

# STEEPLE ECHOES

FEBRUARY  
2024

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

Well over 355 million children are trapped in poverty. We're working to change that.

Compassion

FEBRUARY  
BENEVOLENCE 2024  
Compassion International

"See, I am doing a new thing!  
Now it springs up;  
do you not perceive it?  
I am making a way  
in the wilderness and  
streams in the wasteland."

Isaiah 43:19, NIV

ARIANA –  
Lives in Mexico



ELC  
sponsors  
Ariana & Simon

SIMON –  
Lives in Tanzania



  
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

**Intern** Zach Smirris

**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

**Office Manager:** Nancy Voss

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

# **A Note from PASTOR JOHN**

## **Making a Way Out of No Way - Lent 2024**

This year's Lenten resource uses "Making a Way Out of No Way" as a guiding theme. The opening litany borrows from Isaiah 43:19 "I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." The stories for each week all find a thread of God making a way where no way seems to be, whether because it feels hopeless or because the person God chose tries to run away or because we feel we have nothing to offer."

### **Ash Wednesday - February 14<sup>th</sup> - Genesis 11:27-12:1**

*"God will make a way even when the way isn't obvious."*

### **February 21<sup>st</sup> - Jonah 1:1-3 and Jonah 3:1-4**

*"God will make a way even when we try to run away"*

### **February 28<sup>th</sup> - Exodus 14:10-14, 19-22**

*"God will make a way even when the odds feel stacked against us"*

### **March 6<sup>th</sup> - 1 Kings 17:8-16**

*"God will make a way when we feel like we have little to offer"*

### **March 13<sup>th</sup> - Acts 16:6-15**

*"God is making a way even when the way doesn't seem clear"*

I found these themes very appropriate for this year as we try to understand what God is calling us to do and to be in this society. It is far too easy to resign ourselves to just getting by and forgetting that God has led God's people through many unsettled and difficult times. We follow a living Christ who will continue to make a way for ELC and for each of us!

Worship each Wednesday throughout Lent will be offered at 11:00 a.m., followed by lunch, and at 7:00 p.m., preceded by a meal offered at 6:00 p.m. (evening meals begin February 21<sup>st</sup>)

God's Peace and Strength be with you!



## Pastoral Intern – Christian Mortality

**ZACH SMIRRIIS**

*“until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.”*

*~~ Genesis 3:19~~*

For me, winter stops being fun about a week into the New Year. By the time the Christmas decorations are taken down, the spirit of the holidays has left and the novelty of snow has faded into the dirty slush that currently coats our roads. If winter was just Christmas and New Year's, it would be my favorite season. I love a little snow, I love the peppermint, and I love the lights. What I don't love, however, is the feeling that lingers after it all fades.

I had the sacred honor to help officiate over two funerals last month, as well as making a home visit for another death, and these events, too, linger in my heart. We're in the bitter cold of winter, and what better thing to accompany death than that? It's a somber feeling, but for us Christians, we are called to live a life knowing that death may take us, but it will not succeed over us. Imagine my surprise when I looked at the calendar and saw that Ash Wednesday was already around the corner!

Ash Wednesday is God's reminder that we all will return to dust, but this is not a permanent death. Much like we know that Spring will come, we can rest comfortably knowing that Christ will succeed on Easter morning, shattering death's hold over us and raising us into new life. For we Christians, death is just another part of life. It is a comma, rather than a period. And, even more importantly, it is a reminder that Christ keeps us warm, even in these dreary late winter months. Amen.

God's peace be with you all, my friends.

Zach Smirris

Pastoral Intern, ELC of Mt. Horeb  
internzach@elcmthoreb.org

# 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 in the chapel.

## 7th & 8th GRADE CONFIRMATION DATES:

- **Feb 7** - class at 7 pm
- **Feb 14** - Attend Ash Wednesday service at 7 pm
- **Feb 21 & 28** - Small groups meet at 6:45 pm, and students will help with ushering and cleaning up after potluck.

**CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY** - We will have a Children and Youth Ministry meeting at ELC on Monday, February 5th, at 7:00 PM. Anyone interested in planning for our youth activities, please email Brenda to join us.

## PARENTS NIGHT OUT/GAMES & CRAFTS AT ELC -

**February 9th, 5:30 pm -8:00 pm at ELC:** Our experienced high school youth will be offering a night of games, crafts, and treats for youth ages 3 years through 5th grade at ELC.

