

the Tidings

September/October 2023



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Come Home to the Cross

LIFE LONG FAITH FORMATION

- Spiritual Practices
- Respectful Relationships
- Guided Learning
- Faith-filled Service

Mt. Carmel Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lifelong Faith Formation

Our Vision—Cradle to Grave Faith Formation

Our congregation council has adopted the ELCA vision for faith formation that is grounded in Biblical stories. Our Vision has four parts that we strive to make intergenerational and accessible to new faces:

Spiritual Practices are activities undertaken with intentional awareness of the presence of the Holy. Individuals and groups use these practices to revere and rest in the mystery of the Divine. Used repeatedly, they foster a habit of attention of oneself, God and Neighbor.

Respectful Relationships can be formed with family, friends, church staff, lay members, spiritual directors, and coaches. Healthy relationships always include trust,

listening, challenge, compassion, and commitment to one another. Each person's location (i.e. the wilderness or the mountaintop) on their faith journey guides the interactions.

Guided Learning happens when we visit and revisit Bible stories, or hear and share each other's faith stories, with a sense of wonder and discovery. Guided learning is not simply about garnering knowledge, but also about wrestling with how to live faithfully each day.

Faith-filled service recognizes the need to act on behalf of one's beliefs. Whether or not the work is done outwardly in Jesus' name, the faith underlying the service makes it a demonstration of love for God and neighbor.

2023-2024 Program Year Kick-Off

God's Work Our Hands Sunday, Sept. 10 after worship

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America: one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. We have three service opportunities for you!



- **Little Kitchen Food Shelf projects:** Meet the Fellowship Hall to complete two projects; one is very kid-oriented and one is more adult-related.
- **For Johnson Street cleanup:** Meet outside the main entrance at 10:45 am and work to clean up both sides of Johnson Street from 32nd Ave down to 26th. This is an ongoing project in coordination with Gustavus Adolphus and our Better Together team.

Homecoming—Rally around the cross Sunday, Sept. 17

Turn the page to learn more about our invitation to a homecoming as we begin the program anew, post-pandemic, and with our newly settled pastor.

Worship, Lunch and All-church Activity



After worship on Sept. 17 our "We Gather Together" team is going to provide a luncheon. It will fit the "Homecoming" theme and who knows, there may even be a cheer or two. We hear we have some former cheerleaders in our midst! This is the Sunday we "kick off" (don't you just love the use of that football terminology?!) our autumn season with the installation of our education leaders and teachers. Invite someone to join

you, maybe a family member, maybe someone who hasn't been back since the pandemic, maybe a neighbor. Come and worship and stay for lunch. Let's fill the church and Rally Around the Cross.

After lunch and some fun, Pastor C will lead us in a table-based discovery activity.

— Pres. Karen Moeller

Faith formation for all ages

Autumn program resumes the week of Sunday, Sept. 24

Jump into autumn with a renewal of energy for life-long faith formation in your journey. All of our programs, whether resuming for autumn or year round will be welcoming and expecting those seeking to re-engage for the autumn.

Sunday School for children age 2 through 5th grade

- Education Wing—Upstairs
- Teachers: Jodi and Brian Wirth, Trina Benedict
- 10:45–11:30 a.m.

Youth Forum for children in grades 6–12

- Youth Room
- Parent facilitated for now
- 10:45 a.m.

Confirmation

- New first meeting date: Sept. 13
- 6:30–8 p.m.

Adult Forum

- Room varies
- Leader varies
- 11:00–11:45 a.m.

Date	Adult Forum topic
Sept 24	Ministry Team Leaders
Oct 1	Ministry Partners Cluster discussion
Oct 8	Likely a Bible study
Oct 15	Intro to Program Year Handbook
Oct 22	Catechism Re-Tread: Baptism
Oct 29 Reform	Typically Foundation brunch/program
Nov 5 AllSts	Funeral planning workshop
Nov 12	Likely a stewardship topic
Nov 19 (faith commitments)	Likely a stewardship topic
Nov 26 ChrKing	NONE (Thanksgiving) -or- Advent all cong activity

Faith formation opportunities for all ages

Good Fruits Bible study

Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m. in the fireside room and via Zoom.
Contact Leona Olson at onondave@yahoo.com

Online Men's Bible study

Wednesdays at 6:45 a.m. Contact Ralph Matthes at marinosdelimpls@gmail.com

Racial justice/anti-racism book study

Every other Thursday, 6:30–8 p.m. in the fireside room.
Contact Barb Hollister at 612-590-6469 or bjhollister@comcast.net

Soup-tember Wednesdays

Join us for soup supper on Wednesdays in September. This simple meal is free and open to the community. Invite your friends and neighbors! We'll serve September 13, 20 and 27 from 5:30–6:15 p.m. in the fellowship hall. If you'd like to help, contact Nancy Nordeen at nancy.bjorn.nordeen@gmail.com. We look forward to connecting with all of our Mt. Carmel friends after a busy summer.

