



The Herald

Published monthly, to provide both
inspiration and information on
the activities of the Zion Family

Zion Lutheran Church

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Thief River Falls, MN 56701-1996

Phone - 218-681-3296

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Pastor Mark's Missive

History of Thanksgiving

It is commonly accepted that the first Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621.

This feast was attended by both Pilgrims and Indians who joined together to thank God for their bountiful harvest of the previous year. This tradition was continued by the first American colonies, and later by the United States, as a time of thanksgiving for the blessings that God had bestowed upon the American people.

History tells us that the official holiday of Thanksgiving was started when Abraham Lincoln, near the end of the Civil War, asked Americans to set aside the last Thursday of November as a day of thanksgiving to God for the blessings He had shown to America.

However, some historians will remind us that the very first U. S. president to proclaim a national day of Thanksgiving was John Hanson. Who was President John Hanson, you ask? John Hanson was the first president of congress under the Articles of Confederation. (There was no Executive Branch, no Judicial Branch and only one deliberative body – Congress) President Hanson took office just a month after the surrender of General Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. Hanson organized the Department of Foreign Affairs, which would be necessary to negotiate peace with Great Britain. It

was at this crucial moment that President Hanson and Congress stopped to reflect on the successful progress of the American War of Independence, with Hanson issuing a proclamation of Thanksgiving, the first under an American government. The document was signed, March 19, 1782, in Philadelphia, and signed by John Hanson, President of Congress and by Charles Thomson as Secretary of Congress.

"Proclamation: The goodness of the Supreme Being to all his rational creatures demands their acknowledgments of gratitude and love; his absolute government of this world dictates that it is the interest of every nation and people ardently to supplicate his favor and implore his protection..."

"The United States in Congress assembled, [acknowledging God's] past acts of kindness and goodness towards us... call upon the several States to set apart the last Thursday in April next as a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer, that our joint supplications may then ascend to the throne of the Ruler of the universe..."

To be sure this was a call to the thirteen newly independent states to be thankful in April, (which didn't catch on) but it was a proclamation for national thanksgiving none-the-less. Americans of every generation have had a profound sense of God's leading, blessing and protecting this country.

Thanksgiving is clearly a national holiday, and it doesn't really matter when it began. Just because it isn't a "pure" holy day of our faith, such as Christmas and Easter, doesn't mean that we shouldn't celebrate it. There were political overtones in 1621 (the pilgrims were thankful that they were no longer living in England). There were political overtones in 1782 (General Cornwallis had just surrendered to General Washington, and the terrible war of independence was won).

Later, after the Constitution was adopted, a resolution was passed in the new Congress, thus President George Washington proclaimed Thursday the 26th of November 1789 a day of "public thanksgiving and prayer."

There were also political overtones in 1864 when President Lincoln gave his Thanksgiving proclamation (the Civil War was still raging).

And in 1941 when President Roosevelt proclaimed that the 4th Thursday in November was to be a day of thanksgiving, war raged around the world

threatening to draw the United States in.

Indeed, this is the only secular/religious holiday on our Church calendar, so how should Christians celebrate Thanksgiving? Let's take time to offer to God heartfelt thanks.

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1Thess. 5:18)

Let us do all things to God's Glory!"

Pastor Mark Helgeland

WELCOME, PASTOR KRISTIN OSTERCAMP

Zion joyfully welcomes you as its new shepherdess. May God guide us on this new journey.

- **November 1**- Board meetings
- **November 1** – Quilting – 1:00
- **November 3** – Prayer Shawl Ministry – 10:00
- **November 5** – 8:00 am – LWR pickup
- **November 6** – All Saints Sunday
- **November 8** – WELCA – 10:00. Board meeting – 9:00
- **November 9** – Return OCC shoeboxes to the church
- **November 15** – Quilting – 1:00
- **November 15** – Church Council meeting
- **November 20** – Food, Faith, Family Breakfast – 10:00
- **November 20** – Pie Auction – 10:00
- **November 20** –65+ Dinner – 5:00
- **November 23**– Thanksgiving Eve Worship at Trinity -7:00
- **November 24** – Thanksgiving
- **December 18** – 9:00 Worship – Cornerstone Sunday School Christmas Program



