

# Zion Newsletter

## From The Pastor

Here is the good news we have been waiting for. Pastor Lehman has accepted the call of our congregation to be pastor. He will be installed on July 15 at 3:00 P.M. This is such good news that we cannot help but sing thanks and praise to our faithful God who promises to answer our prayers.

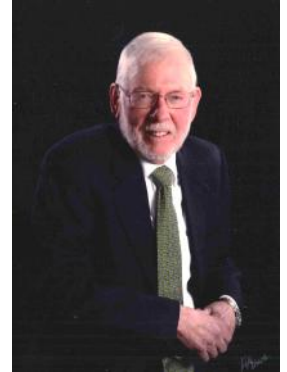
I'm sure there may still be some questions in our minds like: Why did this take so long? I would refer you to an article I wrote in February which said the following: "Sometimes during life, things happen that we cannot explain. There doesn't seem to be any reasonable answer to our questions: why did this happen? Or Why did this happen to me? Or why is this happening (on-going) to me? We may spend time thinking about this, evaluating the event or incidence. Eventually we may get an answer to our inquiry, many times not." Well, God has answered our prayers even though He has not told us why it took so long.

The important thing to remember is that we have again experienced the grace of God in answering our prayers. And that should lead us to make every effort to be here July 15 at 3:00 P.M. to welcome our new pastor and to pledge ourselves ready to go to work together with him in serving the Lord and witnessing about the grace of our Lord to our community.

It has been a blessing for me to have served you during the latter part of this vacancy. One of those blessings I have shared with the Sunday Bible Class, but now I would like to share it with everyone. I had always prayed that some day in my ministry I would serve a congregation that celebrates the Sacrament every week. After 50+ years the Lord answered my prayers while serving you. Thank You Lord, and thank you Zion for being that spiritual that you desire to receive the Sacrament weekly.

Pastor Stohlmann

## 2018 July Newsletter



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# Ladies Society

We wish everyone a safe and happy 4th of July celebration. Continue to pray for our country and our leaders. May they look to God for guidance and strength.



Hannah Circle

July 10th @ 9:00 am at Heritage Restaurant



Martha Circle

July 10th @ Noon Pot-luck at Pioneer Park  
If raining meet at the church.

Ladies Executive Board

July 30th @ 3:30pm

Ruth Circle

Will not be meeting this month

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 July

### **July 1st The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

Lamentations 3:22–33

2 Corinthians 8:1–9, 13–15

Mark 5:21–43

### **July 22nd The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

Jeremiah 23:1–6

Ephesians 2:11–22

Mark 6:30–44

### **July 8th The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Ezekiel 2:1–5

2 Corinthians 12:1–10

Mark 6:1–13

### **July 29th The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Genesis 9:8–17

Ephesians 3:14–21

Mark 6:45–56

### **July 15th The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

Amos 7:7–15

Ephesians 1:3–14

Mark 6:14–29

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## Upcoming Events

July 3rd — Parade with a food stand on the church lawn

July 4th — Independence Day—office closed

July 7th — Pastor Matt moving to Albert Lea (call LeAnn if you want to help)

July 8th — Card Shower and Potluck lunch for Pastor Stohlmann

July 8th — Semi-annual meeting to follow the potluck lunch

July 15th — Pastor Stohlmann's last services at Zion.

July 15th — Installation of Pastor Matt @ 3:00 pm. Catered meal to follow.

July 22nd — VBS begins at 5:30 pm.

July 25th — BINGO @ Good Samaritan

# **PASTOR MATTHEW LEHMAN**

Dear new church family,

God be with you!

As requested, here is a small bio about who I am, your new pastor. My name is Pastor Matthew LeRoy Lehman. I was born in Fort Dodge, Iowa on October 19, 1968, which is the same birthday as my great-grandfather and niece. My father, Donald, is a now retired from farming; my mother, Louanna, a homemaker and housecleaner. They live near Vincent, Iowa on a quaint acreage. I have two younger siblings, a brother, and sister. Arron, the brother, is 6th thru 8th Grade Lutheran school teacher at Trinity Lutheran School in Crown Point, Indiana. My sister, Kim, works for the pharmaceutical-medical labs located in Fort Dodge, Iowa.



I have three wonderful daughters, Michaela (24), Sophia (18), and Genevieve (15). Michaela enjoys working on cars, especially Audis. Sophia, a 2018 high school graduate, will be attending junior college, as she prepares to be a large animal veterinarian tech. My youngest daughter, Genevieve, a soon-to-be sophomore, loves video games and computer science.

