



TIDINGS

March 2023



Everyone joined together on Feb. 26 to say farewell to Pr. Steve Olson and his wife Diane. The Mt. Carmel community was truly blessed to have Pr. Steve as our interim bridge and wish the well.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

We will be having Midweek services at 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. The 11:30 a.m. service will be at Culvers Restaurant on Silver Lake Road and will feature Luther's Morning Prayer and "Artisans of the Crucifixion" led by Karen Moeller.

The evening service at 6:30 p.m. will feature Holden Evening Prayer and again "Artisans of the Crucifixion" presented by Karen Moeller.

After our COVID Interlude, we are bringing back the mid-week Lenten suppers, with food being served 5:30-6:15 p.m. Come when you can to enjoy the food and then enjoy the worship.

- The Men's Bible Study and Property Committee will serve March 1
- The Foundation will serve March 8
- The Choir will serve on March 15
- The Book Study will serve on March 22
- And we are looking for volunteers to serve on March 29

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OFFERING OPPORTUNITIES

Please continue to support our congregation with your faithful financial contributions to Mt. Carmel as you are able. There are several ways to give:

- Online by credit card or bank account. Visit mountcarmelmpls.org to give online.
- Mail or drop off your check to the church office.

Your generous support for Mt. Carmel and our ministry is truly appreciated.



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

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

Bridge Interim Pastor

Steve Olson, ext. 103
pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org

Office Administrator

Nancy Nordeen, ext. 101
office@mountcarmelmpls.org

Director of Music

Ruth Bills, ext. 120
ruthabills@gmail.com

Maintenance Engineer

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Tidings

Jenni Lathrop
jenni@jennilathrop.com

Mt. Carmel Child Care

Brenda Wetzel, ext. 107
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; 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.

FROM THE PASTOR

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED.

I count the last four months a pure blessing! It has been an honor to serve among you as your bridge interim pastor. Thank you for the welcome you extended to Diane and me, even though we were just "passing through" this community of faith.

As a bridge interim, I came in on very short notice due to Pastor Christine's illness. As I arrived, I was glad to see your Call Committee hard at work, but what truly delighted me was the number of candidates your call committee was given to consider.

It just goes to confirm what I already believed. Mt. Carmel can look forward to the future with hope. Prospective pastors can see that you are in the midst of a rich mission field, and as our Lord said, the "harvest is plentiful."

The vote of the congregation to approve the budget and extend the call to Pr. D. Foy Christopherson was a strong affirmation of the hard work done by the Transition Committee, the Call Committee and the council. We all owe them a debt of thanks for that hard work.

Trusting that all will go well and that Pr. Christopherson will accept your call, by the time you read this Diane and I will be on the road enjoying visits to family in Wisconsin, Arizona and on the East Coast; as well as a private holidays for just the two of us.

Diane and I have always tried to remain open to the Spirit's leading, which is why when our synod asked us to come here, in your time of need, we said yes. Thankfully, we are finding more pastors and interims interested in serving in the metro area. So perhaps after serving five interim pastor calls in the first four years of "retirement," we may be able to give retirement a real try. Perhaps it is time to do that. Time will tell.

One thing I do know is that my work here is done as the pastor of this church. So, that being said, I will not be performing any pastoral acts here, except under very extreme conditions. Nor will we in any way be involved in the everyday life and decisions of the congregation, although you will most certainly be in our prayers.

Last, but not least, we do look forward to returning to our home church of St. Luke's Lutheran in Bloomington, Minn. It will be a real blessing to sit with Diane for worship.

Again, Diane and I want to thank the congregation, the council and the staff of Mt. Carmel for your many kindnesses over the past four months. Please keep us and your congregational leaders in your prayers as we all enter this new season of transition. May God bless you and by the Spirit's grace, may you become a church of God's dreams for this time and place.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Pr. Christopherson plans to begin to begin his ministry in the middle of March. Between the time I leave and Pr. Christopherson arriving, our Pr. Dave Olson will preach and lead worship on March 5 and 12. Lay volunteers will lead mid-week Lenten services on March 1, 8 and 15. Pr. Sara Vanderpan, the Bridge Interim Pastor for Gustavus Adolphus will be on call for pastoral emergencies.

