



Zion Lutheran Church

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2013

**The Seven
Marks of
Discipleship**

☞ Pray

☞ Worship

☞ Study

☞ Invite

☞ Encourage

☞ Give

☞ Serve

Our Discipleship Together _____

Called by God

Lately I have been reminded how easy it is to forget that what we do in our daily life is as much a part of our calling from God as is a calling to become a pastor. We are called by God to be active citizens within our community, to be parents and grandparents, to be friends and spouses. We are called to our acts of charity and the volunteering we do. We are called to our jobs. We are baptized into Jesus Christ himself, therefore how it is that we live out our lives is inextricably connected to our calling by God.

This understanding formed the basis of our stewardship drive this past fall where in small groups, gathered in the homes of fellow members, we pondered together the ways that God might be active through us in our daily lives.

According to Luther in his Small Catechism explanation to the 3rd petition of the Lord's Prayer, "thy will be done," we don't have to pray for God's will to be done, because it is done no matter what. So how do we see it being done? He says, "Whenever God breaks and hinders every evil scheme and will that would not allow us to hallow God's name and would prevent the coming of his kingdom, and instead whenever God strengthens us and keeps us steadfast in his word and in faith until the end of our lives." How does God do this? Through us! Through others! Through our actions in our daily lives. This is what the love of God does and we bear that love through our actions in daily life. Bearing that love is our calling.

It is unfortunate that historically congregations have taken on the identity of being the sole place where the church is manifest, leaving out the most important place where the church resides; the places where we live out our daily lives. We must keep reminding each other that we are the church in daily life, and that God's calling in these ministries is as significant and holy as is any other calling from God.

Pastor Keith

News from our Intern _____

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send and who will go for us?' and I said 'Here I am; send me!'" Isaiah 6:8

Well spring is here, there's no denying it! The weather has turned warm and breezy, daffodils fill my flower beds, and wood ticks are to be found everywhere! Spring is God's way of renewing the earth, a time of awakening. The spring also brings about new opportunities of service to others and to our community.

The Harvest for Hope Community Garden is being prepped and improved and will soon be ready to plant and weed. The garden will once again bring forth fresh vegetables for those in need, and our community. Spring and summer always gives us new opportunities to serve our neighbor with lawn care and other outdoor chores. There is much work to be done.

The Git-R-Done Group is in full swing and making a big difference in the appearance of the property and having a great time doing it, they are surely "getting things done." This group is breaking new ground in what a committee should look like, and getting great results.

Our Lenten Prayer Journey brought forth fruits for service and stewardship also. Our committees will be very busy discerning what it all means for the future of Zion and our mission as a congregation in this community and around the world. Many more opportunities for ministry and service will be developed through this discernment.

Spring is a new beginning, a new opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus, to live out your Christian faith. With all of these opportunities for service and much more...how are you responding to the Lord's voice when He calls to you "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" Enrich your life, grow your faith, love as Jesus loved, and answer Him "Here I am, send me."

Yours in Christ,
Intern Linda

Council Meeting Summary

March attendance was up from 2012 from 116 to 141; Maundy Thursday was up from 2012 from 98 to 129; Good Friday Tenebrae was down from 2012 from 72 to 52; and Easter was down from 2012 from 274 to 201. There was one funeral on March 16 for Diane Tipple.

The General Fund/Parsonage combined fund balances as reported increased \$9,253. The Capital Campaign Fund balance decreased from \$23,185 to \$21,925. Debt/DAR and Community Children had receipts of \$1,983. \$2,810 is available for Community Children/Fortune Lake use. The estimated balance on the Thrivent loan balance is \$29,640 after the \$991 principal payment at the end of March.

Meeting minutes were reviewed for the Evangelism Committee and Peter noted that the signs are now up.

The Property Committee met last week, toured the facilities, and began clean-up projects. A notice will be posted to let people know when the meetings are being held.

