

# Zion Newsletter

## From The Pastor

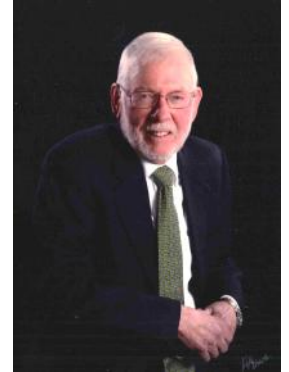
A couple of days ago I went out to our storage unit to get some things. I stopped at the office to pay the rent, when the worker asked if I had been to my storage unit lately and maybe left it open. I answered, "NO!" and headed for our unit. The door was half open and the cut padlock was on the ground. As I fully opened the door, I saw a mess. Someone had gone through many of the boxes obviously looking for something valuable. Contents were lying around as well as boxes overturned and wrapping paper strewn all over the place. After repacking and straightening things up and checking for missing items, it seemed that everything was still there. When I went back to the office and told them nothing seemed to be missing, I asked if I should call the police. The answer was that they would take information on the phone but not do anything more. Guess where I went next? To the store where I bought the round-enclosed padlock that is difficult to cut. Needless to say, it is now on my storage unit door.

Why am I telling you this? I am not seeking pity. I'm sure some of you could tell me worse things that have happened to you. Should I get some kind of security system for my unit? My son in the Cities sells and installs security systems. I think it is not worth the money. And I am sure the new lock should work for another twenty years of storage.

But what about my feelings concerning those who did the damage and are getting by with it? Here we get to the point of this article. There are times when we feel helpless against the trouble makers of this world. There are times when we get angry and would like to lash out against injustice. There are times when we feel like the Psalmist and can learn from him: **For I was envious of the arrogant, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.... They are not in trouble as other men are; they are not stricken like other men.... They set their mouths against the heavens, and their tongue struts through the earth. Therefore the people turn and praise them; and find no fault in them. And they say, "How can God know? ...But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I perceived their end.... When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart, I was stupid and ignorant.... For lo, those who are far from You shall perish; You put an end to those who are false to You. But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all Your works.**

(Psalm 73:3,5,9-11,21,22,27,28) And that is what I am doing now. Glory be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever. Amen.

2018  
MAY  
Newsletter



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# Ladies Society

May 11th is the date for the Zion Salad Luncheon.

June 5th and 12th Zion serves at Loaves and Fishes.

June 25th is Kitchen Cleaning day at Zion.

June 29th -30th is the MN South District LWML District Convention at Verizon Wireless Center in Mankato. There will be a Basket Silent Auction for mites. Registration due by May 15. Cost is \$105 plus meals.

## Hannah Circle

May 1st @ 9:30 am at Church

Hostess: Orda Podratz & Sharon Overland



## Martha Circle

May 1st @ 1:00 pm at Church

Hostess: Ann Estes

## Ladies Executive Board

May 21st @ 3:30pm

## Ruth Circle

May 1st @ 7:00 pm

Hostess: Bonnie Ashling & Jackie Bakken

## Check out the LWML Websites.

The National LWML Website: [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)

The LWML Minnesota South District Website:  
[www.lwml.mnslwml.org](http://www.lwml.mnslwml.org)

## Readings for May

### **May 6th The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 10:34–48

1 John 5:1–8

John 15:9–17

### **May 20th Festival of Pentecost**

Ezekiel 37:1–14

Acts 2:1–21

John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15

### **May 10th Ascension Day**

Acts 1:1–11

Ephesians 1:15–23

Luke 24:44–53

### **May 27th Festival of The Holy Trinity**

Isaiah 6:1–8

Acts 2:14a, 22–36

John 3:1–17

### **May 13th The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Acts 1:12–26

1 John 5:9–15

John 17:11b–19

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## Upcoming Events

May 9th—Last class of JAM for the 2017-2018 school year.

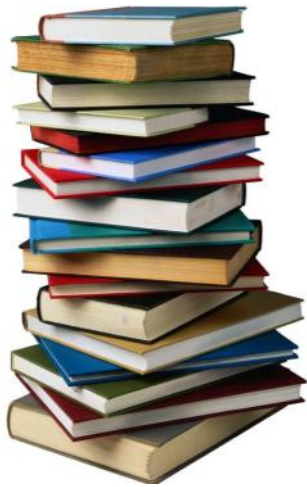
May 11th—Salad Luncheon

May 13th—Pentecost flower orders due by. Mother's Day. Last day of Sunday School for the 2017-2018 school year.

May 19—Armed Forces Day

May 28th—Memorial Day. Office closed

May 30th—Last class of H2H for the 2017-2018 school year



# Zion Library News

We are always featuring new, or new to us books that you will find displayed on the round table near the adult books in our library. Take the time to browse over our fiction and non-fiction books.

