

# ZIONEWS

AUGUST 2018

Zion Lutheran Church

1906 - 2018

An active congregation of the Montana Synod of the ELCA

A few days ago I started reading a book called *The Case for Christ*. *I have no doubt that by the time you read this, I will have finished it. I'm captivated by it.*

The author went to different experts, in fields like theology, archaeology, and ancient texts, and asked them deep and probing questions. He was on a search to find out if Jesus was real, if the Gospel books can be trusted, and if there is any basis in the teachings of Christianity.

I can't tell you how the book ends – because as I write this, I have yet to finish it. But one of the most fascinating things is that at the end of each of the interviews with these experts, the author asks them some form of this question: “All these decades of scholarship, of study, of writing textbooks, of delving into the minutiae of the New Testament text – what has all this done to your personal faith?”

Everyone (so far) has said that their faith has been increased by their study, by the challenging questions, by the discovery of new information.

While the rest of the book is engaging, it is those responses at the end of the chapters that most capture my attention. These people know far more than I can ever hope to know. They are experts in their specific field, respected around the world. They are constantly learning – and they have turned this knowledge of information into faith formation.

We are called to do the same. We are called to educate the next generation, but not just so that they have a bunch of information about Jesus and God and the Bible. We are to educate and help transform that knowledge into belief, into faith, and into action in the world. We are to take this story that is printed on the pages of the Bible and imprint it on peoples' hearts. We are to build a fire in their hearts for the message of the Bible, so that when we are gone they will turn to those around them and after them and share all that they experience and believe and know.

That's hard to do.

But the calling of Jesus doesn't disappear when life gets hard. It usually becomes more strident, and it comes knocking more often and rings all the louder in our ears.

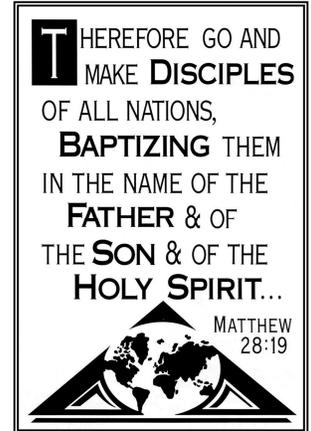
Jesus tells us what our work as Christians is in many places, but especially at the end of Matthew's Gospel, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” We are called to teach – but within our teaching is also our calling to not only educate, but transform learning into living faith that inspires our contemporaries to passionately proclaim the story of Jesus to the next generation.

It's August. Sunday School starts next month. For the past few months we've listened to comments about the format from last year. Some people loved it, and others didn't. We've made some tweaks to Zion's format based on those comments – it's still probably not perfect. But it is good. And it is effective in both teaching the faith and passing the intrigue and passion of the story on to others.

Come and join us. If you can't, please take a few minutes each day and pray for the faith formation at Zion, and the faith formation we encourage to happen in every home, every night. Our future needs your prayers as well.

Plan to come, but not to have only your head filled with knowledge, but your heart as well. We need Jesus, we need each other, and we need God's love every day.

-Pastor Will



In this issue:

1. *A Word from Pastor Will*
2. *Table of Contents, Church Staff Listing*
3. *Stewardship Corner, Attendance Statistics, Pastoral Acts*
4. *Memorials, Financial Report*
5. *Council Minutes*
6. *Youth and Family Ministry*
7. *ZLCW and Announcements*
8. *Congratulations-Please help by submitting*

**INSERTS:**

*Zion's Church Calendar  
Worship Leaders Schedule  
Additional Reports*

**Zion's Mission Statement:**

As a body of believers, created by God,  
redeemed by Christ, empowered by the Spirit,  
we are called to bear witness  
to God's love.

**Church staff:**

Pastor: Will Johnson  
pastor@zionlutheran.us

Office Administrator: Cammy Sue Oakland  
churchlady@zionglendive.com

Youth & Family Ministry: Cami White  
cami@zionlutheran.us

**Prayer Chain Contacts:**

Church Office - 377-3369  
Avis - 377-2617  
Cammy Sue - 377-3491

**ZIONEWS is published monthly by:**

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Glendive MT 59330  
website: [www.zionlutheran.us](http://www.zionlutheran.us)



**Submit your news to:**

Email: cami@zionlutheran.us  
phone: 406-377-3369  
fax: 406-377-3360

**2018 Zion Council Members:**

Cathy Kirkpatrick, President  
Kevin Miller, Vice President  
Janna McCormick, Treasurer  
Marie Meland, Secretary