Karen noted that the Stewardship Committee has collected most of the Time and Talent sheets and the information has been entered into the computer.

There are 9 people registered for the Dave Ramsay Financial Peace University course. The class begins on April 25.

Currently 4 or 5 FLLC scholarships have been turned in.

Bishop Skrenes will visit on April 28. There will be a coffee time and perhaps a question and answer session as well.

Zion has a Relay for Life team and planning sessions are underway. The event is scheduled for the last weekend of June. Loose offerings during the month of June will go toward the Relay event.

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Council Meeting Summary

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Pastor Keith read a letter from Bill Retza. He accepted an internship position, which will progress to a pastoral job, with the Lutheran Church in Mission for Christ in Crivitz. He requested that his membership be cancelled. The rest of his family will remain members of Zion at this time.

The next Council meeting will be May 14, 2013 at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Roxanne Bowdin, Recording Secretary

Please Wear Red!

On Sunday May 19th we will celebrate Pentecost. Get out your red clothes and come help us celebrate! The church will be filled with red geraniums, the choir will sing, the contemporary band will perform and we will honor our High School graduates.

Special Music

We will be looking for people to share their musical talents in worship during the summer beginning on May 26th through Labor Day. If you know of someone, or would like to do special music on a Sunday, please contact Ann Buscher at 715.735.3017.

Evangelism Committee

The committee met on April 22 and May 6, 2013.

The Cry Room is starting to take shape. Kathy Heimbuch and I painted a couple of the walls and the rest will be painted in the next several weeks. Stephanie Klein donated a car rug, a bookcase, and several small storage bins with little cars. Amanda Litts donated a small kitchen with various food items and little pans, Jo Schutt donated a fairly sizeable pile of Biblical coloring sheets and books, Emily Limberg donated a small table and chairs set, Mary Thielen donated a blue rubberized play rug, and Pat Rondeau donated coloring books and crayons. The carpet will eventually be cleaned and carpet tape will be applied to the small car rug to hold the curled edges down. Thank you to all of those who donated and helped with this endeavor in anyway. The committee hopes the children and their parents utilizing the Cry Room will find it more child-friendly. Just a reminder to the parents; your children must be supervised when they are in the Cry Room.

Kathy Heimbuch went to The Firehouse Grill to check out the circle tables that Kevin Belongia has for sale. She said they are very sturdy and in reasonably good shape; we can pick and choose which ones we want. The asking price is \$40 per table. We will offer to pay cash for the 6 tables we plan to purchase in hopes of getting the price reduced. The funds will come from the Memorial Fund. We will ask the Git-R-Done Group to pick up the tables for us.

Kathy put together a sign-up sheet for parents who want to take advantage of the Mom's Night Out event at Zion on Friday, May 10th. Children ages 1 to 10 will be watched for free between 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. To date we have eight children registered for this wonderful service event. Thank you to Katelyn Sylvester, Carly Bauer, and Kathy Heimbuch who will be babysitters that evening.

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Evangelism Committee

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The Sunday night worship service was discussed in detail. Pastor Keith put together a written proposal on what he thinks the service might look like and the committee provided feedback. There will be several "dry-runs" for the Sunday night worship service with participants invited to attend and provide comment. These "dry-runs" might start on Sunday, June 2nd, June 9th, and possibly June 16th.

Our next meeting is set for Monday, May 13, 2013 at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Sylvester

DAR Boys & Girls Club News

The DAR Boys & Girls Club thanks you for the donation of \$247.30. The school year is coming to a close with only two weeks left to the program. The summer program will start on June 3, 2013. Your donations during this school year have impacted the lives of many young people from scholarships, to healthy snacks after school, to supplies for our after school adventure program. Thanks for making the difference in the life of a child.

