

Zion News

Words from Pastor

Dear Members of Zion,

What is your favorite book in the Bible? Ask most Christians and the answer would likely be one of the books of the New Testament. The reason is simple, it is the New Testament that tells us of the life and salvation which is ours in the Savior Jesus Christ. This is not to say that the Old Testament is not important. The Old Testament, like the New Testament is God's Word so it is all important.

But back to my original question. What is your favorite book in the Bible? Do you have a favorite? Or is the question difficult to answer because it has been a while since you sat down and actually read the Bible? If that is the case, then there is no better time to get started than now.

My suggestion would be to begin with one of the Gospels, Matthew, Mark Luke or John. If you want to get through the basics of the life and ministry of our Lord Jesus in a short amount of time. I would suggest reading Mark. It is just 16 short chapters.

On the other hand, if you want to read one of the Gospels that is more detailed. I would suggest any one of the other three Gospels, Matthew, Luke or John.

Begin by trying to read a chapter a day at anytime which seems convenient. Reading God's Word in the morning to begin your day or at the end of a busy day in the evening is a great way to allow God's Word to impact your life.

The Psalmist wrote in Psalm 119:105: "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." My God bless and guide us that we would faithfully read and study His Word daily. For it is the Bible that communicates to us the Good News of the life, death and resurrection of the Savior Jesus Christ who loved us and gave himself for us. It is the Bible that provide us with the comfort guidance and direction we need to live our lives God's People.

Blessings,

Pastor Bruce

Vicar

O Give Thanks unto the Lord, For He is Good, For His Steadfast Love (Mercy) Endures Forever”

The second part of the common table prayer has its origins in various places throughout the Old Testament. One such place is in Psalm 136, where the Psalmist uses it as a refrain. This wonderful Psalm recounts Israel’s salvation history and all the ways in which God had provided for Israel, his chosen people.

But what does this have to do with your part in Zion News, Vicar? Well, I have found myself saying this refrain repeatedly. This past month has certainly been a season of change for my wife Kari and I: moving to Pierce, getting settled in our apartment, Kari starting a new job in Norfolk; me being installed as vicar at Zion, leaving behind the classroom at the seminary for the classroom at Zion School, visiting people, attending meetings and social gatherings, learning names, getting to know Pastor and the Zion staff/faculty, preparing for the school year and my first few bible studies and sermon.

Through all of these changes, there have been countless opportunities and reasons for me to give thanks to the Lord: meeting all of you, having the opportunity to see so many young people at the school in the mornings, seeing our shut-ins and hearing their stories, receiving a warm welcome (and an amazing bounty of groceries and gifts – Thank you!), serving you with God’s Word, and being a blessing wherever I can. All in all, Kari and I thank God for leading us to Zion and the community of Pierce, and we are excited to learn, grow, and serve alongside you this year in God’s kingdom and ministry. We eagerly anticipate all that God has in store for us and getting to know you better along the way. God is truly good; his mercy endures forever! Blessings in Christ Jesus our Lord!

Vicar Ryan Maser

DCE

I am very excited for Sunday Morning Bible class to begin on September 8th so I can study God’s word with our 7th – 12th graders! It is good for us to come together to spur one another on to a stronger faith in Jesus as our Savior, especially since it seems to be a struggle for so many to make Bible reading a personal habit. I often wonder why it is so difficult to spend time reading the Bible; after all I do believe it to be the true and infallible word of God. Shouldn’t I look forward to reading it? Shouldn’t I long for it, maybe even crave it, knowing that God will speak to me and I would know and love Christ more for the time spent? To help myself overcome this struggle I have decided that I will read at least one chapter in the Bible every day before I watch T.V. This is not much of a challenge I admit, after all it only takes about 5 minutes to read one chapter, but I anticipate some wonderful benefits. It is very possible that I will gain a greater desire to read God’s word. I know God will use this time to grow my faith and I hope it will set a good example for Amelia and Josiah, so it has the potential to help their faith grow too! This is what I want for our youth too – a desire to read God’s word and a stronger faith life, but I need your help. Please encourage our youth to attend Bible Class. This year we will study many portions of Scripture supplemented with a video series “The Real Winning Edge: Stories of Young People Changed by God.” My prayer is that the word of Christ will dwell in us richly as we read and study it together.

Working with you in the Kingdom,

Laura Ahlers, DCE

Zion LLL--Mission Connection.

