

TIDINGS

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

www.mtcarmel.net

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In January, members of the confirmation group attend a Minnesota Mullets hockey game. The Mullets played the Dells Ducks in the Northeast Ice Arena and won! The kids (and a couple adults from Mt. Carmel) cheered the team on to victory! A good time of fellowship was had by all.

Nick Ralston, Faith Formation Director

Art painting night at Mt. Carmel

Sunday, March 22 at 3 p.m.

Join us for an intergenerational, hands-on art painting event on Sunday, March 22. Leona Olson has done watercolor painting for nearly 20 years and will give instruction, demos and guidance in channeling your creative spirit. Leona will have supplies to use or bring your own supplies if you have them. Although Leona's demo will focus on painting, feel free to bring other art mediums and join in the fun.

Stay up-to-date

Stay in the know and subscribe to Mt. Carmel's weekly email, "The Candle." Sign up online at mountcarmelmpls.org or contact the office.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

**Sunday, March 15
with free will offering**

Join us for our first We Gather Together event in 2020 on Sunday, March 15. Football is over and baseball is in spring training so come to worship and stay after for good food and fellowship. We have had great turnouts for these events. We will have plenty of food so you won't want to miss our "walking taco" Sunday! There will be desserts and beverage as well. You do not need to sign up ahead of time, just come, all are welcome! Education programs will be held as regularly scheduled. We hope to see you there!

MT. CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are a faith community participating in the life of God, both as sheer gift to us and as a calling to the neighborhoods of Northeast Minneapolis. We are a multigenerational community that proudly celebrates our history while joining together with younger generations to follow where God is leading. We build our community through faith practices like prayer, dwelling in the Word and hospitality.

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

Director of Faith Formation

Nick Ralston
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Church Administrator

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Tidings

Jenni Lathrop
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Mt. Carmel Child Care

Brenda Wetzel
612-781-2798
childcare@mountcarmelmpls.org

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: Scout Troop 132, Venture Crew, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and Alcoholics Anonymous.

We are an ELCA congregation. All are welcome. Learn more about the ELCA at www.elca.org/About.



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

PASTOR'S PEN

Adult Forum in March: Being Church with Diverse Neighbors

The season of Lent is an important time to consider what it means to follow Jesus into a broken world to bring hope and build community. That task is more difficult (and important!) than ever as the world around us is growing more diverse all the time—ethnically, spiritually, and socio-economically. Our theme for March 15-29 in Adult Forum on Sunday morning is **"Being Church with Diverse Neighbors."** During this three-week period, we will explore diversity in our immediate world and how it is that God is calling us to join Christ at work in our world building bridges with our neighbors.

On March 15, former ELCA Bishop Mark Hanson will preach and lead the adult forum on **Building Interfaith Connections**. He will explore how we might build community with our neighbors who have different faith traditions and backgrounds from our own. Pastor Hanson is the founding director of Interfaith at Augsburg: An Institute to Promote Inter-religious Leadership. This new institute reflects Augsburg's continuing commitment to the faith and theological tradition of the Lutheran Church and Augsburg's commitment to the growing diversity of students, faculty and staff. As an urban university Augsburg approaches its neighbors in a spirit of humility and curiosity, seeking to listen and learn how to collectively create a neighborhood and society where religious diversity is a constructive force serving the common good. In the adult forum we will discuss how such a commitment might inform the ministry of Mt.

Carmel and our daily lives of faith.

On March 22, Katie Topinka will lead a presentation on our calling as Christians to pursue socio-economic justice on behalf of our neighbors, specifically, around affordable housing. Her presentation is entitled, **Housing Affordability: Challenges and Opportunities**. Housing costs, especially for renters, are rising more quickly than incomes. Unsheltered homelessness has increased across the country, including in the Twin Cities in recent years, and racial inequities persist in housing. Katie will share the history behind these challenges, including policies and disinvestment that have led us to where we are today. She will also explore ways we can make positive change, both as individuals and as a society, including an overview of policies the city of Minneapolis is pursuing.

