



Vol. 18

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No. 3



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“They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was going to happen to him, saying “See, the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; they will mock him, spit on him, flog him, and kill him;

after three days he will rise again.”

Mark 10:32-34

Going to Jerusalem was reason enough for those following Jesus to be afraid. At the very least showing up in Jerusalem meant recognition, arrest, maybe even the death penalty for all of them. The people in Jerusalem would easily be able to pick out his followers. If Jesus were accused, as he certainly would be, his followers could be accused also. Jesus’ followers were afraid. They had every reason to be afraid.

Jesus knew what it meant for him.

The followers could only see part of what was going to happen, even though they had been told twice before, at Mark 8:31 and 9:31. They saw danger clearly. They did not know that resurrection would also occur.

The Christian Church observes this trip to Jerusalem as the season of Lent. Lent is the time for each of us to get ready for Holy Week and Easter by means of self-examination, worship, and genuine repentance. The ancient tradition of the Christian Church is to begin this season with the Imposition of Ashes, which many of you did at worship on Ash Wednesday, February 14.

This year again we will hear the Lenten message from area preachers, around the theme of Women of the Bible. In this newsletter you will see the publicity flier with the names of the preachers, the names of the women, and their texts from the Bible.

Supper each week is before worship, at 5:30. Worship is at 6:30.

I hope this Lenten season proves to be valuable to you and increases your faith.

Pastor John



If you wish to bring flowers for Easter Services in honor of or in memory of someone, please let the church office know by Monday, March 26th to be included in the Easter bulletin.



President's Message

Millie Reierson

God's blessings to all of you.

As my term of office comes to a close at the semi-annual meeting in June, we need to start planning for the future and filling our boards and leadership positions. To do this we need a nominating committee comprised of members of the Parish Planning Council and of the congregation. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please let Linda know in the office.

Lent continues through the month of March and concludes with Easter on the 2nd of April. We celebrate as Christians the resurrection of our Lord and Savior to grant us eternal life with God, our Maker and Redeemer. Hallelujah!

Thank you to our staff, our lay leaders, our volunteers and our congregation for contributing your time, talents and money to keep Zion active in our mission of sharing and living God's Gospel.

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!

President – Millie Reierson

- March 1 - Pathways Sunday
- March 7 – Lenten Supper – 5:30, Worship – 6:30
- March 10 – Pathways Annual Meeting
- March 14 – Lenten Supper – 5:30, Worship – 6:30
- March 21 – Lenten Supper – 5:30, Worship – 6:30
- March 28 – No Lenten Services
- March 29 – Seder Meal
- March 30 - Good Friday – Prayer Vigil
- April 1 – Easter Sunrise Services – 6:30 AM, Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:30
- April 22 – Mission Sunday



Connecting faith & finances for good.®

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Did you forget to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars? Last year Zion received about \$2000 from Thrivent, down from about \$6000 in 2016!

It's very easy to do; you can go online to Thrivent.com and scroll down to "Direct Choice Dollars" or call Thrivent at 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

March 31 is the deadline to direct last year's Choice Dollars.

Women of the Bible Lent Round Robin

Join us each week for a different preacher talking about an important woman of the Bible. These women held key roles in the stories of our faith and give us insight into the Kingdom of God.

Tamar - Pastor Gary Graff –
Genesis 38:1-30
March 7 at Zion



Bathsheba (Uriah's Wife) - Pastor Ale Tulu

Psalm 51:1-17

March 14 at Zion

Rahab - Christy Klemz

Joshua 2:1-21

March 21 at Zion

Mary the Mother of Jesus - Pastor Carl Hansen

Luke 1:46-55

Samaritan Woman - Pastor Jonathan Dodson

John 4:4-15

Junia - Pastor John Golv

Romans 16:1-20

**Lenten Worship at Zion is at 6:30 PM Wednesdays
Suppers served at 5:30 PM**



ZLCW NEWS

- ZLCW - Tuesday, February 13
 - ❖ meeting and Bible study at 10:00 AM
 - ❖ Duties: Program: Elizabeth, Hostess: Rebekah, Hospitality: Sarah, Visitation: two women from each circle to deliver Valentine carnations to shut-in's.
 - ❖ Executive board meets at 9:00 AM prior to the meeting.
- Lutheran World Relief Workdays
 - ❖ 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays, from 1:00 - 4:00 to work on quilts, school kits, personal care kits, and baby care kits.
 - ❖ Everyone is welcome, and no special talent is required. Kits and quilts are prepared for shipments in November and May.

