



Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

Tidings

Volume 18

Issue 4

April 2018

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Softball fever: Start the warm-ups!

The Mt. Carmelites are celebrating 29 seasons!

Wanted: Mt. Carmelite co-ed softball players, 18 to 107. Previous experience is not required.

When: All games played on Tuesday evenings. First game is Tuesday, May 1.

Where: New Brighton. Fields and game times will be emailed and in the May Tidings.

Practice: Sunday, April 22 and April 29 at 1 p.m. at Waite Park on (33rd & Ulysses St NE). We are also going to have a night at a batting cage (date to be determined). Come join in the fun and fellowship. We would love you to join the fun as players or fans! Roster must be submitted soon, so please call Diane Langer at 612-718-4229, email her at ddl2@aol.com or sign up outside the church office with your phone number and email if you are interested.

April feminine hygiene product drive

Hannah and Zoe Lathrop are collecting feminine hygiene products for homeless women and students in the Twin Cities. When people donate, it's often clothes or food or regular hygiene products, but many women don't get the feminine hygiene products they need, as most items are expensive, and other more important things end up being bought first. We are doing the drive because this is a topic many feel uncomfortable talking about, but this is a problem that needs to be discussed and brought to people's attention so we can work to solve it as a community.

We will be collecting menstrual pads and tampons in a box by the office during the month of April. All donations will go to the organization I Support the Girls. If you have a group or committee that would like to help, both Hannah and Zoe would be happy to attend a meeting to talk further about this project. If you have questions, reach out to either Hannah or Zoe. If you would like to order online and have product delivered to the church, ship to: Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, 1701 St. Anthony Pkwy, NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418.

FIND US ONLINE!

www.mtcarmel.net



mountcarmelmpls



MountCarmelMpls

Learn, Live and Share God's Word

PASTOR'S PEN

Life is not a tale told by an idiot,
a brief candle, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing;
it is participation in the life of God,
Maker of heaven and earth and Redeemer of the whole cosmos.

(Shakespeare)

GPS: Finding direction on your faith and life journey

A shared experience on partnering with God in the world

Mt Carmel Lutheran Church, Wednesdays, April 11-May 16, 6:30-8 p.m.

Marino's Deli supper served from 6-6:30 p.m.

I trust that most of you have now seen promotions for this class coming up in April and May. My Tidings article this month is quite simple: Sign up for GPS! And bring a neighbor or friend!

This course is, in many ways, an entry point into the Mt Carmel of our future. In this course you will explore in depth your own gifts and be equipped to use them. You will also learn to discern more clearly how God wants you to use your gifts through his callings to you. All of this will take place with frequent conversation and group processing as well.

Childcare will be available, there is no charge for this, but we do ask that you sign up so we can make plans for your presence. Call the church office at 612-781-2796, Pastor John at 763-218-1707 or email us with your intent at pastorjohn@mountcarmelmpls.org.

See you on the April 11!

*Peace,
Pastor John*



Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

1701 St. Anthony Pkwy, NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418
612-781-2796
Fax: 612-781-1621

Office Hours

8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., M-F

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pastorjohn@mountcarmelmpls.org

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Megan Crosby
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**The mission of Mt. Carmel
Lutheran Church and its
members is to Learn, Live and
Share God's Word.**

Ministry Affiliates:

Minneapolis Area Synod/ELCA; Northeast Senior Services, Inc.; Little Kitchen Food Shelf; The Sheridan Story; Eastside Meals on Wheels; Plymouth Christian Youth Center; Mission Northeast and Casa de Oracion a las Naciones.

The Mt. Carmel facility is shared with the following community groups: Boy Scout Troop 132, Venture Crew, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and Alcoholics Anonymous.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

CHILD CARE NEWS

I know that I am itching to get outside and freshen things up. These long winters make for yards that look awful once the snow has started to melt. How about you? I know that planting is some ways off, but plans can be made up.

