

# Zion's Weekly Announcements

Sunday, November 15, 2020

Family and Friends in Christ,

Psalm 90 begins: "O Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations." A beloved hymn echoes: "O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come." Welcome, as we worship God, our eternal home and shelter.

The newest **Church Photo Directory** has arrived!!! PRAISE THE LORD! You can pick-up your copy in your church mailbox. Thank you for your patience! We hope you enjoy them. A few items are already out of date, but that is to be expected! May you enjoy them!!!

THANKS  
FROM THE  
HEART

Thank you for all the wonderful cards, gifts and food for Pastor Appreciation and my birthday! The outpouring of kindness and support warmed my heart with joy in knowing how blessed I am to have such a fantastic church family!! Thank you!  
Thank you!!

I will be out of the office from Monday to Wednesday, November 16-18, for a few vacation days. I will be assisting my mom with the move of my dad to a rehabilitation center in Mason City. He suffered a stroke this past week which has affected his left side. It will be a difficult recovery, though we are hopeful for return home to be with my mom. The church office will be closed. If you need spiritual care or assistance, please call your elder.

## Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 25, 2020

4:30 PM and Online

Register your attendance on the church's website: [www.zion4jesus.org](http://www.zion4jesus.org)



## LOOKING AT TODAY'S LESSONS

### ***God's Gift of Forgiveness Engenders Our Forgiveness of Others***

The Day of the Lord is "near and hastening fast," and it will be "a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation" (Zeph. 1:14, 15). The Lord will search out and punish "the men who are complacent" concerning His Word, "who fill their master's house with violence and fraud" (Zeph. 1:9, 12). Then all their works and efforts will be for nothing: "Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them" (Zeph. 1:13). But those who fear, love and trust in the Lord are "good and faithful" stewards of His property (Matt. 25:21). They live by faith in His free gift of forgiveness, and they multiply His goods in the loving forgiveness of their neighbor, and "the master of those servants" settles His accounts with them by the gracious reckoning of His Gospel (Matt. 25:19). Likewise, "God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thess. 5:9). Therefore, let us also "put on the breastplate of faith and love" in our dealings with one another (1 Thess. 5:8).

## **DRIVE-IN COMMUNION is on SUNDAY!!!**

**Due to the road construction on Bridge Avenue, our drive-in communion dates have moved!** Plan to attend on Sundays from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM. If this does not work and you wish to walk to the church, please give me a call. I am available to minister to you. Remember, call the church office to make an appointment at 507-373-8609. Thank you.



## **MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13–14** --- "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep."

## **A QUOTE FOR THE DAY**

"The thankful receiver bears a plentiful harvest." —William Blake



## **GROWING THROUGH GRATITUDE**

Thankfulness, studies show, has multiple physical, mental and emotional benefits. Psychologist Robert Emmons calls gratitude "fertilizer for the mind" because of its powerful effects.

He admits gratitude isn't always easy — especially when life throws us curveballs (see the year 2020) — but says it can be most helpful during and after difficulties. Emmons suggests reframing challenges using thankfulness-based language. Ask, for example: Though I wasn't grateful for the experience at the time, how can I be now? What lessons did I learn, and how did I grow as a person?

Throughout his letters, the apostle Paul reframes his extensive sufferings and urges us to do the same. "Give thanks in all circumstances," he writes, "for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV).

## **• Zion Ladies' Circle News •**

### **Upcoming Executive Board Meeting of Zion Ladies Society**

Monday, November 23, 2020 @ 3:30 PM

We will be in the Fellowship Hall at Zion. Please wear masks and social distant. Thank you!

**Hannah and Ruth Circles** are gathering in December in Zion's Fellowship Hall.

Meetings dates and times follow:

Hannah Circle: December 1 at 9:30 AM

Ruth Circle: December 1 at 7:00 PM

Please wear masks and social distant.

**The Zion Quilter** will be selling Quilts between Thanksgiving and Christmas to raise funds for quilt batting. When you purchase a quilt or donate money for batting, please write out our check to Zion Ladies Society, earmark it with "Zion Quilters." Thank you for your support! Quilts made are donated to Lutheran World Relief.

## + Additional Info and News +

### **MAIN STREET LIVING | 9 – 10 A.M. | WFTC CHANNEL 29/9-2 NOVEMBER 15, 2020**

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 a.m. on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of *This is the Life*. This week's episode, "The Healer," features Dave Forman (Gary Collins), who is a dynamic "faith healer," who becomes angered by the drowning death of his daughter. His grief becomes too great when a father asks him to heal his diabetic daughter.

