



April

2015

No 4

God's love is unending



"Long ago even before he made the world God chose us to be his very own through what Christ would do for us." Eph. 1:4

I still remember with great joy the first time I found out that I was going to be a father. I got so excited and began daydreaming about things I would do, places I would go, games I would play with my child yet to come. I prayed to God to help me raise this child to be faithful to Him and a blessing to all around him or her. I promised myself to do my best to be a good and loving father. I even made a commitment to deal with my child with patience and gentle love when he or she rebelled against me. This was about twenty-three years ago.

I am now a proud father of three children and my love for them has been growing ever since. Now I just can't imagine anything that would change the love I have for my children. They are the joy of my life and I will be willing to sacrifice anything for their wellbeing.

The Bible tells us how God too loved us long before we were created. That is not all. He even foresaw our sinfulness and prepared a way for our redemption. Isn't that wonderful to discover and know how we have been loved long before creation. Jesus demonstrated this love to us at Calvary. This means his love for us does not depend on how our life turns out. It is unconditional. In Jeremiah 31:3 God said this about his children. "I have loved you with an everlasting love therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you."

Our promise and commitment to our children may change but our heavenly father never changes the promise He made to his children. His love for us is eternal. What a joy it is to know that we are loved with an everlasting love.

May you rejoice in the wonders of God's love always. Amen.

Pastor Ale

President's Message

Millie Reierson



Christ our Lord is risen! He is Risen indeed! Thanks be to God we have His promise of forgiveness and share a resurrection like His!

Every day we see God's love in action at Zion through all kinds of different ministries - bone builders, quilting, prayer shawls, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, choirs, sharing servants, Sunday School, youth groups, camp, vacation Bible school - you get the point. These don't happen without Zion staying open and viable. This happens with a Parish Planning Council comprised of different boards to keep the church up and running. We need at least four members of the congregation to serve on the nominating committee with two members of the Council.

Then, we need folks to say "Yes!" when asked to serve on a board or the Council.

God bless each and every one of you as we continue Christ's mission to spread the Gospel to our community and our world.

See you in church!
Millie Reierson

ZLCW NEWS

- The women of Zion will meet April 14, 2015, at 12:00 noon. The Executive Board meets at 11:00 and the Bible Study Leaders meet following the meeting.
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- The duties for April are Program: Sarah, Hostess: Lydia, Hospitality: Dorcas and Visitation: Esther at Oakland Park Communities.
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- The Cluster 2 Spring Gathering is Saturday April 18, 2015, at St. Pauli Lutheran Church in Grygla. The featured speaker will be Pastor Vicki Saude-Worthing, pastor at Grace and Our Savior's Lutheran Churches of Grygla. Registration is from 8:30 -9:00. Cost for the morning is \$8.00 per person which includes morning coffee and noon lunch.
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- Lutheran World Relief pick-up is May 2, 2015, from 8:00 AM to noon.
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- Our May meeting is the Prayer Breakfast at 9:00 AM, May 19, 2015.
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- Scholarship registration is due May 1, 2015.
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- Syttende Mai dinner - May 13, 2015.



Zion's Evangelism-Lay Ministry Board's Seventh Annual Good Friday Prayer Vigil

April 3, 2015

Zion's Evangelism-Lay Ministry would like to invite everyone to our seventh annual Good Friday Prayer Vigil to be held on April 3, 2015. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. If you don't have a chance to sign up, come anyway! The time slots start at 12:00 noon and go for half hour increments. We will break for the Good Friday Service and then start again ending with the last time slot at 9:30. Please feel free to stay longer than your half hour slot. You will find the time will be gone before you know it. But what a wonderful half hour it will be!

F.Y.I. This is a time of meditation, prayer and silence. The board is providing a booklet for you to use during this time if you wish. No one is expected to speak up in front of anyone. It is just a time to sit and reflect and pray. We also have a prayer suggestion box where you can pick a slip with a prayer request on it. If so moved, take one or more with you into the sanctuary and pray for what is on the slip. When you are done with your

time, take your booklet and prayer request slip back to the narthex, there will be string to tie to the prayer request so that it will be closed and hang it on the cross sitting on the table.

For those that have taken part in previous years, it has been a very moving experience! Come and join us and be part of something that will be a lasting impression in your heart. What a wonderful was to celebrate Easter! Feel free to bring a friend! They do not have to be a member of Zion.



Zion's Easter Worship Schedule

April 1 - 6th Wednesday of Lent

No supper or service

April 2 - Maundy Thursday

6:00 Seder Meal for First Communicants and Family – Lydia Circle – Seder Meal, Clean-up-Grade 8

7:30 – Worship Service – The Meal – Pastor Ale Tulu, Zion

April 3 - Good Friday

No supper

7:30 – Worship

April 5 – Easter

6:30 – Sunrise Worship Service

7:15 – Breakfast served by the youth – freewill offering

8:30 – Easter Worship Service

10:00 – Easter Worship Service at Silver Creek

10:30 – New Traditions Easter Worship Service

11:30 – Free meal catered by David Lee – If you find yourself alone this Easter, please call the church office and make reservations.

Have a Blessed Easter.



