



Vol. 16 June, July, August 2016

No. 6



### What I Learned

A total of 16 people read *The Once and Future Church*, by Loren Mead. In that book Mead seeks to describe the current state of the Christian Church in the United States.

It is easy and entirely possible to be completely negative, given current trends in important numbers. Giving to churches is down, as is attendance, participation, and solidarity with the organized efforts of denominations. Mead does not let us wallow there.

He could be negative but instead he is optimistic about the future of the Christian Church in the United States. Rather than simply describing decline, Mead sees God at work, who is “calling us to be more than what we have been.” “Never before,” he says, “have those in religious congregations... had more to give...” That certainly is encouraging.

Mead sees God at work in life-changing, church-changing ways. What that work is, and what it will look like in the end, is not at all clear yet. Our church has been faithful in years past. Thief River Falls is a better community for having Zion Lutheran Church. The United States is a better place for having received the many contributions of the Christian Church. All of this is to be recognized, affirmed and celebrated.

It is also apparent that the past will not be the future. Mead describes the present as being like childbirth. First there is pain, then, new life. Nice

My own conclusion: it is for us to see God at work here. We have always done that. It is for us to see that one way to live as a Christian person in Thief River Falls is passing away. It is for us to see that one way to be a Christian congregation in Thief River Falls is passing away. That much is clear. That much is unsettling too.

One other thing is also clear: God has not given up on us.

It is for us to carry on. We will worship, offer the sacraments, build the church as best we can, and perform acts of kindness for any and all.

As always we will do our best and succeed anyway, because God is faithful.

Pastor John Golv



### President's Message Millie Reiersen

Summer is upon us, and the train does not go any slower here at Zion! We have 30 youth going to camp at different times during the summer; we have worship at 8:30 on Sundays and 6:15 pm on Wednesdays. Vacation Bible School in August. Our semi-annual meeting will be June 26, immediately following the 8:30 service.

Our Fellowship Hall project will take place this summer. As of this writing, we are less than halfway with raising funds. Consider a gift of \$4 a square foot to help defray the costs.

If you go to the lake this summer, take us along through our website.

God bless each and every person who contributes to our mission of spreading the Gospel to the world. Keep each other in your prayers as I keep you in mine.

See you in church!  
Millie Reiersen



- May 15 – September 4 –Worship services at 8:30 only
- June 8 – August 24 – Wednesday evenings - Food, Family, Faith and Friends – Supper at 5:30 – New Traditions worship at 6:30
- June 14 – Noon – ZLCW
- June 26 – Semi Annual meeting – after 8:30 service
- July 10 - Combined service with Silver Creek followed by a potluck picnic
- September 11 – Rally Sunday

## Directory Pictures



Directory pictures have been completed. Please pick up your free 8 X 10's in the office.

## Thank You Thank You Thank You

Our annual Syttende Mai meal served about 325 people. A big THANK YOU to all the Zion women that shared their many talents and put in long hours to make this a success. Many hours were spent in the kitchen at church Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Also many hours were spent in kitchens in homes to put this meal together. Another THANK YOU goes to the Zion men and the two ladies from Silver Creek Church that came to our assistance Wednesday evening with serving and cleanup. We couldn't have done it without you.

When we choose to give our time, energy and talents to serve others, we are taking part in God's work and sharing the love of Christ.

## ZLCW NEWS



Zion women will host the ELCA Bible Study on June 14, 2016, at 12:00 Noon. Guests will be Redeemer, Trinity, Silver Creek, and Black River ladies.

### Duties for June:

- Program: Bible Study-Pastor Golv
- Hostess: All Circles
- Hospitality: Executive Board

The 29th Annual Convention of Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women is September 16 and 17 at Calvary Lutheran Church, Perham, MN. The theme is *“She is clothed with strength and dignity and laughs without fear of the future. – Proverbs 31:25*



**Lutheran World Relief**  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Lutheran World Relief items were shipped on May 7. There were 41 quilts, 103 Personal Care Kits, and 56 Baby Care Kits. Thank you to all who worked on the quilts and kits and to all who donated items, Thank you also to Pastor John and Denny Minks for delivering quilts and kits to the pick-up site.

## Celebrate - Celebrate - Celebrate

Gladys Hallstrom is celebrating 85 years of blessings on July 11. Family and friends are invited to join her for food and fellowship on Sunday, July 10, from 1:00 – 3:00 at Zion Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.

Please - No Cards - No Gifts - Just You



### Zion Lutheran Church Parish Planning Council Minutes May 17, 2016

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, Penni Nelson, Amber Holtan, Deb Howe, Sharon Jorde, Tim Numedahl, Connie Hamre, Deb Holtan, Ken Kalsnes, Barbara Overbye, and Pam Cwikla.

