

Zion Lutheran Church
411 3rd Ave. NE
Little Falls, MN 56345
320-632-5792

ZION STEWARD

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019



Office Administrator: Barb Johnson
Zion Email: zionlf@yahoo.com
Church Office: 320.632.5792
Website: zionlf.com

Saturday Worship: 6:30pm
Sunday Worship: 9:00am
Creative Worship 11:15am

Communion 1st & 3rd weekend
Sunday School @ 10:15am
Sunday Adult Bible Study @ 10:30am

Outside Looking In

John 18:16(ESV) ¹⁶but Peter stood outside at the door. So, the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in.

We all remember the story about Peter following the soldiers after Jesus was arrested. We remember the story well because it gives us the account of Peter denying Jesus three times. Still, Peter was there—supposedly to provide friendly support to his Lord in the midst of this intensely anti-Jesus crowd. He was outside the courtyard desperately wanting to be closer—wanting to see exactly what was going on with Jesus. He was on the Outside Looking In when John spoke to the servant girl, who then permitted him to enter. But before the door of the courtyard swung open, the servant girl confronted Peter with, “You are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?” Which produced the first of Peter’s threefold denial of Jesus that evening.

Peter was relatively safe Outside Looking In, but he wanted to be closer to the action to observe exactly what was going on. How eager would Peter have been to enter into that courtyard if he knew that entering would mean that he would deny his Lord three times? Perhaps that awareness would have caused some initial hesitancy for Peter. After all, he was “bold” Peter, who had confidently stated that he would never deny his Lord. But looking back on that incident, a repentant Peter wouldn’t have changed a thing. His thrice denial, and subsequent forgiveness, shaped and molded him into the man, the Apostle, the follower of Jesus that God intended. A man who went to the cross himself rather than deny Jesus again.

There’s a story about a family who not long ago visited Disneyworld in Orlando. I’m told that it’s very typical for Disney characters to be mobbed by the youngsters who visit the park. One of the first characters this family saw was Snow White. A very attractive young lady was properly attired in her Snow White costume and greeting all the children. But the little boy from this one family held back. He remained on the Outside Looking In at Snow White who was surrounded by other children. He watched as Snow White lovingly interacted with these children, but he remained at a safe distance away from the action.

His thinking, which was later revealed, was along the lines of “What if Snow White doesn’t like me? What if she rejects me? What will the other children think?” With that attitude, he somewhat dejectedly kept his distance. However, even at that distance, he wasn’t safe. Snow White noticed that he was holding back and went over to him. Snow White spoke to him and embraced him with a loving hug. Her actions and words produced a big smile on the little boy’s face. His attitude of possible rejection was changed to gleeful acceptance.

Outside Looking In might be a way to describe some of the folks we know who don’t understand or appreciate the satisfaction and joy we receive from being part of Christ’s church. Do they wonder how we are able to face adversity without fear, why we choose to support the church with our resources, why we choose to be in worship rather than doing something else? Some of those who don’t have a connection to the Church must wonder what the attraction is that prompts faithfulness on our part. Just as John went to the servant girl to allow Peter to enter the courtyard and the Snow White character went to the little boy who was holding back, so are we to go and invite those outside to come in and experience what the Church has to offer.

Outside Looking In could also describe some believers who are holding back and just watching others do the work that Christ has given to His Church. The Good News is that we’re all gifted to serve in His Church—there’s a place for every one of us! As we compared ourselves to others, it may seem that those who are doing the work appear to be so much more gifted, so much more talented, so much more qualified than we are. Yeah, it’s kind of normal for us to think that those doing the serving are more suited—more qualified—than we are. But there’s a place—a role—for each of us. We’re all part of the Body of Christ. No part is dispensable. We’re all needed and wanted!

Centershot Ministries is an outreach ministry that uses the life-skill of archery as a tool to reach people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Participants in Centershot discover how to make “Christ the target of their lives.” Churches that have used the Centershot ministry have seen entire families become active the local church. Each week participants work on their techniques to improve their archery skills and also dive into scripture to understand and live out God’s wonderful plan of salvation. The Centershot program is geared for children ages 8-14, but also includes adults as volunteers, classroom instructors, coaches and trainers of all ages.

