



Zion Lutheran Church

2714 James Street

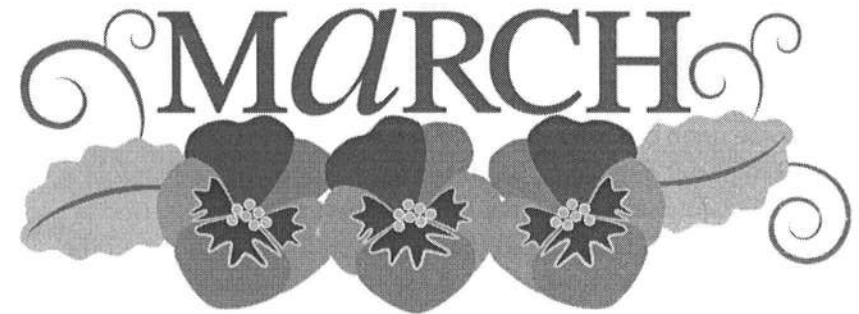
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**ZION
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2017

Ash Wednesday

Worship

March 1 at

10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

The Seven
Marks of
Discipleship

✠Pray

✠Worship

✠Study

✠Invite

✠Encourage

✠Give

✠Serve

Our Discipleship Together

From Ashes to Greater Simplicity

God surrounds us absolutely and continually. The grace of God is in the air that we breathe and the love that we share. The holiness of life permeates every moment, and yet we remain blind to this holiness most of our lives. The fact that we get occasional glimpse of this holiness and its intent to bless us and the world is something that we give our most heartfelt thanks for, but, indeed, it is rare. Most of our lives we embrace blinders to this profound goodness, love, and holiness.

On Ash Wednesday, the beginning of our Lenten journey, we name the blinders in our lives and pray for their removal. In a way, we ask for them to be burned up, and then we smear those ashes of remorse upon our foreheads, the place where the cross of Christ was marked at our baptisms. We smear them there, in the shape of a cross, because we know what God did through the cross. God forgives us and grants us new life. This new life springs out of the ashes. In faith, we hunger for and embrace this new life.

This Lenten season, many of us will be reading the book, Freedom of Simplicity, by Richard J. Foster and we will be gathering to discuss it on Sunday mornings after worship or at St. James Lutheran on Tuesday mornings. I pray that this reading will be a tool, used by the Lord, to create a new life free of just a few of the blinders that we so readily embrace. Indeed, this book will name many of those blinders! Certainly, the expectation is not perfection, but simply taking a few more intentional steps in the right direction so that we can savor life's holiness a little more often than we do now. I look forward to taking this journey with many of you, and I pray that if you have not done so already, please consider this journey for yourself.

With you in Christ.

Pastor Keith

Lenten Book Reading: Freedom of Simplicity

Starting Sunday, March 5, following worship, a series of five conversations will be held focusing on the book, "Freedom of Simplicity," by Richard Foster. Two chapters will be covered each week. Audio, Kindle and paper versions of the book are available. Pastor has some books for sale for \$11.00 if you are interested. See the sign-up sheet on the kiosk to reserve a book, and note your intent for a group you might be a part of. (You will want to start reading before the first gathering because we will discuss the first two chapters!)

Pastor Keith said, "I wish I would have read this book at the beginning of my sabbatical! My hope was to delve deeper into the spiritual aspects decluttering and simplicity. This book is would have been a good guide for my journey."

On the back of the book it says: "Simplicity is not merely a matter of having less stress and more leisure. It is rather an essential spiritual discipline that we must practice for the health of the soul."

A Tuesday morning discussion group will also be available during Lent, and will be held at St. James starting at 10:30. Pastor Keith will be leading that discussion as well.

Our Midweek Lenten worship series is also entitled "Freedom of Simplicity," therefore reading this book will support your reflections at those services.

Consider making growth in simplicity a part of your Lenten discipline this year.

Midweek Lenten Worship: Freedom of Simplicity

On Wednesday evenings, starting at 6:00, we will hold a series of five worship services focusing on this theme of "Freedom of Simplicity." The services will be a half hour in length and will be held one of the three ELCA congregations in Marinette: Zion, St. James and Our Savior's.

The first two will be held at Zion, beginning on Wednesday, March 8. The next two will be held at Our Savior's. The final one will be held at St. James. The preachers for each week will be:

March 8:	Deacon Darrel Diers
March 15:	Pastor George Olson
March 22:	Pastor Jim Wendt
March 29:	Pastor Keith Kolstad
April 5:	Pastor Craig Mansur

The messages of these services will not be dependent upon you reading the book by Richard J. Foster bearing the same title as our theme, but reading the book will certainly enhance your worship experience.



