



# **ST. PAUL-ZION DUAL PARISH**

## **MAY 2025**

### **A Few Thoughts from Pastor**

*... we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to **walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.** May you be strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.* *Colossians 1:9-12*

Sometimes, just saying “thank you” isn’t really enough! Certain gifts demand more than just passing acknowledgment. When someone makes a great sacrifice for another, we expect the beneficiary to respond in a way consistent with the gift or sacrifice. Parents who sacrifice for the education of their children justly expect them to diligently apply themselves. To misuse the gift of a college education by turning it into an opportunity to spend Mom and Dad’s money, to party, to play, and to enjoy being young is the epitome of selfishness and inconsiderateness, and it’s wrong, very wrong.

So, what of the gift that we’ve been given by God? What about the gift of forgiveness, life, and salvation we’ve been given by virtue of the great sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ? Do we always live our lives in a manner consistent with His sacrifice and gifts? We have been freed from sin, from selfishness, and from all that would put us at odds with God, but is that the way we always think, speak, and act?



Not me! Oh sure, there are times that the Holy Spirit guides me and I actually behave as one who has been freed from sin and all that comes with it, but not always. All too often, in the face of temptation, I find myself tempted to think: God will forgive ... and this will make me happy ... so what the heck, here I go.

Folks, this is dangerous thinking. It is potentially deadly thinking. It is our “Old Adam” (our sinful nature) trying to have its way in things. It is to regard God’s incredible gifts and Christ’s amazing sacrifice as no big deal, and I can’t think of too many other ways to insult God more. Jesus didn’t lay down His life so that we could do whatever we please; He suffered and gave His life so that we might have life, abundant life, forever with Him and with His Father. He did it so that we might call His Father our Father, and so that we might be freed from our bondage to sin. And He did it with no strings attached ... it’s all gift!

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Please take a moment and think about your sins and about His gift; think about your selfishly motivated thoughts, words, and actions and then think about His selfless sacrifice for you. We deserve nothing good ... NOTHING ... and yet Christ suffered and died to give us life, to rescue us from ourselves, the world, and the devil. A simple “thank you” is not enough for such a gift as this! For those times when we’ve regarded His gift and sacrifice as anything less than precious and totally undeserved, let us again come to Him pleading for mercy and forgiveness. And doing so we will find He waiting ... waiting to forgive, and waiting to free us all over again. Join me in repentance and faith, won’t you?

In closing, consider these words, based on the text above, from John Chrysostom (c. 350-407):

*Grace, although it is grace, saves the willing. But it won’t save those who don’t want it, who turn away from it, who fight against it, and who oppose it. ... Be thankful that we are saved by the gift of God, since we can’t save ourselves by works.*

*Don’t give thanks only with your words also, but through your works and actions. For genuine thanksgiving is shown when we do those things that glorify God and when we run from those things we have been freed from. If we are honored after insulting the King, instead of being punished, and then go and insult Him again, we deserve the most horrible punishment for our ingratitude. ... For our ungratefulness is seen much more when we insult Him after we have been given honor and attention.*

*So then, flee from those things we have been freed from. Don’t give thanks only with your mouths, lest it be said of us, ‘This people honoreth Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me.’ Matthew 15:8*

In His service,  
*Pastor Holle*

### *Congratulations to our Graduates*



*Hiawatha High School:*  
*Marcus Hinton, Remington Killman*

*8th Grade-Hiawatha:*  
*Alexander Hinton*

***May God be with each of you as you enter a new chapter in your life.***

**(We apologize if we have left anyone off the list. Please contact the office if you have a correction or addition. We will add them to our prayers for this important day of their lives!)**

# Stewardship



St. Paul teaches us: “*Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches*” (Gal. 6:6). And again, he says: “*Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel*” (1 Cor. 9:13–14). In other words, ministers of the Gospel are supported by the offerings of those they serve.

And this is how the church lives even now. It is standard practice. But this deserves closer examination. For it instructs us not just *that* we are to give but also *what* we are to give. And it does so with four little words: “In the same way ...” St. Paul is building his case for supporting the preachers of the Gospel with the sacrificial giving of individual members on the example of the Old Testament people who supported the Levites with their offerings and sacrifices. We’re to support the Gospel ministry “in the same way.” But how did the Old Testament people support the Levites?

Moses records this: “*You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that He will choose, to make His name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always*” (Deut. 14:22–23). The Levites were supported by the tithe, 10 percent of all the yearly yield of that which was harvested.

Does that seem like a lot? Does it surprise you that St. Paul instructs us that we are to support the New Testament Gospel ministry “in the same way?” If it does, ask yourself: Is the church’s job in the New Testament bigger or smaller than the Levites’ job in the Old Testament? Back then, there was one Temple, and the ministry was almost exclusively located in one nation among the descendants of Abraham. In Matthew 28, Jesus calls us to teach and baptize all nations, and there are churches and ministries all around the world! How could we support this new Gospel ministry with anything less than the Israelites supported the Old Testament ministry?

