

Zion Lutheran Church

Zion Newsletter

2018

January
Newsletter

From The Pastor

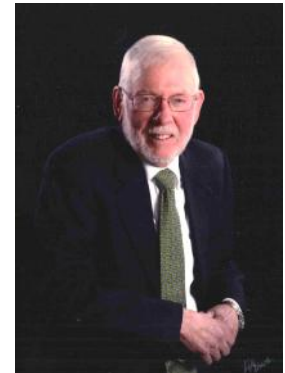
Recently, we again had Baptism birthday remembrance during worship for those whose baptism birthdays were celebrated during the past quarter. This is not only a wonderful way to remember one's Baptism, but also give thanks to God for all the blessings of Baptism. Remember what Luther writes about those blessings? He introduces this by asking a question: *"What does Baptism give or profit?"* It works forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this as the the words and promises of God declare. *What are such words and promises of God?* Christ our Lord, says in the last chapter of Mark: 'Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.'

The wonderful thing about Baptism is that it is God's work on us. Baptism is not our action, it is God's action as we read in **Acts 2:37-42; Romans 6:3-11, and Titus 3:4-7**. God's love goes into action taking what Christ earned for us by His suffering and death and resurrection, namely, forgiveness of sins, and washes away our sins in Baptism by the blessing of the Holy Spirit.

Thus in the **Nicene Creed**, third article, we say we believe that the Holy Spirit is the Lord and giver of life (the eternal life we receive in Baptism). We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, we acknowledge one Baptism for the remission (another work for forgiveness) of sins. We are apostolic because we believe Baptism is God's action as the apostles write in the New Testament, being inspired by the Holy Spirit (see the above Biblical references).

It is this we remember on Baptism Birthdays, and it is this we thank God for on Baptism Birthdays. During worship thn, we recognize those with Baptism birthdays in the past quarter, we remind ourselves of the meaning of our Baptism, and we pray for those who are celebrating their Baptism Birthdays, that God would bless them and keep them steadfast in their saving faith in Christ. So next time your Baptism birthday arrives, be sure to come to worship so that we can pray for you personally.

(If you don't remember your Baptism birthday, call the church office, we have most of them on file).



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Ladies Society

2018 Ladies' Society Executive Board Members

President—Sandi Chapman

President-elect—Joy Meyer

Secretary—Jackie Bakken

Treasure—Jodi Brown

Past President—Polly Hillman

Hannah Circle Chairpersons—

Alayna Rohne & Elaine Mucha

Martha Circle Chairpersons—

Nancy Golde & Linda Sash

Ruth Circle Chairpersons—

Lois Palmer & Donna Widenhoefer



The 2017 LWML new logo was adopted in June, 2017, at the National Convention. Women surveyed have shared these interpretations.

“The greatest of these is love. The drop reminds me of the washing away of our sins through Holy Baptism. The cross: Our God reigns!”

“The drop of Christ’s blood inside my mission heart. The cross standing boldly over my mission work alongside my LWML sisters in Christ.”

“I see the drop as the hole in each of our hearts that only Christ can fill.”

Hannah Circle
Jan. 2nd @ 9:30 am at Church
Hostess: Vicki Sanvik

Martha Circle
Jan. 2nd @ 1:00 pm at Nancy Golde’s Home
311 Meredith Road, Albert Lea

Ruth Circle
Jan. 2nd @ 7:00 pm at Elaine Nelson’s Home
1713 Plainview Lane, Albert Lea



Ladies Executive Board
Jan. 8th @ 3:30 pm Organizational
Jan. 29th @ 3:30 pm Regular Monthly

Check out the LWML Websites.
The National LWML Website: www.lwml.org
The LWML Minnesota South District Website:
www.lwml.mnslwml.org

Readings for January

Jan 7th—The Baptism of our Lord

Genesis 1:1–5

Psalm 29

Romans 6:1–11

Mark 1:4–11

Jan 21st—3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1–5, 10

Psalm 62

Mark 1:14–20

1 Corinthians 7:29–31

Jan 14th—2nd Sunday after Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1–10

Psalm 139:1–10

1 Corinthians 6:12–20

John 1:43–51

Jan 28th—4th Sunday after Epiphany

Mark 1:21–28

1 Corinthians 8:1–13

Psalm 111

Deuteronomy 18:15–20

Upcoming Events

January 21st - Annual Meeting and Potluck lunch

Do you shop at the same stores every week?