It is no secret that the age we live in is far from being simple and that there is much that surrounds us which demands our attention away from what is essential. Our hope is that this Lenten season, and these worship services in particular, will be a means for creating a little more simplicity, and with it, a savoring of the holiness in life that surrounds us.

Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers

Preceding each of our Midweek Lenten Services, we will hold a soup supper. These soup suppers will be held at the three ELCA congregations in Marinette. They will take place on Wednesday evenings starting on March 8, and they begin at 5:15. The schedule is:

March 8:	Zion
March 15:	Zion
March 22:	Our Savior's
March 29:	Our Savior's
April 5:	St. James

Following the soup supper there will be a half hour worship service.



Zion's first soup supper will feature potato soup with ham, carrots, celery and onion, and beef vegetable soup made with seven vegetables. These two soups will be made by Schloegels.

Zion's second soup supper will feature chicken noodle soup made by Nora Plym, and chili made by Judy Limberg and Ann Buscher.

Fresh bread, crackers, dessert and beverages will also be available at these two meals. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to bake, donate items, or work in the kitchen. Those who volunteered in whatever capacity will be getting a reminder phone call or email.

Soup Suppers are a great way to invite your friends, neighbors, relatives, co-workers or associates to join you for fellowship and worship. Consider today who you might invite!

Sign up NOW for Summer Camp _____

Greetings from Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp! While the snow is still falling, we are planning for spring and summer.

Registration is now open for Summer 2017. Early bird registration goes until April 1 (\$25 discount). If you register before March 1, you also receive a free t-Shirt in addition to the discount. Some programs filled up last year, so we encourage people to register early. Also, included is the church scholarship form. Registration can be done on-line by going to Fortunelake.org. Zion provides a 50% scholarship for first time campers and a 25% scholarship for returning campers. If there is a need, more is available. Please discuss this with pastor.

Scholarship forms for non-members are available in the lobby. Invite a neighbor or friend to enjoy our camp for free!

Please let us know if you have any questions or if we can be helpful in any way!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Tracy Polzin, the Fortune Lake Lutheran Staff, and
Pastor Keith Kolstad

Council Summary for the Month of February _____

The Church Council met on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 - 6:30 p.m.

Pastor's Report

January Attendance: '17 - 106, '16 - 113, '15 - 97, '14 - 107, '13 - 127, '12 - 117

- Attended a Synod Council Dinner at Northland Lutheran and then, afterwards, hosted a reception for the Synod Council and local clergy at our home on January 27th.
- Attended Midwinter Convocation at Luther Seminary February 1-3rd.
- On February 18th, Pastor will be attending the ELCA Office of Research and Evaluation Team interview at United Lutheran Church, Crystal Falls along with Troy Cording, Lori Despina and Roxanne Bowdin.
- On February 19th, Pastor will be attending the Annual Meeting of Northland Lutheran Retirement Community as well as the Synod Professional Leaders Event at Fortune Lake on February 19th - 20th.
- Kiwanis Kapers will be April 28-30th.

January Financial Reports

- The General Fund balance increased from \$64 from \$8,586 to \$8,650 for the month. Large disbursement for the month was \$2,686 for the final payment on the multi-peril insurance policy.
- Capital Improvement Fund increased \$846 from \$31,579 to \$32,425 for the month, transactions were donations of \$25, interest of \$7 and January transfer from General Fund of \$814.
- There were no receipts for the carpet replacement project. As of January 31, the Capital Improvement Fund had \$500 and the Memorial Fund had \$1,036 designated for this project.
- Zion Member Camper Fund balance increased \$2,361 from \$3,212 to \$5,573 due to restricted donations received for campers and interest of \$6.

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Council Summary for the Month of February_____

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- The Sabbatical Fund received funding of \$67 from the General Fund. 2017 funding is budgeted to be \$800 or approximately \$67 per month.
- The Helping Hand Fund balance increased \$1,415 from \$1,390 to \$2,805.

