



Vol. 18

June, July, August 2018

No. 6



“Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.” Jesus (Luke 4:8)

The context here is this: Jesus hasn't and won't eat, forty days in total. He is weak from hunger. He is at his most vulnerable. He is being tempted by the devil personally. Jesus is quoting scripture (Deuteronomy 6:13) in order to resist temptation. He succeeded.

Temptations are always adjusted to fit the individual.

We may not rate personal attention by the devil himself. But, our vulnerabilities and our weaknesses are known too. All of us could make a list of the temptations that are particularly effective in our case.

Which of the Commandments do you think are broken most often?

Violations of the Second Commandment unfortunately seem all too common year around, even though the Second is the only Commandment with a threat attached (Exodus 20:7). Many will answer that the Commandment most often violated is the Sixth, against adultery and other sexual sins. That may be. Of course any of the others are possible.

In my opinion the Commandment that is most often broken is the First, against idolatry. It is the Christian faith to say that God takes first place in life, nothing else, no one else, ever. Anything other than God that does take first place in life is properly called an idol.

All of us have our clear moments spiritually. These moments can be terrifying. It is during these moments that we are most fully aware of our own sin, not our shortcomings, not our mistakes, nothing that we can excuse ourselves for, but sin. When we successfully face ourselves, we not only seem guilty, we realize that we are in fact guilty. We can try to overlook it; we can deny it; we can try to minimize it, we can make an attempt to explain it all away. After all our efforts, all the sin is still there, and we know it.

Some hard things we can live with. Other things are simply intolerable. None of us can live with captivity to sin. It is our faith to say that what we can't live with, God removes for us. When we confess in church on Sunday “we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves,” we may well realize that God is the only one who can save our lives. May God be praised; what we cannot do, God does for us. What we cannot live with, God removes for us. When God acts, the terrifying power of unforgiven sin is forgiven and gone forever.

The most powerful words we will ever hear are these: “In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins.”

I need to hear those words every week. So do you.

The Third Commandment holds, even in the summer. (Exodus 20:8).

See you in church.
Pastor John





- May 27 - Begin one worship service at 8:30
- June 6 - August 15 - Wednesday Night Worship - No Wednesday night worship on July 4
- June 10 - Worship and picnic at Silver Creek – 10:00 AM
- June 24 - Zion Semi-Annual Meeting after 8:30 service
- July 30 - August 3 - Vacation Bible School at Redeemer



ZLCW News

Summer WELCA Gatherings - Area ELCA church women groups will join together each summer month to host WELCA gatherings. The 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.

Thank You – Our annual Syttende Mai meal served 274 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 other needed preparations to put this meal together. Another thank you goes to the Zion men and the two ladies from Silver Creek that came to our assistance Wednesday evening with serving and clean-up. We couldn't have done it without all of 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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet throughout the summer on Thursdays at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

If you have questions, call Deb Holtan at 686-3758 or 449-4645.





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

Electronic Sign

Current Donation/Pledges - \$6,190

The approximate cost is \$37,000. The properties board and the PPC will proceed with the sign in 80% of the cost is raised before the project is started. Donations or pledges towards this project are appreciated. If you have questions, contact Joel Rude at joelrude@mncable.net or Tim Numedahl at Numedahl@mncable.net. Pledge cards for the electronic sign are available on the desk outside the church office.

Sharing Servants Book



The Sharing Servants book is being updated. If you would like to change the month you serve, call the church office at 681-3296.

President's Message Millie Reiersen



God's blessings to all of you.

Here it is - my last newsletter as President! What a blessing, privilege and honor to serve Zion and God.

I have so many I want to say thanks to:

First and foremost - God: with God's love and direction in our hearts and minds, everything we do is possible.

Second - our Pastors and our church staff: we are fortunate to have such dedicated individuals to keep us moving in the right direction and serving God.

