



From the Senior Pastor:



“See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing; give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

I Thessalonians 5:16-17

Pray. Rejoice.

Sometimes this verse is quoted (somewhat) humorously as a parent comes to terms with a teenage driver in the family. A nervous mother or father might say, “I now know what ‘pray without ceasing’ really means.”

To some, all this may look impossible. They may say, “Who can do this? Who can pray without ceasing?”

Mildred (not her real name) understands this with complete seriousness. She was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis early in life. Before she was thirty she was institutionalized and quadriplegic. She said, “I can’t do very much, but I can pray.” And pray she did. Constantly. For friends. For people she cared for. For people she resented. For people who would never talk to her. This was her way of living a faithful Christian life. I valued her friendship.

Look again at the two-word verse 16: “Rejoice always.” Who can do that? Many of the realities of life argue against it. But Donald (not his real name) sees more than enough reason to rejoice. Learn even a little about him and you would never guess how grateful he is, how faithful he is, always, in the face of all kinds of adversity. How is it possible to rejoice always? Count your blessings at all times, in all circumstances, as Donald does. It may help to write them down. Start counting, and it becomes possible to rejoice, always.

Susan (not her real name) was often advised to “have daily devotions.” She knew that everyone who said so meant well. It was and is good advice in living a faithful Christian life. She quite honestly felt that good as it was, it didn’t fit her life very well. So she said, “I don’t have devotions. I live devotionally.”

Susan may well be on to something. Having devotions is a faithful way to live. Leading a devotional life is a faithful way to live. Some (many) do both.

Either way, Pray. Rejoice.

Blessings,
Pastor John Golv



- November 17 – 18 – Junior High Youth Gathering
- November 18 - Stewardship Sunday
- November 18 - Pie and Dessert Auction – Between Services
- November 18 - 70+ Dinner – 5:00
- November 22 - Thanksgiving Services – Trinity – 7:00 PM
- December 1 - Spirit of Giving – 8:00 – 12:00
- December 2 - 1st Sunday in Advent



November 18

- Fruit and muffins between services
- RSVP to the church office if you are going to attend - 681- 3296

Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl ministry will not meet on Thursday, November 22nd because of Thanksgiving. We will meet the following Thursday on November 29th. There will be no Prayer Shawl meetings the month of December. We will start again in January with a starting date to be determined at a later date.

Pie and Dessert Auction

November 18 Between Services



The annual pie and dessert auction will be held between services on Sunday, November 18. Join in the fun of purchasing a tasty homemade dessert for your Thanksgiving dinner while raising money for Zion's congregational activities.

And of course, to have a successful auction, we need pies and dessert, so please consider donating one or two for the cause.



President's Message Laura Rude

Dear Church Family-

First of all- Congratulations to Zion's recent Confirmands! Praying that you all continue to feel God's presence in your life as you continue to grow on your faith journey.

As I think about getting close to the end of another wonderful year, I'm reminded of how much we have accomplished this year so far and how much planning needs to be done for next year. Our work as a church family is never done, and that is so exciting!!

I'm also reminded in every Parish Planning Council meeting how many wonderful things are continuously happening that we may take for granted. Take a moment to thank a board member, Sunday school teacher, a quilter, ZLCW members, Sharing Servants and the list goes on. Their stewardship is so important and should be acknowledged and appreciated.

As we look forward to the Holiday season may we be reminded of all that we have to be thankful for and to share God's love and hope to all those we meet.

Blessings~

Laura Rude

WELCA News



ZLCW – November 13

ZLCW will hold its regular meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 13. Program – Elizabeth, Hostess – Sarah, Hospitality – Lydia, Visitation – Dorcas at Valley Home. Please join us for coffee, treats, and Bible study. Board meets at 9:00 a.m. prior to the meeting.

No Syttende Mai Dinner

This long-time traditional event at Zion will no longer be held. With attendance declining, grocery costs increasing, and fewer women available to provide the unique heritage foods and work hours required, the women voted to discontinue the dinner. The Syttende Mai dinner has been held annually since 1978, providing a Norwegian menu while enjoying community fellowship.