Especially expected are confirmation families, singles, choir members and childcare families.

Confirmation for 2023–2024

First meeting: Sept 13, 6:30–8 p.m.

With Pastor C at Mt. Carmel

The confirmation weekly assignments will be published in the Tidings Weekly e-newsletter so that all ages may follow along. The user-friendly book for all ages will be available from the office.

Youth Group Thursday evenings

The first Thursday evening youth group meeting is planned for Sept. 21

Bible Milestone Event

We'll place the Holy Scriptures in the hands of our children as we promised at their baptism.

Holy Communion workshop

Families and anyone who wishes to join us are invited to a Holy Communion workshop for those children in our community who have been invited to receive Communion but now would benefit from a time with Pastor C to discover more about this sacrament. We'll tell Bible stories, look at communion practice, explore the sacristy and the chancel; talk about receiving communion, and/or bake communion bread.

Homecoming

Come Home to the Cross

*Let's pack up our provisions—our faith as well as the cross.
Let's catch the boat and get on board.
Don't forget the anchor, the hope of our salvation...*

*May the grace of Christ, our protector, accompany us;
let us sweetly sing our traveling song,*

"Halelujah!"

*so that, joyful and protected, we may enter
our eternal and most happy homeland.*

—Quodvultdeus of Carthage, (+454) The New Song 2:4, 2:9

It's all about homecoming

I'm not a big fan of "rally day" as a church festival. It sounds too triumphalistic or something. Maybe it's just because I don't remember rally days from my childhood. We had year-round Sunday School in the Bible Belt (East Tennessee) so there was no vacation from it. As a fourth grader, I wasn't a big fan of that idea either, if I remember right. There was just Promotion Sunday when we moved on to a new teacher and a new classroom during a big all Sunday School assembly in the sanctuary.

In the rhythm of our lives however, there is need for vacation time, for Sabbath time, for rest and relax time. And refreshed, then comes the time to return to school, autumn activities, and to hunker down at work. Autumn is a time for homecoming celebrations: alumni return to high schools or colleges; families return to grandma's for the holidays; friends gather again to tell stories of summer travels and summer activities.

Homecoming seems more grounded in the life of faith

I'm more intrigued by those congregations who celebrate homecoming in the autumn rather than rally day. The idea of homecoming seems more grounded in the life of faith—think of the parable of the prodigal son. Homecomings are the model for our life with God. So, come home to God, come home to the cross, come home to family, come home to the body of Christ, come home to Sunday School and choir, come home to worship, come home to friends, come home to the table of the Lord's Supper and the font of the water of life, come home to Christian service, come home to Mt. Carmel, come home to Jesus.



The idea of homecoming seems to cover more than a day. It covers a month or so, if not our whole lives. Autumn homecoming can be a time for welcoming back those who have been away for a time of rest and relaxation during the summer. Autumn homecoming can be a time for welcoming back those whose lives have caused them to drift away from our life together. Autumn homecoming can be a time for welcoming back those who have been hurt or alienated. We all have homecoming to do.

Come home to Worship. Come home to Abundant Life. Come home to life-long Faith Formation. Come home to Bearing Good Fruit. Come home to Better Together.

Marked by the holy cross in baptism, throughout our lives we acclaim the cross as the sign of the world's salvation. As we gather back together for a new program year, with our new pastor, after long interims, and the pandemic, come home to a new start in our life together at Mt. Carmel.

Make September/October a time of homecoming. Make September/October a new beginning. In Christ all things are new. He'll be expecting you. We will too.

Pastor C



In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Congregational Arts Exhibit


The Church celebrates Holy Cross Day on September 14*. We'll use this celebration at Mt. Carmel Lutheran as the theme of our rally day and as inspiration for a congregational art exhibit of crosses beginning on Sunday, September 17, the beginning of the new program year.