The "PLANTS A PLENTY" order forms are finally ready and included with this issue of the Tidings. **The sale dates are Thursday, May 17 (Noon-7 p.m.), Friday, May 18 (9 a.m.-7 p.m.), Saturday, May 19 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and Sunday May 20 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.).** One of our suppliers was later than normal getting us the information we need

so we have a short turnaround time: **FINAL ORDERS ARE DUE MONDAY, APRIL 9.** Grab your order form and pick out what you need. Don't forget! You can purchase a gift certificate to use at the plant sale. Contact Jeanette at 612-781-2798 or childcare@mountcarmelmpls.org.

I hope we get lots of sunshine.

The children have been learning about puppets and make believe, clothing around the world (we have actual clothes that are worn by other cultures), the color "green" and St. Patrick's Day, and spring.

Due to the nice weather we have had, we have had the opportunity to play outside in the courtyard. We even brought out a few riding toys. Even with the threat of more snow will not be a problem. The children love shoveling, making snow castles and sliding if there is enough snow.

Jeanette Burmeister
Director

Group of JOY

Tuesday, April 17, 11:30 a.m.

O.K. JOY Group, the third time's a charm! Forget about February (don't need to wear red), forget about March (no St. Patrick's Day), but circle Tuesday, April 17 on your calendar and we will CELEBRATE spring! Our JOY group will finally get together to enjoy a time for good food and lots of fellowship focusing on tulips, robins, daffodils and the melting of SNOW! If you would like to join us on April 17, please let Karen Moeller know by Sunday, April 15. For those of you who are 55 or over and have never been to one of our gatherings, we would love to welcome you. Hope to see you there.



BAPTISMS

David Zachary Burrack

DEATHS

Shirley Boetcher

OUR SYMPATHY

The Boetcher Family mourning
Kurt Boetcher

The Ellen Jacobsen Family
mourning Delores Plemel

The Osmondson and Wirth
Families mourning Aarika
Osmondson

GIFTS RECEIVED

**UNDESIGNATED
MEMORIALS**

**In memory of Shirley
Boetcher:** Carol Panning

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

Youth in sixth grade up to college are invited to join the Youth and Young Adult group for our regular monthly events.

Second Sunday Serving. On the second Sunday of every month the youth and young adults share in Mt. Carmel's hospitality by serving coffee.

Third Thursday dinner and a movie. Join us at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month for dinner, conversation and a movie.

Sunday morning YAYA. Every Sunday morning during the education hour (10:45-11:45 a.m.) we will meet in the youth room for conversation, Bible study and games.

And let me add with the importance of all caps, **FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.** You don't have to be a member of Mt. Carmel to join us for any of these activities, especially movie night.

Join us on Facebook for more information about the events. To join this private group, contact Jenni Lathrop at jennifer.lathrop@gmail.com.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Q&As on the Strategic Plan

Last month, I wrote about council learning that we haven't done a good enough job of communicating and listening to the congregation about the Strategic Plan, and how that has slowed progress on putting it into action.

We've heard some questions and concerns, and I wanted to take some time to speak to some of those things. As always, if you have a question or concern, please contact one of us on council—we're here not to make decisions and lead the church in the vacuum, but to make informed choices that are in the best interest of the congregation and our community. If we don't hear from you, the members of Mt. Carmel, we don't have guidance in how the church moves forward. So, if you have a comment, praise, suggestion, or idea that will help council and the church become a better place and better organization, please share it.

Something I've come to realize is that in talking about changes that the Strategic Plan recommends, some of you are thinking that things we've done in the past are wrong. They aren't. Mt. Carmel wouldn't have lasted for over 90 years if we'd done things the wrong way. At the same time, council knows that all of you who have taught Sunday school, been a money counter, served on Altar Guild, or any of the other groups or committees in our church has knowledge, skills, and experience with all of those things. Instead of saying or thinking that work has been wrong, we recognize that all of that work and experience gives us a stronger foundation to build on because you know what works and what doesn't work.

