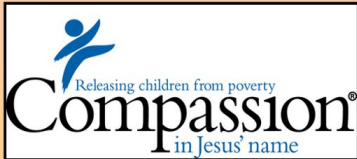


# STEEPLE

**February 2023**

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



**February Benevolence 2023**  
*Compassion International*



**A "Three-cord" Approach to Ministry**

We are Christ-centered, church-driven and child-focused.



EVANGELICAL

**LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*of Mount Horeb*

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

# **WELCOME**

## **ELC of MOUNT HOREB**

*We welcome all to ELC. Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.*

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE AT ELC**

**Holy Communion Celebrated 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at all services.**

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

**SUNDAY 9:00 am Blended Service**

**Pre-recorded online worship available:**

**[www.elcmthoreb.org/home/worship/sermon-archive/](http://www.elcmthoreb.org/home/worship/sermon-archive/)**

**or listen to Sunday service "live" on your phone 855-514-2017**

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

## **ELC'S STAFF**

**Pastor John Twiton**

**Accompanists: 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: Barb and Chris Underwood (interim)**

**Office Manager: Nancy Voss**

**Organist/Senior Choir Director: Diane Dangerfield**

**Youth Director: Brenda Martin**

# **A Note from PASTOR JOHN**

## **Lenten Journey 2023**

**We often talk about the season of Lent as a journey moving toward the victory at Easter. However, as long as we walk this earth our journeys are not complete. Perhaps we have felt God's call to speak out, act, lead, or participate, but have tried to put it off, or taken a different path. We learn in Jonah's story that God continues to remain with us, call us, and redirect our lives. We all have unfinished business.**

**That's our theme for Lent this year: "Unfinished" We will follow the journey of Jonah from week to week for our Wednesday worship gatherings.**

**Jonah walks a Lenten path. Like all human beings, he is prone to wander from his Creator in favor of determining the shape and scope of his own future. This temptation is especially powerful when God calls us to take on risky ventures, travel to strange places, and confront things inside of us that prevent us from seeing one another as God does. God meets us in those challenging, Lent-like spaces when we find ourselves somewhere between trust and doubt, courage and fear, anger and empathy.**

**Our themes for each week are:**

**February 22 (Ash Wednesday)**

**March 1**

**March 8**

**March 15**

**March 22**

**March 29**

**God Calls and Persists**

**Intercepted and Redirected**

**God in the Depths of Chaos**

**Obedience and Preservation**

**Faithful and Unfinished**

**Jesus, a New Jonah**

**Ash Wednesday worship with Holy Communion will be held at**

**11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**

**7:00 p.m. in Sanctuary**

**Watch for more information on this series as we draw closer to Lent**

**God's Peace,**



# **TREASURER'S REPORT**

**December 2022**

**We closed the year strongly, with an operational surplus for the month of December. For the year operating income was 84% of budget and expenses were 97% of budget, resulting in a deficit of \$52,137. Our cash balance at year-end was \$138,766.**

**Designated fund income last month included \$17,510 from Rose Klir's estate, bringing her total gift to almost \$65,000. Additional designated giving included \$500 for the kitchen, \$325 for music, \$228 for youth, \$130 for internship, \$125 for Neighbors Helping Neighbors, \$3 for Sunday School, and \$84 unspecified. Expenses included \$140 from the internship fund for rental utilities, and \$125 for Neighbors Helping Neighbors.**

**Building fund expenses last month included \$820 for downspout extensions and \$1292 for office renovation.**

**As we close the books on 2022, it seems appropriate to emphasize how valuable your generosity is in allowing the church to serve God and our neighbors both now and in the future. Of special note this year, we raised over \$10,000 for Ukraine via Lutheran World Relief, and our Benevolence program raised over \$12,000 for a wide range of charitable causes. Thank you!**

**2023 looks to be another exciting year, as we continue with our internship program and retire the mortgage.**

**Respectfully submitted by Ben Brothers, January 5, 2023.**

# TREASURER'S REPORT Cont.

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>	12/31/22	11/30/22	12/31/21
General Fund	\$ 18,205	\$ 14,974	\$ 64,591
Mortgage Fund	\$ 4,566	\$ 4,749	\$ 13,790
Building Fund	\$ 23,201	\$ 22,373	\$ 24,391
Designated Funds	\$ 134,727	\$ 116,615	\$ 61,908
Mortgage	\$ (41,933)	\$ (45,374)	\$ (87,223)
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 138,766	\$ 113,337	\$ 77,457

