



*I was hungry
welcomed me.*

*and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you
Mathew 25:35*

I remember my first marathon race. It happened on June 18, 1983, which was three months later after I came to America. I was one of the four runners selected by our coach to represent our school, Golden Valley Lutheran College, and we traveled to Michigan State to compete in a national junior college marathon race.

As much as I was excited to run in that race, I was also excited to know that we had to travel through a number of states to get where the competition was taking place. Our coach was the one who drove us in his nice RV. It was very comfortable for the journey and I had a great time with my running teammates. I enjoyed travelling for the first time through Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan and see these different states.

On the day of the race, I was very impressed to see so many people who came out to watch the race. I was also very surprised to see so many runners who came from different states representing their colleges to run in this race. All this was quite an experience for me.



Just before the race started, our coach came and told us to run together and help each other. Then, when the race started, he began to ride his bicycle along and continue to encourage us along the way. After running for about ten miles together, one of our teammates said that he couldn't keep up with the pace and told us to go ahead. And then around seventeen miles, another one decided to slow down. When we got to twenty miles mark, our coach came and said to me, "Ale, can you run faster?" I told him I could, and he told me to take off. At that time my friend and I were thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth place in the race. Around mile twenty-two mark, I was told that I was twenty-fourth place. Around twenty-four miles mark, I was told that I was eleventh place. One mile to go, I was sixth place, and then I began to see from a distance the front runners. Even though I was running fast, I couldn't catch up. It was too late and I crossed the finish line running fast in third place.

My coach came running toward me with great joy. He gave me a big hug and said, "Congratulations, Ale, you are now all American. What a great accomplishment."

I said to him with great excitement, "That means I am now an American citizen?"

He smiled and said "Oh no! All American athlete means you are now one of elite runners in the country."

After that I made all American five times in marathons, cross country and track but it took me twenty two years to get the American citizenship which I wanted more than anything else in the world.

I am sharing this story with you to bring to your attention the many unimaginable ways immigrants try to achieve their dream of becoming an American citizen and to express my gratitude for all those people who helped me along the way to achieve my own dream. Soon, we are celebrating national immigrant's day to commemorate the significant contribution the immigrants have made to this country. I challenge you to stand in solidarity with those who work hard for the dignity and security of all immigrants and to pray for those who are yearning for a place to call home.



President's Message Millie Reierson

Welcome back from the summer! And what a great summer it was! Our Wednesday worship service went wonderfully. Vacation Bible School was a blast, and we hired a youth director. The first of September Kelsey McGowan will join our staff here at Zion. Please make her feel welcome!

September 11 is going to be a very busy day. Rally Sunday for Sunday school, start-up of 8:30 and 10:30 services, and a short special meeting of the congregation to decide if we will purchase the property at 510 North Knight Avenue. You will receive a mailing about that meeting. That day is also the 67th anniversary of the day my mom and dad were married in the fellowship hall (the first wedding in the "new" Zion.)

All our fall activities will start in September – there are lots of opportunities for you to serve your church.

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 Reierson



Church directories will be distributed to those who had portraits taken on Sunday, September 18, between services.

Phone Numbers and Email Addresses



Please remember to notify the church office if you get a new phone number or email.



- September 7 – God's Joy – 6:00-6:30 – Wednesday's
- September 7 – Senior Choir – 6:45-7:30 – Wednesday's
- September 11 – Rally Sunday
- September 11 - 8:30 and 10:30 worship resumes
- September 11 - Carnival in parking lot after 10:30 service
- September 11 – Congregational vote on purchase of property

- September 18 – Pick up church directories between services
- September 21 – Jubilate Campana – Bell choir – 4:30 – Wednesday's
- September 25 – Blessing of prayer shawls
- September 25 – Confirmation Retreat at Silver Creek
- September 28 – Confirmation meeting – Grades 8-10 and parents
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Positive Thoughts and Feelings in Zion

Dan Bartsch



Many of you have given me great compliments on my articles in the Thief River Falls Times, so I thought I would do the same in the newsletter. With this being September and the start of another year of Sunday school year, I wanted to share this with you.

