



TIDINGS

October 2022

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

Oct 16, 5-6:45 p.m.

Please join us in Fellowship Hall for supper at 5 p.m., followed by a service project and some play time.

Our service project this time is a book drive! Let's work together to stock the Little Free Libraries in our neighborhood. Please bring a special book (or two!) that you are ready to give to someone new. We will have supplies on hand to make bookmarks with a message of cheer, place them in our books and drop them off at a little free library on our way to the park for some play time! In case of poor weather, we'll play games in Fellowship Hall.

We plan to serve soup and bread and beverages. Let the office know how many adults and children from your family will attend. Note any special diet needs.

GROUP OF JOY: OKTOBERFEST

Thursday, Oct. 20, 11:30 a.m.

The Group of JOY will meet on Thursday, Oct. 20, at 11:30 a.m. to celebrate Oktoberfest. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. This is for anyone 55 years of age and up. Please let Karen Moeller know if you plan to attend no later than Friday, Oct. 14, so we know how many to plan for. We will begin with a devotion, enjoy a delicious meal and have some type of entertainment (still pondering that). If you have any questions or to sign up, please give Karen a call at 612-619-3743. Hope you can join us.

CHURCH CLEANING DAY

Saturday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m.

Can you help? Several years ago members of Mt. Carmel and members of CASA did a deep cleaning of our church including the sanctuary and the narthex. As we prepare to welcome a new pastor and with winter fast approaching, it is time to do it again. We will work in teams and should be able to get a lot done in just a couple of hours. We're planning on Saturday, Oct. 29, starting at 9 a.m. and ending around noon. Please let Barb Hollister (612-590-6469 or bjhollister@comcast.net) or the church office know if you can help. We really appreciate your gift of time. Thanks.

CONFIRMATION

Saturday, Nov. 5, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. for all 6th-8th graders. November's classes will be at Gustavus. Lunch is provided.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

COVID Update2
Stewardship.3
Better Together Brunch . .	.3
News from the Pews . .	.4
Legacy Brunch5

IMPORTANT DATES

We've got fun plans for the fall. We want YOU to join us!

- **Oct. 8**—Better Together with Gustavus Adolphus: Circle of Friends brunch with guest speaker Janet Letnes Martin, 10 a.m. at Mt. Carmel Church
- **Oct. 16**—Young Family Fellowship, 5-6:45 p.m. Soup supper, book drive and park play!
- **Oct. 20**—Youth Group Dinner and a Movie, 6 p.m.
- **Oct. 29**—All church cleaning day with Casa de Oracion a las Naciones, 9 am.-noon
- **Oct. 31**—Better Together Halloween Event: Trunk or Treat with Gustavus Adolphus, 4:45-6 p.m. at GA.



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
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Office hours

Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Interim Pastor

Christine Wenzel, ext. 103
pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org

Office Administrator

Nancy Nordeen, ext. 101
office@mountcarmelmpls.org

Director of Music

Ruth Bills, ext. 120
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Maintenance Engineer

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Tidings

Jenni Lathrop
jenni@jennilathrop.com

Mt. Carmel Child Care

Brenda Wetzel, ext. 107
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; Every Meal;
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, 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.

COVID TASK FORCE UPDATE

The COVID-19 Task Force is happy to report that after 29 months of work, we have concluded our work as a task force.

Community infection numbers and immunization availability in addition to our members' cooperation with our risk mitigation efforts have made this possible, and we're pleased to say that effective immediately, we are removing any remaining restrictions.

This means that food service can return to pre-pandemic standards, communion servers no longer need to wear gloves, and that mask use, while encouraged, is still optional. Staff will be asked to isolate for at least 5 days if they test positive, following CDC guidelines (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html>).

As we return to our pre-pandemic standards, we want to urge everyone to continue to be aware of their health and monitor themselves for symptoms. At this time of year, this includes monitoring for symptoms of colds and flu in addition to COVID, and staying home if you feel you have symptoms of any of those viruses.

Many public health officials have been urging everyone to make sure they are up to date on their vaccinations, especially for the flu and with the new generation of bivalent COVID vaccines. We echo this in order to keep everyone in our congregation, schools, workplaces, families and friend groups healthy throughout Minnesota's fall and winter months. Check the CDC's guidance on immunizations to help determine if you are eligible.

As we've said throughout the last two-plus years, we appreciate everyone's cooperation with the COVID restrictions. We understand that it hasn't been an easy time for anyone, and we recognize that it has been a struggle for many of you.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank the members of the task force for their time and efforts. It hasn't been easy to research and digest all of the rapidly changing data and guidance over the last two years. We've had to make some difficult decisions and enforce the restrictions that we decided on, even in the face of negative sentiment from some members of the congregation who disagreed with our decisions. All of the actions we took and decisions we made were made with an abundance of caution to help protect every one of our members and everyone in our community.

