

Zion Newsletter

From The Pastor

Joyfully Thankful

Greetings to each of you, for this is day that the Lord has made!

Where has the summer of 2018 gone? I pray that you have been able to find some time to relax during these pleasant summer days. Since accepting the Call to be your pastor at Zion, it has been a whirlwind of blessings with activities, Bible studies, worship services, VBS, and visits. At every turn, there is a smile on every face. To be among you as your pastor, I joyfully thank the LORD!

"And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." - Colossians 3:16-17.

Undeniably, there is much to be thankful for as I hear more about the LORD's work here at Zion. I am eager to learn about the work of each church board and committee and working side-by-side each one of you in the unlimited ministry opportunities that LORD provides for us in Albert Lea and surrounding communities.

We have so much to look forward to here at Zion, and I pray that as we begin this first year together, we may faithfully receive, grow and witness the LORD's work as we shine inwardly and outwardly to our community. May Christ keep you and bless you in His Holy name!

Pastor Matt

2018

August Newsletter



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Ladies Society

LWML Convention Theme: “Grace Above All”

1 Corinthians 15:10a ESV— *“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain.”*

2018-2020 Mission Grants for LWML

The Dwelling Place Domestic Violence Program

\$15,000

The Dwelling Place is a Christian ministry providing healing, hope to victims of domestic abuse through supportive services and a safe place to call home. The Dwelling Place exists to break the generational cycle of abuse by equipping and empowering women and children through the love of Jesus Christ so they can experience lasting freedom. They also provide transitional housing, education, food, clothing, trauma-informed supportive services, programming and mentoring for women and children. The need for their service in helping domestic women and children continues to grow. Through other generous support, another duplex has been purchased to help an additional 14 women and children in 2018. This grant will continue to support “The Dwelling House” operating funding to provide transitional housing, trauma-informed supportive service, Christian education, and programming focus on encouraging and equipping women and children to live Christ-centered lives. *“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” Isaiah 41:10*

Hannah Circle
No Meeting



Martha Circle
August 7th @ Church

Ladies Executive Board
August 27 @ 3:30pm

Ruth Circle
No Meeting

Check out the LWML Websites.

The National LWML Website: www.lwml.org

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

Readings for August

Aug. 5 The Eleventh Sun. after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-15
Psalm 145:10-21
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:22-35

Aug. 12 The Twelfth Sun. after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:17-5:2
John 6:35-51

Aug. 19 The Thirteenth Sun. after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18
Psalm 34:12-22
Ephesians 5:6-21
John 6:51-69

Aug. 26 The Fourteenth Sun. after Pentecost

Isaiah 29:11-19
Psalm 14
Ephesians 5:22-33
Mark 7:1-13

Upcoming Events

July 31 — Aug. 4th—Fair Parking

Aug. 14 — Pastor Matt's
Organ Recital in
Rochester

Aug. 18 — Community Sew Day

Sept. 5—Confirmation Orientation

Sept. 9—Rally Day

Sept. 12—First Class of
JAM/Confirmation

Sept. 15 —LWML Fall Rally @
Zion

Need to Know

We have been experiencing that Wells Fargo has been getting more particular with the checks that we are depositing. When writing checks to the church make sure you have in the "Pay to the order of" section **Zion Lutheran Church**. If there have been any corrections done on the check, the bank will not accept them and we have to return them back to you.

VBS



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WAS A SPLASH HIT!

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO
HELPED MAKE THIS SUCH A SUCCESS.**



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

AUGUST 2018

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9am Quilters	2 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	3 5:30pm Praise Team Practice	4
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost 5 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Contemporary Worship	6	7 1:00 pm Martha Circle 7:00 pm Elders' Meeting	8 9am Quilters	9 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	10 5:30pm Praise Team Practice	11
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost 12 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Contemporary Worship	13	14 12:15 p Pastor's Recital @ Trinity in Rochester 6:30 p Board of Ed. 6:30 p Board of Youth 6:45 p All Boards Meet 7:30 p Council Meeting	15 9am Quilters	16 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	17 5:30pm Praise Team Practice	18
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost 19 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Contemporary Worship	20	21	22 9am Quilters	23 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	24 5:30pm Praise Team Practice	25
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost 26 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Contemporary Worship	27 3:30 pm Ladies Exec. Bd. Meeting	28	29 9am Quilters	30 6:45 pm Mid-Week Service	31 5:30pm Praise Team Practice	