The kids were doing art projects in their Sunday school class, and the teacher saw one little girl busily drawing. The teacher went up to her and asked what she was drawing.

She said, "I'm drawing a picture of God."

"Oh," the teacher said, "I don't know if anyone has ever seen a picture of God."

"Well, you will in a minute," the girl said finishing her work.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and blessed September.

ZLCW NEWS



The Northwest Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization Convention is September 16 -17 at Calvary Lutheran Church, 619 3rd Ave. NW, Perham, MN. Registration forms are in the church office. All attendees must complete the form.

The September meeting of Women of Zion will be September 13, at 12:00 Noon. The executive board meets at 11:00AM.

Duties for September are:

- Program: Bible Study by Pastor Ale
- Hostess: Anna
- Hospitality: Dorcas
- Visitation: Rebekah at Valley Home.



Pie Auction

Sunday, November 20
Fellowship hall between services
Proceeds – Youth Programming



Silver Creek

Summer has a way of slipping by so rapidly, but hope you were able to find some time to enjoy building memories with family and friends. With fall comes our big fundraising with the selling of raffle tickets for the. We will be getting the picture and tickets out to all families soon. The drawing for the quilt will be held on October 23rd before church services at 10:00 AM. Following services we will have our turkey dinner for Silver Creek members. There will also be a table for baked goods, garden produce, crafts or the like with proceeds going to WELCA.

Church council will meet following services on September 11. WELCA will meet on September 8 at 5:30. Our Bible study is, "Pleasing God," and the program will be Women of the Bible, featuring Ruth. We will have election of officers, with Co-chair and treasurer positions to be filled. School bags are our biggest need and we will set a date to sew these soon.

Thanks to the families who have been so diligent in keeping our lawn and outdoors looking so nice.

Bev Ruprecht

Welcome Zion's New Youth Director

Kelsey McGowan joins our staff on September 1.

Calling all Singers and Musicians!



Are you looking for a way to get involved with the church in a fun group setting? Zion's choirs will start in September, and we are looking for people that want to be a part of a fun musical church family.

Starting in September, the God's Joy choir (K-7th) will be rehearsing Wednesday's from 6:00-6:30. The Senior Choir (ages- 8th grade - 100 years old) will be rehearsing on Wednesday's from 6:45-7:30.

If you play an instrument and would like to get involved please contact Laura Rude 218-684-1072. If you are interested or have questions, just show up!

God's Blessings always! Remember to Make a Joyful Noise!

Laura Rude

Jubilate Campana



Bell Choir will start practice Wednesday, September 21 at 4:30.

Bell choir is looking for a few new ringers to join us. We have a wonderful group and would like to invite anyone interested to join us for all or part of the year. Please contact Missy Borgen at 686-0227 for information.

**“Sing to the LORD, all the earth;
proclaim the good news of His salvation
from day to day!”**

1 Chronicles 16:23



Zion Lutheran Church
Parish Planning Council Minutes
August 16, 2016

The Parish Planning Council meeting was called to order by President Millie Reiersen at 5:30 pm. In attendance: President Millie Reiersen, Pastor Ale Tulu, Tim Numedahl, Connie Hamre, Ken Kalsnes, Amber Holtan, Deb Holtan, Joel Rude, Deb Howe, Glenice Johnson, Karen Thygeson, Roberta Kalsnes, Barbara Overbye, and Pam Cwikla.

Pastor Ale gave devotions.

President Millie presented a letter of resignation to the Council from Muriel Olin, Past Chair of the New Traditions Committee. Millie asked that a letter be sent to Muriel to thank her for all her help in starting the New Traditions services and for her contributions throughout the implementation.

The minutes from the July 17, 2016 Council meeting was presented for approval. A motion was made by Tim Numedahl and seconded by Joel Rude to accept the Council minutes as presented. The motion carried.