President's Message Laura Rude



Hello Zion Brothers and Sisters~

We have been on quite a journey over the last few years, but God was faithful throughout. He had a plan. We just had to wait. And now the wait is finally over! Time to celebrate! Our Congregational meeting on October 23rd was successful, and Pastor Kristin Ostercamp was voted in by an overwhelming majority to become Zion's next new Pastor. She will be bringing many talents and a fresh perspective to shepherd Zion in the coming years. A HUGE thank you to the Call Committee for all their hard work. They have been a dedicated and focused group who have taken their roles very seriously. Good work will need to continue to happen by us all as we prepare for Pastor Kristin's start date on January 1st. Everyone's welcoming spirit and kind gestures are much appreciated.

In November we will be focusing on Stewardship. There will be Temple Talks the first three Sundays of the month focusing on stewardship. You can also expect to be receiving a letter containing a pledge card for 2023. Please prayerfully consider your tithing for the upcoming year. Any amount is a significant amount, and God will do great things with that gift. Zion's ability to reach people and spread God's word is limitless with your help. God is good and has blessed us all more than we deserve. Let's share those blessings with others by doing God's Work with Our Hands.

Our church continues to bustle with activity this month. Check out the enclosed calendar and the rest of the newsletter for great opportunities for fun, fellowship and maybe even a little pumpkin pie! 😊

Gratefully and Humbly Serving,
Laura



November 6 - All Saints Sunday

On All Saints Sunday we remember Zion members who passed during the previous year and those whose funerals were held at Zion.

Candles will be available to light before the service for your loved one. There will be extra candles available to light for a loved one you lost during the past year that was not a member of Zion.

THANK YOU



Thank you to the call committee for its dedication in finding Zion's new pastor. **Pastor Kristin Ostercamp's** call was accepted by the congregation on October 23. She will begin her new journey with Zion on January 1. WELCOME, Pastor Kristin.

THNK YOU to Kaylynn Wold, Jarrod Kalsnes, Sally Mumm, Shawna Spears, Glenice Johnson and Bill Stock



Welcome New Members to Zion

Andy & Brittany Hart, Connor, Danika, Ella, & Farrah - and - Eric Rwegayura & Bethany

Hait, Adam & Rose Rwegayura

Faith Community Nurse

Zion' welcomes **Darlene Wiseth** as its Faith Community Nurse. Darlene completed the training for this program in October and was installed October 16. Her office hours are Tuesdays from 9:00-12:00. WELCOME, Darlene



Pie & Dessert Auction

November 20 – 10:30

The annual Pie and Dessert Auction will be held on Sunday, November 20, following the 9:00 service. Enjoy the fun and fellowship and bid on delicious desserts. The auctioneer will be Dale Svendsgaard.

We invite members to donate pies, cakes, or other tasty desserts to be auctioned off. Proceeds will go to Zion's general budget.

Tree of Thanksgiving



What are you grateful for?

Look for the Tree of Thanksgiving in the Fellowship hall during the month of November. Write your gratitude on the leaves provided and hang them on the tree. Share your thankfulness with others.

Nursing Home Communion

Pastor Mark and Zion's parish nurse, Darlene Wiseth, will be offering Holy Communion to nursing home residents beginning in November.



Home Communion

Lay Ministry/Evangelism will be offering Holy Communion to homebound congregants once a month beginning in January



Please return shoe boxes to the church by Wednesday, November 9th.

As we look towards Thanksgiving, we are humbled by the bountiful harvest our Lord provides for us. We are thankful for many things, among them is the gift of our days. These are some sharing thoughts from "The Gift of Our Days: Growing Older in God's Grace."



All of our days are a gift from God. Whether we live a long or short life, all our days are in the Lord's hands. At times, it is very hard to understand why some die at a young age, while others live for years with different health problems. Our comfort is that the circumstances and length of our lives is not an indication of God's love for us. He can make something good out of our most difficult problems.