Rich Crevier, CPO, DAR Boys & Girls Club

News from our Financial Secretary

As you know, we have been looking for ways to cut back and save money at Zion. So, I approached the Council with a way I thought could help. They agreed with my suggestion that I only print statements twice a year, at the end of June and the end of December. Anyone who wants a statement at the end of March or September is certainly welcome to have one. You can call me either at Zion on Tuesdays, or at my home, 715.735.7180. (Please leave a message if there is no answer.) Or, you are welcome to leave a message with Paula at Zion's office.

In the back of your packet of regular giving envelopes, there are return envelopes addressed to Zion so you can mail your weekly, bi-weekly or monthly giving if you cannot make it to worship. Just write a check, stamp it, and it's ready to go. I have noticed that more and more of you are using them. I'm glad they are coming in handy for you. Please feel free to talk to me or call me at home 715.735.7180 if you have any suggestions or concerns regarding your envelopes, giving statements, or anything else.

Relay for Life

This year Zion will once again have a team in the American Cancer Society "Relay for Life." We will be walking in memory of Diane Tipple and Bill Benchley, two members of Zion who have lost their battle with this disease in the past few months. We walk to raise money to help with research for a cure, getting people the services they need such as rides to treatment, teaching ladies how to use wigs and make-up due to changes in their skin, and a whole lot more.

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Relay for Life ... (continued)

We will use the same T-shirts as last year and they are the same price \$12.00 for S-XL and \$14.00 for 2XL and up. I will be selling Luminary Bags again this year which you can pick up in Zion's office. You can decorate it yourself, or it will be decorated for you. The price for a luminary is \$10.00. A luminary bag is in memory of someone who lost their battle and is put on the track at the Relay, lit with a candle to glow in the night. We will have a booth this year at the Relay to sell glow-in-the dark accessories for a final money raising project.

I invite anyone to join Zion's team this year (member or not). You do not have to walk. You could be a part of the team by helping in other ways, such as helping to set up the morning of the event, donating a canopy, helping with fundraising, etc. So, anyone who wants to be on our team or help out in any way, please contact Karen Houdek at her home 715.735.7180. Watch for more information on our next meeting.

Git-R-Done Group

A new group is forming at Zion. We call it the Git-R-Done Group. The purpose of the group is to do odd jobs around Zion, and there are plenty of them! They plan to tackle cleaning projects, reorganizing, fixing, prep work for bigger projects, maintenance, and repair. At the last meeting, they tackled window cleaning, vacuuming as well as some other small maintenance items. Plenty of time was taken for coffee! The next meeting of the group will be TUESDAY, MAY 21.

On that day, we will work mostly outside, depending upon the weather, of course. (This will be Zion's Spring Clean-up.) Also, we could use some help with a few minor plumbing projects.

The group gathers at 8:00 and will be done by noon at the latest. You are more than welcome to join the fun. If you have any questions or suggestions, contact Gary Grom at 715.732.0617.

The Stewardship Corner

Last month I started asking members of Zion to explain how they see what they're doing in their everyday lives as God's work or as a call from God. That's a very straightforward question to answer for those who work in ministry, but many of the rest of us struggle and must give it much thought.

One thing we all know is that God gifted each of us with fantastic skills and talents. If we think about those skills and talents in terms of what we do every day we should be able to see how God's work is being done in our daily lives. Quite a few of Zion's members were willing to share their thoughts. I hope you enjoy what they have to say and will reflect on your own blessings in a new light.

Troy Cording really feels as if he has had a calling for the AV work he does for Zion. When he was approached about being on the AV Committee, he was at a very low point in his life. He questioned if this was something he really wanted to do, but he prayed about it, and the answer was yes, he needed to be a part of it. Troy feels that from the very beginning it has been very healing for him. He told me there are aspects of the job that he doesn't like, but he deals with it. And now, being in charge of the AV group, he feels God is giving him the strength to carry on and follow through with it.

