



**Zion Lutheran Church**

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# **ZION E W S**



**2017**

The Seven  
Marks of  
Discipleship

✠Pray

✠Worship

✠Study

✠Invite

✠Encourage

✠Give

✠Serve

## Our Discipleship Together

### The Wounds

*See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands;*  
Isaiah 49:16

The wounds were not visible to the disciples who were on the road to Emmaus, but they were visible to the disciples who gathered in that locked upper room. In fact, it seems important to Jesus to show them his hands and feet and the wound in his side. Why carry those wounds into the resurrection?

Could it be that they are an important part of the story, the permanent story, of what God in Christ has done? Could it be that they show the depth and power of God's love for humanity? Could it be they show how the crucifixion left its mark upon God, that it permanently changed God, that God will not pretend that it didn't happen so that we don't need to either. These wounds acknowledge the death in the midst of resurrected life.

True love does not avoid or ignore the icky stuff. It does not pretend that it doesn't exist, but does the work of love despite the icky stuff. We know that in our own relationships. How moving it is when people can still love us at our worst. How powerful it is when we love others at their worst. Now, multiply that times God. That's why the wounds were still there. They declare that God loves us when we are at our worst, that God will not run away from us, nor demand that we "get our act together" before inviting us to come near. God jumps the gap, and the wounds are the sign of that jump.

At the time of Isaiah, long before Jesus was born, God told the people of Israel how important they were, that God inscribed them on God's hands, making a permanent mark on those holy hands. At Easter, we see nail marks on those hands, and offer our most heartfelt gratitude for the love coming from those hands and the heart that they are connected to.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!!!

*Pastor Keith*

## Council Summary for the Month of April \_\_\_\_\_ April 11, 2017

### Pastor's Report

- March Attendance: '17 - 95, '16 - 147, '15 - 97, '14 - 107, '13 - 127, '12 - 117
- Pastor Keith is a candidate for Bishop of the ELCA Northern Great Lakes Synod. The voting for a new Bishop will be held at the Synod Assembly in May and the position would begin on September 1st.
- Kiwanis Kapers: April 28-30
- 2017 Vacations: May 11-16, June 18-24, Sept 1-4, Sept. 22 -26, November 14-20

### March Financial Reports

- The General Fund fund balance increased \$2,390 from \$8,650 to \$11,040 for the month. There were no large or unusual disbursements for the month.
- Capital Improvement Fund decreased \$477 from \$32,425 to \$31,947 for the month; transactions were donations of \$215, interest of \$8, February transfer from General Fund of \$687, and a down payment of \$1,388 to DeWitt Church Goods.
- There were no receipts for the carpet replacement project. As of February 28, the Capital Improvement Fund had no dollars and the Memorial Fund had \$1,036 designated for this project. The payment to DeWitt was treated as using the designated funds of \$500 that had been in the Capital Improvement Fund as of January 31st.
- Zion Member Camper Fund balance increased \$17 from \$5,573 to \$5,590 due to interest of \$17. Community Camper Fund increased \$305 from \$1,862 to \$2,167.

... (continued)

## Council Summary for the Month of April \_\_\_\_\_

(continued)

- The Sabbatical Fund received funding of \$67 from the General Fund. 2017 funding is budgeted to be \$800 or approximately \$67 per month. Current fund balance is \$744.
- The Helping Hand Fund balance increased \$196 from \$2,805 to \$3,001.

### Committee Reports and Assignments

- **Fellowship:** The Church luncheon for Paula's Retirement is scheduled for Sunday, April 23rd after worship.
- **Property:** The push and riding lawn mowers are tuned-up and ready to go. The snow blower will be serviced later. May 6th 8 a.m. - 12 noon for spring cleanup and May 20th as an alternate for spring cleanup. The Cub Scouts and Brownies will be there to help. Tasks include raking, picking up sticks, washing windows, sweeping gravel and general yard work.
- **Carpet Committee:** Carpet task force members: Chad Derby, Lori Despina, Mark Swenson, Barb Grom, Carol Johnson, Karen Kolstad, Kathy Heimbuch, Karen Sylvester.
- Since no consensus has been reached regarding the carpeting project, the committee stepped back and had a discussion meeting one Saturday. This group looked at areas to be carpeted, at the outside of the building and at the entrance-way to get a better feel for the building.
- **Personnel:** Melissa Gannigan will be Zion's new Administrative Assistant starting on May 1st.

**Next Meeting:** May 9th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Dear Members of Zion,

My experience serving Zion as your Administrative Assistant is something I will always remember and cherish. During those past 30 years, I have met so many great people, served under two pastors, and have had so many awesome volunteers from Zion to work with me. Working with the interns we had during those years was such a great learning experience for me and I enjoyed working with each one of them.

Thank you for the awesome retirement party, great food, cake, decorations, and flowers. Thank you to all the members who helped put this together and furnished all that delicious food. I was so honored to receive the picture with the very meaningful Bible verse, and the gift card. Pastor Keith did a great job on recaptioning the 18 years that we worked together. He put so much thought into preparing that for me and I appreciated it so much.