So what is a congregational arts exhibit? It's intergenerational and easy and fun! From our private collections and homes we will gather crosses and exhibit them "gallery-style" in our building through Reformation Sunday.

- Bring your crosses before Sept. 16
- Take your crosses home at the end of October.

Bring to share:

- Crosses from your walls
- Crosses from your travels



Owner: _____

Artist / Place of Origin: _____

Medium / Material: _____

I/We desired to include this cross in the exhibit because *(This cross is meaningful for me/us because...)*: _____

- Crosses from your garden
- Crosses from your jewelry box (at your own risk)
- Crosses that you have made
- A completed "gallery card" for your crosses
- Quotations about the cross from your life of faith

We'll have a great diversity of crosses! Bring your crosses to church before Sept. 16, along with the attached "gallery card" clipped out and completed. If they don't hang, we'll arrange them on tables. Children, families, or adults are invited to draw/color/paint/cut their own crosses for inclusion in the exhibit. We'll supplement the crosses with quotations about the cross and its centrality in our life of faith. If you'd like to contribute a favorite quote, that'd be great too. You may also donate a cross (or funds) to provide all our education classrooms with a cross.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim!

*Helena, the mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to Israel to look for Christian holy sites. She found what she believed were the sites of the crucifixion and burial of Jesus, sites that modern archaeologists believe may be correct. Constantine built two churches. The celebration of Holy Cross Day commemorates the dedication of the Church of the Resurrection in 335 in Jerusalem. This day gives the church a chance to celebrate the victory of the cross with a festivity that would be out of place on Good Friday. Alleluias are sung in thanksgiving for the tree of the cross, which Andrew of Crete described as "the trophy of God's victory." What better way to celebrate a new program year of education and service activities than to gather together first Beneath the Cross of Jesus?

Administration

We have almost completed building out the 2023-2024 program calendar. If you have proposals or calendar dates for existing programs or new initiatives, please submit your requests now.

We've been gathering by cluster to reflect about where each program area stands at this juncture in time:

WORSHIP LIFE

Our ministries of worship **LITURGIA**

W&M team + Music & Art + Sacristy/altar guild + Prayer ministry + Sacraments + Life passages

LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION

Our ministries of witness **MARTYRIA**

Faith Formation – cradle to grave + Faith Forming Faith/
Becoming the Story We Tell + Bible studies + Adult forum
+ Sunday School/Youth + VBS + Confirmation

ABUNDANT LIFE

Our ministries of fellowship **KOINONIA**

Sunday coffee fellowship + Quarterly all-congregation events + JOY + We Gather Together luncheons + Youth group + Life passages + Pastoral care + BeFriends + MCW + Bus ministry (National Night Out + Northeast Parade + Art-a-Whirl)

BEARING GOOD FRUIT

Our ministries of service **DIAKONIA**

Service projects + Stewardship + Acts of Mercy + Feed

My Starving Children + Roadside cleanup + Refugee support + Church directed mission (local assistance) + Benevolence support + Salty Carmel monthly serving teams + Pentecost birthday offering + Monthly emphasis + Third Sunday projects

BETTER TOGETHER

Our partner ministries in Northeast, Minneapolis, the ELCA and beyond **SYNOD**

Joint invitations to serving opportunities + Roadside Cleanup + Youth Group + VBS + Back office + Fellowship meals + Trunk or Treat + Quilt & Craft week

ADMIN

Our ministries tending the household of faith **OIKOS**

Congregation council (Pastor C) + Admin & Communication (Nancy) + Fiscal & Property (Pastor C & Steve) + MCCC (Brenda & Board) + Casa (Pastor Yolanda) OIKOS as in "economics"

We'll also hold an all-ministry-team leader meeting to kick off the autumn. Watch for the date. That's enough for a steamy August. See you in church!

Pastoral Acts

Our sympathy to:

- Jacquelin Hed, former childcare teacher, on the loss of her sister Julie Wesley
- The Nordeen family on the loss of Matt's brother Sandy
- Family of Arlyne Ingebretson

Farewell & Godspeed to:

- Nancy Nordeen, resigned her church office job for a teaching position.