- March Lenten Suppers
 - ❖ March 7 - Tater Tot Hot Dish - Elizabeth Circle
 - ❖ March 14 - Beef Stew - Rebekah Circle
 - ❖ March 21 - Chili - Sarah Circle
 - ❖ March 28 - No supper
 - ❖ March 29 - Seder Meal for confirmands - Lydia Circle



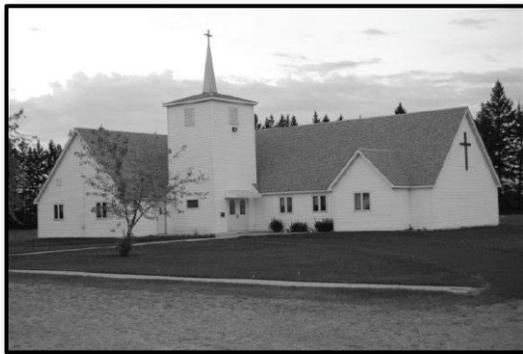
Please join us for food and fellowship before each Lenten service on Wednesday evenings.

Lenten Collection for Personal Care Kits



We will again be collecting items for the Personal Care Kits. These are assembled and sent to Lutheran World Relief in May. Each kit requires a bath towel, adult-size toothbrush, nail clipper, sturdy comb, and two bars of bath-sized soap (4-5oz). *The bath towel may be used but in good condition.* If you wish, all items may be brought at once or an item each week. A container will be available to collect your items.

Thank you for your contribution.



Silver Creek

March is declared Food Shelf Month at Silver Creek, so remember to bring items of food or monetary donations to help families in our community.

Women of the church will be quilting at 3:00 PM on Thursday, March 8, and will have a light supper at 5:30 PM with a business meeting to follow.

Bible study, *Growing Older and Wiser #4*, will be March 11 following church service.

The church council will meet for their regular meeting.

Remember to mark April 12 on your calendar. This will be the congregational spring cleaning and potluck supper.



10th Annual Good Friday Prayer Vigil

March 30, 2018

It is hard to believe this is our 10th year doing the Good Friday Prayer Vigil!

Help us celebrate by filling the sanctuary with people so we can have a continuous day of prayer. This is open to anyone and everyone. The signup sheet will be in the upper Narthex of the church with the time slots starting at Noon. We will break for the Good Friday service and then continue after the service. If you aren't sure about a time slot that works for you, come when you can! It's only 20 minutes out of your day.

Prayer! What a wonderful way to speak to our Lord and Savior! When I think of the sacrifice that was made for each and every one of us, how can any of us be loved anymore than that! That brings to mind these beautiful hymns, "Amazing Grace" and "Jesus Loves Me".

You don't have to be a "Prayer Warrior" to come and pray with us. There will be two different booklets to use during this time of mediation; it's your choice which you would like to use. And that's all it is, a time of reflection, prayer and meditation. No one has to get up and talk. Just come and sit silently in a pew and read, pray, or meditate. I know your heart will be greatly touched by the experience!

Between now and Good Friday there will be the prayer suggestion box for your use. If you have a prayer request, write it down and slip it into the box provided. The day of the vigil, that box will be open so that anyone that is there for the vigil can take a slip into the sanctuary with them to pray for your request. Then it is hung on the cross that will be on display. The prayer request will only be seen by the person that is doing the praying.

Come and help fill the sanctuary! "...then sings my soul..."

If you have questions, please call or text Deb Holtan. Home - 449-4645, cell - 686-3758, email - ezway@wiktel.com

Mission Sunday - April 22

Zion will welcome a very special speaker, Rev. Dan Kolander, as our guest pastor at this year's Mission Sunday, April 22. Rev. Kolander works with Rev. Phil Blom on "Water to Thrive" which has provided more than 750 wells in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, and Uganda. Last summer, Pastor Ale was one of the volunteers helping at the US Open PGA Golf Tournament in Wisconsin, where the PGA donated generously to Water to Thrive.