Bill Miller	Gail Ring
Tyler Gabbert	Leah Juneau
Paul Shearer	Emma Gabbert
Kyle Voss	Danielle Wold
Tom Trangmoe	Larry Heimbuch



**Remember when shopping at Reynolds Market to say "Shopper 7000" and a portion of your purchase will benefit Zion Youth Ministry.**

**HIGH ROPES OPEN HOUSE  
BADLANDS MINISTRIES**

August 18th  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Anyone 12 years of age and older,  
accompanied by an adult,  
is welcome to participate on our high ropes  
course the afternoon of August 18th, 2018.  
The course will be staffed from 1-5 PM.  
Cost is \$30 per person.  
\*Release Form must be completed  
prior to participation\*

Contact Cami White for more information,  
forms, and travel plans.  
377-3369  
cami@zionlutheran.us



### Stewardship Corner

Last month we considered the importance of God’s guidance in our management of time, talents, and finances. It is all

about discerning what is “worthwhile” and what is not. One might feel that God is pleased with us when we spend our time exclusively on others, as if he would not want us to spend money on ourselves. Relatively affluent people should not feel guilty for having good things that others do not. In his book Giving to God, Mark Allan Powell says, “The apostle Paul does not assume that either poverty or riches would be his undoing because he knows that God is at work in him (Philippians 1:6) and that he can do all things through Christ (Philippians 4:13).” So we are not distinguishing between “necessities” and “luxuries” as much as we are determining what is worthwhile and what is not. In this matter, the Christian sets him or herself apart from the general population by prayerfully seeking the guidance of God’s Spirit. In Romans 12:2 Paul says, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Powell goes on to say, “Discerning people lack no appreciation for the wonder and value of life, but, to the contrary, appreciate what they have and do not regret the absence of what they choose to forgo.”

**1 Peter 4:10 “Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”**

<u>July Statistics</u>	<u>Att’d</u>	<u>Com</u>	<u>Offering</u>
July 1 Mako	19	19	350.00**
<b>July 1 Sun</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>3,797.00</b>
July 5 Thurs	13	13	1,377.00**
July 8 Mako	19	17	**
<b>July 8 Sun</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>4,131.00</b>
July 12 Thurs	13	13	127.00**
July 15 Mako	30	29	605.00**
<b>July 15 Sun</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>2,577.00</b>
July 19 Thurs	12	12	365.00**
July 22 Mako	26	26	440.00**
<b>July 22 Sun</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>3,512.00</b>

(\*\*This service offering included in Sunday Total amount)

### Pastoral Acts for July

- Funerals - 0
- Baptisms - 0
- Weddings - 0
- Private Communion - 5
- Communion - 7  
(includes - Grandview, GMC Nursing Home)



Our Zion Stewardship and Evangelism Committee is pursuing its goal of helping faithful people discover and employ their skills and talents. This discovery happens amid an atmosphere where people are invited into a faith relationship and fellowship with other Christians. Opportunities for this often center on a meal – food and fellowship. Our S & E Committee is looking for a person or persons who like to cook and prepare food for others with the help and support of the committee. Of course, it helps if these people have some flexibility in their schedules. If you are such a person or know of someone who likes to minister to others in this way, feel free to call Don Idso at home (377-5007) or on his cell phone (939-5604). If you would just like more specific information about this, please give Don a call.



**Thursday, 6 pm Worship**  
**Sunday, 8 am at Makoshika**  
**Sunday, 10 am Worship**

**June and July Memorials**

Radio broadcast July 15<sup>th</sup> in memory of **Marie McCormick's July 17<sup>th</sup> birthday**

from her family

Radio broadcast July 22<sup>nd</sup> in honor of **Freda Haidle and Nedra Stott on their 100<sup>th</sup> birthdays**

from Esther Shearer

In memory of **Loren Lovaas**

from Marian Chouinard for the Radio fund

Thanks to **Sheila Kennedy & Bonita Jenkins**

from Anonymous to Loaves & Fishes

In memory of **Carmen Miller**

from The Miller Family for the 2018 Youth Trip

In memory of **and Martha Hilger**

from Jim & Karen (Hilger) Hoffman for the Endowment Fund

Thanks to **Sheila Kennedy & Bonita Jenkins**

from Loaves & Fishes

In memory of **Loved Ones**

from Janet Meland to ZLCW for World Relief Kit

Thanks to **Sheila Kennedy & Bonita Jenkins**

from Anonymous to Loaves & Fishes

**PRAYER CHAIN REORGANIZATION OF 2018**

All prayers are directed to go through Avis - 377-2617 or Cammy Sue church, 377-3369, 377-3491, home or 989-3491, cell. One of us will send out the group email and call Peggy or next person on the list. Hopefully, less time to reach everyone and results more immediate prayers, less confusion on names, spellings and details. Thank you all for volunteering for this ministry of intercessory prayers.



