUND ACTIVITY (\$)							
Oct 20 Oct 19 YTD 2020 YTD 2019 YTD Budget							
Income	20,993	20,546	241,021	262,377	302,610		
Transfer In	0	0	0	12,057	0		
Expense	25,134	27,793	246,422	288,513	297,454		
Net (4,141) (7,247) (5,401) (14,079) 5,156							

Year-to-date General Fund income (43 Sundays) is 8% less than prior year (43 Sundays) and 20% less than budget. YTD expenses are 15% less than prior year, primarily due to the Jan-Jul intern vacancy, fewer staff hours, and lower Leadership Development, Spiritual Growth, Pastoral Ministry, Youth & Family, Maintenance, Administrative, and Utilities costs; YTD expenses are 17% under budget, primarily due to free intern housing, fewer staff hours, disability insurance timing, and lower Leadership Development, Spiritual Growth, Pastoral Ministry, Youth & Family, Maintenance, Administrative, and Utilities costs. There is \$39,972 in the cash balance from our SBA Paycheck Protection Program loan. We expect this loan to be forgiven later this year, at which time we will recognize this as income.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE (CAPITAL) FUND ACTIVITY (\$)					
	Oct 20	Oct 2019	YTD 2020	YTD 2019	YTD Budget
Income	805	811	8,142	6,650	6,667
Transfer In	0	0	0	0	0
Expense	0	1800	4,884	16,482	13,334
Net	805	811	3,258	(9,832)	(6,667)

Year-to-date Building Maintenance Fund income is 22% more than prior year and 22% more than budget. YTD expenses (HVAC repair, tree pruning, and wall repairs) are 70% less than last year (HVAC repair, carpet runners, A/C unit replacement, sidewalk repairs, and stone repairs) and 63% less than budget.

MORTGAGE REPAYMENT FUND ACTIVITY (\$); (LOAN BALANCE IS \$159,348)					
	Oct 2020	Oct 2019	YTD 2020	YTD 2019	YTD Budget
Income	1,833	3,386	28,074	34,567	36,300
Expense	3,630	3,630	36,300	46,366	36,300
Net	(1,797)	(244)	(8,226)	(11,799)	0

Year-to-date Mortgage Repayment Fund income is 19% less than prior year and 14% less than budget. YTD payments are equal to budget and 22% less than prior year (we made an extra \$10,000 principal payment last year). Final payment is scheduled for May 2024. The cash balance includes \$1,340 from the SBA loan for Apr/May interest. When the loan is forgiven, we will recognize this as income.

Respectfully submitted by Stephen J. Hall,

CPA, ELCMH Treasurer

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

DECEMBER 2020 CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL on ZOOM- Join us on ZOOM, 9:00 - 9:30 am, on Sundays. We will have a break from our ZOOM times on December 27 & January 3rd. We will resume our online time on January 10th.

CONFIRMATION on ZOOM - Our 7th & 8th graders will meet together on Wednesdays, December 2 & 9, (7 - 8 pm) on ZOOM for class to finish studying the Lord's Prayer. We will gather on ZOOM for a Christmas Trivia Game Night on Dec. 16th. No classes on Dec 23 and 30th.

FUSE NIGHTS on ZOOM - Youth, who are 9th - 12th graders are welcome to join our high school group on ZOOM, Tuesdays, December 8th and 22nd, at 7 pm. Focus will be Christmas online games and other favorites. (JackBox, Among Us) Invite your friends to join us.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE- Our youth in Sunday School will be bringing a special message on Sunday, December 20th during the 8:30 am service, entitled "O Zoom All Ye Faithful". (A way to remember 2020.)



continued

BUCKY BOOKS - ONLINE ONLY - Thank you for supporting our fundraiser this fall. Bucky Books are still available for online orders, through our link below till mid January. Please share the link with family and friends. Books are shipped directly to your home. Books sell for \$35 each. Profits help our youth with future summer programming. Thank you for support. ORDER ONLINE AT:

https://www.buckybook.com/evangelical-lutheran-church-mt-horeb

Blessings and stay well,

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

CHRISTMAS PHOTOS NEEDED - To help bring our families closer during this difficult time, we would like to invite everyone to share a photo of your family. In your photo, your family should share a special Christmas tradition at your home. We will create an ELC slideshow to be shared during the season. Examples of photos: your decorated tree, setting up a Nativity Scene, baking cookies together, making lefse, any tradition your family does together. Please email your family photos to brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org by Dec. 12th.