Committee Reports

- **Fellowship Committee:** A very special project is taking place with our Spark children. The Fellowship Committee is asking Congregation Members to come into the Spark classrooms to introduce themselves to the children and read the lesson of the evening.
- **Property:** *Mark Swenson +Serve*
The sign in the front needs and will be painted. Looking for a date for our Spring cleanup. The bi-fold doors in the cry room will be hung soon.
- **Carpet Committee:** Still in the process of sorting out questions and getting answers. They have looked at carpet styles – looking to narrow it down to 3 different samples – and will be getting full size samples soon. A lot of discussion will take place before everything is chosen and the carpet is laid. Carpet task group members include: Chad Derby, Lori Despina, Mark Swenson, Barb Grom, Carol Johnson, Karen Kolstad, Kathy Heimbuch, Karen Sylvester. More to come from this committee/task group.
- **Worship and Music:** A Dixieland band called Resurrection Afterglow will play during the Sunday February 26th service at Zion. The idea of people tweeting during our worship service is exciting! Our Twitter account is @zionmarinette Zion will host the first two soup suppers on March 8th and March 15th. Ash Wednesday is March 1st with services at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at Zion.

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Council Summary for the Month of February_____

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- Palm Sunday is April 9th with our Contemporary Band. Maundy Thursday is April 13th, services at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Zion will host the Community Good Friday services from 12noon til 3 p.m. We will begin to play a recording at the start of service in place of the Prelude as we learn new pieces of a new liturgy, starting in April.

New Business

- Accept the bid of \$4625.00 from Dewitt Church Goods, Inc. and authorize John Radloff to make the down payment \$1387.50 to secure the date of August 2017 for the carpet project here at Zion.

Our next meeting will be held on **March 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.**

Jolly Times_____

In February, we advertised our game day in the EagleHerald and had a couple inquiries. One person in particular was interested in playing Sheepshead, but I could not guarantee that we would be playing it every time we meet. We would like the group to grow so we can play more games. In February, we played Pinochle, Sheepshead, and Mexican Train Dominoes. Only six more times to join us to play before we adjourn for the summer. Please come and check us out on Thursday March 2 and 16 from 1:00 to 3:00 in Zion's Family room for a Jolly Time!
Sharon Powilaites 715-735-5577

Souper Bowl Challenge_____

Wow! What a wonderfully generous outpouring of food and other items! We collected a total of 2,095 items. Out of what was collected, 756 items went to help the work done in our school system with homeless children. The remaining 1,339 items went to NEWCAP. Last year we collected 1,449 items. Thank you so very much for your wonderful generosity!

Stewardship Corner

When Roxie asked me if I would be willing to do a piece for the Stewardship Corner, just to give Karen Sylvester a bit of a break, I said I would be glad to do that. Karen's articles have been well done—I won't try to compete. But Stewardship efforts have always interested me. I had the opportunity some years ago to participate in a Stewardship program which was led by a stewardship professional who was employed jointly by the Grand Canyon Synod and one of the California Synods.

The pastor, (I don't recall his name) started by asking us what we think of when we hear the word, "stewardship." One of the men spoke up with "The money we contribute to keep our church going." The pastor smiled and answered, "Yes, it can be that—or at least a part of it." Over the course of about three or four meetings (committee, church council, congregation) we were treated to an exciting explanation of what stewardship really is to those who follow Jesus.

When Zion's 2016 Stewardship effort was focused on the Seven Marks of Discipleship (can you name them all?), I almost shouted Hallelujah! Stewardship, after all, is how we live our lives as stewards of what has been given us to care for. This can be really exciting and make you feel that you have become a part of something that makes a difference in this messed up world we live in.

How are you doing with the pledges you made each week? For me, "**Worship**" was high on the list, and the thing that is a part of my life. "**Prayer**," also, was a welcome emphasis. You may have heard me say this before: I once read a book on prayer, entitled "Are you running with me, Jesus?" The author tells of how he concentrates on acknowledging Jesus at his side in everything he

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Stewardship Corner

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does during the day—beginning with running to catch the bus which takes him to work. I try to do that—since I'm alone a lot, it's just natural for me to talk to the Lord all the time. "Popcorn prayers" keep popping up. I'm sure you do that. "Now where did I put that letter? Help!" and a dozen little crises that take you through the day. The really big prayers call for a more set-aside time.

What I am trying to say is stewardship of life faces us daily. Yes, stewardship is giving, it is of the same piece as living. We "**Give**" when we smile or help someone (folks always open doors for me.) Think about the "**Encouraging**" part—what are the opportunities that you encounter each day. I'm trying to take an inventory of each thing. Right now, the "**Study**" part seems to be weakest. I do the daily questions online, but I'm not sure if I hit the mark. I am not able to "**Invite**" much, but in the past, my mate and I did a lot of that. My Sew-for-Missions fits into the "**Serve**" box.