Brief History – “Since its inception in 2005 Centershot Ministries has been introduced in 47 states and 18 foreign countries. More than 3000 churches, camps, outdoor ministries, and missionaries are using the Centershot program to reach families for the kingdom of God. Thousands of families are connecting with their local church and being introduced to the saving Grace found in Jesus Christ.” www.centershotministries.org

On January 12 we had DCE Tim Stroming from Our Redeemer (LCMS) in Cohasset come and speak to us about the Centershot program. He explained how they run their program and the how it benefits their congregation. Those of us who attended are very interested in getting the ministry started here at Zion as an outreach to families in our community. The program runs for eight weeks and has two primary components. One is the introduction to the Plan of Salvation. Each week participants spend 40 minutes learning about Jesus by focusing their time on a few key Bible passages that teach the foundation of the Christian faith. The second is the archery skills training. Participants then spend 40 minutes learning the fundamentals of archery and practice shooting at targets. The archery skills training is done by trained adult volunteers who have experience and knowledge in archery. We asked questions regarding set-up, equipment, and safety, and received very positive answers to all of our questions and concerns.

To get the program started at Zion, we will need a core group of 3 or 4 interested people who will make a commitment to be on the leadership team for this ministry. “The core leadership team will set the direction, make all relevant decisions, and provide oversight for the ministry.” If this is something that you feel God is calling you to be involved in, please contact me, DCO Peter Keyes, by text 320-232-3108 or email mrjkeyes@yahoo.com. We will need to get together and plan the next steps as soon as possible. We also have been invited to go to Our Redeemer in Cohasset to observe their Centershot program in action. They meet on Thursday evenings for eight weeks beginning the end of January and throughout the month of February.

Many who are reading this may not be interested in becoming directly involved in this program, however there is still opportunities for you to support the ministry through prayer and financial support. Please pray for God’s guidance as we put together the plans for this ministry. And pray that God would open doors and hearts for His Word to be proclaimed in our community. Pray also that we would be able to raise the funds needed to purchase the equipment and whatever other expenses might be needed to promote this ministry in our community.

DCO Peter Keyes

January 14, 2019

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – Corrected Copy

Vice President Barb Jelinski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The meeting opened with a reading by Don Stover. In attendance were Pastor Gary Hendrickson, DCO Peter Keyes, Don Stover, Nancy Peterson, Barb Jelinski, Jerry Knafla, Amanda Dawson, Marlyn Poppen, Nancy Christensen, and Bev Messinger.

Motion made by Don Stover and seconded by Amanda Dawson to approve the agenda as written; motion carried.

Motion made by Nancy Peterson and seconded by Don Stover to approve the minutes of the last meeting (December 10, 2018) as written; motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Hendrickson reported:

1. During the previous month (December), there were no baptisms, confirmations, funerals, marriages, releases, transfers, nor professions of faith.
2. Calls: Fourteen (14) calls to homebound members, two (2) hospital visits, and one (1) other (visitors/referrals). There were no member visitations this month.
3. Junior Confirmation: Classes have been going well. We've completed fifteen (15) lessons and have begun our study of The Means of Grace. Confirmation Day will be on Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019.
4. Polka Praise Service: The next one will be on May 26, 2019. We also have the musicians reserved for September 22, 2019.
5. Creative Worship Service on Sundays at 11:15: Attendance has been minimal – zero (0) a week ago and two (2) yesterday. We did a classified ad in the Record this past week advertising this worship opportunity. We're still evaluating this worship opportunity.
6. Pastors' Circuit Meeting: We met this past week at Good Shepherd in Sauk Rapids. We'll meet next month, February 5, at St. Paul's in Foley.

DCO REPORT: Director of Christian Outreach, Peter Keyes, reported:

1. The DCE from Cohasset was here Saturday, January 12, to provide information on the Centershot Ministry Program. There were ten (10) people in attendance.
2. I have been asked to lead the Puerto Rico mission trip – six (6) from Zion and six (6) from the District. Information and details are being mailed to me. Upon receipt, I will meet with the other individuals.
3. Thursday Bible Study – no one signed up or showed up last Thursday. If no one is interested, we will not pursue this study.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Don Stover reported:

Operating Account

1. Income vs. Expenses for December = +2,926. The offering amount for the month of \$17,775 was high due to the month being a five (5) Sunday month and due to having Christmas and New Year's offerings.
2. Income vs. Expenses year-to-date without consideration of the "Carry-over of Previous Year" income amount = +\$4,449.
3. Worship Supplies for the month in the amount of \$788 included the annual renewal for the church music licensing (\$216), purchase of communion cups (\$132), battery operated hand candles for Christmas Eve service (\$240), and Sanctuary candles (\$200).
4. Organ maintenance and tuning was done for \$400.
5. Church Repairs & Maintenance for the month in the amount of \$1,893 included repairing the ceiling in the choir loft area that had water damage (\$700) and the semi-annual payment on the HVAC maintenance contract (\$925).
6. Office payroll was high due to December having five (5) Sundays along with the expenses related to Christmas and Christmas Eve.

