

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 1st & 3rd 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/

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

A New Beginning in Ministry⁸

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 4:18 -20

As we enter into the new year, we again read the stories of Jesus’ baptism and the call of the first disciples. I always hope that all of us hear this not simply as history, but as our daily reality as well. Jesus announces that the kingdom of heaven has drawn near, and it is as true this day as it was that day. The kingdom of heaven is near, because Jesus is with us, and we are called to follow, just like Peter and Andrew.

I am so thankful for all those who answer that call to follow, and especially to those who have answered the call or the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. On January 22nd we look forward to hearing from a guest pastor, the Rev. Javen Swanson. Javen was once a confirmation student in my church in Pine River MN, and remains a good friend to our family.

I knew early on that Javen had the gifts and the curiosity to excel at ministry, but when he was in school the church was not ready to accept him, as a gay man, into the ministry. I’m so very grateful that the ELCA has been willing to receive the gifts of those who were previously excluded.

Our congregation has expressed our desire to be a place of welcome for all people, and I’ve invited Javen to be with us to talk about his journey, and help us think about what it means to share true hospitality. He’ll be with us to preach at worship, and for further discussion during coffee hour that day.

I hope you’ll plan to be with us for the day.

God’s Peace,



TREASURER'S REPORT

Our overall cash position is reasonably strong, thanks especially to Rose Klir's generous estate gift. We are on pace to retire the mortgage in December 2023. But the general fund and mortgage fund balances are low, because income continues to run well below operating expenses. Expenses so far this year are 5% under budget, but income is 18% lower than expected. December is traditionally a strong month for giving, and we're optimistic about finishing the year on a strong note.

Special collections represent money from the general fund for Ukraine via Lutheran World Relief, and also money for World Hunger collected in 2021 but disbursed this year.

Designated income last month included \$1591 for youth, \$800 for the kitchen, \$315 for music, \$130 for internship, \$100 for technology, \$44 for camperships, \$30 for Sunday school, and \$383 unspecified. Expenses included \$2216 for a video camera (technology) and \$173 in rental utilities (internship).

Respectfully submitted by Ben Brothers, December 6, 2022.

TREASURER'S REPORT Cont.

BALANCE SHEET	11/30/2022	10/31/2022	12/31/2021
General Fund	\$ 14,974	\$ 14,981	\$ 64,591
Mortgage Fund	\$ 4,749	\$ 6,181	\$ 13,790
Building Fund	\$ 24,725	\$ 24,265	\$ 24,391
Designated Funds	\$ 116,615	\$ 117,502	\$ 61,908
Mortgage	\$ (45,374)	\$ (48,801)	\$ (87,223)
TOTAL	\$ 115,689	\$ 114,128	\$ 77,457

CASH FLOW STATEMENT	November 2022	YTD 2022
Operating Income		
General Fund Income	\$ 24,432	\$ 295,377
Adjustment for Special Collections	\$ -	\$ (10,396)
Mortgage Fund Income	\$ 2,199	\$ 35,955
Total	\$ 26,631	\$ 320,936
Operating Expenses		
Personnel	\$ 17,038	\$ 223,043
Mission and Outreach	\$ 1,917	\$ 36,733
Congregational Life	\$ 1,793	\$ 14,833
Building and Administration	\$ 3,691	\$ 70,168
Adjustment for Special Expenses	\$ -	\$ (13,691)
Mortgage Repayment	\$ 3,630	\$ 45,015
Total	\$ 28,069	\$ 376,101
Net Gain (Loss) from Operations	\$ (1,438)	\$ (55,165)
Other Income		
Benevolence	\$ 655	\$ 11,026
Building Capital Fund	\$ 460	\$ 9,769
Designated Funds	\$ 3,393	\$ 75,333
General Fund Special Collections	\$ -	\$ 10,396
Total	\$ 4,508	\$ 106,524
Other Expenses		
Benevolence	\$ 2,546	\$ 9,882
Building Capital Expenses	\$ -	\$ 9,435
Designated Fund Expenses	\$ 2,390	\$ 21,742
General Fund Special Expenses	\$ -	\$ 13,691
Total	\$ 4,936	\$ 54,750
Net Gain (Loss) from Non-Operating Expenses	\$ (428)	\$ 51,774
NET GAIN (LOSS)	\$ (1,866)	\$ (3,391)

WELCOME 2023!

