



# Mt. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

## October Newsletter

### 2018



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## *God's Encouraging Word ... when I am tired*

Sleep experts advise getting seven to eight hours of sleep a night. We need rest for our tired bodies to recuperate.

Even on the most regular day, life is draining. The work day is long and the demands are great. The commute, getting the kids to school, work schedules, meeting deadlines, grocery shopping, getting dinner ready, children's activities, only to get ready to do it over again the next day. Getting older doesn't help matters. By the time you hit the pillow at night you may feel like a smart device that has only 2% battery life left.

But what do you do when you become tired emotionally? It's the exhaustion that comes from strained relationships, heated arguments and being rejected by those from whom you want acceptance.

Then there's that inner weariness—the kind that no one else knows you have except you. The weariness that comes from the burden of sin and guilt. It comes when you must live in the brokenness of past mistakes. When things don't go so well on any given day, you wonder if God is angry and out to get you. The earthly consequences of your sins and knowledge of your guilt is...well...spiritually tiring.

God comes to you today with an encouraging word recorded in the book of Isaiah: The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

The LORD is the everlasting God. He is the Creator. He never gets tired. He has perfect understanding; he knows what it's like when you feel tired for any reason at all. He promises to give strength to you when you're tired. The LORD God is Jesus, your Savior. He took your sins and guilt to the cross and died for you. It's a fact! Jesus took your sins and guilt away from you, buried it all in his tomb, and rose from the dead. Your sins are forgiven. That's rest—rest for your soul. Talk about strength for the weary!

And don't forget! It's the LORD God who gives the blessing of physical rest too. It's been said that a clean conscience is a good pillow. God gives you this clean conscience in Jesus Christ. He also provides you with home, food, and bed to become recharged to tackle the new day with all its challenges. So do it with all the energy and strength that Lord God gives you as his own through faith in Jesus!



# A Message from our Outreach Pastor . . .

Friendship is the topic this month as we celebrate Friendship Sunday on October 21. When talking about friends, I believe there are 3 different kinds of friends we have. Let me explain.

When I think of friends, I think of you first, my friends in Christ. We have gotten to know one another through our joys and burdens, growing closer to God and one another at the same time! This is what I love about our family of faith. I pray that our friendship in Christ continues to grow! But as your friend, and pastor, I know there are some personal challenges that face us (as they always do under the sun of this sinful world). It seems like there have been more burdens recently. There are health issues that more than a few of us are facing. We are always praying for more than a few who are sick or hurting. There is the church break-in that happened over a month ago that we are still dealing with. And there are other personal things through which Satan would seek to destroy us. Sometimes I would just like to say “hang in there” as one friend to another. That sentiment doesn’t seem adequate. But this is exactly what our Lord and best friend says to us. “*The testing of your faith develops perseverance*” (James 1:3).

Our God and Savior does not sit in heaven as an observer of our lives, but a participant and closest friend in our lives. His words concerning his presence, his promises and his power, given to those who trust in him through faith, are woven like a golden thread from Genesis to Revelation. And so perseverance in trials itself is working. For through trials God is working to make us complete and mature in our faith. For when we “hang in there” in the midst of trials, we are actually “hanging on” to the Lord himself to be with us in the trial and get us through the trial. And the more we hang in there and hang on to him in faith, we see more clearly that he is actually hanging on to us! As the Lord says in 1 Corinthians: “*My power is made perfect in weakness.*”

The third kind of friend we have are those who do not know this truth. They are seeking answers to the burdens they have in life. They do not have a church home where they can be encouraged by God’s people & Word regularly. I thank God for my Christian friends throughout my life. Without them I would not be here. God used them to guide me closer to Him.

Can he use you to guide your friends closer to Him? Yes! He does this through our Christian encouragement and love for them. He does this through a simple invitation.

Philip called his friend Nathanael and invited him to see Jesus in John chapter 1. A young Israelite servant girl invited Naaman to see the Lord’s prophet about his leprosy in 2 Kings chapter 5. A Samaritan woman invited her neighbors to see Jesus and many came to believe, we read in John chapter 4. It is only natural for God’s people to invite others to see him!

At Mt. Zion we have an opportunity to invite a friend (remembering that all results are up to God, not us!) to *Movie and a Meal*, on Sunday October 21<sup>st</sup>. That Sunday, we will see our new WELS movie about the life and mission work of the Apostle Paul during worship (normal times), and have a friendship brunch at 9:15am. We plan on wearing name tags that will be available for all, so we can better welcome and make our guests feel like part of our family.

