



Zion Lutheran Church

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2015

- The Seven Marks of Discipleship**
- ✠Pray
 - ✠Worship
 - ✠Study
 - ✠Invite
 - ✠Encourage
 - ✠Give
 - ✠Serve

Our Discipleship Together

“Be Still and Know that

I am God” (Psalm 46:10)

Why does it take the holidays for us to embrace the importance of quiet time? With so much hustle and bustle, so many added activities and expectations, taking some time to just be feels like a drink of cool water after a long, hot and dry journey. I pray you were

able to take that time to just be during this holiday season, either alone or with those you love.

Why is it that prayer life can often feel like the holidays? From early on, it seems we are taught that praying needs to be a time of doing rather than being. Surely I’m guilty of this as I teach our confirmation students to pray, teaching them the “rat” prayer, of Remembering, and Asking, and Thanking; teaching them what each petition of the Lord’s Prayer means; emphasizing the doing rather than the being. Yes, it is a huge challenge to teach young teens to be when everything within them wants to do, do, do. It’s easier to just pile on more doing, but surely it’s not the most helpful. It’s like saying the most important part of the holidays is all the doing. Yes, the doing is important, but not at the expense of just being.

So, what might a “being” prayer look like? Well, try to recall what it was like when you were held and rocked as a child. Nothing was required or demanded of you. How did that time feel? That’s the direction “being” prayer is going in. It is time to just be with God rather than doing all the work of remembering and asking and thanking. It is a time to just sit with God rather than trying to “get it right.” It is a time to savor the grace of being beloved rather than confessing and repenting. We are children of God, and God just loves being with us. “Being” prayer is taking the time to just love being with God as well. ...(continued)

Our Discipleship Together.(continued)

As you look at the many things you want to do during this upcoming year, new directions, resolutions, new habits, and all the rest, think about taking time to just be with God and not do anything. Jesus makes it clear that we are children of God. Allowing God to rock us for a while can renew within us that precious parent/child relationship we have with God, helping to make it a more peaceful and joy-filled new year.

Pastor Keith

Mission Endowment Fund Meeting and Special Guest _____

Following worship on Sunday, January 18, there will be an informational meeting regarding a proposed Mission Endowment Fund for Zion. Rev. Larry Westfield of Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin will be here to explain what Mission Endowment Funds are and to answer any questions. Pick up a copy of the proposal in the lobby.

Menominee Valley Conference Lay School _____

With the New Year upon us it is time to begin our next Menominee Valley Conference Lay School offering. Pastor Doug Schoen will be teaching a class on "Jesus in the book of Isaiah" at Bethel Lutheran in Menominee on Mondays from January 12-February 2 from 6:30-8:00 pm.

Council Summary

The Council met on December 9, 2014 at 6:00 pm at the Kolstad Residence.

Pastor Keith reported that November attendance was down. The average for the month was 103. The average in 2013 was 117.

Pastor conducted a Baptism for Ella Sue Williams on November 2. A summary of the financial reports for September are below.

- General Fund fund balance increased \$422 from \$7,057 to \$7,479. Year to date decrease is \$455.
- Fortune Lake Campers Fund balance increased \$16 from \$1,331 to \$1,347.
- Capital Improvement Fund Balance increased \$1,239 from \$46,616 to \$47,855 due to interest and the transfer from Debt and CC Fund.
- Debt and Community Children had receipts of \$2,062. Disbursements of \$206 to Synod, \$412 to DAR and transfer of \$1,031 to Capital Improvement Fund. \$3,388 is available for camper fees or support of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp.
- The Memorial Fund had receipts of \$40 or and a disbursement of \$450 for the residing of the storage shed. The fund balance consists of an overdraft of \$943 of co-mingled funds plus \$8,695 in the Thrivent money market fund.
- The Intern Fund Balance increased \$20 from \$430 to \$450.
- The Garden Grant Fund balance is \$211.
- The Helping Hand Fund balance is \$824

The Stewardship Committee has reviewed the results of this year's drive, *Consecration Sunday*. They are pleased with the pledges that were received.

The Property Committee met on December 2. They met with Scott Williams of J&T Electric to discuss updating Zion's lighting fixtures both inside and outside of the building. J&T is putting together some options and will get back to the committee. The committee will meet again in January to finalize the doors and woodworking and delegate other projects that need to be completed. ... (continued)

Council Summary

The Youth Ministry group will be shopping for the Angel Tree and then will go back to Zion to decorate cookies on December 14th. On December 17th they will ring the bells for the Salvation Army. There is also a sledding trip in the works, so stay tuned for that date.