Katie is a member of Mt. Carmel and currently works for the City of Minneapolis on affordable housing policy. She previously worked for the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency and Senator Al Franken. She enjoys running and is running in The Boston Marathon in April. Katie grew up in Madison, Wisconsin and attended the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She has a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. Andrew, Katie and her family joined Mt. Carmel in 2018 and live in the Waite Park Neighborhood near Cavell Playground. Their kids, Josie and Otto, were baptized at Mt. Carmel. Josie will be in kindergarten

Pastor's Pen, continued on 3

CHILD CARE NEWS

We have had a wonderful start to our 2020 year at Mt. Carmel Childcare. We had Springbrook Nature Center come in at the start of the new year and teach us about reptiles. We got to see a turtle, snake and lizard! Some of the children were able to touch the snake while others decided to just watch.

The children are busy learning about the world around them and have talked about dental health, valentines, community helpers and transportation. We enjoy our "gym" (Fellowship Hall) in the winter and try to venture out for short walks when the weather cooperates. We have a short chapel time with Nick Ralston each Wednesday afternoon as well as our wonderful weekly music class with Chellie Brown from Wee-bop on Thursdays.

As the days are getting longer and the weather is changing into Spring, think of your gardens as the plant sale will be here before you know it! Information will be out in the next month with dates/times as well as order forms.

*Brenda Wetzel
Director, Mt. Carmel Childcare Center*

Softball fever, start the warm-ups!

The Mt. Carmelites softball team is celebrating 30 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, April 28
- **Where:** New Brighton. Fields and game times will be announced in April.

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.

Pastor's Pen, continued from 2

this fall and Otto is two years old.

On March 29, Katie will be on-hand with Pastor John to discuss further what we might do at Mt. Carmel around "Being Church with our Diverse Neighbors," in both interfaith community building and seeking economic justice through affordable housing. See you downstairs in March!

*Peace,
Pastor John*

GIFTS RECEIVED

Undesignated Memorials

In memory of Bethel Flikke:

Rich & Sue Feist, Carol Panning, Kerry & Linda Hall, Bradley & Georgia Rice

Keys for the Future Piano Fund

In memory of Bethel Flikke:

Rick & Cheryl Sundly, Doug & Linda Jones

Scout Troop 132 Fund

In memory of Abe Lincoln and George Washington:

Charles Grider

Mt. Carmel Foundation

Correction: An undesignated memorial given was given in memory to Marianne Hanna by Ray & Lorraine Carlson

Given in memory of Bethel Flikke: Myrna Flatland

Given in memory of Kathleen & Darryl Olson & their Gopher/Twins/Timberwolves/Vikings/Wild fan, James: Myrna Flatland

DEATHS

Joyce Perfetti died Jan. 14, 2020 (The memorial service for Joyce will be on Wednesday, March 25 at 11 a.m. at Mt. Carmel, with visitation one hour before and a memorial luncheon at the church following the service.)

Wilma Anderson died Feb. 2, 2020 (services were already held)

WITH SYMPATHY

Robert Anderson, on the death of his wife Wilma Anderson

KEEP US INFORMED

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.

Circle of Friends

The next gathering will be March 24 at 7 p.m. The project is still to be determined so watch the Sunday bulletins and church calendar for more information.

In February, we tied blankets for distribution to shelters. In January, we delivered four large boxes packed full of toiletry items, hats, gloves, socks, and other items to Peace House (www.peacehousecommunity.org).

We found that the need in this area is huge. There will be an on-going collection of these types of items and a collection box will remain outside office as we continue to collect: toiletry items (travel size shampoo, soap, mouthwash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, lotion, washcloths), warm socks, gloves, hats, underwear (men's smaller sizes and women's 7-8), sports bras, bus cards. Gently-used sweat suits, jeans, sweaters, etc. are also needed.

Mt. Carmel Foundation is on Amazon Smile

Do you like to shop? Put your shopping to good works by supporting Mt. Carmel through the Mt. Carmel Foundation.

What is Amazon Smile? It is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices and shopping features as Amazon.com. When you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

Mt. Carmel in Minneapolis Foundation is a choice you can opt for when shopping on Amazon. You can donate to Mt Carmel Foundation year round when shopping on Amazon.

