



Vol. 11

September 2011

No. 6

What Time Is It?  
Read Mark 1:15

Clocks are everywhere. It is hard not to know what time it is.

What time is it at church?



**Rally Sunday** is coming soon, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011. This is an important day for our country and our church. We will have one service only on that date, at 8:30. Zion follows Jesus' command to let the children come to him. (Matthew 19:14) Rally Sunday is for everyone of every age. If necessary (I hope it is necessary) we can set up chairs to accommodate everyone. We can always share bulletins if we run short (I hope that is necessary too). The two-service worship schedule will resume the following Sunday, the 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Mission Sunday** is September 25<sup>th</sup>, not to be missed. Our Church is spreading the Gospel, as Jesus commanded. (Matthew 28:19)

**Consecration Sunday** is coming soon, on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. This is Zion's Stewardship Sunday. The focus will be on the need of the giver to give, rather than on the need of the church to receive. (2 Corinthians 9:11-13)

Every Sunday is **Jesus Sunday**. For all of the dates and times we work so hard to keep straight, it was Jesus who told us what time it is. It is time to worship God. It is time to repent of our sins. It is time to believe in the Gospel. (Mark 1:15)

It is also time to find joy in our salvation. (Psalm 51:12)

Blessings to you and yours,  
Pastor John Golv

# **Sunday School Starts September 11**

**9:30-10:20 - Sunday School**  
**9:40 – Little Lambs – First Grade - Music**  
**10:00 – 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Music**

If you have any questions, call Amber Holtan at 689-9405

## **Rally Sunday Carnival**

### **September 11**

**8:30 – Worship Service in Sanctuary**  
**9:30 – Meet the boards during Fellowship Hour**  
**10:20 – Carnival Celebration in church parking lot**

- Carnival games in church parking lot
- Lunch of hotdogs and chips in Fellowship Hall
- Pick up Church Directories

## **What Is Our Church Doing About It?**

From Bishop Mark Hanson

Last week I wrote inviting you to pray for the ELCA Churchwide Assembly that begins Monday (August 15-19 in Orlando, FL. Denny Minks from Zion is a voting member). Today I have been thinking about those who pray with eager longing, "Give us today our daily bread."

In the Horn of Africa, the lives and livelihoods of millions of people have been devastated by the worst drought in 60 years. Crops have failed and water is scarce.



Desperate families are abandoning their homes seeking aid. Hundreds of thousands of people have already made their way to refugee camps in Kenya and Ethiopia. More than twelve million people are in need of help now.

For those who have made their way to the Dadaab camp in Kenya and the Doolo Ado camp in Ethiopia, the ELCA is helping provide safe water and nutritious food. Both camps were established with the support of the ELCA through ELCA World Hunger; the camps are managed by Lutherans through our global church partner The Lutheran World Federation.

This church has been at work for years reducing the effects of drought in communities throughout this arid part of Africa. Thanks to the many water projects and other sustainable agriculture projects funded by ELCA World Hunger, communities are making it through these hard times without the suffering we have seen elsewhere. This long-standing work will continue even as we address this year's crisis.

Thanks to the generosity of ELCA members like you, we have committed \$ 1.25 million for drought relief work in the Horn of Africa through ELCA Disaster Response. In addition, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger provide more than \$ 1 million each year for

drought prevention work in Central and East Africa -- and that commitment will continue.

I am asking that you take time in worship and throughout your week to hold our sisters and brothers in prayer. As you are able, please make a renewed commitment to ELCA World Hunger and ELCA Disaster Response. You can find additional information at [www.elca.org/disaster](http://www.elca.org/disaster)

Thank you for your prayers and faithful witness to the gospel.

In God's grace,

The Rev. Mark S. Hanson  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## God's Chosen Choir Needs Accompanist

Corie Erickson will no longer be accompanying the God's Chosen Choir, so we are in need of someone to accompany and help Rebecca Houske with the Chosen choir.

