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the Zion TIDINGS

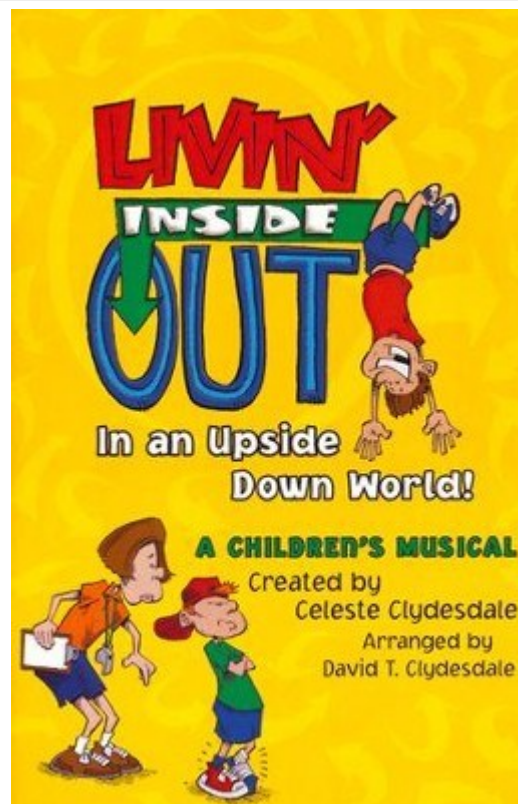
May 2019

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Worship Opportunities

- 5/5 8 a.m. Worship w/Communion
10:45 a.m. Worship
- 5/12 8 a.m. Praise
10:45 a.m. Worship
w/Communion
- 5/19 8 a.m. Worship w/Communion
10:45 a.m. Praise
- 5/26 8 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Worship w/Communion
- 5/30 6:30 p.m. Circuit Ascension Service



Zion Lutheran School will be presenting their spring musical entitled "Livin' Inside Out in an Upside Down World" on Friday, May 3rd at the Andria Theater. You are welcome to attend at 9:30 a.m., at 1:00 p.m. (when St. Mary's School is planning to attend), or at 7:00 p.m. This musical presentation, based on Scripture, gives us a deep understanding of what God looks for in His servants on earth, and how we should live as true followers of Jesus. We are looking forward to sharing this message with you!



a note from

the Principal

The 2018-2019 school year is quickly coming to a close! Zion has enjoyed the privilege of sharing Christ's message with all of the children this year. It has been wonderful to see them grow in their spiritual life --- through Chapel, Chapel families, working with classmates and teachers, their various servant events they have participated in, and more. It has also been fun to watch them grow academically and physically.

We are happy to report that Zion Lutheran School is being recommended for re-accreditation in good standing by our National Lutheran School Accreditation Visitation Team that was here in April. Final approval will be done in St. Louis during the Commissioner's meeting in late July.

This year we will be graduating six eighth grade students: Samantha Gerdes, Morgan Harrison, Kendra Klimek, Audrey Kuhnau, Charlie Mistele, and Marly Nolz. We wish them God's Blessings as they move into the next chapter of their lives. You are all welcome to attend Graduation and Awards night on May 28th.

We will also be bidding farewell to Karrie Anderson, our Pre-Kindergarten teacher, who will be having a baby in June. Jaci Loween, our part-time middle school teacher; Lynette Swedburg, our upper grade aid; and Becky Mistele, one of our Kindergarten aides, also will be leaving us at the end of the year. God Bless them as they move on to new journeys in their lives.

As some people leave, others come. We are very blessed to have our new pastor with us. Pastor Dare has been acclimatizing himself to Zion Lutheran Church and School. After eighteen years in the ministry at Holy Cross in St. Cloud, Pastor Dare accepted a call to our church and school. He has been visiting the various classrooms, visiting with the teachers, students, various church members, and teaching Confirmation classes to our seventh and eighth graders. Pastor Dare's family includes his wife, Rachel, and three children. His two daughters will be attending Alexandria Area High School next fall and his son will be a fifth grader at Zion.

The month of May offers many ways for our students to share their talents. On May 3rd we will be presenting our annual musical at the Andria Theater. "Living Inside Out in an Upside Down World!" is being directed by Mandy Meyer and assisted by Martha Fritz. Rex Mindach is the Director in charge of acting.

God Bless Zion Lutheran Church and School; the faculty and staff; the parents and students as we finish out the 2018-2019 school year!