The worship service will begin at 9:30 a.m. with Pastor Frank Milo from Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Backus, MN. His message, "Stewards Called to be Faithful," will be based on Matthew 25:14-30. For more information or to watch the program, go to [mainstreetliving.com](http://mainstreetliving.com) and select the "Twin Cities" tab.

### **LUTHERAN HOUR FOR NOVEMBER 15**

The Lutheran Hour in on KATE Radio (1450 AM) tonight at 6:00 PM.

"BIGGER" – Daniel 6

Guest Speaker: Pastor Gerard Bolling

Big problems call for faith in an even bigger God. Pastor Gerard Bolling tells how the God Who is bigger than our problems works through us to bring bigger blessings to the people around us.

### **OUTREACH THOUGHT**

**Matthew 25:14-30:** Jesus again teaches us about His Kingdom with a parable but as He does - He reveals two diametrically different understandings about the Master, the Creator and Giver of all things: one where the receiver of the talents sees the Master as a generous giver and invests the talents with joy in the "business" of the Master; the other where the receiver of the talent sees the Master as hard and stingy and therefore hides the talent in fear of the Master. As a steward of all that God has given you, how do you see the Giver? If you see Him as hard, stingy, unfair in comparison to what others have and question His giving to you, you will never steward with the joy that God intended. But, if you believe that God gave you exactly the talent and the blessings and has in mind the purpose for His Kingdom that He has intended through you, you will go about your daily tasks with joy and contentment and you will rejoice to hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" May God fill your heart and life with this trust and joy going about the stewardship of your Master's business.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS:** "Counterfeit Reality– Part 1" is our topic on November 18. The class is on Zoom at 6:00 PM. An email with a Zoom link and lesson material will arrive Sunday afternoon. Remember to complete the weekly CHECK-INS on the church's website. CHECK-IN 8 covers the Ninth and Tenth Commandments.

## + Stewardship News +

### STEWARDSHIP PONDERING

**Matthew 25:30a – “And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness.”** Why did the worthless servant act the way he did? Because of what he believed about the Master. He didn't trust or love the Master. So, his actions did not demonstrate love and trust but rather hate and mistrust. It's the same with us, but in reverse. Since we know our Lord God to be faithful and kind, we desire to serve Him and render faithful service with what He has given us.

### NOVEMBER STEWARDSHIP ARTICLE

Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, His death for our sins, and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water – combined with His Word, promise, and Name – the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And, being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure is that we belong to the most Holy Trinity, and everything that is His – righteousness, peace, eternal life – also belongs also to us. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as good stewards of His varied grace, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's holy Word, as a sacrifice.

Thus, all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him. We eat to nourish our bodies. We share with our family, neighbors, fellow Christians, the poor, and even our enemies as holy things given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and they bring blessings upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom.

Thus, we place all that we have into God's hands, and He never fails to remember us. He pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but, giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all – even for us. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance.

**YOUR GIVING  
MATTERS!**

## + Looking to Next Sunday +

### **REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE**

You can register for the "In-Person" worship service on Sunday, November 22. Go to Zion's website ([www.zion4jesus.org](http://www.zion4jesus.org)) and click on the picture that says, "Save My Seat." There you will be able to register for worship. If you would like me to register you, please call the church office at (507) 373-8609. We will keep it up until we have 55 worshippers!

**NEXT SUNDAY, November 22:** As we gather for the Christ the King Sunday/Last Sunday of the Church Year, we will hear these appointed Scripture readings: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 95:1-7; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28, and Matthew 25:31-46.

## + This Week's Calendar +

### **Sunday, November 15, 2020 – The 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

- 9:00 AM – In-Person Service with Holy Communion/Online Service
- 10:30 AM – Drive-In Communion Begins
- 1:00 PM – Drive-In Communion Ends
- 6:00 PM – Lutheran Hour on KATE Radio (1450 AM)

### **Monday, November 16, 2020**

Office closed

### **Tuesday, November 17, 2020**

Office Closed

### **Wednesday, November 18, 2020**

Office Closed

6:00 PM – Confirmation Class on Zoom

### **Thursday, November 19, 2020**

Call the church office if you wish to have Drive-In Communion. (Walk-ins only)

### **Friday, November 20, 2020**

Online Service Prep and Set-up

### **Saturday, November 21, 2020**

Online Service Recording and Editing

### **Sunday, November 22, 2020 – The Last Sunday of the Church Year – “Christ the King Sunday”**

- 9:00 AM – Online Service Available
- 9:00 AM – In-Person Service with Holy Communion
- 10:30 AM – Drive-In Communion Begins
- 1:00 PM – Drive-In Communion Ends
- 6:00 PM – Lutheran Hour on KATE Radio (1450 AM)