

The Mountain Top

Zion Lutheran Church

Messenger

VOLUME 54, ISSUE # 1 1

NOVEMBER 2016

Things are accelerating now, as we are getting ready to head into Advent, as I write this I am working on the sermon message for Reformation Sunday and prepping for the All Saints Day the following Sunday. Then just three Sundays after that Advent. Hardly seems possible that it is here already.

Life seems to have so much hustle and bustle; seems we are always in motion. I was talking with the confirmation kids tonight about the Third Commandment; Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it Holy. And as we talked about it we discussed how a part of the Sabbath is God reminding us that we need to rest. God designed us so that we need to rest and recharge now and then. Not just physically, but spiritually as well. We talked of all of the things that keep us from resting our bodies and our minds, as well as all the things that prevent us keeping the Lord's Day Holy by worshipping Him. All the distractions that this world throws at us to keep us from Worship, from reading our Bibles, even from praying. In my current class I am studying the Reformation (appropriate for this time of year), and one of the things I read recently was a writing of Dr. Luther's to the councilmen of Germany regarding education (both public and Christian) and participation in Worship. I found the following statement to be as true today as it was when it was written in 1524, Luther writes:

No one, positively no one, realized that this is a despicable trick of the devil. It proceeds so unobtrusively that no one notices it, and the damage is done before one can take steps to prevent and remedy it.

I would challenge any of you to debate me on whether or not this has happened and is continuing to happen in our educational and religious institutions of the world. We need to open our eyes, open our Bibles, and stop accepting the "political correctness" of the world and return to the Biblical world view championed during the reformation that is still preached in some churches today, I thank God that this is one of those churches.

Enough of the soapbox for now, I will step down and take a moment to thank everyone for all of their help and support throughout the year. I cannot bear to think of what life this year would have been like without the loving support of our church family. And thank you to all who have or will have helped in our transition to country life. Also it is time to wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving, God Bless you all, I am thankful for you all.

God's peace be with each and every one of you this holiday season.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Rick



**Church Office - 1111 - 11th Ave. W
Ashland, WI 54806
Phone # - 715-682-6075
Website: www.zionashland.org
E-mail - secretary@zionlutheranashland.com**

Pastor Rick Williams - 715-209-0479 Office Hours: M/T/W/Th 8:00am-5:00pm

(Please call ahead if you need to speak with Pastor Williams as he may be visiting shut-in's, at a conference, etc.)

Church President: Nick Jarvela 715-682-0385

Head Elder: Darryl Warren 715-492-0488

Little Friends of Jesus Child Care Center: 715-682-5185

LFOJ Administrator: Karyn Leino 715-682-6075



NOVEMBER'S MISSION



We are asking individuals, schools, churches, businesses, and other organizations to write cards, letters, emails, and prayer messages of appreciation for our military, past and present. It is our goal to see that our military – active, reserve, and veterans – receive these messages, whether they are serving at home, abroad, or are injured in hospitals. You can find more info at: amillionthanks.org

Drop off your letters at church (in the conference room) by November 25, 2015 Please donate \$1 for postage also.

Do Send multiple letters Send positive messages
Be creative Include your address Be kind & uplifting Donate \$1

DON'Ts
Put letters in individual envelopes **Send edible items** **Use glitter or confetti**



Men's Dartball is experiencing a great start in the season. They are currently sporting 13 wins and 2 losses. They are always looking for more players. Contact Scott Sapper if you are interested - 682-8867.

Our Prayer Concerns NOVEMBER

Mission

Zion Lutheran Church Little Friends of Jesus Childcare Center LWML
Jordan Kroll Mission in China Zion Sewing Circle Monthly Missions

Thanksgiving To all of you who have worked faithfully and joyfully to serve our Lord by serving others and often go unnoticed by all but our Heavenly Father.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

For good test results, treatment, positive thinking, healing, and comfort during cancer treatments, for those suffering from addiction, mental illness and for healing, strength, comfort, and peace for family we pray for: *Katie Stipetich, Diane Hyvonen, Bob Heggie, Kevin Heggie, Sandi (Sorenson) Fletcher, Wendy Meierotto, Joni Frisco, Brad Prill, Dean Jansheski, Ingrid Pocernich, Jean Wickman, Fran Fleig, Patsy Kontrny, Emily Hagstrom, Eddie Brown, Johnny Galligan, Alice Balmer, Mary Bullis, Jim Fletcher, Sheldon Henry, Brenda Herlevi, Charles Ylitalo, Melissa Grage, Violet Basina, Sheryl Hildebrandt, Wes Frisco, Micayla Key, Tracy Steward, Max Beiersdorff, Tanja Wisner*

PRAYERS FOR HOMEBOUND

Those who aren't able to attend common worship that they would find comfort knowing that the Lord is with them. *Walt Schutte, Arlene Zimmerman, Madge Houle*

PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION

For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families. *Aaron Esala, David Wright, Johanna Pearce*

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST OR VISIT REQUEST:

- * You may write your prayer request on the attendance pad in the pew, email secretary@zionlutheranashland.com or leave it in the office or call the office at 715-682-6075.. Include the facility and contact person and phone number.
- * Please feel free to notify the Pastor or Elder before service for immediate prayer concerns. Be sure that the person is aware that their name and possibly their condition is being mentioned.
- * If you or someone you know would like to notify the church of a surgery, hos-

NEED A PRAYER?