Roxy Bowdin heard a call to teach and for years she taught in the academic skills lab at NWTC. However, six years ago her job took a new twist and she wasn't sure she wanted to be a part of it. NWTC implemented a GED program for inmates at the Marinette County Jail. Even though she wasn't at all sure she wanted this new challenge, or that she could handle it, she agreed to try. Since then she has discovered a new joy in her work and she thanks God for leading her to it.

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The Stewardship Corner (continued)

In Mark Swenson's line of work, his gift from God is listening and sensing when to offer input. Almost daily, he is put into a position where somebody is losing a home in foreclosure or securing a home in an estate or a divorce tussle. He becomes a sounding board for these individuals who often just want to vent, but sometimes want more from him. Mark says his real strength is knowing when to listen and when to offer input. God has allowed Mark to see into other people's lives through his job. And because of that, he realizes just how blessed he and his family are. His family has had its own struggles over the years just like most everyone else's, but through his job he has witnessed people with so many problems. Some problems people create on their own, while others seem to run into a string of bad luck. He feels blessed that God provides this vivid picture to him on just how blessed he, his family, and his extended family are.

Johanna Zuehls has been very blessed in her life to have been able to listen to many calls from God. She never worried too much about where she's supposed to be or what she's supposed to be doing. While in high school, she did lament about not having a boyfriend, but God did send her that perfect somebody! She honestly can't remember a time when she felt truly lost, and for this she is gratefully humbled.

When she was led into the field of Audiology, she never knew she would be in a business where she would be in a leadership role. She is a person who really can't say "no" to others. She feels that if a question is asked of her, the question is asked for some reason greater than she can fathom and she needs to see it through. The opportunity to help and to affect others is bigger than her. She may not want to help. She may not have time to help. It may be the last thing she wants to do, but there is a reason she was asked. Perhaps she was asked for a financial reason. Maybe with an extra member a club can stay open. She was told once that when helping is easy, it's not really true volunteerism. It's when it's hard that it really counts.

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The Stewardship Corner (continued) _____

When she was asked to serve on the board of the DAR, it was really the last thing she wanted to do. She already served on several boards and was a member of several clubs. She had lots of dues to pay and lots of meetings to attend. There were lots of obligations. And did she mention she had a child? Oh... and that she owns a business? She was already exhausted and here was another obligation someone wanted her to attend to and yet she was compelled to say yes. She wonders why.... Johanna says she cannot lie and say she has been the most active board member. This has been a very difficult commitment. The board has had very hard decisions to make in a state of economic unrest. Staff changes and economic hardships of the children of the community also make it hard for the DAR, yet God calls her to keep going. She knows He wants her to continue. And she will. She strongly feels it is God's will.

Jim Weissgerber would like to think he makes a difference in people's lives. He holds several jobs; he works full-time with the developmentally disabled, part-time with the rescue squad for 20 years, and part-time at the hospital part-time as an EMT for 15 years.

In the rescue business, he sees people at some of the worse times in their lives. He hopes he has made a positive difference for some of these people. He says, "You're never alone when dealing with rescue squad situations and your team is always there to support you in stressful situations. Once you have training, it helps calm some of the fears and the rest is learning how to control your emotions in the midst of an emergency." Jim never thought he could do that job, but at 40 years old he had a friend who almost died on the job at KUS. Jim said he felt so helpless watching his friend go through that experience, so he went to management and asked if he could start a first responder's group. They approved that request in 1990 or 1991; the group became a reality and has been active ever since.

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The Stewardship Corner (continued) _____

Getting Jim to say something good about himself was like pulling teeth, but I did get him to agree that he has a calming nature; he doesn't go ballistic as some people would in the situations in which he finds himself. Patience is a virtue needed in his work with the developmentally disabled. As Kathy Heimbuch said last month, it is fantastic to watch the childlike wonder of things the developmentally disabled do, while trying so hard to be grown-ups. But because of that childlikeness, patience is needed just as it is with any beloved child.

Next month will be the final installment in this search to help us see how God calls us in daily life. It is my hope that by reading these articles your eyes will be opened as to how God works through you each and every day to spread his love and caring through your family, your community, and the world.