Thank you to everyone who has participated over the years – cooks, bakers, decorators, kitchen workers, cleanup crew, youth, and diners. It has been a memorable 40 years!



New Sharing Servants Booklet

Thank you to many of our members, who have agreed to be monthly leaders for our Sharing Servants, but we are still seeking a few more. These monthly groups provide the ushering at services, serving at funerals, and a cleaning project. Zion couldn't function without your help! The new 3-year booklets will be available in December.

10th Annual Spirit of Giving

Saturday, December 1
8:00 – 12:00

8:00 – 10:00 – Invitation only

10:00 – 12:00 – Open to the public

Donations of new and very gently used household items, clothing and miscellaneous may be dropped off in the **Fellowship Hall** from Wednesday, November 28 from 4:00 – 7:00, Thursday, November 29 from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM, and Friday, November 30 from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. **No large appliances or furniture, no televisions, microwaves, or computers, please.**



If you can help Wednesday, Thursday or Friday evenings or Saturday morning, please call Bonnie Yost at 684-4796.



Home Communion

The Lay Ministry/Evangelism Board is still looking for volunteers to provide home communion to parishioners who are not able to attend worship services. Please give this prayerful consideration and contact the church office or MariJo Nabben at 686-4277.

70+ Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 22
5:00





Silver Creek

Our annual turkey dinner was a huge success again this year. We welcomed all the children's voices at our church service and the parents who brought them. We are so grateful for this opportunity to visit with our Silver Creek family. Thank you for your patience while waiting for the meal, due to the power outage. It was worth the wait, however, and shows how creative our congregation can be.

Our quilt raffle showed the loyalty of members' support of Silver Creek, as all of the tickets printed were sold. Thanks for taking time to help with this fundraiser. The lucky winner of the quilt was Mark Bondy.

The women of the church will meet on November 8th. Come for quilting at 3:00 and a light supper at 5:30 followed by our business meeting and bible study. Our study will be # 8, *Dealing with Fears*. Shake your Thankoffering boxes and bring them with to our meeting.

Church Council will meet on November 18 following church services.

We are happy that we were able to find an organist to fill in for Kathy Nelson. We feel so blessed that Cory Erickson/Oliver has agreed to help us out.

Bev Ruprecht



**Zion Lutheran
Parish Planning Council Minutes
October 23, 2018**

The Parish Planning Council meeting was called to order by President Laura Rude at 5:33 pm. In attendance were President Laura Rude, Pastor John Golv, Pastor Ale Tulu, Karen Thygeson, Bonnie Yost, Tim Numedahl, Barbara Overbye, Mike Spears, Penni Nelson, Dennis Yost, Jodi Bergman, Sharon Jorde, Glenice Johnson and Deb Holtan.

Guests in attendance were Becky Fredrickson and Davina Brown, Sunday School Superintendents.

Pastor Ale was asked to say a prayer over the meeting.

The minutes from the September 18, 2018 meeting were presented and approved. A motion was made to accept the minutes. The motion carried.

The Treasure's Report was filed for audit. Miracle Sunday brought in \$19,110.00.

The Helen Peterson Memorial was discussed. A motion was made to move the memorial funds to Zion's savings account. The motion was seconded and carried.

Davina Brown shared that the Sunday school program for 1st through 5th grade will continue using the Sparks curriculum. Little Lambs through Kindergarten are using age appropriate online activities that correspond with that Sunday's lessons. Davina also reported that there are 124 children enrolled, that there are 86 different families of which 5-10 are new families this year.

Becky Fredrickson spoke on the K-5 events. Thirteen kids and their families recently went to Cider Mills that were from the Little Lambs though 2nd Grade. The 3rd-5th grader's outing for October was to the Haunted Woods. November's event will be cookie decorating, Decembers event will be Christmas caroling and sometime after the first of the New Year the movie "The Star" will be shown. Looking ahead to April they are planning a "Zion Has Talent" event.

