

From the (new) Sr. Pastor Rev. John L. Golv

Normally in the fall I would use this space to trumpet the fall program. This year I will use newsletter space to introduce myself. My last Sunday at Peace Lutheran in Fargo is September 5. My first Sunday at Zion will be October 3. A plain bio might be boring. So I'll describe my faith, my family, and my connections to Zion, and try not to be boring.

### ***My Faith***

God is fully revealed in Jesus Christ. To see Jesus is to see God. To hear Jesus is to hear God. What we most need to know about God, Jesus reveals to us.

Martin Luther described the church as a "mouth-house." The church is where we make promises to each other and to God, and where, most importantly, we hear God's promises to us.

Miracles happen. Two happen in church: the Gospel is heard and proclaimed, and the sacraments are rightly administered.

Faith happens. Faith is trust in the promises of God.

Prayer happens. Our prayers open God to us and us to God.

You may not remember what you had for supper last Sunday any more than you remember what last Sunday's sermon was about, but you need both to live.

There is more to know about my Christian faith. I wish to hear about yours.

### ***My Family***

Cathy (nee Ingman) Golv and I have been married 28 years (September 17, 1982). According to Cathy: John and I are just beginning the 'empty nest' years with young adult children. I have recently enjoyed focusing more of my time and energy on my job: lead teacher of 4 year olds in an educational child care center. My leisure time is spent running, reading, crossstitch, and favorite TV shows. We'll see what develops in our transition to the TRF area. I look forward to becoming a part of the Zion congregation and the TRF community.

Cathy and I have three grown children: Michael, Sarah, and Christopher. My folks, Loyal and Ruth Golv, and Cathy's, Bill and Joy Ingman, are living. I have one sister, Naomi, who is a manager in the Dakota County library system. Cathy's oldest brother Charley was killed in a car accident in 1999. He left his wife Mary, and three children, Jake, Ben, and Katie. We cherish his memory.

There is more to know about my family. I wish to hear about yours.

### ***It's A Small World***

I learned to water-ski from Darlene (nee Solheim) Johnson. I served as pastor at New Hope in Alvarado from 1986 – 1990. I have been an interim pastor since 2006, for a short time at Holt and Newfolden, Minnesota. My hunch is that there are many, many connections.

I have been told that we are in your prayers. You are in ours.

Blessings,  
Pastor John Golv

## **Rally Sunday - September 12**

**10:30 – After Sunday School  
Church Parking Lot**

Meet and Greet Zion Members and Board Members  
Booths, Carnival Games, Prizes



Hot dogs, chips, Beverage

Exciting New Sunday School Year  
Education Hour: 9:30-10:20

Call Amber Holtan – 689-9405

## **10:30 Worship Services Resumes**

September 19

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## **Leisure Fellowship**

Wednesday, September 1 at 2:00 p.m.

This is a very important business meeting as we discuss the future of our group.

## Zion Men's Prayer Breakfast

Once again, beginning September 10th, Zion men will be meeting at Dee's Kitchen on Fridays at 7:00 A.M for breakfast. There is time to visit, discuss the latest news, and after eating the Pastor shares Sunday's Gospel with us which is discussed, hopefully providing some ideas for his sermon. An offering (\$1 L) is taken and we are through before 8:00 A.M. Over the past few years our group has donated over \$6,500 to various projects at Zion such as Youth Group, Deacon's fund, remodeling, furniture, a VCR, and fellowship hall ceiling and carpet.

We usually have about ten attending, but there is room for more. We seem to lose some of our regulars each year, so there are some empty chairs to fill. Why don't you join us Fridays?

IDA NORDVALL IS SOON 90

### Come celebrate with her!

Saturday, September 18  
1:00 to 4:00  
Zion Lutheran Church

NO GIFTS ----PLEASE. JUST YOU!



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Hostess – Esther Circle  
Hospitality – Anna Circle  
Visitation – Elizabeth Circle at Oakland Park Communities

Tentative program – Bible Study by one of the pastors  
Please plan on attending.

### ZLCW News

Zion Lutheran Church Women

Tuesday, September 14  
Noon

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**ITS TIME FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Kick off the 2010-2011 Sunday school year!

September 12

9:30 - Right after 8:30 church service



**REMINDER**

We will be welcoming the Little Lambs on Sunday, September 12, at the 8:30 service.

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**Home Communion**

If you are not able to attend Sunday worship services and would like home communion, please contact

Jim Dalager - 681-8850

Lay Ministry Board

## Operation Christmas Child



We will be participating in Operation Christmas Child again this year. Gift Boxes will be available or you can drop off donations in the boxes located in the narthex, and the youth will package them for you!