"Be Still and Know that I am God" Psalm 46

Upcoming Events:

May 1	Assembly Program – POBLO Presentation (2 p.m.)	May 19	8 th Grade Recognition Sunday
May 3	Mid-Quarter 4 Reports	May 20	Grade 4 to Itasca
May 3	Spring Musical – Andria Theater (9:30 a.m./1 p.m./7 p.m.)	May 21	Zion Track Meet
May 7	Grades 3-4 to MN Zoo	May 27	NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day
May 7	Grades 5-8 Softball Tournament – Fargo	May 28	8 th Grade Graduation and Awards Night
May 15	District 206 – 4 th Grade Track Meet	May 29	Grades 5-8 to Valley Fair
May 16	District 206 – 5 th Grade Track Meet	May 31	Last Day of School – Closing Chapel (8:30 a.m.) ½ Day (done at 11 a.m.)
May 17	Perham Track Meet		
May 18	Plant Sale		



In 2017 Lutheran Island Camp celebrated 65 years of serving the people of Minnesota and the Dakotas. God continues to bless that ministry in very special ways. Children and families came from over 10 states in 2018. Our Horse Outreach Program was filled to capacity and our new Ranch Day Camp was a big success. It was a good year to come to camp.

Our theme in 2019 is "Forgiven" and is based on Jesus' words in Luke : "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34a. During 2019 we believe that God will touch the lives of many young people. He will strengthen their faith. He will give them guidance in their young lives. God will engage them in reflective learning about His creation, each of our sins, and the wonderful gift of forgiveness that He provides for us.

On Sunday, May 5th (Ken Erlandson) will be visiting our congregation to share information, answer questions, and register our children for summer camp. Our congregation provides camperships based off available funds and the camp also provides some camperships so every child can go to camp at least once this summer.

Our goal is to have many of our children ready to sign up for camp on May 5th. When we do that, we will be able to help each other with rides, encourage children to go to the same camps, and help the camp plan for the summer. So, pick up your brochure, decide which camps you are interested in and get ready to sign up.

Camps:

Explorer Camps (non-residential)

Passageway Camps (3-11 w/adult)

Discovery Camps (6-8 year olds)

Trailblazer Camps (ages 7-11)

Voyageur Camps (ages 12-14)

Teen Trek

Excursion

Horseback Riding Camps

Servant Events

Worship Assistants

Thank you for serving!



May Greeters

8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
5/5	Jason & Stacy Peterson & Family
5/12	Jerrie & Julie Lund & Family Laverne & Mary Hoffman John & Judy Johnson
5/19	Harvey & Carol Tewes Kathi Haug Will & Hilda Bettermann Warren & Ann Smith
5/26	Ken & Carol Rohloff Rod & Carol Karrow Ione Halverson June Anderson Viola Freudenberg

May Welcome Center Staff

8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
5/5	Scrip Sales Team Jan DeJong
5/12	Wanda Schultz Jim Krueger
5/19	Paulette Kracht Marcia Hiller
5/26	Bonnie Brooks Wanda Thun

May Scrip Center Staff

8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
5/5	Carol Chorley Amber Rousu
5/12	Bonnie Brooks Muriel Stark
5/19	Maureen Bumgarner Jennifer Karrow
5/26	Jean Jantzen Amber Rousu

May Ushers

8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Jacob Chan	Clint Gray
Justin Steidl	Randy Goeke
Nathan Chan	Tanner Goeke
Scott DeLong	Tommy Goeke
Rod Karrow	Kevin Huwe

May Acolytes

8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Nora Baldry	Peyton Goetsch
Charlie Mistele	Madison Thun





