

Zion Newsletter

From The Pastor

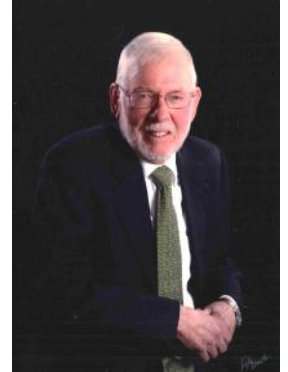
The season of Lent begins earlier this year than last year because Easter is early this year. Easter is Sunday, April 1st, and since the date of Easter determines when Lent begins, Ash Wednesday is February 14. Again this year we will have the first service on Ash Wednesday, but the rest of the Lenten services will be on Thursday at 7pm.

Lent is a period of 40 days, not counting Sundays, during which we take special time to worship our Lord and remember His suffering, death, and resurrection for us and our salvation. Our sermons during the midweek services will be different than on our Sunday services again. The midweek services will deal with the seven last words of Christ from the cross.

The value of Lent can be summarized in this way. It is a time spent in meditation and prayer privately, as well as coming together to worship our God who loves us so much, He was willing to suffer and die for us. We do this for forty days because it reminds us of the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness fasting and being tempted by the devil. He withstood those temptations with the Word of God and so the use of the Word of God is key to the proper observance of Lent. Won't you use this time to learn more from God's Word, whether in worship, Bible Class, or privately? He is Your God and Lord and Savior. Love Him with all your heart, soul and mind.

A word about fasting during Lent. Fasting can be done in a variety of ways, like abstaining from something specific in your life. Food is usually associated with fasting, but it could include not watching movies or certain programs on TV. Abstaining from certain foods could be another way of fasting. The object of fasting is self discipline. For proper fasting and its purpose, refer to Jesus' words in Matthew 6:16-18. In the first part of that section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus speaks about various pious practices.

2018 February Newsletter



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Ladies Society

The Zion Ladies will serve dessert & coffee Sun. Feb. 4th and Feb. 11th at 2:00pm in the dining rooms of St. Johns Lutheran Home.

The following organizations will be serving Lenten Suppers starting Wed. Feb. 14th, 5:30-6:30.

Youth—Ash Wed. Feb. 14th; Flower and Altar—Feb. 22nd; Ruth Circle—March 1st; Endowment comm.—March 8th; Hannah Circle—March 15th; Martha Circle—March 22nd.

Mite Boxes are used to collect money for mission projects selected by LWML delegates at district and international conventions. 25% of the **Mite** offering is sent to International LWML for mission projects and the remaining 75% is used for Minnesota South's mission projects.

On the first Sunday of every month all members of Zion will have an opportunity to participate in the **Mite** box offering. A **BIG Mite** box will be displayed and ready to receive offerings as Zion's members attend worship. You may empty your **Mite** box (if you have one) in the large box or contribute coins or bills as you have been blessed.

If your children like the idea of saving coins for missions, they may also use one of the children's **Mite** boxes available in the narthex.

If you like the idea of a **Mite** box and want ideas of how you might use it, you may want to place it wherever you can feed it; dressing table, office desk, laundry room, car, kitchen counter, etc. You **mite** want to give a **Mite** box to family members and friends. Return your filled **Mite** box to your Circle Treasurer, Ladies Society Treasurer, the Church Office, or the **BIG Mite** box.

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for giving me all that I have. Bless these Mites that I give back to you so that they can be used to spread the Good News of Jesus' love here and throughout the world. Amen.

Hannah Circle

Feb. 6th @ 9:30 am at Church

Hostess: Fern Vietze, Sandi Chapman



Martha Circle

Feb. 6th @ 1:00 pm at Nancy Golde's
311 Meredith Rd.

Ladies Executive Board

Feb. 26th @ 3:30pm

Ruth Circle

Feb. 6th @ 7:00 pm at Donna Widenhoefer's
1726 Crystal Drive

Check out the LWML Websites.

