

STEEPLE ECHOES

JUNE 2024

A Monthly Newsletter
of Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Mount Horeb



**SOLACE
FRIENDS**

JUNE BENEVOLENCE 2024
Solace Friends Inc.

our vision

All people, regardless of resources or past life experiences, will have access to dying in a safe environment with the support of people committed to honoring their comfort, dignity, and humanity.



**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 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

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

Youth Director: Brenda Martin

A Note from PASTOR JOHN

“At Home or Away”

⁶Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

-Deuteronomy 6:6-7

This instruction was given to the people of Israel before entering the ‘promised land’ over three thousand years ago. It reminds us that our faith is not just a ‘Sunday’ thing, but it meant to be a part of our everyday journey.

As we enter the summer season, many folks will find themselves in different routines, and perhaps this is a good time to remember these old words about living out our faith no matter where we are. While we enjoy coming together in the familiar space of our church building, we can also encounter God’s presence in countless other places.

But too often we fail to take time to recognize, or more importantly to share with each other, the presence of God in our everyday experiences, or in our travels, or special occasions.

One of the most important things we can share with each other is to name the blessings we encounter, and to reflect on how we are called to be God’s people with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, in a world that often places other demands on us. Every day we are challenged by ideas and values that run counter to the gospel of grace, compassion and healing. We are called to be faithful at home or away, and we are called to share the faith, at home or away.

And when we are at home, we are strengthened in faith by coming together to share God’s word, worship, and fellowship. Keep this faith central wherever these summer weeks take you. And know God’s love wherever you are!!

God’s Peace,



Pastoral Intern – Unity? In this economy?

ZACH SMIRRIIS

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

-Psalm 133

This month you're likely to see all sorts of things that you're not used to. People flying rainbows that don't follow the red orange yellow green blue and purple. You'll see words and phrases that are unfamiliar, and some that are very familiar. Things in the news, new pronouns, and identities galore. It's frustrating when you're comfortable with something and all of a sudden it changes. Things may feel too foreign, too different for us to hope to be unified, but we know that our Messiah died for all humankind. God's creation is so much broader than how we would like to define it.

Humanity was created by a God who sees things differently than we do. God sees the spectrums instead of divisions. Yes, God made day and night, land and sea. But God also made dawn and twilight, beaches and swamps. There's room for in-between with God's world. And it's all unified in Christ's love.

When the psalmist says kindred will live in harmony, I don't think they meant that everyone will be exactly alike. There are differences galore, especially during June. But we are kindred, and we are united by the God who loves us so much that Christ was willing to die to give us eternal life. Happy Pride, and may God's spirit be with you in all shapes and colors.

Amen

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

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

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

FUSE PICNIC (Youth Gathering Edition) - June 26th at 6:30 pm - Youth and leaders, attending the Gathering, are invited to a cookout at ELC. Last group meeting before our trip!

NEEDS FOR VBS/DAY CAMP - In order to have a successful VBS/CAMP week, we are in need of adult teachers & youth helpers for June 24th - 27th. Contact Brenda, if you are interested in helping.

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) 1st – 5th grade

REGISTER: <https://forms.gle/h6gPK4PEoK68UDWF6>



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

Use the GHRID: ELCMTH to register.

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.

<https://forms.gle/DuANahSt4Nc3eiC19>



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!

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

USE GHRID: ELCMTH to register. Registration fee: \$25, payable to ELC.

SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP (Invite your friends) - There is still time to register for summer camp for all ages. Enroll now at

www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org/register-now/. ELC of Mt Horeb will help with camp costs, by giving each camper \$100 towards their camping week.

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS *cont.*

SPECIAL THANK YOU - Thank you to Jody Morey for her dedication to our Blanket Ministry. She carefully selects and donates many unique blankets each year. Many thanks to the many hands who help to tie these special blankets each year. Much love goes into this ministry.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS - Thank you to our many Sunday School leaders/helpers and our small group guides for Confirmation. We appreciate your dedication to guiding our youth as they grow in their faith.

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. Items should be in good condition, clean and in infant sizes no larger than 36 months. **Our goal is to package 80 kits on August 6th, during our Service Days.** There is a bin in Narthex for your donations. Thank you for all your support of this ministry.

