

Whoever makes haste with his feet misses his way. Proverbs 19:2

There is no hurry in Africa

I was born and grew up in Africa where the pace of life is very slow, where family and friend's visits are long and Sunday worship services last for hours. Now if I go back to live there I don't know if I have patience to put up with such an easy going flow of life.

I remember the first time I was on my way back to Africa to visit my family and friends after living here in United States for seven years. I was looking forward with great excitement to see my family and my old buddies and share with them about my experience of living here in America. The day I arrived at Addis Ababa airport in Ethiopia, they all waited for me at the gate, some of them even with welcome flowers. My father was the only one who couldn't be there to welcome me. Anyway, after the greeting and spending some time with my family and friends, I left a message for my father to meet me the next day at noon at his sister's house and I went to spend the night with

one of my friends.

Well, the next day I arrived at my aunt's house a little before noon and began to enjoy her hospitality as I was waiting for my father, but he didn't show up. Then around 4:30 pm I said good-bye to my aunt and left. Well the next day, when I met my father, after we greeted each other, he said to me "Son, why didn't you wait for me yesterday?" I smiled and said "Dad, I waited for you for more than four hours." He said to me, "So what! Is that supposed to be too long to wait for your father whom you haven't seen for years?" and then he said to me "you know son, you have changed. You have become like a white man."

Isn't that interesting? I never thought that I would be criticized for not waiting long enough after I waited for more than four hours. I guess, maybe he is right I have changed. I live among people whose life is so busy and who are always in a big hurry. There is not enough time for many of us even to sit down and enjoy a decent meal at home with family and friends. Often, we just drive through fast food restaurants and grab the food and

eat on our way to our destination. Not only we don't have time for our self and family, we also don't have time for God. Even when we go to church on Sundays, how many of us feel impatient when the worship service last a little more than an hour?

It always seems that we have so many things to do but so little time to do them. We just don't have time to keep up with our daily activities. We live our lives if there is no tomorrow. We rush in and we rush out and we don't have time to slow down and smell the roses. As a result life passes us by without paying attention and we miss out so many good things life has to offer. The interesting thing is that we all seem trapped in this cycle of life.

Why are we always in such a hurry? Why do we live such a hectic life? No wonder that we often deal with so much stress in this country. This hurry life we are living reminds me of a country music I heard some time ago sung by Alabama, which says, "I am in a hurry to get things done, oh I rush and rush until life is no fun. All I really gotta do is live and die, but I am in hurry and don't know why..."

This song truly tells about our busy life and our endless pursuit to get ahead. We need to get away from this rat race life and get back to the basics and learn to live a simple life. We need to slow down and look around to our family and friends, the beauty of creation that surrounds us and cherish with gratitude to God who blessed us with all these things. That will make our lives more rewarding and meaningful.

Pastor Ale



Silver Creek News

This wintry weather seems to be taking a toll on our activities at Silver Creek. We are hoping for better weather and better attendance. Thank you to the Mike and Jarvis Torgerson for keeping our church yard plowed of snow. It is so nice to be able to drive right up to the church.

The women's group will meet on March 16th with a meeting and quilting following the church service. Silver Creek council will meet on March 23rd right after services.

Mark your calendar for April 10th, as that is the evening we plan to do our annual cleaning at the church. We will begin at 5 PM with a potluck but come when you can.



President's Message **Millie Reierson**

Greetings!

I share a special warm greeting and thank you from Bishop Wahrabe and the Synod Council for helping our synod meet or exceed our budget goals for 2013!

Ash Wednesday is just around the corner to start our Lenten season. We will be having supper followed by services each week. We again will use Holden Village Evening Prayer, and each week we will have a different pastor. Please plan on attending these services as we prepare our hearts and minds for Easter and celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

God's Blessings to each and every one of you!

Millie Reierson

Lent 2014 - Making Sense of the Cross



The sermon series for Lent this year will focus on the meaning of the Cross of Jesus Christ. Area preachers will again use the "round robin" procedure, which means that a different preacher will present at each mid-week service except Ash Wednesday.

We will again use the much-loved Holden Evening Prayer service. It is our hope and prayer that this series will proclaim the Gospel and deepen the faith of all.