Acknowledgment of gifts received

(7/19 - 8/22/2023)

- To the Foundation—Doug and Linda Jones, in memory of Meredith Jones
- Youth Fund—Charles Grider: In memory of David Grider

"80 and Over" Birthdays in Sept/Oct

- Sept. 22—Bev Lerold
- Sept 26—Bev Obright
- Oct. 19—Connie Wegner

All Ministry Team Leaders Meeting

Empowering lay leadership

Sunday, Sept. 24 adult forum

All ministry leaders are invited to attend an all-ministry team leaders gathering as the program year begins.

We'll discuss logistics like LAUNCH MEETINGS and project or team COORDINATORS. The trend post-pandemic is that standing monthly committee meetings are deadly. We'll discuss using all the technology tools we developed during the pandemic.

What does a LAUNCH MEETING include?

- Calendar of planning steps and gatherings
- Communication plan
- Financial considerations
- Oversight considerations
- Leaders recruited

- Post-project review
- Intergenerational component
- On-ramp for new faces

Permeability...

Where is the group who is going to get us new members? That responsibility belongs to us all. Every team and activity is responsible for evangelism. Again for emphasis:

Ask these questions about everything we consider investing time and resources into:

- Is it intergenerational?
- How can this activity better welcome those not yet a part of our community?
- In other words, is there an on ramp for guests and all ages?

Coming this Autumn

Upgraded membership & church management system

USPS changes bulk-mail rules

No longer a good option for MtC

Due to rising costs of printing and postage, new USPS processing rules, and the increase in our ability to share information digitally, we will no longer send a printed monthly Tidings to our members *unless* they request to be included by mail. We will continue to send printed monthly Tidings to those on our bulletin ministry list as well as those households without an email address on file.

Opt-in to receive printed/mailed monthly Tidings newsletter

We are happy to continue sending printed information to anyone else who wants it. We want to make sure we are reaching each one of you in the way that works best for you; but we also want to use our resources responsibly. Please contact the office to opt-in to continued print mailings of the monthly Tidings from the church at office@mountcarmelmpls.org or 612-781-2796.

During this transition, if you hear of anyone who has questions, has missed our messaging or needs the office to reach out directly, please give us their name. Thank you for your partnership on this!

Pastor C contact information

for pastoral crises, deaths or hospitalizations:

- pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org
- Call church first: 612.781-2796
- After hours: 612.251-5207 (cell/text)

Stick these numbers in your contact book.

Inquirers' coffee with Pastor C

Inquirers' coffee/New member orientation with Pastor C the first Sunday of September after worship, narthex/sanctuary; and generally once a month through the program year.

Pastor C is on Twitter

Subscribe to Pastor C's weekly twitter reflections - twice weekly on the themes of the sermon/readings.

Social media

Please subscribe to our YouTube channel and Pastor C's Twitter feed to help our outreach.

- Mt. Carmel YouTube: [@mountcarmellutheranchurch-2432](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-2432)
- Pr. C's Twitter: twitter.com/PastorDFoyC

Service To God and Neighbor

Karen's Korner

Mt. Carmel completes "Circle of Welcome" refugee project

A hearty thank you is extended to all who participated in and helped in so many ways welcome and get settled the Samkanai's family from Afghanistan. An estimated 460 hours were given in support of this family. The six months spent together had a few challenges, but also many successes. A special thank you is also extended to all who provided monetary support for this project. Since Mt. Carmel's role in this project has come to an end, the family continues to work with LSS (Luther Social Services) teams for continued supportive services.

At the August Council meeting, the Council voted to divide the remaining money in this project's dedicated account to present the family with gift cards for groceries and school supplies for the children and give a portion back to LSS for their Refugee Resettlement Program.

Again, thanks to everyone for helping this family get settled and begin a new life in a new country. God is good.

New AED (automated external defibrillator) purchased

In looking at our current AED, it became clear that after 18 years, it was time to upgrade to a new one. Thanks to research done by Rich Feist and Steve Panning, the Council voted to purchase a new bilingual AED with funds from the Memorial Account at their August meeting. It has been ordered and should be here soon. These machines have saved the lives of many, and we are grateful to be able to do this upgrade. We also want to say "thank you" to the 12 members who recently took the CPR class that was coordinated by Rich Feist through the St. Anthony Fire Department.

The Memorial Account is one that can be used for projects such as this. If at any time you wish to contribute to this account, just designate such on your offering envelope. It will be greatly appreciated as there is always a "wish list" of items that could benefit our congregation.