**FOR THE RECORD:**

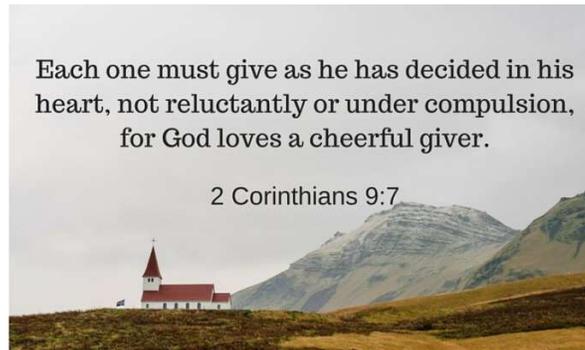
**June 2018 Treasurer's Report**

<b>Income</b>	
Tithes/Offerings	<u>12,663.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$12,663.00</b>

<b>Expense</b>	
Advertising and Promotion	149.00
Benevolence (ELCA)	1,576.00
Dues and Subscriptions	397.75
Insurance Expense	
General Liability Insurance	908.53
Health Insurance	<u>626.84</u>
Total Insurance Expense	1,535.37

Landscaping Expenses	155.00
MDU	400.90
Mileage Reimbursement	84.80
Mortgage (window debt)	415.00
Office Software	500.00
Office Supplies	572.10
Pastors Housing	150.00
Payroll Expenses	6,777.59
Pension	659.76
Postage and Delivery	48.49
Pulpit Supply	800.00
Repairs and Maintenance	147.53
Sunday School	206.82
Taxes - Property	345.93
Telephone/Internet Expense	101.77
Wage Tax	2,216.35
Water	<u>155.16</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$17,395.32</b>

Net Ordinary Income	<u>-4,732.32</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	- \$ 4,732.32
Year to date Net Income	\$ -23,205.83
<b>6/30/18 Statement Balance</b>	<b>\$43,767.53</b>
<b>6/30/18 Savings Balance</b>	<b>\$90,070.67</b>
<b>6/30/18 Mortgage (Windows Balance)</b>	<b>\$34,191.72</b>



**July 11, 2018**

**Call to Order:** Council President, Cathy Kirkpatrick, called the meeting to order.

**Devotions:** Pastor Will read Micah 6:8. The verse says to: do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. Justice at that time meant to care for your neighbors. That might involve law or not. And in addition to walking humbly, we are also told to be bold in our faith.

**Approval of Minutes** from the June 9 meeting. Cathy noted a misspelled name, and Pastor Will wanted to include the number or location of the Sunday School room that had been leaking. A motion to approve the corrected minutes was made by Kevin Miller and seconded by Gail Ring. The motion carried and the corrected minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report** was presented by Janna McCormick. A discussion followed in an effort to determine why offerings have been down during the summer. After a review of collection amounts from last summer, it was decided the council will monitor to see if amounts once again came up to the anticipated tithing revenue to meet budgeted financial plans.

**Pastor's Report** Pastor Will provided a comprehensive report to the Council on the past months work of the Pastor and other events involving the congregation and community of believers. A brief report of the Youth Trip to Houston, TX was provided. The youth and chaperones enjoyed the trip, made friends with other church groups and enjoyed service projects and group worship. Pastor Will announced he will be on vacation August 6 – 15.

**Communications:** A letter was received from Badlands Ministry, noting the great work Emma G has been doing for them. They are quite impressed. The second part of the letter asks for a donation to help support their work and help support their costs related to staff. Donations may be in cash, in kind, and writing letters or sending care packages to those who work diligently to provide meaningful summer camp activities and experiences. After a short discussion, including a check into whether Zion has contributed in the past (Yes, in the amount of \$1000 in 2015), Council members agreed that until current budget issues have been resolved, a cash donation will not be made. In kind, letters, and care packages are encouraged. Cathy will ask the Endowment Committee if they are willing to make a cash donation to Badlands. She will report at the next Council meeting.

An announcement regarding the Celebrate Glendive celebration on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

A letter from Lutheran Disaster Response requesting financial support from our congregation. In the past, a special offering has been taken during worship. This will be done once again.