A supper will be served at 5:30 pm. Worship is at 6:30. All are welcome.

Valentines carnations were delivered to thirty-two of Zion's shut-ins at nursing homes or their private residence. Also, nine Valentine cards were mailed to those out-of-town. Appreciation is expressed to the ladies that delivered them.

Our Lenten suppers begin on Ash Wednesday, March 5. Please come & enjoy the meals & fellowship with worship to follow. The offerings from the suppers assist our youth with Bible camps costs.

Please keep May 3 marked on your calendar, as this is the date for our Daughters of Zion brunch at 10 a.m. We will be honoring Zion's ladies over 80 years of age & also our senior girls that will graduate from high school this spring. Tickets will be available closer to the event. (Ladies over 80, please remember to turn in your forms!)

Our next ZLCW meeting will be March 11 with our youth director, Jay Krogstad, telling us some of the youth activities. Hostess is Elizabeth Circle; hospitality is Sarah Circle; and visitation is Lydia Circle at Valley Home.

Lenten Supper Schedule

- March 5 - Ash Wednesday - Anna
- March 12 - Dorcas
- March 19 - Rebekah
- March 26 - Elizabeth
- April 2 - Esther
- April 9 - Sarah
- April 16 - No Service
- April 17 - Seder Meal - Lydia

What is a Prayer Shawl?

A prayer shawl is a prayer that one can actually see and feel that is either crocheted or knitted. A shawl that with each stitch a prayer is being said and when it is completed many that have received one say they can actually feel those prayers. Many call it a gift of God's love that has come to them through the hands of those that made it and savor the warmth and love that was put into the making of the shawl. Most of the time the recipient of the shawl is not known, but the recipient receives a message that many people have been praying for them and will continue to do so. Each shawl is a blend of prayers, talents, gifts and grace.

Anyone interested in coming together as a group to make the shawls, we will have our first meeting Thursday, March 6, at 1:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We will decide then how often to meet. For those that want to learn how to crochet please come that day too as we will also be starting with a beginner's class in crocheting. Anyone can participate with monetary donations to buy the yarn, as it is a special yarn that is suggested for making the prayer shawls. For more information or if you have any questions about the prayer shawls, call De



Don't Forget to Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thrivent Choice Dollars grant funds can help support organizations you care about. Don't let your designated Choice Dollars expire.

Eligible members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who have been designated Choice Dollars have until March 31, 2014, to direct any remaining 2013 Choice Dollars.

Help support Zion. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice, or call 800-THRIVENT and state "Thrivent ChoiceR."



Zion Lutheran Church Parish Planning Council Minutes February 19, 2014

The Parish Planning Council meeting was called to order by President Millie Reiersen at 7:00 pm. In attendance: President Millie Reiersen, Pastor John Golv, Pastor Ale Tulu, Ginny Armstrong, Deb Holtan, Ken Kalsnes, Penni Nelson, Jay Krogstad, Jan Upham, Connie Hamre, Karen Thygeson Tim Numedahl, Kristie Numedahl, Amber Holtan and Joel Rude.

Pastor Ale gave devotions.

The secretary's minutes from the December 17th and January 26th, 2013 meeting were presented. Karen Thygeson made a motion to accept the minutes with a correction to the Annual Meeting minutes to Ken Kalsnes accepting the 3rd Vice President position instead of 2nd Vice President. Ginny Armstrong seconded the motion and it was approved and carried.

Ginny Armstrong presented the Treasurer's Report which was accepted and filed for audit.

Evangelism & Lay Ministry: Deb Holtan presented the potential candidate list for the Natural Church Development Committee. She said 6 additional candidates are needed. Deb also reported that eight ladies attended the "Ladies Night" held February 7th. She said she hopes to have another one this spring. Deb said she is scheduling a crochet class for anyone interested in crocheting "Prayer Shawls" to be given to members of Zion who could use them.

Youth and Education Board: Amber Holtan reported that the Sunday school rotation discussion is concentrating on camp. The “Kids Sabbath” and Pathways Camp Sunday will be March 9th. She said they are also explaining and stressing the importance of the IFA accounts what it means to the students.