<b>CASH FLOW</b>	December 2022	2022
Operating Income		
General Fund Income	\$ 34,359	\$ 329,736
Adjustment for Special Collections	\$ -	\$ (10,396)
Mortgage Fund Income	\$ 3,446	\$ 39,401
Total	\$ 37,805	\$ 358,741
Operating Expenses		
Personnel	\$ 16,734	\$ 239,777
Mission and Outreach	\$ 3,732	\$ 40,465
Congregational Life	\$ 1,412	\$ 16,245
Building and Administration	\$ 9,251	\$ 79,437
Adjustment for Special Expenses	\$ -	\$ (13,691)
Mortgage Repaymnet	\$ 3,630	\$ 48,645
Total	\$ 34,759	\$ 410,878
<b>Net Gain (Loss) from Operations</b>	\$ 3,046	\$ (52,137)
Other Income		
Benevolence	\$ 1,156	\$ 12,182
Building Capital Fund	\$ 588	\$ 10,358
Designated Funds	\$ 18,958	\$ 94,291
General Fund Special Collections	\$ -	\$ 10,396
Total	\$ 20,702	\$ 127,227
Other Expenses		
Benevolence	\$ 1,737	\$ 11,618
Building Capital Expenses	\$ 2,112	\$ 11,547
Designated Fund Expenses	\$ 265	\$ 22,007
General Fund Special Expenses	\$ -	\$ 13,691
Total	\$ 4,114	\$ 58,863
Net Gain (Loss) from Non-Operating Expenses	\$ 16,588	\$ 68,364
<b>NET GAIN (LOSS)</b>	\$ 19,634	\$ 16,227

# AGAPE

February greetings from Agape!

Our 4K program in collaboration with MHASD began enrollment in January for children who will be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2023. Registration should be completed online via the MHASD website at [www.mounthorebschools.org/schools/mh4k/](http://www.mounthorebschools.org/schools/mh4k/)

Registration for the 3K program begins on Wednesday, March 1, 2023. Enrollment packets can be picked up at the preschool office during school hours or can be downloaded from our website at [www.agapechristianpreschool.com](http://www.agapechristianpreschool.com).

Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis with legacy families given initial priority placement if submitted on or before April 1, 2023. A legacy family is defined as a current or past Agape Family or an active ELC church member. If you have questions about enrollment or would like a tour of our classrooms, you may reach me at 608-437-7100 or [agapekids@mhtc.net](mailto:agapekids@mhtc.net).



We will be selling delicious Butter Braid Pastries again this year from January 31 through February 14<sup>h</sup>. If you would like to place an order, you can do so by leaving a message on the preschool phone or email. This is always a very successful fundraiser for the school, and we thank you for your support in

advance!

Blessings,  
Amy Kellesvig

### Upcoming Dates:

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| January 31 - February 14: | Butter Braid Pastry fundraiser                            |
| Friday, February 24:      | No preschool classes (3K & 4K) make up snow day if needed |
| Wednesday, March 1:       | 3K enrollment begins for 2023-2024 school year            |
| Friday, March 3:          | Butter Braid Orders Delivered                             |

# CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15 - 11 am (3 years old - 8th grade) - Join us for Bible stories, music, games, and snacks. We begin weekly in the chapel. Next Service Day is February 19th.**

**7th & 8th GRADE CONFIRMATION-** Our 7th & 8th graders meet each Wednesday, (7 - 8:30 pm). Feb 22nd, join us for Ash Wednesday worship service at 7 pm.

**SYNOD YOUTH EVENT "ALIVE" - Feb 8th, 6 - 8 pm.** Middle and High School youth are invited to a Synod youth event at Dekorra Lutheran Church in Poynette. Our confirmation youth will be attending this evening. We will leave the ELC parking lot at 5 pm. We will need some drivers. We will return around 8:45 - 9 pm. Great time to meet new friends, dinner, games, worship, ice breakers and fun.



**FUSE EVENT - FEB 26th, 7 pm-** Youth, who are 9th - 12th graders are welcome to join our high school group for games, treats and more. Friends are welcome to attend.

**CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY -** We will have a Children and Youth Ministry meeting at ELC on February 7th, at 7:00 PM. Anyone interested in planning for our youth activities, please email Brenda to join us.