The Strategic Plan isn't seeking to make change for change's sake—it's to provide a framework that helps us all focus our energies, knowledge and skills to be more impactful in the world. What the Strategic Plan wants us all to do is look at different ways to do the things we've done to see if we can achieve better results or serve more people and ultimately do our best work to serve our mission statement: to Learn, Live and Share God's Word.

I've said it before here and it bears repeating: the only way Mt. Carmel has survived for so many years is to be a living thing. And like all living things, it has changed as it has aged. It's changed as it's needs have changed. And it's changed as its surroundings and community have changed. In the past, these changes have come slowly, forcing us to catch up with our changing environment. But with the Strategic Plan, we hope to be more nimble and dynamic, recognizing changes around us as they happen and able to adapt to them and ensure that the work we do for God in his world is having maximum impact.

All of this comes down to all of you being engaged at some level in your community and in the church. Tell others at church what you're seeing in the world, and what we might be able to do to help serve those in need and bring God's message to northeast Minneapolis. There really aren't wrong ideas, but there are some ideas that won't be as impactful as others.

But we won't know what the best answer is for how to do God's work until more people share more ideas and observations about Mt. Carmel and our community.

Paul Lathrop, Council President

March 2018 council notes

April Feminine Hygiene product drive was presented by Hannah and Zoe Lathrop. The donations will be collected during the month of April to be donated to "I Support the Girls."

A picnic for Rally Day on Sunday, Sept 9 is being planned in the triangle park next to the church. Paperwork to close Ulysses Street is being filed with the city.

The pastor is encouraging all to sign up for the GPS: GPS: Finding direction on your faith and life journey course being held April 11-May 16. This is a six week shared experience on partnering with God in the world. This is part of Mt Carmel's Strategic Plan.

Technology committee is meeting with a company to provide video screens in the sanctuary. Funds were given and designated for this expense.

Youth breakfast will be on Palm Sunday. Please come and support our Mt Carmel Youth and Young Adults.

Open council seat: There is still one seat unfilled. If you have an interest in helping Mt Carmel move forward, consider becoming a member of the church council. If interested, please talk to Pastor John or Tiffany Ruser.

Design Task Force, for efficiency, has reduced its members to four. They will be working with an independent designer on several areas around church. Tim Quinlan is leading this team.

*Respectfully submitted,
Lory Dubbels, Secretary*

Spring cleaning

Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mt Carmel is holding a Spring Cleaning Day on Saturday, April 14 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a lunch provided at 11:30 a.m. We'd like everyone to participate for the day but if you're only able to come in the morning or afternoon, plan on coming for lunch too.

The main areas to be cleaned are the kitchen and sanctuary. In the kitchen, we're planning to clean out the refrigerator and freezer; clean out, declutter and reorganize the kitchen cabinets and countertops; and wipe down all the tables. In the sanctuary, we'll vacuum the pew cushions, clean up the pews, clean the tile floor under the pews, and clean the woodwork around the altar and chancel area.

Volunteers should bring buckets, rags and the household cleaner of your choice. Children must be accompanied by an adult. So we can plan the cleaning and have food available, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex or email Lory Dubbels at dubbels2234@q.com.

SPRING SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

April 8: Environmental Justice

April 15: Connecting with
Creation

April 22: Stewardship

April 29: No SS--Sandwich
Making

May 6: The Holy Spirit

May 13: The Greatest
Commandment (last week!)

May 20: Twins Baseball Luncheon

A FRIENDLY REMINDER

Please kindly turn off all lights in the building if you use the building in the evening and are the last person to leave. Thanks!

STAY UP-TO-DATE

Watch for updates in the Candle, our weekly e-newsletter. Not receiving the Candle and would like to? Email office@mountcarmelmpls.org to add yourself to the mailing list.