Get creative—you will find it exciting to continue your journey as a child of God, a follower of Jesus. Each day is an opportunity to be a servant to others.

Something to think about. May God be with you, and, may you be with God.

Hilma Backman

Farewell

With much prayerful thought I have decided that I will be retiring as your Office Administrator at Zion on April 27, 2017.

This job and congregation has been a very important part of my life and I thank God for allowing me to serve you for the last 30 years. During my time at Zion I have had the great opportunity to work with two wonderful pastors, all but one of the interns, and many co-workers. Thank you to Pastor Keith for encouraging me to learn new things, assisting me through the learning process of the computer, and many other things. It has been great working with Pastor Keith for so many years, and having such a great friend. I can't begin to tell you how much I have enjoyed working with the many volunteers at Zion, co-workers, and the sweet Sew-for-Mission ladies. Also, I am truly grateful to Ann Buscher who has always helped me get the necessary information I needed to complete my work, helped during Pastor's Sabbaticals, and a good friend. It's unbelievable how many baptisms, weddings, funerals, etc. I have recorded. Also, to think I started out with typing the bulletin on a typewriter, to learning how to use a computer, numerous copy machines, and power point slides, etc. What a great learning experience for me keeping up with all the new technology through the years.

Zion has always been a second congregation to me, as I am a member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Marinette. I will always look back at Zion with fond memories, and hope to keep in touch with my many friends here. My husband and I are now looking forward to a new chapter in our life (retirees) and spending more time at our cottage. We are also looking forward to spending time with family, friends, and exploring new places together. We both are very thankful to God for allowing us to have had such great jobs. This will be a happy time for us, but sad time too. God has truly blessed us both. Thank you all for the many years here at Zion.

Your friend in Christ, Paula Vieth

Help Needed

If you volunteered to make bars for the Monday, March 6th River Cities Concert Association Concert I will send you a reminder. All bars must be in a disposable pan and cut.

Due to the fact the youth parents are working the soup supper that week I still need one adult to help serve at the concert. Please call me if you are available from 7:00 to 8:15 that evening. The concert will be held at Menominee Hight School. Please call me at 715.735.3017.

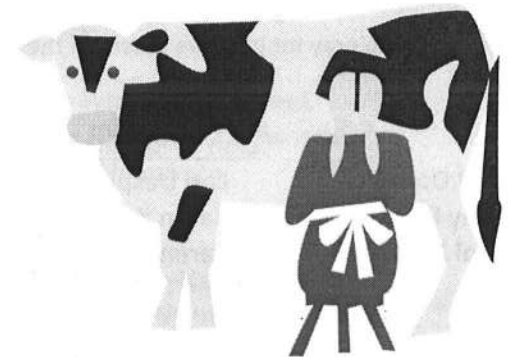
Ann Buscher

World Hunger Drive

Holy Cow! Have you herd? We are on the move to stomp out hunger! Joining with Congregations all over our Synod. This is our theme for our World Hunger Drive for this year. We will be collecting during the month of March. Please help us to stomp out World Hunger and watch the ceiling as dollars come in. Thank you for your support.

Social Ministry

Committee



Flooring Task Force Update

Discussion has taken place with representatives from H. J. Martin, and Dewitt Church Goods, Inc. We initially thought we knew what we were going to do. Instead we've found we had more questions than answers.

While some of those questions have now been answered, we feel God pulling us toward a bigger dream, resulting in still more questions. It all springs up out of this observation: "As long as we are ripping the place apart to replace the carpeting, wouldn't now be a good time to consider . . ." A number of items that have filled in those dotted lines, which include: A movable altar closer to the people, communion without stairs and/or kneeling, painting the walls, a more communal feel to the worship space, hearing aid enhancement, etc. Obviously, there are multiple considerations with each of these suggestions, and your task force will try to clarify and suggest directions ASAP.

Each of us on the task force wants to represent the members of the congregation to the best of our ability. Obviously, not everyone is going to be happy with the decisions that finally get made, but we want to be fair and sensitive to the majority. This won't be easy, but with prayer, we feel it can be done. Maybe God is planting a dream within us; a dream to create a closer community of Christ at worship and using the opportunity of updating our carpeting to bring that dream to fruition. Discernment of God's dreams takes place within community. We are mindful of this and desire to engage the community to the best of our ability.

