



# Mt. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

## February Newsletter

### 2019



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## ***I Need More...FAITHFUL FRIENDS***

A friend is someone who knows all about me and likes me anyway. Have you heard that description of a friend? How would you define what a friend is? Are you happy with the friends you have? Do you wish you had more friends or different kinds of friends? That your friendships were healthier or more helpful?

People might define friends in various ways, but one thing is certain. God designed people with a need for friendship. When he created the first man, he offered this observation: “It is not good for the man to be alone” (Genesis 2:18). We naturally feel the need that God observed, but faithful friends might be hard to come by.

In the internet world, friends often call each other BFF’s—Best Friends Forever. But those same friends often turn on each other and end up more as enemies than as friends. No matter how well someone knows and likes you, there really is no friend who knows all about you. Your innermost secrets remain locked within you, and there are deeper feelings than anyone could ever understand.

God wants you to know what you might have suspected all along. He does know all about you. He observes that you need someone to whom you can pour out your heart, and he is willing to be that one.

But do you want God to be a BFF, when deep down you know what he knows about you? As his own Word says, “If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves” (1 John 1:8). Few of us would make such a claim, but the good news is that God still wants to claim us as friends, despite our shortcomings.

That is why Jesus Christ, God’s Son, came into the world long ago. He came to do what only the best of friends would do—he came to lay down his life for you. He came to stand in for you and take whatever punishment God’s justice demanded for your sins. And God accepted his own Son’s sacrifice to wipe out the guilt of your sin.

That is why God invites you to see him as your best friend. He knows all about you and everything that you need. He extends his love to you without conditions, for the sake of his Son’s death on the cross.

You will not find a more faithful friend than God. Look to the living God and learn more about his faithfulness and love. The more you learn, the more you will find that he is a true Friend that you can always trust.





# living stones

## POSITIONED TO THRIVE

# WELS WOMEN'S MINISTRY CONFERENCE

**JULY 18-20, 2019**  
**LUTHER PREPARATORY**  
**SCHOOL** 1300 Western Ave.  
Watertown, WI

### 1 PETER 2:4-5

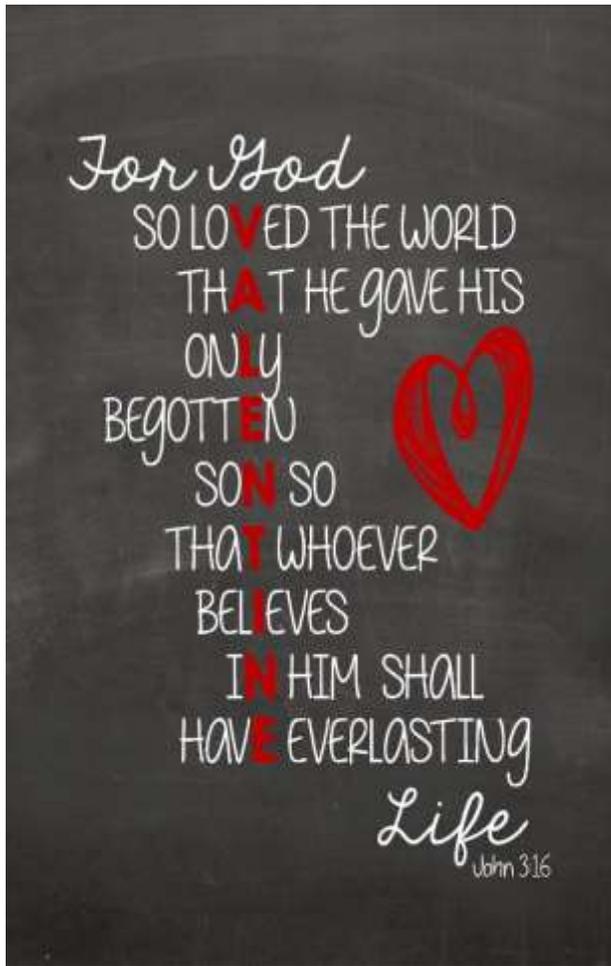
*As you come to Him, the Living Stone – rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to Him – **you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house** to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

This year's conference will highlight God's design and purpose for the Christian women in our society today. From openly speaking about Jesus at work or on the college campus, to reaching out in love to another generation, to working with others in God's kingdom, each woman is uniquely and purposefully in that place by God's design.