In many rural African countries, the source of water for drinking, cooking, or bathing either comes from a contaminated local river or traveling long distances to a safe water source, carrying the water home. Diseases from unsafe river water kill more people every year than all forms of violence, including war. Those seeking the safe, spring-fed water sources are often women and girls, walking 1-3 hours, sometimes multiple times a day. This means no time to attend school or to help earn the family's living.

The average new well costs \$5,000 and provides at least 500 people with clean, safe water for 20 years. Clean water reduces poverty, improves health, increases access to education, and saves lives. Our goal at Zion is to start a well-building campaign, ultimately funding a well for one village. For more information, check out their website: www.watertothrive.org



**MISSION
SUNDAY**



Parish Nurse

Flu season is upon us once again. We will not be sharing peace by handshaking during this time. Please share God's peace with a smile and genuine love, or an elbow bump. We will resume handshaking in April when the flu has lessened.

The Evangelism and Lay Ministry Board invites the congregation to come in to the church at any time to sit and meditate and pray, especially during this time of Lent. Prayer is not just for the Good Friday Prayer Vigil. There will be booklets of Lenten Prayers available for you to use if you so choose. We suggest you use your power of prayer by coming in and using the booklet of Prayers at one time and then come back on Good Friday and use the Good Friday Prayer booklet. We guarantee that you will wonder why you haven't done it before!



Pray for Our Youth

The Evangelism and Lay Ministry board are looking for people to come together as a group to pray for our youth that are heading off to the National Youth Gathering this June. For more info, please call Deb Holtan.....Home 449-4645 or Cell 686-3758.

Prayer Chain

Another opportunity to pray for others is to join Zion's Prayer Chain. Call the church office if you would like to add your name to the prayer chain.



Sunday School News



March Reminders:

March 4 – Camp Sunday - The Sunday Schoolers will be singing at the 10:30am service.

April Reminders: No Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 1

K-5 Events:

K-5 Events are open to Little Lamb – 5th Graders and parents/guardians.



March 9, 2018 – Board Game Night at Zion – Join us for an evening of board games, popcorn and pizza! Time – 5:30pm-8:00pm

** Donations are being sought for the pizza making portion of this event. If you would like to donate, please see the bulletin board outside the Sun Room.

** We are also looking for volunteers to assist with this event. Volunteers would assist with the making pizza, game stations and interacting with the kids. Please see Becky or Davina if you are interested in volunteering!

April 2018 – Date TBD – Event to be determined.

May 2018 – Date TBD – T-Shirt Tie Dyeing – Students must provide a white t-shirt. Dye will be provided.

Becky (218-686-5563) or Davina (218-689-4965)

Sunday, March 4 - Camp Sunday with Pathways!

All youth will be signing at 10:30 service

Wednesday, March 7 - Lenten Services 6:30

Supper at 5:30 - 7th grade clean up

6th -12th grade Youth Room 7:30

Sunday, March 11 - First Communion Classes 9:30 - 5th graders and parents



Wednesday, March 14 - Lenten Services 6:30
Supper at 5:30 10th-12th grade clean-up
6th-12th grade Youth Room 7:30

Sunday, March 18 - First Communion Classes 9:30- 5th graders and parents

Wednesday, March 21 - Lenten Services 6:30
Supper at 5:30 - 9th grade clean up
6th-12th grade - Youth Room - 7:30

Sunday, March 25 - First Communion Classes 9:30 - 5th graders and parents

Wednesday, March 28 - 10th graders Sunrise Service practice 6:00

Thursday, March 29
Maundy Thursday- 5th grade First Communion
Seder Meal 6:00-8th Grade Clean up
Church Service 7:30
10th Grade Sunrise service practice 8:00

Friday, March 30 - Good Friday Service 6:30

Youth Group



ALL 6th-12th GRADERS - join Kami for Youth Group every Wednesday during Lent...starting Ash Wednesday at 7:30 for a featured movie and snacks!

Lenten Clean-Up Schedule

March 7th – 7th Grade

March 14th – 10th-12th grade

March 28th – 9th Grade

March 29th - 8th grade Maundy Thursday

Plan to be at the church by 5:30 p.m. Parents are needed to help with cleanup in the kitchen...THANKS!