How can I grow older in God's Grace? There are several things we can do to improve the quality of our lives as we age.

First, we can **remember that all of our days are a gift from God.**

Second, we can **respect the life God has blessed us with.** This can include doing things to protect our physical, emotional, and spiritual health.

Third, we can **value the past and learn from it.** Our past experiences are a rich resource that younger people can't obtain. By taking our past with us into the future, we can create a more meaningful future!

Fifth, we can **turn to our faithful God for help.** The same God who gave us life and guided us in our youth, is present to embrace us during difficult times, and gently bring us to Himself.

A Prayer for Those Who Age

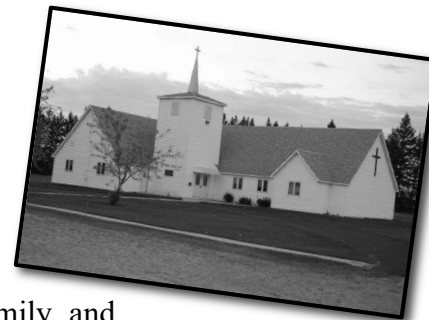
"May He support us all the day long, till the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done! Then in His mercy May He give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at last." John Henry Newman

So.....let's enjoy every day we are given and make today count! God's Peace and Blessing's to you during the busy holiday season ahead.

God's Blessing & Peace—Parish Health

Silver Creek

This is the day the LORD has made; we will Rejoice and be Glad in it. Psalm 118:24.



As we gather together with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving let's remember the reason we are celebrating and thank the Lord for all our blessings.

Our annual turkey dinner was once again a big success and such a great opportunity for fellowship. The winner of our raffle quilt was Addie Kasprick. She was very thrilled when it was delivered later that afternoon. Thanks to every family for selling tickets. We reached an all-time high in ticket sales.

WELCA will meet on Wed. November 3. We will be quilting at 2:30 and a light supper at 5:30 with business meeting to follow. It is time for our Thank Offering and our program will be based on this theme. Council will meet following services on November 20 th to avoid deer hunting.

Please mark your calendar December 4 for our Christmas program and potluck dinner.

We are planning a special program this year and hope you can join us.

Bev Rupprecht

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:1



WELCA Activities

- November 8, 10:00 - all women of Zion are invited to our monthly meeting for fellowship, refreshments, and our annual "Thanks Offering" focus. Hostesses are Marsha Sandahl and Kittie Cornell. Board meeting at 9:00 a.m.
-
- Quilting - November 3, 1:00 - join the group making mission quilts. No special quilting or sewing skills necessary; many hands make light work by layering, cutting, pinning fabrics, and tying the final quilt.
 - Lutheran World Relief Pick-up – November 5 - Zion women and confirmation students have been busy packing up more than 100 school kits, baby care kits, personal care kits, and quilts to deliver to the truck on Saturday, November 5. Thank you to everyone who helped with this project.
 - **2023 NW Synod WELCA Convention** - will be held in Thief River Falls next fall, hosted by Zion.



Zion Lutheran's Congregational Council Minutes Tuesday October 18, 2022

The Congregational Council Meeting was called to order by President Laura Rude at 4:30 pm. In attendance were President Laura Rude, Pastor Mark Helgeland, Denny Minks, Renae Franke, Penni Nelson, Marijo Nabben, Darlene Hulteen Deb Fulton, Glenice Johnson, Mike Spears, Patty Schob, spokesperson for the Health Committee and Deb Holtan.

Pastor Mark led the council in prayer.

The secretary's report from September 20, 2022, was presented. A motion was made to accept the minutes corrections with made in spelling and under the WELCA report Conference should be Convention. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

Also presented were the minutes from the Special Council meeting held on Tuesday September 27, 2022. A motion was made to accept the minutes as printed. The motion was seconded and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was presented. Renae gave updates on the savings account and the Nelson CD's. Renae reported a correction to the August 31, 2022, report with the savings account has been corrected on the September 30, 2022, report. Linda Hamrick had concerns that the bank statements for the checking account didn't not correlate with Linda's records. The corrections were made by the bank as of October 12, 2022. The Nelson CD's will mature as of October 25. Other options are being considered for a better interest rate. A suggestion was made to talk to Jake Rantanen at Northern State Bank to see what options are available. The report was filed for audit.