I am now looking forward to a new phase in my life as a retiree. My husband and I are looking forward to spending time with family, friends, traveling and relaxing at our cottage.

God bless you all.

Paula Vieth



## Spring Clean-up

Zion will be holding a spring clean-up on Saturday, May 6, from 8:00 to 12:00 noon. We've got lots of projects from raking, to replanting torn up sod, parking lot clean up, gathering sticks and twigs, etc. Please bring work gloves, rakes, brooms, etc., and when you arrive, you will be given a project. There will be time for the all-important coffee break!! It is a great opportunity to get the whole family involved. Many hands make lighter work as well as a huge difference. If it is raining on May 6, May 20 has been set a backup date.

## Welcome Melissa Gannigan!!

On Monday, May 1, Melissa Gannigan will begin work as our new Office Administrator. She lives in Coleman with her husband, Gup, and their two children, Beth and Thomas. She is a member of First American Lutheran Church in Oconto and has served as served as President of the Congregation Council for two years. She has also volunteered as Treasurer as well as on the Auditing Committee. She states that she's looking forward to sharing with us insights that she has gained from her congregation, and vice versa.

Feel free to stop by and introduce yourself to Melissa. She's looking forward to meeting you and helping our congregation engage in the mission that we have been called to do together.

# New



# Office Hours

When Melissa Gannigan starts on Monday, May 1, Zion will have new office hours. They will be Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. She will be working five additional hours during the week, usually in the afternoons, but those times are likely to change from week to week. If you need to reach Melissa in the afternoon, please be sure to call her in the morning to set something up. Pastor Keith is also available in the afternoons. Again, call to make sure someone will be present if needed. Zion's office number is: 715.735.7898.

## Answer the Call Sunday

May 7, 2017—Offering for Our Future Pastors!

St. Paul writes to Timothy, *"I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort, be unfailing in patience and in teaching."* -2Timothy 4:1-2

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its predecessor church bodies have a long history of theological education for pastors and other rostered persons who serve this church in ministries of Word and Sacrament. Your synod is asking you to share a financial gift with our synod seminarians.

Seminary education costs continue to increase with tuition, books, room and board expenses not totaling about \$30,000 per year of the three-year Masters of Divinity program in our seminaries. The average debt load of a new pastor graduating in 2017 with debt from our seminaries (70% of all graduates) and beginning her or his ministry will exceed \$40,000.

The need for pastors within the ELCA is growing. As you can well imagine, there are many hurdles to undergo before becoming ordained. Our hope within the Northern Great Lakes Synod is to make the financial hurdle as small as possible. With your help, that can happen!

Loose offerings and special designated offerings collected on Sunday, May 7, will go towards this Synod-wide drive. Please be sure to clearly mark your gifts so that our Financial Secretary is aware of your intentions. Thank you for your generosity towards this important mission within our church.



Members of Senegal Lutheran Development Services gather in front of a health hut in rural Khol Khol, Senegal. Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support this and many other ministries that are creating long-term, sustainable impact in the U.S. and in more than 60 countries around the world.



**ELCA World Hunger**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.

## **JOLLY TIMES GAME DAY**

We had 11 game players this month -- enough to play three different games. Yay! Games played were Mexican Train, Dominoes, Pinochle, and Hand & Foot. Plus, we had birthday treats! Play dates in May are the 4th and 18th in Zion's Family Room from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. We'll then adjourn for the summer to play outdoors. Come and see what you've been missing! The more, the merrier!

Sharon 715-735-5577

## **Graduation Sunday**

The members of Zion want to honor the High School Graduates on Sunday, May 21st during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. A reception/coffee time will follow the service.

## **Wednesday Night Worship & SPARK**

The Wednesday evening worship services and SPARK will be concluding on Wednesday, May 17th, and will resume again in the fall. Also the SPARK kids will be singing at the 9:30 a.m. worship service on May 7th.

## **NEWCAP Donations**

Our NEWCAP collection theme during the month of MAY is canned fruits and vegetables. We are collecting non-perishable items. Your donations will be given to the NEWCAP local food pantry.