Go to <https://smile.amazon.com>. On your first visit, select Mt. Carmel in Minneapolis Church Foundation. Amazon Smile will occasionally contact you about donation amounts disbursed to your chosen charity.

Currently there isn't a way to shop with Amazon Smile on your iPhone or iPad through the app. As a work around you can put items in your cart through the app, then open a web browser, and go to the smile.amazon.com website to complete purchase.

Are you an Android user? Amazon Smile is available in the Amazon Shopping App for all Android users. If latest version, open app on an Android device. View settings and select AmazonSmile. Follow the in-app instructions to complete the process.

Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible. Thank you to all that already have opted to make your shopping contribute to the Mt Carmel Foundation.

Diane Davis Langer, Mt. Carmel Foundation President

Mt. Carmel Financials

Treasurer Update YTD: February 1, 2020

Mt Carmel's finances are off to a rocky start. Bad weather in the month of January hasn't helped. Our expenses are on track, however our first month of giving shows a little setback. Please consider keeping your pledges up to date. We pray pledges and giving turns to a positive trend.

YTD 2/1/2020

Actual Contributions \$ 17,662.97

Pledged/Budgeted Regular Contributions \$20,992.64

Actual Income/ Budgeted Income (3,390.67) for January

*Diane Davis Langer
Mt. Carmel Church Treasurer*

Thank you

From a Thanksgiving food basket recipient

Greetings. I would like to thank you so very much for the abundant bag of groceries you sent me for Thanksgiving. That was so nice and much appreciated. The holidays are going to be hard for me just losing my husband, but the consolation is knowing he is in a better place with Jesus. I wish you all a happy holiday and blessing in the new year. Peace be with you. And God's blessing.

To the Circle of Friends

I was one of the lucky people to receive one of your stockings for Christmas. What a nice surprise to have a complete stranger hand something to you at this time of year.

I served in the Army. That was 51 years ago. Never had anyone do something like this for me. I had just went through having my bladder removed and chemo. You will never know how much the stocking means to me.

Love in Christ, David Albers

Thank You

- To Marlene Brown, for labeling our Tidings each month to be ready for bulk mailing.
- To Rich Feist for climbing the ladder to the Sanctuary ceiling to change light bulbs.
- To Connie Wegner, Lynette Dubbles, and Carol Panning for covering the office hours when Church Administrator Steve Robertson is out of the office.
- To Lory Dubbles and Lynette Dubbles for preparing a mailing on short notice on a cold day.
- To Tim Quinlan who helped to coordinate the selection and installation of the new dishwasher.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Be sure to mark your calendar now for these upcoming events.

March

Wednesdays, March 4-

April 1—Lenten suppers and worship, supper at 6 p.m. and worship 6:45 p.m.

Sunday, March 15—We Gather Together lunch after worship

Thursday, March 19—Youth and Young Adult movie night, 6 p.m.

April

Sunday, April 5—Youth breakfast after worship

Thursday, April 9—Maundy Thursday worship, 7 p.m.

Friday, April 10—Good Friday worship, 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 12—Easter Sunday worship, 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 16—Youth and Young Adult movie night, 6 p.m.

May

Sunday, May 10—Last day of Sunday School, Reflect and Youth Group

Thursday, May 15—Youth and Young Adult movie night, 6 p.m.

Sunday, May 17—Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, May 31—Pentecost Sunday; We Gather Together baseball lunch after worship

Mt. Carmel Congregation Council Minutes

Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Present: Melissa Kohler, Dave Larson, Allison Gurney, Patrick Lathrop, Karen Matthes, Tim Quinlan, Barb Hollister, and Pastor John Strommen
Guest: Steve Robertson,
Church Administrator Absent: Diane Langer, Church Treasurer

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council Vice-President Tim Quinlan.

Faith Practices Time: The Council break into pairs to share highs and lows and pray for each other.

The agenda was amended to include a personnel announcement by Pr. John and adopted as amended.

The Council Minutes of January 14, 2020, were approved as presented.

