



Vol. 18

May 2018

No. 5



Read Matthew 28:18-20
A Favorite Passage

Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Perhaps this is a question no one should ever answer: What book of the Bible do you like best? Picking one leaves far too many not picked, or listed as second best. Oops.

One of my teachers at Luther Seminary told his students after their first year that they should pick one of the Gospels to give special attention to throughout life. Most of his students did that.
I picked Mark.

Clearly, no choice would have been a bad one. Mark has proven to be endlessly interesting and revelatory, as have the others, but Mark has been my focus throughout life.
It may seem odd then that I chose for this article a portion of Matthew. I did that because these are precious, important, sustaining words.

These few words of Jesus are often called The Great Commission, or, The Marching Orders for the Church. Whatever they are called, we hear them today as the command of the Risen Christ to the Eleven and thus to the Church, at that time, and now.

I always teach these few verses to the ninth grade confirmation class. They need to learn (as we all do) that no one outranks the Risen Lord. Jesus with ultimate authority is giving commands.

These words are not suggestions!

These words are not for someone else! It is for us to obey. I usually tell the ninth graders that Christians who organize themselves in congregations, and congregations that organize themselves into denominations (as ours has) do a far better job obeying these commands than single congregations.

Having given important orders, Jesus then commits himself to us.

The last part of verse 20 is one to go on, no matter how difficult life may be. The commands end with a promise: “...remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Pastor John

I am with you always
MATTHEW 28:20



- May 5 - Prayer Shawl Blessing
- May 8 - ZLCW Prayer Breakfast
- May 13 - Last day of Sunday school
- May 16 - Syttende Mai Dinner
- May 20 - Last 10:30 Worship Service until Fall
- May 20 - Senior Recognition Sunday at 10:30 Service – Brunch between services
- June 10 – Worship and Picnic at Silver Creek
- June 24 - Zion Semi-Annual Meeting



President's Message

Millie Reiersen

God's blessings to all of you.

The merry month of May! School will be ending for the year, and our seniors will begin a new chapter in their lives. Please keep them in your prayers as they move forward. Sunday school will be wrapping up for the year. A big Thank You to all who helped with the Sunday school program - teachers, helpers, parents and kids. As some of programs come to a halt for the summer and people make plans for vacations or time at the lake, don't forget Zion needs your contributions. We have electronic giving and now have a kiosk where you can swipe your credit/debit card any day of the week. We still can use plain old money and checks.

Thank you to our staff, lay leaders, volunteers and congregation for contributing 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.

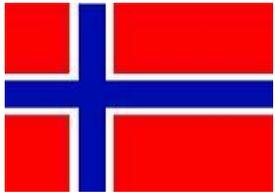
See you in Church!

President – Millie Reiersen

WELCA Prayer Breakfast - May 8 - Women of Zion will meet on Tuesday, May 8, at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary for our annual prayer breakfast program, followed by refreshments and Bible study downstairs.

Circle duties are: Program - Dorcas; Hostess - Anna; Hospitality - Sarah; Visitation - Rebekah at Valley Home.

Executive board meets at 9:00 a.m.



Syttende Mai Dinner - May 16 - Women of Zion will hold their annual fundraiser, the Syttende Mai dinner, on Wednesday, May 16, from 5:00 -7:00 p.m.

Each circle received directions for food items needed and request for workers to help on May 15 and 16. If you have questions or wish to volunteer, check with our co-chairs, Eileen Rhen (681-2758) or Sharon Jorde (681-4739).

Summer WELCA Gatherings - Area ELCA church women groups will again join together each month to host WELCA gatherings. June gathering will be hosted by Trinity (date to be determined), July 10 by Redeemer, and August 14 by Zion. Details will be in the church bulletins.

Lutheran World Relief Workdays

Join us on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays, from 1:00 - 4:00 to work on quilts, school kits, personal care kits, and baby care kits.



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

Silver Creek

A big thanks goes out to members who rolled up their sleeves and worked hard to get the Spring-cleaning done. The church looks great and smells so good. Now we need to focus on the outdoors. The mowing schedule is posted on the bulletin board and looks pretty bare, so please consider signing up for a few weeks. Council will meet May 6th after services.

WELCA will meet May 10th at 3:00 pm for quilting and 5:30 for a light supper followed by Bible study and business meeting.