Zion Lutheran Church has two active prayer chains - a daytime and an evening chain, If you would like to have the chain activated to pray for a specific need, please call Marge Douglas at 682-2160. If you reach the answering machine, please leave a message, but then call the church office at 682-6075 and give the request to the church secretary and the chain will be activated. The Prayer Chain members are asked to keep all prayer requests confidential and not discuss them with others, but caller discretion is advised.





SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

The Sunday School is trying something new this year; we have an area set up in the basement where children that are not Sunday School age can color, draw, do art projects, listen to a story, sing with the older classes, maybe while a sibling attends their Sunday School class, but all are welcome. With the generous gift from Lisa and Robert Guski we have a child size table for these little ones to do their projects and have a snack.

In the 3 to 5 year old's class, Teachers Chad and Jaimee Lipske and Tiffany Houle are using the curriculum of the journey through the Bible starting with "When God Made the World" and ending with "The First Pentecost."

This month we recognized Grady Wickman(10/25) and Bella Verville's (10/19) birthday. "Happy Birthday" to them. If you should come down into the basement you will see the birthday of the month board as well as the attendance board and photos of the teachers and students.

Reminder notes will be sent out to students for those that have not attended for three or more weeks " we miss you!"

The Sunday School students are taking part in the Mission: Operation Christmas Child with the hopes that the children receiving the boxes will write back and or send a photo to the Sunday School class.

Ben Ginnow announced in our Sunday School opener that he as accepted another job so will be leaving the area and no longer able assist Jodi with the Sunday School music. We will miss you Ben. Thank you for being one of our music leaders for Sunday School.

God's Blessings,
Katie Colgrove
Sunday School Superintendent

Stewardship Thoughts

The stewardship thoughts for this month are going to shift a bit. As we approach Thanksgiving with family and friends some of us may find ourselves in situations we would rather not be in because we opened our mouths. Yes, we are going to relate the tongue to stewardship. What we say to others, and about others is a matter of stewarding the tongue and brain. Words matter. We can choose to speak idle gossip, selfish or self-absorbed tirades of anger, or condescension and judgment. On the other hand, we can choose words of compassion, empathy, forgiveness, tenderness, respect and love. Or we can choose to say nothing at all. The book of James 3:1-12 states clearly this dilemma.

Satan can and will use the tongues of Christians to split the church. Lutherans, according to the Reverend Mark Hofman, well meaning and passionate as they are, will "speak in tongues" that divide one part of the body from another. Our personal wants and needs, our desire to control, or even our fears and distrust of one another become tools in Satan's hands.

We are forgiven. Thanks be to God that we are forgiven by the death and resurrection of God's own body in our Savior, Jesus, and empowered by His Word and Sacrament to seek a more excellent way: the way of love, forgiveness and compassion toward one another and our neighbors. For in Christ, all things are possible - even the stewardship of the tongue and our body.

Dates to remember:

Sunday, December 4th -
Annual meeting following worship service

Wednesdays, Nov. 30th-Dec. 21 -
Advent Services 6:30pm 6:30pm

Sunday, December 18th - Sunday School Christmas Program during 9:00am worship service

Saturday, December 24th -
Christmas Eve Services 4:00 and 7:00pm

Sunday, December 25th - Christmas Morning Service 9:00am





Eternal Praise

In the Word

Then a voice came from the throne, saying: "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both small and great!" [Revelation 19:5](#)

Of the Word

Earthly thinking goes like this:

Big Shot Tom: "I'm on a tight schedule and I must delegate things. My wife and kids do the church-going for the family."

Humble Hannah: "I don't have the voice to sing or the education to teach. I let the choir and pastor do that."

Heavenly thinking goes like this:

God: "Both of you are My servants. And all My servants praise Me."

Our earthly praise acts as a prelude to the heavenly chorus. As servants of God, we echo the angels and saints when our thoughts, words, and actions work to His glory and praise. Faithful church attendance focuses our praise on God and all He has done for us through Jesus. Daily acts of service share our praise with others.

Witnessing through word and work identifies us as servants of the Most High God.