Current and Upcoming Building Projects

You may see some work projects taking place in and around the church in the next few months. Our building is

no different than individual items we need to care for on a regular basis such as cars, homes, etc., and we recently experienced a few of our own here at Mt. Carmel. The main floor offices air conditioning recently went out, so the Council has approved the replacement of the unit that covers that space. Kudos to Nancy and Brenda for "sweating it out" during those 90-degree days. We are also

experiencing some plumbing issues that are being looked at along with an area on the roof that needs repair. We will keep you abreast of when solutions have been determined on how to move forward with these projects.

Thanks to all who have done considerable work in getting information/bids/and bringing it before the Council. Often these are things that happen behind the scenes. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to give any of the Council members a call. They are Lory Dubbels, Al Erickson, Kathy Halverson, Doug Jones, Patrick Kutzer, Dave Larson, and Karen Moeller.

Sunday Coffee Fellowship

A new sign-up for this is posted on the wall by the serving counter in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up to keep this Sunday morning fellowship opportunity available. Cookies are always in the freezer so you don't need to bake or bring anything, and if you need help making coffee just let me (Karen Moeller) know and we will make sure someone is there to help you.

Salty Carmel Serving Teams

A new sign-up for this monthly ministry is posted in the narthex.. Please consider signing up for this new first "call for help" volunteer team.

Autumn Season

I would like to extend a challenge to every member both young (and that includes youth) and old, as we enter our Autumn season. Ask yourselves what it is you want and where you want Mt. Carmel to be a year from now, 3 years from now, and for years to come. And then ask yourselves "how can I help keep this congregation moving in a direction that will continue to make Mt. Carmel the "vibrant" church on the corner in Northeast Minneapolis."

Looking forward to a year full of opportunities in working together to "Learn, Live and Share God's Word."

*Karen Moeller
Council President*



Bearing Good Fruit

I have tried to keep things in my hands and have lost them all, but what I have given into God's hands I still possess.
—Martin Luther

Our AED was provided through Memorial and Honorarium gifts to Mt. Carmel. Thank you for considering these special gifts for Mt. Carmel in your life of faith. There are many ways that people can give gifts to Mt. Carmel. A gift may be given as a memorial for another, or in honor of a special event or person. Gifts are given for birthdays, anniversaries, life passages, thanksgivings. Special gifts are welcome at any time. As you make your gift you may want to direct the gift to a particular area of ministry. For more information about giving opportunities please visit with Pastor C or contact the church office. Thank you for considering a special gift for our congregation.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mt. Carmel Financials—Treasurer Update YTD: July 30, 2023

The Mt. Carmel congregation has continued in a positive direction in meeting our goal to erase our approved deficit budget of \$43,368.00.

Special Gifts of \$11,080.35 raised as of 7/30/2023.

Congratulations on surpassing the \$10,000 goal, and thanks for the monetary donations that have continued to come in.

Thank you to the Mt. Carmel Foundation who will provide this matching gift of \$11,100.00 towards our deficit challenge. They will be gifting \$5,000 from the \$1 for \$2 matching fund challenge that we met by July 1. This grant

is in addition to their initial commitment of \$6,100 to specified areas of the ministry budget.

Total monies received through Congregation Special gifts and Foundation Gifts towards erasing the Deficit are **\$22,180.35.**

July Actual Contributions/Income	Budgeted Contributions/Income
\$29,619.02	\$21,692.58
Actual Expense	Budgeted Expense
\$22,847.91	\$25,306.57
July Actual Income/Expense	\$6,771.11
Budgeted Income/Expense	(3,613.99)

YTD Update:	
Actual Income/Expense	\$13,302.91
Budgeted Income/Expense	(\$25,298.05)

Prayers and challenges are bringing answers! Join in the excitement to help reach the 2023 "Erase the Deficit Challenge." We pray pledges and giving proceeds continue on this healthy trend.

*Diane Davis Langer
Mt. Carmel Church Treasurer*



PITSTOP!

Waite Park summer school kids learned to be safe, confident cyclists during their daily rides around the neighborhood. On one hot day, Pastor C and Nancy offered a cool treat to over 100 kids and teachers from a makeshift popsicle stand on the parkway.