Sunday	8/5			8/12			8/19			8/26	
	<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 Stadheim	Raven Mitchell		Travis Overland	Samuel Houle		Shania Prestholt	Raven Mitchell		Landon Stadheim	Samuel Houle
A-V Team:	Robin Pettit Fred R. Wayne P.	Darris DeSart James Hedin		Roger Panzer Wayne P. Nancy Golde	James Hedin David Kelly		Robin Pettit Fred R. Roger Panzer	Darris DeSart James Hedin		Jim Viktora Brooks D. Wayne P.	James Hedin David Kelly
Comm. Assist:	John Domes	Bruce Hayden		Jerry Kruckeberg	Jeff Brown		Bill Podratz	Dean Johnson		Ron Timm	Tim Kasper
Elder:	Rick Ashling	Bill Morris		Rick Ashling	Bill Morris		Rick Ashling	Bill Morris		Rick Ashling	Bill Morris
Greeters:	Jerry Kruckeberg	Pam Doss		Roger Panzer	B & D Drescher		Jean Prescher	D & S Johnson		R & N Timm	D & L Palmer
Lay Reader:	Helen Johnson	Lois Palmer		Orda Podratz	Cathy Studier		Ann Estes	Chandra Whelan		Kelly Schultz	Dana Nelson
Organist:	Angie Drescher	Pastor Matt		Angie Drescher	Pastor Matt		Angie Drescher	Pastor Matt		Angie Drescher	Pastor Matt
Ushers:	Bruce B. Orlo W. Jerry K. Bill P.	Bonnie W. Natalie N.		Clint M. Christiaan O. 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	Dawn Drescher	Marie Hinkley									
Flower & Altar	Gayle Sternberg (Thurs.)	Deb Runden		Nylene Haseman							
Thursday	8/2	8/9		8/16	8/23		8/30				
A-V Team:	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes		Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes		Keith Kemkes				
Comm. Assist:	Kent Dollum	Kent Dollum		Kent Dollum	Kent Dollum		Kent Dollum				
Elder:	Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes		Keith Kemkes	Keith Kemkes		Keith Kemkes				

As we, the parishioners of Zion Lutheran Church, relish in the joy and thankfulness to God that we feel over getting our prayers answered via the arrival of the Reverend Matt Lehman, 'Pastor Matt', let us pledge ourselves to our mission and rededicate ourselves to Christ's work. We only grow stronger through the Holy Spirit working within us and by Keeping in the Word, We need to be strong, Zion needs to be strong, all Christians need to be strong as we face a society that basically looks upon us now as a nuisance along the road to a more secular, humanistic, progressive society. As my old confirmation pastor used to say, solidify your ideas, don your faith like armor, then take a stand, and let it be so! May God help us all do so!

We are all in this together, and Pastor Matt is now our shepherd. He needs our gratitude, our support, our respect, and our labors. Pastor Matt's Installation service was so joyful and powerful that I pray we can carry the power of that moment on with us, together – through Christ, helping us all work together so that we can be a force for righteousness and Salvation through faith, a force of love within our community, and a source of hope for all. It's a big chunk of work to take on, but we have God, and now his called and ordained servant, Matt Lehman, to help us work in the fields of the Lord. Welcome to Zion, Pastor Matt!

Now, since I am always too wordy, some thoughts on welcoming a new pastor. I confess that these are not original. :)

Pray for him daily

You knew I'd say that. Right? But, truly, there is no greater comfort than to know people are praying for you.

Tell the pastor your name – again – And again. And again, if necessary. Learning can be a challenge.

