



Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

Tidings

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In April, Nick, our faith formation director, took Mt. Carmel confirmation students to an interfaith bridge building event offered by Augsburg University. The program aims to discuss and discover—through experiential learning—how we are called as people of faith to serve our neighbor and engage our diverse, interfaith community here in Minneapolis. All who attended enjoyed the day, learned a lot, and bridge building staff remarked on how engaged and well behaved our Mt. Carmel group was.

Group of JOY

June 19, 11:30 a.m.

(Please note change of original date)

Our June JOY group will be meeting on Wednesday, June 19 at Culver's Restaurant in St. Anthony. We will meet at 11:30 a.m. and gather in their meeting room. Everyone is responsible for purchasing their own meal. If you plan on attending, let Karen Moeller know by Sunday, June 16. We welcome newcomers. Hope to see you there!

THANK YOU!

A special thank you is extended to all who participated in and helped with our "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" lunch on Sunday, May 19. We raised \$450 dollars that will be used to help with camp registration for both the youth and family camps this summer. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

FIND US ONLINE!

www.mtcarmel.net



Learn, Live and Share God's Word

PASTOR'S PEN

Welcome to 'The Balcony View'

Congregational conversations after worship this summer

When I was called to be your pastor three years ago, a key part of my call as I understood it was to help the Mt. Carmel faith community discover the potential of its people to be, as Luther once coined the term, "the priesthood of all believers." This means many things, but part of what it means is that every member of the body of Christ has multiple callings in this world. One of those callings is to be a member of a faith community that seeks to practice and express the unity of our baptism in one body—the body of Christ.

It's been said by many people that without a shared identity and purpose—a common vision—a people will perish. We need to be a "we," not an "us and them." And the way we can be this is through a shared vision, so we're all walking in the same direction. That's what these meetings are about: congregational discussions where we own together as God's people what unites us, and out of this shared sense of purpose, share our work together.

Topics to be discussed during the summer:

Sunday morning objectives and schedule

Program and ministry idea and for 2019-2020

State of the congregation (remember that fabulous sermon on March 31? Ha,ha)

Congregational vision and strategy

Mt. Carmel organizational and staff structure

Outreach ideas for 2019-2020

We'll meet on the following Sundays after worship in Fellowship Hall from 11-11:45 a.m. I invite you to attend, participate and help us discern God's future for us. Some of you have heard mention or been a part of discussions exploring a possible different Sunday morning schedule. On the first Sunday, we'll take up "Sunday morning objectives and schedule."

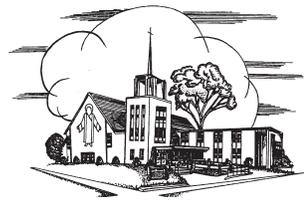
June 2, 16 and 23

July 14 and 28

August 11 and 25

Now it's your turn. Weigh in! I hope you have questions, along with suggestions and ideas.

*God's 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.-1:30 p.m. M
8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. T-F

Pastor

John Strommen
pastorjohn@mountcarmelmpls.org

Interim Director of Music/Organist

Ruth Bills
ruthabills@gmail.com

Director of Faith Formation

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Tidings

Jenni Lathrop
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Mt. Carmel Child Care

Brenda Wetzel
612-781-2798
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www.mtcarmel.net

**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.

Join Good Fruits for a book study

Beginning in June, the Good Fruits group will begin a book study of "Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People" by Nadia Bolz-Weber.

In this book, author and ELCA pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber invites readers into a surprising encounter with what she calls a religious but not-so-spiritual life. Tattooed, angry and profane, this former standup comic turned pastor stubbornly, sometimes hilariously, resists the God she feels called to serve. But God keeps showing up in the least likely of people: a church-loving agnostic, a drag queen, a felonious bishop and a gun-toting member of the NRA. As she lives and worships alongside these accidental saints, Nadia is swept into first-hand encounters with grace, a gift that feels to her less like being wrapped in a warm blanket and more like being hit with a blunt instrument. But by this grace, people are transformed in ways they couldn't have been on their own.

Good Fruits meets each Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. at Silverwood Park. You can bring your own beverage or purchase a beverage or snack at the Silverwood Deli counter. Books are available at public libraries or purchase one at amazon or your favorite book seller.

Leona Olson

Mt. Carmelites Softball

Fans are always welcome and encouraged. In case of rain, check the cancellation hotline at 651-638-2141 For information about Mt. Carmel's team, contact Diane Davis Langer at ddl2@aol.com or 612-718-4229.

Mt Carmelites softball 2019 schedule

June 4—7 p.m. vs. Vicious & Delicious Sunny Square	July 9—6 p.m. vs. The Eagles Vets Field
June 11—6 p.m. vs. Pitching, Not Catching Vets Field	July 15—Make-up games and tournament
June 18—7 p.m. vs. One Team Sunny Square	July 23—Make-up games and tournament
June 25—7 p.m. vs. Adagios Vets Field	July 30—Make-up games and tournament
July 2—NO GAMES	Aug. 6—Make-up games and tournament

Directions to the Fields

All Directions from Intersection of 694 and Silver Lake Rd.