Order of Business:

1. **Election of officers.** A nomination was made and accepted to elect Tim Quinlan as Council President, Barb Hollister as Vice President and Karen Matthes as Secretary.
2. **Treasurer's Report.** The Treasurer's report indicated income was down from budgeted due to monthly income dollars that had not yet been transferred into income accounts. These dollars will show up in the February report. The Treasurer's Report was received and filed.
3. **Lenten soup suppers.** Tim said Karen Moeller offered to provide beverages for each week. The Council is scheduled to serve the first Lenten supper on March 4.
4. **Council retreat.** A full Council retreat is proposed for May. Rollie Martinson will moderate.
5. **Synod Listening Sessions.** Pr. John will connect with Pr. Jerry Wahl to organize congregational listening sessions.
6. **Child Care Organizational Document Update.** The Child Care Board should vote to approve their new bylaws at their February meeting and will likely be presented to the Council in March for approval.

7. Administrator's Report.

- Membership rolls: A motion was passed to update the church membership rolls.
- Design team: A motion was approved for painting & kitchen finish projects not to exceed \$22,000. Bids will be taken on all phases of work.
- Dave Larson will research the cemetery plots owned by Mt. Carmel to explore options for what we should do with them.
- The Council agreed that fees collected from funeral services will now go into the general church budget (gifts not pledged).

8. **Pastor's report:** Pr. John said we received funding from the Mt. Carmel Foundation to participate in The Partnership for Missional Church (PMC). Participation from other congregations is still being determined.

A meeting will be scheduled in February for a follow up with Pr. John to review the issues from fall 2019. It will include the Council members who were present during the initial meeting.

Personnel announcement: Pr. John announced Abe Hunter's resignation. His last Sunday at Mt. Carmel will be February 23rd.

Communication Forum

1. Barb Hollister said the Council is scheduled to serve coffee on April 19th.
2. More efficient meetings: Submit documents by the Friday before each Council meeting. Council members should print, and bring their own documents to meetings and be prepared for discussion.
3. The Council agreed to change our regular meeting start time to 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment at 9:15 p.m.

Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer



Joint Bible Study

On Sunday Feb. 2, Dr. Karoline Lewis presented on the topic of how each gospel writer offers a different portrait of discipleship.

Using texts of the calling of disciples from Matthew 4:18-22, Mark 1:16-34, Luke 5:1-11 and John 1:35-4, shared how each of the gospel writers has unique focus and how we may have a different discipleship focus in each of our own lives as well.

"Following" is key in Mark. Another frequent word here is immediately: there's urgency and high priority. The first thing Jesus does is an exorcism. He is a boundary crosser, going into places of uncleanness.

For Matthew, Jesus is "teacher....of all righteousness." The first thing he does is a long sermon, the Beatitudes and the Lord's Prayer. He's the teacher, we are the students.

In Luke, the fish filled both boats and began to sink. Jesus shows what they are going to be doing: fishing for people. Once the disciples are called, the first thing he does is to go to his hometown where he is rejected. Jesus came for sinners and sees the people we don't notice. In Luke, the marginalized are to be seen, found and witnessed to. The theme is "follow for the sake of witnessing."

In John, key words are abide and abundance. The first thing Jesus does is turning water into wine at the Wedding at Cana. John reports these as "signs." Signs point, they're not referred to as miracles but as signs showing God's grace upon grace.

In addition to the Sunday study, the men's morning Bible Study and Good Fruits small groups held joint studies to dig deeper into the study.

Leona Olson

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.

March 1: Carol Kwiecien

March 1: Virginia Schaal

March 14: Marlene Black

March 28: Ruth Emerson

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.

2020 MT. CARMEL COUNCIL

Tim Quinlan, President

Barb Hollister, Vice President

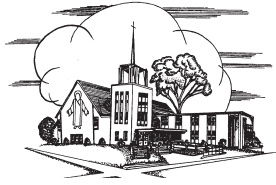
Karen Matthes, Secretary

Allison Gurney

Melissa Kohler

Dave Larson

Patrick Lathrop



Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

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Minneapolis, MN 55418

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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 and 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 Wetzel, Director
612-781-2798

SUPPERS *and* SERVICES



WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 4-APRIL 1

Supper at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Service at 6:45 p.m. in the sanctuary

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Find us online!  www.mtcarmel.net  /MountCarmelMpls