Do you like to give to missions?

We have found a great way to do both!

ShopWithScrip.com

It's as easy as 1..2..3!

- 1. You fill out the order form of which gift cards you would like to buy (over 700 stores) and write a check to Zion for that amount.**
- 2. Turn your order form into the Zion Office.**
- 3. Pick up your cards when they arrive at the office. (3-5 days)**

These are the same gift cards you see at the store. You're probably familiar with giving them as a gift, but you can use them on your own spending and earn.

How do we earn money from this?

Each store has a certain percentage that they will give back to us. On the order form you will see what each store will give. Zion will then pay for gift cards minus the percentage from each store. This is where the money we earn comes from. You are spending the same as you would if you bought directly from the store, only this way, Zion earns a percentage of it.

For example: you order a \$25 gift card from *Land's End*. You pay \$25 for the card. Since *Land's End* is giving 16% back, Zion only needs to pay \$21 therefore earning us \$4.

When do we get the cards?

The first order will take 3-5 days, just because we are starting out. The orders after that will be much shorter. Orders sent in on Monday will be here for you to pick up on Thursday or Sunday.

If you have any questions you can ask LeAnn in the office or call 373-8609.

The money earned will go toward Mission Central. Check out the bulletin board to see how much has been earned to give in just three orders!!

Just some of the stores listed on the order form!!

Herberger's	Cold Stone Creamery	SUBWAY®	Walgreens
Applebee's	Caribou Coffee	Shopko	Kwik Trip
Pizza Ranch	Dairy Queen	Walmart	Advance Auto Parts
Buffalo Wild Wings	Hardee's	GameStop	Amazon
Arby's	Papa Murphy's Pizza	Home Depot	Cabela's
Burger King	Pizza Hut	Lowe's	Dunham's Sports

Thoughts from an elder: by Dana Nelson
The “Divine Call”.

A few years have passed now during our pastoral vacancy at Zion. There have been about 12 Divine calls declined and an unsuccessful request for a seminary graduate. My following letter is filled with questions for us as a congregation to ponder, reflect, and pray on.

What does this mean? We don't know. Please don't be discouraged, as this is God's will for us. Maybe we as a congregation aren't ready yet to have a called Shepherd lead us? Might there be too much 'human' thought processes or involvement in this call? Are we as a congregation divided in who we think would be the best pastor for us at Zion? Should this divine call for a Pastor be determined by what occupation his wife may have? Should this divine call for a Pastor be determined if he has children, or what ages they may be? The Pastor that was left on our 'list' (with a child that is a senior in high school), accepted a call to a congregation. This enforces my thoughts that we should not let a Pastor's children (or wife) be a deciding factor when we make our vote for a called Pastor. The Pastor we recently called said he was 'open to a call' but then, after deliberation, declined.

We as elders (your call committee), have requested another list from our district that we may prayerfully consider and take time to narrow down the large list to about 6 names that will have background checks performed before we can set the next date for our congregational call meeting. Much time of research and prayer is spent before we present our congregation with this final list.

Nominations from the congregation can be submitted to LeAnn, Keith, or myself with a deadline of January 7th at noon.

Our 2018 annual meeting is January 21, following a noon potluck. The nomination list is being constructed by the committee, and if you haven't been asked by one of the members of the nominating committee and would like to help out in any capacity, please let one us know. Please plan to attend the meeting!