The Personnel Committee reported that staff reviews are completed with the exception of Pastor Keith's. They will be wrapping his up soon.

Zion's Scholarship Fund has a current balance of \$3,388. It was approved by the council to keep \$1500 in Zion's fund and to give the rest to Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp for its Scholarship Fund.

A Resolution for Zion's Endowment Fund was approved by the council. The Congregation will be voting on this resolution at the annual meeting. On Sunday January 18th Pastor Larry Westfield, with Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin, will be giving a temple talk at the worship service to introduce himself and will hold a town hall meeting after the service to answer any questions that the congregation may have pertaining to the proposed Endowment Fund.

The council approved Pastor's housing allowance for 2015. The resolution reads:

Resolved, that of the total compensation to be provided Pastor Keith Kolstad in 2015, \$22,500 shall be designated as a housing allowance under the provisions of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Annual Meeting date was set for January 25, 2015 following the Worship service. This year's auditors will be Tom Maxwell, Roger DeGroot and Phil Strohl.

The next Council meeting will be January 13, 2015 at 6:30 pm. The meeting ended with the Benediction.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Williams, Recording Secretary

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25th following the worship service. If you chair a committee or group please have your report for the Annual Report submitted to the office no later than January 12th. The Annual Report needs to be available to the members on Sunday, January 18th the week before the meeting takes place.

Thank you from Haven of Hope

Thank you all for your continued support throughout the year. The shelter is so blessed to have people who care and are willing to help with our needs. God bless always. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Dorothy Demarce, Haven of Hope

Church Directory Updates

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

Worship Change in January

Due to renovations at Northland Village, the Thursday evening worship services will be held at the Luther Home Chapel during the month of January. The 6:00 p.m. worship time will remain the same.

Thank you!

A big thank you to those of you who came to help decorate our worship area. Thank you to Kathy Heimbuch and Ellice DeBenedetto for making the chili and everyone who brought goodies. We had a delicious meal with great fellowship. Thank you to all who have donated poinsettias for the sanctuary and Debra Harding for setting them up. It looks beautiful. Have you checked the beautiful Nativity Scene in the narthex that belongs to Nancy Sallee?

The Senior Choir had several new faces on Christmas Eve. Thank you to all who sang, to Shawn Limberg for playing his oboe and to Rachel Rosenfeldt, our incredible accompanist. Choir will begin again on Wednesday, January 21st.

Thank you to Don Limberg for putting up the outdoor Nativity Scene.

A special thank you to the teachers from SPARK faith formation for helping with the Christmas program. I really enjoyed working with the children. Everyone did such a great job!

Ann Buscher



Thank You!

SCOUT NEWS

The Cubs and Webelos of the Marinette Troop, who meet in Zion's Fellowship Hall have been very busy. They started out with about 30 members and have now grown to about 60. Every year, the troops are evaluated on a variety of topics - 13 in all. The Marinette Troop scored high in 10 of the 13 areas - enough to earn the Gold Award, which is the highest one attainable. Last year, they had earned the Silver Award. The members are rated on community or church projects, attendance, involvement, and individual achievements, to name a few.

They are pleased to be using our facility and would like to become more involved with Zion's members and our activities. They are more than willing to help our congregation with any chores or projects that we think of. They even mentioned kitchen clean-up! So, if you are on a committee or working on a project and you need some helping hands, keep these young boys in mind. It's especially an excellent opportunity for any of these youth who are not connected to a church to become closer to one. Also, if anyone is interested in becoming a liaison between Zion and the Scouts, please let Pastor Keith or myself know. It would not require a lot of time or energy.

Scout Sunday is coming up the first part of February and they would like to be a part of our service. Be watching for them!

Roxanne Bowdin, Council President

An Epiphany Retreat

Transfiguration, "Seeing with the Eyes of the Heart" Epiphany Retreat will be held on Friday and Saturday, February 13 & 14. This retreat will be held at the Norbertine Center for Spirituality at St. Norbert Abbey in DePere, Wisconsin. It is an overnight retreat in the sacred space of St. Norbert Abbey. A place and time apart to see our lives, the world and God through scripture and the poetry of Mary Laver and Wendell Berry. There will be ample time for solitude and silence, brief presentations and conversation, all of it aimed at cultivating the capacity to see more truly and more truly see with the eyes of the spiritual heart. In the lobby of Zion you will find a brochure that includes the registration form. The cost is \$75.00 and includes fees, a night's lodging, and two meals. For more information contact: Pr. Lee Goodwin at 715.938.2443 or jleegoodwin@gmail.com.