**SUGAR CREEK "JUMP INTO SUMMER" -** Online Registration is open for Sugar Creek Bible Camp Summer programs. They have a variety of programs listed on their website, <http://wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org>, for youth and families. ELC of Mt Horeb will help with camp costs, by giving each camper \$100 towards their camping week. Please let Sugar Creek know that you are registering with ELC. If additional scholarships are needed, please contact Brenda or Pastor John. Come and see in 2023!



# CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS cont.

## 2023 YOUTH SUMMER SCHEDULE:

**\*DAY CAMP/VBS WEEK AT ELC - June 19 - 22,**

**Register with link or QR code-**

**<https://forms.gle/qYotzWLkqNXDLef6>**

- VBS (9 am- 11:30 am) 3 yr. - Kindergarten
- DAY CAMP (9 am - 3 pm) 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade in fall  
(One day to Sugar Creek for K - 5<sup>th</sup>)

2023  
VBS/DAY CAMP at ELC  
REGISTRATION



**\*CONFIRMATION CAMP - July 9 - 14, 7th & 8th graders will attend Confirmation Camp at Sugar Creek Bible Camp.**

**Register online: <http://wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org/>**

**(Use the GHRID: ELCMTH to register) ELC is paying \$100 towards the registration fee for campers)**

**\*GIVE/LOVE/SERVE (Local Service Week) - July 17 - 20,**

**Middle - High school youth are invited to our local mission week, Monday - Thursday. Many opportunities for youth to provide many service opportunities in our community, new places and other past favorites. Silver Cord hours will be given to our high school students.**

**Register with link or QR code**

**<https://forms.gle/muPBvDA5UpZ9RPUJ8>**

2023  
GIVE/LOVE/SERVE  
REGISTRATION



## YOUTH FUNDRAISING:

**EXTRA TROLL WAY PIZZA - Didn't get an opportunity to order? We will have extra pizzas available. Contact Brenda if you are interested. ([brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org](mailto:brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org))**

**THANK YOU - CULVERS SHARE DAY & TROLL WAY PIZZA - Thank you to everyone who supported our youth with our Culvers Share Day and Troll Way Pizza Fundraiser. Funds raised will go towards our youth to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in 2024.**

***Blessings & Peace,***

***Brenda Martin, Youth Ministries Director***



# **BENEVOLENCE**

## **Supporting Our Compassion Kids: Ariana and Simon**

**Ever since we started the Benevolence Program, we've supported a pair of kids from different countries through Compassion International. This program provides them support in many aspects of their life that they wouldn't receive otherwise – everything from academic tutoring to health screening to field trips, and of course spiritual guidance.**

**We've been able to maintain connections with kids for several years at a time before they either move to other communities or age out of the program. Jen Mullendore, who was an advocate for starting our work with Compassion, has faithfully managed our relationship with these kids**

**for more than a decade, exchanging letters several times through the course of a year. Let me share a little bit about the two kids we support now through your contributions:**

- Ariana is a 5-year-old who lives in Mexico with her mother. We've been sponsoring her for two years. Arianna loves art, drawing, playing games, playing house, learning about God and snacking! She helps her family by taking care of animals, cleaning, and making beds. Her favorite school subject is art. Ariana's birthday is March 11.**

- Simon is a 10-year-old who lives in Tanzania with his mother. We have been sponsoring him for five years now! Simon loves playing with friends and being active in a variety of ways. He likes playing just about any sport involving a ball getting bounced, kicked, or thrown; participates in service projects; and helps his family by cleaning, buying or selling at the market, and gathering firewood. His favorite school subjects are math and reading. Simon's birthday is March 25...**

**Your Benevolence donations throughout February will go toward the cost to support both children (\$912 annually). You can contribute by:**

