



Zion Lutheran Church

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Thanksgiving Worship

The Thanksgiving Worship service will be held
at Zion Lutheran Church
on Wednesday, November 21
at 7:00 p.m.

Growing in Discipleship Together _____

Jesus Wept

The Seven Marks of Discipleship

☞Pray

☞Worship

☞Study

☞Invite

☞Encourage

☞Give

☞Serve

I was significantly bummed the other day. I was bummed by the pain and suffering that others were enduring, caused by the weather, or the selfishness of others. I was bummed by the grayness of the sky. I was bummed by the wind. (I really don't like wind.) I was bummed by personal goals not met. I was bummed. There are days like that and they are no fun.

That day I was reminded that Jesus wept. (*John 11:35*) The Son of God, the Light of the World, the Good Shepherd, the Way the Truth and the Life, our Lord and Savior - he wept over the death of a loved one. He was bummed. He was having one of those days. And he had one of those days because not only was he all those things that I just listed

above, but he was also fully human, and to be fully human means that there will be days when we are bummed; maybe even so bummed that we weep.

That day I discovered Christ not on a lofty throne or riding the clouds. He was not in the bright shining light or within the glorious music. He was there waiting for me in the darkness, in the stillness, in the disappointments, and there were tears on his face. He didn't lift me out of the darkness that day and it was OK. It was OK just having him there with me while I was bummed.

Jesus knows the fullness of our human experience, not just because he created it, but because he lived it. He lived the full spectrum of human life. He knows what it is like to be filled with joy and to be bummed. He knows, and we can take comfort in that as we live the fullness of life as his disciples.

Pastor Keith

News from the Intern _____

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!"

Rom.1:7b

Where has the month of October gone? Time just slips away and how quickly the seasons change. Even though fall is the beginning of the end of nature's life cycle, we have the promise of a new beginning that is just below the surface, just waiting to spring forth. And so it is with us. Our lives are filled with endings; divorce, deaths, and job terminations, but it is also filled with the promise of new beginnings; marriage, births, and new opportunities. Our lives are filled with change. I don't think anyone really likes change. I find that if I think of change as not necessarily good or bad, but just different, it makes the change a little easier to accept.

The changes that I have been going through in the past few years have been exciting, terrifying, enlightening, challenging, okay, it's been crazy. This call that I have overwhelming felt God pushing me toward has turned my whole world upside-down, not only for me but for my family and even my friends. Becoming a disciple of God, putting your life into God's hands, is a wonderfully freeing way to live. But it also has many responsibilities and a lot of change. We humans, especially in the society and culture we live in today, have a hard time giving up control, giving what we have worked so hard to get to those in need, living for others instead of thinking of ourselves, and loving even our enemies. And I for one have fought this change, it's certainly not easy. Now God didn't promise it would be easy, and after all, we must always remember that everything we have, everything we are, belongs to God. And that is why out of love and gratitude for all He has done for us and blessed us with, we care for others we love others and we give with a joyous heart.

Internship has been one of those big changes in my journey and I very much appreciate how welcomed and affirmed I feel here at Zion. I thank you all for your participation in my new beginning and all the changes is my life, as I am preparing for God's ministry. I pray that all of the changes in your lives will accepted as no more than "different" and all a part of God's plan for you.

Yours in Christ, Intern Linda

October 9, 2012 Council Meeting Summary_____

NINTH GRADE FAITH STATEMENTS: Ninth grade Confirmation students, Olivia Kuhn, Justin Williams, Bradley Mech, and Billy Retza read their Faith Statements to the Council. Later, the Council accepted these young people as confirmed members of Zion.

AUGUST FINANCIAL REPORTS: John reported the general fund balance decreased \$4,708 to a deficit of \$412. Year-to-date decrease in combined General Fund and Parsonage Proceeds fund is \$5,611. There was no gas/electric for the month. Large expense included \$5,220 for insurance. The Capital Campaign Fund balance decreased \$1,258 to \$29,769. The Memorial Fund had no receipts but had disbursements of \$576 for children's pew Bibles and \$1,855 for hymnals. The Intern Fund Balance decreased to \$12,969. The Thrivent loan payable balance is \$44,868 per the loan schedule after the 9/15/12 payment; an additional \$881 was paid at the end of September; estimated balance is \$43,987. Year-to-date additional principal payments are \$7,333.