**Donation:** \$10 per child and \$5 for additional children (family rate). Funds raised will support our youth to attend the Youth Gathering in New Orleans in 2024.

**Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend. Sign up with the link/QR code.**

<https://forms.gle/F7jkC8WZegNY6Aqe9>

February  
Parent's Night Out/  
Kids Night Out  
Register here



**FUSE NIGHTS (Youth Gathering Edition)** - 8th - 12th graders are welcome to join us on **Feb 18th, 7 pm** in the youth room. We will focus on discovering more about the Youth Gathering theme, "Created to Be". Youth attending the Gathering are expected to attend.

# CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS cont.

## 2023 YOUTH SUMMER SCHEDULE (SAVE DATES)

### DAY CAMP/VBS WEEK AT ELC - June 24-27

- VBS (9 am– 11:30 am) 3 yr. – Kindergarten
- DAY CAMP -New time (1pm-5 pm) 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade in fall

Registration information coming soon!

**CONFIRMATION CAMP - July 28 - Aug 2**, 7th & 8th graders will attend Confirmation Camp at Sugar Creek Bible Camp.

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

ELC is paying \$100 towards the registration fee for campers

**GIVE/LOVE/SERVE (Local Service Days) - June 12th, July 10th, and Aug 6th** Middle - High school youth are invited to our local service days, held throughout the summer. Many opportunities for youth to provide service in our community, new places and other past favorites. Silver Cord hours will be given to our high school students. Watch for how to sign up!

### EXPLORER DAY AT SUGAR CREEK -July 31st, 9 am - 3 pm

(Children entering 1st - 5th grade in fall 2024)

Come for an exciting one-day adventure at Sugar Creek. Share in opportunities at camp - games, nature, crafts, Bible Study, singing and more!

**SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP** – Online Registration is open for Sugar Creek Bible Camp Summer programs. They have a variety of programs listed on their website, 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 2024!



<https://www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org/enroll-now/>

*Blessings & Peace,*  
*Brenda Martin, Youth Ministries Director*  
[brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org](mailto:brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org)

# CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS cont.

## YOUTH FUNDRAISING:



**THANK YOU FOR ORDERING** – Thank you to everyone for ordering pizzas from our youth. Pizzas will be ready for pick up on **February 4th, 10 am - 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall**. If you 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))

**CULVERS SHARE DAY: Feb 27th, 4 pm - 7 pm** - One night that you don't need to worry about dinner! Stop by Culvers and help our youth earn money to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering. Culvers shares a portion of the sales during these 3 hours. Thank you for your support!

### **THANK YOU, MT HOREB COMMUNITY FOUNDATION,**

- Our youth attending the Youth Gathering received a grant of \$1500 in January. Many thanks to the Mt Horeb Community Foundation for this grant, which will help with costs to attend the Youth Gathering this summer.



### **BABY KIT DONATIONS NEEDED:**

Our youth and members of Rebecca Circle are teaming together to collect and assemble the baby kits which will be sent to Lutheran World Relief this fall. Everyone is welcome to donate items. Great opportunity to shop at garage sales or go to thrift stores. Items should be in good condition, clean and in infant sizes no larger than 36 months. Each month, we will focus on one/two items, so we have many kits to make on August 6th, during our Service Days. There is a bin in Narthex for your donations.

**FEBRUARY** - Receiving blankets, medium weight (36" - 52" square)

**MARCH** - Long or Short Sleeved gowns or sleepers and Baby Socks

**APRIL** - Jackets or Sweaters with or without hoods

**MAY**- Cotton, lightweight T-shirts

**JUNE** -Baby Caps & Bath-size bars of gentle soap (individually wrapped)

**JULY** - Hand towels (dark colors)

Blessings & Peace,

Brenda Martin, Youth Ministries Director

[brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org](mailto:brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org)

# AGAPE

Hello from Agape Christian Preschool,

Wow, what a crazy start to the new year...tons of snow, cold temperatures, and snow days!! We are hoping that February is a bit quieter regarding the crazy weather!

Our 4K program in collaboration with MHASD began enrollment in January for children who will be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2024. 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 Friday, March 1, 2024. 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, 2024. A legacy family is defined as a current or past ACP 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 Frozen Butter Braid Pastries again this year from January 29 through February 9, 2024. If you would like to place an order, you can do so by leaving a message on the preschool phone or sending an email. This is always a highly successful fundraiser for the school, and we thank you for your support in advance!