Here are some suggestions:

**School Supplies:** pens, pencils, crayons, markers, notebooks, solar calculators, coloring books, etc.

**Toys:** small cars, balls, dolls, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch etc.

**Hygiene:** toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, washcloth, etc

**Other:** socks, ball caps, hair clips, sunglasses, flashlights(with extra batteries), watches, etc.

### President's Corner:

Connie Hamre

*"God brings people into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime."*



As the saying goes, so we are saying "Good Bye" to our interim pastor, and "Welcome" to **Pastor John Golv**. A new chapter in our church lives will began in September. Pastor Gov will begin his ministry in Zion on October 3, with a welcome pot luck shortly thereafter. With all the changes, in the past year, we have grown in some interesting ways. Stretching and growing in ways, that would not have been expected, or tried, without a little? nudge. Is it possible the Lord was watching, to see how we came through those passages.

Our future and goals for Zion are defined by the new people, both Pastors, and people we invite to join our congregation. The stability of our current members help to keep our congregation connected, give us the ability to weather the storms, that may come out way. Let's all come together in our mission to honor God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

**Rally Sunday** is on Sept 12, our Christian Ed/Youth board is planning even more than last year. They will be out in the parking lot (weather permitting) with food and games. And, there will be some information booths, from our boards, with some helpful information on the different areas of our church. With the start of Sunday School, we can look forward to our young people taking a more active role in church services. The music, both the children's choirs, as well as our Senior Choir are a blessing for us attending our church services, as well as those who enjoy the services through the television and radio broadcasts.

The Parish Planning Council has approved re-starting the second church service on September 19, at 10:30 am. With this addition, the pastors will be having 3 services on Sunday mornings, counting the service we have with Silver Creek. With that, we hope for some new and improved degree of normalcy.

Fall is here, with the start of school, brightly colored leaves, and harvest. Let us reflect, on the harvest that the Lord has asked us to accomplish.

Courage in Christ,  
Connie Hamre, President

## **Adoption Information Meeting**

Tuesday, September 14

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Clay County Service Center, 715 North 11th Street, Moorhead

**Registration:** Call Lynne Hagggar at (612) 879-5230 or 1-888-205-3769

### **Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota Adoption:**

Join us to learn about the exciting opportunities and recent changes in adoption. Discover the tools and support for families who would like a flexible, proactive adoption process, and learn how LSS can partner with you to grow your family. LSS can help families adopt children locally, and from countries around the world.

For more information, or to register online, visit [www.minnesotaadoption.org](http://www.minnesotaadoption.org).

Thanks so much for helping us spread the word in Thief River Falls. Your help is instrumental in helping us find adoptive parents for children who need them!

Judith Becker  
Lutheran Social Service of MN 651.969.2294  
[www.lssmn.org](http://www.lssmn.org)



### **Zion Lutheran Church Parish Planning Council Minutes June 15, 2010**

The Parish Planning Council was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President, Connie Hamre. In attendance were: Pastor Ale', Connie Hamre, Sharon Hoglo, Russell Rhen, Amber Holtan, Deb Holtan, Marijo Nabben, Penny Nelson, Bonnie Yost, Jim Dalager, Lyle Paulson, Ginny Armstrong, Chris Ueland, Deb Howe and Karen Thygeson. Roll was answered with stating which disciple influenced your life the most.

Devotions were led by Amber Holtan and at our next meeting will be given by Ginny Armstrong.

Ginny Armstrong moved to accept the secretary's report, seconded and carried. Ginny Armstrong presented the treasurer's report. Marijo Nabben moved to accept the report, seconded, carried and filed for audit. Ginny Armstrong moved to continue sending our 49% to the NW Minnesota Synod and the 51% that had normally been sent to Chicago will now be submitted equally to the following six designations beginning in May: World Hunger, Disaster Response, Lutheran Seminary's, Lutheran Campus Ministries, Lutheran world Relief and Stand With Africa; seconded and carried.

**Board of Lay Ministry:** Jim Dalager reported on home communion distributions and visits to our shut-ins.

**Public Relations Board:** Deb Howe reported changes will be coming to our web-site.

**Stewardship Board:** Sharon Hoglo reports new members are needed for the Stewardship board.

Sarah Harper is attending bible camp at LOW with the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Fellowship Board:** Bonnie Yost reported there will be a pot luck served after the semi-annual meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup>. Bonnie also reported she is working on filling the slate for all boards prior to the June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Board of Christian Ed:** Amber Holtan reported that 45-48 children had attended VBS. She is working on the plans for next years Sunday School.

**Worship Board:** Chris Ueland reported members are still needed to serve on the worship board.

Chris also reported the Call Committee is in the process of interviewing candidates for our Senior Pastor.