Pr. Steve Olson

INTRODUCING CARE NOTES

The Befriender Ministry will begin to offer Care Notes to the congregation. These are brief pamphlets on a variety of subjects regarding our physical and spiritual health. Have you or a loved one just been diagnosed with cancer or dementia? Do you know a caregiver who is struggling to take care of a loved one? Have you recently lost a job? Are you approaching retirement, and are you struggling to find meaning in your life? These are just a few of the topics that are addressed with Care Notes.

They will be placed on the shelves below the flower sign up board in the narthex. Feel free to take one or more of the pamphlets that are of interest to you. Some seasonal topics will be added from time to time, so check what is available periodically.

If you need to talk with a Befriender about one of these topics after you read one, feel free to call the church office or Dave Olson at 651-528-7459. All of our Befrienders are held to a strict code of confidentiality. We hope this will be a helpful resource for you.

PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

The youth will be serving breakfast for the first time since 2019 on Palm Sunday, April 2. We will be serving the same foods as before: egg bakes, quiches, fruit, French toast bakes and caramel rolls with juice, milk and coffee.

If you are able and willing to contribute any food for the breakfast, please contact Paul Lathrop (palathrop@gmail.com) with what you will be contributing and the quantity. If it is being delivered on Palm Sunday morning and needs to be served hot, please bring it to church hot. We can arrange other delivery times.

The youth are looking forward to serving breakfast on Palm Sunday!

MT. CARMELITES SOFTBALL OPENING DAY

April 25

It's time to start thinking about softball with the Mt. Carmelites as we celebrate 33 years.

WANTED: Mt. Carmelite co-ed softball players and fans. Come try the Mt. Carmelite Shuffle. If you are 18-107, you can participate. All games are played on Tuesday evenings in New Brighton. We would love for you to join the fun!

For more information or to sign up, contact Diane Langer at 612-718-4229 or ddl2@aol.com. A sign-up will also be posted outside church office.

CONFIRMATION

Saturday, April 1, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. for all 6th-8th graders. March classes will be at Mt. Carmel Lunch is provided.

BAPTISMS

Norah Laverne Folland, child of Jason Folland and Sherry Drake

FORGET-ME-NOT

Birthday greetings to 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.

March 14—Marlene Black

DINNER AND A MOVIE

Hey youth! Join us for Dinner and a Movie. Thursday, March 16 at 6 p.m. Friends are welcome, but we need to have RSVPs for food! Contact Jenni Lathrop if you have any questions.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

The mini-bus is revved up and ready to go. Call the church office at 612-781-2796 by noon Friday to let us know you need a ride for Sunday.

MT. CARMEL COUNCIL

Karen Moeller, President
Al Erickson, Vice President
Lory Dubbels, Secretary
Kathy Halvorson
Doug Jones
Patrick Kutzer
Dave Larson

GIFTS RECEIVED

UNDESIGNATED
MEMORIALS
In memory of Abraham
Lincoln: Chuck Grider

TO SCOUTS TROOP 132
In memory of Dave Grider:
Chuck Grider

TO THE FOUNDATION
In honor of Mt. Carmel:
Donations through Amazon
Smile

PRAYER CHAIN

To to lift up a prayer concern
for the prayer chain, please
contact Leona Olson at
612-859-7075.

TREASURER REPORT: FEB. 1, 2023

Mt. Carmel is facing a challenging year once again, with a 2023 deficit budget faithfully passed by the congregation to the amount of (\$43,368.00).

I want to point out that last year at this time we faced a deficit budget of (\$62,709.00). After receiving many blessings, including additional giving by our congregation of \$35,156, we ended 2022 with a positive of \$19,170.30 which was carried forward into 2023.

The Mt. Carmel Foundation has pledged an initial gift of \$6,100 for specified areas of the budget. In addition, they will gift up to an additional \$5,000 in a \$1 for \$2 matching fund challenge for all special gifts above pledged giving by June 30. Meaning: If we raise \$10,000 in additional special gifts, the Foundation is gifting an additional \$5,000. With the Mt. Carmel Foundation gifts, we potentially could erase \$21,100 of the deficit by June 30.

Challenges bring answers and we are again blessed with potential for a positive year end. Join in the excitement to help reach the 2023 1 for 2 Challenge for matching funds.