Of course, we are free to give more, for we have received more than those in the Old Testament. We have received the fullness of God’s revelation, the fullness of His salvation, and the fulfillment of everything that God promised to do. For we have received Christ, God’s own Son, in the flesh, who took upon Himself our sins and in exchange gave us His righteousness. The Father claimed us as His own in Holy Baptism. He gathers us together in the place where His name dwells to feast on the first fruits of the resurrection, the risen and living body and blood of His Son – our Lord Jesus. He reminds us that we are His, that all things are ours because we belong to Him. He blesses us here in time with physical and spiritual gifts.

In the same way – and in response to His fatherly divine goodness and mercy – we gladly give to those who proclaim to us “the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness and into His marvelous light.” For once we were not a people, but now we are God’s people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have indeed (1 Peter 2:9–10).

## ST. PAUL DORCAS

On April 6, 2025, our Dorcas group met in the basement after the morning church service. We enjoyed our refreshments of spice cake, coffee and ice tea served by Nancy Manche before Kathy Heiniger opened our morning Bible Study with lesson 2 day 4, titled "The Hope of the World in the Face of a Baby."

President Sarah Kleopfer called the business meeting to order. Roll call was taken by Becky Meyer. There were 11 members present. March minutes were read and approved. No correspondence. Treasurer Kathy Heiniger gave the Treasurer's report and it was accepted. No officer or committee reports.

Unfinished business: finalizing the Spring Event on April 12th, 8:00-1:00 with registration beginning at 9:00. Meeting will start at 9:30. Vice President Leslie Brockhoff will open with a welcome, Zone President Peggy Coder will lead the meeting. Kathy Heiniger will get donuts and ice. Kathy will also work at the registration table. There will be a drawing for table decorations made by Cindy Manche and Nancy Manche. Sharon Meyer will play the piano and make name tags and bring table covers. Karen Bauman will bring coffee and tea. Everyone will bring a salad; varieties are meat, vegetables or fruit. \$5.00 registration fee, and items for in-gathering are hygiene kits.

New Business: Easter breakfast will follow our morning church service. We sent around a sign-up sheet for egg casseroles, biscuits and gravy, coffee cake, fresh fruit with coffee, juice and milk to drink. Next month we will talk about Mother's Day flowers for Lutherans for Life.

The general offering and LWML mites were taken.

Announcements: May 4th Bible Study leader will be Becky Holle. Hostess will be Cindy Manche. Altar committee for May and June are Helen Hoppe, Nancy Manche and Elder Mark Meyer.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, Becky Meyer



### ***Please Update!***

***If you have a new phone number, address, or email address,  
please make sure you send it to the office.***

*You can e-mail the office at  
office@NEKpartnership.org or call 785-742-3995.  
The office would also like the names and addresses  
of any members who are at college. Thank You!*

## ZION LUTHERAN WOMENS MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Zion Lutheran Church, Hiawatha, Kansas 66434

April 8, 2025

The regular meeting of the Zion Lutheran Church LWML was called to order by Lela Middendorf on April 8, 2025 with 4 members present. The meeting was opened with a video Bible study by Donna Snow entitled "Overflowing Abundance", part 1 which focused on Jesus' feeding of the 5,000 as recorded in Matthew 14.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, and Diane provided the treasurer's report.

It was announced that the Zone Spring Event will be in Fairview on April 12 beginning at 9:00 a.m. The in-gathering will consist of hygiene kits to go to Orphan Grain Train. We will prepare a number of kits for this gift.

A motion made, seconded and passed to donate \$50 gift cards be given to the three recipients of "Gifts of the Heart" at the LWML National Convention in Omaha in June. Zion LWML will again support Kansans for Life through their Baby Bottle Project to go until Father's Day.

We wish to thank Zion members who so graciously donated food towards the Lenten service suppers and to those who financially supported us at those meals.

The group decided to begin our monthly meetings at 6:30 p.m., so our next regular meeting will be on May 13 at that time.

Lela Middendorf  
Acting Secretary

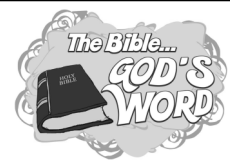
## SUNDAY SCHOOL



**We invite all kids** to come and join us for Sunday School!  
Sunday School meets each Sunday morning at **9:15am at Zion.**  
Sunday School **at St. Paul** starts after the service at **9:30am.**  
The Zion Adult Bible Class meet on Sunday mornings at 9:15am.  
Please come join us!!

## MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

**Midweek Bible Study** meets at 7:00pm on Wednesday nights  
and will rotate between St. Paul and Zion. Please join us!



***Pastor Holle has a radio broadcast on KNZA  
at approximately 10:05am on Sunday mornings.***

## SAVE THE DATE—FAITH AT WORK

Save the date: April 27th after St. Paul's worship service

This year we will be participating in the second district-wide "Faith at Work" community service event.