Souper Bowl Challenge

January through February 1st the ELCA congregations of the Menominee Valley Conference are challenging one another as to who can contribute the most cans of food and paper goods for our local needy. Pastor thought that Zion was more than up to the challenge. Start planning today what you will contribute! All donations will go to support the ministry of NEWCAP.



Stewardship Corner

The Stewardship Committee has a Mission Statement which reads as follows:

The goal of our stewardship ministry is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances God has entrusted to them.

How has Zion's membership stacked up? Were we able to sponsor meaningful programs for youth and adults that helped our faith grow? Were we able to share the love of God with those not only inside Zion's walls but outside as well?

Is there actually some method by which we can measure the congregation's relationship with Jesus? I'd like to say absolutely, but then again, can another's relationship with Jesus Christ truly be measured?

Certainly, we can look at worship attendance and monetary contributions; we can evaluate the congregation's participation in programs and on committees and council, in special congregational events, and special fund drives. All of these things help us evaluate that relationship between the congregation and Christ. Each of these can also provide us, as individuals, a better understanding of where Christ fits into our personal lives.

One of the primary ways the Stewardship Committee is able to measure the congregation's relationship with Jesus Christ is to evaluate the participation in and the effectiveness of the Annual Stewardship Campaign. So, what was the congregation's response? Let's take a look at the 2015 response versus that in 2014.

In 2015, 74 households pledged versus 79 in 2014; however, the amount pledged in 2015 was almost \$5,500 higher than in 2014. In 2015, the average pledge amounted to \$1,856 while it was only \$1,669 in 2014. But, here's the amazing part, at least for me, 40 households increased their pledge in 2015 versus only 19 in 2014.

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Stewardship Corner

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Why was there such a significant jump in the number of household pledges? Perhaps it had something to do with the fact that the Committee's emphasis changed to tithing and percentage giving. I know I was very surprised to learn that in 2014, 204 individuals provided absolutely no weekly funding toward the support of the congregation. 49 members provided 1 cent to \$4.99 per week, while 46 members provided \$5 to \$19.99 per week.

So, how *has* Zion's membership stacked up? I'd say we've done reasonably well. For a lot of us, we have a ways to go, especially toward the tithe, but faith isn't usually built overnight - it is a process. It requires a deep and abiding trust in God to provide. We take a step in faith when we fill out that pledge card, and we leap further when we grow a percentage in giving. As they say at Fortune Lake, "God is good all the time; all the time God is good." He loves us beyond measure, and he will provide.

We look forward to what 2015 will bring to us as individuals and to the congregation as a whole.

May God richly bless you.

Karen Sylvester



FLLC Celebrates 85 Years

2015 marks the 85th anniversary of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp. The year will feature special activities and commemorative events that reflect our theme, "Driving Faith Forward." A festive celebration will take place on Sunday afternoon, June 7, 2015, and all are welcome. The celebration will feature the 2nd Fortune Lake 500 Parade of Vehicles, camp tours, worship with special music, dedication of the new pavilion, and a Croatian chicken dinner.

The Fortune Lake 500 Parade of Vehicles was inspired by old photos that displayed hundreds of cars parked outside the chapel for conferences at FLLC in the 1930s and 40s. The name Fortune Lake 500 holds more than one meaning. First, the event takes place one week after the famed Indy 500 race. Second, each vehicle (classic cars are encouraged, but anything on wheels is welcome) is sponsored by a gift of \$500.00. Individuals, groups, or entire congregations can pool resources to sponsor one or more vehicles. As a prelude to the anniversary worship service on June 7, the vehicles will parade around the perimeter of camp.

The goal of the Fortune Lake 500 Parade and anniversary celebration is to raise \$85,000, (to reflect FLLC's 85 years of ministry), which will be used to replace the deteriorating tents in Vagabond land with unique, custom-built tree houses! When Jesus called Zacchaeus down from a tree, Zacchaeus' life changed dramatically. Similarly, future campers at FLLC will be called from their tree houses to meet Christ and spread the gospel!