January

Actual Contributions/Income
\$ 30,121.70

Budgeted Contributions/ Income
\$21,692.62

Actual Expense
\$17,729.78

Budgeted Expense
\$25,298.36

Actual Income/Expense: \$12,391.92

Budgeted Income/Expense: (\$3,605.74)

Please prayerfully consider increasing your giving and planned pledging with a special gift towards the 1 for 2 match with foundation funds. We pray pledges and giving proceeds continue on this healthy trend.

Diane Davis Langer, Mt. Carmel Church Treasurer

HOLY WEEK

(Locations to be determined)

- **April 2: Palm Sunday**, 9:30 a.m.
Youth Breakfast, serving 8-9 a.m. and 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- **April 6: Maundy Thursday**, 6:30 p.m.
- **April 7: Good Friday**, 6:30 p.m.
- **April 9: Easter Sunday**, 9:30 a.m.

THANK YOU

Thank you all for your prayers, cards and get well wishes after my hip surgery. It was very much appreciated.

—Val Hendrickson

FEBRUARY COUNCIL NOTES

- A big welcome to our new council members: Kathy Halvorson and Patrick Kutzer. They join our current Council members: Doug Jones, Dave Larson, Karen Moeller, Al Erickson, and Lory Dubbels.
- The following people were elected officers: Karen Moeller, president; Al Erickson, vice president; Lory Dubbels, secretary and Diane Langer was appointed treasurer.
- Installation of the council will be on Sunday, Feb 19.
- Pastor Steve Olson's last day of preaching will be Feb 26. Pastor Dave Olson will preach March 5 and 12.
- An invitation will be extended to Pastor "C" to attend our March 14 council meeting even though he hasn't started at Mt. Carmel yet.
- Diane Langer has been working with Clergy Financial Resources, which was recommended by the synod, on the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) being offered by the government. We've completed the application and will be working with them to submit our request. If funds are approved, it will be 6-8 months before any funds are received.
- On certain Sundays when Steve Panning is not available, the youth and fellowship members will be asked to tear down the tables and chairs after coffee hour. Casa will do it on the Sundays they're using Fellowship Hall.

MT. CARMEL FOUNDATION

Introducing the 2023 Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church in Minneapolis Foundation board members: Diane Davis Langer, president; Justin Sawyer, vice president; Mary Catherine, secretary; Susan Feist, treasurer; Matthew Nordeen; Dan Gillett; Ralph Matthes; Roger Peterson and Kevin Zeigler.

Thank you to Matt Nordeen, who has faithfully served as treasurer these last years, and will continue into 2023 as he assists Sue Feist into her transition to the role

The mission of the Foundation is to receive gifts, invest them prudently and distribute interests from the income for religious, benevolent, charitable and educational activities not generally budgeted by the church council. In special situations, money may also be distributed from the capital fund.

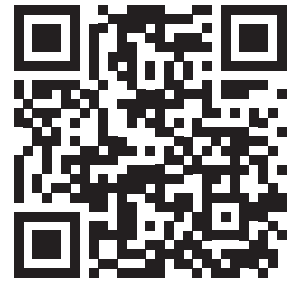
In January 2023, the Foundation approved the following grants: \$6,100 to be used for the specified elements of faith formation, evangelism, and worship and music in the 2023 church budget, and up to \$5,000 to sponsor a one-for-two matching fund challenge to be granted to church for the purpose of erasing the deficit budget. Any special gifts above pledged will be matched. For example, a donation of \$10 will be matched with an additional \$5 to result in a \$15 donation.

The challenge is to raise \$10,000 by June 30 and the Foundation will add an additional \$5,000 to make \$15,000 in special funds raised.

We are excited and hopeful to see all of this grant utilized by the deadline. Please consider a special gift to Mt. Carmel and join the "One for Two Challenge." Note the special gift on your check or envelope.

The generosity of generations of givers has made the Foundation mission possible.

Diane Davis Langer, Mt. Carmel Foundation President

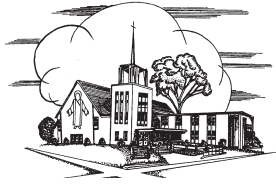


WHERE CAN I FIND...?

One of the best ways to find up-to-date information is on the church website. Scan the QR code above to visit the site on your phone or tablet.

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.



Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

1701 St. Anthony Parkway NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

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**NEXT TIDINGS
DEADLINE**
March 21

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

Bridge Interim Pastor

Steve Olson

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



/MountCarmelMpls