Pastor John Golv gave devotions.

A motion was made by Sharon Jorde and seconded by Ken Kalsnes to accept the Council minutes of April 19, 2016 with one word change in a statement made by Penni Nelson. The wording will change to “water softener” instead of “water heater”. The motion carried.

Barbara Overbye commented that income and expenses are comparable to the same period last year. She reported that all accounts have been moved from Wells Fargo to Northern State Bank. Barb said a sizeable amount was transferred to a savings account from the youth account. A second safety deposit box has been rented for church documents. She also reported that Zion pays utilities on a budget plan and there is a credit balance.

Barbara reported that the difference in what the monthly Treasurer’s Report shows and the amount that is reported in the bulletin each month is due to the full month’s days reported by the Treasurer versus the month of Sundays reported in the bulletin. She also reported that the funds to be used from the Saugen account for the purchase of the property at 510 North Knight will not mature until September. Discussion followed regarding the property purchase. It was decided that the reasons for the purchase should be presented to the congregation and presented to the congregation for a vote.

Barbara presented a printed treasurer’s report for April 2016; discussed and filed for audit. **Worship Board:** Board meeting minutes were submitted. Sharon Jorde reported that the summer Wednesday night services are well set up. Anyone who has a talent or if they know of someone who would be able to share their talent on a Wednesday night for the “Call to Worship” should let Sharon know.

**Passionate Planners/Lay Ministry/Evangelism Board:** Deb Holtan reported that they have been working on Pastor Erickson’s “Life Saver Prayer” program for youth and how we can get it started at Zion. She also stated that the prayer shawl group will continue to meet through the summer and that about 30 more shawls are ready to be blessed.

**Youth and Education Board:** Amber Holtan said the last day of Sunday school, Mother’s Day, and the dinner for graduates went well. The dinner served 14 seniors and a total of 95 people. She reported that 30 kids are going to camp and that she has enough drivers. Each kid will be charged a \$10 gas fee.

**Passionate Planners:** Ken Kalsnes reported that he has the list for board presenters at the Wednesday night services.

**Fellowship Board:** Minutes submitted.

**Properties Board:** Tim Numedahl reported that they discussed the landscaping and the replacement of windows in the fellowship hall. They are waiting to hear from the painter.

**Silver Creek:** Penni Nelson reported the joint service and potluck dinner with Zion will be on Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. She commented that they will be honoring their graduate this Sunday.

**Public Relations Board:** Board minutes submitted. Deb Howe reminded everyone that items for the newsletter are to be in to Darlene Hulteen by May 20<sup>th</sup>. This will be the last newsletter for the summer. She said the directory will be available this fall.

**Pastors Report:** Pastor Ale reported there have been several funerals recently. He also reported that the TRF ministerial group decided to discontinue services at Riverside and Skylite. Zion, Redeemer, and Trinity will continue to serve these homes. Ale commented there are other congregations who have members partake in portions of the services and he asked that the Worship Board look into asking for volunteers from Zion.

Pastor John submitted his schedule. He commented that the NW MN Synod Assembly will be held in Moorhead on May 20-21. The keynote speaker will be Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber if anyone is interested in attending.

Millie reported that a candidate for youth director was interviewed and the Personnel Committee would meet this evening to discuss if an offer should be made. She asked that board chairpersons get their information to the Nominating Committee regarding who is leaving their board and the names of persons to replace them.

The next Parish Planning Council meeting will be June 21, 2016 at 5:30.  
The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Pam Cwikla, Secretary



## Fellowship Floor Fund

The Church Properties Board and the Parish Planning Council have approved an estimate for new flooring for the Fellowship Hall. The complete project estimate is \$14,364, including installation. This includes the fellowship hall, the Sunday school hallway in the basement and the stairway carpet from the kitchen to the sanctuary.

