



Zion Lutheran Church

2714 James Street
Marinette, WI 54143

715-735-7898

zion@newbc.rr.com



2011

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24th

The Senior Choir will be presenting selections from the cantata
"Tapestry of Light" on Christmas Eve.
at the 8:00 p.m. service.

It will feature solos, duets, oboe, piano and the choir.

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25th

The gospel quartet will perform
at the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

**The Seven
Marks of
Discipleship**

✠Pray

✠Worship

✠Study

✠Invite

✠Encourage

✠Give

✠Serve

Our Discipleship Together

Happy Holidays! _____

It isn't difficult to bump into those who are vehemently opposed to saying "Happy Holidays" during this season. This reaction is interesting in light of the history of the church's celebration of Christmas. Because of the winter solstice, pagans and others were holding festivals during this time of the year long before Christians; even 10,000 years before the birth of Jesus. The first celebrations of Christ's birth on December 25th, (there were other dates), began to occur in

the early fourth century. December 25 was the same date as the very popular pagan festival of Sol Invictus. Christians used this pagan festival to proclaim the message that in Jesus, God's light came into the world.

Since then, the church has often struggled with the way pagan celebrations have intermingled with the church's celebration of Christmas. The Puritans had the celebration of Christmas outlawed in Boston from 1659 – 1681 because of the raucous nature of some celebrations. In light of this history, is it fair and loving to assume that everyone we come in contact with celebrates Christmas, or celebrates it the same way that we do?

Those who are most vehement about saying "Merry Christmas" rather than "Happy Holidays" are often concerned that our celebration is somehow being taken away from us and that the church should take a defensive stance against this perceived threat. As the church, our greatest power is in powerlessness. (2Cor. 12:9) This is made quite clear at the birth of Jesus. The Son of God came into the world as the most vulnerable of all; an infant born in a stable to a peasant family who were strangers in the small, nowhere town of Bethlehem. It is also made clear by the cross. This is the vulnerability of God's love, and as such, guides us in how we are to love the world, including how we celebrate this birth. We are to do it with vulnerability, not defensiveness.

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Happy Holidays! _____

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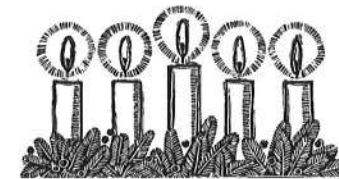
Since evangelism was certainly at the root of the decision to celebrate Jesus' birth at this time, then the most evangelical thing we can do is to be the vulnerable love of God to those who are different than us. So, "Merry Christmas" and "Happy Holidays!" *Pastor Keith*



Decorating the Sanctuary

We will be decorating the sanctuary on Thursday, December 8th at 10 a.m. We will need four men to help put up the trees and lights. If anyone wants to make soup or chili we could plan to have lunch together. Everyone is welcome to come. Please sign up on the sheet located on the main entrance bulletin board. *Ann Buscher*

Phone # 715.735.3017



The Senior Choir will be presenting selections from the cantata "Tapestry of Light" on Christmas Eve at the 8:00 p.m. worship service. We will be featuring solos, duets, oboe, piano and the choir. The choir will also perform a selection from the cantata at the 9:30 a.m. worship on December 11th. The gospel quartet will perform on Sunday, Christmas Day at the 9:30 a.m. worship service.



Summary Minutes of Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Kolstad has been serving on the Synod Candidacy Committee. He will be at a meeting on December 2 & 3.

OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORT: The General Fund balance increased \$3,253 to \$6,296; however, year to date decrease is \$12,350. Capital Campaign Fund balance decreased \$1,833 from \$41,044 to \$42,211. Debt and Community Children receipts of \$1,756 were dispersed as follows: \$176 to Synod, \$351 to DAR and \$878 to Thrivent for additional payment on loan principal and \$351 for Fortune Lake. Thrivent loan balance is \$65,215 after Oct. payment, with year to date additional principal payments totaling \$10,254.