When we started meeting, like many of you at the time, most of us thought our work would wrap up within months. Alas, we've had to remain active for years, and as we do I want to express my appreciation for the dedication to our work by the members of the task force the last two years: Diane Langer, Rich Feist, Lynette Dubbels, Pastor Christine, Jenni Lathrop and Pastor John.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Stay safe and healthy, everyone!
Paul Lathrop

NORTHEAST COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT

The Northeast Community Band will present their fall concert on Thursday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m. in Mt. Carmel's Fellowship Hall. Admission is free, but donations to the band are welcome. Come join in the fun!

CHILD CARE CENTER



Here is a cute picture of some fall collage work from our toddler friends!

Happy fall everyone. Our children at Mt. Carmel Childcare have been busy learning all things “back to school.” We are coming to a favorite time of year around the center as we get closer to all of the holidays. We are spending more time outside and discovering all things fall, we have painted a pumpkin, used apples for painting and added our fall décor around the center.

Hope your fall season is starting off amazing!
Brenda Wetzel, Director

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship season is just around the corner. Our committee of Al Erickson, Dave Larson, Ralph Matthes and Rich Feist is working diligently to develop a successful stewardship program. We're aiming to provide solid financial and volunteer support to Mt. Carmel for 2023 as we navigate the dual challenges of pastoral turnover and the COVID pandemic. Please begin to think about how you can best share a portion of your blessings of time, talent and treasure with our church.

Are you over age 70 1/2 and have an IRA? The IRS will allow you to direct some of your IRA distribution dollars to qualifying (503b) charities. Since the 2017 tax law changes went into effect, most of us no longer itemize deductions on our tax returns. A charitable distribution from your IRA is the MOST tax efficient strategy for you to support charities like Mt. Carmel. Please contact the church office or stewardship committee to learn more.

DINNER AND A MOVIE

Hey youth! Join us for Dinner and a Movie. Thursday, Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. Friends are welcome, but we need to have RSVPs for food! Contact Jenni Lathrop if you have any questions.

BETTER TOGETHER BRUNCH

Oct. 8

Ladies, don't forget the women's brunch on Saturday, Oct. 8, at 10 a.m. featuring “Lutheran Lady” Janet Letnes Martin. Be prepared to laugh, reminisce and be entertained as she takes you down memory lane speaking on “Hot flashes, Hotdishes, & Hot Pads.” Hopefully you signed up by September 30th, but if you missed the deadline let Leona know and we'll see if we can get you in.

At the door, we'll have a box for donations of hygiene items for Peace House Community.

FORGET-ME-NOT

Birthday greetings those listed below who reach or surpass the 80th milestone this month. May God bless you on your special day and in the year to come.

Oct.25—Rudy Roy



This miniature sunflower bloomed in the Mt. Carmel Butterfly Garden this autumn. Just as the sunshine causes sunflowers to produce oil and seeds, the believer who sets his sights on God can show kind actions, righteousness in life's choices, and truth telling in our lives.

—Janell B. Wampler

GIFTS RECEIVED

THE FOUNDATION

In memory of Ruth Emerson:
Richard and Gloria Anderson

In memory of Sylvia Ann Kallin: Steve Ristuben and Jo Alice Boatright

UNDESIGNATED MEMORIALS

In memory of Ruth Emerson:
Myrna Flatland, Richard and Margot Jacobson, Carol Panning, Doug and Linda Jones, Nancy Rood, Tom and Marlene Schonebaum, Joseph Sheridan

SPECIAL MUSIC

In memory of Mary Grider:
Chuck Grider

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

We all know that Mt. Carmel has very talented people in our congregation and **Trina Benedict** is one of them! Trina's talent is sewing and creative design. Her aunt taught her to sew at the age of 11. Trina was a stitcher for the Guthrie Theater from 1998-2004. She then went to the U of M for her Master of Fine Arts in costume design and technology. The technology part includes draping (which is pattern making), tailoring, millinery, costume crafts and painting/dyeing. After graduation, Trina worked for the Guthrie as a draper. She now works as a draper for the Minnesota Opera and a costume designer for the Medora Musical and The Church Basement Ladies plays.



When Trina designs and works as a draper, there is a lot of research of the time period the play or opera is set in. For example, for the Church Basement Ladies plays, Trina uses old Montgomery Wards and Sears catalogs. She also uses old yearbooks and church directories of the '50s thru the '70s.

Trina's mother Janet Martin has been a great influence on her. Her mother is the author of "The Church Basement Ladies" (over one million people have seen the plays). Trina says that her mother's gumption and energy are inspiring but, more importantly, she says that her mother taught her to do what she loves and that putting in the hard work can lead to a happy and satisfying career.