Blessings to you all,

Amy Kellesvig



# AGAPE cont.

**Upcoming Dates:**

January 29 – February 9:	Frozen Butter Braid Pastry fundraiser
Friday, February 23:	No preschool classes (3K & 4K) make up snow day if needed
Friday, March 1:	3K enrollment begins for 2024-2025 school year
Friday, March 1:	Butter Braid Orders Delivered

---

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Prepared January 6, 2024

We saw generous giving in December of \$44,711, in addition to \$5,000 that was transferred from the unspecified designated fund early in the month. The general-fund balance of \$9,486 includes \$17,445 in assets and \$7,958 in outstanding liabilities. The monthly surplus of \$16,745 narrowed our 2023 general-fund deficit to \$8,718. That's a substantial improvement over our \$46,182 loss from 2022. Our overall balance sheet showed \$129,049 at the end of 2023, a slight decrease from the \$138,766 we had at the end of 2022.

December expenses from the designated funds include \$1,499 for the internship program and \$1,150 for our youth programs. Designated income included \$1,000 for camperships, \$360 for music, \$313 for youth, \$50 for Neighbors Helping Neighbors, \$25 for the altar guild, \$20 for internship, and \$589 unspecified. The \$5,000 transfer to the general fund is reported on our cash-flow statement as negative designated-fund income.

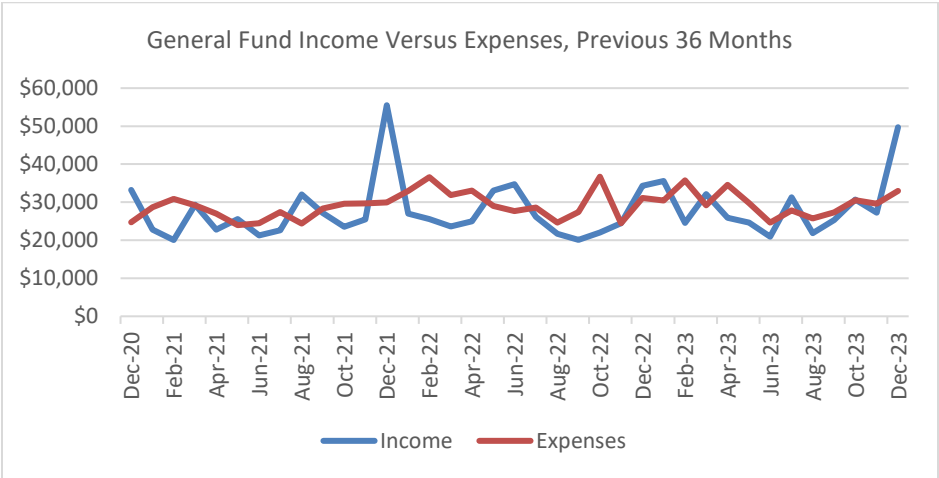
# TREASURER’S REPORT cont.

BALANCE SHEET	12/31/23	11/30/23	12/31/22
General Fund	\$ 9,486	\$ (7,258)	\$ 18,205
Mortgage Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,566
Building Capital Fund	\$ 10,271	\$ 9,319	\$ 23,201
Designated Funds	\$ 109,292	\$ 113,760	\$ 134,727
Mortgage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (41,933)
TOTAL	\$ 129,049	\$ 115,821	\$ 138,766

CASH FLOW	December 2023	YTD 2023
General Fund Income	\$ 49,711	\$ 349,814
General Fund Expenses		
Personnel	\$ 21,528	\$ 240,044
Mission and Outreach	\$ 4,166	\$ 26,209
Congregational Life	\$ 853	\$ 17,633
Facilities and Administration	\$ 6,419	\$ 74,646
Total General Fund Expenses	\$ 32,966	\$ 358,532
Net General Fund Gain (Loss)	\$ 16,745	\$ (8,718)
Other Income		
Benevolence	\$ 1,639	\$ 13,681
Building Capital Fund	\$ 951	\$ 11,455
Designated Funds	\$ (2,643)	\$ 16,776
Mortgage Fund	\$ -	\$ 38,214
Total Other Income	\$ (53)	\$ 80,126
Other Expenses		
Benevolence	\$ 816	\$ 9,773
Building Capital Expenses	\$ -	\$ 24,386
Designated Fund Expenses	\$ 2,649	\$ 46,120
Mortgage Repayment	\$ -	\$ 38,491
Total Other Expenses	\$ 3,465	\$ 118,769
Net Gain (Loss) from Other Expenses	\$ (3,517)	\$ (38,643)
NET GAIN (LOSS)	\$ 13,228	\$ (47,361)

