



## Mt. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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### August Newsletter 2019



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## I Need More...SATISFACTION

*“A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work”*

- Ecclesiastes 2:24

That is what the writer of the book of Ecclesiastes said, and he said it three different times in his book. It sounds simple enough: Somehow find the ability to lean back in your hammock on your day off and say, “What a satisfying life this all is!”

But maybe your expectations for satisfaction in this life are too high. Maybe they are unrealistic. Maybe they are even wrong and pivot around your own self and ego.

The Bible says about God, “You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing” (Psalm 145:16). Many believers bow their heads and speak this verse before they eat their food. In prayer at their dinner tables they acknowledge that God is the source of their satisfaction. They recognize it too when they pray this part of the Lord’s Prayer: “Give us today our daily bread.”

The apostle Paul told a young pastor, “If we have food and clothing, we will be content with that” (1 Timothy 6:8). Perhaps those who demand more satisfaction from life are not thinking of the simple but sublime satisfaction that is the desire of many hearts. They forget that in their work—whatever it may be—they can glorify God with faithfulness and cheerfulness. Thankfulness that they have the ability to feed themselves and their family. Those are the aspirations of a loving God for our satisfaction.

Satisfaction in our lives does not come because of what we do but because of what God does. He takes care of us...body and soul. He feeds us. He sent Jesus to rescue us from his great dissatisfaction over our sin. He promises to be with us and bless the work of our hands. He says that what we do for him will not be in vain.

Be satisfied—**truly satisfied**—with that!



# A Message from our Outreach Pastor . . .

## ***New Sunday Morning Bible Information Class starts in September***

“Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them” (Luke 15:11-12)

“So he divided his property between THEM.” I must confess that though I have read these words of the parable of the lost son many times before, I never really took note of them. The father divided his property and gave it all to his sons. All that the father had worked to accomplish, obtain, and acquire was divided between his two sons. His stuff meant nothing to him. It was his sons that meant everything to him.

Because we know that this parable was told to depict the love of our heavenly Father, this verse is very important. The Scriptures remind us that everything was created by him, for him and that he holds it all together. But as beautiful as creation is, it means nothing to God if it does not include us. Now, don't think that he was lonely. And don't think that needs us. Or you will miss the wonder. God is all-sufficient in and of himself. Instead, remember that He calls us the apple of his eye. He calls us the crown of his creation because he wants us to enjoy him. Jesus did not die to make the sky clearer, the water more pure, the mountains more majestic. He died that we might live. He died that we might be his own and live with him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. He died so that we might see him face to face. As the Scriptures remind us: “This is love, not that we loved him, but that he loved us and gave His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.” He gave us all including his life that we might live with him. That is love.

You and I are very blessed to know these unshakable truths. Yet many around us do not. In Sunday morning's Bible class we recently talked about those who learn of God's amazing love for the first time. It's almost unbelievable to them when they first understand it, and it blows them away. Many participants in Bible Information Class learn of the Father's full and complete love for them for the first time ever. And they learn that heaven is a free gift of God's grace, not by works. Do you have friends, relatives, acquaintances, or neighbors that do not know about God's love? Now is a great time to invite them to this life changing Bible study that is starting during the bible study hour on Sunday mornings in September. I pray often about those in the class or who are thinking about taking the class. I pray that those who once were lost may now see Jesus and all he has done for them. This class provides an opportunity for that to happen. Let me know if you or anyone else you know may be interested. To God alone be the glory.

In Christ Our Lord,  
Pastor Scott Bergemann

# Financial Summary

Below is our information for July 2019:

Total Budget Needed: \$29,332.00

Total Budget Received: \$23,027.00

**We fell short of our budgetary ministry needs in June by \$6,305 (which is \$1,576.25/week).**

**Our current Fiscal Year to Date Budget is: -\$5,161.96 (which is -\$1,290.49/week)**



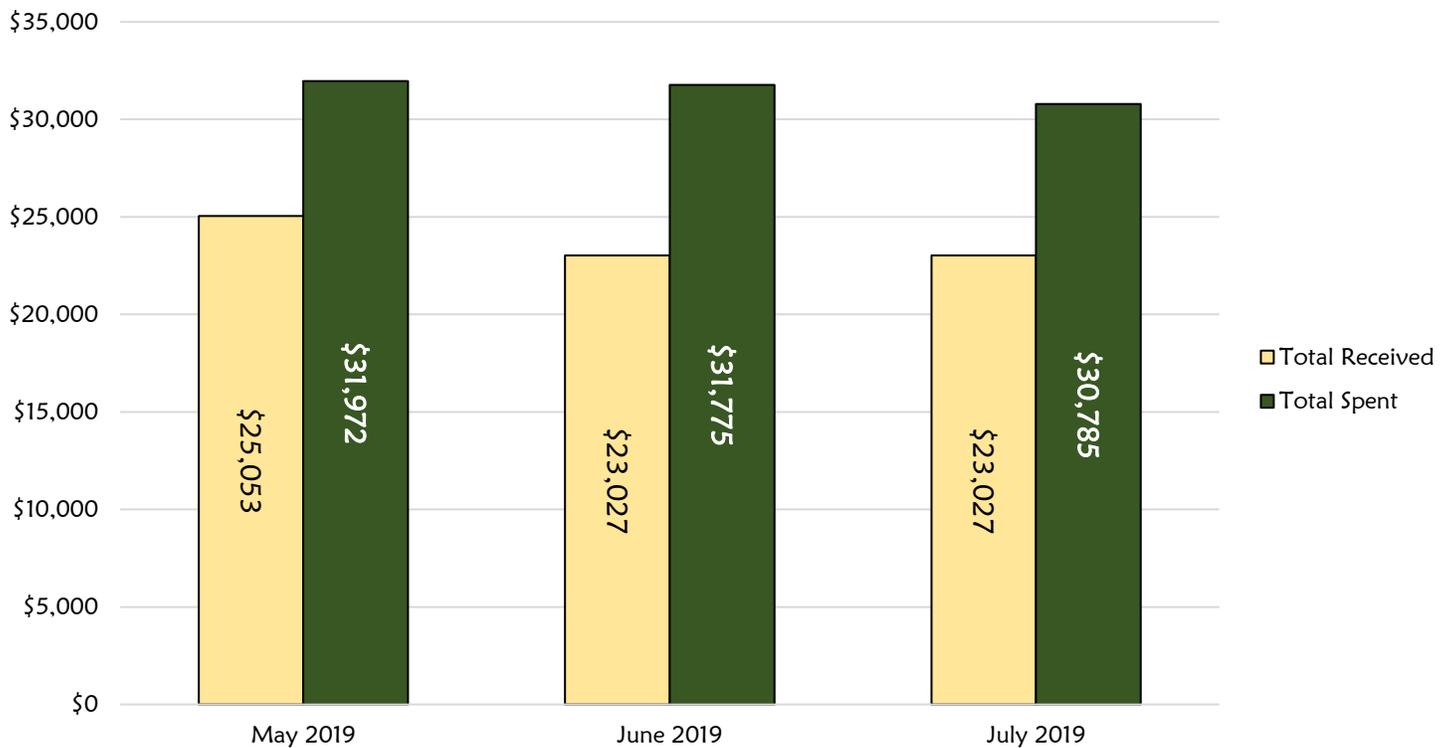
Thank you to all who donated pill bottles and who made bonnets. We collected 55 bonnets and 510 pill bottles for the Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM). Here is the thank you note we received from Cheryl Valus the CAAM Woman Coordinator:

