



OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE We will continue to stream worship services at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday on Facebook, YouTube, and the website www.elcmthoreb.org/home/worship/sermon-archive/. See page 3 for March's schedule.

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

Be with us through this season

O Lord, throughout these forty days you prayed and kept the fast;

Inspire repentance for our sin, and free us from our past.

Be with us through this season, Lord, and all our earthly days,

That when the final Easter dawns, we join in heaven's praise."

O Lord Throughout These Forty Days LBW #99 (vs 1 & 4)

For all of the month of March we are in the midst of the Lenten journey. We follow Jesus' story as his path leads to Jerusalem and the cross. That journey would reveal the best and the worst of humankind, but most of all it would show that the ultimate power in all creation was not on the side of death.

The people Jesus met would be afflicted with hunger, disease, guilt, and pain, and the world would be beset by division, oppression, hatred, and fear. Jesus walked among those people, people much like us, and proclaimed that God's power, the power of love, grace, and forgiveness, could never be overcome by all those forces that robbed life of joy.

The past year our earthly days have been beset by nearly all those same things. We've obviously seen disease, death, division and so much more, but we walk with the same Lord. And as we go through this season we remember that we walk toward Easter's dawn, and a new beginning.

That new beginning can fill our hearts even now. Even the world around us will begin to show signs of life soon as spring arrives. The power of the pandemic is begging to recede. I am personally so grateful to have received the first dose of vaccine, and I'm heartened to hear that others are receiving this as well. A brighter day is on the way, even while we struggle some days now.

Most of all we rejoice that the true celebration of life will arrive no matter what, as we look ahead to proclaiming Christ's victory at Easter!

God's Peace

LENT 2021

DEAR PAUL”

After many years of writing letters to the early Christian churches,



Paul is still at it in Heaven, reading letters from, and answering, 21st century folks. Paul's sometimes humorous, always heartfelt responses to modern-day issues and questions reflect the same message of grace, love and Christian unity he shared with the church at Ephesus 2000 years ago.

This series of brief weekly plays will be presented online as a way of introducing the lessons from the Letter to the Ephesians. If you would like to take part in a zoom recording of one of these plays, please contact Pastor John.

These Lenten worship services will also be available online beginning at 11:00am each Wednesday.

WORSHIP FOR MARCH

ELC is developing a reopening plan based on best practices, Dane County guidelines, and recommendations from the Wisconsin Council of Churches. We will continue offering online and telephone services. Video and audio feeds are available on the church website, Facebook, and YouTube. A telephone service is available at (855) 514-2017. Sunday worship premieres at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays.

There are plans in place for precautions to be taken when we begin gathering for worship at a date yet to be determined.

Sunday, March 7th Zoom worship gathering, where you are invited to watch the worship together, and share in Holy Communion. Watch for an email zoom invitation. If you aren't receiving weekly emails from Pastor John, please send him a note at: john.twiton@elcmthoreb.org

Sunday, Mar. 14th Drive-up' worship gathering in the parking lot.

Sunday March 21st Zoom worship gathering

Palm Sunday, Mar. 28 Drive-up' worship gathering in parking lot.

**LISTEN TO SUNDAY SERVICE “LIVE” ON YOUR PHONE
CALL: 855 - 514 - 2017**

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

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

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,

As we continue to move through our Lenten journey, we look forward to the resurrection hope of Easter. This year, the hope seems just a bit more palpable as we hear of more and more individuals receiving the much longed for vaccine. I commend to you this online prayer gallery (<http://www.claverjesuit.org/prayergallery.html>) you may use in your own meditations throughout this season and beyond. Beautiful artwork is paired with prayerful words to ponder.

I again want to thank you all for your support of last month's benevolence. Through my sharing of my own experiences and my own passions of social justice, I have had individuals ask me for resources and book suggestions. Following are a list of books I would highly recommend to anyone who is interested in deepening your own knowledge and ponderings in these topics as well.

- Faith in Action: A Handbook for Activists, Advocates, and Allies -
by Fortress Press
 - Give snapshots of many different topics, with some statistics, as well as actionable steps to take to be an advocate & ally for each topic.