Summer is a busy time for families, but remember the worship times continue at 10:00 am each Sunday. Our budget is for 12 months also and needs our attention during the summer.

Joint picnic with Zion will be June 10th.

Bev Rupprecht



Zion Lutheran Parish Planning Council Minutes April 24, 2018

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

Pastor Golv gave devotions.

The minutes from the March 20, 2018 Council meeting were presented for approval. Karen Thygeson noted a correction to her question pertaining to the names for the Nominating Committee. A motion was made by Tim Numedahl to accept the minutes with the correction made to indicate the question was asked if the list of names of the Nominating Committee members has been prepared. The motion was seconded by Sharon Jorde. The motion carried.

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

Glenice commented that Thrivent did not notify her this year to confirm her Choice Dollars selection. She expressed concern that Thrivent's policy has changed so others may not have been notified also which could affect donations to Zion. Ale stated that a representative from Thrivent may speak to the congregation if requested.



Millie reminded the Council that a loan transfer of \$25,000 was made from savings to the general account last year for operating expenses.

PARISH FELLOWSHIP BOARD: Glenice asked when the joint-service with Silver Creek is scheduled? Clark reported the date is June 10th. She reported there are two openings on their board. The Sharing Servants booklets will be updated this year.

WORSHIP BOARD: The board reviewed past events. Sharon reported that summer services will be discussed at their next meeting.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/YOUTH: Amber Holtan reported that \$462 was raised from the Casserole Cook-Off and \$1500 from the rummage sale. Leftover items from the rummage sale were brought to Community Consignment and the proceeds will be added to the NYG youth fund. There are only two weeks left of confirmation.

May 6th - 10th grade parents meeting after the 10:30 service

May 13 – Last day of Sunday School

May 20 – Senior Recognition

Amber asked if the pastor reviews have been done. Millie stated they have not. Amber inquired if there are confirmation guidelines from ELCA. Pastor John stated she may get a copy of the guidelines.

Amber commented about the poor maintenance of the bathrooms. Also, some areas in the church aren't vacuumed and kept clean.

EVANGELISM/LAY MINISTRY: Deb Holtan reported that New Member Sunday had to be postponed. She will check on a future date, possibly a Wednesday night service.

May 6 – Blessing of Prayer Shawls

PROPERTIES BOARD: Joel reported that his term of Board Chairman expires in June, but he is willing to continue as a board member.

Joel made note of the new tables in the meeting room. He stated that the projection screen is not operating properly so they will have it serviced. He reported that Jarrod Kalsnes is checking on options for carpet in the sanctuary. Joel said the mowing volunteers have volunteered again. Volunteers bring their own mowers, so he is checking into purchasing a small riding mower. Pam commented on the car repairs being made in Zion's parking lot by the cab service. Joel will talk to the home owner.

SILVER CREEK: Clark Nelson reported that their annual cleaning is done. May 10th is their picnic and communion service. Clark said Bill and Connie Stock are going to the Synod meeting.

Millie inquired about the kiosk presentation to the congregation. Tim Numedahl prepared the power-point presentation and Joel has it ready. However, presentation has been delayed due to issues with the screen. Tim will inquire about brochures or other information from the kiosk company for posters and presentation.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Minutes from April 3rd board meeting submitted.

PASTORS' REPORT: Pastor Ale reported that he saw Susan Hawkes at the Joint Theological Day in Fargo. She is in Jamestown now and sent greetings to everyone.

Ale reported that Mission Sunday was very well. Donations from the congregation towards a well for "Water to Thrive" are at \$2600. Glenice made a motion to fund the remainder of Zion's sponsorship of the \$5000 well utilizing congregation donations as of June 1, 2018 and supplement the remaining total with mission funds. The motion was seconded by Ken Kalsnes. The motion carried.

The Board approved Ale's request to invite a representative from Thrivent to do a temple talk and present at the Adult Forum between services on May 6th. Ale will contact Thrivent.

Ale reported that on May 3rd, the TRF Ministerial group will honor community leaders.

Pastor Golv's report was submitted. John reported that Sarah Villanueva and Cathy Golv will be attending the Synod Assembly June 8-9.

Millie presented a letter from Jean Raines, representing the Mission Interpretation Council, regarding a visit to Zion. The item was tabled for future discussion.

Millie also presented information pertaining to Zion's policy on vacation guidelines for Zion's personnel compared to guidelines presented by the Synod. The information was tabled for further consideration.