YOUTH MINISTRY: It has been determined that the family portion of the cost for the youth trip is \$150. The students need to raise \$5000 over and in addition to what they already have. We have 9 students attending the E.L.C.A. National Youth Gathering. This means we need 2 chaperones, with the total cost for each student/chaperone is \$1100. The group has asked Zion to fund our 2 chaperones at a total cost of \$2200 in 2012. This will be placed in the 2012 budget.

NEW BUSINESS: CHRISTMAS EVE and CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP: Christmas Eve worship will be one service at 8:00p.m. Christmas Day worship will be at the usual time of 9:30 a.m.

MEMBER TRANSFER: Helen Bauman has transferred from Zion to Faith Lutheran in Marinette.



Summary Minutes of Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting...(continued)

MARINETTE PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Marinette Public Schools requested and were approved to use Zion's facilities for a Special Needs Thanksgiving Party on Nov. 17.

2012 HOUSING ALLOWANCE: By consensus of the Council, it is resolved, that of the total compensation to be provided Pastor Keith Kolstad in 2012, \$22,000 shall be designated as housing allowance under the provisions of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.

HAVEN OF HOPE REQUEST: It was requested that an opportunity be given for Zion's members to contribute to Haven of Hope Homeless Shelter. Since this is an additional positive representation of Zion in the community, it was decided, by consensus of the Council, that members be encouraged to do so. Such funds must be designated as being for Haven of Hope.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Benchley
Council Secretary



Updating Church Directory

Last call for church directory changes. Please let us know of any personal information changes, such as landline to cell phone, address changes due to move, marriage, divorce, school, service, or name change. Please inform the church office: 715.735.7898 or email us at zion@newbc.rr.com.

Electronic Giving

This fall, consider signing up for electronic giving. Zion Lutheran Church relies on the financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis.

To give electronically, visit our website www.zionlutheran-marquette.org and locate the "DONATE" button to the electronic giving page. If you have questions, please feel free to ask or call our Financial Secretary, Karen Houdek at (715) 735-7180 home or (715)735-7898 at Zion. Thank you!

ELCA Youth Gathering Cook Book

The teens going to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans are preparing a taste-tempting custom cookbook featuring favorite recipes from our members, as well as members of the entire Menominee Valley Conference. Please submit one of your favorite recipes so you can be represented in our group's cookbook. The recipe collection sheets are available on the bulletin board in the main entrance. Simply take one home, look up your most mouth watering recipe, follow the instructions on the sheet and return it to the envelope on the board by **Sunday, Dec. 4** so we can meet our deadline. We can accept about 60 recipes from Zion so turn yours in fast! This cookbook is sure to be a best seller! Stay tuned for more details on when the cookbook will be available. Carla Clarke



Piano For Sale

We are accepting sealed bids for the four foot baby grand Kimball piano in the Fellowship Hall. Please turn them into the church office by Monday, December 5th. This piano has been inspected by two local piano tuners. A \$400.00 minimum has been set. For more information please call Ann Buscher at 715.735.3017.

SPARK: Faith Formation News

A rehearsal for the Christmas program will be held on Saturday, December 17th, at Zion from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The Spark Faith Formation Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 18th at the 9:30 a.m. worship service with a coffee hour reception to follow.

Just a reminder: The last Wednesday of Spark Faith Formation will be on December 14th. After the holidays, on January 8th, Spark Faith Formation will begin to be held on Sundays following worship.

The Yarn Yackers Group

Come join us for an afternoon of crocheting, knitting, or any hand held craft and enjoy the company of some wonderful people. There will be people from several churches attending, so please feel free to invite anyone you like to join us. This includes anyone who would like to learn any of these skills. All we ask is that you bring a small snack to pass. It will be held the first Sunday of every month, beginning on December 4th at 1 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church. Hope to see you there. If you have any questions please call Tracy Nowak at 715.587.3084.

Year End Statements

If you want your offering for 2011 to appear on your year-end statement it must be at the church office no later than, Wednesday, December 28th.