- 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.**

## **BENEVOLENCE cont.**



**We've sponsored Simon from Tanzania since 2018. He will be 11 years old on March 25, 2023.**

### **Christian Activities**

**Sunday School/Church  
Bible Class**

### **Family Duties**

**Buying or Selling in Market  
Running Errands  
Carries Water  
Cleaning**

### **Hobbies & Sport**

**Service Activities  
Group Games  
Jumping  
Play House  
Spending Time with Friends**

### **Schooling - Grade 5**

**Favorite Subjects - Math & Reading**

**Kitchen Help  
Gathers Firewood**

**Ball Games  
Playing Games  
Snack/M Meal Time  
Playing Sports**

## **BENEVOLENCE cont.**



**We've sponsored Ariana from Mexico since 2021. She will be 6 years old on March 11, 2023.**

### **Christian Activities**

**Sunday School/Church**

### **Family Duties**

**Animal Care**

**Cleaning**

**Making Beds**

### **Hobbies & Sport**

**Learning about God**

**Listening to Bible Stories**

**Snack/Meal Time**

**Art or Drawing**

**Group Games**

**Play House**

### **Schooling**

**Favorite Subject - Art**

## **BENEVOLENCE cont.**

**One last note: We raised \$1,190 in December, with 10% of that total going to our sister congregation in Puerto Rico, Divine Savior, and the remainder going to our friends at Madison Area Jail Ministry.**

**In total, we contributed \$12,995 to 15 worthy organizations in 2022. Thanks to your generosity, we continue to make an impact in the lives of people in our community, our region and throughout the world.**

**On behalf of Benevolence,**

**Adam Mertz  
adammertz2@gmail.com**

**You can donate financially to Lutheran Disaster Relief and Lutheran World Relief by:**

- **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.**

**2022 December: Madison Area Jail Ministry \$1190.00**

**2023**

**January: Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response TBD**

**February: Compassion International TBD**

### **UPCOMING**

**March: ELC youth and summer programming**

**April: Reconciliation in Christ (RIC) social justice programming**

**May: Divine Savior**

**June: Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

**July: Lutherans United Against Disasters**

**August: Little John's Kitchen**

**September: Saba, International**

**October: Accessible local health care (Our Lady of Hope Clinic in Madison, Community Connections Free Clinic in Dodgeville)**  
**November: TBD - intentional open month**  
**December: Madison Area Jail Ministry**

## **COUNCIL NEWS**

### **Pay Faith Forward**

**As many of us know, the youth do a number of fundraising events throughout the year. Did you ever stop to think when you're eating that brat, picking up your pizzas, or having Easter Breakfast where the money goes? The money raised is used for such things as mission trips, camperships, and the national youth gathering. These are opportunities for our youth to Live, Love, and Serve. When the youth participate in these activities they serve the people and communities that they go to. They feel God's presence and sense God's abundant Love when cleaning homes, talking around the campfire, or participating in worship in a large stadium.**

**When we show our support to the youth, we are paying faith forward to them!! We are providing opportunities for the youth that many of us have already experienced. In other cases, we're providing opportunities for the youth that we didn't have a chance to experience but can share it with them through the stories they tell. Either way we are *Paying Faith Forward*.**

**The next time you buy a brat at the brat stand, eat your Trollway pizza, or attend Easter Breakfast, please remember that you are Paying Faith Forward and allowing the youth to Live, Love, and Serve!!!**

Carl Sieg

## **INREACH/OUTREACH**

Inreach/Outreach Ministry will once again be serving a luncheon following the 11:00am Lenten service. We will be looking for help to bake cookies, dessert or main meals, as well as kitchen help. Services begin February 22, Ash Wednesday.

E-mail Margie Kahl if you are able to help, or bake at: [mkahl@mhtc.net](mailto:mkahl@mhtc.net). Thank you!

## **PROPERTY**

The process of rehabbing the offices is almost complete!

**August 3** - Furniture moved out of Nancy's office and the carpet removed.

**August 4** - Nancy's office painted.

**August 5** - Carpet tiles laid and furnishings moved in.

**October 12** - Furnishings moved out of the other 2 offices.

**October 13-14** - Offices painted.

**October 17** - Carpet tiles laid and furnishings moved in. A desk was donated for the office (thanks to Pfister) and replaced the old one.

**January 14** - New LED lights were installed by Oimoen Electric, replacing the aged fluorescent ones.

New window coverings have been ordered and tentatively scheduled for installation in the middle of February.

*What's left?* It would be nice if a newer desk chair could be found for the outer office. If someone has one that could be donated, please contact the office.

