



**Vol. 19**

**November 2019**

**No. 9**

From Pastor John  
All Things & Churches Together

“And the one who was seated on the throne said,  
‘See, I am making all things new.’”  
Revelation 21:5

A friend of mine once suggested that the term WWJD ought to read What Will Jesus Do? instead of What Would Jesus Do?

He felt that a reference to the promised future was truer to Jesus’ teaching and even the whole Bible.

The verse in Revelation reveals God who one day will re-make everything. “All things new...” doesn’t leave anything out.

So, what is on your list of things that need re-making, by God or by any of us?

My list would include food for everyone. It would include an end to poverty. It would include an end to racism, warfare, and abuse of all kinds. Where would a person stop? Many things are in need of re-making. If we could re-make things there would be no more accidents, no more crime, no more killing, no more hatred, no more illness of any kind.

May God be praised; God will make all things new. We may expect that God will see the need to re-make us too.

New to us yet this year is Madison Crane. Madison is shared with Redeemer Lutheran as Director of Youth and Family Ministry. She started on Monday, October 21. She has an article introducing herself later in this newsletter. Please do introduce yourself, welcome her, and help to make her ministry with us as productive as possible.

There is more to come with Churches Together.

Blessings to you and yours,  
Pastor John Golv

**November 2** – Conference 2 WELCA Fall Gathering

- **November 3** – Blessing of Prayer Shawls
- **November 10** – Training Ears to Hear – Bishop Bill Tesch
- **November 12** – WELCA Meeting
- **November 18** – Drop Off Deadline - Operation Christmas Child
- **November 24** – Annual Pie Auction
- **November 24** – 70+ Dinner – 5:00
- **November 27** – Thanksgiving Worship Service – 7:00
- **December 7** – Zion’s 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Spirit of Giving



GIVE THANKS  
TO THE LORD  
FOR HE IS GOOD  
His LOVE Endures FOREVER!



## President’s Message

### Laura Rude

Dear Zion Church Family,

As I reflect on all that is happening at, around and to Zion, I have feelings of encouragement, excitement and anxiousness. Then I remember the verses from **Philippians 4:6-8** - *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

### Let go! Let God!

Change is all around us as a church family at Zion. Some changes are very exciting, but other changes can be equally scary. We have a new Youth and Family Director, Madison Crane. She officially started on October 20<sup>th</sup>. She will need prayers, support and encouragement from both Zion and Redeemer as she embarks on this new adventure. Another upcoming change that is on a lot of minds, is the retirement announcement of Pastor John next April. As discussions are held and decisions are made for Zion’s future, I ask for your continued prayers for wisdom and patience for all leaders of the church.

As we travel on our journey let's remember 4 T's-

- ❖ Turn to God~
- ❖ Talk to God~
- ❖ Trust God~
- ❖ Thank God~

**Let go! Let God!**

Thanksgiving will be here soon, and we have so much to thankful for. I heard on a podcast recently a neat statement regarding giving thanks. The speaker said, "Thanking God after, is gratitude. Thanking God before, is Faith." May our faith be great, and our thanks and praise never stop. Please take time to look at the all the upcoming events that are taking place at Zion and see what event you would like to be a part of. We have a very busy couple of months ahead of us!

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours and God's Blessings Always!

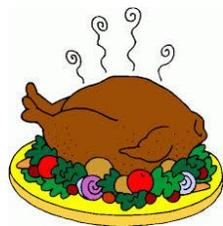
Laura Rude

Sunday, November 24  
Between Services

Bid on a delicious assortment of homemade pies and desserts.

Proceeds to help balance our church budget.

Any culinary sweets will be welcomed for donation for auction.



**70+ Thanksgiving Dinner**

**November 24  
5:00**

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# Community Thanksgiving Service at Zion

Wednesday, November 27

7:00 PM

Message – Pastor Kristin Ostercamp

Faith, Ekelund, Bethany Lutheran Churches, Goodridge

Mass Choir and Refreshments After Worship



## Welcome Madison Crane, Director of Children, Youth and Families Zion and Redeemer

Hi there! I am Madison Crane the Children, Youth, and Family Director at Zion and Redeemer Lutheran churches. I come from Crookston and look forward to meeting the congregations of Zion and Redeemer here in Thief River Falls! God calls us onto some great adventures and it's amazing to see the journey unfold. One of my favorite scriptures is when Jesus calls the first disciples from John 1:35-42 and it reminds me how Jesus is walking with them, and he brings up three great points: *What* are you seeking? *Come* and you will *see*.