Your Zion LLL—MC met a August 8th for our first meeting in the year for LLL—MC activities. We began our video study of “How We Got the Bible”. Session one was entitled; “The World’s Most Important Book” with the Bible study based on Psalm 119:89-105. Session two is entitled “Can We Be Confident in the Bible?”. The Bible study will concentrate on II Peter 1:1-21. Come and join us for this interesting and important Biblical study on Thursday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m. At our August meeting we welcomed Sue Brodhagen as a new member.

Since Zion will be hosting the LLL Zone 11 Fall Rally, we began making preliminary plans for the rally. Mick Onnen of Stanton, NE, who is a member of the International LLL/LHM Board of Governors, will be our speaker. He will make a presentation on the recent mission trip he and his wife, Nila, made. Their mission trip involved the countries of Thailand and Cambodia. Tinker’s will serve the meal. The theme for our rally will be “SENT by Jesus, Lord of the Harvest.” The congregation is welcome to join us for this rally. We are called the LLL—Mission Connection because our purpose is to promote a “Mission Vision” for world-wide missions and the International Mission of Lutheran Hour Ministries. We encourage you to reserve the date of Sunday, October 6 from 2:30 to approximately 6:00 P.M. for this mission presentation.

Ladies Aid

Zion Lutheran Ladies Aid met on Wednesday, August 7th, for their regular monthly meeting. The Hymn “Rock of Ages” was sung and the devotion titled “ On the Job” was read by Donna Koerting. Pastor Bruce led the topic titled “ A man reaps what he sows” taken from Galatians 6:7.

President Sharolyn Buss conducted the business meeting with 10 members answering roll call and also introduced the group to Vicar Ryan Maser.

Since we had no meeting in July the Junes committee reported serving regular aid meeting lunch, visited The Madison House, The Homestead, served 2 funerals and sent 10 cards. There were 9 cards sent and 2 funerals served in July. The new large freezer in the storage room and the 2 new refrigerators in the kitchen were purchased by the PTL have been installed.

A cash donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 each has been given to the PTL and the Zion Debt Drive.

Honored for their August birthdays were Sue Brodhagen, Donna Koerting ,Lois May, and Dorthalie Walmsley.

Donna Koerting was recognized for her 64th wedding anniversary and Janelle Feddern for her 56th wedding anniversary.

Meeting closed with the singing of “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

Lunched was served by the Aug. committee, Angie Bruce and Sharolyn Buss.

The next regular meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4th, at 1:30 pm. Visitors are always welcome.

In His Service

Lavon Wachter



Envelope Fundraiser for Church Projects : Zion's Trustees Board has put together a simple fundraiser to raise money that will allow us to continue to make improvements to our beautiful Zion Building. On the bulletin board in the Narthex you will see envelopes numbered 1-200. We are asking that each member choose one Envelope, if you pick Envelope #5 please place the corresponding donation (\$5, if it were #10 it would \$10) inside the envelope and place it in the donation box. You will also find a card inside in the envelope you may fill out to receive a receipt if you would like one and a suggestions card. The suggestion card helps us to become aware of projects that need added to the list and also a way to gauge what the Congregational feel as a priority. Feel free to grab 1 envelope or many :) Thank you for supporting the up keep of God's place of worship and education.

LWML KATHERINE/AGAPE CIRCLES

The LWML Agape and Katherine Circles met Wednesday, August 14th, at Zion Lutheran Church for a joint salad and dessert fellowship supper. Lavonne Fleeer gave the devotion, “God uses Cracked Pots” and Vicar Ryan led us in prayer. Lynette Koehler introduced guests attending, including Vicar Ryan and his wife Kari.


Following the meal, Lori Koehler entertained us with a slide show and narrative of her trip to Israel. Jackie Collison announced that the zone fall retreat will be held Saturday, October 12th, at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Norfolk. The evening ended with the Lord’s Prayer.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 11th at 1:00 p.m. for the Katherine Circle and 7:00 p.m. for the Agape Circle. Guests are always welcome.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

September 24-28 & October 1-5

It has been 5 years since we have had a pictorial directory update . Our goal is to get all our members and new members signed up. With these pictures you will receive a free directory, 1-free 8X10, and a \$10.00 coupon if you should choose to order extra pictures. No purchase is necessary.



Tell your story

- Bring meaningful items and extended family members to include in your photographs.
- Be yourself and dress casual, classic, sporty—it’s up to you.

Be included in our new directory

What to expect

- A professional photography session, no session fees.
- View your images after your session and make your selections.

You will receive

- One free 8x10 standard print and printed directory.

Plus

- You will have the opportunity to purchase additional photographs to share with family and friends.

Schedule your photography session today and be included in our new directory. Photography dates and more information will be shared with you.

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Zion School is off to another great start this year!