Jay Krogstad requested that the youth be encouraged to read the monthly newsletter pertaining to the youth activities. He posts their activities in the newsletter, on Facebook, and on Twitter.

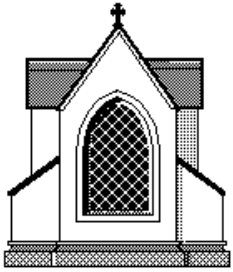
27 kids going on the ski trip this weekend.

On March 2, he has scheduled the first annual Zion Lutheran snowmobile fun-run.

March 15th is the Pathways meeting at Trinity in Crookston.

There is a 2-day senior high youth gathering in Detroit Lakes on March 21-23.

He has the schedule completed for kitchen clean-up for Lenten services.



Properties Board: Tim Numedahl reported that they are working on a proposal for an electronic message board. Joel Rude said there are some issues regarding cold areas in the church so he is checking into Ripple limitations and costs. He also reported that the bookshelf in the lounge is completed. Joel said he is getting estimates for installation of a security system. He commented that he received a request for padded chairs in the fellowship hall so he is getting information on chairs and costs.

Fellowship Board: Kristi Numedahl reported that they are working on activity plans for the upcoming year and that they are meeting with the Evangelism and Lay Ministry Board to discuss activities.

She said there will be a potluck dinner on February 23 after the 10:30 service.

Silver Creek: Penni Nelson reported that their Board Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 23, 2014.

Worship Board: Jan Upham commented that the Lenten services will be “round robin”. They are getting lay people to lead each service.

Millie reported that Laura Rude and Diane Johnson have worked out between them who will play piano at each Lenten service. She said the leaders should be the board chair-people so she will contact Sharon Jorde and Millie will get the leaders for the Lenten services.

Stewardship Board: Connie Hamre said their board did not meet and probably won’t meet until July.

Pastors Report: Pastor Ale reported that he has a new computer and said that Chris Ellison was very helpful in getting it set up. Ale said that Goodridge and St. Hilaire are participating in the round-robin Lenten services along with Trinity and Redeemer. The theme this year is “Making Sense of the Cross”.

Pastor John commented on the PowerPoint presentations that he is now using with the confirmation class.

He asked for a motion for the Property Board to have Wi-Fi available at Zion. Connie Hamre made a motion to have Wi-Fi available in Zion. Ken Kalsnes seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Pastor John also asked for a motion for the Music Committee’s allocation request. Connie Hamre made a motion to accept the allocation request. Amber

Holtan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Millie asked that everyone clean out their boxes in the church office.

Millie announced that Cathie Rhodes is the new pastor for Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Newfolden and Nazareth Lutheran Church in Holt.

She said the Bishop informed us that the Synod ended the year in the black and thanked everyone for their support. The Synod Assembly will be held May 16-17, so we're asking for delegates.

Ash Wednesday - March 5th
Lenten Services – March 12, 19, 26 and April 2, 9
First Communion - March 30th
Easter - April 20th

The next board meetings will be March 4th and the next Parish Planning Council meeting will be held March 18th.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by:
Pam Cwikla, Secretary

Zion Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting
January 26, 2014

President Millie Reiersen called the annual meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

Pastor John led devotions.

Dave Olin moved to accept the secretary's annual meeting minutes of January 27, 2013 as printed; seconded and carried.

President Millie asked the congregation to read the annual board minutes included in the annual report at their leisure.

Treasurer, Ginny Armstrong thanked Dilene Spielman for her assistance throughout the year and thanked the boards for staying within their budgets. She said Zion's 2013 budget ended in the black.

The 2013 Treasurer's Report was filed for audit.

Ginny then presented the proposed 2014 budget with a carryover from last year.

Denny Minks asked why Pastor Golv took a cut in pay. President Millie explained that it was not a cut but an adjustment to an accounting error.

Chet Camp made a motion to accept the budget as printed. Marijo Nabben seconded. The motion carried.

President Millie reported that Ken Kalsnes has accepted the position of 2nd Vice President for the remaining term until June to fill the vacancy left by Duane Morey.