**Church Properties Board:** Lyle Paulson reported blinds have been put up in the basement. The cleaning machine has been purchased and delivered.

**Pastor Report:** Pastor Ale' asked us to keep those that are ill in our prayers and to remember the families that have lost loved ones. He stated that next Sunday Pastor Steve Wold will be our guest speaker.

Board orientation will be held on July 6<sup>th</sup>.

Pastor John Wollenzien has been chosen to be our interim Pastor.

Marijo Nabben reported the committee has completed working on proposed changes for the church boards. These changes have been put in the church bulletin and will be put in the next bulletin as well. These changes will be read, discussed and voted on at the June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Russell Rhen moved for the Parish Planning Council to not meet until August; seconded and carried.

Sharon Hoglo moved to adjourn at 8:20 P.M.; seconded and carried and followed by the Lord's Prayer. Next Parish Council Meeting will be August 17, 2010 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: Karen Thygeson, Secretary



**Zion Lutheran Church  
Parish Planning Council Minutes  
August 17, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President Connie Hamre. Attending: Pastor John Wollenzien, Marijo Nabben, Chris Ueland, Jim Dalager, Lyle Paulson, Tim Numedahl, Ginny Armstrong, Kristi Rood, Deb Holtan, Amber Holtan, Deb Howe, Sarah Harper, President Hamre and Karen Thygeson.

Devotions were led by Ginny Armstrong and next month will be given by Chris Ueland.

Roll was taken with the response of what has been the best part of your summer.

**Secretary's Report:** Chris Ueland moved to accept the secretary's report as written; seconded and carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ginny reviewed the budget and expenses. Jim Dalager moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented; seconded and carried.

**Board Reports:**

**Board of Lay Ministry/Evangelism:** Deb Holtan reported that emphasis would focus more on the time and talent sheets this year. These sheets will be reviewed and updated. They are in the planning phase for a prayer for vigil again this year.

**Church Properties Board:** Lyle Paulson reported they are looking into new furniture for the lounge. A new stove has been ordered to replace the one that is not working in the basement. They are looking into purchasing two mikes to be used in the front of the church.

**Youth Director:** Sarah Harper reported 23 kids had participated in Bible Camps this summer. She took 4 girls to Wadena to help in the tornado cleanup. Fall activities are being planned. Flapjacks for faith will begin on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Marijo Nabben moved to present our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Sunday school students with bibles this year and an additional bible to Sunday school students in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade; seconded and carried. It was discussed that 2<sup>nd</sup> graders could make use of their bibles in class and from now on they would be distributed to 2<sup>nd</sup> graders instead of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. It was also discussed that a bible for learning purposes in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade would help prepare our students for confirmation.

**Worship Board:** Kristi Rood stated they are still two short on the worship board.

**Christian Education and Youth Board:** Amber Holtan reported they are going to move the bulletin board for the Little Lambs upstairs. Sunday school time will be 9:30 to 10:20. She has been working on contacting the teachers. Rally Sunday will again be a carnival theme with fun and games. Each church board will also have a booth telling what the boards duties and responsibilities are. Activities will begin at 10:30.

**Public Relations Board:** Deb Howe reported they are working on the ad for the paper for Rally Sunday. Zion will advertise in the City visitors guide.

Pastor Wollenzien stated he has enjoyed his time with us at Zion.

Chris Ueland reported for the Call Committee: he stated the call committee will be working one and one with the new pastor after his arrival. The last Sunday in September is tentatively set for a pot luck after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service as a welcome reception for Zion's new pastor.

Ginny Armstrong moved to accept the resignation of Russell Rhen as 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President and Sharon Hoglo as Stewardship Board Chairman; seconded and carried.

Jim Dalager moved to appoint Tim Numedahl as 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President; seconded and carried.

Council discussed starting the second service again on Sundays. Jim Dalager moved to have church services at 8:30 and 10:30 on Sundays beginning September 19, 2010; seconded and carried.

Goals for the coming year will be to increase membership as well as attendance and participation at our Sunday service. The mission statement will also be reviewed.

Marijo Nabben moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 P.M.; seconded and carried. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer. The next Parish Council Meeting will be September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Respectfully submitted; Karen Thygeson, Secreta

# The Toolbox

*By Dianne E. Butts*

I dreamt that I saw Jesus the other night! As a crowd began to gather, Jesus singled out one particular man. This fellow was nicely dressed in a blue golf shirt. He stood in amazement before the Lord.

“Do you remember the toolbox I gave you years ago?” Jesus asked him.

The man nodded. (Perhaps he was too stunned to speak. I would have been.)