Now a little about myself; I grew-up on a farm near Vincent, Iowa, and a graduate of Eagle Grove High School, Eagle Grove, Iowa. College years were at Iowa Central Community College (Fort Dodge) and Concordia Teachers College, Seward Nebraska. Elementary education, music, with an emphasis on organ performance, were my areas of studies. In 1992, I began pastoral studies at Concordia Theological Seminary, St. Louis. Vicarage, 1995-1996, was at Zion Lutheran Church and School, Matteson, Illinois. After graduation from the seminary in 1997, I was placed at Mount Moriah Lutheran Church, Byron, Minnesota; where I was pastor for almost fifteen years. For the past five years, I have served as Minister of Worship Arts at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Prior Lake, Minnesota. Throughout these pastoral years, I have served as Zone and District LWML pastoral counselor and circuit visitor for the Rochester Circuit.

With great expectation, I look forward to getting to know you, working with you, and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with you. The page has turned, a new chapter begins, and the LORD will reveal day-by-day our life together as pastor and congregation. To God be the Glory!

Blessings in the beautiful name of Jesus,

Pastor Matt Lehman

Zion Lutheran Church  
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Albert Lea, MN 56007

# JULY 2018

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 1 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Contemporary Worship	<b>2</b> 7:00 pm Elders' Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>3rd of July Parade</b>	<b>4</b> Independence Day Office closed	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 5:30pm Joyful Noise	<b>7</b> Pastor Matt moving to Albert Lea
<b>Seventh Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Contemporary Worship <b>Noon</b> Pot-luck & Card Shower for Pastor Stohlmann and Semi-annual meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:00 am Hannah Circle @ Heritage Restaurant <b>Noon</b> Martha Circle potluck picnic @ Pioneer Park (if raining meet at church)	<b>11</b> 9am Quilters	<b>12</b> 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	<b>13</b> 5:30pm Joyful Noise	<b>14</b>
<b>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 15 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Contemporary Worship <b>3:00pm Installation of Pastor Matt</b> Followed by catered meal	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:30 p Board of Ed. 6:30 p Board of Youth 6:45 p All Boards Meet 7:30 p Council Meeting	<b>18</b> 9am Quilters	<b>19</b> 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	<b>20</b> 5:30pm Joyful Noise	<b>21</b>
<b>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 22 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Contemporary Worship 5:30 pm VBS starts	<b>23</b> 5:30 pm VBS	<b>24</b> 5:30 pm VBS	<b>25</b> 9am Quilters 5:30 pm VBS	<b>26</b> 5:30 pm VBS 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	<b>27</b> 5:30pm Joyful Noise	<b>28</b>
<b>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 29 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Contemporary Worship	<b>30</b> 3:30 p Ladies Exec. Board Meeting	<b>31</b>		<b>6:45 pm Mid-Week Service</b>		

Sunday	7/1		7/8		7/15		7/22		7/29	
	<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>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Travis O	Samuel H	Shania P	Raven M	Landon S	Samuel H	Travis O	Raven M	Shania P	Samuel H
<b>A-V Team:</b>	Robin P. Fred R. Nancy G.	Darris D. James H.	Robin P. Wayne P. Nancy G.	James H. David K.	Jim V. Brooks D. Wayne P.	Darris D. James H.	Roger P. Brooks D. Nancy G.	James H. David K.	Jim V. Roger P. Nancy G.	Darris D. James H.
<b>Comm. Assist:</b>	John Domes	Tim Kasper	Jerry Kruckeberg	Bruce Hayden	Wayne Prudoehl	Jeff Brown	Bill Podratz	Dean Johnson	Ron Timm	Tim Kasper
<b>Elder:</b>	Christiaan Olivier	Dick Mucha	Roger Panzer	Dick Mucha	Christiaan Olivier	Dick Mucha	Christiaan Olivier	Dick Mucha	Roger Panzer	Dick Mucha
<b>Greeters:</b>	Darlene Nicolai	D & L Palmer	R & B Ashling	B & J Hayden	B & A Drescher	Bonnie Westbee	Linda Eggleston	Hod Bolinger	M & D Helgeson	B & P Bonfy
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Kelly Schultz	Lois Palmer	Helen Johnson	Cathy Studier	Orda Podratz	Chandra Whelan	Ann Estes	Dana Nelson	Kelly Schultz	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 Jock W. Barry H.	Jeff B. Dana N.	Ron T. Jim V. Truman G. Dwight M.	Dean J. Dick M.	Jim S. John D. Marv H. Fred R.	Tim K. Dana N.