Barbara Overbye commented on the continuing decline in income compared to the same period last year. Barbara presented a printed treasurer's report for July 2016; filed for audit.

President Millie announced the hiring of Chelsea McGowan as Youth Director. Chelsea will begin September 1st. Barb inquired as to how long the background check will take. Millie said it should be completed within 2 weeks.

Stewardship Committee: Connie Hamre reported that Stewardship Sunday will be October 16th with a 10:30 service followed by a noon meal. A pre-recorded service will be televised for the 8:30 service. She said that volunteers are needed for 3 temple talks.

Evangelism/Lay Ministry: Deb Holtan asked that prayers shawls be blessed on Sunday, September 25th. She commented that prayers squares are also being made for people who already have prayer shawls.

Christian Education/Youth: Amber Holtan reported that Day Camp went well. There were 54 kids who attended. She expressed special thanks to Sharon Jorde for hosting the Pathways staff. Amber commented that the rummage sale is scheduled for November 12th and any leftovers will be added to the Spirit of Giving giveaway. She reported they have a new board member, Chrysi Gibson. Amber said she and Kami Spears prepared the confirmation schedule. She also reported that 4 Sunday school teachers are still needed for K-garten, 1st, 3rd, and 5th grades. Rally Sunday will be September 11th and Little Lambs will receive their pins at the 8:30 service. There will be 17 Little Lambs.

Millie commented that the congregation will vote on the property purchase between services on Rally Sunday. Barb commented on the property purchase notice in the Sunday bulletin. She suggested adding more information about the reasons for purchasing the property. Millie said a letter will be mailed to the congregation in September with additional information. Glenice commented she observed that, because we have so little grassy space, the VBS kids were playing games on the grass near the streets. She said they were well supervised but a better area is needed for the children.

Millie said the ad will be expanded in the bulletin and she requested that information also be added regarding where the funding is coming from. Tim and Ken will take care of the additional information.

Properties Board: Joel Rude reported that he is working on the sign project and has spoken with Erling Johnson regarding having the current sign refaced. Joel said the fellowship hall windows will be replaced the week of August 22nd and the flooring will be completed the week of the 29th. He also reported that there is a service checkup done on our elevator every month. The elevator is old and it is getting difficult to get parts. He suggested that we start planning for replacement. Deb Holtan requested better lighting in the quilter's room.

Worship Board: Minutes submitted.

Fellowship Board: Glenice Johnson reported that the next pie auction will be November 20th. Proceeds will be go to the youth for the 2018 youth gathering and for their chaperones. Glenice inquired on a date for New Member Sunday. Pastor Ale stated that the second Sunday in November is usually when new members are received.

Public Relations Board: Deb Howe reminded everyone that tomorrow is the last day to submit information for the September newsletter. She reported that Connie Johnson attended orientation. Deb commented that board presentations after Wednesday night services went well. Deb inquired about church cleaning. Joel said it is done except for the balcony. Deb also asked when the computers and obsolete items will be cleaned out of Dilene's old office so it can be readied for their board's use and for archiving.

Pastors Report: Pastor John's report was submitted. Pastor Ale commented that only 2 Wednesday night services are scheduled. He said they're pleased with the turnout. Ale reported that the confirmation retreat is scheduled for September 25th at Silver Creek. Confirmation is scheduled for October 30th at the 10:30 service. The confirmation supper will be held the night before. Ale said 2nd graders will receive their Bibles at both services on October 30th. He also commented that a pastor is needed for Rally Sunday, September 11th, due to Pastor John's absence that day. He will ask Bob Dahlen or Mark Helgeland.

President Millie thanked everyone for keeping things going all summer and asked them to be prepared for a busy September.

The next Parish Planning Council meeting will be September 20, 2016 at 5:30.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Submitted by: Pam Cwikla, Secretary



**Zion Lutheran Church
Parish Planning Council Minutes
July 17, 2016**

The Parish Planning Council meeting was called to order by President Millie Reierson at 5:30 pm. In attendance: President Millie Reierson, Pastor Ale Tulu, Sharon Jorde, Tim Numedahl, Connie Hamre, Penni Nelson, Ken Kalsnes, Amber Holtan, Deb Holtan, Joel Rude, Barbara Overbye, and Pam Cwikla.