A motion was made by Mike Spears to appoint Renae Franke to fill the vacant position of Treasurer until the next annual meeting. The motion was seconded by Marijo Nabben. The motion was approved.

Pastor Mark gave his report. Since the last council meeting, he has performed two baptisms, two weddings, six counseling sessions, no funerals, hospital visits, or home visits, also the Confirmation Retreat. He was to Fargo for a retired pastors meeting and then on to a Gideon's supper. Starting in November on Tuesdays, he and Darlene Wiseth will be going to the nursing homes in town to give communion. October 30th is Reformation Sunday and also Confirmation Sunday with nine students being confirmed. There are two students not able to attend that service, but a future date will be planned for those two for their confirmation. Pastor Mark made a motion to recommend the following students Tiera Bugge, Jace Erickson, Layla Forsberg, Keaton Hoverson, Braydin Lund, Julia Rude and Olivia Tougas to confirm their faith on October 30th. The motion was seconded and approved.

Silver Creek: Penni Nelson asked if their Christmas Eve Service could be held at 5:30 like last year. They are going back to the third Sunday of the month for their Communion Sunday. They had their dinner, and the quilt was raffled off. An initiation was extended to Silver Creek to attend services here at Zion on the 30th due to the confirmation service. With Christmas Day on a Sunday this year, Silver Creek will not be holding a service. On that note, Zion will have an alternative service on Christmas Day, which will be discussed at the next meeting.

Health Committee: Patty Schob submitted their report with the following interests pointed out. Darlene Wiseth completed the Parish Nurse Class with installation on October 16th. The new AED is here! Education on its use will be coming in the future. Also, monthly educational classes are being planned. The council discussed the Parish Nurse salary. There is a line item in the budget for the Parish Nurse. A motion was made to pay Darlene Wiseth for this year (2022) what is left in the budget for her work. The motion was seconded and carried.

Call Committee: Glenice Johnson reported at the upcoming congregational meeting only needs a two thirds majority of the whole that is present. Hoping everyone uses the honor system for their voting. It will be by paper ballot and counted during the meeting. The candidate will be revealed at that meeting.

Properties: Mike Spears reported that there will be a dumpster starting the week of the 24th which will be placed in the parking lot. The dumpster will be available for two weeks. So, any boards needing to "clean house" will

have an opportunity to do so. The underground wiring for the electronic sign will take place next week. The parking lot striping should be done this week. Mike mentions the property tax assessment on the two lots is approximately \$9,800.00. Also, the mysterious water leak in the kitchen has been solved!

Stewardship: Madam President stated she will draft a letter again this year. Pledge cards will be included with this letter. Temple talks will also take place starting in November up to Thanksgiving. Displays of where the church members giving goes to was discussed.

Worship: Deb Fulton submitted her report pointing out that All Saints Sunday is November 6th. Their board also discussed how expensive the shipping is getting on the orders for the eternity candle. Usually there are at least two candles that are broken during the shipment. There is an insert that uses oil. It was suggested that the board go ahead and order the oil candle insert. The rest of the altar candles and baptismal candle use oil also, so the oil is already available.

Evangelism and Lay Ministry: Marijo Nabben reported that New Member Sunday was held on October 9th with two families that were recognized, four adults and six children. Going along with the idea of a prayer vigil for fall, the board will be displaying a "Tree of Thanks". The board is asking that the people of Zion write on a leaf to be hung on the tree with what they are thankful for and sharing their blessings. The board will start helping with the membership list in the near future.

Parish Fellowship: Glenice Johnson reported that November's Sharing Servants now has a leader, but still looking for someone for the month of December. Her board has been filling in for that month. Glenice said she is going through the monthly lists doing a more detailed check, as it's been pointed out there are names that have been missed.