There has been recent discussion at Council as well as in the Social Ministry Committee regarding financial support for members in need. Social Ministry has formed a sub-group. This group is going to gather and take the time to think about and set priorities/parameters as guidelines in assisting the decision making regarding financial support for members in need.

New members will be recognized on October 14, 2012 – those joining Zion are: Brian & Vallery Krahn and Madelyn; Timothy & Sarah Marzahl and Anna; Skyler & Bethany Emler and Elsa and Sharon Ehlers.

Council Minutes Summary_____

During the new member group, there had been a discussion and a high level of interest in a different type of worship service: a Sunday evening, not in the Sanctuary, but rather in the fellowship hall at tables arranged to facilitate discussion. The thought is it would resemble the Dwelling in the Word that Council does at its meetings, the discussions that were held around a Bible text at the Cottage Gatherings recently held during our Stewardship Drive, or the Lenten Prayer Journey that was held in the past. The text would be opened very briefly – the majority of the service would be the discussion. It would be more informal than a traditional service, but yet would have all the elements of a traditional service (gather, word, meal, send). The service would begin and end with hymns, prayers and communion would also be included. It was felt that this could be a draw for others in the community – it would be an excellent outreach opportunity. This is definitely something that is not being done around here. The plans would be to advertise in the community getting the word out that this is going on.

Respectfully Submitted, Pam Lund



Commitment Sunday_____

Please be sure to bring your Estimate of Giving sheets with you to worship on Sunday, November 4th. During the worship service there will be a special offering where these sheets will be brought forward with our regular offerings. If you are unable to attend this service, you are welcome to either, 1) Send them to Zion in the provided envelopes, 2) Drop them off at Zion's office or, 3) Bring them on a following Sunday and place them in the offering plate.

Filling out an estimate of giving is an important act of faith. It certainly isn't a contract, but it is a tool to help us grow in faith by directing our hearts in the direction we want them to go. All Saints Sunday reminds us of the importance of faith in our lives, and our giving is a significant component of our faith.



Our annual dinner honoring the senior members of our congregation and their spouses who will be 75 years old or older during this calendar year. Will be held Sunday, November 11, 2012 following the 9:30 a.m. Worship, sponsored by the Social Ministry Committee.

Since those who are being honored are invited as guests, we are asking all others who attend to bring a large and generous hot dish or salad to share and their own table service. The Committee will furnish the dinner rolls, dessert and beverages.

Program presented by Beth Bruce, "Grandma's Apron."



Please return this slip by November 8, 2012 to help the committee better plan for this event.

_____ Adults Attending _____ Children Attending

Names:

I will bring the following item for the Potluck:

_____ Hot Dish _____ Salad



Study the best known Parables of Jesus! _____

A Bible study of the Best Known Parables of Jesus has started at Zion. We have had some very lively discussion on the "Prodigal Son" and the "Sower and the Seeds" and have had lots of surprises so far. It is truly amazing what new insights a group can see and the wonderful discussions that can follow. That is what is so great about this study. It looks at the parables the stories that Jesus used to teach the common people, like us, about the Kingdom of God. Jesus compared the Kingdom to things from their very lives, so that they would understand. First time Bible studiers will love the familiarity of the stories, they are comfortable and well known, and then to listen to what others see in that familiar story of Jesus, it is truly inspiring! We have a great time.

Each week we look at a different one of the great parable of Jesus. If you haven't come to the study as of yet I encourage you to do so. You won't be behind and have to catch up, each week is different. The more people we can get involved in the conversation the more we learn, the more we see, and the more we come to know that no matter who we are, no matter how much we know or don't know, God is bigger than our understanding! And that's okay, because we don't have to have all the answers, that's God's job, our job is to keep asking questions and keep learning and seeing the text in different ways. With our hearts and eyes wide open to how others are seeing it too.