I would like to focus on a few new reads added to our choice of books. Due to a request by some Ruth circle ladies, we ordered “Light in the Dark Belt”, a memoir of Rosa Young, from Concordia Publishing. Circle members will recall Rosa and her ministry from our first Quarterly of 2018. Another non-fiction selection is a book by Rory Feek, about his life and an active awakening to God upon meeting, marrying, and suffering alongside his wife, Joey. Some of you country western fans may remember their “Joey & Rory Show” on RFD-TV. My last non-fiction spotlight is “Zookeepers Wife”, about a Polish couple and young son using their war-impacted zoo to hide Jews during the Holocaust era.

A fiction edition “Caroline”, by Sarah Miller, is an adult take on “Little House on the Prairie”, revisited.

We are always ready to help you to find your next book to read, or try to order one you think is suitable Christian material. But now we need your help. If you hadn’t noticed, a change has been made to book cards & date due slips. Hopefully, this will remind you to return it in a timely manner. Also, when you return your book(s), just lay them on the library counter to your left, just inside the door; we will put the card into the pocket and we will put the book away.

Thank you for using our Zion library. If you have never used our library, please stop by.

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# MAY 2018

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[zion@zion4jesus.org](mailto:zion@zion4jesus.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30 am Hannah Circle 1:00 pm Martha Circle 7:00 pm Ruth Circle 7:00 pm Elders' Meeting	2 9am Quilters 6pm H2H / JAM	3 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	4 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	5
<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> 6 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	7	8 6:30 p Board of Ed. 6:30 p Board of Youth 6:45 p All Boards Meet 7:30 p Council Meeting <b>OFFICE CLOSING AT NOON</b>	9 9am Quilters 6pm H2H <b>LAST NIGHT JAM</b>	<b>Ascension</b> 10 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	11 11:00 Salad Luncheon 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	12
<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b> 13 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am <b>LAST DAY</b> Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	14	15	16 9am Quilters 6pm H2H	17 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	18 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	19
<b>Festival of Pentecost</b> 20 8am Traditional Worship 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	21	22	23 9am Quilters 6pm H2H	24 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	25 5:30pm Joyful Noise 7:00pm Bible Study	26
<b>Festival of The Holy Trinity</b> 27 8am Traditional Worship 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Contemporary Worship	<b>Memorial Day</b> 28 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	29	30 9am Quilters 6pm <b>LAST NIGHT OF H2H</b>	31 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service		

Sunday	5/6		5/13		5/20		5/27	
	<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>
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Shania P	Samuel H	Landon S	Raven M	Travis O	Samuel H	Shania P	Raven M
<b>A-V Team:</b>	Roger P. Brooks D. Nancy G.	James H.	Jim V. Brooks D. Roger P.	James H. David K.	Roger P. Wayne P. Nancy G.	Darris D. James H.	Robin P. Fred R. Nancy G	James H. David K.
<b>Comm. Assist:</b>	Bill Podratz	Tim Kasper	Ron Timm	Bruce Hayden	Wayne Prudoehl	Jeff Brown	John Domes	Dean Johnson
<b>Elder:</b>	Roger Panzer	Glenn Houle	Roger Panzer	Glenn Houle	Roger Panzer	Glenn Houle	Roger Panzer	Glenn Houle
<b>Greeters:</b>	Linda Eggleston	D & L Palmer	M & D Helgeson	B & J Hayden	Jerry Kruckeberg	Bonnie Westbee	Roger Panzer	Hod Bolinger
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Kelly Schultz	Cathy Studier	Helen Johnson	Chandra Whelan	Orda Podratz	Dana Nelson	Ann Estes	Glenn Houle
<b>Organist:</b>	Angie Drescher		Angie Drescher		Angie Drescher		Angie Drescher	
<b>Ushers:</b>	Jim S. John D. Marv H. Fred R.	Tim K. Dana N.	Bruce B. Orlo W. Jerry K. Bill P.	Natalie N. Bonnie W.	Clint M. Christiaan O. Jock W. Dwight M.	Jeff B. Dana N.	Ron T. Jim V. Truman G. Dwight M.	Dean J. Dick M.

Thursdays	5/3	5/10	5/17	5/24	5/31
<b>A-V Team:</b>	Keith K.	Keith K.	Keith K.	Keith K.	Keith K.
<b>Comm. Assist:</b>	Kent D.	Kent D.	Kent D.	Kent D.	Kent D.
<b>Elder:</b>	Keith K.	Keith K.	Keith K.	Keith K.	Keith K.

Financial Assistants	
Marie Hinkley	
Orda Podratz	
Flower & Altar	
Gail Armstrong	
Elaine Mucha	
LeAnn Houle/Janelle Hayden	





## ***Rip Roarin' Raftin' Theme***

Life is full of thrills and spills; we may not know what's around the bend, but God does! This year's theme is Splash Canyon where kids discover that, on life's wild ride, Jesus is by our side. God saves us through Jesus and gives us life and hope every day and forever.