In God's peace and love,

Karen Sylvester

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

Sunday, May 19, 2013 (Contemporary Worship)

(Honoring the Graduates)

Acolyte: Olivia Kuhn Lector: Heidi Beland
Greeter: Jacki Renne Head Usher: Pat Rondeau
Communion Assistant: Barb Grom
Coffee Time: Zion Choir
AV Team: Troy Cording & Drake Schutt

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Sunday, May 26, 2013 (Holy Trinity) – Organist: Ann Buscher

Acolyte: James Jagielski Lector: Don Otto
Greeters: George & Nila Krenos
Head Usher: Nancy Benchley
Communion Assistant: Jacki Renne
Coffee Time Sponsor: Johanna Zuehls

Big Bear Where Did You Go?

For the past two years, a bear has been present at the back of our worship area, welcoming any extra change that passersby may offer, designating that change to help alleviate world hunger. This bear was given by the Northern Great Lakes Synod to Zion in recognition of the work Zion has done with its world hunger campaigns in the past. We have given the bear back to the Synod so that it can be awarded at the upcoming Synod Assembly to another congregation doing exemplary work to alleviate world hunger. We offer our deepest thanks to Zion's Social Ministry Committee which has done great work guiding our congregation with our world hunger drives. We know that their work has inspired other congregations to make a difference with world hunger. And, thank you to all those who have been so generous. God has been using your generosity in wonderful ways!

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN MAY 2013

May 3

Shirley Lebeck

May 5

Ken Bruce
Debra Strohl

May 6

Jacob Buenning
Spencer Martin

May 8

Jenny Quintana

May 9

Matt Hurley

May 11

Lisa Knopik
Dennis Mullen
Aaron Trusty

May 12

Ellen Aschim
Ron Klein

May 13

Wayne Johnson

May 14

Taylor Ehlers

May 15

Sam Gressel

May 16

Steven Hansen
Ella Travis

May 16

Cora Weissgerber

May 17

Diane Paasch
Tammy Polta
Jim Weissgerber

May 19

Kirsten Andrist

May 20

Millie Camp

May 21

Eric Peterson

May 22

James Martin

May 23

Mackenzie Andrist
Charlotte Bauer

May 24

Robert Cook
Skyler Emler

May 25

Logan Giese
Hannah Pecard
Kelly Pecard
Terry Potter

May 27

Irene Anderson
Michael Jagielski
Addison Minzlaff



May 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6-7 pm Spark, Conf., Crossways 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	2 6 pm Financial Peace University 6 pm Northland Village Worship	3	4
5 9:30 am Worship	6 10:30 am Evangelism Com.	7 8am-12 noon Git-R-Done Group	8 6-7 pm Spark, Conf., Crossways (Last class until fall)	9 6pm Financial Peace University 6 pm Northland Village Worship	10 6-10 pm Mom's Night Out	11
12 9:30 am Worship Baptism Marlea Roseann Wienandt	13 10:30 am Evangelism Com.	14 9-11:30 am Sew-for-Missions 10:30-12 noon Crossway at St. James 6:30 pm Council meets	15 6pm VBS Planning Meeting 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (last one until fall)	16 6pm Financial Peace University NO Northland Village Worship 7pm Ruth Group	17	18 1-4 pm Sight Group Spring Formal at Zion
19 Penetcost Graduates Recognition 9:30 am Worship	20 6 pm Ecumenical Bible Class Spring Banquet	21 8 am-12 noon Git-R-Done Group 10:30-12 noon Crossways at St. James Church	22	23 6pm Financial Peace University 6 pm Northland Village Worship	24	25
26 9:30 am Worship Welcome new Member.	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 9-11:30 am Sew-for-Missions	29	30 6pm Financial Peace University 6 pm Northland Village Worship	31	

May 16, 17 & 18 Synod Assembly

Pastor on vacation June 20 - 25