We are very excited to be back at school and start off the new year. We will have lots of fun learning about winter animals and their habitats, all things snow, ice, and winter. We will also keep practicing how to put on our winter gear for our outside playtime.

I am looking forward to starting off 2023 with all my teaching staff - Cathy Fountas, Jenelle Ollendick, Wendy Rasmussen, Katy Seibel and Anita Symons. These women go above and beyond to serve the children, families, and ministry of Agape Christian Preschool.

Blessings, stay warm and enjoy the season of winter!

**Amy Kellesvig, director
Agape Christian Preschool**

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, January 3: 4K AM/PM, Red & Orange Classes resume

Thursday, January 5: 3K Yellow Class resumes

Friday, January 6: Toddler Time resumes

Friday, January 20: No 3K or 4K Classes; end of first semester

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15 - 11 am (3 years old - 8th grade) - No Sunday School on January 1st, 2023. We will resume on January 8th. Join us for Bible stories, music, games, and snacks. We begin weekly in the chapel. Next Service Day is January 22nd.

7th & 8th GRADE CONFIRMATION- Our 7th & 8th graders meet each Wednesday, (7 - 8:30 pm). We will resume our class time on January 4th, 7 pm. We will be learning about the Ten Commandments this winter/spring.

CONFIRMATION BOWLING NIGHT - We will have a bowling night on January 18th at Norsk Bowl. Please bring \$5. Drop off youth (and pick up) at Norsk Bowling. Pizza will be provided.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT/GAMES & CRAFTS AT ELC

January 14th, 5 pm -8:00 pm at ELC: Our experienced high school youth will be offering a night of fun, games, crafts, and treats for youth ages 3 years through 5th grade at ELC. Funds raised will benefit Urban Reach - St Louis and our ELC youth programming.

January Parent's Night Out
Register Here



Donation: \$10 per child and \$5 for additional children (family rate). Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend. Sign up with the link or QR code.
<https://forms.gle/aqG4aNyLckWxUafH8>



FUSE EVENTS - JAN 8th, 1:30 - 3:00 pm High School Youth can join in our service time to help the Community Clothes Closet - January 8th, 1:30 - 3 pm. Meet us at the Clothes Closet.
JAN 22nd - 7 pm - Join us for a RIC (Reconciling In Christ) event at ELC. More information to come.

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS cont.

THANK YOU - As we say hello to a new year, I want to thank everyone who has helped, supported, and participated in our youth programs this past year. We look forward to 2023.

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

YOUTH FUNDRAISING:

TROLL WAY PIZZA (TIME TO ORDER) - Our youth are taking orders for our delicious "church-made" pizzas after worship services through January 8. Orders may also be placed online,

using the link below or the QR Code. Pick up day for these unforgettable pizzas will be on January 29, in Fellowship Hall.

(After worship service) One great way to stock up on pizzas before the Super Bowl in February. Funds raised will support the youth mission trip in Summer 2023.

<https://forms.gle/u1t8fKgJR5owPuVJ9>



TROLL WAY PIZZA
ORDER HERE



CULVERS SHARE DAY: SAVE THE DATE - JAN 16th - Stop by Culvers and help our ELC/Immanuel Youth earn money for their transportation fund to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in 2024.

THANK YOU - Thank you for the continued support of our ELC youth with our various December fundraisers. (Nick's Crafts, Christmas CD's, and our Bake Sale) Funds raised will help support our youth programming.

BENEVOLENCE

Making an impact worldwide

Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response are separate organizations with different missions, but together their work promotes the goal of improving lives across the globe. That's why we're pairing these organizations as the focus of our Benevolence mission for the month of January. LWR focuses on improving daily life in the poorest parts of the world, operating heavily in Central America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia. They aim to create jobs and develop productive, inclusive and resilient economies rooted in agriculture. They promote sustainable agriculture so farmers can become more productive while conserving natural resources. And they respond to natural disasters and complex crises. LDR operates worldwide to provide ongoing assistance to those in need after some of the most destructive events on the planet, sticking around long after the dust settles and the headlines change. LDR works through local relief agencies and resources to accompany affected communities from immediate relief through long-term recovery. They respond to the needs of local communities after flooding, tornadoes and wildfires in the U.S., hurricanes throughout the region, and ongoing trauma experienced in Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa, and of course Ukraine. You'll remember that we initially planned to raise funds for these organizations late last year, but moved them to 2023 so we could provide an infusion of cash to our partner church in Puerto Rico, Divine Savior. We're excited to kick off the 11th year of the Benevolence Program by supporting these international causes, complementing the missions we support in the Mount Horeb area and our region. Please see the complete list of our 2023 causes below.