I have worked as a classroom aid in a School Readiness room, been a camp counselor, served on programmatic summer camp staff, and managed a concession stand. Through the various jobs I have had, working with youth and families has always been a joy of mine. I love spending time with my family, whether it's hiking with a sister or playing games on the floor with my nephew and niece. I cherish those times! Some of my hobbies are knitting, watching movies, reading, cooking, and finding a good song to dance to!

Throughout life we ask a lot of questions, and often we get frustrated when little people ask so many questions, but they are just trying to figure out this wonderful world our Lord made for us. I think instead of using just our words to explain, we should use our actions and invite those little ones to come and see what is going on in God's world. Check out 1 Timothy 4:12 for more guidance in this!

Please bear with me as I am getting familiarized with all of the newness! I may ask a lot of questions as to *what* is going on, so please *invite* me and *show* me what's going on! I'm looking forward to meeting the members - new and old- of both churches. I can't wait to learn and grow with these communities of Christ! I am working on getting details for the November calendar for Youth Events. When information comes, it will be in the bulletin and posted around the church! In peace and joy,

Madison Crane  
Director of Children, Youth and Families  
Redeemer and Zion Lutheran Churches

# Zion's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Spirit of Giving

Saturday, December 7

8:00 – 10:00 (Invitation only) - 10:00 – 12:00 (Open to Public)

We welcome your donations for Zion's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Spirit of Giving.

- New, clean, neatly folded, **very gently** used season appropriate clothing, household items, toys, Christmas decor and decorations, and 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, December 4, from 4:00 – 7:00, Thursday, December 5, from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM, and Friday, December 6, from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

**No early drop-offs!!!! No Saturday drop-offs!!!!**

If you can help Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday morning, please call Bonnie Yost at 684 - 4796 or the church office at 681-3296.

Thank you for sharing God's love and abundance with others and making someone's Christmas brighter.



## WELCA Meets November 12

Ladies of Zion will meet on Tuesday, November 12, at 10:00. This is our "Thank Offering" month.

Program – Elizabeth, Hostess – Rebekah, Hospitality – Lydia, Visitation – Anna at Oakland Park.

Please join us for Bible study, fellowship and refreshments. ZLCW board will meet at 9:00 am.

## WELCA Conference 2 Fall Gathering

The annual WELCA Conference 2 Fall Gathering, “He Leadeth Me,” hosted by Gully and Trail Lutheran churches, will be held on Saturday, November 2, in the Gully Community Center. It begins with registration at 8:30 am. Registration fee is \$10.

The speaker is Olive Wiskow from Goodridge. Other entertainment will be provided by area youth.

Zion ladies will carpool from Zion’s parking lot at 7:45 am.

## 2020 WELCA Booklets

As we prepare information for next year’s WELCA booklets, please review your circle’s participation activities and let us know of any changes that you recommend for the next year.

The board is meeting November 5, at 9:00 am, at church to prepare the material for 2020. We need your suggestions, requests, corrections, and other pertinent information.



### Parish Planning Council Minutes October 15, 2019

The Parish Planning Council meeting was called to order by President Laura Rude at 5:31pm. In attendance were Laura Rude, Pastor John Golv, Pastor Ale Tulu, Barbara Overbye, Tim Numedahl, Lindsay Henrickson, Glenice Johnson, Jodi Bergman, Marijo Nabben, Dennis Yost and Deb Holtan.

Pastor John opened with a word of prayer.

The minutes from the September 17, 2019 meeting and the minutes from the special meeting held on October 7, 2019 were both presented. A motion was made to accept both minutes. The motion was approved.

**Treasurers Report:** Barbara pointed out that we are \$41,425.30 behind with our income. Barbara also reported the Redeemer will be handling the payroll for the new youth director. Zion will make the appropriate payment for its portion of the shared salary to Redeemer. Barbara stated a gift in the form of stocks was given to the church, but in order to receive this gift, an account was opened up through Pat Thibert’s office with Edward Jones.

The report was filed for audit.

**Silver Creek:** Nothing to report from Silver Creek other than the quilt raffle winner is to be announced at their dinner.

**Stewardship:** Dennis Yost asked the council how many people he should plan for to serve at the brunch on Sunday October 27th. Stewardship will be serving muffins, fruit, coffee, juice and milk for the meal. A postcard reminder is being sent out. The board is also planning to make phone calls between now and the end of the year inviting people to upcoming events in the church.