# TREASURER'S REPORT cont.

BUDGET TRACKING	2023	2023 Versus Budget	2023 Versus 2022
General Fund Income	\$ 349,814	\$ (15,666)	\$ 20,078
General Fund Expenses			
Personnel	\$ 240,044	\$ (3,432)	\$ 267
Mission and Outreach	\$ 26,209	\$ 1,055	\$ (14,256)
Congregational Life	\$ 17,633	\$ (997)	\$ 1,388
Facilities and Adminstration	\$ 74,646	\$ (3,574)	\$ (4,791)
Total General Fund Expenses	\$ 358,532	\$ (6,948)	\$ (17,392)
Mortgage Fund Income	\$ 38,214	\$ (1,264)	\$ 2,271
Mortgage Fund Expenses	\$ 980	\$ (58)	\$ (2,186)
Building Capital Fund Income	\$ 11,455	\$ (545)	\$ 1,097
Building Capital Expenses	\$ 24,386	\$ 12,386	\$ 12,839
Total Income	\$ 399,483	\$ (17,475)	\$ 23,446
Total Expenses	\$ 383,898	\$ 5,380	\$ (6,740)



Respectfully submitted by Ben Brothers, January 6, 2024

# **BENEVOLENCE**

## **Compassion International**

### **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 children we support now through your contributions:

- Ariana is a 6-year-old who lives in Mexico with her mother. We've been sponsoring her for three years. Ariana 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 an 11-year-old who lives in Tanzania with his mother. We have been sponsoring him for six 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.

## BENEVOLENCE cont.

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

**Pray:** Support the work of our partner church by keeping their congregation and the community of Cataño in your prayers.

**Give:** You can donate financially by:

- **Mail:** Send a check to ELC and note "Benevolence" in the memo
- **Online:** Visit the ELC website and click "Give"
- **Digitally:** Download the **VANCO MOBIL FAITH ENGAGEMENT APP**, or text "Benevolence" to 608-400-0183 with the amount you wish to give.

On behalf of Benevolence,

Adam Mertz

[adammertz2@gmail.com](mailto:adammertz2@gmail.com)

## BENEVOLENCE 2024 Missions

**January:** Divine Savior, our sister church in Puerto Rico (TBD)

**February:** Compassion International

**March:** ELC youth programming

**April:** Reconciliation in Christ (RIC)

**May:** Neighbors Helping Neighbors

**June:** Solace Hospice, a new service for people of lesser means

**July:** ELCA international charity TBD, based on need

**August:** Felicia's Closet, helping domestic abuse victims rebound

**September:** Saba, International

**October:** Madison Area Jail Ministry

**November:** Accessible local health care: Our Lady of Hope and  
Community Connections

**December:** Young Adults in Global Mission

# **COUNCIL NEWS**

## **It's the Season of Advent for The ELCA Youth Gathering**

We have just recently finished the season of Advent in December so you might be surprised at the title of this article. The word advent means the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event. In this season of advent, we are 6 months away from the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans and there is a lot of preparation going on here at ELC.

The youth have several fundraising activities scheduled.

1. The Trollway pizza factory opens here in February. This is a great time for fun, fellowship, and service.
2. The youth are offering the opportunity for parents' night out on February 9.
3. The Mt Horeb Culvers is offering a share day on February 27.
4. The Mt Horeb Community Foundation generously gave the youth a grant of \$1500 to attend the Youth Gathering.

Brenda made a trip to New Orleans to scout out the area where the Gathering will be held. She looked at the hotels in the area. She worked on transportation from the airport to the hotel. She attended several workshops for youth leaders. Most importantly she experienced how airport security works and will share that with the youth.

The youth themselves are attending Fuse Nights to get to know other youth in the area and prepare for the Gathering.

This season of advent is longer than the Advent season before Christmas. It's an important time in the lives of our youth. The youth will share an experience that they will long remember. Please think about this as you eat your pizza and butter burgers and share with our youth.

Carl Sieg

## **COUNCIL NEWS cont.**

### **SURVEY**

Thanks to all of you who were able to complete our recent survey. We had over 50 responses and a significant amount of feedback. Some of the early observations include a lot of positive comments about our Pastor, our music and the overall community of ELC.