Parish Fellowship Board: Glenice Johnson reported that their board is working on the completion of the new Sharing Servants booklets. They are in need of 19-21 people that would be willing to take on the leadership roll, one for each month. The Pie and Dessert Auction will be between services on Sunday November 18th. Glenice also mentioned that the ZLCW had a vote and there will be no Syttende Mai in 2019. Voting was 2-1 to not continue. This has been a tradition here at Zion since 1978.

Stewardship Board: Dennis Yost reported that they are putting the final touches on Consecration Sunday. He would like to see stewardship be carried out through the whole year and not just on Consecration Sunday. Dennis asked if anyone has any ideas to please write them down and bring them to the church office and give them to Linda so she can pass them on to him. He feels everyone has only one thought on what stewardship is and wants to change that image.

Worship Board: Sharon Jorde submitted her report but highlighted Confirmation is Sunday October 28th at the 10:30 service asking if it is possible to use the screen during the service so that those sitting towards the back of the church can see more then just the backs of the ones being confirmed. Also a reminder that All Saints Sunday is coming and that once again will use a CD prepared by Johnson's Funeral Home of those that we have lost from our congregation.

Properties Board: Mike Spears reported that Jamie Bakken representing the "New Traditions" committee would like to have two murals painted in the River Brew area. Mike showed pictures of what the murals would look like. One will have the poem "Footprints" the other will have a bible verse with it. A motion was made and seconded by the council to go ahead with the murals with the motion being carried. Jamie stated to the board there will be no cost involved as this is being donated. The striping for the parking lot has been put on hold until spring. The stain glass window that was broken in the Chancel of the church has been repaired. The cost for this was donated by the one doing the repair.

Evangelism and Lay Ministry: Marijo Nabben was not present to report, but did submit her report. Time and Talent sheets were discussed and will be reviewed and referred to the appropriate boards to best utilize the talents shared on these sheets. We have 4-6 volunteers waiting to help with Home Communion for those who want this service. A handout “Six Reasons Newcomers Should Get Plugged In” was discussed with more coming on that. Ken Kalsnes presented his following of a program/project from Chip Ingram called “Effective Parenting in a Defective World”. Ken would like to work with the Christian Ed board to get their thoughts and also depending on the cost, could this possibly be a baptismal gift to the parents.

Christian Education and Youth: Amber Holtan who has been representing this board submitted her report since she was not able to attend. Highlights from her report are that the calendar sales have started. Flap Jacks for Faith was held on October 21st. The 70 Plus Dinner will be on Sunday November 18th with the 9th grade Confirmands helping with the preparation, serving and clean up. The Jr. High Youth Gathering is November 17th and 18th in Alexandria Minnesota. This is for Grades 6-8. A new Handbook and Contract for confirmation guidelines has been put together and available. Operation Christmas Child is in full swing. Sunday October 28th at the 8:30 service the Second Graders will receive their bibles and at the 10:30 service it will be Confirmation for our 11th graders.

Public Relations Board: Jodi Bergman submitted her report asking that all get their reports or newsletter articles into Darlene as soon as possible.

Silver Creek: Penni Nelson reported they had their congregational supper and that their Quilt Raffle sales went very well. So well, they sold out of tickets!

President Laura Rude informed the Council that the custodial position has been filled. David Lee and Tiffany Sterry have been hired. Madam President asked the Council to think about what they see as Zion’s vision is for the next five years. To be bold with our thoughts and ideas, something that shows we are proud of Zion. The council is to bring their thoughts and ideas to the next meeting.

Pastor Ale Tulu gave an update on the Water to Thrive program. The first well will be built in the village where he was born, also that the money for a second well is now close to \$3,000.00.

Pastor John Golv submitted his report. He stated there are eight confirmands being confirmed on the 28th. “Churches Together” or churches cooperating together. This will be a combine effort between Redeemer and Zion with an invitation extended also to Trinity where all will be working together with our youth and other events. The first event will be on November 11th with Pastor John and Pastor Darrel Cory exchanging pulpits that day. This year’s joint Thanksgiving Service will be at Trinity on November 21st at 7:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned after saying the Lord’s Prayer.

The next meeting is November 20th at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Deb Holtan, Council Secretary

Sunday School News

November Reminders:

November 25

- ✝ There is Sunday School Thanksgiving Weekend.