The following youth of Zion will be attending the 2018 National Youth Gathering!

Rebeka Alemayehu , Joshua Berzinski, Dayle Dahlen, Madelynn Dakken, Tristan Hanson, Logan Hintz, Zachary Hintz, Jonah Kalsnes. Trista Spears, and Jerica Turner. Chaperones: Roberta Kalsnes, Noah Peters

Flap Jacks For Faith



Sunday, March 18 - 9:30.

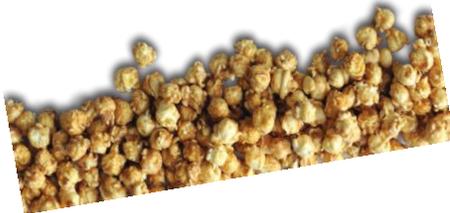
A great way to support the youth going to National Youth Gathering!



Hugo's Coupon Books

Our National Youth Gathering youth will be selling Hugo Coupon books for just \$10. If you are not familiar with the coupon book, it pays for itself in just 3 coupons (\$5 off \$50 purchase, & two \$2.50 off \$25 purchase) plus many more deals!

***The youth make \$9.00 per coupon book...and coupon books can be used at any Hugo's.



Looking for a unique gift for that Easter Basket?...or maybe you just love popcorn!

The National Youth Gathering youth are selling...

Grubbersputz'

Highest quality popcorn on the planet!

3 pack: Caramel, Cheddar and Kettle Corn \$20.00

Caramel - 10oz bag - \$7.00

Butterscotch - 9oz bag - \$7.00

Caramel and Cheddar mix - 7.5oz - \$7.00

Butter Sea Salt - 5.5 oz. bag - \$7.00

Kettle Corn - 5.5 oz. bag - \$7.00

White Cheddar - 6.5 oz. bag - \$7.00

Orders are due March 22nd Please see one of the NYG youth, Amber or Kami for orders.



Summer Camp Dates

Register by March 11 and all you will have to pay is the \$100 deposit. The Christian Ed/Youth Board and ZLCW Ladies will pick up the rest!
Brochures available on youth bulletin board.

Half Pint Day - K-2nd grade - June 22

Elementary Mini 2nd -3rd grade - July 7 -10

Elementary Classic - 4th and 5th Grade - June 10 -15

Middle School Classic - 6th and 7th Grade - June 17 -22

Junior High Classic - 8th and 9th Grade - June 24th-29th

High School Classic - 10th-12th grade - July 9-13

These are the dates that the church will be providing transportation to and from camp.
Other dates are available if these dates don't work for you and your youth.



First Communion Classes

First Communion Classes for 5th Graders and parents will be March 11, 18 and 25 during the
Sunday school hour in the patio room.

Youth Rummage Sale

April 14

Drop off date April 11 -13

Stayed tuned for times and more info!





2nd Annual Zion Lutheran Hotdish Cookoff!

Sunday, March 25 at 4:00
Fellowship Hall

Support the youth going to National Youth Gathering. For \$5.00 a plate, you can taste all the hot dishes (bread, dessert and beverage will be provided). When you find your favorite, you can buy a ticket for \$1.00 to vote for your favorite hot dish! The hot dish with the most tickets will win the trophy made by the youth!

If you are interested in making a hot dish, we will have a sign up in the Narthex before and after both services. If you would like to share your recipe in a booklet, see Amber or Kami. (You can share recipes from last year also).

Noisy offering for March



Thief River Falls Food Shelf

Hunger has no face and no age limit and can impact anyone in our community. The Thief River Falls Area Food shelf is here to help the roughly 1 in 4 who experience hunger and food insecurity in our own community. Through the support of our community we continue to work together in the fight to end hunger. Serving clients in Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Marshall, Kittson, Roseau, Clearwater, and Beltrami Counties.



Zion Lutheran Parish Planning Council Minutes February 20, 2018

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

Pastor John gave devotions.

The minutes from the January 16, 2018 Council meeting were presented for approval. Glenice noted that her name was not spelled correctly. A motion was made by Sharon Jorde to accept the minutes with the spelling corrections made. The motion was seconded by Glenice and the motion carried.