FORGET-ME-NOT

Birthday greetings to each of the members listed below who will reach or surpass the 80th milestone in this month. We pray that God bless you on your special day and in the year to come.

April 4: Isabel Hansen

April 8: Gerry Johnson

April 14: Robert Anderson

April 16: Bill McReavy

It is the policy of Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church to not publish the phone numbers and addresses of members. If you wish to call or send a card to these individuals, please refer to your church directory or call the office.

HOSPITALIZATIONS

Did you know that because of privacy laws, hospitals and nursing homes do not call us to report if a parishioner has been admitted, or if a person's condition has worsened?

That means we rely on family members and friends to keep us informed. Please call the church office, 612-781-2796, if you or someone you know of is hospitalized.



Thank you!

Thank you for supporting the Youth and Young Adult of Mt. Carmel during the annual breakfast. The congregation's support in both donations, food and empty stomachs was truly appreciated. The breakfast raised \$551 which was donated to the Animal Humane Society of Minnesota.

Service Sunday: Let's make sandwiches!

Did you know that there are over 6,000 people experiencing homelessness within the Twin Cities metro alone? Join us on Sunday, April 29 at 11 a.m. in Fellowship Hall to prepare sandwiches. We'll be making sandwiches for the Minneapolis Recreational Development, Inc., who help feed those experiencing homelessness or are food insecure in the metro area. Special thanks to Thrivent for the Action Team grant to pay for groceries.

Sign up to volunteer in the narthex.

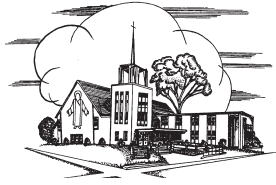
Adult Forum: Eco-faith series

We'll be welcoming speakers from the synod to dig deeper into the intersection of environmentalism and our faith. Join us for the adult forum in Fellowship hall for three Sundays in April. We will learn why matter matters to God. On April 8 we'll discuss how care for the environment is a justice issue. On April 15 we'll talk about the spiritual and natural connections that surround us. On April 22 we'll learn about what we can do to help steward creation.

Coffee or Tea with Good Fruits

Changing to a new day: 2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in April at Silverwood Park/Three Rivers Park District in St. Anthony .

At this weekly group we will be going beyond the text of Fruits of the Spirit and continuing the study with new topics through April. A specific book or text is not yet determined, but the spiritual good fruits are sure to apply so please join us. You can bring your own beverage or purchase a beverage or snack at the Silverwood Cafe counter.



Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church
1701 St. Anthony Parkway NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

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Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

612-781-2796
Fax: 612-781-1621

Pastor

John Strommen

Office Hours

8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
office@mountcarmelmpls.org

Sunday Worship & Nursery

9:30 a.m.—Holy Communion
(nursery provided)
10:30 a.m.—Coffee Fellowship
10:45 a.m.—Education Hour
11 a.m.—Adult Forum

Mini-bus Transportation

Call 612-789-7855 to be added
to Sunday's list.

Mt. Carmel Child Care

Jeanette Burmeister
612-781-2798

www.mtcarmel.net

GPS: FINDING DIRECTION ON YOUR FAITH AND LIFE JOURNEY

We all use GPS as a tool to help us locate where we are, where we want to go and how to get there. It's no different in our faith lives. We all need help and guidance to figure out where we are on the journey, where we feel God is leading us to go, and how to get there. Please join us for six weeks, starting Wednesday, April 11, and running through May 16. (Part II of this class will take place in the fall.)

- We will meet 6:30-8 p.m., but you are invited to come at 6 p.m. for a Marino's Deli supper.
- Childcare is available upon request.
- Bring a friend or neighbor. Or just yourself.
- There is no registration fee, but we will order booklets after the course has started that will cost \$10. We also ask that you make a donation if you eat supper with us. Otherwise, all other materials will be free of charge!
- To sign up, register online through the website or Candle link, call the office to sign up or sign up at the new "sign up" table in the narthex at church.