



Vol. 15

January 2015

No 1

January 2015

“See, I am making all things new.” Revelation 21:5

In 1966 I got a bicycle as a Christmas gift. It was a Schwinn five-speed, metal-flake gold in color. I loved it. It was new to start with but then I put the first scratch in it. Now I wonder: how long are new things new? How long are newlyweds newlyweds? How long is a new baby a newborn?

In my experience, newness is temporary only. It simply wears off.

2015 is a new year. Wasn't 2014 a new year once too? Isn't it only a short time before “new” becomes “old?” Even spiritually we know only too much about what the “old” world is all about (look up Galatians 5:19-21). We know only too much about our “old” selves (Look up Romans 7:15-25). It is not hard to see that there is far too much of everything that God opposes.

Revelation 21:5 is a seven word (NRSV) statement of God's good news. At first glance we may well miss the good news in it. The way to read real Gospel in this short verse is to put the major emphasis on God. God will make all things new. There is much more to it than simply “new to us” or “better than ever.”

We already know something of what God can do. In the first beginning God pronounced the creation “good.” The second beginning is coming when God will remake what is his and pronounce it all “new.” “New” in God's hands is far more than simply “better” (Look up I Corinthians 2:9-13). We can't even imagine what God has in store for us.

In this verse “new” may be understood as a synonym for the Kingdom of God.

In the new world, and in the new person, all wrongs are righted, and more. All evils are done away with, and more. All heartbreak, all disappointment, everything that detracts from what God first saw as “good” is transformed and recreated, and made new (Look up II Corinthians 5:17).

May God be praised.

Pastor John Golv



President's Message

Millie Reierson

Greetings Friends in Christ!

Here we are in 2015 already. Zion needs your help this year. We need you to come to church and worship with us regularly. We need you to participate in some activity – ushering, reading, singing, teaching Sunday school or confirmation. We need you to help reach out to our shut-ins and members in nursing homes or assisted living. We need you to help reach out to members going through illness or injury - pray for them, call them, visit them. These are a few of the ways that you can keep Zion an active member of our community.

We have lots of folks that already do the things that I've mentioned and much more. Thank seems hardly adequate, but it will have to do. I give prayers of thanks for all the members of our congregation, and I hope this year will be blessed for each of you.

See you in church!
Millie Reiersen, President



ZLCW NEWS

The monthly meeting of the Women of Zion for January will be January 13, 2015 at 12:00 – Noon. Duties are: Program – Anna, Hostess – Esther, Hospitality – Lydia, and Visitation – Dorcas at the TR Care Center.

The executive board meets at 11:00 and Bible study follows. The Properties Committee is looking into putting up a shade between the small kitchen and the lounge. We sent twenty-seven Christmas cards to shut-ins this year. Installation of Officers was done by Pastor Gov at the December meeting.

JoAnn Offerdahl



Want to help Zion deliver meals to shut-ins?

- ❖ Monday, February 2 – Friday, February 6
- ❖ ½ hour
- ❖ 12:00 noon
- ❖ Back door of Law Enforcement Center

You will be given meals and driving directions for three or four clients.

If you can help, call or email Darlene Hulteen – dhulteen@mncable.net or 689-8921.



Zion Lutheran Church
Parish Planning Council Minutes
December 14, 2014

The Parish Planning Council meeting was called to order by President Millie Reiersen at 11:30 am. In attendance: President Millie Reiersen, Pastor John Golv, Ken Kalsnes, Tim Numedahl, Kristi Numedahl, Sharon Jorde, Jay Krogstad, Ginny Armstrong, Connie Hamre, Deb Holtan, Deb Howe, Amber Holtan and Joel Rude. Pastor Ale was absent because he was attending the Silver Creek annual meeting.

Millie announced that Pastor Ale's February sabbatical has not been approved yet but she, Ale, and Pastor John will meet next week to decide.

Pastor Golv gave devotions.

A motion was made by Joel Rude and seconded by Ginny Armstrong to accept the November 18th Parish Planning Council minutes as presented. The motion carried.

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

Stewardship Board: Connie Hamre reported that the evaluation is done and thank you letters have been written and mailed. Their board has changed their meeting time to 6:30.