*Thanks to the folks that helped with carpet and furniture moving:*

Conrad Richer

John Rosenbaum

Amy, Greg and Andy Kellesvig

Brenda Martin

**Ben Vondra  
Jay and Deb Schneider  
Diane Bartz  
Magi from Ace Hardware for painting  
Jeff Voss**

## **RECONCILING IN CHRIST**

**Learning with Pastor Javen to “Walk the Talk of Welcome”**

**Of the many Bible passages that inspire the Rev. Javen Swanson, he cited one during his visit to ELC that particularly resonates with him on a personal level: “I come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”**

**That’s a message from Jesus captured in John 10:10, where he promises believers a life far better than we could ever imagine - one that is meaningful, purposeful, joyful, eternal.**

**“For me,” Pastor Javen said, “I was not able to start living abundantly until I came out.”**

**That moment didn’t come until years after he was a Confirmation student at Pastor John Twiton’s church in rural Minnesota, when Pastor Javen surrendered the illusion that he could put on a public face as a straight guy. Those two formed a connection a quarter century ago that endures today, and led to Pastor Javen accepting an invitation to make a day-long visit to ELC on Jan. 21 to help us “Walk the Talk of Welcome.”**

**During a series of discussions - including a sermon at our service, a chat over coffee with members of the congregation and community, and a discussion with our youth group - Pastor Javen (pronounced JAY-ven) brought forth his experiences as a gay man who accomplished his dream of becoming a minister, and led discussions about how we can better fulfill our pledge as a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation.**

**That RIC pledge asks us to actively welcome everyone in the community - regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles.**

**Pastor Javen serves as Associate Pastor at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Saint Paul, Minn., which became a RIC congregation in 1999. For everything his church has done to become more welcoming to people from all walks of life, he reminded us to think of RIC as an ongoing journey, rather than a trip that ends at a defined destination: "It's always a work in progress."**

## **RECONCILING IN CHRIST cont.**

**For all the strides we've made as a denomination and as a church to forge official positions in favor of the LGBTQ+ community, we need to continue adopting steps that live into that welcoming stance and to build relationships with people whom society has pushed to the margins.**

**Our discussions covered a lot of ground. Some takeaways included:**

- **Follow your curiosity. Don't let your fear about saying or doing something wrong interfere with your desire to introduce yourself and start a conversation with someone you don't know.**
- **Words matter. Think about reframing traditional small talk to be more inclusive and universal. Instead of asking about someone's husband or wife, ask about their family. Instead of asking about their work, ask about their interests.**
- **Facilitate human interactions. Many people don't regularly cross paths with those who are different from them, which creates a disconnect and enables assumptions to form. Create situations where people from underrepresented groups can be heard, to broaden your and others' horizons. "When we get to know someone's story, it becomes harder to dislike them," Pastor Javen said.**
- **Show our support. Displaying a Pride flag outside our door signals acceptance. We also need to venture outward with our support, which could mean marching with PFLAG in the**



**Summer Frolic parade or taking part in anti-racist conversations and demonstrations in the community.**

- **Update our physical environment. “Sometimes when I walk into a church, I feel like I’m walking back into the ’60s,” Pastor Javen said. How can we change that to make the church seem as “with it” as other places where people go? Some suggestions: Getting new signs for our bathrooms to put the focus on the plumbing fixtures inside rather than classifying access by gender. Update our library to include books and other resources that feature a diverse set of**

## **RECONCILING IN CHRIST cont.**

- **characters. Look at our paintings and art to see if we’re featuring whitewashed adaptations of Jesus and other people and stories from the Bible.**
- **Listen to the spirit of the Bible. A handful of passages have been used through the years to denounce homosexuality. It’s tempting to retort by citing other references that we’ve collectively dismissed as culturally outdated – such as dietary prohibitions or women needing to wear veils – but Pastor Javen believes that approach doesn’t end well because it undermines the Bible’s credibility. Instead, he urges us to view the Bible through a different lens: as a series of lessons that point us toward love. “Luther said the Bible is the manger that holds Christ,” he said. “We don’t worship the Bible, we worship the Jesus revealed to us in the Bible.”**

**Thank you to Pastor Javen for making the journey to Mount Horeb from the Twin Cities, to Pastor John and the RIC committee for organizing this event, to Diane Dangerfield and the Praise Team for selecting music that brought to life the “welcome” theme, and to the congregation for covering Pastor Javen’s expenses through Benevolence Program donations to RIC.**

## **SOCIAL ACTION**

### **ABOUT LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

*Often, when natural disasters strike or when war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion, but we don't know how to help. Making Lutheran World Relief Kits is a simple, fun and tangible way to offer comfort to those suffering and express love to our neighbors in need.*

LWR Kits are specifically designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict and more. Whether a kit helps someone to maintain good hygiene, care well for a newborn baby, keep education going during a crisis or learn a new vocation, LWR Kits provide dignity and hope in the direst situations.