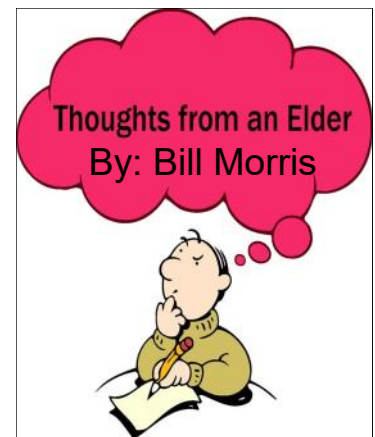
Don't gossip– There will almost always be changes when a new pastor comes to a church. Be a positive voice for the future. And, stop gossip and rumors as soon as you hear them.

Speak encouragement – And, mean it.

Let the pastor set the pace – It will take a while for a new pastor to figure out their stride. Give them your understanding during this time.– especially in the early days.

Don't offer a million suggestions – There will be time for that, but the new pastor needs time to learn the church.

In Christ,
Bill Morris





THIS & THAT

LOVE and TRUTH

I love you.

If I love you I must tell you the truth.

I want your love.

I want your truth.

Love me enough to tell me the truth.

(from Caring Enough to Confront by David Augsburger)

Telling the truth in relationship is important. Sometimes truth is painful. Remember the term “growing pains”. Sometimes painful truth leads to growth.

In loving, did Jesus avoid truth? No. He spew froth the truth simply because it was truth? No, again. Jesus spoke painful truth with compassion and care. It is a skill for all Christians to prayerfully desire and master as we seek to love and care as Jesus did.

St. Paul says, “Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is Christ . . .” – Ephesians 4:15

Food for Backpacks

Many of our local children will be going back to school in a few weeks, for the Albert Lea School District #241, the first day of school is August 21. Did you know that there are over 200 children in the Albert Lea School District who go hungry on the weekend? For them the only meals, healthy and balanced, are the ones they receive during the week at school. Several churches in the community have banded together to assist these specific children through the program “Food for Backpacks.” Zion and Grace Lutheran Churches are partnering in the “Food for Backpacks” program at Hawthorne Elementary School. The children will be receiving a bag of healthy food that cost \$1.31 per weekend. The program runs for thirty-four weekends during the school year. The food bags will be placed in their backpacks by the school’s social worker before the kids go home for the weekend. Zion’s goal is to sponsor 25 children for the 2018-2019 school year. Support this program through your prayers, picking-up, organizing, and delivering the food to school. Additionally, your financial support for this caring program will provide meals for these 25 children or more as the Lord blesses. Envelopes to support this program are in your church mailboxes or earmark your check “Food for Backpacks.” Additional information on the meals is on the Community bulletin board. If you have any questions about this beneficial social ministry program, please speak with Debbie Viktora, Jodi Brown, Arlene Murray, or Pastor Matt.

*“For I was **hungry** and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you **hungry** and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? . . .” - Matthew 25:35-40*



Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

I don't know where to begin to thank all the lovely people at Zion. Zion truly is a caring congregation.

Thank you for all the cards, prayers, visits, food, gift cards and just being there for our family while I was in the hospital for 3 months.

Thank you to Pastor Stohlmann for his many visits. They always uplifted me and gave me hope.

I am improving day by day. It's a long process but I'm determined to fight my hardest with the Lord's help.

God bless each and every one of you.

Love to all,

Ron & Nancy Timm

Thank you to everyone who helped out with VBS in one way or another. We couldn't have had such a successful event without all of you! VBS was a SPLASH hit!

The Board of Education
&
The Board of Youth

Thank you everyone for the cards and prayers after my sister, Barbie's passing. I appreciate it greatly.

Bonnie Westbee

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

Phone: 507-373-8609

E-mail: zion@zion4jesus.org

Web: zion4jesus.org



*"Sowing the Good News
of Jesus Christ"*

August Newsletter 2018

Gifts given in Memory of...



"Rollie" Marquardt

Joanne Stauffer

Barbra Jean Jensen

Luther Ylvisaker

Harlin Elbeth