## VOLUNTEERS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY \_\_\_\_\_

### Sunday, May 7, 2017

Acolyte – Sydney Lund      Lector – Nora Plym  
 Greeters – Ed & Laura Rowe  
 Head Usher – Michelle Larson  
 Communion Assistants – Sharon Powilaites (Pouring),  
 Roxy Bowdin & Johanna Zuehls  
 (Distributing the Host)  
 AV Team – James Martin and Jonah Zuehls

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### Sunday, May 14, 2017

Acolyte – Matthew Swenson      Lector – Bryan Gutknecht  
 Greeter – Jane Landenberger  
 Head Usher – Jo & Don Schutt  
 Communion Assistant – Kathy Heimbuch  
 AV Team – Cheryl Maxwell & Sharon Powilaites

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### Sunday, May 21, 2017 (Graduation Sunday)

Acolyte – Tyler Lund      Lector – Pastor George Olson  
 Greeters – George & Nila Krenos      Head Usher – Nora Plym  
 Communion Assistant – Johanna Zuehls  
 AV Team – Chad Derby and Gage Schutt  
 Coffee Time Sponsors – Nora Plym & Friends

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### Sunday, May 28, 2017

Acolyte – Gage Schutt      Lector – Heidi Beland  
 Greeters – Laura Peanosky  
 Head Usher – Kenny & Nancy Sallee  
 Communion Assistant – Karen Sylvester  
 AV Team – Sarge Rudell and Kathy Heimbuch

## CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN THE MONTH OF MAY 2017

### May 3

Shirley Lebick

### May 5

Debra Strohl

### May 6

Jacob Buenning  
 Spencer Martin

### May 11

Lisa Knopik  
 Dennis Mullen  
 Aaron Trusty

### May 12

Ron Klein

### May 14

Vallery Krah

### May 15

Macy Bodam  
 Sam Gressel

### May 16

Ella Travis  
 Christ Weinrich

### May 19

Kirsten Andrist

### May 20

Millie Camp

### May 22

James Martin

### May 23

Mackenzie Andrist  
 Charlotte Bauer

### May 24

Robert Cook  
 Skyler Emler

### May 25

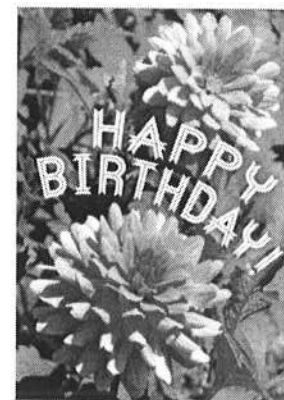
Aiden Bailey  
 Hannah Pecard  
 Kelly Pecard

### May 27

Irene Anderson  
 Michael Jagielski  
 Addison Minzalf

### May 28

Margaret Williams





*“Honor ... your  
mother, as  
the LORD  
your God  
has  
commanded  
you ....”*

*Deuteronomy 5:16*

**Happy  
Mother's  
Day!**



# May 2017

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday                                    |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|   | 1<br>12 Noon Kiwanis Club<br>6:30-8 pm Bible Class<br>for aduilst with special<br>needs.                | 2<br>10:30 am Catechism<br>Study at St. James<br>6:30 pm Mission<br>Endowment Meeting                     | 3 5:30 pm Worship<br>6-7 pm SPARK,<br>Confirmation,<br>Catechism Study<br>7 pm Choir Rehearsal                              | 4<br>1-3 pm Jolly Times<br>Game Day<br>6 pm Worship at<br>Northland Village  | 5   | 6<br>8 am to 12 noon<br>Spring Clean Up Day |
| 7<br>9:30 am Worship<br>SPARK Kids will be<br>singing                           | 8<br>12 Noon Kiwanis<br>Club<br>6:30 pm Flooring Task<br>Force Meeting<br>7 pm Cub Scous                | 9<br>9-11:30 am Sew-for-<br>Missions Group<br>10:30 am Catechism<br>Study at St. James<br>6:30 pm Council | 10<br>10:30 am Stewardship<br>meeting<br>5:30 pm Worship<br>6-7 pm SPARK, Conf.,<br>Catechism Study<br>7 pm Choir Rehearsal | 11<br>6 pm Worship at<br>Northland Village                                   | 12<br>Pastor Keith & Karen on<br>vacation May 11 - 16 | 13<br>Jake Kolstad<br>Wedding               |
| 14 Mother's Day<br>9:30 am Worship<br>Preaching –<br>Pastor Rick<br>DeBenedetto | 15 12 Noon Kiwanis<br>6 pm Bible Class for<br>adults with special<br>needs banquet.                     | 16<br>10:30 am Catechism<br>Study at St. James<br>Lutheran Church   | 17 (Final Session)<br>5:30 pm Worship<br>6-7 pm SPARK, Conf.,<br>Catechism Study<br>7 pm Choir Rehearsal                    | 18<br>1-3 pm Jolly Times<br>Game Day<br>6 pm Worship at<br>Northland Village | 19  | 20<br>Back-Up date for Spring<br>Clean-Up   |
| 21<br>9:30 am Worship<br>Graduation Sunday                                      | 22<br>12 Noon Kiwanis Club<br><div>May 21-23 Synod Assembly Convention in<br/>Marquette, Michigan</div> | 23<br>9 am – 11:30 am<br>Sew-for-Missions Group   | 24  | 25<br>6 pm Worship at<br>Northland Village                                   | 26  | 27  |
| 28<br>9:30 am Worship   | 29<br>Memorial Day<br>Office Closed!  | 30  | 31  |  |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |  |   |   |