### **Baby Care Kits**

Bringing a baby into the world can be a difficult and scary thing for a mother living in poverty. Keeping a new baby healthy, clean, and comfortable can take a lot of resources. The items included in a Baby Care Kit provide the basics a family needs to care for their new members the way they hope to. Worry will always be present for all parents, but having some essentials allows them to enjoy and get to know their little ones and introduce them with pride to the world.

**Each Baby Care Kit needs:    Collection box is in Fellowship Hall**

**2 lightweight cotton T-shirts**

- 2 long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- 2 swaddling blankets 36" to 52" square
- 4 cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- 2 pairs of socks
- 1 hand towel, dark color recommended
- 2 or 3 bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand,
- 2 diaper pins or large safety pins

Gently used, clean items (no stains or tears) can be substituted for new ones.

Sizes 6 to 24 months may be used.

source: lwr.org

## SPRITUAL GROWTH & FELLOWSHIP



### Bunco + Tacos = Fun!

Spiritual Growth & Fellowship is planning another fun event, we'll hope you join us! After the service on Sun Feb 26th, we'll be playing Bunco. This is a fun dice game that is appropriate for all ages and easy to learn. After the game is done, we plan to have a "taco potluck". We're hoping you'll

bring your favorite southwest dish or taco fixings. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex- not required, just encouraged.



“Rumor has is it that the pastor saw his shadow.  
That means six more weeks of cold sermons.”

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

**REBECCA CIRCLE** will meet February 21<sup>st</sup> at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Bible Study Intro and Chapter 1 from *Bad Girls of the Bible*. Rita S-D to bring treat and Mary Stam beverage.

**SARAH CIRCLE** will meet Tuesday, February 21st, 7 pm at church. We will have a short business meeting and Bible study video. Most of our evening will be worktime on blankets for the senior class. Contact Connie Curran ([curranconnie@hotmail.com](mailto:curranconnie@hotmail.com)) with any questions about the study materials or meeting details. Always welcoming new participants and those we haven't seen lately."

**BABY CAP/EYEGLASS CASE MAKERS** will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 7 and 21, 9:30a.m. in the Faith Room. Contact [ruthheinecke@gmail.com](mailto:ruthheinecke@gmail.com) with any questions.

**ELC SEWING LADIES SEWING DAYS** are Thursdays from 9 a.m. to Noon in Fellowship Hall

**MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>** Thursdays at 6:30 am on Zoom. Contact Pastor John for the link.

**ELC COFFEE TIME** Wednesdays at 10am in Fellowship Hall. A great time to connect with our church family



**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION -**  
Sunday, February 12th at 10:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

If you're interested in finding out more about membership in ELC please stop by, or if you can't attend that day, please let Pastor John know that you might be interested.

We are planning to receive new members on February 26th.

**HYMNAL DEDICATION** Sunday February 19th during the 9:00 service

**THE LITTLE FREE PANTRY** located in the parking lot of Immanuel Church needs non-perishable items. The address is 310 W Main St. Mt. Horeb. The Little Free Pantry is open to everyone in the Community on a 24/7 basis. Items can be put directly in the box or a drop off appointment can be made by calling 608-437-8733. If you would like to make a monetary donation, checks can be made out to Immanuel Lutheran Church marked Little Free Pantry and mailed to the church.



**American Red Cross**

*Give blood.* Help save lives.



**Mount Horeb Community  
Blood Drive**

**Evangelical Lutheran Church  
315 East Main**

**Friday, February 3, 2023  
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit  
[RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter Sponsor Code: MthHorebWI

Only the front door will be open.

You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit  
[RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) for more information.

**Warm hearts. Warm thoughts. Give in February for a \$10  
Gift Card by email, thanks to Amazon. And,  
automatically be entered for a chance to win a trip for 2  
to Clearwater Beach, FL. Includes travel, hotel, gift card  
and more! Terms: [rcblood.org/heart](http://rcblood.org/heart).**

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

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1 831 | Order ID: 1454591 | Item ID: 5478405 - Qty: 1 of 1 - 0000011614 - 0000-4PL0584 - ARC - 258739



**HOURS**  
**MONDAY-THURSDAY 9AM - NOON and 1PM-4PM33**  
**FRIDAYS 9AM-NOON**

**STEEPLE ECHOES ARTICLES DUE BY Thursday February 16th.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED on Tuesday, February 24th to assemble the February newsletter. *Newcomers are welcome.* The assembly process usually takes about 2 hours. Please, come and enjoy the fellowship**

***THANK YOU FOR ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN February*** If you are unable to fulfill your volunteer role on your scheduled date, please be sure to contact a substitute and let the church office (437-5012 or [elc@mhtc.net](mailto:elc@mhtc.net)) know by the Wednesday prior.