The National LWML Website: www.lwml.org

The LWML Minnesota South District Website:
www.lwml.mnslwml.org

Readings for February

February 4th—Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalms 147:1-11

1 Corinthians 9:16-27

Mark 1:29-39

February 11th—The Transfiguration of Our Lord

2 Kings 2:1-12 or Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 50:1-6

2 Corinthians 3:12-18; 4:1-6

Mark 9:2-9

February 18th—First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 22:1-18

Psalms 25:1-10

James 1:12-18

Mark 1:9-15

February 25th—Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalms 22:23-31

Romans 5:1-11

Mark 8:27-38

Upcoming Events

Feb. 14th — 5:30 pm Lenten Meal served by the Youth

6:45 pm Ash Wednesday Service

Feb. 22nd— 5:30 Lenten Meal served by Flower & Altar Committee

6:45 pm Lenten Service

March 1— 5:30 pm Lenten Meal served by Ruth Circle

6:45 pm Lenten Service


ZION LEADERSHIP BOARD 2018

President:	Jeff Brown	507.377.9651
Vice-President:	James Hedin	507.377.0608
Secretary:	Robin Pettit	507.236.1436
Treasure:	Wayne Prudoehl	507.377.1347
Board of Assimilation:	Natalie Nelson	507.448.3395
Board of Education:	Cathy Studier	507.383.6641
Board of Elders:	Dana Nelson – Head Elder	507.448.3395
	Glenn Houle (Aase – Carlin)	507.256.7571
	Christiaan Olivier (Chapman - Gardner)	507.450.4231
	Keith Kemkes (Gehring - Hausman)	507.256.4869
	Rick Ashling (Hayden - King)	507.377.9346
	Dana Nelson (Kirsch - Morkrid)	507.448.3395
	Dick Mucha (Morris - Rehmke)	507.373.3301
	Josh Whiting (Reicherts – Sorenson)	641.590.6277
	Roger Panzer (Sosebee - Walton)	507.373.1128
	Bill Morris (Wangen - Zenk)	507.373.0763
Board of Evangelism:	Elaine Mucha	507.373.3301
Board of Stewardship:	John Domes	507.373.4489
Board of Trustees:	David Overland	507.373.8428
Board of Youth:	Deb Viktora	507.402.1856
Endowment:	David Overland	507.373.8428
Ladies Society:	Sandi Chapman, President	507.373.6348
	Joy Meyer, Vice-President	507.402.2210
	Jackie Bakken, Secretary	507.845.2113
	Jodi Brown, Treasurer	507.377.9651
Hannah Circle:	Elaine Mucha & Alayna Rohne	373.3301 / 325.2419
Martha Circle:	Nancy Golde & Linda Sash	373.1800 / 377.1717
Ruth Circle:	Lois Palmer & Donna Widenhoefer	373.8909 / 373.8459

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

FEBRUARY 2018

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:45pm Mid-Week Service	2 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	3
<u>5th Sunday after Epiphany</u> 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	4 5	6 9:30 am Hannah Circle 1:00 pm Martha Circle 7:00 pm Ruth Circle 7:00 pm Elders' Meeting	7 9am Quilters 6pm H2H / JAM	8 6:45pm Mid-Week Service	9 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	10
<u>Transfiguration of Our Lord</u> 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	11 12	13 6:30 p Board of Ed. 6:30 p Board of Youth 6:45 p All Boards Meet 7:30 p Council Meeting	<u>Ash Wednesday</u> 14 9am Quilters 5:30pm Meal by Youth 6:45pm Ash Wed. Service	15 16 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	17	
<u>First Sunday in Lent</u> 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	18 19	20 21 9am Quilters 6pm H2H / JAM	22 23 5:30pm Meal by Flower & Altar Comm. 6:45pm Lenten Service	24		
<u>Second Sunday in Lent</u> 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	25 26 3:30 p Ladies Exe. Bd. Meeting	27 28 9am Quilters 6pm H2H / JAM				

Sunday	2/4		2/11		2/18		2/25	
	<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:	Landon S	Samuel H	Travis O.	Raven M	Shania P.	Samuel H	Landon S	Raven M
A-V Team:	Roger P. Wayne P. Nancy. G	James Hedin	Robin P. Fred R. Nancy G.	James H. David K.	Robin P. Brooks D. Roger P.	David K. James H.	Jim V. Brooks D. Wayne P.	James H. David K.
Comm. Assist:	Wayne P.	Dean J.	Jerry K.	Tim K.	Ron T.	Bruce H.	Roger P.	Jeff B.
Elder:	Rick A.	Dick M.	Rick A.	Dick M.	Rick A.	Dick M.	Rick A.	Dick M.
Greeters:	R & B Ashling	Hod Bolinger	B & A Drescher	B & P Bonfy	Linda Eggleston	Pam Doss	M & D Helgeson	B & D Drescher
Lay Reader:	Ann Estes	Dana Nelson	Kelly Schultz	Glenn Houle	Helen Johnson	Lois Palmer	Ann Estes	Cathy Studier
Organist:	Angie D.		Sylvia Z.		Angie D.		Angie D.	
Ushers:	Ron T. Jim V. Truman G. Dwight M.	Dean J. Dick M.	Jim S. John D. Marv H. Fred R.	Tim K. Dana N.	Bruce B. Orlo W. Jerry K. Dwight M.	Bonnie W. Natalie N.	Clint M Christiaan O Jock W Dwight M	Jeff B. Dana N.

Thursdays	2/1	2/8	2/14	2/22
A-V Team:	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes	Roger P Brooks D Nancy G	Jim V Roger P Wayne P
Comm. Assist:	Kent Dollum	Kent Dollum	Roger Panzer	Keith Kemkes
Elder:	Keith K.	Keith K.	Keith K.	Rick A.
Acolyte:			Shania P.	

Financial Assistants	
Kelly Schultz	
Bruce Hayden	
Flower & Altar	
Gayle Sternberg	
Sandi Chapman	

Bits & Pieces

Church Sign:
Forbidden Fruit makes many jams.

Scrip Cards are available all year long! The money earned will go to Mission Central. Just fill out a form, found on the "From the Office" bulletin board and turn it into the office along with your check. Orders are sent in on Monday and arrive on Thursday. If you have any questions ask LeAnn to tell you all about it.