If you would like to donate to this project, donations will be for \$4.00 per square foot. You can donate for as many square feet as you wish. To donate, either stop in church office or write a check to Zion Fellowship Floor Fund

## Wednesday Night Summer Services

### FOOD, FAITH, FAMILY, and FRIENDS

June 8 - August 24

Supper - 5:30

New Traditions Service - 6:15

Suggested donation towards the light supper is \$5.00 with a maximum of \$15.00 per family

David Lee prepares and serves each meal - Youth assist with cleanup

Each service includes Holy Communion, Short Sermonette, Children's Sermon, and Praise Music

Menus Include:

- June 8 – Tacos
- **June 15 – FAMILY FUN NIGHT** - Hamburgers, Bratwurst, and Hotdogs

- June 22 - BBQ's and Salad
- June 29 – Pasta
- July 6 – No Supper or Service
- July 13 – Pulled Pork and Salad
- July 20 – Hot Ham and Cheese Sandwiches and Pasta Salad
- **July 27 – REACHING OUT NIGHT** - French Toast and Sausages
- August 3 – Chicken Salad Croissant and Fruit Salad
- **August 10 – PATHWAYS NIGHT** - Hamburgers, Bratwurst, Baked Beans, and Salad with S'mores after the service
- August 17 – Chicken Wild Rice Hot dish and Buns with Meat and Cheese
- August 24 – Lasagna (both meat and vegetable)
- (Hot dogs will also be available at every meal)

Please come and enjoy the opportunity to have supper before the New Traditions Wednesday Evening Service. Dessert, lemonade, and coffee will be served in the River Brew area after each service (around 7:00). Each board or committee has been invited to give a short summary of its responsibilities at Zion Lutheran.

Committee: Muriel Olin, Chair, Pastor Golv, Ken Kalsnes, Jeri Nomeland, Amber Holtan, Kami and Shawna Spears, Amanda Hawk and Jamie Bakken

## **Bible Readings and Sermonette Themes**

### **Six Wednesdays on 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians**

### **Sermonette Theme**

- June 8 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1:1-11 ----- Consolation
- June 15 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 2:1-10 -----Forgiveness
- June 22 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:1-15 -----Treasure in Clay Jars
- June 29 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:16-5:10 -----Walk by Faith not Sight
- July 6 - No service
- July 13 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:11-21-----Reconciliation
- July 20 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 8:1-15 -----Generosity
- July 27 - Genesis 22:1-19 -----Abraham, Isaac and God

### **Four Wednesdays on the Lord's Prayer**

- August 3 - Luke 11:2-4
- August 10 - Luke 11:2-4
- August 17 - Luke 11:2-4
- August 24 - Luke 11:2-4

The Wednesday evening sermon themes will be different than the Sunday sermon themes, so you may be interested in coming to both.

## Special themed evenings include:

- **June 15 - Family and Friends Night:** “The Good Dinosaur” will be shown on the large screen in the sanctuary. Bring the whole family and your friends. Kids can come in their pajamas and bring pillows and blankets. Popcorn will be served from the River Brew area.
- **June 27 - Reaching Out Night:** We will make homemade cards in the River Brew area for our homebound members and those in our nursing and assisted living homes. We will deliver them the following weekend.
- **August 10 - Pathways Night:** Camp counselors from our Bible camps will be presenting the service and singing campfire songs. Weather permitting, the service will be held outdoors in the extra parking lot. Please bring lawn chairs if you have them. S’mores will be served after the service.



## Board and Committee Presentations

Each church board and committee will give a presentation about its responsibilities at 7:00 following the Wednesday evening services. Stay for coffee, lemonade, and bars in the River Brew area.

- **June 8 - Evangelism Board - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Pray for Youth Program - Deb Holtan, Chair and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Karen Thygeson**
- **June 15 - Family Fun Night - “The Good Dinosaur”**
- **June 22 - Health Committee - Sandy Knutson, Parish Fellowship Board - Glenice Johnson and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Ken Kalsnes**
- **June 29 - Worship Board - Sharon Jorde, Wedding Committee - Sally Mumm and Sandy Fladeland and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Tim Numedahl**
- **July 6 - No Service (4<sup>th</sup> of July Week)**
- **July 13 – Properties Board - Joel Rude, Chair and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Tim Numedahl**
- **July 20 - Christian Education/ Youth Board - Amber Holtan, Chair and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Ken Kalsnes**
- **July 27 - Reaching Out Night**
- **August 3 - Stewardship Board - Connie Hamre, Chair and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Tim Numedahl**
- **August 10 - Pathways Night**
- **August 17 - Public Relations - Deb Howe, Chair and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Ken Kalsnes**
- **August 24 – ZLCW - Sharon Wagner - Prayer Chain - Carol Narverud**

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**VBS Day Camp** will be held at Zion on August 8–11 from 9:00-3:00. This is open to all youth entering K-5 in the fall of 2016. We will be mailing out registrations, or you can pick one up in the office. **If your registration is in by June 30, the cost of VBS is FREE for Zion kids. After June 30, the cost will be \$40 per child.** The last day to turn in registration will be July 22. All registration can be handed into the office to Linda. If you have questions, call Amber at 689-9405.