	<b>FEB 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>FEB 11 &amp; 12</b>	<b>FEB 18 &amp; 19</b>	<b>FEB 25 &amp; 26</b>
<b>READERS</b>	Bonny Kellogg Chris Coffin	Ann Baumgartner Jim Cook	Bonny Kellogg Diane Bartz	Ann Baumgartner Steve Knuteson
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Kayla Bredeson Aaron Fendrick	Adrienne Hogseth Eve Kellesvig	Michael Powell Ben Rothamer	Melaina Tetzlaff Addison Watson
<b>COMM. ASST.</b>	Diane Bartz Cheryl Schlesser Ben Brothers	<b>No Communion</b>	John & Brenda Martin Warren Wilson	<b>No Communion</b>
<b>USHERS</b>	Team 6 Betsy Baguhn Jody Morey	Team 7 Shannon & Jim Hadac	Team 8 Mark Mostrom Jim Cook	Team 1 Jim Cook John Rosenbaum
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Deb Dangerfield, Shannon Hadac, Jessica Powell, Judy Steinhauer, Joan Stensby			
<b>COUNCIL DUTIES</b>	Carl Sieg			

# PRAYER list

PLEASE PRAY FOR John Scheele (Char Smith's Brother in Law), Linda Stoenner, David Field (Donna Miller & Dawn Kellesvig's brother), Hazel Hermann, Betty Tharp (Katie Zelle's grandmother), Ken Rabideau (Helen Ladwig's Brother in Law), Jerome Bell, Beth Wright (Kate Hook's sister) Nick O'Connell, Paul Kerscher (Amy Thompson's Dad), Donald Strube (Pete's Dad), Steve Mueller, Joyce Fargo, Alycen McKinney, Harold "Chick" Gullickson (Brother of Mary Krantz), Cara Mavis, Amy Hall, Rollie & Joan Schraepfer (Rita Schraepfer-Derke's Brother & Sister in Law), Todd Collins, Norm Hefty, Lincoln Kuhn, Brooklynn Kreul, Mary Jane Ellis (friend of Bonny Kellogg), Connie Peterson, Bonnie Bender, Ginger Quaderer (Diane Mueller's cousin), Delores Bryant, Makenzee Smith, Shirley Thompson, Brock Howe, Jeannie U'Ren, Ruth Ann Nemet, Mike Olson, Irene Bruflat, Grace Aavang, Carol Johnson.

Our partner congregation IGLESIA EVANGÉLICA LUTERANA DIVINO SALVADOR (Divine Savior Lutheran Church) in Cataño, P.R