<u>Synod</u>	<u>Zion</u>
1-4 years = 2 weeks	1-5 years = 2 weeks
5-7 years = 3 weeks	6 years + = 3 weeks
8 years + = 4 weeks	

Millie reported that the Northwestern Minnesota Synod Mission Support report indicates a \$100K deficit resulting in the loss of one support staff position.

Karen asked for the names of the members of the Nominating Committee. Millie reported that Dennis Yost, Millie, and Barbara Overbye are members so far. Karen said a total of 6 members are required, 2 from the Board and 4 from members so 3 more names are needed from the congregation. The Council is required to have these names for an email vote this week.

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

Next Council meeting will be May 15, 2018 at 5:30.

Respectfully submitted by Pam Cwikla, Secretary



Rev. Dan Kolander was Zion's guest pastor on 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.

Zion has committed \$5,000 in funds to build a well in Ethiopia. \$2700 has already been donated for the project. Please consider being a part of this venture by donating to Zion's Water to Thrive fundraiser. Once the well drilling has started, Zion will be provided with the coordinates so the congregation can watch the progress.

Please write checks to Zion with a notation – for Water to Thrive

For more information, check out Water to Thrive website: www.watertothrive.org or the Water to Thrive Facebook page.



Sunday School News



May Reminders:

5/13/18 – The Sunday School kids will sing at the 8:30am service.

5/13/18 – Last day of Sunday school until September 2018





K-5 Events:

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

May 2018 – May 18, 2018 – T-Shirt/Pillowcase Tie Dyeing – Please join us in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30pm - 7:30pm for tie-dyeing and pizza! Each student that participates should bring either a white t-shirt or a white pillowcase to dye. The dye will be provided.

** Please RSVP for this event by 5:00pm on 5/11/18 to either Davina or Becky.

This will be our last K-5 Event until fall. Thank you to all the families that were able to participate and to all our volunteers who made these events successful!!

If you have any questions about Sunday school or the K-5 Events or Sunday school please let Becky (218-686-5563) or Davina (218-689-4965) know.



Wednesday, May 2nd

Last night of Confirmation

Supper @ 5:30 Taco in a bag for everyone!

Class @ 6:00

Sunday, May 6th

10th grade Confirmation Meeting for

Parents & Youth right after the 10:30 service in the overflow

Sunday, May 13th

Last Day of Sunday school & Youth Group

Sunday, May 20th
Senior Recognition Sunday
Brunch served at 9:30 in fellowship hall
Recognition at 10:30 service

Noisy Offering for May Meals on Wheels



Operating within the city of Thief River Falls, Falls Delivered Meals serves hot, nutritious meals to elderly, disabled or otherwise ailing persons.



Christian Ed/Youth Board Looking for Board Members!

If you're looking for a rewarding experience with the youth in the church, then we have a spot for you! Our board works with the youth during many different milestones.... from birth all the way up to graduating seniors. Some of the events that we take part in are baptism, Sunday school, K-5 events, 2nd grade Bible Class, 1st communion. Day Camp, Jr High activities (6-8th grade), Confirmation, Sr High events (9-12th grade), Senior Recognition, and Summer Bible Camp.

Pathways Bible Camp - July 30 – August 2



To all who participated in the Hot Dish Cook Off!!! The Youth raised \$462 for the NYG trip. Kami Spears' Cheesy Sauerkraut Bake received the most votes, winning the honor of favorite hot dish!

To ALL who donated items and baked goods for the Rummage Sale and to ALL who helped with set up, clean up, and during the sale. Your time and donations are greatly appreciated and helped the Youth raise \$1500 towards their NYG trip!



Hugo's Coupon Books

Our National Youth Gathering youth will be selling Hugo Coupon books are 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 per coupon book sold...and coupon books can be used at any Hugo's (not just TRF)see Amber or Kami if interested

2018 National Youth Gathering!

Please keep the following youth & chaperones in your prayers as they start to prepare for this great journey.

The following youth of Zion will be attending.

Rebeka Alemayehu , Joshua Berzinski, Dayle Dahlen, Madelynn Dakken, Tristan Hanson, Logan Hintz, Zachary Hintz, Jonah Kalsnes, Trista Spears, Jerica Turner

Chaperones: Roberta Kalsnes, Noah Peters