WELCA: Glenice Johnson reported that the pick-up date for all the mission kits will be Saturday November 5th, from 8:00 am to Noon on Atlantic Avenue. Help is needed to bring the packed boxes over to the pick-up sight. Sharon Wagner will be working with the confirmation students and packing the personal care kits.

Public Relations: Darlene Hulteen reported that her board has been discussing the church directory, which has been put on hold due to the

covid pandemic. The company that they have used before no longer does the directories. They have discussed two options. One is the actually directory book and the other is an online directory. Darlene stated that anyone can submit a photo for this project. Her board is recommending the printed version. Also, dates have been discussed so as to include the “snowbirds”. The board is hoping to get dates for the upcoming year.

Youth and Christian Ed: The Sunday School has new curriculum. They have gone back to “Spark” The next Faith and Food breakfast will be Sunday November 20th which will also be the Desert and Pie Auction as well as the “65+ Thanksgiving Supper” Upcoming events for the kids are Northern Air in November and the Gingerbread House contest in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 pm following the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by
Deb Holtan, Council Secretary

Worship Together in the Sanctuary

Zion – 9:00 - Silver Creek – 10:30
Zion Sunday School – 10:00

Worship Online

If you choose to worship from home, take advantage of the alternatives to in-house worship.

- KTRF radio – 1230 AM at 9:00
- Cable TV – Channel 3 – KTRF – 9:00
- Garden Valley – Channel 37 – 12:00 Noon
- Log in to Zion’s webpage – ziontrf.org and listen to the service over the internet.
- Facebook Live – 9:00 on Zion’s Facebook Page



Confirmation

Remind

All confirmation students and parents need to sign up for Remind! This is where communication is done, and lots of important messages are sent out from here!

Text @ziontrf to 81010 to join.

Students- please make sure you are getting signed up for acolyting and service opportunities!! Then make sure you show up for when you sign up!

**!!!65+ Supper!!!
Sunday, November 20**

All 9th graders will be putting on this fun event. This is your large group event, so you are expected to be there!

We can also use extra student and adult help as well! Contact Kami!

Confirmation Class Switch Worship Night

Due to lefse making for the 65+ Supper, worship night is changed to November 9. Regular class night is November 16th, lefse making night.

*If anyone would like to come and help make lefse,
we'd love to have you!*

All parents are invited and encouraged to attend worship night with your student! Join us for supper at 5:15, then attend worship

Congratulations Confirmands

Tiera Bugge, Jace Erickson, Layla Forsberg, Keaton Hoverson,
Braydin Lund, Julia Rude and Olivia Tougas

November Youth Events

November 13 - Family Fun Event at Northern Air. Meet in the Zion parking lot at 11:10. We will leave at 11:15. Our jump time is from 12:30 - 2:30. If your child is interested, scan the QR code below and fill out the registration form and the the waiver for Northern Air.

Cost: \$10 per Zion Youth, \$17 per non-Zion Youth
Text/call Laura Fay (507)319-7480 for questions



November 20 – Food for Faith French Toast Breakfast after worship. We are still looking for a family to be our Spotlight Family. Please contact Linda or Kami if you are willing to help out.

Gingerbread House Contest

We are looking for someone to head up the gingerbread house contest this year. If you are interested, please contact Kami or Laura.

Sunday School



Cornerstone Kids Christmas Program – during 9:00 worship – December 18

Operation Christmas

Child is in full swing! If you have not filled a box, please do so. Monetary donations are also welcomed. A small shoebox can have a big impact. on a child.

Please return your shoebox to the church by Wednesday, November 9th.



Zion's 13th Annual Spirit of Giving

Saturday, December 3

8:00 AM—12:00 Noon

We welcome your donations for Zion's 13th Annual Spirit of Giving.