*In Loving Memory Of:*

*By:*

*\*Correction from the January  
Steeple Echoes*

*Lyle Fink*

*Dave & Ann Baumgartner*

*LeRoy Collins*

*Paul & Dawn Kellesvig*

*January*

*Pat Johnston  
(Diane Bartz Sister)*

*Dave & Ann  
Baumgartner*

*Wayne & Mary Knudson*

*Jeff Jenson  
(Mary Knudson's*

*Brother)*

*Dave & Ann Baumgartner*

*Sharon Collins*

*Mary Curtis*

*Donnie Lokken*

*Dave & Ann Baumgartner*





# FEBRUARY

## Birthdays

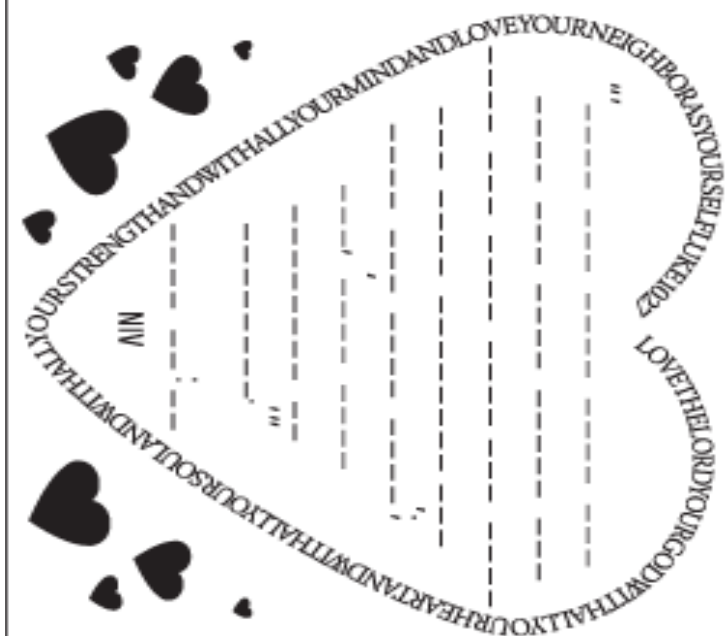
<b>1</b> <b>Balbach</b>	<b>Nancy</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Heiting</b>	<b>Beth</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Casey</b>	<b>Grace</b>
	<b>George Johnson</b>		<b>Scott Klassy</b>		<b>Joyce Fargo</b>
	<b>Zachary Peter</b>		<b>Declan Otis</b>		<b>Kanen Getz</b>
	<b>Dean Stange</b>		<b>Kristi Schulenberg</b>		<b>Mara Johnson</b>
<b>2</b> <b>Farnsworth</b>	<b>Rob</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Hogseth</b>	<b>Adrienne</b>		<b>Siri Martin</b>
	<b>Sara John</b>		<b>Christina Kahl</b>		<b>Steve Mueller</b>
	<b>Mary Kaboth</b>		<b>Margie Kahl</b>		<b>Marc Powell</b>
<b>3</b> <b>Uptegraw</b>	<b>Jim</b>		<b>Adam Sailor</b>		<b>Joan Stensby</b>
<b>4</b> <b>Brothers</b>	<b>Ben</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Albrecht</b>	<b>Lauren</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Schlicht</b>	<b>Cheryl</b>
	<b>Reece Watson</b>		<b>Eva Larson</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Lukken</b>	<b>Jan</b>
<b>5</b> <b>Aeschlimann</b>	<b>Owen</b>		<b>Colton Martin</b>		<b>Madison Lukken</b>
	<b>Jackson John</b>		<b>Sarah Strube</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Cook</b>	<b>Jim</b>
	<b>Doug Nesheim</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Bredeson</b>	<b>Kayla</b>		<b>Mary Krantz</b>
	<b>Stephanie Rollins</b>		<b>Paige Densmore</b>		<b>Molly Mason</b>
	<b>Pamela Roth</b>		<b>Meghan Mason</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Hanson</b>	<b>Jessica</b>
	<b>Sophia Sadler</b>		<b>Jonah Siebold</b>		<b>Anthony Truman</b>
<b>6</b> <b>Hall</b>	<b>Scott</b>		<b>Ryan Sinner</b>		<b>Craig Vesely</b>
	<b>Ryan Soyring</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Addison Anderson</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Powell</b>	<b>Mary Ann</b>
	<b>Mark Sutter</b>		<b>Hailey Hanson</b>		<b>Paul Yapp</b>
<b>7</b> <b>Kahl</b>	<b>Sawyer</b>		<b>Quentin Rosborough</b>	<b>24</b> <b>LaBorde</b>	<b>Sean</b>

<b>Lacey Klessig</b>	<b>Dan Sherven</b>	<b>Gerald Stamm</b>
<b>Mark Peter</b>	<b>14 Ashley Thompson</b>	<b>Jenifer Stone</b>
<b>8 Makayla Krueger</b>	<b>15 Theresa M. Toniazzo</b>	<b>25 Mary Hastings</b>
<b>Charlie Miller</b>	<b>16 Taylor Freitag</b>	<b>Jared Leuzinger</b>
<b>Scott Underwood</b>	<b>Kayson Haag-Little</b>	<b>26 Bernette Allemann</b>
<b>Carter Vesely</b>		<b>27 Jennifer Ekenberg</b>
<b>Cathy Woller</b>		<b>28 Amanda Balbach</b>
		<b>Donald Field</b>
		<b>29 Craig Mortvedt</b>
		<b>Hannah Stapelmann</b>

**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!

Draw lines to separate the words in the heart outline. Then, starting with "Love," write the words in order inside the heart to complete the two greatest commandments.



Answer: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27, NIV