Items needed to make our 80 kits:

80 Bath-size bars of gentle soap (individually wrapped)

40 Long or Short Sleeved gowns or sleepers

55 Receiving blankets

40 Jackets or Sweaters with or without hoods

50 Hand towels (dark colors)

SEAMSTRESS NEEDED: For our baby kits, we have 12 bath size towels that could be made into hand size towels. If you are interested, contact Brenda.

Brenda Martin, Youth Ministries Director

brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org

Each Baby Care Kit assembled for Lutheran World Relief contains four diapers. We are able to make some of those diapers from T-shirts. If you have T-shirts adult size Large or larger, we would appreciate receiving them to make diapers. You may drop them in the church office. If you have questions, please contact Ann Baumgartner at abaumgartner1@charter.net or 608-576-8214.

Thank you for your contribution.

MT HOREB HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS:

Congratulations to the following seniors, who are graduating this year. Wishing you many blessings ahead.

Lauren Albrecht - attending UW La Crosse

Addison Anderson - attending UW La Crosse

Carson Brummer - attending the 18 – 21 MHASD Transition Program

Ethan Fendrick -attending UW-Madison

Leo Helwig - attending Madison College

Sawyer Kahl- attending UW-Whitewater

Andy Kellesvig -enlisting in the Army National Guard, attending UW Platteville

John Malin - attending UW Milwaukee

Colton Martin - attending UW-Whitewater

Abigail Sadler - attending Harvard University

Aaron Schmidt - attending UW La Crosse

Olivia Schrank - attending UW La Crosse

Sawyer Staplemann - plans to travel and grow his business

Em Sutter - attending Madison College

Savanna Thorsen - undecided of her future plans at the moment

Sydney Wyss - attending the UW-Madison

COLLEGE GRADUATES:

Congratulations to the following college graduates. Wishing you many blessings in your future endeavors.

Martin Amundsen - Computer Science, UW Whitewater

Sara Fritz - Genetic & Genomics, Genetic Research, UW Madison

Ellie Hadac - B.S. in Biology, University of St Thomas

Kaylyn Hellenbrand - B.S. degree in Nursing, UW Oshkosh

Noah Laabs - Master's in Music Performance, Bowling Green State University

Daniel Lins - Sports Journalism, Arizona State University

Noah Mullendore - Software Engineering, UW Platteville

Conrad Schult - Bachelor's degree UW Platteville

Micah Sieg - M. DIV degree, Luther Seminary

Catherine Stange - Bachelor's degree, UW Platteville

Camille Samuelson - Master's degree, Public Health, UM Twin Cities,

Noah Strube - Bachelor's degree, Vocal Performance, UW Madison

AGAPE

Greetings from Agape!

As the June issue reaches you all, our school year will be wrapping up. We had a wonderful school year with so many busy days filled with fun and adventures!

The end of year family celebrations were on Monday, May 20 for 3K and Monday June 3 for 4K.

We had wonderful books donated by Madison Reading Project and Rockin' Ryan's Ice Cream treats for everyone to enjoy.

Three one-day summer camp opportunities will be offered again this summer on the following dates: Wednesday, June 19 – Zoo Friend

Wednesday, July 10 – Summer Olympics

Wednesday, August 14 – Water Fun

Please reach out if you are interested in enrolling a child for one or more of the camps.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the ACP ministry; whether it's volunteering as a board member, teaching, bookkeeping, monetary donations or simply telling people all about Agape Christian Preschool – you all make the difference, and we could not do it without your help and ongoing support!