In preparation for the 85th anniversary celebration, FLLC staff alumni have already united and raised over \$20,000 to build a new, larger, handicap accessible pavilion. The pavilion was built this past fall, and will be dedicated at the anniversary celebration on June 7th.

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FLLC Celebrates 85 Years

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Staff alumni are also encouraged to attend the All-Staff Reunion, which will begin Friday, June 5 and conclude Sunday, June 7 with the anniversary celebration. Alumni, along with their families, are welcome to attend all or part of the reunion.

Registration for the All-Staff reunion and Fortune Lake 500 Parade will be available at www.fortunelake.org in February. You may contact the camp for Croatian Dinner tickets by calling 906.875.3697.



VOLUNTEERS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2015

Sunday, January 4, 2015

Acolyte: James Jagielski Lector: Colleen Madden
Greeter: Jane Landenberger Head Usher: Bill Tipple
Communion Assistants: Kathy Heimbuch (Pouring),
Jacki Renne & Bill Tipple (Distributing the Host)
AV Team: Jonah Zuehls & Cheryl Maxwell

Sunday, January 11, 2015

Acolyte: Bradley Mech Lector: Ellice DeBenedetto
Greeters: Belinda Dufek and Dan Lemire
Head Usher: Pat Rondeau
Communion Assistant: Karen Kolstad
AV Team: Troy Cording and James Martin

Sunday, January 18, 2015

Acolyte: Sam Albert Lector: Karen Dill
Greeters: Dave & Lori Despins Head Usher: Michelle Larson
Communion Assistants: Pat Rondeau (Pouring),
Roxy Bowdin & Pastor George Olson (Distributing the Host)
AV Team: Sarge Rudell & Kathy Heimbuch

Sunday, January 25, 2015

Acolyte: Samuel Gressel Lector: Julie Otto
Greeter: Sue Baxter Head Usher: Don & Julie Otto
Communion Assistant: Jacki Renne
AV Team: Jonah Zuehls & Kathy Heimbuch

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY 2015

January 2

Debra Harding

January 3

Tyler Brooks
David Francour

January 4

Mary Hayward

January 5

Adison Rosenfeldt
Daniel Zuehls

January 6

Sarah Pecard

January 8

Rhonda Bromund

January 10

Johanna Zuehls

January 13

Oliver Swenson

January 15

Paige Dugre
Marilyn Gould
Dianne Slack
Bethany Wolf

January 17

Maryellen Radloff

January 18

Regina Boucher

January 20

Kathy Heimbuch

January 21

Sharon Powilaite
Drake Schutt

January 22

Shawn Limberg

January 23

Willow Williams

January 24

Pam Lund
Tatem Schroeder

January 25

Bev DeGroot

January 26

Colleen Madden

January 27

Ralph Anderson

January 30

Shirley Kaufman



January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Office Closed New Year's Day	2	3
4 9:30 am Worship 5 pm Service of Reflection	5 12pm Kiwanis 5-6:30pm Kiwanis 5:30 pm Sarah Group Christmas Party at the Landina	6 10:30 am Bible Study at St. James	7 6-7pm SPARK, Bible Study, Confirmation	8 6pm Worship at Luther Home	9	10
11 9:30 am Worship 5 pm Service of Reflection 6pm Cub Scout Parent Meeting	12 12pm Kiwanis 10:30-11:30am Evangelism Com. 6:30-8pm Lay School at Bethel Lutheran	13 9-11:30am Sew-for-Missions 10:30am Bible Study 6:30 pm Council	14 6-7pm SPARK, Bible Study, Confirmation	15 6pm Worship at Luther Home	16	17
18 9:30am Worship Endowment Fund meeting to follow 5pm Service of Reflection	19 12pm Kiwanis 6:30-8pm Adult Bible Study 6:30-8pm Lay School Bethel Lutheran	20 10:30am Bible Study at St. James Lutheran	21 6-7pm SPARK, Bible Study, Confirmation 7:10pm Choir	22 6pm Worship at Luther Home	23	24
25 9:30am Worship Annual Meeting 5pm Service of Reflection	26 12pm Kiwanis 6pm Cub Scout Pack 6:30-8pm Lay School At Bethel Lutheran 7pm Sarah Group	27 9-11:30am Sew-for-Missions 10:30am Bible Study at St. James	28 6-7pm SPARK, Bible Study, Confirmation 7:10pm Choir	29 6pm Worship at Luther Home	30	31
			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Pastor Continuing Education January 28, 29 & 30. </div>			