AGAPE

Christmas Blessings from Agape,

Welcome December and welcome winter! The preschool is busy with the anticipation and excitement that always takes over during this month. We are usually practicing for our annual Christmas and Winter programs, but this year is unfortunately different. The traditions that have been done for so many years are now heart-felt memories. We will continue to focus on positive ways to create "new normals" and new traditions, looking forward to the future and brighter days.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank everyone for their outpouring of love and support shown to Greg, Andy, Leah and I during the days of my Mom's sudden illness and passing. We are blessed to have you all as our church family and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

As we look towards 2021, we continue to pray for healing, strength, comfort and peace.

Merry Christmas, Amy Kellesvig 608-437-7100

Upcoming dates:

Dec 23 – Jan 1 Preschool closed for Winter Break January 4 4K classes resume, 3K classes resume

(red & orange)

January 7 3K classes resume (yellow)

BENEVOLENCE

Porchlight keeps a roof over people's heads

For Porchlight, this month's Benevolence Program mission, an ounce of homelessness prevention is worth a pound of cure.

This longtime nonprofit was founded in 1984 to establish the first homeless shelter in Madison after a man froze to death in the elements, but soon turned its eye toward finding a more durable solution. For more than 30 years now, Porchlight has continued to provide acute care for people in need, while turning its primary focus toward keeping people in their residences or providing them a pathway to affordable housing.

The impact of their work can be felt throughout Dane County, including right here in Mount Horeb where Neighbors Helping Neighbors has signed on as a partner agency. It's a symbiotic relationship; NHN has the connections in town, often clergy, who alert them to people in dire straits who have reached out for help, and NHN is able to connect them with an organization in Porchlight that knows the ropes.

The results are impressive: 93% of Porchlight households that receive case management maintain stable housing for a minimum of 12 months.

Anyone who has read the book Evicted by Matthew Desmond -- which chronicles the plight of people in the Milwaukee area with a tenuous hold on housing -- understands the implications of losing your residence, and the compounding effect of multiple evictions. The money is one thing; the disruption, instability, and black mark on your record are much more destructive.

Porchlight isn't a no-questions handout kind of place. Their care for individuals who find themselves in a tough spot is matched by a firm hand that requires adherence to strict guidelines, ensuring that people who receive their help know to take advantage of the opportunity granted them.

With winter encroaching, the value of having a place to call home is apparent. You can help provide that shelter to people this month by donating via:

- Mail: Send a check to ELC and note "Benevolence" in the memo
- Online: Visit the ELC website and click "Give"
- **Digitally**: Download the "GivePlus Church" mobile app, or text "Benevolence" to 608-400-0183 with the amount you wish to give.

On behalf of Benevolence,

Adam Mertz adammertz2@gmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS AT ELC will be held virtually this year. Musicians from ELC are busy putting together newly recorded videos of festive Christmas music to share with everyone. The event will air on Facebook Live at 6:00 pm on Sunday, Dec. 20, and will be available on the ELC website after that. It can be accessed in the same way we the Sunday morning services https://www.facebook.com/elcmthoreb/ This year we are asking for donations to Mount Horeb's Neighbors Helping Neighbors (www.mthorebneighbors.org) whose vision statement reads "a hub where people in our community can access food, clothing and personal items as well as information regarding other services, all under one roof." Donations can be mailed to: Neighbors Helping Neighbors, P.O. Box 196, Mount Horeb, WI 53572

Any checks sent to ELC with NHN on the memo line will be forwarded. We look forward to sharing our music of the season in a new and special way this year!