- Strength for the Struggle - by Joseph Ellwanger
 - The author is a retired Lutheran pastor and shares the experiences as his congregations (in Birmingham, AL & Milwaukee, WI) looked to filling the needs of their community and world with those in their communities.
- Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US - by Lenny Duncan
 - The author, a non-straight black Lutheran pastor, writes of his experiences as a black man in the Lutheran Church and calls people of faith to action.
- I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness - by Austin Channing Brown
 - This is a personal account of what growing up as a black, Christian, woman in America was like and speaks on how the ideals of 'diversity' often fall short.
- Between the World and Me - by Ta-Nehisi Coates
 - This book was written as a letter to the author's son explaining his own experiences growing up as a black man as well as give details of our country's history that have profoundly impacted people of color.
- The Cross and the Lynching Tree - by James Cone
 - Theologian, James Cone, explores the interconnection of the symbols of the cross and the lynching tree within history and in the lives of people of color.

There are of course many more, great books out there on these topics but these are some of the books I have personally read and found impactful. If anyone would like to discuss any of these books or topics or have other good book suggestions, please let me know! These topics are important to me as I continue to strive to be a witness of God's love out in the world.

Peace,
 Intern Tamara
 360-731-2937
tsiburg@elcmthoreb.org

WARM GREETINGS from AGAPE!

After a very cold and snowy February, I am sure we are all wishing for spring-like weather to show up very soon! Preschool activities for the month of March will include celebrating Dr. Seuss Birthday, St. Patrick's Day and learning about night animals. I am sure there will be a lot of fun learning and exciting adventures each day!

Enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year started at the end of February for our 3-year-old program. The forms for enrollment are available on our website www.agapechristianpreschool.com or arrangements can be made to pick up packets during preschool hours. Our 4K program, in collaboration with the MHASD, is also enrolling students for the upcoming school year. 4K registration should be completed on the school district website, found at:

Mount Horeb 4K | Mount Horeb Area School District | Mount Horeb WI 53572 (mounthorebschools.org)

Ms. Wendy continues to provide wonderful music and activities for all our students. We watch her awesome videos thru YouTube on our fun big screens in the classrooms and have so much fun!

Due to Covid, the Agape Board of Directors decided to not participate in the annual Butter Braid Frozen Pastries fundraiser this school year. We hope to have this available next school year as we continue to learn and navigate the Covid-19 virus. Thank you for your support!

Blessings,
Amy Kellesvig, Director
Agape Christian Preschool
MHASD 4K Community Site

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 10: No School, 4K Parent/Teacher conferences
March 29 – April 2: No Preschool; Spring Break

TREASURER'S REPORT January 2021 Financial Report

GENERAL FUND ACTIVITY (\$)					
	Jan 21	Jan 20	YTD 2021	YTD 2020	YTD Budget
Income	22,208	19,421	22,808	19,421	30,573
Expense	28,663	31,323	28,663	31,323	31,552
Net	(5855)	(11,902)	(5,855)	(11,902)	(979)

Year-to-date General Fund income (5 Sundays) is 17% more than prior year (4 Sundays) and 25% less than budget. YTD expenses are 8% less than prior year, primarily due to fewer staff hours and savings in various Congregational Life expenses and Maintenance, partially offset by the cost of having an intern this January; YTD expenses are 9% under budget, primarily due to fewer staff hours, savings in various Congregational Life expenses, and the net effect of timing variances (Insurance, Utilities under budget; Maintenance/Snow Removal and Technology over budget).

BUILDING MAINTENANCE (CAPITAL) FUND ACTIVITY (\$)					
	Jan 21	Jan 20	YTD 2021	YTD 2020	YTD Budget
Income	726	697	726	697	817
Expense	0	1899	0	1899	3250
Net	726	(1,202)	726	(1,202)	(2,433)

Year-to-date Building Maintenance Fund income is 4% more than prior year and 11% less than budget. There are no YTD expenses, while the prior year included HVAC repair expense.

MORTGAGE REPAYMENT FUND ACTIVITY (\$); (LOAN BALANCE IS \$159,348)					
	Jan 21	Jan 20	YTD 2021	YTD 2020	YTD Budget
Income	4,029	3,418	4,029	3,418	3,630
Expense	3,630	3,630	3,630	3,630	3,630
Net	399	(212)	399	(212)	0

Year-to-date Mortgage Repayment Fund income is 18% more than prior year and 11% more than budget. YTD payments are equal to prior year and budget. The final mortgage payment is scheduled for spring 2024.