*“The pill bottles will help restore the inventory which was used a great deal during a very busy malaria season where each day at the mobile clinic sites brought 300+ patients. The baby bonnets are a real treat to be able to give to mothers to help them protect the little ones from sun exposure.*

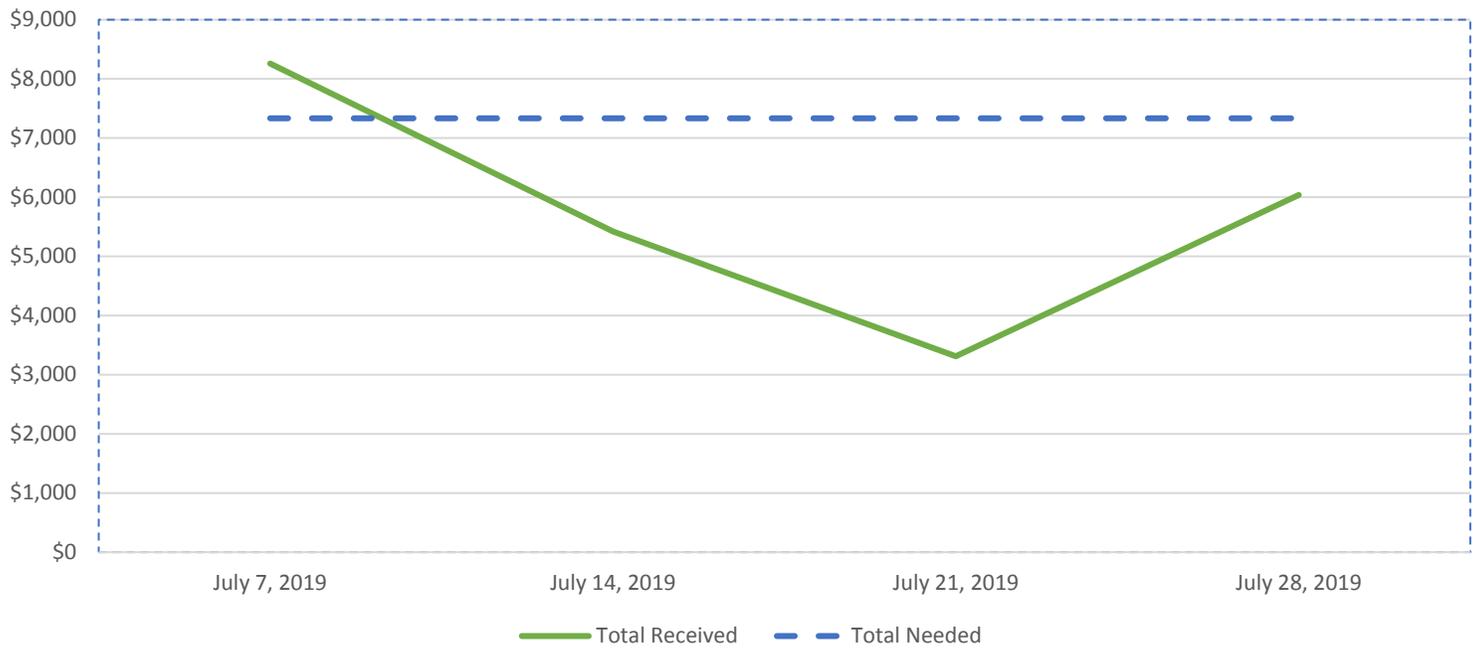
*Your support, gifts, love and prayers for CAMM are greatly appreciated and we give all praise and glory to God for you.”*

## Received & Spent Comparison

(Income & Expenses)



Weekly Total Budget Received  
 Needed Weekly: \$7,333  
 Weekly Average for Month: \$5,756.75 / Weekly Average for Fiscal Year:  
 \$5,756.75



**Capital Campaign**  
 Progress towards \$130,000 our Goal  
 As of July 31st, 2019