NEW: Salty Carmel Serving Teams

Pilot monthly program in September

- Sign up and serve for a month
- Quick monthly volunteer pool for incidental service opportunities
- Serving opportunities offered weekly
- Monthly commitment accommodates travel schedules
- Intergenerational - whole households serve
- Meet new people serving together for a month
- Easy to integrate new faces
- Meet together one month prior to review calendar/needs/projects
- Flexibility within the serving team if your plans suddenly change
- Ready go to as unexpended opportunities to serve arise

September & October: Salty Carmel teams

There are so many roles to fill on Sunday mornings and the need for volunteers can feel overwhelming. How about joining a team to share the workload? Members from several households can join together to cover church needs for a month at time. The September team will cover two important roles to start. First, the team will act as hosts that will greet people at the door before the service and present the gifts of bread and wine at the offering. Second, this team will be on call for needs that come up during the week, such as a request for hospitality at a funeral service, hosting a piano recital or completing a property-related project. Your whole household is invited to work together and share the responsibilities.

This time will be a good opportunity to observe other harder-to-fill roles that need new volunteers such as liturgist/worship assistant, sound and video tech and money counter. Notify the church office if you can be part of this new team for September or one of the coming months. We hope this effort will strengthen our volunteer base and build leadership throughout the congregation.

The September team coordinator will be Nancy Nordeen.

Who would like to serve with the Nordeen family for the month of September? We'd like three additional members/ households to make up the team. Let the office know at office@mountcarmelmpls.org or 612-781-2796.

Worship tech team

Our sound, video and PowerPoint team needs more members. Orientation provided. Contact the office to learn more.

Chancel flowers

Summer and Autumn opportunities remain open. Sign up in the narthex. Suggested donation: \$27

Fundraising request process

A short new form will be available soon for all proposed activities that include fundraising. Complete this form along with your event request form. The fundraising request will be sent along to the Exec Committee as we work on our strategic focus of our life together and congregation activities.

Your generosity propels us forward

Thank you for your regular and faithful contributions to our life together. To give: Mail your check to church or drop it off in our secure mailbox

Donate on-line by credit card or bank transfer. Visit our website or scan this QR CODE



CONSIDER Vanco automated giving to help keep your contributions up to date and to help keep our incoming gifts consistent through the year.

To use Vanco to give online, please make sure to logon to Vanco and create account and giving plan. You may change that plan at any time. If you'd like the office to make any updates for you, please fill out an authorization form. We cannot make changes to Vanco without your written consent. We're happy to help.



*You are the salt of the earth.
If salt has lost its saltiness,
what good is it?*

Matthew 5:13-14

Abundant Life (Fellowship, Relationships)

Congregation Events for Autumn

"We Gather Together" Lunches are back!

To help celebrate our upcoming September 17th "Mt. Carmel Homecoming and Rally Around the Cross" Sunday, our "We Gather Together" team is going to provide a luncheon following the service. It will fit the "Homecoming" theme and who knows, there may even be a cheer or two. I hear we have some former cheerleaders in our midst! This is the Sunday we "kick off" (don't you just love the use of that football terminology?!) our fall season with the installation of our education leaders and teachers. Invite someone to join you, maybe a family member, maybe someone who hasn't been back since the pandemic, maybe a neighbor. Come and worship and stay for lunch. Let's fill the church and Rally Around the Cross

Parkway walks with Pastor C

Pastor C is building a calendar of mornings when he would welcome company on neighborhood walks... usually around 10,000 steps. Most likely times will be occasional Wednesday mornings around 9 a.m. Meet at church. If you think you might be interested, put your name on a list to receive a message about details, weather and schedule permitting. Contact the office.

Chair yoga Wednesdays

Did you know that chair yoga happens in our narthex? Coordinated by a building user group/neighbor. Check in with the office for more details.

We'll pick you up

Need a ride to church? The mini-bus ministry is ready to serve you. Call the church office by noon Friday to let us know you want a ride. (preferably by Thursday in the summer)

BeFrienders Update

Are you or a loved one struggling with a diagnosis of cancer or dementia? Are you having difficulties as a caregiver? Have you recently lost a job? These are a few of the topics addressed by CareNotes. Our BeFriender ministry is providing these booklets. Find the pamphlets on the shelves in the narthex. They're free for the taking. To speak to someone more in depth about one of these topics, call the church office, Dave Olson at 651-528-7459 or Pastor C.

JOY GROUP!

Group of JOY, Just Older Youth, had a ball with a State Fair luncheon complete with corndogs, trivia and a raucous round of Right/Left. Watch for details about more events later this fall.