Projects to be completed will be:  
tying fleece blankets, planting flowers, and writing cards for local facilities.

Everyone is welcome to join us!

Questions? Contact St. Paul's Evangelism Committee (Sadie Meyer, Cindy Manche, Kathy Heiniger)



## CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS FOR GOOD WORKS

*Ephesians 2:10*

<b>WHO:</b>	EVERYBODY! Churches, Schools, & RSOs
<b>WHAT:</b>	District-wide service project
<b>WHEN:</b>	April 2025
<b>WHERE:</b>	Your community
<b>WHY:</b>	For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works (Ephesians 2:10)

## ABOUT FAITH AT WORK

The LCMS Kansas District invites our congregations, schools, and RSOs to save the date for April 6, 2025, for the second annual *Faith at Work* kick-off Sunday! *Faith at Work* is an annual District-wide service event where groups of all ages and skill sets find needs within their local communities to serve throughout the month. Each spring, since 2024, we encourage every person, young and old, to serve friends and neighbors in their communities in the name of Jesus.

REGISTRATION COMING SOON!!

## FIRST STEPS:

**PRAY**

**JOIN OUR PLANNING TEAM**

**BRAINSTORM POSSIBLE PROJECTS**

**DONATE TO OUR LOCAL EFFORTS**

**WATCH BULLETIN FOR MORE INFO!**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Military:** Spencer Ernst, Alexander Williams

**College:** Joey Meyer, Megan Brockhoff, Paige Stover, Gunner Smith.

**Care Facilities & Shut-Ins:** Carol Bauer, Gene Rice, Bonnie Reynolds, Esther Krug, Doris Rice, Juanita Fritz, Don Robidoux.

**Also in our prayers:** Malcolm Gigstad, Jill Kohlmeier, Becky Holle, Tim Bianchi, Danny Bauerle, Katie Fry, Jeanne Lowe, Wes Duesing, Richard Clay, Aimee Hampl, Carl Mueller, Sherry Hartley.

**We Remember** the blessed saints who now rest in the Lord and we pray for their families that they remember all who die in the Lord live with the Lord. (Romans 6:5)



**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

*May 1-Marcus Hinton, May 3-Mike Gormley, May 5-Saige Stover, May 7-Kooper Collins,  
May 12-Bernard Chadwell, May 21-Jeremy Davidson, May 22-Noel Boye, May 24-Dwight Meyer,  
May 29-Cindy Manche*

**MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

*May 29-Leon & Susan Wissmann*

**SERVERS FOR MAY**

*(Please trade if you have a date conflict)*

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN**

**May 4th:** Dwight & Charlotte Kruse

**May 11th:** Dennis & Cindy Manche

**May 18th:** Jeff & Leslie Brockhoff

**May 25th:** Steve & Nancy Manche

**Altar Guild for May:** Helen Hoppe, Nancy Manche, Mark Meyer

**ZION LUTHERAN**

**May 4th:** **Elder**-Scott Gigstad, **Acolyte**-Grace Hampl, **Ushers**-Bob Freese & Larry Walter,  
**Greeters**-Hampl Family, **Sound System**-Bob & Virginia Freese

**May 11th:** **Elder**-Travis Hampl, **Acolyte**-Saige Stover, **Ushers**-Tim Bianchi & Leon Wissmann,  
**Greeters**-Kurt Killman family, **Sound System**-David Middendorf


**May 18th:** **Elder**-Leon Wissmann, **Acolyte**-Brady Killman, **Ushers**-David Middendorf & Kurt Killman,  
**Greeters**-Tim & Jackie Bianchi, **Sound System**-Leon Wissmann

**May 25th:** **Elder**-Scott Gigstad, **Acolyte**-Remington Killman, **Ushers**-Tim Bianchi & Leon Wissmann,  
**Greeters**-Dave & Lela Middendorf, **Sound System**-Dwight Meyer

**Altar Guild for May:** Virginia Freese & Donna Gormley



# MAY, 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 6:15 AHG Troop mtg.	<b>2</b> Pastor Holle Day Off	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter 9:15 Bible Study @Zion St. Paul Dorcas	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	<b>8</b> 6:15 AHG Court of Awards	<b>9</b> Pastor Holle Day Off	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Mother's Day 9:15 Bible Study @Zion	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:00 Circuit 6:30 Zion LWML	<b>14</b> 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Pastor Holle Day Off	<b>17</b> Armed Forces Day
<b>18</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter 9:15 Bible Study @Zion	<b>19</b> Articles Due for Newsletter	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Pastor Holle Day Off	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter 9:15 Bible Study @Zion St. Paul Fellowship	<b>26</b> Memorial Day 	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Pastor Holle Day Off	<b>31</b>