The final request was from Dawson County Healthy Communities Coalition, asking Zion to sponsor its trading card program. This has not been done in the past. The discussion was tabled until our August meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

**Property and Management** – Bill Miller reported that Richard Schwartz will be giving a quote on the removal and re-installing of pews from the sanctuary in preparation for installation of new carpet. He will also provide a quote for a project to direct water away from the church on the Riverview Avenue side of the property. Schwartz has looked at the roof leak near the choir loft, and since his group did the roofing, they will honor a warranty and repair that leak at no charge. The door to the used furniture room has been sticking. Steve Merrill did a repair on it, and he will be painting the door in the near future. Steve is also the mower of the month, having mowed and sprayed the lawn. The sanctuary refresh committee will meet next Wednesday, July 18. Esther Shearer has volunteered to join the group, and her name has been added. Danielle asked whether there is a plan to replace the pew cushions should the congregation decide not to order chairs. Bill M said no such plan has been explored. Council will be updated on the committee's meeting at the August meeting.

**Evangelism and Stewardship** – Kevin Miller reports that a dinner is being planned to engage new members and establish personal relationships with them. Kourtney Stortz recommended a taco bar be provided for all rather than planning on a potluck. The dinner will be in September, and details are being worked out. Another member of the committee, Don I, asked whether the Time and Talent Surveys were being used to full advantage. A good amount of time and energy goes into developing a survey. Is there an appropriate return on the investment of time? A question from the suggestion box asked about ordering cups with members' names on them. The committee will investigate whether Country Girl Clay will be amenable to having a template and taking orders from members desiring a personalized cup.

**Social Ministry** – No information to report.

**Worship** – No information to report.

**Youth and Education** – Cami provided a written report for the Council members. Six follow-up dates have been scheduled for the youth who attended the Houston gathering. Youth have asked to hold further discussions about some of the difficult issues that were addressed in Houston. Dates will be listed in the Sunday bulletin. Cami also reports that scholarships are available for the remaining summer camps. Scholarships are made available by Badlands Ministries and the church.

**Unfinished Business:** Employee assessments of growth and development will be done by the Executive Committee before the end of November. The current plan is to complete assessments for Cammy Sue, Cami W, and Hope in September of 2018, and for Pastor Will in October of 2018. This will allow all to be finished prior to the beginning of the Christmas season and budget planning.

The discussion will continue regarding research showing that presenting a consistent message is an integral part of building a congregation and reaching potential new members. Once marketing/public relations/communication information has been gathered, Cathy, Bill, and Pastor Will plan to review the material and begin making a plan to proceed. They will report to the Council during the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Continuing discussion: ELCA Mission Investment Fund will provide, at no charge, feasibility studies for congregations considering large projects. There is no charge for the study or the expertise of this group. Should a large project be identified at any time, we have the information about whom to contact to make use of these services. Pastor Will is to write a letter acknowledging the receipt of the info. Eastern Plains Economic Development's Executive Director, Beth Epley, is researching grant opportunities that are available to churches. The Council agreed that grants will be good for future consideration.

Tyler G made to motion to adjourn, Paul S seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

**Closing:** Lord's Prayer and Mission Statement was led by Pastor Will. **Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 22<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.**

Submitted by Marie Meland, Council Secretary



**Tuesday, July 31 - 10:30 am**  
**Wednesday, Aug 8 - 1 pm**  
**Thursday, Aug 16 - 7 pm**  
**Tuesday, Aug 21 - 10:30 am**

Events for all High School youth as we finish our series of sharing and exploring topics from the Gathering.

**August 18**

High Ropes Open House at Badlands Ministries

**August 19**

Backpack Blessing Sunday

**September 9**

Rally Sunday



**Thank you** for supporting this opportunity in our faith journey in Houston this summer.

We served dinner and presented info and pictures about the Gathering to about 60 people.

Our Stockholder Campaign raised \$6,735.