Vets Field and Veterans Park—From Intersection of 694 and Silver Lake Road, take 694 to Long Lake Road exit, go South, road turns into 10th St. Turn right onto Old Hwy 8, turn left onto 8th St. Field is located behind New Brighton City Hall

Sunny Square—From intersection of 694 and Silver lake Road, go north on Silver Lake Road about two miles, turn right on Gregory St. (just past railroad tracks), head straight to park.

BAPTISM

Isla Rose Christensen, infant daughter of Anna and John Christensen, on April 28

WITH SYMPATHY

Myrna Flatland, mourning the death of her life-partner Larry Alden Smith on April 26

GIFTS RECEIVED

MINI-BUS FUND

In honor of Mother's Day:

Charles Grider

MT. CARMEL FOUNDATION

In memory of my Father, Werner Hegstrom, Happy Father's Day: Marlys Hegstrom

To honor her father, Douglas

Charles Davis: Diane Davis

In Memory of Gertie Eberlein:

Diane Davis

To honor parents, Ardith and

Harold Flatland: Myrna Flatland

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.

DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP AND MUSIC POSITION

Mt. Carmel is in search of flexible 15 hour/week director of worship and music. Responsibilities include leading music in worship, accompanying congregational singing on piano and organ and leading adult vocal and handbell choirs. The director of worship and music will also plan worship services with the pastor, prepare worship bulletins and power point slides.

Qualifications include a college degree, preferably in music studies, performance, education or religious studies. A strong musical competency on piano and organ is also needed.

For a position description, see mountcarmelmpls.org/about-us/employment. For more information or to submit a resume, contact Steve Robertson, church administrator, at 612-781-2796 or office@mountcarmelmpls.org.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Who We Are—Part Three

Here's kind of a revolutionary thought: Mt. Carmel is not a place. Sure, the church building gives us a location to gather and a base of operations for our work in the world. But without the building, this congregation could still have a real impact on our community.

Mt. Carmel is the people who make up the congregation. Mt. Carmel is a community of people who unwaveringly supports each other and shares each other's triumphs and tragedies. Mt. Carmel is a community of faith that takes its call to serve the neighborhood we live in seriously. Without the congregation, the church building would simply be a building.

Why is that an important point when talking about who we are?

It's because we gather in our building, but do we gather just to consume God's word, focus within to find peace and recharge for the week, or do we also gather here in praise and then go out in our neighborhood to serve those who need God's love?

It would be easy for us as leadership and a congregation to just focus within and become a church that just produces a "product" for consumption by our members—Sunday worship, education programs, Bible studies and small groups that are equal parts connection and faith. But the challenge—one we are facing now and will continue to face for many years—is how to divide our focus and be able to serve the needs of those both inside and outside of our building's walls.

The key to this is understanding that being a follower of Jesus and being a part of this community of faith requires us to not only be consumers of that "product" on Sundays, but also to turn around and give back in order to help us do the work needed both within and without the congregation.

This dual-focused role in our world is outlined in our mission: Learn, live and share God's Word, where two-thirds of those verbs are outwardly focused, telling us to do some powerful things.

What does this mean? Here's the really hard part: asking if you give back as much as you get. On Sundays, most of us are consumers, hearing the messages, reading the scripture and celebrating the love of God. But what about the hours outside of that time in worship? Are you helping with worship? Are you reaching out to our community? Are you living and sharing God's Word in the world around you?

It isn't just the responsibility of leadership or the pastor or groups or committees to hold people accountable, because Mt. Carmel isn't my church any more or less than it's your church. Our mission statement is remarkable because it speaks to us as a body and as individuals at the same time and says the same thing: Learn, live and share God's Word. Do it individually and do it as a congregation.

Each one of us is the "product" that God has created to do his work in the world. Together, we are Mt. Carmel—the church in the world. We are takers and givers. And people won't come into our building unless they see who we are "out there," when we're translating our beliefs and commitments into actions in our neighborhood.

Paul Lathrop

Foundation scholarship awards

The Mt. Carmel Church Foundation is very pleased to announce that scholarships have been awarded to the following Mt. Carmel members for the 2019-2020 school year.

Dylan Evans

Zoe Lathrop

Anna Matthes

Liam Davis Temple

We sincerely congratulate these scholarship recipients and wish them well in their studies during the upcoming school year.

Look up for worship

This summer, we will be initiating a new format for the Sunday bulletin that will help us worship together more faithfully and make us better stewards of paper, printing and financial resources.