Please consider joining us with your coffee and sweets in the Family/ Conference Room following each Sunday morning service for the one hour study. The study will continue through December 9th. Drop in and see what we are up to! We promise you an hour of insight, conversation and lots of surprises, things you never saw before in the word of God that you thought you knew so well.



The Children's Bag Mystery!

We are missing two children's bags that hang in the narthex on the Noah's Ark tree. The first bag has a large pillow of Noah's ark with little animals that stuff in the pillows pockets. There would also be books and other things in the bag. The other bag we are missing has the soft covered make believe, alter, pulpit and people of the church (minister, choir member usher) etc. in the bag. If you have any idea where these bags are please contact Ann Buscher.

Zion Senior Choir - Prepare the way of the Lord!

I extend an invitation to all to join the choir during the month of December. This is a wonderful time to sing the songs of Advent and Christmas. We will be performing Sunday Dec. 9th, Sunday Dec. 23rd, and Monday Dec. 24th Christmas Eve. Rehearsals will begin Wednesday Nov. 28th at 7:00 p.m. Please contact me, Ann Buscher, at 715.735.3017 for more information.

On Wednesday November 21st Zion Lutheran Church will be hosting a Thanksgiving service at 7:00 p.m. This service will feature the choirs of Zion, Our Savior's and St. James Lutheran Churches. The service will end with a mass choir performing "We Thank you Lord" to the tune of Finlandia. Following the service we will be serving delicious pie and coffee. This is a wonderful way to start your Thanksgiving weekend. Come join us in praising the Lord!

Service Project

Zion is searching for 1 or 2 people to oversee refreshments at the Community Concerts held at the Blesch Auditorium in Menominee. We have been doing this project since at least 2002 and would like to continue but we need people to volunteer.

The dates for the two concert we still need to cover are: Thursday March 21, 2013 and Thursday April 11, 2013. We're told it takes 3 hours max; from 6pm to 9pm. Money earned at these two events (generally about \$100 each) can be used toward the Zion mission project of your choice. Please contact Karen Sylvester at 715.732.4206 if you can help or have questions before committing.

The Stewardship Corner

The Cottage Gatherings are done, and while our turnout was not what we had hoped, everyone attending seemed to have a wonderful time and we heard many heartfelt blessing stories. Through our stories, we learned more about one another and we grew in love and admiration.

Stewardship encompasses more than money; it also includes sharing of time and talents. The two blessing stories being shared with you today are stewardship in action. Each of you has a story to tell as well. Take a moment to think about how God blesses you in your daily life, and enjoy these stories from two of Zion's parishioners.

My husband, Jerry, and I joined Zion on March 23, 1980. As I didn't remember the date, I had to ask Pastor Keith to look it up for me. We joined because I wanted to have a place to go to church and wanted to register our five-year-old son for Sunday School. I had attended church maybe once every month or two, each time putting \$5 or \$10 in the offertory plate. When Derek started Sunday School, he was usually dropped off; we seldom stayed for church. We felt we had better things to do with our time.

Somewhere along the line, someone asked me to join the choir. I was absolutely terrified, but I loved to sing so I thought I'd give it a try. At least being part of the choir caused me to attend church more regularly. The other thing I did in addition to singing in the choir was to be the lector every now and then. That was the extent of my contribution to the life of this congregation.

And so it continued until October 1995. Prior to October 1995, I had put God on the backburner. I didn't need him in my life, seldom prayed, seldom attended church, and never cracked the Bible. I was one lousy disciple and I didn't even know it!

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The Stewardship Corner

On October 10, 1995, I found out I had Stage 3C Ovarian Cancer and was given two years to live. I had to undergo major surgery and started chemotherapy. I had to spend eight days in St. Joseph's Hospital before I could go home. Some of you may recall I had spoken before about God's intervention while I was in the hospital. So therefore, it was shortly after arriving home I had Jerry bring me to worship. I was very weak, but I truly needed to attend worship; the desire was overwhelming. I was so very thankful to be alive; I just had to worship Christ with my fellow Christians.