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

Thursdays	7/5	7/12	7/19	7/26
<b>A-V Team:</b>	Keith K.	Keith K.	Roger P.	Keith K.
<b>Comm. Assist:</b>	Kent D.	Kent D.	Kent D.	Kent D.
<b>Elder:</b>	Keith K.	Keith K.		Keith K.





## ***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.



By: Keith Kemkes

During this past June 21st through the 23rd, I represented this congregation as your Lay Delegate at the Minnesota South District Convention of the LC-MS (MNS). I thank the congregation of Zion for sending me to this convention on your behalf. The theme of this convention, “Chosen to Proclaim”.

I will use this “Letter from an Elder” as my report to the congregation about this past convention.

Elections were held for the various offices representing us. At Zion’s January annual congregational meeting, nominations were made for a variety MNS District positions. I used those nominations for the votes I cast. Any offices that we did not submit a nomination for, I used my discernment. The officials elected that may be of interest to you are thus: Elected President of the MNS is the Rev. Dr. Lucas V. Woodford; 1st Vice-President Rev. David Mumme; 2nd Vice-Pres. Rev. Thomas Evans; 3rd Vice-Pres. Rev. Harold Storm; 4th Vice-Pres. Rev. Dr. Brent Parrish. Rev. Loel Wessel was elected Ordained Minister of Region III. To replace Rev. Wessel as our Circuit Visitor, elected by our Austin Circuit is Rev. Jesse Krusemark.

Resolutions passed on Missional Outreach encourage congregations to witness in Christ and support new churches to reach the unchurched, immigrants, and refugees. Evangelistic outreach on College Campuses will be expanded.

Concerning Theology and Church Relations resolutions, the delegates supported the embracing of our Ecumenical Duty. We are encouraged to actively seek dialog with other Christians with our learned Lutheran Confession. Six-Day Creation as the Official Position of the LC-MS is reaffirmed. Concordia University Lutheran Identity is commended and encouraged.

Concerning Congregational Services resolutions, the “To All Generations” Appeal is affirmed. Mission Awareness and intentional engaging witness within our local community, along with sister LC-MS congregations is encouraged. Resources are available from the district. Formal, private, and family Lutheran Catechesis of youth and adults is encouraged for a variety of intended purposes.

A few revised Article and Bylaws were approved to align with the Synodical Commission on Constitutional Matters recommendations.

Term limits were memorialized to the next Synod convention of 2019, for the Synod President and 1st Vice-president.

Commendations and thanks were given to many dedicated church workers, including District President Rev. Dr. Nadasdy, and Synod President Rev. Dr. Harrison.

Commercial Surrogacy of human’s (renting a womb), is memorialized to the next Synod convention for study and to develop an official position.

We had morning and evening devotions. Bible study everyday morning. Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz delivered an essay during two sessions. For the Thursday Divine Service, Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison proclaimed a wonderful Law and Gospel sermon.

I attended a session conducted by Public Policy Advocate, Rev. Fred Hinz. He covered the implications of our religious freedoms with the US Supreme Court’s ruling of the Trinity Lutheran v. Comer case.

The preceding is not an all-inclusive list of our agenda. I will provide more information as it becomes available for you to easily access. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask me.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve you in Christ’s Name.

Keith Kemkes



**Thank You!**

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**Thank You!**

I would like to give a big shout out of THANKS for the support of our youth. We have such a small group of kids but they all enjoy getting together and having fun with each other. For our servant events, they really enjoy dressing the part of servers. The money earned we give back to the community. The money from the soup supper during Lent went to *Youth for Christ*. They use that money for bible study for kids up at the *Rock*.

A sincere thank you for everything,  
Board of Youth

I want to say Thank You to our wonderful church family for all the prayers, calls, cards, food, and visits. It has really helped with my recovery. I'm still weak and use a wheel chair quite often but hope to soon be out and about again. Thank you everyone.

Love  
Lois Janowitz

I would like to thank the board of Youth, Arlene Murray, Jamie Perez, LeAnn Houle, and Angie Drescher, without their help I would be lost. I love each one of you!

Thanks,  
Deb

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*"Sowing the Good News  
of Jesus Christ"*

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## *July Newsletter 2018*

*In Loving  
Memory of...*

*Claire "Terry" Jenson*

*Gert Mueller*

*Joanne Stauffer*

*Jacqueline Anderson*

*Judy Hagen*

