

# Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

September 6th, 2020 | Volume 34, Number 7

## TIDINGS

### It's Time!

Sunday March 15th was the last time we enjoyed worship together followed by coffee and conversation. Twenty-four weeks is a long time for a faith community to be apart. The good news is that on Sunday, September 6th we have the opportunity of coming together once again. In order to ensure a safe and healthy worship experience the following protocols are being enacted:

Because we have been directed by AHS to avoid the singing of hymns and of liturgy these expressions of worship will be spoken while hymns will be posted as they are now.

Holy Communion will be continuous; recipients will come forward down the central aisle respecting social distancing and leave down the side aisles.

For those wishing, hymnals will be provided, then stored in freezer bags with individual names included to allow re-use of same hymnal.

In the narthex a table has been set up to hold masks, hand sanitizer, bulletins and offering plates.

Should numbers require, seating will be provided in the library, hall, and choir loft in order to maintain social distancing.

As needed, adjustments to our worship practices will be made.

For those wishing to continue to worship from home, all our services will be live streamed and posted to YouTube.

Beyond worshipping together in community, I look forward to the time when we can once more visit face to face. Please keep our parish in your prayers as we move forward.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tim



#### The Newsletter

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## ***Thank You Jeanette!***

Since the Fall of 2015 Jeanette Slupsky has faithfully and artistically served as the editor of Tidings, our parish newsletter. Do to health concerns and technical difficulties she is changing roles from managing editor to consulting editor lending her expertise as we continue to provide a newsletter for our congregation and beyond. We appreciate your fine service to Mt. Zion. Thank-you for your time and willingness to be available to us. God's richest blessings on you.

## ***From Tidings***

\*\*With Jeanette stepping back from her duties as managing editor of Tidings, a new editor is needed. The position involves being a contact person when there's news to be shared with the parish along with receiving information from the pastor and council as well as reporting on parish events (as you see of being of interest). Should you feel called to serve in this way Jeanette, Sabine, and Pastor Tim will be ready to help. Thank-you!

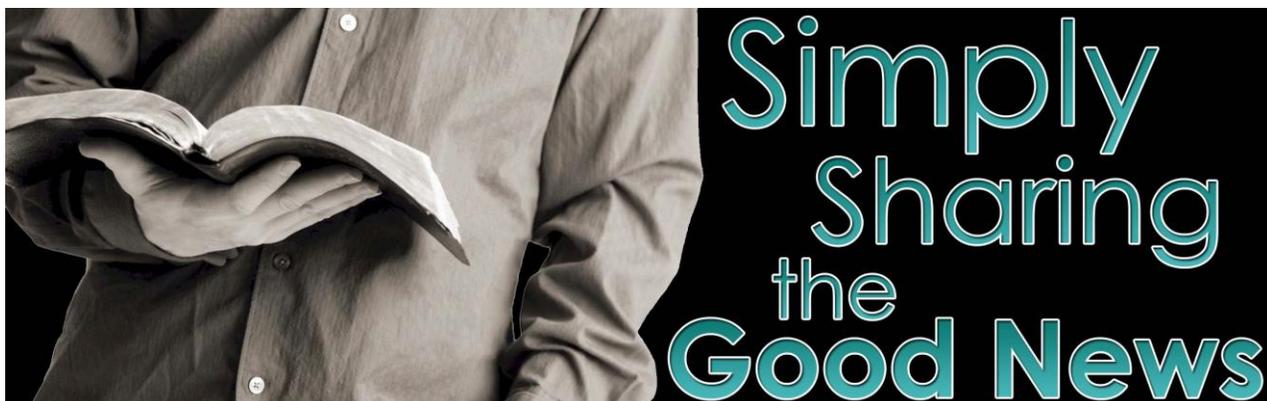
\*\*Anyone wishing to have an article or information included in Tidings is reminded that the deadline is the Monday before the last Sunday of the month.



Great news! Sunday school is scheduled to open on Sunday, Sept. 20th! We are on the lookout for students—new and returning and if you know of someone who's interested please let Diane Reimer, our Sunday School Coordinator, know. Welcome back —staff and students!

## ***Pastor Tim away***

Immediately following worship on Sunday, Sept. 6th Pastor Tim and Carollyne leave on vacation. They are off to Banff with children and grandchildren—the visits will be spread out over the week. Pastor Tim returns to the office on Tuesday, Sept. 15th. For emergency pastoral care please contact Rev. Laird Borst at (780) 913-2976, thank-you Laird.



## ***How About That Roof***

Yes, how about that roof of ours. Everyone who has enjoyed coffee in our fellowship hall and noticed the stained ceiling and buckets on the floor is keenly aware that our roof in this part of the church is in dire shape.



After hiring a consultant our fears were confirmed, we need a new roof and need it urgently. To this end, several steps were taken. First one motion then another was sent out regarding the cost of the roof both of which were approved by you. Our consultant put the roof out to tender which resulted in bids of an even higher cost. So, it was another motion sent out for your approval which was granted. After much negotiation a mortgage of \$125,000 was arranged. A roofer is being hired with a start date in early September—the job will likely take three weeks. To meet this commitment several fund drives are in the works along with special envelopes to be made available. Also, due largely to the impact of Covid-19 and the suspension of our public worship, our bank balance as of July 31st was -15,065.21.