**Worship:** A report was submitted by Sharon Jorde. President Laura pointed out in Sharon's report that everything is in place for All Saints Sunday.

**Properties:** President Laura stated that Mike had nothing to report other than some water issues with all the rain that has fallen recently.

**Evangelism and Lay Ministry:** Marijo Nabben stated that New Member Sunday was postponed due to lack of interest. She stated that we need to let potential new members know that they can join at anytime. That New Member Sunday is in recognition of their membership. Anyone showing interest should contact Linda in the office so she can pass the information on to the pastors. The board has discussed different topics that can be presented during the occasional coffee time between services. One idea is on mental health, another is doing a mixer of some sort so as to get people to move around to different tables to visit. Marijo and Deb Holtan will be working on presenting "Effective Parenting in a Defective World" in the near future during the coffee hour between services. Kaylynn Wold will be joining the board as a new member.

**Christian Ed and Youth:** Lindsay Henrickson reported they had a K-5 Culinary Event the first part of October. November's event which will be led by Davina Brown and Becky Fredrickson which will be making ornaments. December's event the board is hoping to put together a hayride for the kids. Lindsay pointed out the Operation Christmas which is being handled by Amber Holtan.

**Parish Fellowship:** Glenice Johnson reported that their board is serving and organizing the "Pie with the Bishop" event on Sunday afternoon of October 27th. December's Sharing Servants still does not have a leader. The board will take that month.

**WELCA/ZLCW:** Glenice Johnson stated that she attended the NW Minnesota Synodical in Alexandria, Minnesota. The new president for this area is Marilyn Grandstrand from Karlstad. Marilyn asked if Zion would host in 2020 receiving a yes on the event. Glenice also reported that on Sunday, November 10 WELCA/ZLCW will be serving for the "Training Ears to Hear!" event being held here at Zion with Bishop Bill Tesch as the keynote speaker.

**Public Relations:** Jodi Bergman reported that the "Pie with the Bishop" will be on the church website along with the "Flapjacks for Faith." Spirit of Giving, Darlene Hulteen and Glenice Johnson are each applying for the Thrivent Choice Dollar cards to purchase new items for this event. One will be used for the purchase of new children's toys and the other to help with the advertising for this annual event.

**New Shared Youth Director:** The new Youth Director is Madison Crane from Crookston Minnesota. She will be invited to come on Sunday October 20th so the congregation can meet her. She will also be here Sunday October 27th.

**Pastor Ale:** Pastor Ale stated that it has been a "dry summer" as far as weddings go, and now there are three this fall! The Second Grade bible class is large with 25 registered and 22 attending. There are 16 students getting confirmed. Sunday October 27<sup>th</sup> the second graders will receive their bibles at the 8:30 service and confirmation will be at the 10:30 service. Bishop Bill Tesch will be here for both services.

**Pastor John:** Pastor John submitted his report. He said that Bishop Bill Tesch is calling the church to prayer with a prayer vigil for the area farmers to be held at Redeemer on Thursday October 17th at 7:00. Bishop Tesch has sent out the liturgy to area churches for the vigil.

**Call Committee:** President Laura stated that we need to start talking and thinking about this. What do we want the job description to be and what is this council's recommendation. With this, President Laura asked Pastor John to present the "Size Transitions in Congregations." The size of Zion's congregation is changing and this will have an effect on our decisions about calling a new pastor. Pastor Ale stated that we will have four Sundays remaining after the date of Pastor John's retirement that will be the two services on a Sunday here at Zion. He said with only one service during the summer months, it is possible for one pastor to handle the service here at Zion and still be able to service Silver Creek. If needed it is possible to get an interim pastor to help with Silver Creek. Pastor John stated that the number of people graduating from seminary right now is very low. President Laura stated that there will be a need for ongoing discussion about this.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 after saying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by  
Deb Holtan Council Secretary

*The Power of  
Gratefulness*



# A Month of Gratitude

David Hanson (Pastor of Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church in Woodlands, Texas) - From *Living Lutheran* – November 2017

Many have written about the ways in which social media can be a “bubble.” We only put part of our lives online, so we usually see only the best of people’s lives. Bad news can spread quickly, and our social media feeds can be overwhelmed with things that are angry or sad. The “bubble” is one reason some people choose not to participate in online conversation. But what if – together – we burst the bubble this month? What if the church could show the world a different way to talk to one another?