Trina and her husband Andy joined Mt. Carmel in 2008 and have four children, Nora, Frida, Martin and Jens.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MT. CARMEL, KEEP READING...

We are looking for 2-3 members to join the Church Council.

Commitments are:

- Meet monthly in the evenings for approximately two hours. Meetings are usually in person but occasionally on Zoom.
- A three-year commitment.

The council is responsible for the general life and activities of the congregation. The council

- sets goals and priorities for Mt. Carmel,
- leads the congregation in our mission statement,
- manages the financial commitments made by our members and
- other responsibilities.

If you know of someone who would make a good council member, please nominate yourself or someone else by contacting Karen Matthes.

TREASURER REPORT: AUG. 31, 2022

Congratulations again on meeting the matching funds challenge. As of Aug. 31, special gifts towards matching funds provided by Mt. Carmel Foundation reached \$25,736.86.

We did experience a decline in our regular contributions this month not meeting budgeted income. However, with the Foundation matching funds contribution; our August income was over the budgeted income by \$380.45. Our expenses were also under budget this month.

The congregation faithfully passed a deficit budget of (\$62,709.00) at the annual meeting, and with the Mt. Carmel Foundation's support, has remained on a steadfast path month after month towards meeting the challenge of erasing this deficit budget. We still have challenges, but have been blessed with answers, and a potential for a positive year end.

August

Actual Contributions/Income

\$19,314.94

Budgeted Contributions/Income

\$18,934.49

Actual Expense

\$19,915.02

Budgeted Expense

\$24,160.27

Actual Income/Expense: (\$600.08)

Budgeted Income/Expense: (\$5,225.78)

YTD Update

Actual Income/Expense \$19,079.520

Budgeted Income/Expense: (\$41,805.88)

We pray pledges and giving proceeds continue on a healthy trend, and we can see the deficit erased.

Diane Davis Langer, Mt. Carmel Church Treasurer

MT. CARMEL CHURCH FOUNDATION LEGACY BRUNCH

Sunday, Oct. 30

The Mt. Carmel Foundation is excited to have the opportunity to serve our annual brunch once again in person, the first since 2019.

Join us in Fellowship Hall immediately after worship to enjoy the famous Mt. Carmel Rolls along with a tasty brunch catered by Marino's Deli. We will share information about the gifts legacy giving has already provided, as well as how you can become a Legacy Partner in the future

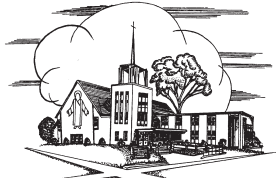
Most importantly, we will take this opportunity to continue the celebration of the accomplishment that came about because of the unity between this amazing congregation's generosity and the Mt. Carmel Foundation. This joint effort ultimately brought a total of \$50,000 towards erasing our deficit budget. The Mt. Carmel Congregation met the \$25,000 matching fund challenge in record time. The generosity of generations of givers have made the Foundation mission possible.

Diane Davis Langer, Mt. Carmel Foundation President

SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

- Barb Hollister reported that Pastor Christine's is recovering from her foot surgery. Pastor Dave Olson is our emergency contact.
- Stewardship 2023 is coming up. Stewardship Sunday will be Nov. 20. Watch for more information in the Tidings and Candle. If you have any questions, contact Al Erickson.
- Young Family Fellowship is hosting an event on Oct. 16. There will be a meal provided and then a service project. If you have an interest in helping or would like to participate, please contact Nancy Nordeen or Barb Hollister.
- The council is looking for people interested in being a member of council. Contact Karen Matthes with any questions or if you're interested!
- Inside Cleaning Day will be Oct. 29. Karen Moeller and Barb Hollister will be sharing more information. Mark this day on your calendar.
- There is a problem with the air conditioning/air flow ceiling unit in the pastor's office. The unit is too old to be repaired so will need to be replaced. Doug Jones and the Property Committee are working on this issue.
- The audit has been finished.

Our next meeting will be via Zoom on Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.



Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

1701 St. Anthony Parkway NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

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**NEXT TIDINGS
DEADLINE**
October 18

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

Interim Pastor

Christine Wenzel

Office hours

Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sunday worship

9:30 a.m.—Worship in person or
online on Facebook or YouTube.

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



WORSHIP WITH US

**Join the Mt. Carmel faith community for worship in person or
live on Facebook and YouTube, Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.**

Worship with us in person or live online. For those unable to worship with us
in person, **we also broadcasting worship live on Facebook and YouTube.**
Videos are available to watch at any time after live worship on YouTube.



612-781-2796



office@mountcarmelmpls.org



www.mtcarmel.net



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