Building Fund

1. A monthly loan payment of \$3,742.18 made in December was comprised of \$1,179.97 of principal reduction and \$2,562.21 of interest. The Building Loan at the end of December was \$792,278.
2. The Building Fund investment deposit with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) at the end of December was \$36,662.
3. Building Fund offerings in December (5 Sundays and Christmas) were \$2,983. In addition:
 - a. Memorials for the building fund in the amount of \$270 were received on behalf of Lloyd Fritz (\$170) and Jeff Peterson (\$100).
 - b. Thrivent Choice Dollars = \$117 Thank you for your designations!!!
 - c. Interest Income = \$29

Revolving Funds

1. The December Door Offering for St. Otto's totaled \$241.
2. The Youth Fund had income from the cookie sale (\$384) and sale of cookbooks and shirts (\$80).
3. "In memory of" donations for Lloyd Fritz in the amount of \$500 were received.
4. Mary Martha fund received \$250 from the Lloyd Fritz funeral.
5. Altar Flowers account balance = \$35.
6. Lutheran Witness subscription balance = \$46.84

BOARD REPORTS

BOARD OF ELDERS: Jerry Knafla reported (for Sheldon Prozinski):

1. The yearly report is in. It consists of set-up for special service times, guest speakers in the Pastor's absence, overseeing the DCO position, coordinating with Evangelism for the Polka service, and assessing special requests as they are received.
2. There are currently seven (7) Elders but we would like a few more.

TRUSTEES: DCO Peter Keyes reported:

1. Trustees met tonight – we went through the budget items and did a walk around/no major issues found.
2. We will be getting quotes for a galvanized railing for the sidewalk on the east side.
3. Some lights need cleaning or replacement.

YOUTH AND EDUCATION: Amanda Dawson reported:

1. The Christmas service provided some talented children playing instruments. We hope to encourage more “participation” for future services.
2. Upcoming youth events include Bowling on January 27 and Waterpark/family day in February.
3. Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the first week in June; Lutheran Island Camp the second week in June.
4. The youth would like to serve the Ash Wednesday supper and the Easter breakfast.
5. The youth will continue baking cookies as a fundraiser.

STEWARDSHIP: Marlyn Poppen reported:

1. Upcoming Door Offerings - January (Military Bible Sticks); February (The Lutheran Hour); March (Food Shelf - speaker Barb Jelinski); April (Flyer Pride Pack – Little Falls)
2. We received fifteen (15) Time and Talent worksheets back.

EVANGELISM: Nancy Christensen reported:

1. There will be four (4) co-chairs for Evangelism: Nancy Christensen, Sue Vosen, Judy Drewlow, and Amy Siegler.
2. Sue Vosen provided a recap of chapter one (“Becoming a Welcoming Church”) in the book “How to be Welcoming in the Church”. At our next meeting, Judy Drewlow will be providing a recap of chapter two about “Being a Welcoming Church to New Faces”.
3. Friendship club meets on Friday, January 25, at 1:00 p.m. on handling grief. A representative from CHI St Gabriel's' is the speaker. February Friendship club meets Friday, February 8 - Boys & Girls Club mission.
4. We also discussed the need for more signage (guest parking area, restrooms, coat facility, and enlarging the visitor center area).

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2019 Budget (Don Stover) – The Church Council approved the 2019 budget. A motion was made by Nancy Christensen and seconded by Marlyn Poppen that the Church Council recommends the 2019 budget be brought to the Voters Assembly for approval; motion carried.
2. Credit Cards (Don Stover) – A motion was made by Amanda Dawson and seconded by Nancy Peterson to approve the Credit Card Policy as presented with an \$8000 limit; motion carried.
3. Wish List (Carol Prozinski/Barb Jelinski) – possible items for a “wish list” – big screen TV for youth, additional pool cues and storage rack, new carpet in the nursery, new carpet in the Narthex, bike rack, and a cigarette receptacle for outside. If you have any ideas, please let Carol or Barb know.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Voters Meeting Agenda – 2019 Budget (Barb Jelinski).
2. Centershot Ministry Program – Per DCO Keyes, there is an eight (8) week course starting in January at Cohasset, MN (there are currently two programs in the area at Cold Spring and Rice). This program is geared for ages 8-14 and offers a Bible Study curriculum with archery teaching skills. DCO Keyes will get more information as to cost and outreach opportunity to lay a groundwork if this is something that would be beneficial to our youth.

Motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Christensen and seconded by Marlyn Poppen; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m., closing with the Lord’s Prayer.

Upcoming meetings and important dates:

Next Quarterly Voters’ Assembly - January 27, 2019 - 10:30 a.m.

Next Council Meeting - Monday, February 11, 2019 - 6:30 p.m.

/s/

Beverly Messinger
Recording Secretary

Women's News

WOMEN'S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Mondays, February 11 and 25 at 9:00 a.m.

On **February 11** we will complete our Bible study, "1 Corinthians: One in Christ," (lesson # 14) as we meet in the Fireside Room at 9:00 a.m. On Monday morning, **February 25** we will begin a new study of the Old Testament Book of Amos. Join us as we learn together how Amos has remarkable relevance to modern times. Please note there will not be Bible study on Monday morning, February 4.

LUTHERAN WOMAN'S QUARTERLY BIBLE STUDY

Monday, February 18 at 9:00 a.m.

The Lutheran Woman's Quarterly Bible study will meet on Monday, **February 18** at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. The study can be found on page 22 of the LWQ Winter 2018 issue and is titled, "Lord, I Can't Handle This!" We will learn about how God is with us during the stressors of life, both negative and positive. Join us! If you don't have a copy of the LWQ, we will get you one.

ZLW MEETING

Monday, February 18 at 10:00 a.m.

The ZLW will meet on Monday, **February 18** at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. We will discuss upcoming ZLW activities. All women of Zion are invited to attend and share your ideas. Remember, the ZLW is Zion's connection to the LWML.

WOMEN'S DAY OUT

Monday, February 18 at 11:15 a.m.

On Monday, **February 18**, we will get together for fellowship and lunch at the Royal Café in Little Falls. We will meet there at 11:15 a.m. Contact Nancy Peterson at 632-5759 if you plan to attend. We will be celebrating February birthdays! Bring a friend!

MITE BOX REMINDER

Please remember that the LWML mite boxes serve as the financial backing for all of the selected mission projects of the LWML. At the national level, the LWML is working hard to fulfill the mission grant commitments for the 2017-2019 biennium. If you have a filled mite box at home, please return it to church and then pick up a new box. Thank you for your help with these projects. Many Mites Make Many Missions!!

WATERPARK: Family Fun...

Holiday Inn Express in Baxter for a day of indoor waterpark fun.

> **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24 NOON – 3:00**



GROUNDHOG DAY FEED

Friday, February 1st 5:00pm -7:00pm

MENU

Pulled Pork Sandwiches (regular and BBQ)
Chips, Salad, Cole Slaw, and desserts.

\$8 per person suggested donation

Proceeds going to the Fellowship Hall and
Morrison County Food Shelf



Sunday School & Families

- > SUNDAY SCHOOL: Classes begin at 10:15am with a closing program at 11:05 in the Sanctuary.
- > SUNDAY MORNING – KID’S PRAISE / WORSHIP is held in the fellowship hall at 11:15 am.
- > WATERPARK: Family Fun... We are planning a trip to the Holiday Inn Express in Baxter, MN for a day of indoor waterpark fun. SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24 NOON – 3:00

Youth Activities

- > Cook Book - We still have several books available for sale. (\$10.00)
- > We have “Lutheran” t-shirts available for sale. (\$10.00) Limited number of children and youth sizes.
- > The Youth will be serving the Ash Wednesday meal on March 6. Meal starts at 5:00pm. Come hungry ... meal plan will be posted in upcoming bulletins.

Adult Ministry

- > TUESDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS – On hold until March.

Outreach Ministry

- > FRIENDS & COMMUNITY FOCUS: Friday, February 8 at 1:00pm. Topic: Boys and Girls Club
- > TRACT OF THE MONTH: “Why Do Bad Things Happen?”
 - *In this booklet, Dr. Phillip Bickel shares in easy-to-understand language why trouble exists in the world, the benefit that can come from suffering, and what God has done to deal with the evil and pain of the world. Look for this booklet in the Project Connect display.*
- > **CENTERSHOT:** Read the DCO article in this newsletter and then contact me if you feel God is calling you into this ministry. My contact information is at the bottom of the page.
- > FACEBOOK: Continue to follow us on Facebook. www.facebook.com/zionlf. Like and share our posts.
- > ZION’S WEBSITE: www.zionlf.com. Share our link with your friends.

KID’S PRAISE / CREATIVE WORSHIP

- > Tell others about this special worship service. The focus is on families with children.
 - (Simple Outreach Idea: Have your needs met at the 9:00 am worship service – then invite a family with children to join you for worship at the 11:15 am service... act as their host by assisting them with their children so they can focus on worship.)

