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Tuckpointing

Work began this week on the
Tuckpointing!

A crew was out beginning
Wednesday working on the ground
level parts they could reach without a
ladder.

Crews will continue to work on the
upper levels, including the bell tower,
once they get a lift in place.

Thank you for the many donations
which made this building repair
possible!



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Women of Heart

Mt Zion's Women of Heart group will be meeting on
Saturday, Sept. 12
(NOT 9/5) due to the Labor Day Weekend..



We will be studying Psalm 30.

“Weeping may linger for the night
But joy comes in the morning”

And

“You turned my mourning into dancing”

Blood Drive

**Aldrich Family Blood Drive will be
Saturday, August 22 from 8:00am to Noon.**

The Aldrich Family Blood Drive is held annually in memory of Wauwatosa elementary student Jake Aldrich.

If you're able to stop by and make a blood donation, the need is great! **Just one pint of your blood can help three of your neighbors right here in the community!**

Blood donations help people in emergency situations and people who regularly rely on transfusions healthy blood, such as those who have cancer or Sickel Cell Anemia (<https://bit.ly/3U08rjs>).

Appointments are recommended but walk-ins are welcome. Head to Versiti Wisconsin to make an appointment.

Did you know?

Only 5% of the entire US population donates blood.

**If just 1% more Americans donated blood,
blood shortages would be alleviated!**

(Americasblood.org/statistics)

August 9 to August 16

Sun Aug 9	9:30am Worship Service <u>Zoom ID:</u> 841 6597 2335 <u>Passcode:</u> 12012
Mon Aug 10	6:00pm Property Committee Meeting 7:00pm Knit One, Pray Too 7:00pm NA 12 Step Group Fellowship Hall
Tues Aug 11	Primary Elections Fellowship Hall Noon AA 12 Steps Meeting Upper Room 6:30pm Hands of AA 12-Step Upper Room 6:30pm Troop 27 Meeting Hearth Room 6:30pm Outreach Meeting New Conf. Room
Wed Aug 12	10:00am Pastoral Care Hours Office <i>(Until Noon)</i> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible Study 1:00pm Prayer Warriors 1:00pm Tosa Cares Donation Drop-Off
Thurs Aug 13	
Friday Aug 14	12:00pm Mayfair AA Group 6:00pm ACA 12 Step Group Room 100
Sat Aug 15	
Sun Aug 16	9:30am Worship Service
Next Week	Aldrich Family Blood Drive

Commemorations

**Florence Nightingale, died 1910; Clara Maass, died 1901;
renewers of society**

Thursday, August 13, 2026

Florence Nightingale was born in Florence, Italy, and horrified her wealthy English family by deciding to become a nurse. She led a group of nurses in ministering in the midst of the Crimean War, and worked for hospital reform.



Clara Maass, a native of New Jersey, was also a war nurse, and volunteered as a subject for research on yellow fever. She died of the disease, but her willingness to be a research subject allowed scientists to understand that the disease was spread through mosquitos and led to a yellow fever vaccine.



Nurse Clara Louise Maass, U.S.A.
Yellow Fever Marston, Class of 1905, Lutheran
Memorial Hospital, now Clara Maass Memorial
Hospital, Newark, N. J.

Today's Volunteers

Altar Care: Joe and Nancy Di Giacinto

Assisting Minister: Mavis Roesch

Acolyte: Jack Johnston

Lector: Luke and Emmett Johnson

Communion bread: Erik Peterson

Communion wine: Erin McDougal, Refilwe Magasa-Bockhorst, Mavis R.

Ushers: Suzy Morgan and Dave Nelson

Audio/Visual: Mary and Douglas Johnson

Greeters: Edie Di Giacinto and Lora Marheine

Tellers: Brad Hext and Tom Morgan

Access the Worship Volunteer Schedule at: bit.ly/4jEMCPf

PRAYER WARRIORS

Help lift up our community's concerns and thanksgivings

<https://bit.ly/4uNBxAb>

**Need Prayer?
Submit prayer requests:**

 pastor@mtzionlutheran.org

 414-258-0456

 Fill out a prayer
card in-person

Where's the Gap?

Last Sunday we announced that the free community dinner was again cancelled. No one had RSVP'd. Later in the week Pastor Marilyn Miller made a very good point about the dinners.

If people aren't signing up for... or wanting...or needing...
to be at the free dinners
then maybe that's not where the gap is in this community.

Honestly, the reason we started the community dinner at Mt Zion was because we saw nightly dinners served at Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center, thought it looked amazing, and wanted to do that kind of community service here.

But – what if, like plants, ideas don't transplant well? Brendan and I have wanted and tried for years to grow blueberries in our yard. Yet, despite two blueberry bushes in different spots, they have struggled to grow. So, earlier this week my husband and I pivoted. We decided not to buy any more blueberries but we bought a couple additional raspberry plants which do thrive in our yard and which we need more of so we can make jams. What if it's ok to do that with our community dinner, too? We've struggled for a year to get the community dinner to grow, but to very little success. Well, what could we grow instead?