THANK YOU TO BOB & SHARON SCHIEFELBEIN for organizing the 2021 contribution envelopes for mailing



The Spiritual Growth and Fellowship Committee will be hosting more virtual Bingo Games. We would love to have you and yours join us for this fun, family

friendly event. The next game will take place at 7pm on Thurs. December 10. The winners will be awarded with gift cards for local businesses. Watch your email for detailed instructions and a link for Zoom.

Mt. Horeb Giving Tree Drop Off Events:

November 14 - December 2

- **△** Wednesdays 3:30 5:00
- **△** Saturdays 10:30 12:00

United Methodist Church Mt. Horeb 9542 County Hwy S



Please be sure your gift includes the gift tag number.

More information is available at https://mhgivingtree.weebly.com or on Facebook@mhgivingtree.

MT. HOREB GIVING TREE works with the Mt Horeb community to bring gifts to low income children, disabled adults and senior citizens who live within the Mt Horeb Area School District. Since the organization has few expenses and is managed entirely by volunteers virtually all of your donated money is spent directly on gifts for area residents. There are multiple ways to donate this year:

Purchase a gift from the wish list

- Pick out a gift from the Virtual Tree at https://mhgivingtree.weebly.com/gift-donations.html
- o Gift tags will be at Miller's (only) this year.

Make a monetary donation

Mail a check payable to Mount Horeb Area Giving Tree.
 Attn: Giving Tree | MH UMC | 9542 County Hwy S | Mount Horeb 53572

- Make an online payment to their Venmo account @MHGivingTree
- Make a payment to their PayPal account by clicking the "Donate" button at https://mhgivingtree.weebly.com/giftdonations.html

Personal items needed which will be distributed with the gifts (New Items)

Diapers/pull-ups SocksUnderwear
Winter gear - hats, gloves, scarves Blankets
Children's books Wrapping paper

More information is available at https://mhgivingtree.weebly.com or on Facebook@mhgivingtree.

Thanks, Amy Sinner Spiritual Growth & Fellowship

A year-end COVID Tax Tip from the IRS

Here's how the CARES Act changes deducting charitable contributions made in 2020: Whether taxpayers are supporting natural disaster recovery, COVID-19 pandemic aid or another cause that's personally meaningful to them, their charitable donations may be tax deductible. These deductions basically reduce the amount of their taxable income.

Previously, charitable contributions could only be deducted if taxpayers itemized their deductions. However, taxpayers who don't itemize deductions may take a charitable deduction of up to \$300 for cash contributions made in 2020 to qualifying organizations.

KNITTERS / CROCHETERS Join the baby cap makers on Tuesday, **Nov. 10 and 24th from 9-11am**. It's most likely too cold to be outside, but we can wear masks, spread out and wipe down chair and table surfaces in Fellowship Hall. Enter from the south doors by the chapel.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

CELEBRATING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BAPTISM during December is Colin Kenneth Schulenberg on December 21. Colin is the son of Kenny & Lindsey Schulenberg. His baptismal sponsors are Karli Schulenberg & Micky Schulenberg.



Agnes Robertson (friend of Holly Thompson), Delores Bryant, Nick Sydow (friend of Connie Curran's sons), Makenzee Smith, Brian Marshall (friend of Kim Kelliher), Brock Howe, Jeannie U'Ren, Mary Krantz, Mike Olson

(Wendy Rasmussen's brother), Ruth Ann Nemet, Irene Bruflat, Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl), Connie Fausett (sister of Diane Twiton & Jean Bower), Laurie Duden (Brenda Martin's aunt), Harlan Oimoen, Bill Steinhauer, Grace Aavang, Peter Toniazzo, Dianne Haskins (friend of Char Smith), Shirley Thompson, Richard Schuhler (friend of Ron & Bonny Kellogg), Dorothy Twiton

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

OUR SYMPATHIES & PRAYERS are with the family of friends of Dorothy Jelle. Dorothy passed away on October 29.