Respectfully submitted by Stephen J. Hall, CPA, ELCMH Treasurer,
February 15, 2021

2020 FINANCIAL AUDIT Irv Steinhauer & Matt Anderson, Audit Committee, did a review of the 2020 church financials (General Fund, Building Maintenance Fund, Designated Fund and Mortgage Repayment Fund) and found everything to be in order.

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH WEEKLY CLASSES ON ZOOM:

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets on Sundays at 9am

CONFIRMATION meets on Wednesdays at pm.

FUSE NIGHTS on ZOOM 9th - 12th graders are welcome to join our high school group on ZOOM, Tuesdays, March 9th and 23rd at 7 pm. Time for games and a chance to connect.

FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT March 20th, 11 AM-12 PM. Our 5th graders are invited to our First Communion Retreat on Zoom on Sat, March 20th. Packets will be available in early March for families to read over together, prior to the retreat.

2021 ELC SUMMER FUN (Save the dates)

- **VBS/DAY CAMP 2021 JULY 12-15th / 9:30-11:30 am** (Youth ages 3 - 5th grade) A time to be together outside in God's creation.
- **EXPLORER DAY AT SUGAR CREEK July 26th, 9am-3pm** (Children entering 1st - 5th grade in fall 2021)
- **CONFIRMATION CAMP AT SUGAR CREEK July 25-30th,** (7th & 8th) Register online at www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org
- **GIVE/LOVE/SERVE (Service days)** -New for 2021 - Middle - High school youth may join us on **Thursdays**, throughout the summer, to help in various local service opportunities. Sign-ups will be available online for 2 hour segments, one in the am and one in the pm. This provides us with helping our neighbors all summer, and allowing flexibility for our youths with their summer schedules.

SUGAR CREEK "BACK IN THE SADDLE" Online

Registration is open for Sugar Creek Bible Camp Summer programs. They have a variety of programs (new & favorites) listed on their website, http://wp.sugarcreek_bible_camp.org, for youth and families. Come and see in 2021!



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

BENEVOLENCE FOR MARCH WILL BENEFIT ELC SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS.

Baby Cap Makers will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, March 9 & 23 at 9:30. Email ruthheinecke@gmail.com if you would like the link to join the meeting. Contact Ruth if you have baby caps for her to pick up.

ELC 'COFFEE TIME' on ZOOM Join us on Wednesdays at 10AM each week to catch up with our church family. Time to connect and see each other! Zoom link is emailed each week. If you need the link, contact Pastor John, Tamara or Brenda.

ELC PAINTING CLASS Getting ready for spring! Our painting class with Sarah Gerg will be held on Zoom on March 6th, beginning at 9 AM. Thank you to our ELC Ministries (Children & Youth; Spiritual Growth & Fellowship) for helping with this event.

ELC YOUTH EASTER FUNDRAISERS

EASTER EGG HUNT - HOME DELIVERY Our ELC Youth would love to help your families this Easter by hiding 24 eggs at your home for your children. (A chance to have their own personal egg hunt.) Plastic eggs with treats inside, would be hidden either after 9pm on Sat, or early Easter morning. (We are not responsible for any squirrels stealing them 😊) Sign up for egg delivery with your address & time preferred. Easter donation: \$25 dollars for 24 hidden eggs.

EASTER CINNAMON ROLLS For a 'To-Go Easter Treat' this year, we are making homemade cinnamon rolls for pickup on Easter Sunday during our Drive-In service at 10 AM.

Please sign up by March 19th for both fundraisers.

SIGN UP LINK: <https://forms.gle/8YYGRQnynLws8RwK8>

Funds raised will go towards our youth summer programming, such as the Youth Gathering in 2022. Thank you for your continued support.

Checks may be written to **ELC Youth** and mailed to ELC Youth, %Brenda Martin, 315 E Main St, Mt Horeb, WI 53572

HE IS RISEN
alleluia

GENERAL INFORMATION

All Women are invited to the Barneveld Conference Spring Gathering on Saturday, March 20 from 10 to noon.

WELCA's Synodical Women's Organization is hosting another Zoom book discussion. It will be held on Thurs., March 25th, at 7 pm and will last around 90 minutes. We will be reading *Noted!* by Kathy J. Jacobson. Janna Smith will be leading the discussion and the author, who lives within our South-Central synod, will also be present. If you follow *The Word in Season*, Pastor Jacobson has written the daily devotionals for Feb. 18th – March 3rd.