There was also a good amount of constructive feedback. We are still in the process of reviewing all of the responses. We plan to have a more comprehensive summary of the survey that will be published in the March newsletter. This will include key observations and also areas that we would like to act on based on the feedback.

Thank you again for taking the time to complete the survey and expect the full summary in March.

Sean LaBorde

### **NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY**

Our church council has decided it is time for a new Church Directory. May 1 thru 4 will be the dates the pictures are taken for the directory. You can help with this process by signing up now and scheduling your time for your picture. To sign up:

1. Go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com)
2. Click on the box that says "photography appointment scheduling login"
3. Then enter church code **wi325** and password **photos** then press enter.
4. Then you can pick the day and time you want to have your picture taken. The available dates will show. Enter the required information.
5. Click the Schedule Appointment button at the bottom of the screen to reserve the photography appointment time in your family name.
6. Print the next screen to use as a reminder of your appointment.

## **COUNCIL NEWS cont.**

### **NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY**

**Note:** *If you have more than six family members or are having a pet in your picture schedule two consecutive appointment times.*

Please enter all the information to include phone number(s) and email address. We need that information for our church records.

We will have a sign-up table after church services as we get closer to the May 1 thru 4 dates.

Any questions please contact Dave Baumgartner at 608-576-8214.

Thank You



**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Shirley Groff, Margaret Twiton, Paul & Lois Kerscher (Amy Thompson's parents), Paul Baum, Ingrid Hoerz, Dolores Kahl, Sara Kittleson, Helen Ladwig, Dennis Lokken & Terri Naylor (Dennis & Mary Lokken's son & daughter), Mary Greenlaw-Meyer (Vicky Rosenbaum's friend), John Scheele & family (Char Smith's Brother in Law) Linda Stoenner, Betty Tharp (Katie Zelle's grandmother), Ken Rabideau (Helen Ladwig's Brother in Law), Nick O'Connell, Steve Mueller, Joyce Fargo, Alycen McKinney, Cara Mavis, Amy Hall, Joan Schraepfer ( Rita Schraepfer-Derke's 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, Brock Howe, Jeannie U'Ren, Mike Olson, Grace Aavang, Carol Johnson.

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



## MEMORIALS

**Given in Memory of:**

**Vern Drape**  
**Sharon Hendrickson**

**Given By:**

***His Family***  
***Ann & Dave Baumgartner***  
***Steve & Diane Miller***

## American Red Cross

*Give blood.* Help save lives.



## Mount Horeb Community Blood Drive

**Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
315 E. Main

**Friday, February 2, 2024**  
**12:30 p.m. to 5:30 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: MTHorebWI

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.

Share your heart! Come give in Feb. for a \$20 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. See [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

©2003 The American National Red Cross

Q1: Order ID: 6513538 - Item ID: 7453819 - Qty: 1 of 1 - Qty - 103.496 137 - 1808 - 289.98

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

## THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone who volunteered at the Clothes Closet during the month of January. It's inspiring to see the generosity that has been extended to the Mount Horeb community.

The Clothes Closet will continue to accept donations of winter clothing until the end of February. There are volunteer opportunities available every week or stay tuned for January next year.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, remember NHN is here for all.

You can find out more by checking out the website:  
mthorebneighbors.org OR the Facebook page:  
facebook.com/MtHorebNeighborsHelpingNeighborsinc

Thanks again, Amy Sinner



**BABY CAPS MAKERS** -will meet Tuesday, Feb 6 & 20, 9:30 am in the Faith Room. Contact [ruthheinecke@gmail.com](mailto:ruthheinecke@gmail.com) with questions

**SARAH CIRCLE** will meet Tuesday, Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm in the Matthew Room at church. We will do the February Bible study from "Gather" magazine. This study is "Scripture and Nature: Teachers of Faith, Season 2 - Creatures " - starts on page 26 of the January/February Issue. Contact Connie Curran ([curranconnie@hotmail.com](mailto:curranconnie@hotmail.com)) with any questions about the study materials or meeting details. Always welcoming new participants as well as those we haven't seen recently.

**REBECCA CIRCLE** will meet on Wednesday, February 21st at 9:30 a.m. at The Homestead. We will be doing Chapter 7 in Bad Girls of the Bible.



**ELC SEWING GROUP** We meet every Thursday morning from 9:00 a.m. to Noon in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to see how those beautiful quilts are made, please stop by.

We'll be happy to show you how it's done. We also invite anyone interested in joining our group for the fun of fellowship and working on this stewardship project. All equipment and supplies are provided so come as you are.