Where are the gaps in this particular part of Wauwatosa?

When Reformation Lutheran moved to their new location years ago, they looked at the neighborhood in a five-block radius to see what already existed and what was lacking. Rev. Miller sent people out to talk to the community and see what people needed. They didn't need another food pantry, but people did need cleaning products. Thus, the SONshine Pantry was born.

Within a five-block radius around Mt Zion have we failed to find or address a critical gap?

Would you like to help find the gaps? To find out how God is calling us to truly send the most love and care to neighbors right around the corner? Think about it and we'll follow up on this idea in September.

Jess Monahan

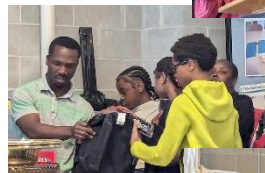
Celebrating Summer Youth Program

SALT – Serving and Learning Together

On Sunday, August 2 young people and their families, Reformation leaders and members, Reformation partners – all participated in worship and celebration of 50 young people completing the summer work program.

Highschoolers who participated in internship programs like the Washington Senior Center, Just One More Ministry, and State Farm Insurance shared their stories and what they learned from these experiences and middle schoolers shared prayers of thanksgiving for the summer program. Students received school bags, supplies, water bottles, ear phones and a financial gift to buy school clothes.

Congratulations to these young people, and thanks to Pastor Grant Applehaus and Thaurra Stalling, who led this ministry and to all the Reformation partners who provided resources and lunches.



August Mission of the Month

Through two of our missions of the month this summer, we've supported K-12 students with backpacks, school supplies, and learning opportunities. Now, let's help our college students as they seek out higher learning and deeper faith.

As our young people start college this month, please support our August Mission of the Month, Lutheran Campus Ministry. This ministry serves students at all Milwaukee area colleges, providing a safe space at the Corner House on the campus of UW-Milwaukee to share and deepen their faith and make healthy friendships. Worship services are Sundays at 5:30pm and Faith Formation is held Wednesdays at 6:30pm, working well into many students' schedules. Something extra special is the free breakfast offered Mondays between 9:00am and 11:00am for any student of any religious background.

The Pastor at Corner House is Rev. Elias Henry. He received his MDiv from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2024 before being called to the Corner House in 2025. "Pastor Eli is passionate about biblical studies, church history, and helping students (re)discover the beauty of traditional Christian liturgy." He and his husband live on the East Side of Milwaukee and as an openly queer person, Pastor Eli is committed to making sure the doors of the Corner House are open to all. (www.lcm-in-mke.org)

Put "August Mission" or "Campus Ministry" in the memo line of your donation.



Campus Ministry

Day of Service!



God's work. Our hands.



Join us for a day of service!

Our congregation will soon engage in service work right here in our community. We are one of over 8,300 congregations participating in "God's work. Our hands." day of service. Across the country, thousands of members will work to make a positive change in our communities, build and deepen relationships and share God's love. Join us as we do God's work with our hands! Contact us for more information:

Mt Zion Lutheran Church
Saturday, September 19
Multiple projects to help with
at Mt Zion and in the community
More details to come!



Election and the Common Good

Beloved in Christ,

As the six bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) representing Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, we come together to speak with one voice about the upcoming primary and general elections.

First, we affirm our trust in Wisconsin's elections system. The trained professionals who administer our elections are tasked with helping ensure that every eligible voter has the opportunity to cast a ballot, that every vote be counted, and that the will of the people is honored.

As Lutherans, we understand civic life as part of God's ongoing work in the world. God creates us as people who live in relationship with one another and within communities and institutions. We are called to use our knowledge, wisdom, and power not for self-interest but to serve our neighbors and promote justice.

Voting is both a civic responsibility and an expression of hope. It reflects a belief that our common life matters and that we can work together toward a more just and peaceful future.

Second, we denounce hateful, deceptive, and violent speech and actions. Violence and intimidation have no place in our political life or our communities. Elections are a time to peacefully voice our hopes for the future through voting.

In a time marked by deep division, God calls us to stand for both justice and reconciliation. Political opponents are not enemies. Even in profound disagreement, we are called to see one another as neighbors and to seek the common good. As our church reminds us, "There is no neighbor, no enemy, no politician for whom Christ did not die" (ELCA Faith & Civic Life Social Statement).

When civic life becomes a contest for domination, public service is reduced to a zero-sum struggle for power, and we lose sight of the deeper purpose of government: to promote justice and serve the wellbeing of all, especially the most vulnerable among us.

Finally, we affirm the importance of protecting every eligible person's right to vote and ensuring meaningful access to participation in free and fair elections. When our social and political structures are distorted away from that goal, they fall short of their purpose to serve the common good. Systems meant to uphold our shared life should never become barriers to participation.