Since October 1995, everything in my life has changed. I now attend worship every week. I regularly volunteer my time, not only to Zion, but other organizations. I tithe and I pray, but still have room for growth- lots of room. I try to read my Bible; something I admit I have great difficulty doing. As a matter of fact, for the second year in a row I've enrolled in Lay School for Mission classes. Little by little, I have learned and am growing in my faith and in my love for a God who sustains me. I have tried to help others and will continue to do so. I know I've got a long way to go and there are days when I fail miserably; but still, I know that God loves me and I love him.

During the last seventeen years, I have felt the Holy Spirit leading me. I have finally found joy, peace, contentment, and a deeper love for God and everyone else. And through that love, came forgiveness; forgiveness for others and forgiveness for myself which was even harder.

I'm still out there sinning daily and yet I feel I have a closer relationship with God than I ever have had. Everything I do is a form of worship for me. What I have learned over the last seventeen years is this: I cannot out give God. I have been so very blessed and in so many ways; I am very grateful.

Karen Sylvester

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The Stewardship Corner

A Blessing of mine:

In today's economy, employment is a real blessing and I'm lucky enough to not only have a job, but one I enjoy. The students I come in contact with are a huge part of this. I teach in the academic skills lab at NWTC. Six years ago though, my job took a new twist and I wasn't sure that I wanted to be a part of it. NWTC implemented a GED (general education high school degree) program at the Marinette County Jail for inmates. Even though I wasn't at all sure I wanted this new challenge or that I could handle it, I agreed to try. Little did I realize how much of an impact one of our first students would have on me.

Forrest arrived about six months into the program - one of six fellows I was working with at the time. He was tough, a gang member, had ADD, liked to show off, felt dumb, and enjoyed testing the rules; a Challenge and certainly not someone that I anticipated ever getting along with or admiring.

He taught me a lot during the nine months that I worked with him: patience, persistence, how to see people in a different light, and how not to judge too quickly. He definitely also honed my teaching skills and made me realize that my time spent over there truly was important. Because of his attention deficit, he had to try twice as hard as everyone else and I learned to fully appreciate the effort it took for him to sit still and concentrate for even 10 minutes! Even with all these obstacles, he finally obtained his GED.

After his release, he moved out of the area. About a year after he'd left, he returned for a visit and stopped by NWTC to let me know how he'd done. He had found a job and was attending a technical college. I was very proud and pleased for him, to say the least. He set the standard for how I deal with inmates and how I view my job over there. I am very thankful that God sent this young man into my life.

Roxanne Bowdin

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The Stewardship Corner

During part of our Cottage Gathering, we were asked to think about our blessings – what or whom they may be and how or why we felt they were a blessing. I immediately thought of my husband Rob and my children – Tyler, Travis and Sydney – what wonderful blessings they all are! I truly believe that kids are gifts from God and sometimes I can't believe He gave them to us, we are so lucky. With His gifts are also challenges – having twins was a pretty big challenge, and sometimes daily life is a challenge. Trying to make the right decisions for them, encouraging them to make their own decisions, watching them grow and hoping we have done enough to teach them right from wrong, trusting them more and more as they get older (and having to let go a little at a time as they become older and a little more independent), showing them patience when I'm not feeling very patient, not taking my bad days at work out on them, all of these things are challenges we face, but I know we have been given the tools to get through it all. I believe God would never give me anything I can't handle. Being a parent definitely is not an easy job, but it is one I love the most!!

I also believe my son Tyler was a blessing to my mother. My mom picks up my kids after school and watches them for about an hour until I am done with work. She has been doing this since Tyler started kindergarten. When Tyler was in 2nd grade my dad passed away. I think Tyler was a blessing to her at that time because her having to pick him up from school everyday gave her a purpose – it was something she had to do. She didn't have to get up early or do anything around the house or even get dressed all day, until it was time to pick up Tyler. I think having this one task to do every day, helped her in part get through that very difficult time in her life.

And speaking of my mother – what a blessing she is!! I don't know what I would do without my mother – I can't even put into words how blessed I feel to have her!!