Even when it's difficult. Even when it's lonely. Even when it doesn't make sense.

With God's Word, this conference will nurture, encourage and equip you to see how God intends for you to thrive in the unique situation He has placed you in. Speakers include: Pastor Mike Novotny, Naomi Schmidt, Lori Lorig, Mike Westendorf, Jenna Keller, and many more. As Living Stones, learn how you are Positioned to Thrive!

**[wels.net/wmconference](http://wels.net/wmconference)**



# Financial Summary

*Below is our information for January 2019:*

Total Budget Needed: \$29,150.00  
 Total Budget Received \$30,412.00

**We exceeded reaching our budgetary ministry needs in January by \$1,262.00 (\$315.50/wk).**

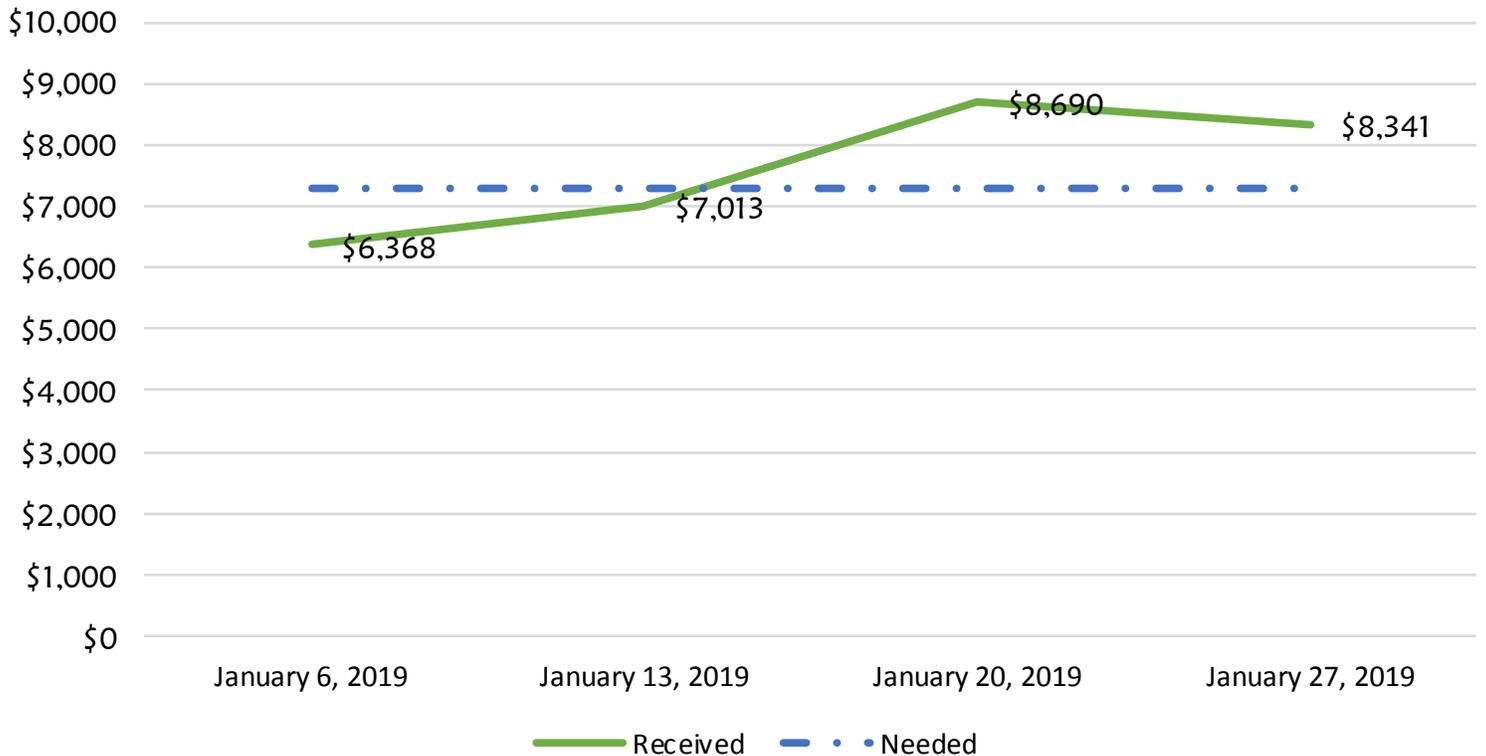
**Our current Fiscal Year to Date Budget is: +\$10,345.88 (which is \$333.74/week)**