DAR Boys & Girls Club

You're invited to join the DAR Boys & Girls Club to their Member's Holiday Party! Enjoy an afternoon of fun. Come see first hand how the club touches lives each day. Refreshments will be served. Feel free to bring a guest.

Date: 12/15/11

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Located at 901 8th Ave., Menominee, MI

RSVP by December 9th

906.863.9512 or kdenowski@thedar.org

Hope to see you there!

ARC Bible Class Christmas Program

The ARC Bible class for adults with special needs will be presenting their Christmas program on Monday, December 19th at 7 p.m. The program will take place at Zion Lutheran Church Parish Hall at 2714 James St., Marinette. This year we be T'was The Night Before Christmas" and the Bible Class will play on their colored bells and sing songs to go with the story. A coffee & treat fellowship will follow the performance.

Ann Buscher



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER 2011

December 3

Francis Lebick

December 4

Craig Gensler
Ron Nelson

December 8

Miah Andrist

December 9

Kimberly Gaudes

December 10

Sally Peterson

December 11

Keith Despins
John Radloff

December 12

Bethany Travis
Michael Radloff

December 13

Larry Nelson
Don Otto

December 15

Rachel Kuhn

December 16

Dean Schoen

December 17

Danielle Garrigan

December 18

George Krenos

December 20

Alice Larson
Alyson Teasdale
Dawn Vincent

December 23

Paul Boucher
Alan Nelson
Shawn Schoen

December 27

Everette Johnston
Luke Pecard

December 28

Philip Goes
Patricia Schultz

December 29

Ronald Johnson

December 31

Eileen Jagielski
Jake Kolstad



Happy
Birthday





Menominee Valley Conference
LAY SCHOOL for MISSION

The Lay School for Mission is a ministry of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It is a program of learning for lay persons who are seeking to deepen their knowledge and experience of the Gospel and the life and history of Christ's Church.

The Lay School is a unique opportunity for adult continuing education. While we invite participants to enroll in the entire 5 semester program or in one semester of 4 or 5 classes, we also encourage interested students to enroll in one or two courses in any given semester.

The classes will be held on Monday evenings at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Menominee beginning on January 9th. The only cost of the school is books, and, if needed, scholarship help is available.

The following are the classes to be taught this upcoming semester:

THE END OF ALL THINGS

Biblical and Modern Views of the End of the World

5:15-7:15pm-January 9, 16, 23, 30 & Feb. 13, 20

Instructor—Pr. Lee Goodwin



OLD TESTAMENT WRITINGS

The Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes & Song of Solomon

7:15-9:15pm-January 9, 16, 23, 30 & Feb. 13, 20

Instructor—Pr. Doug Schoen

LIFE TOGETHER

How We Organize Our Life Together As a Lutheran Church

February 6—5:15—9:15pm

Instructor-Bishop Tom Skrenes

THE HEART OF LUTHERANISM

The Center of Lutheran Teaching

Feb. 27, Mar. 12 & 16, April 16—5:15-9:15pm

March 5, 19 & April 2—7:15-9:15pm

Instructor—Pr. Lee Goodwin

STEWARDSHIP & SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Embracing and Managing what God has entrusted to us.

5:15-7:15pm—March 5, 19. April 2 & 23

Instructor—Pr. Keith Kolstad

Contact Pastor Keith for more information or contact either of the Coordinators of the local Lay School:

Pr. Lee Goodwin

715-938-2443

jleegoodwin@gmail.com

Mr. Jerry Gentz

906-863-3431

jgentz@e-mmanuel.com



Zion's Wellness Team Presents:

The 2nd Annual



Community Challenge

Build a Support Team

A support team is crucial when you're trying to keep motivated. Success is all about creating healthy habits and maintaining positive relationships that can help you make the changes you're striving for.

Follow the Biggest Loser Pyramid

Here you will learn The Biggest Loser Pyramid, which will help you your weight loss goals. You will learn about portion sizes, water intake, and adjusting your calorie intake based on your specific needs.