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer filled with memories and fun,

Blessings,

Amy Kellesvig, Director

Agape Christian Preschool



TREASURER'S REPORT

Prepared May 13, 2024

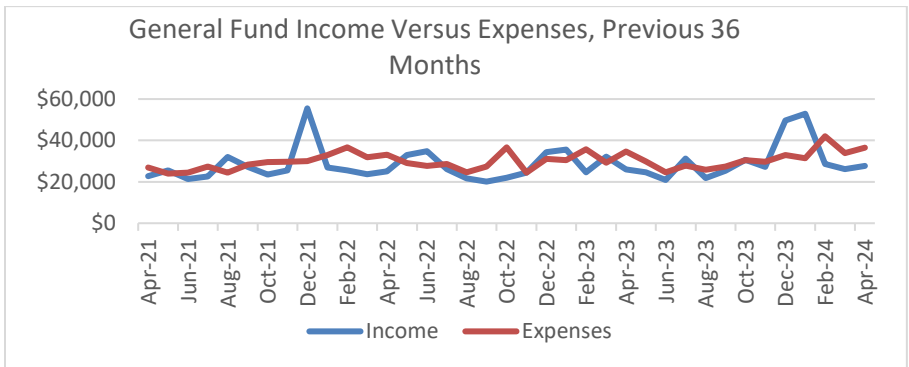
April again saw a substantial gap between giving and expenses, resulting in a shortfall of \$8,763. This brought the general fund down to only \$1,029 at the end of the month. The low balance leaves us in a precarious state as we approach the summer months, which typically feature lower attendance and giving.

April expenses from the designated funds included \$400 for landscaping, \$100 for technology, and \$97 for music. We also sent \$6,462 to Divine Savior in Puerto Rico. The kitchen. The boiler required maintenance and repair costing \$3,731, which was paid from the building capital fund.

And we have substantial capital obligations coming up. The church roof, from the chapel north to the front entrance, needs to be replaced. We hope to have the work done next year, and expect the cost to be about \$50,000. Because of the size of the project, the congregation will need to approve the expense at the annual meeting. It's going to take a fundraising effort to get it done.

We'll be raising the money via the building capital fund. In addition to big expenses like a new roof, having a sufficient capital fund allows us to undertake projects like improved lighting in the sanctuary, as well as repairs like those needed for the sidewalks, or the boiler. The council is also looking at ways to improve the security of the building, and that expense would also be paid from the capital fund. And I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the terrific and dedicated job that Diane Bartz and many others have been doing with the property committee.

Please consider making regular or extraordinary contributions to the building capital fund, to help maintain the church for years to come.



TREASURER'S REPORT cont.

BALANCE SHEET	4/30/24	3/31/24	12/31/23
General Fund	\$ 1,029	\$ 9,793	\$ 9,486
Building Capital Fund	\$ 20,219	\$ 22,575	\$ 10,271
Designated Funds	\$ 109,014	\$ 113,281	\$ 109,292
TOTAL	\$ 130,262	\$ 145,649	\$ 129,049

CASH FLOW	April 2024	YTD 2024
General Fund Income	\$ 27,694	\$ 135,367
General Fund Expenses		
Personnel	\$ 22,195	\$ 90,888
Mission and Outreach	\$ 3,252	\$ 9,004
Congregational Life	\$ 1,083	\$ 5,436
Facilities and Administration	\$ 9,927	\$ 38,495
Total General Fund Expenses	\$ 36,457	\$ 143,823
Net General Fund Gain (Loss)	\$ (8,763)	\$ (8,456)
Other Income		
Benevolence	\$ 1,167	\$ 5,358
Building Capital Fund	\$ 1,374	\$ 12,304
Designated Funds	\$ 1,711	\$ 11,002
Total Other Income	\$ 4,252	\$ 28,664
Other Expenses		
Benevolence	\$ 6,548	\$ 8,281
Building Capital Expenses	\$ 3,731	\$ 3,731
Designated Fund Expenses	\$ 597	\$ 934
Total Other Expenses	\$ 10,876	\$ 12,946
Net Gain (Loss) from Other Expenses	\$ (6,624)	\$ 15,718
NET GAIN (LOSS)	\$ (15,387)	\$ 7,262

BENEVOLENCE

Solace Friends offers dignity for all in life's final stages

"Sometimes, there's one year of life where the last 10 make sense," Dr. Kendra Deja says. "In my case, it's the last 25."

As she reflects on this confluence of all her professional experiences and aspirations, Deja is giving a tour of one of the most unique home health-care facilities in the country. She is the Executive Director of Solace Friends, a nonprofit collaboration 10 years in the works that is designed specifically to care for people facing terminal illness and housing insecurity.