Third - the Parish Planning Council: these men and women serve with what is best for the future of Zion, and not personal agendas. They lead their boards and bring the ideas of their boards to the Council. For those of you that serve on the boards, you are truly amazing. Thanks you for time and commitment to Zion.

Fourth - our congregation: without your support, none of our efforts would be realized. You elect the right people to fill the positions needed, you pray for continued success, you give your financial support to keep the doors open and you volunteer your valuable time to help our many and various projects going on.

The most wonderful thing about all of this is it is not the end but a new chapter in Zion's history! I know you will support the new leaders the way you have supported me.

See you in Church!



Silver Creek

Summer is coming, and with the recent rain we know one thing for sure, the grass at Silver Creek will be lush and growing. Please sign up for a week or two of mowing. Thank you goes out to members who keep the churchyard looking so neat during the summer months.

No council meetings are scheduled for June, July or August unless it is necessary. Contact one of the council members if there is something that needs attention.

We will host the picnic with Zion on June 10 at 10:00 AM. Following the outdoor service, a potluck lunch will be served. Please mark your calendar.

The women of the church will not meet over the summer but re encouraged to attend the meetings at Zion, Redeemer and Trinity that are scheduled.

Bev Ruprecht

Semi-Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 24
After 8:30 Worship

The congregation will vote on accepting the slate of officers presented by the nominating committee:

- President: Laura Rude
- 1st Vice President: Tim Numedahl
- 2nd Vice President: Bonnie Yost
- 3rd Vice President: Karen Thygeson
- Treasurer: Barbara Overbye
- Secretary: Deb Holtan





**Zion Lutheran
Parish Planning Council Minutes
May 15, 2018**

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, Deb Howe, Karen Thygeson, Tim Numedahl, Ken Kalsnes, Joel Rude, Deb Holtan, Amber Holtan, Dennis Yost, Penni Nelson, Barbara Overbye and Pam Cwikla.

Pastor Golv gave devotions.

The minutes from the April 24, 2018 Council meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Ken Kalsnes to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Tim Numedahl; motion carried.

Barbara the Treasurer's Reports for March and April. The report was filed for audit. Barbara reported that donations to "Water to Thrive" have reached the goal for one well. The donation end date is June 1st so we're hoping the total will be enough for a second well. She also reported that a second signature is needed on the Men's Group bank account.

STEWARDSHIP BOARD: Dennis Yost attended the meeting as representative for the board. He reported they are short members on their board.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Board did not meet. Deb reported that Zion will deliver Meals-On-Wheel May 28-June 1. She reminded everyone that newsletter articles are due May 20th. This is the last newsletter until September. Deb reported their board needs a chairperson. She said she will continue to serve on the board.

Karen Thygeson reported that the slate of officers including all board members and chairpersons needs to be confirmed to vote for election at the Semi-Annual Meeting on June 24th.

Deb commented that the Wednesday night service schedule will be advertised. There will be one Sunday service starting on June 27th.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/YOUTH: Amber Holtan reported that they did a recap at their meeting. She said only Amber and Kami Spears will remain on the board, so they need members.

5/18 Tie-Die event

5/20 Senior Recognition Sunday

6/10-15 First week of Bible Camp for 4th and 5th graders

6/23-7/2 National Youth Gathering

7/30-8/3 VBS at Redeemer by Pathways

EVANGELISM/LAY MINISTRY: Deb Holtan reported that New Member Sunday is tentatively set for 9/16. She said the Prayer Shawl group will continue to meet throughout the summer.

PROPERTIES BOARD: Joel reported the board did not meet. He said everyone will remain on the board.

Millie presented the list of names for the Nominating Committee as follows: Dennis Yost, Barbara Overbye, Jana Erickson, Missy Borgen, Galen Clow and Millie Reiersen. Karen Thygeson made a motion to ratify President Millie's email vote for the Nominating Committee members; seconded by Joel; carried.