We call upon one another to engage in ways that are shaped by love rather than fear, seeking the common good and honoring the dignity of all our neighbors. Our shared hope is for a future where we live with justice and in peace, where all have access to what they need to thrive, and where fear does not define our relationships.

We pray for those who serve in public office, for those who administer elections, and for all who participate in civic life. We pray for wisdom, humility, and courage – for ourselves and for our neighbors – that we may seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

In Christ,

Bishop Anne Edison-Albright, Bishop Felix Malpica, Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe, Bishop Katherine Finegan, Bishop Martin Halom, Bishop Paul Erickson

Steve's Tidbits

The Tenuous Future of Sea Turtles and Other Reptiles

My love for turtles led Sherry and me to North Padre Island near Corpus Christi, TX to volunteer our services to the Padre Island National Seashore Sea Turtle Science and Recover Program in their efforts to retrieve and incubate eggs of endangered sea turtles. The most abundant species in the Gulf of Mexico (America?) is the Kemp's ridley sea turtle. These turtles once flourished with tens of thousands nesting on gulf shores in the early 20th century. Since then, their numbers have greatly declined, landing them on the endangered species list. Careful monitoring of turtle nesting, with egg retrieval and temperature -controlled incubation, has enabled turtle numbers to rebound.

Sherry and I worked as egg runners where we patrolled the beach until called to the site of a nesting turtle; we then carefully dug up the eggs and transported them in special containers to headquarters where they were placed in an incubation chamber. This process is important for two very good reasons. First, there are many potential predators for whom turtle eggs are a great delicacy, putting freshly laid eggs at risk. These include coyotes, badgers, racoons and ghost crabs. Second, 50-55 days after laying, the eggs hatch and then a perilous journey ensues—the trek to the ocean. They are easy pickings en route for crabs and gulls, but, on the average, up to 85% successfully reach the water. In the North Padre Island turtle program, public hatchling releases are held where volunteers protect the young turtles from would-be predators as they march to the sea.

Recently, a third reason for the rescue program has reared its ugly head. Reptiles like sea turtles differ from most vertebrates in that their sex is not determined by genetics. They lack X and Y sex-determining chromosomes like we have. Instead, becoming male or female is determined by the temperature within the nest.



If the temperature is about 84 degrees Fahrenheit during a critical mid-incubation window, babies will hatch in a half-and-half mix of males and females. But the hotter the nest, development favors females. In some beaches along the gulf coast in Mexico and Texas, the temperatures have increased to the point that hatchlings are overwhelmingly female. (Interestingly, whereas higher temperatures lead to more female turtles, they have the opposite effect on crocodilians, leading to a preponderance of males).

How in the world reptile biology came to rely on temperature to decide the sex of babies is largely a mystery. Nor do researchers understand why incubating eggs at a particular temperature produces a mix of males and females, since they were all exposed to the same temperature.

Global warming puts at risk the future of animals with temperature-dependent sex determination. Uncharacteristically warm temperatures could eventually lead to one predominant sex and doom them to extinction. Carefully controlling incubation temps in the Padre island turtle program makes it possible to artificially manipulate the sexual outcome of hatchlings and ensure their sexual dichotomy.

Steve Downs

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Brad H. 8/1
Jenny H. 8/2
Jada G. 8/4
Edie D. 8/5
Doris J. 8/5
Jesse M. 8/6
Tom W. 8/7
Quintin P. 8/8
Refilwe M. 8/10

Mia B. 8/13
Dom J. 8/13
Mark S. 8/17
Jennifer D. 8/17
Tammy C. 8/20
Vicki C. 8/21
Katie F. 8/21

Karen C. 8/21
Mickey F. 8/22
Megan B. 8/22
Jenni P. 8/24
Spencer J. 8/26
Amanda W. 8/28
Liz A. 8/28
Kurt K. 8/29
Grace B. 8/30
Julie B. 8/31

Anniversaries

Dave and Sara B. 8/2
Jenny and Brian H. 8/5
Liz and Adam F. 8/8
Mitch and Kelsey L. 8/11
Brad and Meghann S. 8/11
Erin M and Drae S. 8/11

Gloria and Kevin C. 8/14
Liz and Keith A. 8/15
Tom and Linda E. 8/16
Mavis and Jerry R. 8/21
Elmer and Loretta B. 8/25
Dave and Debbie F. 8/27

Did You Know?

Altenheim might sound like one of the nine realms Thor is supposed to protect in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, but it actually translates to “Elderly Home” or “Nursing Home”. And you can find the word “Altenheim” on the side of a building just down the road on North Ave!

What is now named the Lutheran Home began 120 years ago in a house on 8 acres at the corner of North and Wauwatosa with enough room for 15 people. It was established to care for retired pastors, teachers, and Lutheran church workers.

Read more of this fascinating local history and the many people involved at: [Lutheranhome.org/120th-anniversary/](https://lutheranhome.org/120th-anniversary/)

Get a piece of candy when you tell Jess
this week’s code word: “Altenheim”.