“Do you still have it?”

The man nodded again.

“May I see it?” Jesus’ voice echoed with majesty, yet it was kind.

“I don’t have it with me,” the man said. “It’s at home.”

“Would it be OK,” Jesus asked, “if I sent a messenger for it?”

“Sure,” the man said.

The Lord flicked His wrist and an angel appeared.

“In my closet,” the man said. “Top shelf.” With a beat of his wings, the angel sped off quick as a hummingbird.

Someone brought Jesus a chair. He smiled and sat, then raised His gaze to someone standing near me at the back of the crowd. He summoned that man.

That man looked shocked. He ran his fingers through his hair then wiped his dirty hands on his gray-striped shirt and blue work pants. I wondered if he was wiping off grease or nervous sweat. Maybe both.

“I see you still have the toolbox I gave you,” Jesus said.

The man nodded.

“May I see it?” Jesus asked softly.

The man stooped down and picked up the old metal box, dented and scratched. He moved to the front of the crowd, next to the first man in the blue golf shirt. He held his toolbox out in both hands, trembling, offering it to the Lord. Jesus motioned for him to set it down.

“Please open it,” Jesus said.

The man knelt, unhooked the toolbox latches, and flipped open the lid with the skill of fingers that had done so ten thousand times. He lifted out the removable tray and set it next to the box. He pulled open the bottom drawer.

Like others in the crowd, I stretched to see inside the box. An assortment of ordinary looking tools lay there. They appeared as beaten and battered as they box.

The Lord looked them over. Pointing to a tool, He asked, “What happened to this one?”

“I use it a lot,” the man replied. “About worn it out, I guess. But I’ve helped a lot of people with it.”

“And this one?” Jesus asked, pointing to another tool.

“It’s a good tool, fund a lot of uses for it. I guess You can tell,” he said a little sheepishly. “Just this morning I used that tool to help a good ol’ boy get on his way again. Didn’t take much.”

Jesus smiled. His finger picked up of it. His gaze moved to the tools in the The man slowly reached for the tool



greasy dirt as he ran it over the tools in the drawer, but He seemed to think nothing removable shelf. “What’s happened to this one?” He asked. and tenderly lifted it with both hands. “Broke it,” he admitted. “Came across a

woman and children in distress. I didn't have the right tool for the job needin' to be done, so I used what I had, tryin' to make do with this. I got the job done, but I broke it tryin'. No matter. Important thing is I helped her get back on the right track again.

Jesus nodded, though he didn't say anything.

"Too bad. It was a useful tool," the man said. "Was my favorite."

A commotion at the back of the crowd drew my attention. The angel strode through the crowd carrying a bright, shiny red box which he placed in front of the man in the blue golf shirt at the feet of Jesus.

Jesus looked it over. The man quickly unhooked the latches, opened the lid, lifted out the removable shelf and opened the lower drawer. That's when it hit me. The other man's beat-up box had been identical to this one when it was new.

The Lord looked over the tools. Laying in neat rows, they appeared to be in perfect condition. Just like new.

Jesus glanced at the end of His finger – the one He had run over the well-used tools belonging to the other man. He reached down and ran it over the sparkling tools in the shiny box, leaving a grease print on one tool. When He had inspected them, His gaze met the eager eyes of the first man. "They hardly look used," He said.

"Oh, I didn't want anything to happen to the beautiful gift You gave me," the man said. "I kept mine nice."

Jesus rested His elbows on His knees and nodded thoughtfully. He reached down and put the tray of the first man's shiny toolbox back in its place, pushed shut the drawer, and latched the lid. Grasping the handle, He moved the like-new toolbox beside His chair close to his foot.

Jesus motioned an angel to His side then whispered some instructions. In a flurry of wings, several angels scattered, flying off in different directions. Within moments the angels began bringing shiny new tools. They presented them to the second man. Worn, broken tools were replaced and several new ones were added. Then an angel arrived with a new shiny toolbox – much bigger than the old one. The man looked up like a little boy who had just received all he had ever dreamed of for Christmas.

When the flurry of activity subsided, Jesus looked at the man in the golf shirt. He reached down, patted that man's shiny box, and said gently, "I know someone else who might use these."

Then he turned His attention to the second man. I had been watching him. He had not only inspected each beautiful new tool, he was also gathering every dirty tool from his box that wasn't broken or worn beyond use and was trying to make them all fit into the new box.

Jesus laid one forearm across His knees and leaned in close to the second man. When the second man realized this, he paused in his work and peered up into the face of the Lord.

Jesus' eyes glistened as he looked the second man directly in the eyes. He leaned in closer still. Then, barely above a whisper, He simply said, "Well done!"

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