Deja was a junior in college when she landed an entry-level job in hospice care. Since then, she's been a social worker, nurse, nurse practitioner, and leader in hospice and palliative care. Her entire career has been dedicated to caring for people in the final stages of their life, easing their pain, offering them dignity, honoring the value of their time on Earth.

"When some people hear what I do for a career, they say, 'Oh, that sounds horrible!'" Deja says. "I can't think of anything better. I'm shamelessly blessed that this opportunity came along."

Now, she leads an organization that will offer care and shelter to people who are sick and in pain but aren't easily served by the traditional hospice system. They are invited to come in from the street, shelters or other unstable situations to a four-bedroom home in Monona with a great view of Lake Monona. There, they get their own room, access to a kitchen, a large deck and backyard, and most important, first-class care from health care professionals — regardless of their ability to pay.

Throughout June, we will be featuring Solace Friends through the Benevolence Program. On Sunday, June 2, Dr. Deja will visit ELC to deliver a brief presentation at our 9 a.m. service, and will stick around for coffee hour to chat with those of us who want to learn more about the organization or about hospice care generally.

Solace Friends' facility was still vacant during our visit in April, but buzzing with anticipation for its first patient, having been certified by the state just two weeks earlier. Solace Friends completed an extreme makeover of the facility, which has a homey feel, decorated with donated furniture and quilts that Kendra's aunt made.

Up to four patients can stay there at a time; to be eligible, they must have a life expectancy of six months or less. They can elect to receive care from

BENEVOLENCE cont.

any of the four hospice providers who contributed their expertise to help make Solace Friends a reality. Referrals will come from community health clinics, hospitals, shelters, police departments, and nonprofits like The Beacon and Porchlight that assist people struggling with housing insecurity.

Solace Friends will offer a caring respite for people who otherwise might die in hospitals, in homes that aren't equipped to meet their needs, or on the street.

"Where do most people want to die? Home," Deja says. "We're creating awareness that regardless of life circumstance, people want a lot of the same things at end of life."

Deja isn't naive to the challenges that their residents might be battling: mental illness, substance abuse, generational trauma, racism. Solace Friends volunteers are being trained to address those issues, without bias or judgment.

"There are no saviors here," she says. "The people we serve are loved and whole as they are, deserving of dignity."

There are several ways to help Solace Friends, which you can learn more about by visiting solacefriends.org.

Volunteer: More than 100 people have already committed to volunteer, and there are jobs of all types. Training is available to provide hands-on, non-medical care such as feeding, bathing and cooking. Other helpers maintain the property or offer their professional skills to assist the organization. To learn more or offer your support, call 608-843-8191 or email info@solacefriends.org.

Donate goods: Patients and their visitors are likely to spend a good amount of time at the home, so it would be helpful to make more activities available. Solace Friends is accepting items like board and card games, books, art supplies, and other hobby materials. They're also open to receiving yard games and furniture. We will set up a donation box in the narthex.

Financial donations: Throughout June, we are accepting donations to assist Solace Friends, which relies on grants and donations to cover approximately half of its estimated \$500,000 operating budget. The most expensive line item is paying for four round-the-clock caregivers.

BENEVOLENCE cont.

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 **VANCO MOBIL FAITH ENGAGEMENT APP**, or text "Benevolence" to 608-400-0183 with the amount you wish to give.

Thank you for your support of Benevolence!

Adam Mertz

adammertz2@gmail.com

BENEVOLENCE 2024 Missions

January: Divine Savior, our sister church in Puerto Rico - \$2074

February: Compassion International - \$1132

March: ELC youth programming - \$773

April: Reconciliation in Christ (RIC) - \$1051

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

¡HOLA! from Puerto Rico

We enjoyed a lovely church service yesterday morning and delivered the benevolence check to Pastor Diana.

Two notes from Sedona and Isla:

1. Thank you for not having 1 hour and 45-minute services each Sunday!
2. Could we please have more dogs at worship at ELC?

Love,
The Vondra's



Thank you to the Vondra family for personally delivering ELC's benevolence to Divine Savior!