We are already seeing evidence that our students are back and busy! Our students have schoolwork on display in their classrooms and in the hallways; evidence of new and exciting things that have been learned so far.

Our theme for the year is, “Joyfully in Christ” *1 Thess. 5: 16-24*. This is also coordinated with Lutheran Schools Week as well.

This year we are trying something new. We have introduced a “Curriculum Night” to our beginning of year practices. We have continued with our ‘Back to School Sunday’ tradition, which provides a great kick-off to the school year. These new, 30-45 minute meetings are designed to introduce parents to their child’s classroom with a brief teacher protocol presentation followed by a question and answer session. We hope this is another way to keep lines of communication open and to start our year off right! Education Sunday, on September 15th, will be the first singing and hand bell performances. This will be at the 10:00 a.m. service only. We will have our first round of parent-teacher conferences on Monday, September 23rd. Conferences are a wonderful way to see and talk to our families, but also for our families to see what has been going on since Back to School Sunday. Up in the library, Mrs. Graham has things humming right along. We are grateful for all of the time and dedication that she provides to our school, library, and all that we are able to benefit from through book orders. Not to forget to mention, we all love our visits with Fred and Cassie!

Fall sports are underway at Zion School. The Zion Lady Wildcats Volleyball team will have their first varsity game on Thursday, August 29th with a triangular at Madison. Our three coaches are Mrs. Sarah Endorf, Mrs. Cindy Montgomery, and Mrs. Becca Fletcher. We thank them for their time and leadership as they teach our girls not only their sport, but Christian sportsmanship attributes as well. This is mostly an “away” season so be sure to check out our website at zionlutheranpierce.com for their game times and locations. We have some junior high boys participating in football at Pierce High School this fall. Be sure to check the PHS website at piercepublic.org for schedules to catch their games. We wish all of our athletes a sports season blessed with safety and success.

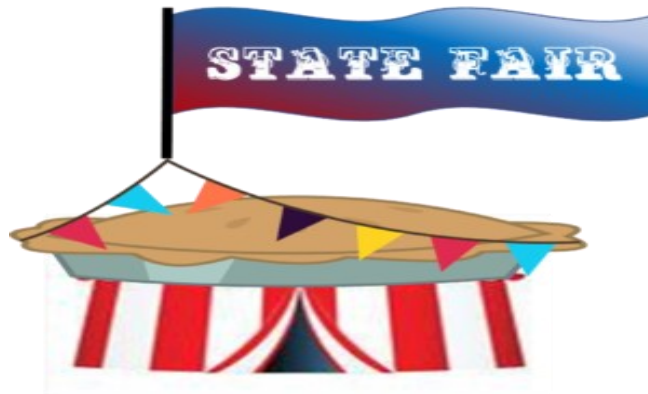
Student Council is busy planning again for this year’s events and activities. StuCo members will again be taking turns attending the Pierce Chamber of Commerce meetings and providing a monthly school update.

In October we will begin our Classroom Spotlight articles. We will lead off with what is happening in the Jr. High classroom. Keep up with current events at Zion School through the Zion Lutheran Church Newsletter, Zion News and activities calendar each week in the Pierce Leader, the Zion church and school website at zionlutheranpierce.com, where you can view the 2019-2020 school calendar of events, the church calendar, the current and archived Wildcat Weekly, the Wildcat Athletics tab, and the Sycamore School website which also features the Wildcat Weekly, current calendar/sporting events and archived Wildcat Weekly. If you have any questions, never hesitate to call our school office at 329-4658 and we would be glad to assist you. Blessings for a great year!



Consider Sponsoring a child!

I would like to sponsor a Zion Student! I will provide \$9.00 for him/her to receive a Scholastic book each month of their very own to take home and keep! (Leave a cash donation with your name or make checks payable to Zion Lutheran School. (payments may be made in the school or church offices. Please provide *address* for you to be reached and we will pair your donation up with a PK-8th grader. Thank you in advance for supporting reading at Zion.



Worship Services at the Nebraska State Fair

On September 1, Rev. David Feddern, pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Hampton (David is the son of Zion's, Ron and Janell Feddern) and assistant pastoral advisor of the Nebraska District LLL, will lead the service.

While at the Fair, also visit the LLL booth in the 4-H Building.

