

Worship Services

Sundays

9:00am Traditional

Wednesdays

6:30pm Contemporary

Office Hours

The office remains closed. Staff continue to work remotely.

Our Mission

With the assurance of God's faithfulness, we'll

- † nurture disciples,
- † extend healing and compassion, and
- † work for justice in our communities and throughout the world.

Our Vision

Gathered by the grace and love of Jesus Christ, the people of Mt Zion commit to know God deeply and to serve God gladly through the many and diverse gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit.

Marks of Discipleship

- † PRAY daily
- † WORSHIP weekly
- † READ the Bible
- † SERVE at Mt Zion and beyond
- † Be in RELATIONSHIP to encourage spiritual growth in others
- † GIVE of my time, talents, and resources

ALL ARE WELCOME!

The Hagia Sophia Decision

Excerpt from "ELCA joins partners in call to maintain Hagia Sophia as unifying heritage site" from

[ELCA.org](https://www.elca.org), July 14, 2020.



On July 10, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan of Turkey announced his decision to convert the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul from its long-term status as a museum to a mosque. Today the ELCA joined the global ecumenical family in calling on the Turkish government to maintain the Hagia Sophia as a museum rather than converting it into a mosque.

"As a church, we join with our Christian family and our Muslim neighbors in calling for the Hagia Sophia to remain a museum," said ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton in a statement. "Turning it back into a mosque is not only a return to divisive history but an erasure of a living religious and spiritual expression. The whole human family stands to benefit when the Hagia Sophia serves not only as a site for holy pilgrimage but as a sacred place for encounter and exchange among peoples of different religions and cultures."

Since Erdoğan's announcement, the [World Council of Churches](#), the [Middle East Council of Churches](#), the [Ecumenical Patriarchate](#) and Orthodox Churches worldwide, the [Vatican](#), and the [National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA](#) have decried the decision and called for its reversal.



Read more about the history of Hagia Sophia and potential impacts on the recent decision, including the ability of people from all faiths and nationalities to visit and connect with one another, at [frommers.com](https://www.frommers.com) and [nationalgeographic.com](https://www.nationalgeographic.com). If you have the ability to access PBS' 2015 "Nova" documentary about Hagia Sophia (available on Amazon Prime) it's well worth the watch!

July Mission of the Month

We are not sure what school will look like in the fall, but we know school supplies will be needed.

You may make a financial contribution to this mission and we will shop for you.

If you are willing to shop, we will need **backpacks** for elementary through high school ages— along with the following list of items so all children will come to school with school supplies:

Pencils
Colored Pencils
Pencil Cases/Pouches
Blue, Black & Red Pens
Blunt Scissors
Glue Sticks
Fine Tip Markers
Broad Markers
Wide Lined Notebooks
Packets of Wide Lined Paper
Some College Lined Notebooks



Packets of College Lined Paper
Index Cards
Subject Dividers
Pocket Folders
Pink Erasers
Rulers
Protractors
Compass
Crayons
Calculators
Highlighters
Binders

Prayer List



This Week at Mt Zion

Sun July 19	9:00a Traditional Worship at https://youtu.be/MWVAosn4VZM 10:00a Youth Group Meeting ID: 810 9031 6665 Password: 780317
Mon July 20	12:12p 12 Minutes of Prayer of Facebook 5:30 p Leadership Board Meeting
Tues July 21	10:00a Staff Meeting 12:12p 12 Minutes of Prayer of Facebook 8:00p Writers Circle Meeting ID 711 638 007 Password 113585
Wed July 22	12:00p Brown Bag Bible Study on Zoom Meeting ID 763-027-694 Password 985667 1:00p Prayer Warriors on Zoom Meeting ID 763-027-694 Password 985667 6:30p Contemporary Worship at https://youtu.be/nCFAXogtjFY
Thurs July 23	12:00p 12 Minutes of Prayer on Facebook
Fri July 24	Don't you mean "Fri-YAY"?
Sat July 25	8:30a Women of Heart Bible Study on Zoom Meeting ID 865535477 (No Password) Or call in at 1-312-626-6799
Sun July 26	9:00a Traditional Worship on YouTube 10:00a Youth Group on Zoom



Outdoor Movie and Bonfire!

Wednesday, July 29th

7:00pm to approx. 10:30pm

“Evan Almighty”

In Jack’s Backyard

We will continue to practice social distancing and CDC guidelines to stay safe.

Individually bagged popcorn, drinks and snacks will be provided.

Capping off our study of the Noah unit with a modern day twist!



Spyness Entertainment & Relativity Media’s “Evan Almighty”. 2007.

Science Tidbits

"C is for Context"

In sermons or commentaries concerning church or Biblical doctrine, an individual will often quote Bible verses to make a particular point. This will often be accompanied by a discussion about what the verse meant back in Biblical days and how that relates to the present. This provides important perspective to the verse, clarifying its original intent, without which such cherry-picking has the potential for abuse.

Likewise, following a speech by an individual, be it political or otherwise, news coverage may present video of a brief excerpt of the speech in its report. Taken alone, without discussion of the overall message, it is very easy to present this video "out of context," giving an impression to the viewer much different than that originally intended.