Pastor Ale gave devotions.

The minutes from the June 21, 2016 Council meeting was presented for approval. A motion was made by Joel Rude and seconded by Amber Holtan to accept the Council minutes as presented. The motion carried.

Barbara Overbye reported a decline in income compared to the same period last year. She commented that the City of TRF water bill was high due to watering the new sod. Barbara presented a printed treasurer's report for June 2016; filed for audit.

Christian Education/Youth: Amber Holtan reported they have two new board members, Becky Fredrickson and Kayla Bruggeman. Amber commented that they will be using "Spark" leaflets for Sunday school which corresponds with Sunday sermons. The youth will be singing at both Sunday services. She said 40 kids have signed up for Pathways Day Camp (VBS) which is August 8-11. Amber said they need a host family for the Pathway counselors. She also reported that 30 kids are going to camp this summer. Rally Sunday will be September 11th and there will be 2 services. She reported there are lots of things to be finalized before September. There was some discussion about fund raising for the youth, including the rummage sale.

New Traditions Committee: Ken Kalsnes inquired on the status of hiring a youth director. Millie said she will focus on the search.

Properties Board: Tim Numedahl inquired about the status of purchasing the house on Knight. Millie commented that the congregation needs to be updated. Joel Rude thanked Tim for fixing the mower. Joel reported they are looking for a replacement for board member, Lyle Paulson. Joel commented that the fellowship hall has some water spots. The windows will be replaced in August. He also mentioned that they need reinforcement for hanging the bulletin boards. Joel said their presentation at the Wednesday night service went well. He thanked Roger Forsberg and Blair Lund for their excellent work painting the fellowship hall.

Silver Creek: Penni Nelson thanks everyone for their help with the joint service with Zion. She reported that a wedding is scheduled at Silver Creek in August. She commented that a date needs to be set for the faith statements for the confirmands at Silver Creek. Confirmation is set for October 30th. Penni offered that Silver Creek is available for acolyte times.

Pastors Report: Pastor Ale suggested that a different sermon be preached at the joint service so people that attend the earlier service at Zion won't have to listen to the same sermon when they come to Silver Creek. Ale thanked everyone for allowing him to go to continuing education in Alexandria. He asked everyone to let him know if we hear of anyone who needs special attention or would like a pastor's visit.

President Millie thanked everyone for their support and commented again that she will focus on hiring a youth director.

The next Parish Planning Council meeting will be August 16, 2016 at 5:30.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Submitted by:

Pam Cwikla, Secretary



**Zion Lutheran Church
Parish Planning Council Minutes
June 21, 2016**

The Parish Planning Council meeting was called to order by President Millie Reierson at 5:30 pm. In attendance: President Millie Reierson, Pastor John Golv, Pastor Ale Tulu, Deb Howe, Sharon Jorde, Tim Numedahl, Connie Hamre, Glenice Johnson, Joel Rude, Barbara Overbye, and Pam Cwikla.

Pastor Ale gave devotions.

The minutes from the May 16, 2016 Council meeting was presented for approval. Pastor John asked that the addition of “Goodridge” be added to the Pastors Report. A motion was made by Sharon Jorde and seconded by Deb Howe to accept the Council minutes with the addition requested by Pastor John. The motion carried.

Barbara Overbye commented that income is down compared to the same period last year. She reported that “Pastor’s SS Reimbursement” has been added as an expense category to the report. She said that Zion received another charge from Wells Fargo. She is working on it. She also reported there is a credit on the utility bill with the City of TRF. She checked billing over the past 4 years and said she’s satisfied with the way it is. Barbara reported that Minnesota Workers Comp will be doing an audit on Thursday.

Barbara presented a printed treasurer’s report for May 2016; discussed and filed for audit.