Two notes on our lineup:

- We added a newcomer – [Little John's Kitchen](#), which will soon open a new facility alongside Highway 18/151 in Madison. They take quality food that would otherwise be discarded and employ military veterans to help prepare meals, with a pay-as-you-can model for purchasing.
- We decided to keep the month of November open so we have flexibility to address an emerging need. Past examples include tragic events like the hurricane that just struck our friends at Divine Savior in Puerto Rico, the invasion of Ukraine or the outpouring of refugees from Afghanistan.

BENEVOLENCE cont.

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.

2023 LINEUP

January: Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response
February: Compassion International
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

2022 LINEUP

January: Divine Savior - \$935
February: Compassion International - \$985
March: ELC summer youth programming and camperships - \$1070
April: Reconciliation in Christ - activities that support our ideals - \$1130
May: Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services \$1175
June: Mount Horeb Senior Center - \$675
July: Literacy Network and DAIS - \$725
(Domestic Abuse Intervention Services)
August: Lutheran campus ministry \$835
September: Saba, International \$ 1110
October: Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response \$2469.82
November: Accessible local health care (Our Lady of Hope Clinic in Madison, Community Connections Free Clinic in Dodgeville
Connections Free Clinic in Dodgeville) \$655
December: Madison Area Jail Ministry

**On behalf of Benevolence,
Adam Mertz adammerz2@gmail.com**

SOCIAL ACTION

ABOUT LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Your Love Is Reaching Our Neighbors

The gifts you give are an immeasurable blessing to families around the world.

A little girl is warmer because of a quilt sewn.

A mother is happy because her children received school supplies and a bag to carry them.

A father is learning a new skill that will provide income for his family because he's learning to sew using a Fabric Kit he received.

A grandmother has regained her dignity because she was able to bathe using the soap inside a Personal Care Kit.

And a baby is sleeping soundly because he is swaddled in a soft blanket from a Baby Care Kit.

Thank you for sharing your love with our neighbors in need and letting them know they are not alone.

LWR Quilts and Kits are highly regarded throughout the world because of their quality and consistency.

USEFUL

We work closely with our overseas partners to determine the best contents to include in kits. Your kits will do the most good possible when they contain only the items listed in the guidelines.

CONSISTENT

Keeping quilt sizes and kit contents consistent helps our partners plan properly for distributing a shipment, and keeps international shipping processes cost-effective and efficient. Disparity in kit contents can cause costly delays.

FAIR.

When all kits contain the same items, recipients are treated equally and fairly, which is important for those who have already experienced a great deal of injustice or tragedy.

Source: LWR.org

COUNCIL NEWS

A Letter of Gratitude

I am grateful to be a daughter of the Lutheran church and so thankful that my family found a home here at ELC. I write this after sitting in church on the first Sunday in Advent. I just sat in the pew with chills while the choir performed *Arise, your light has come*. What talent we have in our choir! Diane Dangerfield and that organ, I mean, WOW. What a place to worship. We are so lucky to have such musical talent at ELC. With Barb Underwood on the piano, guitarists, drummers and the praise band, we are musically RICH.

I am grateful for Pastor John (in so many ways). My grandfather was a Lutheran minister and instrumental in my faith story. He married Ben and I, and I always dreamed that he would baptize my children. I had a hard time coming to terms with the fact that he was not capable of this duty and postponed it many times. Knowing this, Pastor John performed a dual baptism for both girls at Ingleside (where my grandfather resided) so that he could participate. That gift was and is such a treasure to me and my family. I am eternally grateful for Pastor's willingness to serve and accommodate.

I am grateful for the incredible ministry of Agape Christian Preschool. Sedona (7) and Isla (5) LOVED their time in 3K and 4K. My girls grew so much in the loving, Christian learning environment. Some of their best friends were made in the Agape classrooms. I was so sad when my kiddos outgrew their Agape days. The partnership with Agape really solidified our membership here. What a blessing Amy Kellesvig and her staff are!