Iglesia Evangélica Luterana Del Divino Salvador

April 25, 2024

Dear sisters and brothers of Mount Horeb,

Greetings from our faith community Del Divina Salvador of Catano, Puerto Rico. We are more than thankful for the offerings received on Sunday, April 21", 2024, totaling \$6,462.01 by the hand of the lovely Vondra family.

We feel very blessed by your companionship ministry. We hope to see you soon.

In Jesus Christ,
Pastor Diana Ceballos-Gonzalez

YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION

A note from Cecilia Hook

A Busy Time

In February and March, I found myself with a full schedule. I had more work, church events, my parents coming to visit, and holidays. A stark comparison to My December and January calendar.

In February, my YAGM cohort made our way into Dakar to what was supposed to be the start of our second retreat. Due to circumstances out of our control, we ended up postponing the retreat, but still had a good time visiting for the weekend. I am looking forward to attending the retreat in May.

When I got back to Fatick, I found my life, as well as my family's, was getting busier. My host sister opened a storefront focused on fish and other food goods. This has taken more of her time, as well as my host mom's time who spends many of her days working at the store.

As their lives became busier so did mine, with longer work days, and so much more for me to participate in. I am always astonished at how much I am learning as this year progresses. I had the chance to go to the different schools and listen to training sessions on effective teaching and reinforcing preschool-aged vocabulary. These sessions included observing an active lesson by one of the school's teachers, training from a local education inspector and one of the lead members of the PELF team.

Another training session that I attended was focused on how to organize and run community schools, which includes our program. I had not realized that until I went to this session that our schools are not considered public or private schools, but community lead schools.

This means that it is by the community, for the community. The school is governed by a school board filled with those elected by the community in a general assembly and others in specific positions already determined within the community or school.

Besides these learning sessions, I have also been continuing to help with activities for the Etat Civil project. This project focuses on educating communities on declaring births, marriages, and deaths, as well as assisting families with children who still need to be registered with the government. I have helped by taking photos,

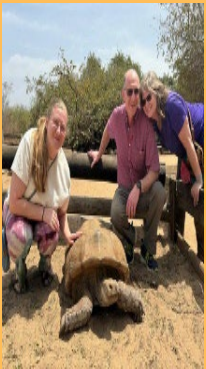
YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION cont.

and I helped as Lydie, the project head, distributes money to the families within our zone of intervention to aid with their children's registration.

Many of these sessions go into the afternoon and evening. I not only learn from the meetings but also interact more within the Senegalese and preschool communities. I get to share meals, conversations, and laughs with those in the community including teachers, community members, and my coworkers. I even get to joke around with some of the preschoolers who always think it is funny to have a foreigner around.

Life outside of work was full too. On February 8th we had a chance to celebrate with the whole Senegalese Lutheran Church community as we gathered for their annual harvest festival. Again, it was a chance for me to reunite even if briefly with my YAGM cohort. Two of my cohort members Carl and Abigail stayed in Fatick the day before the event. I showed them my home and introduced them to my Senegalese family. We walked the route I normally take to work before meeting up with my peer Josh and going to the beach together.

The day of the event was hot and long but it was nice to see so much of the extended church community together. My favorite part was participating in and watching different congregations and church organizations dancing up to the altar for offering during the worship service that took up much of the day.



Left: During my parents' visit we went to a tortoise sanctuary.

Right: My dad, me and my host dad having a conversation



We spent one night in the desert of Lompoul. We had a chance to do a short camel ride at sunset. Pictured to the right is one of the camels



YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION cont.

I was lucky to have my parents come and visit me in Senegal in March. We spent a few days in Fatick, my host community. I was able to bring two worlds together, my families and my homes.

My parents met and spent time talking with my host parents and family. We had good food and good conversation. I was proud of my ability to switch between multiple languages bringing both sides to the table. My parents got to eat Senegalese cuisine around the shared bowl just as I do every day.

My host mom took us around the neighborhood to introduce my parents to our many neighbors who were so glad to meet my parents. We walked to my worksite together and visited one of the preschools that is a part of the Programme d'Education en Langue du Foyer (PELF), my volunteer site. For a little bit of time, they got to be a part of my community.