SILVER CREEK: Penni Nelson confirmed that Zion will provide the sound system for the joint-service. The Parish Fellowship Board will help with the potluck lunch.

Tim Numedahl inquired about reducing the number of required members which is currently 6 people. Karen confirmed that the number is set in the By-Laws. To change the By-Laws, it must be announced 60-days prior to the Semi-Annual Meeting so it's too late to make the change this year. It can be offered at the Semi-Annual Meeting in January.

PASTORS' REPORT: Pastor Ale reported that the representative from Thrivent is not available on May 6th. A later date will be arranged.

Ale reported that the Pastoral Conference will be held at Zion on 5/18.

Pastor Golv's report was submitted. John reported that "Setting 10" will be used for summer services. He asked for suggestions for a theme for the summer series.

John thanked Millie for her committed service to Zion as President. Her term will expire in June. He credited Millie with changing the meeting time for the Parish Planning Council to 5:30. John said she has done a great job communicating with the pastors, the congregation, and the Council. He offered "hats off" to Millie for always keeping Zion at the forefront.

Millie presented the slate of officers prepared by the Nominating Committee as follows:

President: Laura Rude

1st Vice President: Tim Numedahl

2nd Vice President: Bonnie Yost

3rd Vice President: Karen Thygeson

Treasurer: Barbara Overbye

Secretary: Deb Holtan

Millie made a recommendation to accept the list of officers to present to the congregation at the Semi-Annual Meeting on June 24th.

Barbara reminded the Council that consideration to revise Zion's employee vacation policy was tabled at the last meeting. She made a motion to follow the Synod guidelines as follows:

Synod

1-4 years = 2 weeks

5-7 years = 3 weeks

8 years + = 4 weeks

Zion

1-5 years = 2 weeks

6 years + = 3 weeks

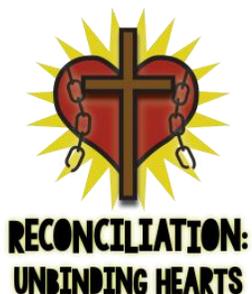
Karen Thygeson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

After the Lord's Prayer, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next Council meeting will be June 19, 2018 at 5:30.

Respectfully submitted by,

Pam Cwikla, Secretary



Northwestern MN ELCA Synod Assembly

- June 8 – 9
- Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd – Moorhead, MN
- Voting members attending Synod Assembly from Zion are Pr. John Golv, Pr. Ale Tulu, Cathy Golv, and Sara Villanueva.

Pray for the delegates as they elect a new bishop for the Northwestern MN Synod.

From the Bishop's Report, "Reconciliation: Unbinding Hearts."

"This theme for our 2018 Synod Assembly may be one of the timeliest in recent memory. Day after day we experience how unsettled life has become and are bombarded by reports of conflict and strife. We wonder if the world itself is coming apart at the seams.

"Reconciliation: Unbinding Hearts" works as an assembly theme because it's so easy to pray it: "Lord, unbind our hearts. Free us from all the forces that cut us off from one another. Liberate us from the arrogance and selfishness that holds us back from the freedom you desire for us."

Read the rest of Bishop Wohlraabe's report at: <http://nwmnsynod.org/synodevents/annual-events/synod-assembly>

Sunday School News

Becky and I (Davina) would like to express our sincerest appreciation and THANK YOU to our Sunday school families, our Sunday school teachers and our entire church family. This year would not have been as successful as it was without everyone's dedication and assistance.



We would like to specifically THANK all of our teachers for their time and commitment to our Sunday school kids. If you see any of these teachers around church or around the community, please take the time to thank them because we couldn't have done it without them!

Little Lambs – Tristan Hanson & Abbie Nomeland
Pre-K – Sara Scheef & Alicia Schneider
Kindergarten – Becky Fredrickson & Davina Brown
1st Grade – Lindsay Henrickson & Trista Spears
2nd Grade – Becky Peterson
3rd Grade – Jana Erickson
4th Grade – Frances Tougas
5th Grade – Jamie Bakken
Music – Laura Rude and Jenna VonHoltum

We hope everyone enjoys their summer, and we look forward to seeing you this Fall!!