Exercise, Exercise, Exercise

You determine your level, and we will give you the tools you need to work at your own pace and see if you can push yourself to that next level of healthy living.

You CAN Do This – What Do You Have to Lose?

Absolutely nothing, except an unhealthy lifestyle that can compromise your health, happiness, and quality of life.



Biggest Loser _____

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Help Yourself AND Your Favorite Charity

We will hold our first meeting on Thursday, January 5th, 2012. Registration will begin at 6 p.m. The program will run for thirteen weeks. Future meetings will take place every Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There is a one-time registration fee of \$10.00 per person. After the thirteen weeks, whoever loses the highest percentage of body weight will be able to donate the funds to the charity of their choice.

Everyone is Welcome

Please tell your family and friends about this challenge. Let's start this New Year on the right track!

For More Information Contact

Sarah Rabideau

715.938.2218

mnikov_26@hotmail.com





Once again we are planning to use Poinsettia plants as part of our Christmas decorations at church. If you make a donation of at least \$15.00 you may take one of the plants home following the service on Sunday, December 25, 2011. You may also designate it as a gift in memory or honor of someone.

If you are willing to make a contribution to the Poinsettia Fund, please call the church office (735-7898) with the necessary information or fill out the following form and place it in the offering plate.

Please drop off at Church, mail or call in the following information by Monday, December 12th

GIVEN BY _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED: \$ _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE THIS FORM WITH YOUR MONEY AND DROP OFF AT CHURCH, MAIL TO THE CHURCH OFFICE OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (715-735-7898) SO WE CAN GET OUR ORDER IN.

Bring Back the Joy of Christmas

A message from Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan

Christmas is a time to celebrate with family. It's a tradition that, for many of us, comes and goes without a second thought. Many find that along with the traditional dinners, celebrations, and family gatherings comes the stress of the holidays. The stress may root from the general hustle and bustle, or grief from the recent loss of a loved one. Here are some general suggestions to help manage holiday stress and cope during this time of year:

Volunteer to help decorate Christmas cookies, make Christmas cards, or other festive décor at your local adult day center or homeless day-time drop in center; invite your children and/or family and friends to join you and start a new holiday tradition. You may find comfort in doing something to help others.

Give back. Collect toys, clothing, and winter wear (gloves, scarves, and hats) for children in need. Or, give back to your community by donating a monetary gift in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Ask for help. You don't need to do it all or be it all. Remember, you can easily do twice as much with the help of others. Know yourself well enough to recognize when you need help.

Find new traditions. Doing something completely different than the tradition you're used to may be the best way for you to cope in a positive manner.

Plan ahead. Approach and choose those activities you wish to continue and those you may wish not to do, avoiding activities that may be more stressful and allowing yourself flexibility.

Create balance. Balance is when you feel centered and calm. Take time to stop and breathe! You deserve some "me" time, too!

Share your Christmas traditions with LSS via social media. Search LSSWis to connect with LSS on Facebook and Twitter.

December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	2	3
4 9:30 am Worship 1 pm Yarn Yackers 6 pm Cub Scout Leader Meeting	5	6 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Missional Planning Group	7 6 pm Conf. Class Bell ringing 6-7 pm Spark, Crossways 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	8 10 am Decorating the church 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	9	10 10 am Cub Scout Sleigh ride with soup to follow at Zion at around noon.
11 9:30 am Worship	12 6 pm Personnel Committee meeting	13 9 am Sew-for-Missions Group 6 pm Council Christmas Party at Kolstad's	14 6-7 pm Spark, Confirmation, Crossways 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	15 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	16	17 9 am-11:30 am Sparks Christmas Program Rehearsal
18 9:30 am Spark Christmas Program Noon Staff Christmas Brunch at Kolstad's	19 7 pm ARC Christmas Program at Zion's Parish Hall	20	21 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	22 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	23	24 8 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Cantata Worship
25 9:30 am Christmas Day Worship	26 Office Closed	27	28	29 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	30	31