Softball

Mt Carmelites ended the 2023 Season with a lot of fun stats and celebrated their winning season with a fellowship event cheering on the Twins on July 25

Lots to celebrate:

1. Scored a total of 124 runs in eight games - Hit, run, score (Team Motto)
2. 7 wins
3. 5 of the wins with a run total of 17 runs.
4. All games scored 11 runs or more.
5. 4 wins in a come from behind scenario = Excitement
6. 3 in the park home runs (we have fast runners)
7. First ever season with zero rain outs
8. Faithful fans that are the best cheering squad ever. (We appreciate you)

Thank you Mt Carmel Foundation for your faithful sponsorship once again.

NEW: Soup-tember

Join us for soup supper on Wednesdays in September. This simple meal is free and open to the community. Invite your friends and neighbors! We'll serve September 13, 20 and 27 from 5:30-6:15 p.m. in the fellowship hall. If you'd like to help, contact Nancy Nordeen at office@mountcarmelmpls.org. We look forward to connecting with all of our Mt. Carmel friends after a busy summer.

Especially expected are confirmation families, singles, choir members and childcare families.

Inquirers' coffee

Are you new to Mt. Carmel? Are you considering joining our community or being baptized? On the first Sunday of each month (generally) you are invited to coffee with Pastor C in the narthex immediately following worship. No preparation required. We'll share informally to get to know one another.

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

Worship Life

Ruth writes to the church at St. Anthony

Worship at Mt. Carmel has taken on some new flavor on Sunday mornings. Pr. C. has come to us with some new ideas and a celebrative attitude. Planning is already happening by the Worship/Music Team for Autumn, November, Advent and Christmas.

This is your OFFICIAL INVITE for all of those who think they would like to be a part of these events as well as the weekly services of our Mt. Carmel family.

Homecoming is a great opportunity to engage more deeply in our worship life as programs resume. We'd love to welcome you. Here's a rundown of possibilities:

- **Chancel Choir:** a small, but mighty group who leads the congregation, enhances worship, and sings for special events.
- **Jubilate Bells:** 5 dedicated people who play one Sunday per month (2 rehearsals per month)

- **Little Kids Choir:** preschool and elementary
- **Bell ringing workshop:** 7:00 pm Monday evening for those interested but unexperienced
- **Lay Assisting Minister/Liturgist/Intercessor/Prayerer** at all services
- **Readers/Lectors** to read, proclaim and embody the word
- **Dramatic Readers** for proclaiming Scripture in a dramatized style
- **Ushers and Hosts** to greet/seat people with hospitality and welcome

There are several events coming as we return from summer activities to begin a new year for our Mt. Carmel family. Among some of those to look forward to are:



*The passion prediction
and rebuke to Peter*

Sunday, Sept. 3

Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.
Thanksgiving for the
gift meaningful work
(Labor Day)

Gospel reading:
Matthew 16:21-28

(Labor Day weekend)



*Reconciliation in the
community of faith*

Sunday, Sept. 10

Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.
God's Work, Our
Hands
Blessing of school
year (backpacks) &
education
professionals
Prayer & Anointing
for Healing

Gospel reading:
Matthew 18:15-20



*Holy Cross: Come Home
to the Cross*

Sunday, Sept. 17

Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.
Blessing of Sunday
School & faith
formation leaders
Chancel Choir



Gospel reading:
*A parable of
forgiveness*
Matthew 18:21-35



*The parable of the
vineyard workers*

Sunday, Sept. 24

Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.
Chancel Choir

Gospel reading:
Matthew 20:1-16



*A parable of doing
God's will*

Sunday, Oct. 1

Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.
Chancel Choir
Blessing of justice &
legal professionals

Gospel reading:
Matthew 21:23-32

Autumn worship highlights:

- **Sept. 3 2023**—Thanksgiving for the gift of meaningful work (Labor Day); Inquirers' coffee with Pastor C
- **Monday, Sept. 4, 2023**—Church office closed (national holiday)
- **Sept. 6**—Choir rehearsal resumes. at 7:30 p.m.
- **Sept. 10, 2023**—God's Work. Our Hands. New seasonal worship pattern for Autumn; Healing prayers; Blessing of the school year (backpacks); Blessing of education professionals. Pick up Choir for all ages.
- **Sept. 17, 2023**—Homecoming (Holy Cross) Sunday—come home to the cross, Rally around the cross; New program year invitation to all; Blessing of faith formation teachers and learners. Chancel Choir returns.
- **Sept. 20, 2023**—Jubilate Bells rehearsals resume
- **Sept. 24, 2023**—Faith formation/Sunday School/ Forums resume
- **Oct. 1, 2023**—Blessing of legal and justice professionals
- **Oct. 15, 2023**—Blessing of health and healing professionals (St Luke); Blessing of BeFriends ministry
- **Oct. 22**—Reception of new members.
- **Oct. 29, 2023**—Reformation
- **Nov 5, 2023**—All Saints' Festival Worship
- **Nov 20 week**—Thanksgiving worship

We welcome back all of our dedicated participants in worship and music with gratitude and real excitement and hope for a creative, meaningful and FUN year.