Worship Board: Board meeting minutes were submitted. Sharon Jorde reported that the summer Wednesday night services are going ok. Approximately 35-40 people have attended for dinner and the services. There was some discussion about kneeling for communion at the Wednesday night services. This will only be done once a month throughout the summer.

Public Relations Board: Board minutes submitted. Deb Howe commented that a room divider will be in entrance for pictures of Zion’s history. She also stated that the old secretary’s office needs to be cleaned out.

Properties Board: Tim Numedahl reported that the board met and they discussed replacement of the 8 windows in the basement. According to Lyle Walseth, the cost would be \$2050 each for a total of \$16,400. Glenyce made a motion to authorize Lyle to order the windows for the Fellowship Hall at a cost of \$2050 per window including installation. The motion was seconded by Connie Hamre and carried.

Millie asked Tim to present information about the possible property purchase to the congregation at the Semi-Annual Meeting on Sunday.

Joel Rude reported that he received a resignation letter from Bob Nelson. Bob will no longer be our sound technician effective September 5th. Joel reported that Lyle Walseth found a water leak in the roof flashing. Joel said he will check out the mower. The mower is old and it’s having problems.

Fellowship Board: Glenice Johnson reported that the Fellowship Board will make their presentation at the Wednesday night service. She also reminded everyone of the joint service and potluck dinner with Silver Creek will be on Sunday, July 10th.

Pastors Report: Pastor Ale reported that he will be in Alexandria next week for Continuing Education.

Pastor John submitted his schedule. He reported that Denny Minks will be our representative at the ELCW church-wide convention in New Orleans the second week of August. He reported that the directory is done and he commended Darlene Hulteen and Diane Baune for their hard work. Pastor John also reported that Silver Creek received a donation from an estate.

Millie reported that she attended the Synod Council meeting and she said the Council approved the separation of Redeemer and Black River. She also reported that Lutheran Social Services has available a booklet written by a Lutheran minister about Muslims titled “My Neighbor is Muslim”. She said it is available online and encouraged everyone to read it. Millie reported that the Synod has set up a fund for church leaders which will help new pastors with their school debt. This fund will also assist small churches pay for their pastors.

Millie reported that the Youth Director applicant withdrew his application but he said he is still considering the position.
The next Parish Planning Council meeting will be July 19, 2016 at 5:30.
The meeting concluded with the Lord’s Prayer and adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Submitted by:
Pam Cwikla, Secretary

Sunday School News

The first day of Sunday school will be September 11. I would like to invite parents and youth (Little Lambs – 8th grade) to join us in the sanctuary following the 8:30 service. The Little Lambs – 5th grade will be going back to using the SPARK leaflet curriculum that has a lesson coinciding with the sermon for each Sunday. 6th-8th grade will have a Jr High gathering during Sunday school hour.

Sunday school is from 9:30 – 10:20.

A more detailed letter about Sunday school will be mailed out.

Everyone is invited to join us for one of two services on Rally Sunday, the 8:30 service (traditional) or the 10:30 service (New Traditions) with the annual carnival to follow the 10:30 service in the church parking lot.

If you have any questions, call Amber at 689-9405 or email her at amber.trfradio@gmail.com.



Welcome Little Lambs!

Sunday, September 11, at the 8:30 service.
Watch for a postcard coming your way with more details.

Jr and Sr High Youth Groups

Wednesday, October 5
Stay tuned for more details.





Confirmation

There will be a confirmation meeting for parents and youth in grades 8-10th grades on Wednesday, September 28. It is required that everyone attends this meeting because we will be going over requirements for the upcoming confirmation year.

First day of confirmation – Wednesday, October 5

Confirmation Retreat – Sunday, September 25 at Silver Creek



We will be having the youth rummage sale on **Saturday, November 12**. This will be open for all youth to work to earn money for IFA accounts. It is a perfect opportunity for the youth that are going to the next national youth gathering. It is never too early to start fundraising! More details to come.