I pray that we at Zion open our hearts and minds to accept where our Lord leads us in our search and ultimately call of the next Shepherd for our congregation. We thank God for graciously providing a most wonderful vacancy Pastor Stohlmann. We pray that God's will be done.

Romans 12:9-13 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Hebrews 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

Zion Lutheran Church
924 Bridge Ave.
Albert Lea, MN 56007

JANUARY 2018

Phone: (507) 373-8609
www.zion4jesus.org
zion@zion4jesus.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 9:30 am Hannah Circle 1:00 pm Martha Circle 7:00 pm Ruth Circle 7:00 pm Elders' Meeting	3	4 6:45pm Mid-Week Service	5 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	6 <u>Epiphany</u> 9:00 a Flower and Altar Meeting
<u>The Baptism of Our Lord</u> 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	8 3:30 p Ladies Exe. Bd. Organizational Meeting	9 6:30 p Board of Ed. 6:30 p Board of Youth 6:45 p All Boards Meet 7:30 p Council Meeting	10 9am Quilters 6pm H2H / JAM	11 6:45pm Mid-Week Service	12 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	13
<u>2nd Sunday after Epiphany</u> 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	15	16	17 9am Quilters 6pm H2H / JAM	18 6:45pm Mid-Week Service	19 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	20
<u>3rd Sunday after Epiphany</u> 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship Noon Annual Meeting & Potluck	22	23	24 9am Quilters 6pm H2H / JAM	25 6:45pm Mid-Week Service	26 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	27
<u>4th Sunday after Epiphany</u> 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	29 3:30 p Ladies Exe. Bd. Meeting	30	31 9am Quilters 6pm H2H / JAM			

Sunday	1/7		1/14		1/21		1/28	
	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Acolyte:	Shania P	Samuel H	Landon S	Raven M	Travis O	Samuel H	Shania P	Raven M
A-V Team:	Roger P. Wayne P. Nancy G.	Darris D. James H.	Robin P. Fred R. Nancy G	James H. David K.	Robin P. Fred R. Wayne P	Darris D. James H.	Jim V. Nancy G	Darris D James H
Comm. Assist:	Wayne Prudoehl	Dean Johnson	Ron Timm	Tim K	Roger P	Bruce H	Jerry K	Jeff B
Elder:	Dana Nelsom	Glenn Houle	Dana N	Glenn H	Dana N	Glenn H	Dana N	Glenn H
Greeters:	Roger Panzer	Pam Doss	P & J Johnson	B & D Drescher	J & C Leininger	B & J Hayden	Darlene Nicolai	Bonnie Westbee
Lay Reader:	Helen Johnson	Dana Nelson	Ann Estes	Lois Palmer	Kelly Schultz	Cathy Studier	Helen Johnson	Chandra Whelan
Organist:	Angie Drescher		Angie Drescher		Angie Drescher		Angie Drescher	
Ushers:	Ron T. Jim V. Truman G. Dwight M.	Jeff B. Dana N.	Jim S. John D. Marv H. Fred R.	Natalie N. Dana N.	Bruce B. Orlo W. Loren A. Dwight M.	Dean J. Tim K.	Clint M Christiaan O Jock W Dwight M	Jeff B Dana N

Thursdays	1/4	1/11	1/18	1/25
A-V Team:	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes
Comm. Assist:	Kent Dollum	Kent Dollum	Kent Dollum	Kent Dollum
Elder:	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes

Financial Assistants
Bruce Hayden/Marie Hinkley Hod Bolinger
Flower & Altar
Arlene Murray Rebecca Dollum Natalie Nelson Gail Armstrong

Zion Lutheran Church
924 Bridge Ave.
Albert Lea, MN 56007

Phone: 507-373-8609

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Web: zion4jesus.org



*"Sowing the Good News
of Jesus Christ"*

January Newsletter 2018



*In Loving
Memory of...*

Ralph H. Springer

Carol C. Springer