Worship Board: Board meeting minutes were submitted. Sharon Jorde said they are preparing for the Christmas Eve services. She said they have received a suggestion that the baptismal banner be shown on the big screen. It was also discussed about lowering the banner for family photos. Joel will follow up.

Youth and Education Board: Amber reported that they are planning a "kids' day" on Jan. 19th from 2-5:00.

Jay Krogstad reported on his schedule:

12/13 - He took 2 students to the "News Boys" concert.

12/15 - K-5 party

12/21 - "Coney Dogs Fund Raiser" for National Youth Gathering

01/04 - "Faith Riders" Snowmobile Club Ride

01/19 - Kids' Day party

01/29 - 02/02 Attending ELCA Youth Extravaganza in Detroit

Jay reported that he still needs a volunteer to be the 9th grade leader.

Properties Board: Joel Rude reported that they met Nov. 27th to set up the trees and decorations.

Ken Kalsnes requested that a shade be installed on the window in the kitchenette. He also announced that a donation has been made for a television in the lounge. Joel reported that there is a remote control for the windows by the trees. The trees have to be down before January 18th.

Public Relations Board: Deb Howe reported that the ads for the December schedule will be in the Times and the Watch next week.

Fellowship Board: Kristi Numedahl said their board did not meet but they went caroling and that went well. Also, the "Spirit of Giving" held last Saturday was a huge success. Over 200 people were served. Millie read a thank you note from one of the recipients.

New Traditions: Ken Kalsnes reported that the Passionate Planners will be scheduling a meeting with the pastors. He also commented that they are looking as gift assessments.

Pastors Report: Pastor John submitted his schedule. He announced that our new secretary, Linda Hemrick, is doing an excellent job. She has been learning quickly and has made some new suggestions.

The next Parish Planning Council meeting will be January 13th at 5:30 to discuss the new budget. Millie reminded everyone that committee budgets must be submitted prior to the meeting. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 25th.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Pam Cwikla, Secretary



Silver Creek News

Looking back on 1914 we have lots to be thankful for and hope that 1915 will bring a great year once again for our congregation. We will have our annual meeting on January 18 following church services. A potluck dinner is planned following the annual meeting.

The officers of the WELCA will meet and plan the year soon. Any suggestions for the coming year would be welcome by the officers. The program books will be available at the church when printed.

We ordered a few extra Christmas ornaments so if you know of anyone who would like one have them, give Bev Rupprecht a call.

Bev Rupprecht



Thank you does not seem adequate to convey my gratitude for the activities December 7. Thank you to the Parish Planning Council and staff for their work that day and gift; to the Silver Creek congregation for their gift; to the ZLCW for their gift; to the Sunday school students for the wreath of hands; to the Senior Choir for their gift of song; and especially to the members of Zion for their well wishes, prayers, cards, gifts, and congregational gift of money and eagle picture.

Overwhelmed sums up the day and it will be a day I will treasure. It has been an honor and privilege to work for and with you in the ministry of Zion. Thank you all once again and I continue to keep you in my prayers. God's blessings to you and yours in the new year.

Dilene

January Youth News – Jay Krogstad

Confirmation

Confirmation will return to in-class sessions January 7, 14, and 21. On January 28 it will be a small group day. Please follow directions of small group leaders as to where you will be meeting and at what time.

Make sure you are getting sermon notes in as well as acolytes. There are many dates still open for signing up. Reminder you have until August 31, 2015 to get your stuff in. If the youth have any questions feel free to stop in and talk with Jay.

Ski Trip

The ski trip has been moved up this year into January due to February being tournament time. If you would like to attend the ski trip, stop in and grab a sheet from Jay.

- With your own equipment your cost is \$80 (\$80 -\$25 deposit= you still owe \$55)
- Cost if you're planning to tube (which you can do all day both days) \$80
- Cost if you're renting skis \$90
- Cost if you're renting a snowboard is \$115
-

Your non-refundable deposit of \$25 is due at time of sign- up. Deposit due on January 10.

Please turn in your balance due and forms (They will not let you ski without the forms filled out) by Sunday 1/18



Sunday School PJ Party

WHO: K - 6 Grade

WHAT: PJ Party

WHERE: Zion Lutheran Church

WHEN: January 19, 2015 - 2:00-5:00 pm



Please have your form into Jay by January 11. Parents are encouraged to stay and enjoy.