**Special thanks** to Geri Cullinan for being our Thrivent Action Team sponsor for the banquet.

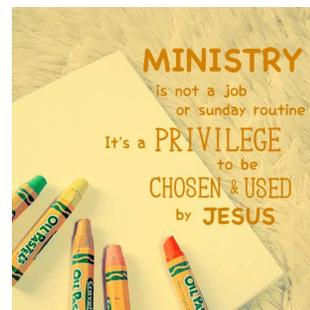
**Thank you all again!**

Paige, Emma, Hope, Kenna,  
Ayana, Bryn, Carsen and Tommy

## Special News and Events

### 1st Semester 2018-19

Sept 9	Rally Sunday	
Sept 16	Small but Mighty	James 3:1-12
Sept 23	Last and Least	Mark 9:30-37
Sept 30	A Praying Way Bible Sunday	James 5:13-20
Oct 7	Jesus Welcomes Children	Mark 10:2-16
Oct 14	Everything's Possible for God	Mark 10:17-31
Oct 21	Who Sits Next to Jesus	Mark 10:35-45
Oct 28	Reformation Celebration	
Nov 4	Rule Number One	Mark 12:28-34
Nov 11	Share All You Have	Mark 12:38-44
Nov 18	Watch What God Does	Mark 13:1-8
Nov 25	<b>No Sunday School ~ Happy Thanksgiving</b>	
	<b>Advent</b>	
Dec 2	Advent and Program Practice	
Dec 9	Advent and Program Practice Afternoon Adventure Retreat 3rd - 6th grade	
Dec 16	10 am Program	
Dec 23	<b>No Sunday School ~ Merry Christmas</b>	
Dec 23	<b>No Sunday School</b>	



*Sunday School GIFT is led by caring members of our church family. If you would like to share your time and talents with all ages and stages, please contact the Youth and Family Ministry Director.*

- FAITH5 leader
- Peer opportunity leader
- Host/hostess
- Provide snacks

**Leadership training will be held  
Thursday, September 6 at 7 pm.**



**Zion Lutheran  
Church Women**

**Bible Study Circles and Groups:**

***Circle of Prayer meets: Wednesdays at 10 a.m.  
Quilters: meet: will resume meeting September 3  
Bible Study Circles: will resume in September***



**Lutheran World Relief**

**Baby care kits & Personal care kits**

Zion Congregation family,  
As you know, Zion Lutheran Church Women (ZLCW) gather items throughout the year. Each autumn, ZLCW assembles KITS for LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF and ships them to areas of need in the world. For the kits, we are in need of:

- **Soap**, full size bars (Ivory for baby care kits; Any type for personal care kits)
- **Toothbrushes**
- **Nail clippers, with or without attached file**
- **Combs** (sturdy)

We also need 2 items which are not readily available in Glendive, but ZLCW would welcome your cash donations (at the church office) for:

- ✓ **Diapers**, cloth, prefold; each pack of 10 costs \$15.00 @ WalMart
- ✓ **Hand towels** (\$2.99 @ WalMart) Towels must be either be new or in "like new" condition.

A box will be in the narthex to receive your donations. Cash donations may be left in the church office.

***Any support you feel moved to provide will be greatly appreciated!  
Thank you!***

To all Mom's friends and Pastor Will at her faith community: Thanking God for all you've done and for the support of friendship and faith. We have always appreciated Zion Lutheran as a loving, caring community that mom derived so much support from. It was her wish and ours that we showed that appreciation in a financial way.



Thank you for everything,  
Jim & Karen (Hilger) Hoffmann

"WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD AND THE FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, PRAYING ALWAYS FOR YOU."

COLOSSIANS 1:3



**MARK your CALENDAR**

**Saturday, Sept 22, 2018  
Zion Lutheran BAZAAR**

*Featuring crafts of all kinds  
Please use the summer  
to prepare your specialty.*

The support of everyone in the congregation is sincerely appreciated!

**August Book Group**

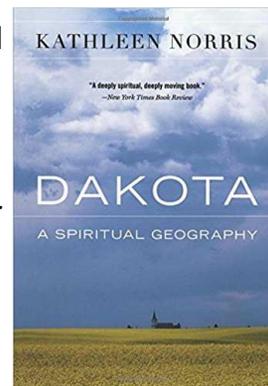
**Read Kathleen Norris,  
*Dakota: a spiritual geography***

**Meet Sunday, August 19th at 3 p.m.**

Bring your marked up copies, questions, comments for a good book discussion.

Norris' book is worth a second read for those of us who have read it once and a good read for those who are coming at it the first time. She writes about our country, the prairies, and the spirituality we possess in our place.

Peace, Pastor Avis.  
(Call me if you have any questions. 939-1421, 377-2617)



# AUGUST 2018

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### **ZIONEWS**

**AUGUST 2018**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

*We want to celebrate with you. Please share your joys with us. Let us know if your children or grandchildren are graduating, new babies, weddings, and other accomplishments and we will celebrate together. Please call the office by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month (377-3369) or email to [cami@zionlutheran.us](mailto:cami@zionlutheran.us).*