With the installation of the video screens in the sanctuary last fall, we have been increasing the amount of liturgy and hymn lyrics included on the screens for us to follow in worship. This allows us to look up to the screens to follow our prayers and music instead of looking down in our bulletin and hymnals. As we look up, we can see those with whom we worship and are reminded that we worship in community together. Our new worship bulletin design will include an outline of worship and key information for visitors to follow. However, it will encourage all of us to look up to the screens for the text of the prayers and music in worship. Hymn numbers will also be provided for those who prefer to follow the music in the hymnals.

We also want to be good environmental and economic stewards. Our new one-page bulletin design will also reduce our current consumption of paper and printing from nearly 18,000 sheets of per year to around 5,500 sheets per year. This will also reduce the amount of staff and volunteer time dedicated to preparing the bulletin each week. And this reduction will also allow us to reduce our office and administrative expenses for printers and copiers.

Our printed bulletin will continue to include all the announcements, calendar and prayer concerns found in the current worship bulletin in a convenient "take home" format. We will also be providing a large-print bulletin and worship resource for those needing more assistance.

As with all things new and different, we are aware that it may take some time to adjust to the changes. And we may learn things along the way to help us make the bulletin even better. We will look for your constructive feedback and ideas to Jenni Lathrop or Steve Robertson. Let us know your thoughts or suggestions. We will be listening for your helpful ideas and recommendations to make the worship bulletin a helpful resource for everyone.

VANCO SIMPLY GIVING PEW CARDS

Perhaps you have noticed the colorful cards in the pew racks recently? These are our Vanco Simply Giving pew cards.

For those who currently contribute through Vanco Simply Giving:

Please use these pew cards each Sunday to put in the offering plate to signify your financial contribution through Vanco's Simply Giving automated giving ministry. It is important that your faithful weekly or monthly financial gifts be acknowledged in worship.

For those not yet contributing through Vanco Simply Giving:

Take note of the pew cards and your fellow worshipers who are using Vanco's Simply Giving to make their weekly or monthly church contributions automatically from their checking or savings account. Ask them how easy it is to sign up. Forms to sign up are in the narthex or sign up on the church website.

For more information about Vanco's Simply Giving online contribution program contact Steve Robertson in the church office.

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.

June 14—Marion Harris
June 22—Russ Ingebretson
July 9—Marlene Brown
July 9—Jane Hagstrom
July 14—Arleen Kirk
July 21—Tom Belawski
July 25—Joyce Perfetti
July 27—Roger Knealing
July 27—Jennie Porter
Aug. 9—Daryll Olson
Aug. 26—Arylene Ingebretson

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 at 612-781-2796 if you or someone you know of is hospitalized.



Mt. Carmel Church in Minneapolis Foundation info corner

The Mt Carmel Foundation recently accepted a "Pay it Forward" group donation from Scott Black's organization, Bell Bank & Mortgage from Fargo, North Dakota. (pictured are Myrna Flatland, foundation treasurer, with Scott Black).

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges Scott Blacks' generosity and his recurring donations, as well as the years that his father, Rollo Black, served as a Mt. Carmel Foundation member. Scott Black and his family are former Mt Carmel members.

A gift to the Foundation continues to give. This year the Mt. Carmel Foundation has an allocation to distribute to church related requests of \$30,576. The allocation is due to years of gracious giving and a legacy that began in 1964. In 17 years, more than \$600,000 has been allocated to Mt Carmel for expenses that that fall outside the annual church budget.

Would you like to make a donation to the Mt. Carmel Foundation? Would you like information on becoming a Legacy Partner with the Foundation?

There are "Mt Carmel Foundation" envelopes in the pews or you can contact Diane Langer, foundation president, or Myrna Flatland, foundation treasurer, for more information. They both have mailboxes in church office.

Diane Langer

Coffee fellowship servers

Sign up to serve the coffee fellowship on the clipboard by the south door between the kitchen and Fellowship Hall. You can sign up only to bring treats and not serve, only to serve but not bring treats or to do both.



Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church
1701 St. Anthony Parkway NE
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Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

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

Pastor

John Strommen

Office Hours

M 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
T-F 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.—Faith Formation

Mini-bus Transportation

Call 612-781-2796 to be added
to Sunday's list.

Mt. Carmel Child Care

Brenda Wetzels, Director
612-781-2798

www.mtcarmel.net



LITTLE KITCHEN FOOD SHELF FUNDRAISER GARAGE SALE

Friday, June 14, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. | Saturday, June 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Save the date for the annual Little Kitchen Food Shelf fundraiser garage sale. The sale will be held in Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church's parking lot on the corner of 27th and Johnson Street, NE. All proceeds benefit the Little Kitchen Food Shelf, a ministry of Grace Lutheran Church.

And don't forget! Your donations of sale items are also needed! Please bring gently used items to the sale on Friday, June 16 between 8 a.m. and Noon. No large furniture please.