If anyone is interested, please call the church office 681-3296.

Worship Board

## **!!!!!!! Directories Are Here !!!!!!!**

**They can be picked up in the church office or on Rally Sunday, September 11, between 9:30 and 11:30.**



### **President's Message** **Connie Hamre**

In Philippians 4:13, it says "you can do all things. with God's help"

There is a current poem on the internet. It says things like, have your thought of someone today, you have not heard from or seen in a long time, and today they called you just to say hi. That was God's work! Have you looked at a project, and decided today was the day to do it, and found out that someone had been praying for that assistance, that was God at work. I believe it shows God is on our lives, in so many different ways in which we may not be aware. God's presence can be felt in times of need, and in times of joy. All we need is to seek him out. There is a group that meets on the second Tuesday of the month, that focus on grief support. It is for anyone, who has lost a loved one. They meet at the lounge at 7:00 pm and all are welcome.

There are so many ways that we can see God's work in our church. In some ways this is the start of our year. On June, at the Semi-Annual meeting, the new boards and officers were elected. They are busy with the start of fall, and restarting programs within our church. One such program is Rally Sunday on September 11. They will activities, for the children, in the parking lot, and food, for all, in the fellowship hall. It is a great way to welcome back our youth and their parents. There will also be informational tables for all the boards, and I invite you to seek out this information. I hope you and your family will be able to join us.



Another area that restarts are our choirs, and they bless us with their gift of music. We have the Senior Choir, and the children's choirs. Speaking for myself, it is truly wonderful to hear a child sing of God's grace.

We are restarting our second Service on September 18th, at 10:30 am. We are researching to change that service type, and have assigned a committee group to collect and look into ideas, for your consideration. We hope to vote on this issue at the Annual Meeting in January 2012. Please feel free to give us your input.

The new directories have been delivered, they will be passed out on Rally Sunday. The PR board did a lot of hard work, and the result was fantastic. We are proud to say the Silver Creek church has a section in this book, as I feel they are part of our church family.

I have enjoyed a summer of vacation trips and the camping at the lake. This fall, I am looking forward to reconnecting with my church friends, and hope to see you there, on Sunday.

Courage in Christ  
Connie Hamre, President

## **Alternative Methods of Worship**

At the semi-annual meeting in June, the congregation voted to form a committee to explore alternative methods of worship. This committee of five or six people will meet with the pastors as necessary. Please contact the church office if you are interested in serving on this committee – 681-3296 or [ziontrf@mncable.net](mailto:ziontrf@mncable.net).



## **Mission Sunday**

**September 25**

**Guest Speaker – Pastor Alemseged Asmelash**

Pastor Alem is an associate pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. He was born in Ethiopia and grew up in Sweden. He came to the United States in 1999 to attend Luther Seminary and was ordained in 2004. Come listen to his journey of faith.



## **Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes**

**June 26, 2011**

The Zion Lutheran semi annual meeting was called to order by President Connie Hamre at 9:30 A.M. on Sunday June 26, 2011. Devotions were led by Pastor John.

The nominating committee presented the following nominations for three years, ending June 30, 2014.

**First Vice President**

- \*Denny Minks
- \*Chris Ueland

**Evangelism/Lay Ministry Board**

- \*Deb Holtan, Chair
- \*Open

**Church Properties Board**

- \*Joel Rude
- \*Jim Hulteen

**Christian Education/Youth Board**

- \*Amber Holtan, Chair
- \*Missy Borgen
- \*Holly Bjorgaard

**Stewardship Board**

- \*Open
- \*Open
- \*Open

**Public Relations Board**

- \*Darlene Hulteen
- \*Open

**Worship Board**

- \*Marijo Nabben
- \*Open
- \*Open
- \*Open

**Parish Fellowship Board**

- \*Open
- \*Open

President Hamre stated we have ten openings on the church boards and asked for nominations from the floor to fill any of the vacancies. Marijo Nabben nominated Millie Reiersen for the Worship Board, seconded and carried. Muriel Olin nominated Marsha Sandahl to the Stewardship Board, seconded and carried.

