



Read John 20:1-18

You will recognize this portion of Scripture right away as the Gospel reading for Easter Day, 2017. Mary Magdalene was the first to proclaim the risen Christ, to the disciples.

In Matthew (28:6) "... he is not here; for he has been raised, as he said."

In Mark (16:6) "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here."

In Luke (24) "... on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they (the women followers of Jesus) came to the tomb... They were asked: "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."

We celebrate resurrection on Easter Day with our best words and meaningful hymns and the Church's prayers. To anyone who will listen we will say; nothing is more important to us. So we celebrate resurrection every Sunday. No one is more important than Jesus. No event surpasses the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

We can say with the first Christians that "Jesus is Lord." There is no higher authority in life. No one else is worthy of worship. Any thing or any one who comes before Jesus is an idol, unworthy of our worship.

There are always pretenders. When pretenders come first we know what to call them: idols. What are commonly the most important pretenders in life? Money is always a pretender, though the promises that happiness and contentment follow if only there is enough money are hollow. Security is a contender. Important as security surely is, it is not the most important thing in life. Good health is a contender. Good health is always important, but it too is not the most important part of life. We place a high value on our freedoms, but even they are not the most important thing in life.

God is first. Jesus is Lord. Persuasive temptations are always with us. We may be tempted to believe that our own interests come before anything else. A common temptation is to believe that we ourselves are worthy of coming in first ahead of anyone else. Self-centeredness can push faith out. Self-centeredness makes it hard to worship God, because all we can see clearly is ourselves. We will always be tempted to believe that our good ethics will somehow impress God. Of course we know better, because we know the Easter Gospel.

Easter is enough and much more than enough to live on, because our Lord takes first place in our lives.

Happy Easter!

Pastor John

## Miracle Sunday – May 7

**Zion is praying for a Miracle!** As of the end of the first quarter of 2017, we are \$23,600 behind in our budget. At this point, paying all of our bills for April is not guaranteed.

Our Parish Planning Council and church boards have cut expenses and often pay for items out of their own pockets. Any further cuts in budget would need to be cuts in services. Zion is a great congregation, and we hope that won't happen.

Please help! **May 7 is Miracle Sunday.** Zion will be asking you to give a special donation. There will be a box in the Narthex, or you can bring your donation to the office.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact our church president or Stewardship Board.

Stewardship Board





## President's Message Millie Reierson

God's blessings to all of you!

Here we are at the start of May already! Where does the time go? It feels like we were just having Rally Sunday a couple of months ago, and now we are at the end of the Sunday school year. Thanks to all the teachers, helpers, parents and kids for a great Sunday school program. May 14 will be the last day of Sunday school, and it will be the day we recognize our graduating high school seniors. May 21 will be the last 10:30 service until September.

May 7 is designated as Miracle Sunday. The Stewardship Board and the Parish Planning Council are asking you to give more than your pledge that Sunday to keep our budget within its goal. Thanks you to everyone who has contributed thus far. Zion is truly blessed to have the members who give so generously of their time, talents and money.

Remember to pray for our staff, our Parish Planning Council, and all the members of Zion as we share God's Love and Grace with those around us.

See you in Church!  
Millie Reierson



## Congratulations Seniors

Please join us in recognizing our graduating seniors on Sunday, May 14, between services. Enjoy a graduation brunch and a short program.

## ZLCW NEWS

The May meeting of the Women of Zion is the Prayer Breakfast on May 9 at 9:00. Bible Study is at 10:00, and the executive board meeting will follow. Duties for May – Program: Dorcas, Hostess: Anna, Hospitality: Sara, Visitation: Rebekah at Valley Home.

Lutheran World Relief pick-up is May 6 from 8:00 AM to noon.

Syttende Mai Dinner – May 17



The 2017 Triennial Gathering is in Minneapolis on July 13-16.

The NWMN Synodical Women's Organization is in Detroit Lakes on September 14-15.

The June Bible Study is at Redeemer Lutheran Church. Watch the bulletin for date and time.

The July meeting of ZLCW is at Zion with a Noon Bible study. Guests are the women of Redeemer, Trinity and Silver Creek Lutheran Churches.  
Duties – Program: Bible Study by Pastor, Hostess: All circles, Hospitality: Executive Board

August Bible Study will be at Trinity. Watch the bulletin for date and time.

The September ZLCW meeting will be September 12 at 10:00 AM. Program: Rebekah, Hostess: Dorcas, Hospitality: Anna and Visitation: Lydia at Valley Home

## Silver Creek



Thank you to everyone who helped with cleaning the church on April 6th. With so many doing a little each, we got a lot accomplished, and the church looks and smells so clean. The new tablecloths and centerpieces add a lot and look like we are ready for Easter service.

The women will meet on May 11 for their monthly meeting at 5:30 with a light supper and business meeting and bible study to follow. Our Bible Study will be from our new book, *Growing Older and Wiser - #1 WISE UP*. The program will be *Women of the Bible/Joanna*. If you need a Bible study book, they are on the table in back of the church.

There will not be a council meeting in May but will have a meeting on June 11 following services.

It is that time of year that we need to remember to book some time to help with mowing the lawn, so sign up for the week or weeks that work for you. We take pride in keeping our church looking its best, but this means we all need to pitch in to help.