Short updated bio—Kathy J. Jacobson is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa. She has worked counseling troubled youth, has been an at-home mom, served the church as a deacon in youth and Christian education, worked in campus ministry, volunteered as a hospice chaplain, and served as an ELCA pastor in rural Wisconsin for seventeen years until her recent retirement. Kathy is an avid traveler, having visited all fifty states and six continents. She loves reading, hiking and the Wisconsin Badgers. She resides with her husband, Jeff, in Monona, WI, where she is focusing on writing projects and being a grandma.

Description of Noted! Jillian Johnson, a life-long Lutheran, single mother and nurse living and working in Wisconsin, is taking a leap of faith and pursuing her longtime desire to become a writer. Tired of the snow and cold of the Midwest, she starts anew in sunny Los Angeles, where she meets many new people, including her boss who only communicates with her via notes and who is also connected in an unusual way to her past, even though they have never met. Jillian is a very faithful woman, yet she is not perfect. But through thick and thin, her faith in God helps her maneuver all types of people and situations, and enables her to help others—sometimes just by being herself. The love, kindness, forgiveness and grace she shows to others are often life-changing—for her, and for them. *Noted!*, the first of the five-book series.

THANK YOU FROM THE RED CROSS

Thank you so much for a great blood drive. Without your help, we wouldn't be able to meet the needs of hospitals as many businesses, schools and colleges are still working and learning remotely and that impacts the places that we can go. Your drive helped collect 86 pints of blood from 76 donors, 60 whole blood and 26 power reds with 4 first time donors and could help up to 258 people. I truly appreciate you helping with a blood drive during trying times.

**Diane Nichols | Donor Recruitment Account Manager
American Red Cross Blood Services**

Dear Members of ELC,

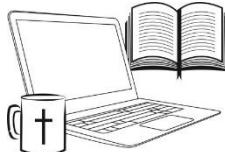
On behalf of the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Board, Steering Committee and our shoppers, thank you for your church's support. Under the guidance of Kate Hook, volunteers working in January put in 70 hours of service. This made it possible for 121 shoppers to receive basic clothing and bedding which they are in need of.

We appreciate each of you for your generosity of time to serve this ministry. We can't imagine what we would do without you and the 15 partner churches. They dedicate many hours sorting donations, folding and shelving clothing and cleaning the facility. Please extend our thanks to Kate and those in your congregation who helped the facility.

Additionally, we are very grateful for the years of service Kate has given to the Clothes Closet as she steps down as the liaison. We appreciate the time she took to train and transition Kim Kelliher as the new ELC liaison.

We continually have a need for seasonal clothing and bedding and ask that you keep us in mind when cleaning your closets. We are blessed and give thanks for your time and prayers.

Amy Gordon
Neighbors Helping Neighbors Clothes Closet Coordinator



A BIG THANK YOU to Bruce Meister & Andy Mullendore for all the technology work they do at ELC. A special thanks from the office staff for the new computer!

MOUNT HOREB AREA BLOOD DRIVE will be held on **Wednesday, March 10 from 10am-3pm at ELC.**

For an appointment, please contact (800) 448-3543 or visit www.redcrossblood.org. As always, walk-ins are welcome. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card, or driver's license, or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Eligible donors must be at least 17 years old, or 16 years old with a signed Red Cross parental/guardian consent form where state permits, must weigh at least 110 pounds and be in general good health.



SARAH CIRCLE will continue to meet each month on the third Tuesday at 7 pm via Zoom. For these dates, we will be discussing the Rob Bell book: *Everything Is Spiritual*: March 16th & April 20th. In May we will hopefully meet outdoors again. ☺

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

VIVIAN STONE is home, again. She and her family would like to thank everyone for their prayers, support, warm wishes and cards.



Devon Schlegel (father of Dawn Haag), Ginger Quaderer Diane Mueller's cousin), Norbert Haag (brother of Virgil Haag), Richard Schuhler (friend of Ron & Bonny Kellogg), Allen Olson (father of Ingrid Frank), Agnes Robertson (friend of Holly Thompson),

Delores Bryant, Makenzee Smith, Brock Howe, Dianne Haskins (friend of Char Smith), Brian Marshall (friend of Kim Kelliher), Mary Krantz, Jeannie U'Ren, Ruth Ann Nemet, Mike Olson (Wendy Rasmussen's brother), Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl), Irene Bruflat, Laurie Duden (Brenda Martin's aunt), Connie Fausett (sister of Diane Twiton & Jean Bower), Bill Steinhauer, Peter Toniazza Grace Aavang, Shirley Thompson, Bonnie Bender, Harlan Oimoen

**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

- † Duane & Laura Miller. Their son-in-law, Scott Mauer, passed away on February 2.
- † **The family & friends of Rolf Knittel**, who passed away on February 13.



MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY of

- † Deloris Witte for the **Mortgage Fund** from Gordy & Margie, Kahl, Ruth Haglund, Dolores Kahl, Helen Martinson, Robert & Carol Neindorf, and Eileen Koch; and for the **Music Fund** from Ben & Linda Magnuson
- † Bill Redman for the **General Fund** from Neil & Cyndy Demsmore; for the **Mortgage Fund** from Sharon Hendrickson; and for **Sunday School** from LeRoy Collins
- † Glenn Thronson for **Unspecified Memorials** from Diane Bartz, Sharon Collins, Paul & Dawn Kellesvig, and Vern & Betty Drape; and for the **Mortgage Fund** from Gordy & Margie Kahl



CELEBRATING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BAPTISM
during March is Hans Otto Larson on March 1. Hans is the son of Barry & Jennifer Larson. His baptismal sponsors are Erin & Justin Kean.



March

BIRTHDAYS

1	Abby Steinhauer	9	Jim Hadac	21	Disa Erickson
2	Chad Boettcher		Danny Muehlenkamp		Michael Friske
	Isabella Cross	10	Jennifer Larson		Catherine Ivey
	Jordan Freitag		Donna Skogen		Julie Schmitz
	Bridgett Killinger	11	Rebecca Kahl	22	Jacey Morin
	Berkley Segebrecht	12	Amy Kellesvig	24	Sara Fritz
	Sarah Zelle		Ingrid Parks		Gail Huseth
3	Kiarra Eith	13	Karen McKay	25	Ryan Johnson
	Christopher Balbach		Ava Magnuson		Porter Kreul
	Amy High		Sharman Moen		Micky Schulenberg
	Rita Schraepfer-Derke		Laura Zemp	26	Vaughn Ableman
	DiAnne Stamn		Kady Zupan-Walsh		Cheryl Mortvedt
4	Lauren Eggers	14	Bill Faltz		Kayla Mullendore
	Zachary Eggers		Daryl Rothamer		Steve Slocum
	Everly Pierick		Steven Stack	27	Samantha Knudson
	Danielle Schulz	15	Quinn Killinger	28	Diane Farnsworth
5	Camille Samuelson	16	Ethan Fendrick		Bradley Miller
6	Kolleen Nesheim		Ken Schulenberg		Wendy Rasmussen
	Sabrina Sieg		Diane Twiton		Brayden Reeson
	Owen Stamn	17	Cyndi Eggers		Ella Reeson
	Bill Walsh		Paul Hogseth	29	Melissa Boettcher
	Sydney Wyss		Charlie Laabs		Nathan Mullendore
7	Ellie Hadac	18	Ashley Hall	30	Nyaah Schloesser
	Cody Hanson	19	Scarlett Cannon		Isaac Schloesser
	Betty Martinson	20	Ian Farrell		Jennifer Turk
	Rylie O'Connell		Cyndy Hamburg	31	Al Bartz
	Garrett Spellman				Duane Christoph
8	DeLayne Krentz				Paul Kellesvig
	Emily Watson				Nathan Seibel

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!

Use the code to uncover the angel's message in Matthew 28:7 (NIV).



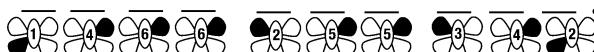
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Answer: “He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.”

EASTER MEMORIALS

ELC welcomes your memorial and honoring donations through **Sunday, March 28** for the dual purpose of purchasing flowers to adorn the altar for the Easter Sunday festival services and also to help feed the hungry in parts of the world where the need is greatest. After purchasing the lilies to decorate the altar on Easter, ELC sends all contributions to ELCA World Hunger Appeal. The amount of each memorial is your personal decision.



This gift is _____ in memory or _____ in honor of:
(please check one of the above blanks)

Given by _____

Envelope # _____ Amount: \$ _____

Please return this form on or before Sunday, March 28, 2021