My host parents were so happy to meet my parents. They expressed that as I am their daughter now, my family is their family. They often expressed their appreciation of my family for being open to experiencing Senegal and taking the time to meet and visit them. Although they have hosted other foreigners before, being able to also meet my family and share community with them was a first for my host parents.

My mom and dad were happy to meet those taking care of me, an extension of our family. They expressed how grateful they are to see I have a family who truly cares for me here.

After a few days of bringing my two worlds together me and my parents set out to explore more of Senegal. From seeing the places, I have called home in Dakar, to the desert, the mangroves, and finally to the beach, we enjoyed our time together. We had wonderful people taking care of much of this part of the trip, a wonderful tour guide, and two wonderful drivers, willing to not only share their time and talents with us but also their knowledge, and stories.

Community: The Golden Thread

Before leaving for Senegal I would tell people that a reason I wanted to do YAGM was to experience community in a new way. And yet I have often found myself wondering if I am experiencing what I had imagined. I was not naïve coming in, I knew being an outsider, someone who does not know all customs and norms here, would not make experiencing community easy. And it is not. I do not have as many friendships of the

YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION cont.

same depth as I do in the States. With a language barrier, it can be hard to fully communicate what you would with your friends back home. At home, I have had 25 years to build connections without having to work through cultural differences.

I recently realized how often I fail to see that the community truly is here for me in Fatick and Senegal at large. I get stuck in my own head and focus on the fact that it is hard to form connections. At times, I get so stuck in what I think community should look like that I don't see the glaringly obvious fact that I am fully encompassed in community.

The fact is, community here is so apparent and so important. Community is central to the Senegalese identity and central to my time here. Community is the golden thread through all my experiences.

Still, sometimes I need reminders. Through conversation with my father I was able to see the community that has become very normal to me is not something normal in the United States.

As we traveled around Senegal during my parents' visit every corner we turned there were people willing to accept us, but my dad specifically noted that when I meet people and we talk in Seereer or Wolof about what I am doing in Senegal and that I am living in Fatick, people would welcome me calling me one of their own recognizing my efforts to learn about the Senegalese community.

Everywhere I went I ended up finding Seereer people who were willing to speak with me, and excited I was taking time to learn the language and their culture. There was one point a woman walked past my family in the Town of Fadiout. I tried to greet her in Seereer but did it so meekly that she thought I had greeted in French and responded with a kind bonjour and moved on.

Later she overheard me speaking in Seereer and sharing my Senegalese name. She quickly turned around and exclaimed you are my mom! Clarifying that I too hold the same name as her mother. I have experienced this exchange often but my parents seeing it for the first time reminded me of how different this exclamation can be from those in the United States. How you are often welcomed when you yourself are open. People tell me I am a Seereer because of my imperfect attempts at speaking the language.

YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION cont.



Many times, I have been told I no longer am just American but Senegalese as well. As I take the time to learn about Senegalese culture, Senegalese people have welcomed me.

Many people are open to me, want to know my name, and greet me every time they see me. I experience community within my family, coworkers, and friends. I even had time to reconnect with some friends from my time doing MSID in 2020. Those I have been able to meet with from my first time here have gladly and easily welcomed me back and that has felt so good.

I am reminded of teranga, the idea of hospitality deeply intertwined with community that I spoke about in my very first newsletter. I am reminded of how it is the cornerstone of Senegalese life and for now my life.

I may not always have the depth of language or understanding to immediately dive into deep relationships, but the Senegalese people and my community here have welcomed and embraced me, as I embraced them as well.

As people share time, space, and experiences we can find a greater understanding and acceptance of each other but only if we remain open to that.