**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!

**SUGAR CREEK ANNUAL MEETING** February 18<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm.

**SUGAR CREEK HORSE PROJECT**-Help support the ministry of Sugar Creek with a special gift to the Horse Project. Sign your name to a block on the poster in the Narthex, and grab an envelope for your gift.



**MONDAY-THURSDAY  
9 AM - NOON & 1 PM-4 PM  
FRIDAY 9 AM - NOON**

**STEEPLE ECHOES ARTICLES DUE BY  
Thursday, February 22nd for the March issue.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** on Tuesday, February, 27th to assemble the March newsletter.

*Newcomers are welcome.* The assembly process usually takes about 2 hours. Please, come and enjoy the fellowship



# WORSHIP ASSISTANCE

	FEB 3 & 4	FEB 10 & 11	FEB 14 ASH WED.	FEB 17 & 18	FEB 24 & 25
ACOLYTES	Carter Vesely Mason Dudley	Caleb Gaulke Lucas High	N/A	Eva Larson Jacey Morin	Zoe Stack Evelyn Wyse
COMM ASSIST	Diane Bartz Cheryl Wille- Schlesser	NC	Available	Cheryl Wile- Schlesser Diane Farnsworth	NC
READERS	<b>Saturday</b> Ann Baumgartner <b>Sunday</b> Chris Coffin	<b>Saturday</b> Kate Hook <b>Sunday</b> Amy Sinner	<b>Wed.</b> Diane Bartz	<b>Saturday</b> Bonny Kellogg <b>Sunday</b> Ben Brothers	<b>Saturday</b> Ann Baumgartner <b>Sunday</b> Jim Cook
USHERS	<b>Sunday</b> Carol & John Nielsen	<b>Sunday</b> Betsy Baguhn Jody Morey	<b>Wed</b> Available	<b>Sunday</b> Jim & Shannon Hadac	<b>Sunday</b> Jim Cook John Rosenbaum
ALTAR GUILD	Deb Dangerfield, Shannon Hadac, Judy Steinhauer, Joan Stensby, Jessica Powell				
COUNCIL DUTIES	Carl Sieg				



# FEBRUARY

## Birthdays

<b>1</b>	Nancy Balbach George Johnson Zachary Peter Dean Stange	<b>9</b>	Beth Heiting Scott Klassy Declan Otis Kristi Schulenberg	<b>17</b>	Grace Casey Joyce Fargo Kanen Getz Mara Johnson
<b>2</b>	Rob Farnsworth Sara John Mary Kaboth	<b>10</b>	Adrienne Hogseth Christina Kahl Margie Kahl		Siri Martin Steve Mueller Marc Powell
<b>3</b>	Jim Uptegraw		Adam Sailor		Joan Stensby
<b>4</b>	Ben Brothers Reece Watson	<b>11</b>	Lauren Albrecht Eva Larson	<b>18</b>	Cheryl Schlicht Jan Lukken
<b>5</b>	Owen Aeschlimann Jackson John Doug Nesheim Stephanie Rollins Pamela Roth Sophia Sadler		Colton Martin Sarah Strube	<b>20</b>	Madison Lukken Jim Cook Mary Krantz Molly Mason
		<b>12</b>	Kayla Bredeson Paige Densmore Meghan Mason Jonah Siebold	<b>21</b>	Anthony Truman Craig Vesely
<b>6</b>	Scott Hall Ryan Soyring Mark Sutter		Ryan Sinner	<b>23</b>	Mary Ann Powell Paul Yapp
		<b>13</b>	Addison Anderson Quentin Rosborough Dan Sherven	<b>24</b>	Elise Buol Sean LaBorde
<b>7</b>	Sawyer Kahl Lacey Klessig	<b>14</b>	Ashley Thompson		Gerald Stamm
		<b>15</b>	Theresa M. Toniazzo		Jenifer Stone

Mark Peter	<b>16</b>	<b>25</b>
	Taylor Freitag	Mary Hastings
<b>8</b>		
Makayla Krueger	Kayson Haag-Little	Jared Leuzinger
Charlie Miller		<b>26</b>
		Bernette Allemann
Scott Underwood		<b>27</b>
		Jennifer Ekenberg
Carter Vesely		<b>28</b>
		Amanda Balbach
Cathy Woller		Donald Field
		<b>29</b>
		Craig Mortvedt
		Hannah Stapelmann
<p><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.</b></p>		