She reported on the generous donations to Zion. Millie said the audio and visual upgrades were donated and are completed. The patio and narthex decorating and upgrades were donated. The shingling and roof repair was donated and is completed. She thanked the congregation, staff pastors, Dilene, Wayne and musicians for their support.

Millie adjourned the meeting at 9:45 A.M.

Pam Cwikla, Secretary

Zion Foundation Annual Meeting

January 26, 2014

President Millie Reiersen called the annual meeting to order at 9:45 A.M.

In the absence of Delray Sparby, Pastor Golv presented the 2013 Annual Report.

Ginny Armstrong made a motion to accept the report as submitted. Bonnie seconded the motion. The motion was accepted and carried.

Millie adjourned the meeting at 9:50 A.M.

Pam Cwikla, Secretary

New Traditions Service

The New Traditions service was started at Zion Lutheran Church on February 5th, 2012. The service uses both the Main sanctuary and the Overflow area which is now called the River Brew Area. The New Traditions Service is at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday and lasts for about 45 minutes. This service is informal, is for the whole family, is family friendly, and grounded in the Word and Sacrament. We celebrate Holy Communion at each service, which is served by Intinction (dipping the bread into the wine.) Our Confirmation students serve as Communion helpers, greeters, ushers, and help in the River Brew area before and during the service. Coffee, smoothies, juice boxes, cookies and donuts are served before and during the services to promote fellowship of our members in attendance, giving us the opportunity to meet people we are worshipping with. Our Youth Director, Jay Krogstad, shares a Children's Sermon for each service which is followed by a Noisy Offering gathered by our children. The Youth/Education Board determines where this

offering will be given each week. We have Worship Leaders each week and occasionally a Worship Band. The music selected is more contemporary. During our final hymn, our children are invited to assist by playing a musical instrument to continue to make them feel truly a part of each service. During each service a power point presentation is used on our large screen to enhance the service in a visual way, including the announcements and photos during the service.

Kids' Sabbath Sundays are incorporated into the New Traditions Service several Sundays each year. The Sunday School students use the Sparky's Bible and Rotation. They study a story theme for four weeks through Arts and Crafts, Videos, Drama, and Cooking. On Kids' Sabbath they actually conduct the New Traditions Service with singing, saying the prayers, and acting out the sermon. Their excitement level is very high.

Giving our Confirmation Students and Sunday School Students the opportunity to be a major part of both our New Traditions Service and our Kids Sabbath Sundays will help them realize that we value them and their involvement at Zion Lutheran Church and in their future.

Muriel Olin, Chair

New Traditions Service

Youth Newsletter

Camp Sunday

When: March 9, 2014

Where: Zion Lutheran Church

Who: EVERYONE K-Senior

This Sunday is where Pathways will be coming to share the good news about summer camp. They will be bringing a few counselors with as well to help teach you some songs.

If you sign up for camp before March 9th, 2014 you will be given an extra \$20 off your registration fee and Zion Youth and Education Board will give you \$5.00 to go towards Canteen time.

Senior High Youth Gathering

Who: 9th-12th Grade

What: Senior High Youth Gathering

Where: Youth Life's Castaway Club on Pelican Lake, near Detroit Lakes

When: Friday, March 21st-Sunday, March 23rd

Come hang out with ELCA Youth from around the NWMN Synod. This will prepare you what to expect at the NYG in Detroit. Plus, it is a lot of fun. Come dance the night away with Agape and Rachel Kurtz.

Registration ends March 9^t

First Communion Class

This will start on March 30th for all the 5th graders and their parents. The classes will take place March 30th - April 13th and on April 17th you will be invited to a meal served to you by the 8th grade confirmation class. On that first day of class please have an estimate on how many will be joining your table for that meal. These classes will be happening during their regularly scheduled Sunday School Time slot.

Lenten Service Clean Up

March 5 - (Ash Wed) 5th-6th Grade

March 12 -- 3rd and 4th Grade

March 19 -- Kindergarten-2nd Grade

March 25 - - 7th Grades

April 2 -- 10-12th Grade

April 9 - - 9th Grades

April 16 -- NO Service

April 17 -- (Seder Meal) 8th Grade

Be to the church NO Later than 5:15. You will be in charge of setting up and cleaning up after the meal. This is for parents and children. Thanks.