PRAYER list

PLEASE PRAY FOR Mark Mostrom, Ruth Ann Nemet, Max Rosenbaum, Susan Koller, Warren Wilson, Tony (Farmer) Endres, Margaret Twiton, Paul & Lois Kerscher (Amy Thompson's parents), Paul Baum, Ingrid Hoerz, Dolores Kahl, Sara Kittleson, Terri Naylor (Dennis & Mary Lokken's daughter), John Scheele & family (Char Smith's Brother in Law) Linda Stoenner, Ken Rabideau (Helen Ladwig's Brother in Law), Steve Mueller, Joyce Fargo, Alycen McKinney, Cara Mavis, Joan Schraepfer (Rita Schraepfer-Derke's Sister in Law), Todd Collins, Norm Hefty, Lincoln Kuhn, Mary Jane Ellis (friend of Bonny Kellogg), 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:

Connie Peterson

Pete Strube

Shirley Thompson

Given By:

*Deb Piquette
John & Jackie Combes
Diane Bartz
Randall & Amy Thompson
Mary Stamm
Lori Jo Ochalek
Norm & Rita Hefty
Anonymous*

*Betty Drape
Paul & Ruth Heinecke
Diane Bartz
Strube Family*

Jeanne Lygre

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

THANK YOU!!!

Your drive was fantastic!



Blood Drive Results

Donors Check in 64
Total Blood Products 64 (58 red blood units and 6 power red units)
1 first time donor – always great to see

Allow me to personally thank you for your service. Your blood drive means more life, more love, more memories for the most vulnerable patients in our community—those suffering unexpected trauma and chronic illness every day. It was a pleasure to partner with you and we're so happy to have you in our American Red Cross family.

Diane Nichols- American Red Cross Blood Services



Mount Horeb Community Blood Drive

Evangelical Lutheran Church
315 E Main

**Friday, June 21, 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 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 for more information.

**Do Good Things! Come to give blood June 10 through 30
for a \$15 e-gift card! See reblood.org/DoGood**

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) | www.redcross.org

MEMBERSHIP NEWS cont.

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on **Monday June 10th** at 7pm in the Matthew Room.

BABY CAPS MAKERS Please deliver any completed baby caps to the Faith Room by **June 15** when they will be delivered to Unity Point Meriter Hospital. Contact ruthheinecke@gmail.com for patterns or if you need help completing a cap. Yarn is available for those willing to comply with the baby cap guidelines set by the hospital. There are some new, interesting patterns! Our group will resume meeting near the end of August.

SARAH CIRCLE will plan some summer outings with announcement by email and Sunday bulletin communication. Watch for correspondence in early June. We will be back to the third Tuesday evening schedule in September. - Connie Curran

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, August 6, at 9:30 am**, in Fellowship Hall to assemble baby kits with the youth. This is a change to a previously announced date. - Helen Kahl

Rebecca Circle Annual Luncheon - May 2024



Rebecca Circle was formed 51 years ago in 1973

MEMBERSHIP NEWS cont.

ELC SEWING GROUP We meet every **Thursday morning from 9:00 am 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 will meet at **Sjolin's on the first Thursday in June, the 7th at 7 am.** Contact Pastor John with questions.

FARMER'S MARKET

The Mount Horeb Farmers Market is held on the front lawn of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. All markets run 3:00pm - 6:30pm on Thursdays.

BETTER TOGETHER Have you experienced the loss of a life partner and wish to connect with others who understand your situation? We have formed a new group, **Better Together**, and welcome you to join us. Our next gathering is scheduled for **Saturday, June 15th** at Biaggi's in Middleton (1611 Aspen Commons). We'll meet in the church parking lot at 11:00am and carpool or you may meet us there for 11:30 lunch. Make a reservation by calling Kathy O'Donnell at (608)437-4209. This is intended to be a supportive group, allowing us to be **Better Together**.

MIDWEEK WORSHIP/BIBLE STUDY

Join Intern Zach starting **Wednesday, May 29th at 7 pm** for *Apostolos: Being Sent by God*, a Taizé worship and bible study on the apostles. Mid-week services will be held every Wednesday from May 29th through July 17th.