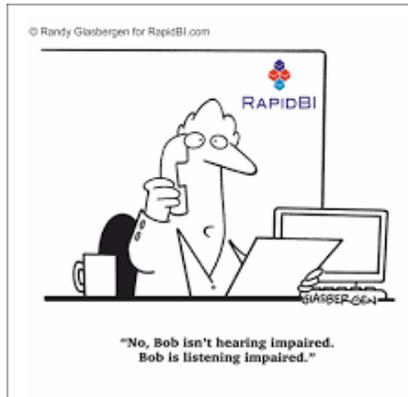
As you use social media this month, I invite you to share your gratitude with the world. Each day, make a post about what you are grateful for and tag it **#ELCAGivesThanks**. It could be a photo of something you saw, a description of a moment you experienced, a link to a story you read that made you grateful.

A gratitude journal opens our eyes to the blessings God gives us, but instead of writing something down for ourselves, we can use Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat to share our gratitude with the world.

Moving the practice online allows others to see our gratitude; the gratitude we share becomes contagious.

Let’s burst the “bubbles” we live in and open our eyes to the blessings of God all around us.

## Training Ears to Hear



Our society bombards us with words, images, sounds and opportunities. To whom do we listen? How do we filter the noise through the lens of God? How do we live out our baptism when so much pulls us other ways?

Northwestern Minnesota Synod Bishop Tesch will be keynote speaker at Zion, leading a training event to help improve our listening skills as we live out our baptismal calling.

### Sunday, November 10 – Zion Lutheran Church

- 2:00 – Opening Devotions
- 2:15 – Three Great Listeners – Bishop Bill Tesch
- 3:15 – Hearing Our Baptismal Calling
- 4:15 – Sending and Blessings



**Cost:** None

**Registration:** Register online at the following site.  
<https://nwmnsynod.regfox.com/2019-training-ears-to-hear>

**Take home:** All attendees will receive practical, productive resources for Lent, Stewardship and Faith Practices.

## Key Verses:

Mark 4:3 - "Listen! A sower went out to sow....."

Mark 4:9 - "Let anyone with ears to listen...."

# Sunday School News

## November Reminders:

### November 28 -

✝ There **IS** Sunday School the Sunday after Thanksgiving (12/1/19)

## December Reminders:

### December 8 -

✝ Sunday schoolers will sing in church at the 8:30 service

✝ Canteen 505 Day!! A schedule will be shared with the teachers.



### December 15 -

✝ Last day of Sunday school before Christmas Break. See you in January!

✝ Classroom celebrations/parties

## January Reminders:

### January 5 -

✝ Sunday School resumes!



## Church Family:

✝ Our Sunday School program is in need of some supplies if anyone would like to make a donation:

- \* Clorox wipes
- \* Kleenex
- \* Masking Tape (wide width)
- \* Clear Shipping/Packaging Tape
- \* Dixie cups
- \* Hand sanitizer

## Please join us on Facebook!

✝ **Facebook:** Zion Lutheran Church Sunday School – TRF

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



## Confirmation Meals

**November 6** – Hot Ham and Cheese and French Fries

**November 13** – Tacos

**November 20** – Tater Tot Hot dish

## Middle School

**November 17** – Wind-down Movie Night

- Grades 6-8
- Snack and a movie.
- Bring a friend.



**November 27** - 70+ Supper – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Event

**November 27**– Community Service at Zion

November Noisy Offering - TRF Food Shelf

## K-5 Event – Ornament Making

- Sunday, November 24
- 1:00 - 3:00 PM
- Patio Room



We would like to encourage everyone to help fill an OCC box or donate items for a box. There are drop off boxes throughout the church. Money donations are also welcome for shipping costs or items to fill more boxes.



### Gift Suggestions:

- **TOYS:** 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, sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.
- **PERSONAL CARE ITEMS:** toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, adhesive bandages (Colorful ones), (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, sunglasses, or washcloths to maximize space.) blanket, non liquid lip balm, nail clipper, file, etc.
- **CLOTHING AND 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), ribbon. Laminated decorative pictures with looped ribbon attached as a picture hanger, gardening kit with gloves and trowel (Do not include gardening seeds.), playing cards.
- **A PERSONAL NOTE:** You may enclose a note 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; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.
  
- **PLEASE HAVE YOUR BOXES OR ITEMS DROPPED OFF AT THE CHURCH NO LATER THAN MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18.**