K-5 Events:

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

There are no K-5 events June-August. See you in the Fall!

(Thanks Davina and Becky for working so hard this past year. Thank you for all that you do. – From Zion and the Herald staff)



Dates that Zion will provide transportation to Bible Camp:



½ Pint – June 22
Elementary Mini (2-3) – July 8 – 10
Elementary Classic – June 10 – 15
Middle School classic – June 17 – 22
Jr. High Classic – June 24 – 29
High School Classic – July 8 – 13

If you have questions, call Amber Holtan.



Vacation Bible School

July 30 – August 3

At Redeemer

Mailing with info will be sent

ELCA Youth Gathering Houston, Texas June 27-July 1, 2018

Zion is sending ten youth and two adults to the National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. We will leave June 22 and return July 2. Through group fundraising, generous donations, and individual fundraising, our youth have been able to cover the full cost of their trip.



When asked the following questions: Name? Parents' Names? What are you looking forward to most on this trip? What do you hope to learn at the gathering? The youth responded with:

Rebeka Alemayehu, daughter of Sunny Tilahun and Ale Tulu

I look most forward to creating fun memories with the others going on the trip and learning and strengthening my faith in God around other youth. I hope to learn more about God's love and getting to know others around the country. I'd like to thank the congregation for helping us youth by participating in our fundraisers and by your donations and prayers.

Joshua Berzinski, son of Bryan and Mary Berzinski

I'm looking forward to hanging out with Jonah. I hope to learn what worship is like throughout the rest of the country. Thank you for your support.

Dayle Dahlen, daughter of Angie Dahlen

I am looking forward to spending time with everyone who is going on the trip and going to the beach. I am hoping to learn new ways to worship God. Thank you for your help and support. It is greatly appreciated.

Madelynn Dakken, daughter of Derrek and Jennifer Dakken

I look forward to being able to help people. I hope to learn things that will make people more kind to each other. I also want to thank the congregation for making this happen.

Tristan Hanson, daughter of Pat Hanson and Amber Holtan

What I'm looking forward to the most on this trip is getting to meet new people and helping others. Thank you, congregation, for all the support!

Logan and Zach Hintz, sons of Gary Hintz and the late Kim Hintz

The thing we are looking forward to the most is making new friends, becoming better people and good role models. Thank you to everyone who supported us.

Jonah Kalsnes, son of Jarrod and Roberta Kalsnes

I look forward to spending time with Josh and Logan and meeting new people.

I hope to learn that what we do in the world as Christians can truly make an impact. Thank you for all the generous donations and diligent support.

Trista Spears, daughter of Mike and Kami Spears

I'm looking forward to making new friends. I want to learn more about all the blessings God has given us. Thank you to the congregation for supporting us and keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.

Jerica Turner, daughter of Monica Schroeder

I am looking forward to meeting new people. Thank you to everyone for the support on bringing us on this trip.

The two adults going are:

Noah Peters, son of Charmaine Peters and Scott Peters

For this trip I am really looking forward to just going and being a part of the ELCA National Youth Gathering. I am looking forward to being on this trip not as a student or youth, but as a leader. For this trip I really hope to further enhance my leadership skills by chaperoning. Also I really want to learn something new about myself that I have not yet discovered, regarding my faith.

Roberta Kalsnes, wife to Jarrod and mother to Elise and Jonah

I am most looking forward to spending some time getting to know our youth, seeing how the gathering has changed since I last went in 2000, and reuniting with youth director friends that will be there. I also look forward to seeing how this gathering experience will impact our youth. Worshiping and communing with 30,000 Lutheran youth and spending a day in service to others will be moving experiences.

We look forward to telling you all about our gathering experience in September.