GROUND HOG EVE SUPPER

- > Jerry and his helpers are cooking up another great meal for Groundhog’s Day. Join us for fun, food, and fellowship on Friday, February 1 at 5:00pm. Proceeds benefit Morrison County Food Shelf and Zion’s Fellowship Hall debt reduction.

Contact: DCO Peter Keyes (text/call) 320-232-3108 or email mrpjkeyes@yahoo.com.

> LISTEN, LEARN, LIVE with LOVE; PRAY ALWAYS.

February Servants

| FEB | | Elders | Ushers | Readers | Visitor Host | Acolyte | Organist |
|------------|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 2 | COM | Sheldon Prozinski | Marie Holey & Jennifer Hanson | Jennifer Hanson | Marie Holey | | Peggy Dolney |
| 3 | COM | Craig Bohnsack | Eugene Doucette & Dennis Hollermann | Don Stover | Julie Doucette | Madison Bates | Peggy Dolney |
| 9 | | Greg Rausch | Mark Hengemuhle | Colleen Duncan | Paul Gulsvig | | Carol Prozinski |
| 10 | | Herman Johannes | Harvey Axel & Marcel Bellefeuille | Katie Schumann | Darlene Axel | Patrick Holtz | Carol Prozinski |
| 16 | COM | Greg Rausch | Mike Beseman & Julie Dancer | James Rebischke | Mike Beseman | | Carol Prozinski |
| 17 | COM | Jerry Knafla | Ben Messinger & Baily Dawson | Amanda Dawson | Ginny Fitch | Jordan Stumpf | Carol Prozinski |
| 23 | | Mike Gohl | Duane Schmidt | Duane Schmidt | Judy Drewlow | | Peggy Dolney |
| 24 | Blended | Craig Bohnsack | Dennis Dickmann & Wayne Ganz | Dan Gilder | Carolyn Ganz | Addison Bohnsack | Peggy Dolney |

| February Birthdays | | | | February Anniversaries | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 02/13 | Benjamin Messinger | 2/21 | Lois Johannes | 2/8 | Roger & Louise Walter |
| 2/14 | Julie Dancer | 2/26 | Dawson Miller | 2/13 | Bradley & Lois Peterschick |
| 2/14 | Karen Dickmann | 2/28 | Thomas Brutscher | 2/14 | Dan & Lynnae Gilder |
| 2/14 | Nancy Christensen | | | 2/15 | Jason & Tara Pauly |
| 2/15 | Bonnie Gibson | | | 2/16 | Wayne & Carolyn Ganz |
| 2/16 | Reuben Weber | | | | |
| 2/17 | Wayne Ganz | | | | |

February 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|---|----------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 5:00p Groundhog Dinner | 2 6:30p Worship with Communion |
| 3 9:00a Worship with Communion 10:15a Sunday School 11:15a Creative Worship | 4 9:00a No Women's Bible Study 5:00p Board of Elders 7:00p Board of Evangelism | 5 9:00a Circuit Meeting @ St Paul's in Foley 6:30p Board of Education | 6 9:00a Quilting Group - anyone is welcome! 6:30p Jr. Confirmation 6:30p Choir Practice | 7 | 8 1:00p Friendship Club | 9 6:30p Worship |
| 10 9:00a Worship 10:15a Sunday School 11:15a Creative Worship | 11 9:00a Weekly Women's Bible Study 5:00p Board of Stewardship 5:30p Trustee Meeting 6:30p Council Meeting | 12 | 13 9:00a Quilting Group - anyone is welcome! 6:30p Jr. Confirmation 6:30p Choir Practice | 14 | 15 | 16 6:30p Worship with Communion |
| 17 9:00a Worship with Communion 10:15a Sunday School 11:15a Creative Worship | 18 9:00a LWQ Bible Study 10:00a ZLW Meeting 11:15a Women's Day Out @ Royal Cafe | 19 | 20 9:00a Quilting Group anyone is welcome! 6:30p Jr. Confirmation 6:30p Choir Practice | 21 | 22 | 23 6:30p Worship |
| 24 9:00a Friendship Sunday 9:00a Blended Worship 9:00a Sunday School Children Sing 10:15a Sunday School 11:15a Creative Worship 12:00p Baxter Waterpark | 25 9:00a Weekly Women's Bible Study | 26 | 27 9:00a Quilting Group anyone is welcome! 6:30p Jr. Confirmation 6:30p Choir Practice | 28 | | |