September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 AM Pax 10:00 AM Traditional	2 Labor Day No School/All Offices Closed No Vespers	3 JV Triangular@ Christ Lutheran	4 7:00 AM Women's Bible Study 8:10 PM Chapel 1:30 PM Ladies Aid 4:15 PM Confirmation 5:00 PM Faith Weavers	5 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study	6	7
8 8:00 AM Pax/Comm. 9:00 AM Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 AM Traditional/Comm 4:00 PM Fusion Youth	9 6:00 pm Trustees 7:00 pm Vespers/Comm. 7:45 pm Elders V/Triangular @ Christ Lutheran	10 6:30 PM Care&Share 7 PM LLL Zone Mtg	11 7:00 AM Women's Bible Study 8:10 PM Chapel/5-6th 1:30 PM LWML/Katherine 4:15 PM Confirmation 5:00 PM Faith Weavers 7:00 PM LWML/Agape	12 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study JV Triangular @ St. John's BC	13	14 JV Tournament @ St. John's BC
15 8:00 AM Pax 9:00 AM Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 AM Education Sunday Zion /HB/Choir Traditional	16 6:00 PM Stewardship 7:00 pm Vespers	17 JV/Vs Central @ Home	18 7:00 AM Women's Bible Study 8:10 AM Chapel	19 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study	20	21 Zion VB Tournament
22 8:00 AM Pax/Comm. 9:00 AM Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 AM Traditional/Comm	23 1:15 PM Early Dismissal/Parent Teachers Conferences 7:00 pm Vespers	24 2:00-9:00 PM Life touch portraits JV/V @ St. John's BC	25 7:00 AM Women's Bible Study 8:10 PM Chapel 2:00-9:00 PM Life touch portraits 4:15 PM Confirmation 5:00 PM Faith Weavers	26 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study JV/V@ St. Paul's 2:00-9:00 PM Life touch portraits	27 NO School 2:00-9:00 PM Life touch portraits	28 10AM-4-PM Life touch portraits
29 8:00 AM Pax/Comm. 9:00 AM Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 AM Traditional/Comm	30 7:00 pm Vespers					

SEPTEMBER 2019 Serving Schedule

DATE	USHERS	ACOLYTES	GREETERS	ELDERS	ORGAN	DELIVERY AUDIO
Sunday PAX Sept. 1	Travis Hoffman Tyler Tinker	Gage Ziemer Bo Bockelman		Galen Anderson		
Traditional Sept. 1	Brock Bolling Blake Bolling Dalton Freeman Dylan Riedel	Amelia Ahlers Scarlett Babi	Sandy Buckendahl Holly & Lynette Koehler	Eric Retzlaff	Linda	Delivery Paul Hixson Video Kim Cromwell
Monday Sept. 2nd		NO SERVICE		LABOR DAY		
Sunday PAX/Comm. Sept. 8	Caydan Retzlaff Tom Carstens	Hadleigh Collison Tate Collison		Jerald Wachter		
Traditional/Comm 10:00	Zach Collison Luke Collison Blaine Bockelman David Dale	Megan Gnirk Merin Gossman	Anne Weber Brad & Lisa Freeman	Fred Marks	Marcia	Delivery Gina Larsen Video Rose Graham
Monday/Comm. Sept. 9		Neveah Koeppe Jordan Kuether		Gale Bretschneider	Celine	
Sunday Sept. 15 Pax	Collin Tinker Brett Tinker	Brayden Kuper Kaden Mosel		Rick Sirek		
Traditional 10:00 Zion sings/h.b.	Ben Brahamer Alex Meier Haiden Maggnussen Grant Snodgrass	Trevor Montgomery Tate Reinke	Jerald & Suzie Wachter	Dennis Brady	Linda	Delivery Les Richmond Video Shelby White
Monday Sept. 16		Garrett Riedel Deon Watts		Tom Weinrich	Celine	
Sunday Pax/Comm. Sept. 22	Brian Blecher Grant Lambrecht	Claudia Riggert Jaya Wachholts		Jerald Wachter		
Traditional 10:00	Luke Endorf Schuyler Simpson Jackson Wachholtz Matthew Steffen	Abby Watts Kaylee Steffen	Todd & Linda Stonacek	Galen Anderson	Marcia	Delivery Dennis Watts Video Billie Graham
Monday/Comm Sept. 23		Mani Weber Champion White		Eric Retzlaff	Celine	
Sunday Pax Sept. 29	Caydan Retzlaff Brett Tinker	Jacob Wragge Trevor Montgomery		Mike Krueger		
Traditional 10:00	Brock Bolling Blake Bolling Zach Collison Luke Collison	Isaiah Yarde Gage Ziemer	Mike & Miriam Krueger	Dennis Brady		Delivery Paul Hixson Video Kim Cromwell
Monday Sept. 30		Cheyenne Ziemer Amelia Ahlers		Rick Sirek		