Gladys Hallstrom moved to accept those board members listed on the nominating ballot; seconded and carried.

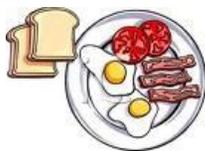
A membership vote approved Pastor John and a committee to conduct a study on a different type of service for our second service beginning after Labor Day.

Members present voted by ballot for the First Vice President. Chris Ueland will be our First Vice President.

Semi Annual Meeting adjourned at 9:50 A.M.

Karen Thygeson, Secretary

### **Zion Men's Prayer Breakfast**



Beginning September 9th Zion Men's group will be meeting at Dee's Kitchen on Fridays at 7:00 A.M for breakfast. There is a time to visit, discuss the latest news and sports, and after eating the Pastor shares Sunday's Gospel with us which is discussed (and explained). An offering is taken and we are through by 8:00 A.M.

Over the past few years our group has donated over \$7000 to various projects including Zion's Youth Group, Deacon's fund, furniture, remodeling, as well as the Food Shelf.

We did gain a couple new attendees last year, but there is always room for more. Why don't you join us Fridays?

## You Are Invited to

### Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party Sunday, November 13 – Following 10:30 Service Fellowship Hall

Items will be brought on the following weeks and placed in the marked bins around the church.

- **October 9** – School Supplies – pens, pencils, paper, crayons, etc.
- **October 16** – Personal Hygiene Items – combs, soap, washcloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste
- **October 23** – Toys and Games – small cars, dolls, stuffed animals, jump ropes, yo-yo's, etc.
- **October 30** – Socks, t-shirts, hair bands, flashlights
- **November 11** – Hard candy and bubble gum



Operation Christmas boxes will still be available to fill on your own.



### Zion Lutheran Church Parish Planning Council Minutes June 21, 2011

The Parish Planning Council was called to order by President Connie Hamre at 7:00 P.M. In attendance: Pastor John, Pastor Ale, President Hamre, Marijo Nabben, Ginny Armstrong, Chris Ueland, Lyle Paulson, Deb Holtan, Amber Holtan, Tim Numedahl, Sarah Harper, Barbara Champ from Silver Creek and Karen Thygeson. Roll call answered with naming our favorite bird.

- Devotions were led by Chris Ueland. Next month devotions will be given by Pastor John.
- Chris Ueland moved to accept the secretary's minutes as printed, seconded and carried.
- Marijo Nabben moved to accept the treasurer's report as printed and discussed; seconded and carried.

**Stewardship Board:** Marijo Nabben discussed Consecration Sunday coming on October 23rd.

**Properties Board:** Lyle Paulson reports the upstairs railing is in place. Lyle moved to sell the second van and look into purchasing something smaller; seconded and carried.

**Evangelism/Lay Ministry Board:** Deb Holtan stated the next Grief Support Group will be held on July 12th.

**Public Relations Board:** Our new church directory was sent to the printer on June 1st.

**Christian Education/Youth Board:** Amber Holtan reported VBS has been completed.

**Youth Director:** Sarah Harper stated 10 youth have registered for the upcoming National Group Gathering. She is looking forward to summer activities and summer youth camps.

**Silver Creek:** Barbara Champ reported they were pleased with the 66 people in attendance for the joint service and pot luck

**Pastor Ale:** Remains busy with church activities.

**Pastor John:** Has reviewed and approved the staff's vacation time. Has met with the Call Committee and reviewed church activities since he was hired. Continues with regular weekly staff meetings.

**Nominating Committee Chairman:** Deb Holtan read the list of those that have accepted a committee assignment and states she is still working on a few open committee spots that she hopes she can fill prior to the semi-annual meeting.