## Weekly Total Budget Received

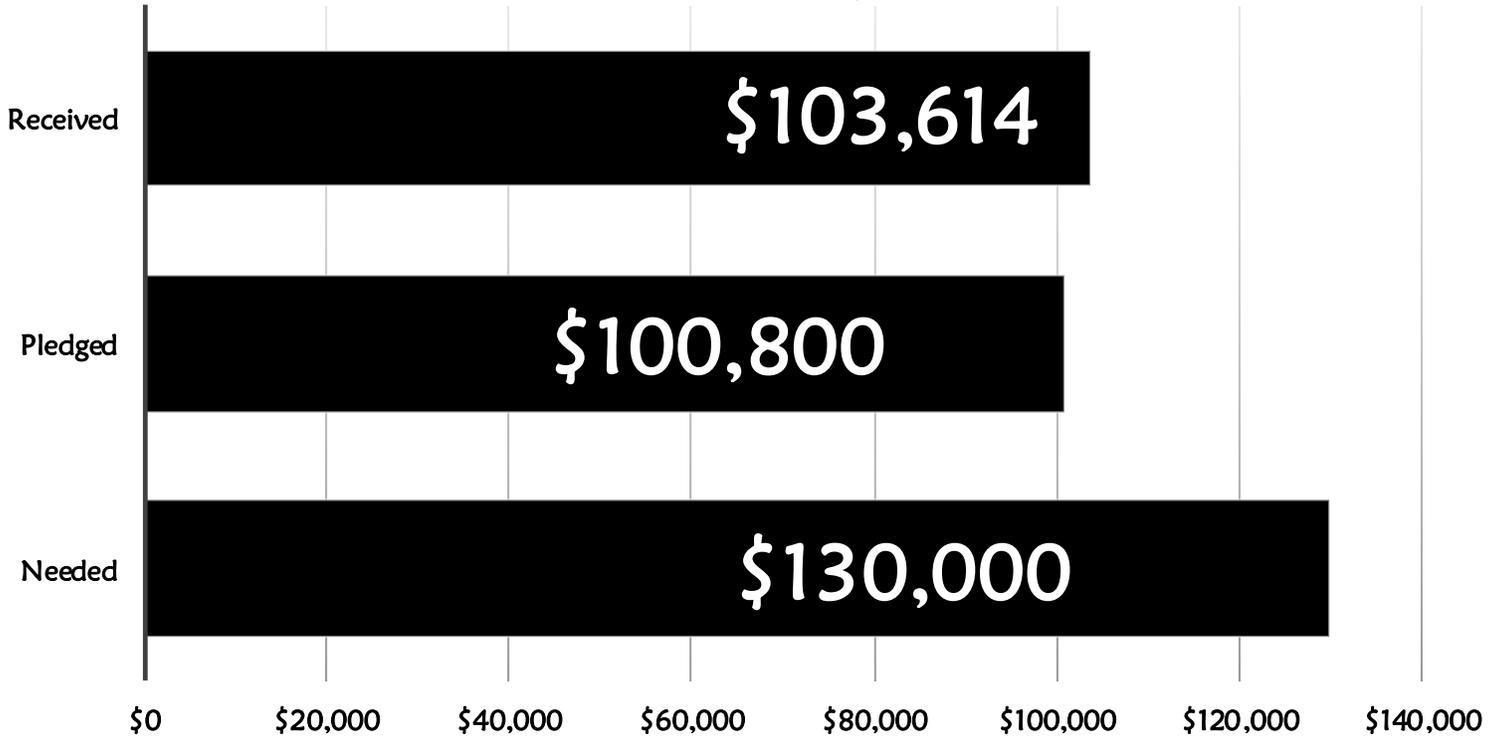
Needed Weekly: \$7,288

Weekly Average for Month: \$7,603 / Weekly Average for Fiscal Year: \$7,621



# Capital Campaign

Progress towards \$130,000 our Goal  
As of January 31st, 2019



## Received & Spent Comparison

(Income & Expenses)