Do you have any pictures you would like to see in the Zion Newsletter?

- Bring them by the Zion office so LeAnn can scan the picture.
- Email it to zion@zion4jesus.org
- Text it to LeAnn @ 507.383.3440

Just for KIDS

Bugs in the Bible

Whether at a picnic, on the beach or playing outdoors, it seems like we're always joined by uninvited guests - bugs! Bugs and other little creatures are mentioned in the Bible.

Fill in the blanks with the little creatures mentioned in each verse. Circle them in the puzzle below.

Proverbs 6:6 _____	Exodus 16:20 _____
Psalms 78:45 _____	1 Sam. 24:14 _____
Matt. 23:24 _____	Isaiah 50:9 _____
Judges 14:8 _____	Isaiah 59:5 _____
Acts 12:23 _____	Leviticus 11:22 _____
Leviticus 11:22 _____	Leviticus 11:22 _____
Leviticus 11:22 _____	
Deuteronomy 7:20 _____	

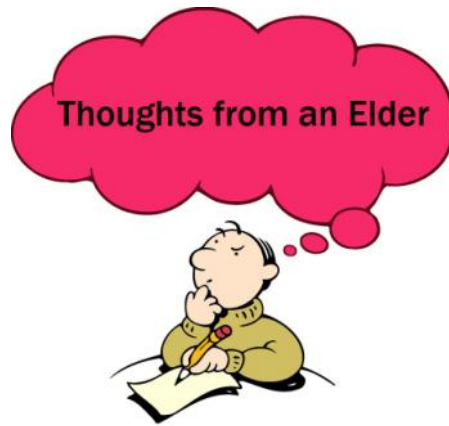
W O R D S

M O T H S G N A T B H
A N T A L L C H P E O
G R A S S H O P P E R
G F C R I C K E T S N
O L S P I D E R S B E
T E C L O C U S T D T
S A E F K A T Y D I D
G F L I E S W O R M S

Answer: ant, flies, gnat, bees, worms, locust, grasshopper, hornet, maggots, flea, moths, spider, katydid, cricket

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING SPECIAL IN YOUR LIFE GOING ON AND WANT TO SHARE IT WITH YOUR ZION FAMILY?

Write something up and submit it to the Zion Office for LeAnn to put into the newsletter.



By: Glenn Houle

As many may have noticed, Ash Wednesday is February 14th. Also known as Valentine's day – that day when couples of all ages express their affection for one another in various ways. So, the question before us, the children of God, is this: Is it possible to simultaneously observe the day of celebration of love with that of sacrifice and sorrow over sin?

Perhaps, thinking of Lent and Valentine's Day together, it would be possible for us to remember that love, true Godly love, requires willing and obedient sacrifice. And as we have been saved by the love of God the Father in Christ Jesus His Son, our lives ought to be characterized by that same kind of love.

Whatever it is that one chooses to give up and sacrifice for Lent, let it be done out of a heart filled with love; not out of a heart of begrudging duty. After all, as the called and chosen people of God we are commanded to live a life of Godly love. This is the kind of love that can and is only found in God Himself. This is that *agape* love that many of us so often hear about. This is the kind of love that gives and gives of itself, regardless of how the object of that affection acts or responds to it.

From cover to cover, the Bible oozes with God's unending, untiring, and unfailing sacrificial love to mankind. And ultimately, He lovingly made the greatest sacrifice of all by sending His Son Jesus to die on the cross. And, the price Jesus paid for my sin, for your sin, and the sin of all mankind, He did out of love.

Many of us know John 3:16. This Bible verse has been called "The Gospel in a nutshell. And, how true that is. But in his epistle, John is inspired by the Holy Spirit to write these words which help us understand why we, the children of God, can display this same sacrificial *agape* love: "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent His Son to be the perfect satisfaction and complete sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another...We love Him because He first loved us" (I John 4:10-11, 19).

So this year, may we all follow the example of our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ our Lord by willingly sacrifice and give of ourselves, no matter how much or how little, no matter the cost, for the sake of that true *agape* love in order that souls would be saved and the Kingdom of Heaven enriched.



Thank you to all the Zion members who served on the church council during my time as Zion President.

LeAnn, thanks for having the secretary minutes and agenda copies ready for each meeting.

It was a wonderful experience for me being president.

Roger Panzer

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!
Pastor and Mrs. Stohlmann wish to thank the members of Zion Lutheran Church who remembered us with cards and gifts during the Christmas season. They are greatly appreciated as well as all the good wishes we received. May the Lord bless you for your love and generosity. It is good when the people of a loving God show their love in such ways. May God's love guide you during this year and always.

Thank you to everyone who blessed me with such wonderful presents for Christmas. They were all greatly appreciated and much loved! ♥♥

LeAnn Houle

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*"Sowing the Good News
of Jesus Christ"*

February Newsletter 2018



*In Loving
Memory of...*

Mary Zenk

Luther Ylvisaker

Linda Morgan