Whether you're Big Shot Tom or Humble Hannah -- or somewhere in between -- God calls you "servant." In what ways do you plan to "sing" your praises today?

Walking with my Lord

I am a servant of the Lord, so let me find the ways
He's called me to acknowledge Him in everlasting praise!
In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.



Zion Friends and Family Movie Night!

Friday, November 4th

6:30 p.m.

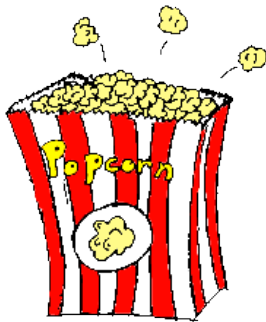
Now Show-
ing:

“God’s Not Dead - 2”



**Movie snacks and refreshments
Will be provided.**

Invite a friend (non Zion members welcomed)



**Bring your comfy camping chair,
Blanket/pillows.**

Hope to see you there!

ZION'S SEWING CIRCLE

Zion's Sewing Circle has begun to meet. We have been busy making quilts, sorting fabric and sizing fillers. We have already passed along a quilt for a fire victim and filled a couple of boxes to be sent to the Orphan Grain Train. Fabric has been organized, put in boxes and totes.

We invite anyone that would like to join us on this mission work of providing blanket and quilts for the Orphan Grain to come and work with us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. Thank you. We serve the Lord in Gladness.

God's Blessings, The Sewing Circle



Thanksgiving: A feast of memories

November announces the shift. The curtain of summer foliage has been shed, a sharper wind combs the corduroy landscape, the call of geese is pitched south, the deer find shelter in frosted-brunette grasses, and we sense the decline of light. How appropriate and good it is to respond to this seasonal shift that we may harvest our memories and “magnify him (our God) with thanksgiving.” Ps. 69:30b

We remember with thanksgiving...

Precious family members: We miss dear ones called home to heaven, but God continues to move the line of family forward. May you all enjoy family memories shared at the Thanksgiving table. **Thanks be to God.**

The adventures of the past summer season: Fishing, boating, traveling... and so much more. The ability to get outdoors meant that our senses could respond to creation, and we were blessed. **Thank be to God.**

The loyalty of friends: Often experienced through cups of coffee, e-mails, phone calls, and sitting around a summer campfire. We have this great cloud of witnesses to bless us and help us better know the presence of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Opportunities to pray: Most of us are invited to pray for friends and family members facing challenges. What a privilege that we can bring everything to God in prayer. **Thanks be to God.**

The gifts of the harvest: God continues to bestow His treasures day-in-and-day-out. We have good food, comfortable homes, the love of family and friends, the eternal promises of a loving God and a peace that surpasses human understanding. **Thanks be to God.**

A change in seasons brings new experiences and relationships, but the unchanging goodness of God is the heartbeat that defines our lives. We pray this season of sharing food and memories may transform an earthly thanksgiving meal into a foretaste of the feast to come that we may magnify the God of great grace and perfect love. **Thanks be to God.**



LWML collects your well read Portals of Prayer, cancelled stamps (with a 1/4" border around the stamp) and soft eye glass cases. These can be placed in the basket under the mailboxes in the Narthex.



Zion Lutheran Council Minutes: October 17, 2016

The October 17, 2016, Church Council Meeting was called to order by Chuck Chronis. Pastor Rick Williams opened with devotions on Titus 3 – be ready for every good work. We should do good works because we have been saved, not to be saved. God saved us to share his word and do His good works.

Roll Call: Lisa Guski- LFOJ/Co-treasurer, Lynn Ladd- Education, Chuck Chronis- Stewardship, Lori Landry-Evangelism, Pastor Rick Williams. Mary Koosmann, Lori Landry, Chuck Chronis, Carol Key

September 2016 Minutes: Motion to accept minutes by Landry, second by Key. MMC.

Pastoral Report: Current study is on Reformation Theology and three sessions left after tonight. Bible Study is going into Ester. Confirmation is going well. Eight worship services – numerous visitations – couple jail visitations, one wedding outside the church. Attended the fall Pastors' Conference in Marquette. Looking at Advent/Christmas themes.

Treasurer's Report: Motion accept by Ladd, second by Koosmann. MMC.

Meeting Agenda: Motion to approve proposed agenda by Guski, second by Landry

Board Reports:

Trustees: New gas meter installed at LFOJ. New chairs assembled in conference room. Pastor and Nick will be meeting with Holden Insurance to review insurance carrier audit recommendations.

LFOJ: Guski reported constant raising efforts for the ramp/deck with a garage sale (\$536.45) and Dutch Mill Bulbs (\$529.18). Some changes in staff. Week of October 23rd is Staff Appreciation Week, with Sunday having recognition of staff during the worship service.