Bev Rupprecht

April 29 – Youth Rummage Sale  
May 7 – Adults Saving Kids  
May 7 – Miracle Sunday at Zion  
May 14 – Last day of Sunday school  
May 14 – Graduation celebration for seniors  
May 17 – Syttende Mai Dinner  
May 21 – Last 10:30 Worship Service for the summer  
June 7 – August 23 – Food! Faith! Family!



***Adults Saving Kids  
with the  
Prayer Project Lifesaver***

Workshop by Pastor Alvin Erickson  
*Sunday May 7*  
12:30 P.M.  
Fellowship Hall  
Zion Lutheran Church – TRF

Light lunch - 12:30  
Workshop - 1:00

***Cost One Adult \$5.00  
One Couple \$8.00  
One Youth \$2.00***

***RSVP by Monday May 1st***  
Call 218-681-3296  
or email: [ziontrf@mncable.net](mailto:ziontrf@mncable.net)

All grandparents, parents and youth, sixth grade and up are welcome and urged to attend.  
The workshop is approximately two and a half hours long.

**Parish Planning Council Minutes  
April 18, 2017**



The Parish Planning Council was called to order by President Millie Reiersen at 5:30 PM. In attendance: President Reiersen, Pastor John Golv, Pastor Ale Tulu, Joel Rude, Tim Numedahl, Roberta Kalsnes, Deb Howe, Penni Nelson, Ken Kalsnes, Connie Hamre and Kelsey McGowan

Pastor Ale gave devotions.

The minutes from the previous month were read and approved by a motion from Ken Kalsnes and seconded by Roberta Kalsnes.

The treasurer's report was filed for audit.

**Evangelism and Lay Ministry Boards:** minutes from April 4 were meeting submitted.



**Youth Director:** Rummage sale will be April 29 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Drop off times will be Thursday, April 27 and Friday, April 28 from 4:00-7:00 PM. The 14 of May will be the last day of Sunday school and senior recognition day between services.

**Stewardship Board:** Miracle Sunday will be May 7 to help bolster our operating funds.

**Worship Board:** May 21 will be our last 10:30 service until fall. Wednesday evening services will start on June 7 and run through August 23.

**Silver Creek:** Sunday, June 11, will be our combined outdoor service with potluck.

**Church Properties Board:** Exploring buying a new electronic sign for the front of the church. They will only purchase if 80% of the funds are raised.



**Pastor Ale:** Mission Sunday is this Sunday.

**Pastor John:** Synod Assembly is June 9-10 at Concordia College. Zion can send five voting members (not including the pastors or Synod Council rep).

As there were a few council members absent, the vote for the credit card machine was deferred to a vote by e-mail. This will occur in the next two weeks.

The next Parish Planning Council will meet May 16 at 5:30PM.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50PM after the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Millie Reiersen, President

# Freed and Renewed in Christ 500 Years of God's Grace in Action

Check out the ELCA's Facebook page at:  
ELCA Reformation 500



## Sunday School News



**May 14:** Sunday school students will be singing the Call to Worship at both services. Please have your youth in the Fellowship Hall by 8:15. Your youth can stay in their classroom after Sunday school, and the teachers will bring the kids up to sing for the 10:30 service. They will be able to leave after they are done singing.

*This is also the last day of Sunday school....There will be classroom time.*



## Pathways Day Camp

July 31-August 3  
Watch for registration forms.

## Graduation Sunday

Graduation Sunday is May 14. Graduates, it is now your time to bring in your future plans after high school along with a baby photo and senior photo. There will be cake for you between the services. All graduates are called to the 10:30 service to help with children's sermon and noisy offering.



## Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!



Thank you to everyone that participated and supported the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Zion Lutheran Church Hot Dish Cook-Off. We served over eighty people and raised over \$800.00.

Congratulations to the cook-off winners - Deb Holtan and Tristan Hanson!!

We are planning to put together a booklet of the recipes from the cook-off. If you are willing to share your recipe, please see Amber or Kami.

- The Christian Ed and Youth Board

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## - Noisy Offering for May



Relay for Life is focused on awareness and making money for the American Cancer Society to support their mission to save lives, celebrate lives, and lead the fight for a world without cancer.

## Calling Leaders for Youth Group for Fall of 2017!

Trying something new! In search of leaders to undertake the youth on Wednesday's from 7:30-9:00 during youth group. If you feel called to reach out to the youth and would like to further their knowledge about a topic, please contact Kelsey at [ziontrfy@gmail.com](mailto:ziontrfy@gmail.com) to start the process.

## Memories from Eleanor Bothman

While arranging books in the church library, I found a little gem called, *Down the Road Through Time in Rhyme* by Eeanor Bothman. For those of you who don't remember Eleanor, she was born Eleanor Leiran on September 24, 1917 and died in 2012. She grew up in TRF and was a long-time member of Zion.

She was married to Hank Bothman who spent seven years working at KTRF, finishing his career teaching electronics at the TRFAVTI from 1958-1975.

From time to time I would like to share some of her poetry.

### Peaceful Solitude

Whether the eastern skies be cloudy  
Or have gorgeous streaks of light,  
I know these are the moments  
Where my god is always right.

He has given us a quiet time,  
He has always made it right  
He has given us the sleep-time  
He has given day and night.

And I thank Him every morning  
For the peaceful solitude  
He has spread across my heartstrings  
Start my days in pleasant moods.

Then as evening shadows come creeping by  
And I analyze my day,  
I know the time that I have spent  
Has been worth it all the way.

EB – 2005