- New, clean, very gently used, neatly folded winter clothing
- Household items, toys, Christmas décor and decorations.
- Miscellaneous items
- **No items in garbage bags will be accepted.**
- **No large appliances, furniture, televisions, microwaves, or computers**

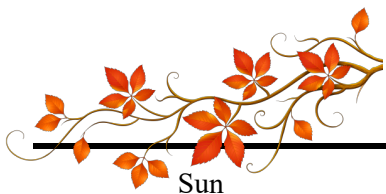
Donations may be dropped off in the basement Fellowship Hall on

- Wednesday, November 30 from 1:00 PM—7:00 PM
- Thursday, December 1 from 9:00 AM—7:00 PM
- Friday, December 2 from 9:00 AM—5:00 PM

No Early Drop offs!!! No Saturday Drop Offs!!!

If you can help Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday with set up, please call Millie Reiersen at 218-681-7728 or the church office at 218-681-3296





November 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SUNDAY BROADCASTS 9 AM CABLE 3 9 KTRF BROADCASTS 12 NOON CABLE 37		1 9-12 Faith Community Nurse hours 9:30 Staff Meeting Noon Pastors Text Study 4 Parish Health Committee BOARD MEETINGS	2 5:15 Confirmation supper 6 Confirmation 6 God's Joy Choir 7 Senior Choir	3 9 SAIL Exercise 12-4 LSS Respite/Lounge 10 Prayer shawl ministry 1 Quilting/ LWR Workshop	4 7 Men's Breakfast/Biff's	5 Lutheran World Relief Ship Date +++Set clocks <i>back</i> one hour tonight!+++
6 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 9 Zion Worship/Holy Communion/ Temple Talk 10 Sunday School 10 Blood Pressure Screening/lounge 10 Coffee fellowship/ basement 10:30 Silver Creek Worship	7 9 SAIL Exercise	8 9-12 Faith Community Nurse hours 9 WELCA Executive Board 9:30 Staff Meeting 10 Women of Zion Noon Pastors Text Study	9 5:15 Confirmation supper 6 Confirmation 6 God's Joy Choir 7 Senior Choir OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES AND/OR DONATIONS DUE TODAY	10 9 SAIL Exercise 10 LSS Caregivers Discussion 12-4 LSS Respite/Lounge	11 7 Men's Breakfast/Biff's	12
13 9 Zion Worship; Temple Talk 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee fellowship/ basement 10 December Sharing Servants/ lounge 10:30 Silver Creek Worship	14 9 SAIL Exercise	15 9-12 Faith Community Nurse hours 9:30 Staff Meeting Noon Pastors Text Study ZION COUNCIL MEETS	16 6 God's Joy Choir 5:15 Confirmation supper 6 Confirmation 7 Senior Choir	17 9 SAIL Exercise 12-4 LSS Respite/Lounge 1 Quilting	18 7 Men's Breakfast/Biff's	19
20 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 9 Zion Holy Communion Worship/ Temple Talk 10 Sunday School 10 Food for Faith — French Toast 10 PIE AUCTION 10:30 Silver Creek Holy Commu- ion Worship 5:00 65+ TURKEY DINNER	21 Newsletter Items Due 9 SAIL Exercise 4 AAUW in Patio Room	22 No FC Nurse hours today 9:30 Staff Meeting Noon Pastors Text Study	23 No Confirmation 7 THANKSGIVING WORSHIP AT TRINITY LUTHERAN	24 THANKSGIVING DAY Office/Building Closed	25 Office/Building Closed	26 11—memorial service for John Dyrseth at Zion
27 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9 Zion Worship 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee fellowship/ basement 10:30 Silver Creek Worship	28 9 SAIL Exercise	29 Circles 9-12 Faith Community Nurse hours 9:30 Staff Meeting 10:30 Coffee Time w/Staff Noon Pastors Text Study	30 Circles 5:15 Confirmation supper 6 God's Joy Choir 6 Confirmation 7 Senior Choir 1-7 DROP OFF FOR SPIRIT OF GIVING	CONFIRMATION MENU: NOV. 2: CHICKEN ALFREDO NOV. 9: PULLED PORK NOV. 16: LASAGNA NOV. 30 SPAGHETTI		