As I take in all of the news coverage of COVID-19 that is daily bombarding us, I am often frustrated to the point of throwing up my hands and shouting, "Where is the context?!" We need to be discerning, educated consumers when trying to digest the scientific data, and for this understanding, context is vital.

When I was busy conducting research at Marquette, seemingly a lifetime ago, there were particular rules I had to follow before my results could be published. If the experiments were not carried out properly with enough repetitions or controls, the data were invalid. In addition, if my discussion was laced with the term "significant" (as in, for example, The drug produced a significant increase in the number of maturing eggs), it had to be supported with the proper statistics. And to be published in a respectable scientific journal, it had to be reviewed by 2-3 qualified colleagues. Finally, discussion of data was usually not made public until publication in the peer-reviewed journal was confirmed.

These days, scientific information released to the public can be sloppy. How often have we witnessed a premature "news flash" only to see its retraction some days or weeks later? How often have we let ourselves be influenced by "science reports" on social media (that bastion of competent science)? How often have scientific results been reported in advance of a paper even being submitted for publication? [CASE IN POINT: Just this morning, a press release from Gilead Sciences popped up on my desktop concerning the ability of the drug Remdesivir to reduce deaths in severe COVID-19 patients by 33%. Exciting news? Absolutely! But, unfortunately, the study was not carried out properly, therefore rendering the results premature and unpublishable. The spokesperson from Gilead called it "an important finding that requires confirmation in prospective clinical trials."]

Every day we wake up with news updates of the number of new COVID-19 cases. To me, it is difficult to get the full picture if context is not included. For example, how does this number relate to the number of people tested; what are the demographics (age distribution) and has this changed; why has the emphasis shifted from the number dying to the number of new cases? Also, it is important to ask what important piece(s) of information is/are NOT being presented.

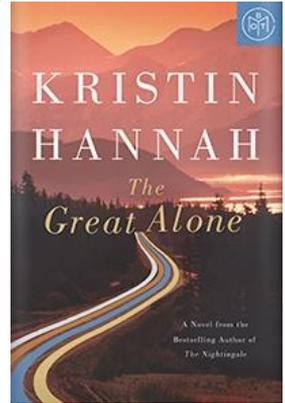
To be smart consumers, we need to think scientifically and be intellectually honest. And it really doesn't require an advanced degree. —**Steve Downs**

Book Club

Monday July 27, 2020 at 7:00pm on Zoom

The Great Alone, by Kristin Hannah

Ernt Allbright, a former POW, comes home from the Vietnam war a changed and volatile man. When he loses yet another job, he makes an impulsive decision: he will move his family north, to Alaska, where they will live off the grid in America's last true frontier. Thirteen-year-old Leni, a girl coming of age in a tumultuous time, caught in the riptide of her parents' passionate, stormy relationship, dares to hope that a new land will lead to a better future for her family. She is desperate for a place to belong. Her mother, Cora, will do anything and go anywhere for the man she loves, even if means following him into the unknown. At first, Alaska seems to be the answer to their prayers. In a wild, remote corner of the state, they find a fiercely independent community of strong men and even stronger women. The long, sunlit days and the generosity of the locals make up for the Allbrights' lack of preparation and dwindling resources.



Host Pat Campbell



Acolytes (year unknown).

In-person worship sure looks a bit different in July of 2020, but what are those things which remain the same?

Grace Notes Gallery



July Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Bella B. 7/18
Jayson P. 7/19
Norm W. 7/19
Ben C. 7/19
Tyler F. 7/19
Peter M. 7/20
Steve K. 7/21
Lynda Y. 7/21
Jase F. 7/21
Hunter F. 7/21
Michael C. 7/23
Melody F. 7/23
Donald S. 7/25
John Y. 7/28
Aidan M. 7/29
Kylee L. 7/29
Hayden P. 7/29
Douglas J. 7/31

Wedding Anniversaries

Joyce and Tony S. 7/6
Steve and Sherry D. 7/7
Eric and Lisa B. 7/18
Joe and N D. 7/24
Mark and Lisa J. 7/17
Shelly and Diane 7/31
Melissa and Jim S. 7/31

Baptism Anniversaries

Alex H. 7/8
Gwenivere A. 7/9
Jesse C. 7/18
Carter C. 7/18
Kylee L. 7/18
Kendall H. 7/21
Owen A. 7/23
David Y. 7/28
Grace Y. 7/28
Kristina W. 7/28
Peg P. 7/29

Scripture Readings for This Week

Isaiah 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-17

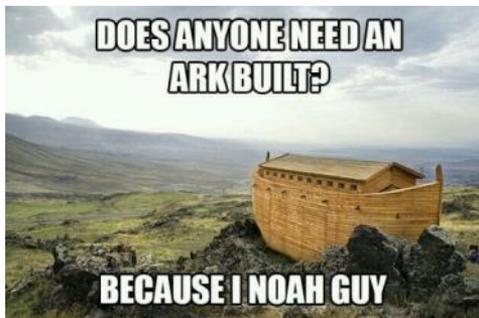
Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Scripture Readings for Next Week

1 Kings 3:5-12 Psalm 119: 129-136

Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Good for a Giggle



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