Evangelism: Landry reported that they will be sending out boxes to college students the third week of November. A request was made to include non-member students, but help with the cost of the items/postage. November 4th they are planning another movie night – movie title to be determined.

Motion to accept board reports by Landry, second by Key. MMC.

Old Business:

Budget Update – Carol and Lisa will be working on entering any changes from the various submitters and then meeting with Nick to finalize the draft before the next council meeting.

Window Update – Window are here, installation scheduled to begin on Oct. 20th. Contractor estimates three days if all goes well.

New Business:

Annual Meeting - Sunday, December 4th. Time to be determined. In the past Sunday School teachers haven't been able to attend since the meeting is at the same time as classes. Lynn will contact this year's teachers to see if there are any that want to be at the meeting and wouldn't be able to find a sub.

Nominating Committee Volunteer – No one was eager to take on this duty so it was decided each board chairman would cover their own committees and ask Pastor to speak with the Elders.

Adjourn: Motion by Guski, second by Koosmann. MMC

The meeting was closed with **The Lord's Prayer**.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 21, 2016, at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully: *LL*

Technical/College Students - Addresses Needed

The Evangelism Board will be sending out "care packages" again to our college/technical students. They need these addresses by November 13th. Also, if you know a nonmember student that you would like them to receive a package please turn in that name and address along with the cost of postage (\$5.00). Contact Lori Landry (292-2122) with any questions.



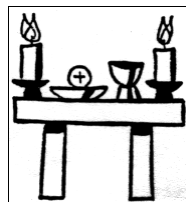
NOVEMBER Servers for Worship Services

Our Servers for our Worship Service are very important. We ask that if you are unable to serve on your designated date, please find someone else to take your place. We really appreciate your help in this matter!! If you would like to be added or taken off one of our lists please contact the office. Greeters and Ushers should arrive 20 minutes before services start. Thank-you to all who serve.

November	Elders	Acolytes	Ushers	Greeters
Wed. 11/2	Scott Thimm			
Sun. 11/6	Randy Spangle Darryl Warren	Tyrell Butterfield	Jordan Thimm Clarence Osmak	Adam Hinch
Wed. 11/9	Andy Pruss			
Sun. 11/13	John Pruss Doug Warren	Ella Bauer	Mike Cashman Curt Harspter	Stan & Alice Bahn
Wed. 11/16	Scott Thimm			
Sun. 11/20	Andy Pruss Darryl Warren	Abbi Moreland	Larry Hildebrandt Bruce Honkala	Honkala family
Wed. 11/23	John Pruss	Trista Bolz	Jim Johnson	Lori Landry
Sun. 11/27	Darryl Warren Randy Spangle	Emily Dickrell	Don Moreland Cooper Tamke	Herb & Alice Ellis
Wed 11/30	Scott Thimm	Jayson Lunda	Jake Pruss	Lynn Ladd
Sun. Dec. 4	John Pruss Randy Spangle	Logan Esala	Karl Williams Tim Bauer	Moreland Family
Wed. Dec. 7	Doug Warren	Tyrell Butterfield	Patrick Colgrove	Jim Johnson

ALTAR GUILD

June Williams 208-0984
Tami Thimm 682-4817



Thanksgiving
Eve Service
Wednesday,
November 23rd,
6:30pm



Turn clocks back one hour
for Sunday, November 6th.

November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Nov. 6th - time changes - fall back one hour</p> 		1	2 Confirmation 4-5:30 Worship	3	4 Movie Night 6:30pm	5
<p>6 Mite Sunday Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am</p>	<p>7 10:00am Bible Study Evangelism 5:30pm</p>	<p>8 LFOJ Chapel 11am Sewing Circle 1:00pm</p>	<p>9 LFOJ Chapel 11am Confirmation 4-5:30pm Parents' Mtg. 5:30pm Worship 6:30pm</p>	10	11	12
<p>13 Elders 7:45am Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Trustees 10:15am</p>	<p>14 10:00am Bible Study Dartball vs. Saron 7pm</p>	<p>15 <i>Newsletter Items Due</i></p>	<p>16 Confirmation – Activity/Servant Event Worship 6:30pm</p>	17 Winkel in Ashland	18	19 LWML 10:00am
<p>20 Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am</p>	<p>21 10:00am Bible Study Church Council Mtg. 5:30pm</p>	<p>22 Sewing Circle 1:00pm</p>	<p>23 Worship 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service</p>	24	25	26
						
<p>27 Food Shelf Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am</p>	<p>28 10:00am Bible Study</p>	29	<p>30 Confirmation 4-5:30 Advent 6:30pm</p>	<p>December 4th - Annual Voters' Mtg. 10:15am - after service</p>		