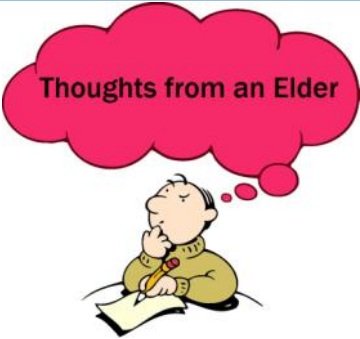
To be successful we need volunteers to plunge into the task of teaching children that Jesus is our Savior and he will Keep us afloat through the water of Baptism. If you have heart for children, come join us on July 22nd—26th from 5:30-8:00pm, to share God's promise on life's wild ride!

Sign-up sheet and volunteer descriptions on the bulletin board.

You can register your children and/or grandchildren online at

<https://vbsmate.com/ZionAlbertLea>

Contact Cathy Studier at (507)383-6641 or LeAnn Houle in the church office (507) 373-8609 for more information.



## Thoughts from an Elder

By: Dana Nelson

He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed, Alelujah!

As I type this letter, April is winding down to an end for another year, and the winter season is a but a memory. Regarding the church calendar, we are finishing the Easter season and closing in on the season of Pentecost. Here's a reminder of the focus of the three church seasons. During Easter we focus on Jesus. Pentecost the focus is on the Holy Spirit, and Christmas, the focus is on God the Father. For a quick and basic understanding of what Pentecost Sunday is, here are 10 things that are listed regarding the holiday.

Pentecost Sunday marks the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles.

Pentecost Sunday occurs 50 days after Easter.

The Bible records the Pentecost in Acts 2:1-13.

Pentecost comes 10 days after the Ascension of Jesus Christ.

Pentecost is also known as "the birthday of the Church".

Pentecost fulfills Jesus' promise to send the "Counselor" and "Spirit of Truth" in John 16:5-15.

Pentecost launches the large-scale spreading of the Gospel after Jesus' ascension. Acts 2:41 records that after Peter spoke to the crowd after receiving the Holy Spirit, some 3,000 people were baptized.

The Pentecostal movement derives its name from the New Testament event in Acts 2.

Jews also celebrate Pentecost, but not for the same reason as Christians. The celebration by Jews of Pentecost is to observe God giving the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai 50 days after the Exodus. The Pentecost in Jewish tradition takes place 50 days after Passover.

In Western Churches, Pentecost is usually represented with the color red, which symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Many of you were at the special voters' meeting where we unanimously decided to extend a "Divine" call to Rev. Hutchison. He has received the official call documents, and the 'letter' of the "Divine" call has been mailed to his congregation. I spoke with Rev. Hutchison a couple of times throughout the first week of the call and let him know that we would be praying for him, his family and congregation during his deliberation. He stated that he would add us in his prayers as well. So again, we wait patiently and persevere during this time. Whatever the result of this "Divine" call is, we need to remember that God does take care of us, His children, and He will provide us with our next shepherd in His time. As we pray, Thy will be done.....

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. Hebrews 12:1

Grace and Peace be to you in our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.



And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

We are happy to share the news that I have been called to serve Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Iowa City, Iowa. We got the chance to meet with my supervisor, Pastor Brent Hartwig after the Call Day service, and were able to talk about my responsibilities as a vicar, the church itself, and where we will be living. There is a parsonage for us on site, and our new address as of August is listed below.

I am so excited to serve in Iowa City, with all its unique attributes. I already know that I will be stretched outside my comfort zone, but that is what this year is all about, learning and growing as a servant of the Word and in faith toward Jesus. Anna is excited about the area and plugging into homeschool coops, the library programs, and of course getting to know the parishioners of Our Redeemer. Call week was a hard time for Anna with both boys having severe colds and receiving the sad news of her grandfather passing away. She will be flying to her home town in Southern California with Iden the first week of May for the funeral. Please pray for her safe travel and for her family as they say goodbye.

Thank you for sharing in this process, your gifts and support have made the road to this point smoother. We plan on moving out of Saint Louis at the end of June, will be visiting family for the month of July, and should be moved in to our new home at the beginning of August. It's going to be a busy summer and an even busier year. Please continue to pray for us all as we make this transition. You have been a source of encouragement for us and have shown me an example of what the Church truly is: the Body of Christ as a real and present blessing to people in need.

Blessings from the Otterman family!



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*"Sowing the Good News  
of Jesus Christ"*

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## *May Newsletter 2018*

*In Loving  
Memory of...*



*Charles Bolinger*

*Judith Hagen*

*Grace Arneson*

*Muriel Berry*

*Joyce Flink*