December Reminders:

December 9

- ✝ Singing in church – Little Lambs – 5th Grade Sunday School Students will be singing at the 8:30 am service
- ✝ Canteen 505 – Students will be able to redeem their coins at the Canteen 505 for snacks, toys, etc.
- ✝



December 16

- ✝ The Last Day of Sunday School (first half). Sunday School will resume back on January 6.

Sunday School Canteen 505

New this year to Sunday school is our **Canteen 505!**

- ✝ For every Church Service (up to 1 per Sunday) that your child attends they will receive 1 coin to add to their bank/jar in their classroom. ** In order to receive the coin please make sure your child picks up a lanyard in the back of the church and turns it in to their Sunday School teacher.
- ✝ Students will also receive 1 coin for each Sunday School Class they attend (up to 1 per Sunday) - making it possible to earn up to 2 coins per Sunday!
- ✝ These coins will be “cashed” in twice a year (December & May) at our NEW Sunday School Canteen 505.

** Please see any Sunday School Teacher for more info **

Please join us on Facebook and Remind!

- ✝ **Facebook:** Zion Lutheran Church Sunday School - TRF
- ✝ **Remind:** Text the following message to 81010 to be added to our Remind notices - @ziontrfss



Little Lambs – 5th grade Events (Also known as K-5 Events)



November Event:

November 11 – Little Lambs – 5th Grade

What: **Cookie Decorating at Zion**

Where: Zion Fellowship Hall

Time: 10:30am – 11:30am

December Event:

December 15 – Little Lambs – 5th Grade

What: **Happy Birthday Jesus Caroling & Birthday Party**

Where: Around TRF

Time: 2:00pm – 5:00 pm

** Chaperones will be needed for this event. Please contact Davina or Becky if you are able to assist.

January Event:

Date: TBD

What: **Movie Party**

Where: Zion

Time: TBD

If you have any questions about Sunday school or our Events please let Becky (218-686-5563) or Davina (218-689-4965) know. You can also email us at ziontrfsundayschool@mncable.net

Christian Education and Youth Board

Wednesday, November 7th

- 5:30 - Confirmation Supper
- 6:00 - Class

Wednesday, November 14th

- 5:30 - Confirmation Supper
- 6:00 - Class



Sunday, November 18th

- 5:00 - 70+ Supper 9th grade servant event

Wednesday, November 21st

- No Confirmation-Thanksgiving Break

Wednesday, November 28th

- Servant Event

Noisy Offering for November

Thief River Falls Food Shelf

Hunger has no face and no age limit. It 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.



No Flap Jacks for Faith In November



It's that time of year again! Operation Christmas Child is in full swing! I would like to encourage everyone to help fill at least one box, or if you would like to donate items you can do that also. There are drop off boxes throughout the church for your items. Money donations are also welcomed to help with shipping cost or we can use the money to buy items to fill more boxes. A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Be a part of changing lives through the power of a simple gift.

Gift Suggestions:

TOYS or a “WOW” item: Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy cars, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS: toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, adhesive bandages (Colorful ones can help a child be more willing to wear a bandage.) Do not include liquid antibiotic ointment.) , Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, (Consider filling an empty container with non-liquid items such as hair bows, bracelets, sunglasses, or washcloths to maximize the space.) blanket, non liquid lip balm, nail clipper & file,etc.

CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES: t-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.

CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES: Puzzles, Binoculars, Compass, Chalkboard and chalk, Sewing kit, fabric (1-2 yards), and ribbon,. Laminated decorative pictures with looped ribbon attached as a picture hanger, Gardening kit with gloves and trowel hand tool (Do not include gardening seeds.), Playing cards, Skipping rope/Jump rope

A PERSONAL NOTE: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.

DO NOT INCLUDE: Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Sep 30: Toys or “wow” item

Oct. 7: School Supplies

Oct. 14: Personal Care Items

Oct. 21: Clothing & Accessories

Oct. 28: Crafts & Activities

Please have your Christmas Child boxes returned to the church no later than November 11.