I am grateful for Brenda Martin and her amazing youth programming. My children adore Sunday school and love the connection that is fostered with older youth. The connections they are making are so important. I remember looking up to the "older kids" in my church, and I love that my children do so as well. I watched my mom run the Sunday school program at our home congregation and it was A LOT of work. There were times it ran her ragged. I appreciate all the time and effort that goes into weekly/yearly preparation. Our congregation is blessed to have such a creative and devoted leader for our youth ministry.

I'm so grateful to our technology ministry for getting us through Covid AND for continuing to broadcast. I know that there are members who still do not feel comfortable worshiping in person. How lucky we are that we can accommodate those needs and come together as a whole church every Sunday.

What I'm trying to convey is that I'm so grateful to belong to such a wonderful spiritual family.

PROPERTY

WHAT HAPPENS IF...

...you see something around our beautiful property (inside and outside) that needs to be taken care of?

There is a "Maintenance/Custodial Work Request" form on the bulletin board outside of Nancy's office. Please fill it out and put it in Nancy's mailbox in the outer office.

Many eyes keeping an eye on the property will greatly assist in taking care of problems in an expedient manner before they become more problematic.

If there is something of an emergency matter, please call the office at 608-437-5012!



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet at 9:30 instead of 10 on January 17th in Fellowship Hall. Helen will bring books for our new Study. Diane will bring cookies.

SARAH CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, January 17th at 7 pm at church. Bible study will be from the Jan/Feb issue of "Gather" magazine. Contact Connie Curran (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 in the Faith Room from 9:30-11am on Tuesday Jan 3 and 17. Extra points to anyone who brings a Show and Tell craft project! Contact ruthheinecke@gmail.com with questions.

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

MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY 1st & 3rd 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



Potluck Brunch

*What could be better than coffee and donuts?
Brunch!*

Spiritual Growth & Fellowship is hosting a potluck on Sunday, January 15th. We'll have brunch at about 10:30 am. Feel free to bring your favorite breakfast or lunch dish to share. Get acquainted or re-acquainted with other folks at church. All are welcome!



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

The Church Office will be closed January 3rd

STEEPLE ECHOES ARTICLES DUE BY Thursday January 19th.

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

ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE:

To save paper and cut down on mailing costs, we're trying an opt-in system for yearly giving statements. If you'd like a summary of your 2022 giving, please contact the office at elc@mhtc.net

THANK YOU FOR ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN November 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) know by the Wednesday prior.

	JAN 1	JAN 7&8	JAN 14&15	JAN 21&22	JAN 28&29
READERS	Sandra Glaeve	Ann Baumgartner Diane Bartz	Bonny Kellogg Steve Knuteson	Ann Baumgartner Ben Brothers	Bonny Kellogg Gary Hamburg
ACOLYTES	Mason Dudley Caleb Gaulke	Lucas High Jacey Morin	Lily Poster Sara Seibel	Zoe Stack Evelyn Wyse	Emett Zimmer Aiden Aeschlimann
USHERS	Team 1 Jim Cook John Rosenbaum	Team 2 Mary & Steve Knudson	Team 3 Dennis Lokken Irv Steinhauser	Team 4 Doug Nesheim Gerald Stamm	Team 5 Carol & John Nielsen
ALTAR GUILD	Cathie Field, Sara Hellenbrand, Laura Miller, Sharon Schiefelbein, Bev Schwierske				

COUNCIL DUTIES	Serena Vondra	
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IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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 Brufat, Grace Aavang, Carol Johnson.

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

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

In Loving Memory Of:

By:

Rose Klir

Diane Dangerfield

Lolly

Dickinson

Diane Dangerfield

Vern Drape

***Diane Dangerfield
 Phyllis Redman***

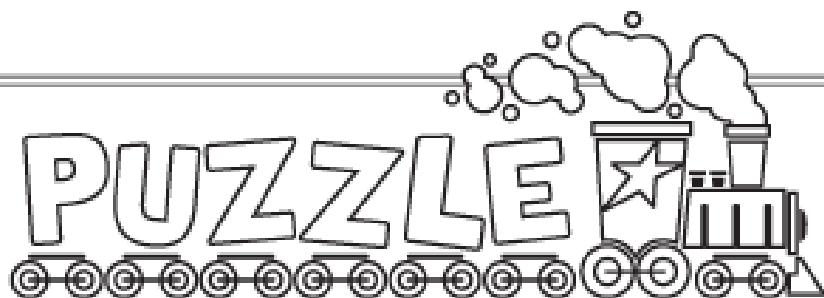
*Ann & Dave
Richard Fink Baumgartner*

 **JANUARY**
Birthdays

1 Boettcher	Pat	12 Zelle	Mae Jean	23 Vesely	Alexa
	Jayne Martinson	13 Kahl	Devin	24 Bower	Samantha
	Debby Schneider		Kim Kelliher		Morgan Monroe
3 Iverson	Jim		Breanna Nesheim	25 Brothers	Sarah
	James Morey	14 Hall	Steve		Kelly Doty
	Michael Powell		Pamela Larson		Robin Paske
4 Cannon	Sandra		Kathy O'Donnell		Aaron Schmidt
	Zach Klassy	15 Killinger	Skylaar	26 Jenkins	Larry
	Louis Thomas		Christine Rinabarger		LeAnn Klaetsch
			Betty Rosenbaum		Stacy Kreul
5 Field	Amanda	16 Kahl	Helen	27 Anderson	Tim
	Ross Nesheim		Renee Littel		Megan Ferrell
	Matthew Nielsen		Bob Schiefelbein		Gabriel Guenther
	Colin Schulz	17 Breed	Nancy		Hadley Kahl
	Amber Schulz		John Rosenbaum		Graham Schloesser
6 Appleby	Kaylie	18 Errthum	Jaclyn	28 Hustad	Kari

Gordy Kahl	Erik Iverson	Michael Miller
Ethan Wittman	Ashley Segebrecht	David Powell
7 Grace Hanson	Kevin Thorsen	Owen Rothamer
Andrew Knudson	19 Ingrid Malin	29 Valerie Fischer
Kristina Nielsen	Cord Spellman	Rodney Fisher
8 Daniel Edwards	20 Beverly Jewell	Logan Heiting
Ken Schulenberg	Ann McCue	30 Irene Field
9 Leah Gaulke	Conner McCue	Kristine Aeschlimann
Stacy LaBorde	Evelyn Rameker	31 Theresa Bender
10 Lydia Martin	Karen Stamm	Deb Dangerfield
Amy Mertz	21 Paul Heinecke	Jenafer Festge
Mack Racklin	Ethan Sutter	Tim Killinger
Ethan Stange	Kristin Willcutt	Jeff Rasmussen
11 Matt Anderson	Franklin Willcutt	Kimberly Sailor
Patricia Ellestad	22 Chloe John	Allie Slocum
Lisbeth Gibney	Diane Mueller	Sara Thompson
	Sonja Rosborough	
	Karen Tetzlaff	
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

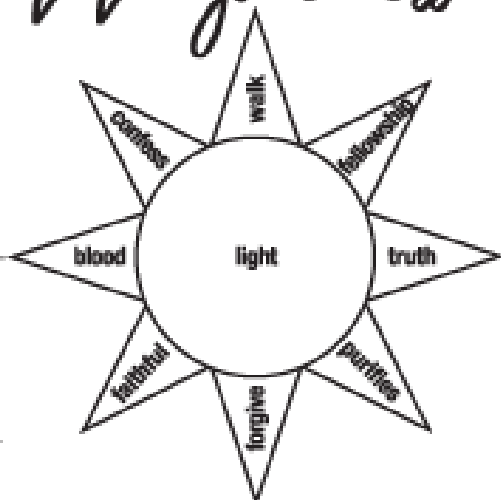


The light of forgiveness

The Lord is full of mercy and light. What happens when we confess our sins to God?

Directions:

Use the coded shapes to fill in the blanks and complete 1 John 1:7-9, NIV.



But if we _____ in the _____, as he is in the _____,
we have _____ with one another, and the _____
of Jesus, his Son, _____ us from all sin. If we claim to be
without sin, we deceive ourselves and the _____ is not in us.
If we _____ our sins, he is _____ and just and will
_____ us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 JOHN 1:7-9, NIV

***A Blessed Life
is Led by Grace.***