All this will take a few months of prayer and earnest discussion, but, indeed, God is leading us.

We ask you to pray for us as we ascertain the best directions for Zion at this time.

Zion's Flooring Task Force

Chad Derby	Lori Despins	Barb Grom
Kathy Heimbuch	Karen Kolstad	Mark Swenson
Carol Johnson	Karen Sylvester	Pastor Keith

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

Wednesday, March 1 (Ash Wednesday)

Acolyte—Bethany Wolf **Lector—Sharon Powilaites**
Greeters—Jo & Don Schutt **Head Usher—Michelle Larson**
Communion Assistants—Kathy Heimbuch (Pouring),
Barb Grom & Sue Baxter (Pouring)

Sunday, March 5

Acolyte—Cassie Bauer **Lector—Karen Sylvester**
Greeter—Colleen Madden **Head Usher—Karen Sylvester**
Communion Assistants—Sharon Powilaites (Pouring),
Roxy Bowdin & Johann Zuehls (Distributing the Host)
AV Team—James Martin and Sarge Rudell

Sunday, March 12

Acolyte—Jonah Zuehls **Lector—Kathy Heimbuch**
Greeter—Jane Landenberger **Head Usher—Karen Sylvester**
Communion Assistant—Don Schutt
Coffee Time Sponsors—Jim, Robert, & Janet Cook, and
Michelle Larson and Jo & Don Schutt
AV Team—Chad Derby & Sharon Powilaites

Sunday, March 19

Acolyte—Gabriel Roth **Lector—Nora Plym**
Greeters—George & Nila Krenos
Head Usher—Michelle Larson
Communion Assistants—Karen Sylvester (Pouring),
Barb Grom & Sharon Powilaites (Distributing the Host)
AV Team—Jonah Zuehls & Kathy Heimbuch

Sunday, March 26

Acolyte—Matthew Swenson **Lector—Karen Sylvester**
Greeters—Lori & Dave Despins **Head Usher—Nora Plym**
Communion Assistant—Jacki Renne'
AV Team—Chad Derby and Gage Schutt

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN THE MONTH OF MARCH 2017

March 1

Charles Nord

March 2

Roberta Peterson
Gerald Sylvester
Gary Wesmer

March 4

Shirley Swenson

March 6

Michael Bretl
Diane Race
Troy Schutt

March 8

Julie Williams

March 9

Susan Goldsmith
Olivia Kuhn

March 10

James Gould

March 11

Cassie Bauer

March 15

Steve Hoheneder

March 17

Patricia Peterson

March 19

Ernest Brooks

March 22

Elsa Emler

March 26

Nathan Klein
Kurt Oleson

March 28

Tyler Race

March 29

Martha Aschim
Sarah Gaudes

March 30

Alexis Rosenfeldt

March 31

Shirley Lueskow



Happy
Birthday

March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10 am Ash Wednesday 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Worship	2 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	3	4
5 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Book Study "Freedom of Simplicity"	6 6:15 – 7:15 pm Brownie Troop 4406 6:30pm Bible Study For adult w/special needs	7 10:30 am "Freedom of Simplicity" at St. James	8 5:15 pm Soup Supper at Zion 6 pm Worship, SPARK 6:45pm Choir Rehearsal	9 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	10	11
12 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Book Study "Freedom of Simplicity"	13 6 pm Flooring Task Force	14 9-11:30 am Sew- for-Missions 10:30 am "Freedom of Simplicity" at St. James 6:30 pm Council	15 5:15 pm Soup Supper at Zion 6 pm Worship & SPARK 6:45 pm Choir Reh.	16 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	17	18
19 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Book Study "Freedom of Simplicity"	20 6:30 pm Ecumenical Bible study for adult w/special needs.	21 10:30 am "Freedom of Simplicity" at St. James	22 5:15 pm Soup Supper at Zion 6 pm Worship & SPARK 6:45 pm Choir Reh.	23 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	24	25
26 (Pastor Mansur) 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Book Study "Freedom of Simplicity"	27 6:15 – 7:15 p.m. Brownie Troop 4406	28 9-11:30 am Sew- for-Missions 10:30 am "Freedom of Simplicity" at St. James	29 5:15 pm Soup Supper at Zion 6 pm Worship, SPARK 6:45pm Choir Rehearsal	30 April Newsletter 6 pm Worship at Northland Village	31	