I thank you in advance for your financial support which is so desperately needed. I also wish to thank Darrel Runka and Donna Chanasyk, for all their hard work on this demanding project.

God bless us all,

Ed Jobs, Chair

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF AUGUST 19, 2020** **COUNCIL MEETING:**

- Financial Update – At the end of June 2020 we were: -\$12,283 and end of July -\$15,065. Our overdraft limit is \$20,000.
- Mount Zion 2020 Wage Subsidy –Our accountant calculates that the wage subsidy for which we qualify is \$8,576. He filed the request two weeks ago.
- Automatic Deposit to TD Account is now in a testing stage.
- TD Bank mortgage update – Mortgage of \$125,000 was applied for and approved. The Environmental report was filled out and mailed. Lawyer is to finalize Land Titles matters (TD as Mortgage holder) our bank recommended using a lawyer at a cost between \$825 and \$1,000. We didn't want to have our \$20,000 line of credit absorbed into Mortgage as it has been necessary to pay our extra expenses. We have approximately 100 active members and if every member could donate \$100 toward the roof fund, we could raise \$10,000 to meet our immediate goal.
- Flat Roof Replacement Update - The pre-bid price is \$103,977 + GST. (Total of \$109,175.85), the consultant's fee is \$3000 and the Lawyer fee approximately \$1000. Once the mortgage is finalized, the replacement can begin (September 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>). Replacement should take three weeks and they do not work on Sundays.
- Live streaming of worship was approved as was additional lighting in sanctuary (provided electrical requirements are adequate), lights and installation to be donated.

## ***Financial Update as of June 30, 2020***

We are half way through our financial year which means we should have received 50% of our income and have spent 50% for expenses. For the regular offerings, we have received 47% of the budget figure—a big thank you to a number of members who have contributed regularly and to a few members who have given more knowing that we have expenses to pay. We have received 30% of the budgeted income from the rental groups and almost 99% of the budgeted income from special and designated offerings. Overall, we have received 38% of the budgeted income.

For expenses, we have spent 46% of the budgeted amount. We budgeted 10% for ELCIC benevolence and we have been able to pay 49% of that commitment--thanks again to the congregation members for their regular contributions. Our bank charges are at 57% because we have had to pay some overdraft charges which we did not account for when we drafted the budget in December, 2019 and had it approved at the AGM in February, 2020. The Utilities and Telephone costs are at 60% of the budgeted money—an upgrade to the telephone system was required which was not budgeted for.

Instead of having petty cash available for the Parish Administrator, it was decided at the last Council meeting that Pastor Tim purchase a \$200 gift card to be used by the Parish Administrator as needed. Michelle Kendrick, liaison to the Parish Administrator, will be the one to monitor the spending and collecting of the receipts to be attached to the \$200 expenditure.

The bank balance at the end of June 30, 2020 is -\$12,283.00 and the bank overdraft limit is \$20, 000.

Thank you to all the counters who have come to the church every Sunday so that our deposits to the bank are made weekly. By making weekly deposits, the overdraft charges have been minimized.

In the narthex on the table with brochures, please find the two devotional booklets for July, August and September and the 2021 Shepherd's Guide—Christian Business and Directory Guide which includes pages with a plan to read the Bible in one year.

Respectfully submitted by

Donna Chanasyk



## Re, Lunch at Bissell Center

A very big thank you to the members of Mt. Zion, along with Highlands United and a Jewish congregation for serving lunch for the Inner City Pastoral Mission (ICPM) at the Bissell Center on Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Because of the Covid-19 epidemic, the usual procedure was changed. Lunch bags containing the following items: we prepared a juice box, bottle of water, a protein bar, a bag of chips. The bags were prepared in advance, then dropped off at the Bissell Center where they were handed out by the Bissell staff.

Thank you Jackie Evenson along with Len, Betty Sandahl, and Pastor Tim for your work on this project (Jackie and Len also did the dropping off).

## In Memorial

During the month of August death has reached into our faith community. Our condolences are shared with:

- ❖ Doreen Lillo and family at the death of her mother, Alice Lindstrom.
- ❖ Jeanette Slupsky and family at the death of her sister Irene.
- ❖ Geoff Saxton, Elisabeth, John, and families at the death of wife, mother and grandmother Lis.

We pray that their grief be healing and the promise of the resurrection be comforting. Into your hands Lord.



## Plan Ahead

✚ Confirmation classes resume 11:30 am Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> with the Affirmation of Baptism (The Rite of Confirmation) taking place during worship on Reformation Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

✚ Bag Lunch and Learn begins again at 11:30 am Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be continuing our look at miracles from John's gospel.



Tidings apologize for missing two birthdays in the June Issue.

A special Happy Birthday to Sharlene and Stephen Borst

### **July Birthdays**

Donna Foerster  
Mackenzie Kendrick  
Kevin Polanski  
Lis Saxton

### **August Birthdays**

Pat Graae  
Michelle Kendrick  
Sam Kendrick  
Sophie Saxton  
Martin Shukuda  
Cindy Wascherol-Cross

### **September Birthdays**

Peggy McKenzie  
Cheryl Morrison  
Pat Nichols  
Tony Patenaude  
Samuel Saxton  
Jeanette Slupsky  
Betty Sandahl

**If we missed your Birthday, please let us know!**