**MONDAY-FRIDAY
9 AM - NOON**

**STEEPLE ECHOES ARTICLES DUE BY
Thursday, June 20th for the July/August issue.**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED on Tuesday, June 25th to assemble the July/August newsletter. *Newcomers are welcome.* The assembly process usually takes about 2 hours. Please, come and enjoy the fellowship



1	Micah Sieg	11	Cathie Field	22	Joshua Green
	Wyatt Stamm		Marty Morin		Daniel Hustad
	Lauren Tetzlaff		Lisa Morin		Sara Kittleson
3	Caleb Gaulke	12	Rick Field		Colin Larson
	Leah Mathe	13	Hanna Bickford		Ellie Larson
	Becky Mostrom		Terek Nesheim		Dale Luhman
	Paige Ramos		Ann Peter		Emma Van Orsdel
	Kylie Soyring		Marilyn Schmitz		Serena Vondra
			Melanie Toniazzo	23	Mike Schlicht
4	Martin Amundsen	14	Ty Albrecht	24	Chris Hook
5	Linda Luenser		Sylvia Lokken		Louie Johanning
	Natalie Mullendore	16	Christopher Kiel		Ashley Van Galen
	Bobby Sutter		Bill Steinhauer	25	Elizabeth Geiger
	Alex Thompson	17	Olivia Parks	26	Betty Drape
6	Aaron Fendrick	18	Morgan Krantz		Julia Magnuson
	Randy Little		JayCee Lamphier	27	Liam Brager
	Gabriel Olson		Emily McKay		Anne Jones
7	Kevin Ollendick		Duane Miller		Delma Larson
	Cheryl Schlessor		Nickalas Monroe		Nick Meister
8	Rod Boettcher		Gene Spellman		Sharon Schiefelbein
	Scott Stensby		Brandon Stamm		Joann Sherven
	Tia Vasen		Linda Stoenner		Tom Twiton
9	Markus Edwards	19	Charles Collins	28	Carolyn Davis
	Connie Floan		Teddiann Sadler		Donna Greenwood
	Sara Hellenbrand		Steve Samuelson		Melissa Hanson
	Char Smith	21	Rick Klabough		Molly McCue
10	Mason Hurda		Noah Ollendick	29	Jaclyn Steel
	Melanie Johnson		Jason Schrank		Richard Skogen
	Thomas Winkler		Emmelyn Skibba		

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANCE

Thanks for all that you do in support of worship!

	JUNE 1 & 2	JUNE 8 & 9	JUNE 15 & 16	JUNE 22 & 23	JUNE 29 & 30
ACOLYTES	<i>Sunday</i> Harvey Hellen Natalie Hogseth	<i>Sunday</i> Charley Collins Ellie Woolard	<i>Sunday</i> Sarah Zelle Alexander Olson	<i>Sunday</i> Hudson Kahl Oliver Kahl	<i>Sunday</i> Chase Collins Sam Grundahl
COMM ASSIST	<i>Sunday</i> available Vicky Rosenbaum	NC	<i>Sunday</i> Kim Kelliher Cheryl Wille- Schlesser	NC	NC
READERS	<i>Saturday</i> Kate Hook <i>Sunday</i> Helen Kahl	<i>Saturday</i> Bonny Kellogg <i>Sunday</i> Amy Sinner	<i>Saturday</i> Ann Baumgartner <i>Sunday</i> Ben Brothers	<i>Saturday</i> Paul Heinecke <i>Sunday</i> available	<i>Saturday</i> Kate Hook <i>Sunday</i> available
USHERS	<i>Sunday</i> Mary & Wayne Knudson	<i>Sunday</i> Dennis Lokken Irv Steinhauer	<i>Sunday</i> Doug Nesheim Gerald Stamn	<i>Sunday</i> Carol & John Nielsen	<i>Sunday</i> Betsy Baguhn Jody Morey
ALTAR GUILD	<i>June-</i> Deb Dangerfield, Shannon Hadac, Judy Steinhauer, Joan Stensby, Jessica Powell				
COUNCIL DUTIES	<i>June</i> – Alie Grundahl				

SIGN UP LINKS: You'll find the links on the ELC website-Worship Assistants Schedule.

COMMUNION ASSIST

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084EAAA829A5F85-44914064-communion>

GREETER

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4BAEAE22A1F85-48399108-greeter>

READER:

[ELC of Mt. Horeb Scripture Readers: April through June Scripture Reading Dates \(signupgenius.com\)](#)