Mt. Carmel needs YOU! Together we can accomplish God's Work with Our Hands.

Ruth Bills, Music Director

Our book of remembrance will be available throughout October for you to record the names of those you will remember this year on All Saints.



The parable of the vineyard owner's son

Sunday, Oct. 8

Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.
Chancel Choir
Thanksgiving for animals

Gospel reading:
Matthew 21:33-46



The parable of the unwelcomed guest

Sunday, Oct. 15

Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.
Chancel Choir
Prayer & Anointing
for Healing (St Luke)

Gospel reading:
Matthew 22:1-14



A teaching about the emperor and God

Sunday, Oct. 22

Holy Baptism Festival
Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.
Chancel Choir

Gospel reading:
Matthew 22:15-22



Continue in my word and you will know the truth; Loving God and neighbor

Sunday, Oct. 29

Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.
Reformation weekend;
Bible milestone
Chancel Choir



Gospel reading:
Matthew 22:34-46
John 8:31-36



All Saints:
Blessed are the poor
in spirit

Sunday, November 5

Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.
All Saints observance
Chancel Choir
Special invitation to
those recently
bereaved

Funeral Plan
workshop; Cemetery
visits;
Change your clocks

Gospel reading:
Matthew 5:1-12

The Shape of the Season—Autumn *We count the cost of discipleship*

September

In September Matthew's parables of Jesus continue to unfold as we come home to the cross. Holy Communion is celebrated weekly. All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Communion will be served standing, at stations, with individual chalices. Chancel Choir returns on September 17.

The coffee will be ready for fellowship after worship. If you're away on Sunday mornings, consider joining us on YouTube. Invite a friend to worship with you this autumn!

October

In October our gospel readings from Matthew turn toward themes of the harvest and the fulfillment

of all things. The readings continue to move in this direction through November, leading us into the hope of the world to come with Advent. Our Autumn worship and music patterns continue through October. Communion is celebrated weekly, served standing, at stations, with individual chalices.

October 1 we'll ask for God's blessing on all those in justice and legal professions.

October 8 we'll remember Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4) in giving thanks for all animals.

October 15 we offer prayer and anointing for healing (remembering Luke, evangelist & physician (Oct. 18). Blessing of BeFriends ministry

October 22 is our next baptism festival. Contact the church office if you or a family member wish to be a candidate for Holy Baptism. The following festival is in January 2024. Reception of new members.

October 29 is Reformation weekend. We observe the festival with a Bible milestone event in our faith formation ministries.

November 5 is All Saints weekend. We'll remember those we've buried since last All Saints, have the opportunity to visit a cemetery with our pastor in the afternoon, shaping our service especially for those who have been recently bereaved. Pastor C will lead a funeral planning workshop during the Sunday morning forum.



Camp Wapo!

Thanks to the support of the Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, 11 children attended Camp Wapo in Amery, Wisconsin. Pastor C and Nancy visited mid-week and watched an all-camp game that was a wild mix of dodgeball, ultimate Frisbee and tag with pool noodles. They toured the campus and were treated to a delicious lunch. The kids introduced us to new friends and shared their highlights from the week: candy from the canteen, good food and games of gaga ball.





Worship With Us

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

Videos are available to watch at any time after live worship on YouTube. Fellowship to follow worship.

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



In the parables of soil, weeds and seeds—Just keep planting! God gives the growth!

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

Summer office hours
Monday–Thursday, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Fridays, closed

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Mt. Carmel Child Care, ext. 107
Brenda Wetzel
612-781-2798
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Mini-bus Transportation
Call 612-781-2796 to be added to Sunday's list
mountcarmelmpls.org

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 and Mission Northeast.

The Mt. Carmel facility is shared with the following community groups: Scout Troop 132, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and Alcoholics Anonymous and Casa de Oracion a las Naciones.

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



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America