Pam Lund

Volunteers for November 2012

Sunday, November 4

Acolyte: Billy Retza

Lector: Amanda Litts

Greeters: Shirley & Oliver Swenson

Head Usher: Don Schutt

Communion Assistants: Amanda Litts, Don Schutt (Distribute Host),
Kathy Heimbuch (Pouring wine)

Coffee Time Sponsor: Sarah Group

AV Team: Troy Cording & Jacob Cording

Sunday, November 11

Acolyte: Olivia Kuhn

Lector: Carole Boerner

Greeter: Sue Baxter

Head Usher: Bryan

Gutknecht & Jonah Zuehls

Communion Assistant: Jacki Renne

AV Team: Sarge Rudell & Kathy Heimbuch

Harvest Dinner

Sunday, November 18

Acolyte: James Jagielski

Lector: Heidi Beland

Greeters: George & Nila Krenos

Head Usher: Jane

Landenberger

Communion Assistants: Karen Dill & Karen Sylvester (Distribute
Host), George Olson (Pouring wine)

AV Team: Amanda Litts & Drake Schutt

Coffee Time Sponsor: Needed

Sunday, November 25

Acolyte: James Martin

Lector: Don Otto

Greeters: Colleen & Braedhan Madden

Head Usher: Karen Sylvester

Communion Assistant: Karen Sylvester

AV Team: Bill Tipple & Billy Retza

Coffee Time Sponsor: Needed



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAY IN NOVEMBER 2012

November 2

Jaclynn Knopik
Jeff Minzlaff
Phil Strohl

November 3

James Jagielski
Tom Maxwell
Ava Minzlaff
Jo Schutt
Jenny Voelker

November 4

Hope Goes

November 5

John Kloida
Wendy Strutz

November 6

David Busick
Aleiah Maxwell
Henry Zuehls

November 7

DeJay Bromund
Niklas Williams

November 9

Sharon Schmidt
Lynn Seppi
Mary Thielen

November 10

Michael Harding
Betty Nelson
Meagan Towle

November 12

Lisa Cook
Carol Magnuson

November 14

Laila Williams

November 15

Dennis Bromund

November 19

Barb Baumgarten
Peter Thielen

November 21

Jane Landenberger
Shirley Nord
Gary Olson

November 22

Nancy Benchley
Pauline Ireland

November 23

Joel Settersten

November 24

Naomi Dumke
Caleb Gaudes
Michael Retza

November 25

Susan Fischer

November 26

Bethany Emler
Kim Janquart

November 27

Amanda Peanosky
Karen Sylvester

November 28

Lanse Dill
Alexander Gressel
Ronnie Lueskow

November 29

Carissa Kempka
Kayla Laundree
Sydney Lund
Travis Lund

November 30

Barb Gensler



November 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	2	3
4 Commitment Sunday 9:30 am Worship 11-noon Bible Study 6 pm Cub Scouts	5 5:15-9:15 pm Lay School for Mission	6 VOTE 9:30 am Staff meeting	7 10:30 am Evangelism 6-7 pm Spark, Conf., Crossways 5 pm Personnel Com. 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	8 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	9	10
11 9:30 am Worship Baptisms 10:45 am Harvest Potluck Dinner	12 5:15-9:15 pm Lay School for Mission	13 9-11:30 am Sew for Missions 6:30 pm Council Meeting	14 6-7 pm Spark, Confirmation, Crossway 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	15 6 pm Worship at Northland Village 6 pm Intern Meet at Carol Johnson's 7 pm Ruth Group at Hope Goes	16	17
18 9:30 am Worship 11-noon Bible Study	19 5:15-9:15 pm Lay School for Mission	20	21 7 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship at Zion	22 Thanksgiving Meal at Our Savior's	23	24
25 18 9:30 am Worship 11-noon Bible Study	26 5:15-9:15 pm Lay School 6 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Sarah Group at Joni Rudell's	27 9-11:30 am Sew-for-Missions	28 6-7 pm Spark, Confirmation, Crossway 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	29 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	30	

**Note: Pastor Keith on vacation
November 14 - 20**