**Zion Lutheran Church
Parish Planning Council Minutes
March 17, 2015**

The Parish Planning Council meeting was called to order by President Millie Reiersen at 5:30 pm. In attendance: President Millie Reiersen, Pastor John Golv, Pastor Ale Tulu, Joel Rude, Penni Nelson, Karen Thygeson, Deb Howe, Sharon Jorde, Jay Krogstad, Ginny Armstrong, Connie Hamre, Amber Holtan, Deb Holtan.

Pastor Golv gave devotions.

A motion was made by Amber Holtan and seconded by Connie Hamre to accept the March 17th Parish Planning Council minutes as presented. The motion carried.

Ginny Armstrong presented a printed treasurer's report which was discussed and filed for audit.

Properties Board: Joel Rude said he submitted the request for elevator repairs which are estimated at \$11,000. Millie requested a dumpster be available for the church cleaning on April 6th.

Silverton: Penni Nelson reported that spring-cleaning and a potluck will be held at Silver Creek on April 2nd.

Penni reported that Pathways is growing and doing well. She said they would like to broaden their services to include adults. Pathways will be having a quilt and art auction June 3rd. Donations are being accepted.

Public Relations Board: Board minutes were submitted. Deb Howe reported that local bus service is available on Sundays. She will check into it and get more information.

Worship Board: Board meeting minutes were submitted. Sharon Jorde said that summer services will be held on Wednesdays.

Stewardship Board: Board minutes were submitted. Connie Hamre reported that Miracle Sunday will be held on May 10th.

Youth and Education Board: Amber Holtan said they are getting ready for the Easter breakfast. She reported that confirmation will be October 25th and the faith statements are due the day before. There will be a retreat at Silverton on September 20th at 1:00.

Amber reported that a small group leader is still needed for confirmation classes.

Jay Krogstad presented his schedule and requested to take guitar lessons.

New Traditions: Deb Holtan reported that they met with Pastor Zeh on February 22nd. They discussed Zion's 125th anniversary and she passed out information to the council to review.

She reminded the Council of the prayer vigil on Good Friday and she said new member Sunday will be April 26th.

President Millie recommended that a nominating committee be formed to fill positions on boards and a new treasurer.

Pastors Report: Pastor John submitted his schedule. He reported that Parish Nurse, Sandy Knutson, received approval from the Center for Disease Control for the congregation to shake hands.

Pastor Ale said there will be prayer service and lunch for community service employees on May 7th at the River of Life Church at 11:30.

The next Parish Planning Council meeting will be April 14, 2015

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Submitted by:
Pam Cwikla, Secretary



Silver Creek News

Wishing you everything that is wonderful about this season... the beauties of nature, the warmth of sharing, the incredible love God has shown us through His Son. Happy Easter.
Our Easter Services will be at 10:00 AM on Sunday, April 5th.

With spring around the corner, it is time to spruce up the church and do some yearly cleaning. We plan to meet on April 2, at 5:00 PM and will begin with a potluck supper. This is for everyone and a great time for fellowship along with the tasks at hand. This will take the place of our women's meeting for April.

The council will meet for a regular meeting following church services on April 12th.

The sign up sheet for mowing is on the bulletin board so please look at your schedule and try to find some time to help with mowing again this year.

Thanks.
Bev Rupprecht



April is Zion's Food Share Month

Grocery carts will be placed by the outside doors if you care to donate food to the TRF Food Shelf. Monetary gifts may be placed in the offering plates. Checks can be made out to TRF Food Shelf.

Business Cards, Please

The Passionate Planners are looking for business cards of businesses that support Zion Lutheran Church. These cards will be shared with the congregation and new members. If you are interested in supporting Zion in this manner, please drop your card off at the church office so it can be included in the Sunday bulletin and on the church website.



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Public Relations Board

Koni Johnson joins our Public Relations. Welcome, Koni!!!!

If anyone else is interested in joining the PR Board, we are still short one person. Call the church office, Deb Howe or talk to anyone on the board.



Zion is celebrating its 125th year anniversary this year. If you have pictures that can be used for the celebration or on Zion's website, please give them to one of the Public Relations board members. They will be scanned and returned to you. Please label each picture and place them in an envelope. If you have digital pictures, please email them to dhulteen@mncable.net.

Youth Newsletter - April

Maundy Thursday

6:00 - Seder Meal

7:30 - Holy Communion

First Communion - Grade 5

Grade 8 help serve, clean up, and set tables for Easter Breakfast.

Easter Day Schedule

6:30 AM - Easter Sunrise Service

Senior High leads

7:15 - Easter Breakfast

Middle School Youth and Parents

Sunrise Service

Senior High, we need readers, greeters, ushers, singers.

Sign up outside Jay's Office

Need Parental Help

Easter Breakfast

Grade 7 and Parents arrive at 6:30 to Cook/Serve

Grade 6 and Parents arrive at 7:00 to Serve/Clean-up

Rummage Sale

April 18

8:00 – 1:00

Set-up starts Wednesday, April 15

Make money for your IFA account

K-5 Event

When – April 27

3:00 – 5:00

What – Outside Activities