- Discussion was held on forming a special committee for funerals only. Will be reviewed and discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting. There will be a Peder Eide Concert at the Galilee Bible Camp at Lake Bronson State Park on August 10th.
- Amber Holtan moved to purchase tickets for youth that are interested in going; seconded and carried.
- Marijo Nabben moved to recommend Pastor John research/develop a program for the 2<sup>nd</sup> service; seconded and carried. Reminder of the Semi-Annual Meeting to be held following the church service on June 26th.

Ginny Armstrong moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M. followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Next Parish Council Meeting will be July 19, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.

Karen Thygeson, Secretary



**Zion Lutheran Church  
Parish Planning Council Minutes  
July 19, 2011**

The Parish Planning Council was called to order by President Connie Hamre at 7:00 P.M. In attendance: Pastor John, President Hamre, Marijo Nabben, Ginny Armstrong, Chris Ueland, Lyle Paulson, Deb Holtan, Amber Holtan, Tim Numedahl, Sarah Harper, Bonnie Yost, Penny Nelson from Silver Creek and Karen Thygeson. Roll call answered with naming our favorite treat at the fair.

- Devotions were led by Pastor John. Next month devotions will be given by Bonnie Yost.
- Ginny Armstrong moved to accept the secretary's minutes as corrected, seconded and carried.
- Chris Ueland moved to accept the treasurer's report as printed and discussed; seconded and carried.
- Bonnie Yost moved to have Tim Numedahl as 2nd Vice President; seconded and carried.
- Chris Ueland moved to have Judy Melby as 3rd Vice President; seconded and carried.

**Stewardship Board:** Plans are being made for Fall activities.

Properties Board: Lyle Paulson discussed an outside project.

**Evangelism/Lay Ministry Board:** Deb Holtan stated the next Grief Support Group will be held on August 9th at 7:00 P.M. in the lounge. She reports five women had attended the previous Group Support.

**Christian Education/Youth Board:** Amber Holtan reports they are getting ready for Rally Sunday and the carnival to be held on September 11th.

**Parish Fellowship:** Bonnie Yost reports they are working with Sharing Servants activities.

**Worship Board:** Marijo Nabben reports they are researching a different style of worship service for our second service this Fall.

**Youth Director:** Sarah Harper stated she has been busy taking students to and enjoying summer camps.

**Silver Creek:** Penny Nelson stated all are welcome to come and worship with them on Sundays.

**Pastor Ale:** Is taking time for continued education and vacation time.

**Pastor John:** Reports most vacation time has been completed by the staff. He will be on vacation starting August 2nd and returning on August 16th. He proposes the following priorities for the remainder of 2012 and all of 2013;

- Praise God in all things;
- Follow the lead of the Holy Spirit
- Consider adding a worship service
- Put Zion on a firmer financial footing

Discussion was held on forming a special consultant committee for funerals only. Will be reviewed and discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Still looking for volunteers to fill the boards.

Bonnie Yost moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M. followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Next Parish Council Meeting will be August 16, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.  
Karen Thygeson, Secretary



## Zion Lutheran Church Parish Planning Council Minutes August 16, 2011

Zion Parish Planning Council was called to order by President, Connie Hamre at 7:00 P.M. In attendance: Pastor John, Sarah Harper, Lyle Paulson, Chris Ueland, Pastor Ale, Deb Howe, Deb Holtan, Amber Holtan, Marijo Nabben, Bonnie Yost, Connie Hamre, Ginny Armstrong and Penni Nelson from Silver Creek. The mixer was our favorite vacation.

- Bonnie Yost moved to accept the secretary's report, seconded and carried.
- Marijo Nabben moved to accept the treasurer's report as printed and discussed, second and approved.

**Parish Fellowship Board:** Bonnie reported they are working on the Sharing Servants books, Bridal Shower for Sarah was set for Saturday October 8 and Spirit of Giving December 3.

**Worship Board:** Marijo said they still need 2 or 3 more members for their board and Muriel Olin volunteered to chair the committee on research for a new service.