Invite your family and friends to this wonderful time together to the glory of God!

Yours in Christ  
Pastor Scott Bergemann



# Financial Summary

*Below is our information for September 2018:*

Total Budget Needed: \$36,437.50  
Total Budget Received \$36,824.39

**We exceeded reaching our budgetary ministry needs in September by \$386.89 (\$77.38/wk).**

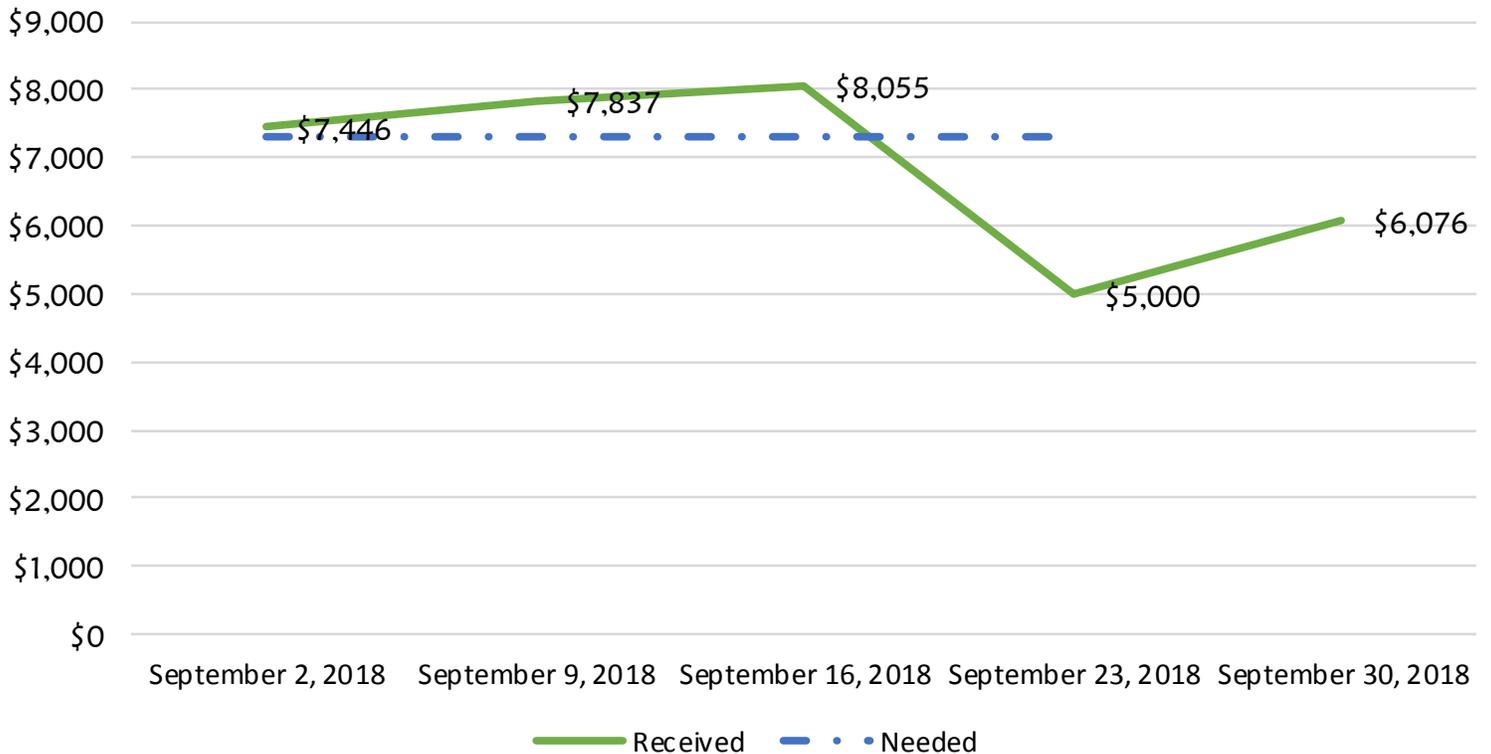
**Our current Fiscal Year to Date Budget is: -\$2,446.98 (which is \$174.78/week)**



## Weekly Total Budget Received

Needed Weekly: \$7,288

Weekly Average for Month: \$6,883 / Weekly Average for Fiscal Year: \$7,113



# Capital Campaign

Progress towards \$130,000 our Goal  
As of September 30th, 2018



## Received & Spent Comparison

(Income & Expenses)