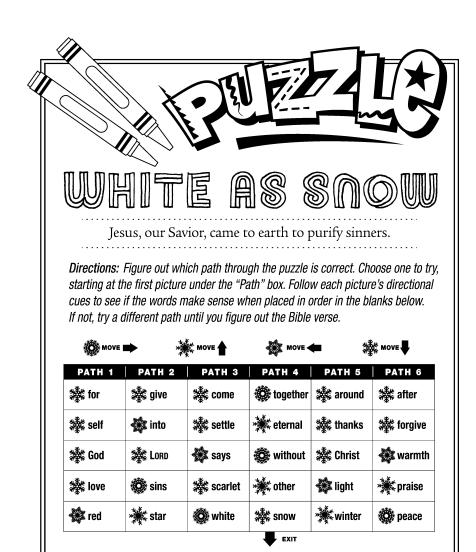
MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY of

- Ruth Osterholz for Technology from Ken & Sara Kittleson and for the Mortgage Fund from LeRoy Collins
- Lyle Opsal for Unspecified Memorials Vern & Betty Drape and Mary Curtis; and for the Mortgage Fund from LeRoy Collins
- Judy Jennings for the Unspecified Fund from Diane Bartz; for Technology from Vern & Betty Drape; and for Agape Christian Preschool from Gordy & Margie Kahl, Sharon Collins & family, DeLayne Krentz, Helen Kahl, Ann & Dave Baumgartner, Carol & Dick Engstad, and Bob & Sharon Schiefelbein



1	Addison Klaetsch	13	Mary Lokken	22	Lucas High
	Todd Nesheim		Nancy McKinney		Charles Thomas
	Lindsey Steinl	14	Hudson Kahl	23	John Anderson
4	Dan Huseth		Blake Turk		Caroline Boettcher
	Jarod Okeson	15	John Kruyne		Bob Faliveno
	Kris Sveum		Evan Stange		Dawn Haag
5	Steven Doty	16	Michael Eggers		Lindsey LaBorde
	Carol Johnson		Jim Ekenberg		Madlyn LaBorde
	Susan Kaletka		Steven Helwig		Lincoln Pokallus
	Maynard Schmitz		Kate Hook	24	Brooke Anderson
	Pete Walton		Weston Kahl		Brenda Fritz
6	Dawn Kellesvig		Josephine Sailor		Edna Williams
7	Jillian Meister		Xander Strube	25	Siri Amundsen
10	Dan Allen	17	Barb Iverson		Ella Kahl
	Amanda Baum		Jeffrey Kahl		Steve Stensby
	Jerilyn Faltz		Grace Rollins		Holly Thompson
	Sam Farrell		Becky Stube	26	Bonny Kellogg
	Curtis Gullick		Jeannie U'Ren	27	Karen Bunke
	Joseph Scudder		Emilie Van Galen		Marian Jelle
	Aiden Scudder	18	Deb Segebrecht		Jeff Paske
	Jane Topper		Rachel Smith	29	Brian Johnson
11	Staci Baum		Willy Watson	S	haron Hendrickson
	Dennis Dreger	19	Chris Coffin	Nicholas O'Connell	
	Connor Heiting		Garrett Klassy		Samantha Olson
	Anita Laabs		Jordan Sadowski		Amy Thompson
	Anna Landen	20	Erik Berg	30	Brett Farnsworth
	Nathan Zelle		Craig Kittleson		Anna Ollendick
12	Amy U'Ren	21	Lucas Kittleson		Olivia Schrank
			Hunter Stamn		Gary Topper
			Cole Stamn	31	Gwen Olson
			Olivia Turk		

If we've missed you or a member of your family, or if we've listed your birthday incorrectly, please contact the church office.



"_____ now, let us _____ the matter," ____ the _____,

"Though your ____ are like _____,

they shall be as _____ as ____...."

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

Poinsettia Hunger Fund Gifts

ELC will be receiving memorial and honoring donations through Monday, December 21. After purchasing poinsettias to adorn the altar, the remainder of the donations will go to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Memorials will be published in the Christmas bulletins.



Please fill in the form and leave it in the church office, in the offering plate, or mail it to ELC with your monetary donations.

Make checks payable to ELC.

This gift is	in memory	/ OR	in honor of:				
	(Please check one of the above blanks)						
Given by							
Envolono #							
Envelope #							
Amount \$							

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM ON OR BEFORE MONDAY, DECEMBER 21.