Barbara presented the Treasurer's Report. The report was filed for audit.

Barbara reported that the Give Hub has been used. Millie said a presentation will be made to the congregation.

PARISH FELLOWSHIP: Glenice reported that the Sharing Servants needs a leader for April.

WORSHIP BOARD: Board minutes submitted. Sharon Jorde reported that the first Round-Robin Lenten service will be this Wednesday. She said two more readers are needed for Lenten services.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Deb Howe reported that the Lenten ad was submitted to the Watch. Deb reported that, according to the Annual Report, there are \$1580 dollars for the website. Deb made a motion to use these funds for archiving Zion's history. The motion was approved.

EVANGELISM/LAY MINISTRY: Deb Holtan reported that a decision was made to form a group of 10 people to each pray for one of the kids going to the National Gathering. She commented that the Friendship pads are in bad shape and that they aren't being used much. She said "Welcome" cards have been ordered and will be used instead. Deb reported that the Good Friday Prayer Vigil will break from 6:00-8:00 PM to allow for the Good Friday service and then will resume until 10:00. New Member Sunday will be April 15th at the 8:30 service. That is also Flap-Jacks for Faith Sunday. Deb said there is a lot of left-over yarn from making the prayer shawls, so they will be making sweaters and caps for layettes. She also reported that prayer shawls have been brought to the Infusion Center at Sanford and are available for those who want them.

Ken Kalsnes commented that, before the new officers take over in July, the membership list and the stewardship envelope lists should be updated. After some discussion, Barbara Overbye, Ken Kalsnes, Pam Cwikla, Millie Reiersen, and Sharon Jorde, volunteered to work on the project.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/YOUTH: Amber Holtan reported on upcoming events:

Wednesday Movie Nights – 7:30 (Kami Spears, Supervisor)

March 4th - Camp Sunday - Pathway presentation at 8:30 service

March 11th - 1st Communion Classes

March 25 - 2nd Annual Casserole Cookoff

April 14th – Rummage Sale (Drop-off days: April 11, 12, 13)

Amber reported that 50 pies were sold resulting in \$450 proceeds.
Popcorn sales are happening now.
Sunrise Service breakfast will be served Easter Sunday

Amber said fund raising is going well. The cost is \$1600 per attendee for the National Gathering.

Glenice reported that she purchased fleece for the blankets for senior students. Amber will find out how many seniors there are this year.

SILVER CREEK: Penni Nelson reported that church cleaning is coming up soon. She said she will not be at the March PPC meeting. Penni will look for their signed agreement between Zion and Silver Creek.

PASTORS' REPORT: Pastor Ale reported that there are about 20 fifth-graders in First Communion classes. He said Pathways annual meeting will be at Trinity Church in Crookston on March 10th at 2:00. The Annual Conference gathering of area pastors will be February 25th at Bethany Lutheran Church in Red Lake Falls.

Ale reported that there were no ringers in Thief River Falls for the Salvation Army at Christmas. He also reported on the shortage of day-care providers in Thief River. He said River of Life Church may provide space for a day-care center.

Pastor Golv's report was submitted. He reported that Ash Wednesday service was very well attended. He said the upcoming round-robin Lenten services will be based on women of the Bible.

Millie presented a letter from Lawrence R. Wohlrabe, Bishop, Northwestern Minnesota Synod, regarding a generous donor who has presented a matching gift challenge to the entire Synod for 2018. The donor will match dollar-for-dollar for all gifts given by congregations, organizations or individuals to:
The Northwestern Minnesota Synod Fund for Leaders Endowment and the Northwestern Minnesota Synod Next Generation Fund.

Karen Thygeson presented information included in the Bylaws regarding election of new officers. All elected officers' terms will expire the end of June except the Treasurer and the 1st Vice President. New officers will move into their positions on July 1, 2018.

The Parish Planning Council (PPC) elects the Nominating Committee. Two members of the PPC are members of the Nominating Committee. Discussion followed. Barbara Overbye and Millie Reiersen will be the two PPC members to serve on the Nominating Committee.

After the Lord's Prayer, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Next Council meeting will be March 20, 2018 at 5:30.

Respectfully submitted by,
Pam Cwikla, Secretary