**Christian Education/Youth Board:** Rally Sunday will be September 11 with a carnival after Sunday School in the parking lot with lunch served indoors. They are asking each board to have a table in the Fellowship Hall during coffee. They need more Sunday School rooms. Amber said they will have a different approach to Operation Christmas this year. Each Sunday between October 9 and November 13 they will ask for different items to put in the boxes.

**Evangelism/Lay Ministry:** Deb said they need people to deliver communion to members in their homes. The Grief Support Group met and they need one more person on their board.

**Public Relations Board:** The picture from Lifetouch came and should be framed. Deb will check prices to have that done. The directories will be given out on Rally Sunday and the following Sundays.

**Church Properties Board:** Lyle reported that they got the patio cleaned up and need to weed the flowers. St. John's may be interested in purchasing the van.

**Youth Director:** Sarah again thanked the Women of Zion for paying for one half of the youth to attend Bible Camp. She and Sandy Fladeland took eight youth to Brainerd to do a service project. Sarah ordered calendars for the youth to sell.

**Silver Creek:** will be keeping their service at 10:00 A.M.

**Pastor Ale:**

- Confirmation starts September 28 and will meet every Wednesday. There are 28 eighth graders and 19 ninth graders.
- Mission Sunday is September 25 with a guest speaker.
- On October 16, the Synod will hold a Stewardship meeting at Zion. Pastor John had a good vacation.
- Consecration Sunday will be October 23.
- Need nine board members and a third vice president.
- Connie and Chris volunteered to work with Pastor John on goals and objectives.
- Sarah brought bars for her two year anniversary at Zion.

Chris moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 followed by the Lord's Prayer. Next Parish Planning Council will be September 20 at 7:00.

Ginny Armstrong, acting secretary

## **NW Minnesota Synodical Women's Conference September 9 & 10**

We are fortunate to have the annual convention right here in Thief River Falls, hosted by Redeemer Lutheran Church. The theme is "Renewing Strength," based on Isaiah 40:13, "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength; they will soar on wings like eagles."

Friday's events include registration from 3-5 p.m. with time to get acquainted with other attendees, check out the Silent Auction, and browse the Farmer's Market area. The banquet will be served at 5 p.m., followed by the Business Session.

Saturday's Schedule includes:

- 7:45 a.m. – Early Bird Bible Study, led by Laurie Natwick, Bishop's Assistant.
- 8-8:45 a.m. – registration continues with refreshments served by Zion ladies.
- 9:00 a.m. – Worship service with Holy communion, with Bishop Larry Wohlrabe
- 11:00 a.m. – Keynote speaker, Linda Post Bushkovsky, Executive Director from the church-wide office.
- 1:00-2:30 p.m. – choose 2 of 3 workshops
- 2:30 p.m. – Closing

If you have "excess garden produce," you are invited to bring it along to the convention for the Farmer's Market. It will be sold for free will offering "prices" with the funds raised to be donated to local hunger projects. What a wonderful way to share our excess, purchase fresh, healthy fruits and vegetables, and raise money to combat hunger.

Although the registration deadline is past, there are still seats available. Cost is \$50 for both days, or \$35 for a single day. Registration forms are available from Dilene in the church office. Let's have a great delegation from Zion.



### **Physical Office Being Collected**

One of the synodical convention activities is to collect needed items that are distributed to local Food Shelves, Homeless Shelters and Violence Prevention Centers. YOU are invited to donate to this project; a collection box is located outside the church office. Items include: disposable diapers, tooth paste and tooth brushes, bar soap, feminine products and facial tissues.



### **ZLCW Meeting**

**Monday, September 12 – 12:00 Noon**

Fall means time to return to or regular monthly ZLCE meetings. Circle responsibilities are:

- Hostess: Elizabeth
- Hospitality: Sarah
- Visitation: Esther at Oakland Park
- Program: an overview of this year's Bible study – the book of Mark, presented by Pastor Ale.

All women of Zion are invited – and ask a friend to join you!