May

BIRTHDAYS



May

ANNIVERSARIES

Katie Davis	5/1	Josh Rieck	5/18
Becki Kaeding	5/1	Cody Rieland	5/18
Virginia Rieland	5/2	Terry Hausmann	5/19
Angela Flemming	5/3	Donna Kalpin	5/19
Kenneth Rohloff	5/3	Alma Leuthner	5/19
David Holler-mann	5/4	Zachary Bowman	5/20
Michael Maras	5/4	Lynn Pepper	5/20
JoNette Bro-gaard	5/6	Jason Peterson	5/20
Jim Chlian	5/6	Josiah Buboltz	5/21
Rachel Harbig	5/6	Alicia Johnson	5/21
Jerry Jakes	5/6	Callie Lund	5/21
Parker Jensen	5/6	Cilicia Steidl	5/21
Maya Dahl	5/7	Roxane Westergren	5/21
Jaden Ebel	5/7	Ryan Zirpel	5/21
Jeffrey Rousu	5/7	Jonathan Bohl-sen	5/22
Don Schroeder	5/7	Shirley Diekman	5/22
Alicia Schuhmacher	5/7	Elizabeth Floden	5/22
Audrey Schuhmacher	5/8	Larry Gebhardt	5/22
David Aakre	5/9	Jessica Kutz	5/22
April Carlquist	5/9	Christopher Pearson	5/22
Mary Hoffman	5/10	Jane Rapp	5/22
Jeff Johnson	5/10	Ken Koep	5/23
Bonnie Okerlund	5/10	James Krueger	5/23
Rhett Rapp	5/10	Dustin Navratil	5/23
Kyle Diekman	5/11	Jenny Stahl	5/23
Guy Ebel	5/11	Katelyn Halbur	5/24
Kayla Scott	5/11	Jennifer Swanson	5/25
Cooper Glaeseman	5/12	Gregory West-gaard	5/25
Duane Jantzen	5/12	Sharon Bahn	5/26
Ausianta Bar-tone	5/13	Jesse Holm	5/26
James Safarik	5/13	Lucy Sprengeler	5/26
Janis Schoe-neck	5/13	Dominique Eddy	5/27
JoAnn Vogt	5/14	Evelyn Kuhnau	5/27
Ava Buboltz	5/15	Jadyn Athmann	5/28
Calvin de Ridder	5/15	Audrey Kleespies	5/29
Jeff Huber	5/15	Lauren Noyes-de Ridder	5/29
Ruth Hartsell	5/16	Arlene Schuhmacher	5/29
Margaret Lemp-ka	5/16	Michael Peter-son	5/30
Hilda Johnson	5/17	Mary Sprengeler	5/30
Warren Smith	5/17	Gayle Johnson	5/31
Ashley Aure	5/18	Mary Kuhnau	5/31
Sophia Rehms	5/18	Esther Sandau	5/31

Randy & Therese Jakes	5/1
Allan & Carla Schneeberger	5/5
Daniel & Gale Jackson	5/6
Richard & Dorothy Wollmuth	5/6
Loren & Diane Benson	5/13
Kellen & Felicia Morrissey	5/13
Joie & Joyce Ondracek	5/17
Jim & Judy Chlian	5/18
Gerald & Clarice Getz	5/19
Jon & Kristina Kuhnau	5/19
Darrin & Kassidy Mahn	5/19
Chris & Bethany Uhde	5/19
Ryan & Ashley Haar	5/24
Vern & Linda Tvrdik	5/24
Lynn & Patricia Pepper	5/25
Roy & Joan Martell	5/26
Matthew & Sara Meyer	5/26



ATTENDANCE

March	2017	2018	2019
1ST SUNDAY	407	356	336
2ND SUNDAY	340	299	190
3RD SUNDAY	361	385	426
4TH SUNDAY	357	446	359
5TH SUNDAY			362

Financials

FINANCIAL SUMMARY					
FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDING					
MARCH 31, 2019					
		ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH		ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL	
GIFTS & RECEIPTS		\$ 500,957.42		\$ 409,886.31	
OTHER SOURCES/FUND ACCOUNTS		\$ 2,995.00		\$ 4,241.72	
GOD'S WINDOW RECEIPTS		\$ 112,265.00		\$ -	
OTHER PROPERTY RENT INCOME		\$ 30,284.62		\$ -	
SCHOOL SUBSIDY FROM CHURCH		\$ -		\$ 144,383.51	
TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$ 646,502.04		\$ 558,511.54
ZION SCHOOL SUPPORT		\$ 144,383.51		\$ -	
EXPENSES		\$ 358,977.46		\$ 549,760.90	
OTHER PROPERTY EXPENSES	*	\$ 157,913.26		\$ -	
TOTAL EXPENSES			\$ 661,274.23		\$ 549,760.90
NET			\$ (14,772.19)		\$ 8,750.64
LESS:					
PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON DEBT:					
GOD'S WINDOW		\$ 87,769.99		\$ -	
NORTHWOODS		\$ 4,662.70		\$ -	
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS		\$ 2,995.00		\$ 3,552.72	
			\$ (95,427.69)		\$ (3,552.72)
NET NET			\$ (110,199.88)		\$ 5,197.92
LOSS ON SALE OF PARSONAGE	*	\$ 80,900.00		SUMMER LUNCH NOT	
LOSS ON SALE OF SEEGER HOUSE	*	\$ 51,575.25		REPORTED IN THESE TOTALS	
MORTGAGE BALANCES:					
GOD'S WINDOW		\$ 802,873.03			
NORTHWOODS		\$ 289,993.58			
		\$ 1,092,866.61			

Zion Lutheran Church

Gifts & Receipts includes Unified, Local and Loose offering as well as Tidings income and rent received on the church building. The 9 month budgeted amount is \$489,299 compared to the actual amount received of \$500,957.42.

Other Sources/Fund accounts includes the dollars transferred from fund accounts to pay for the railing along the curved sidewalk and the railing by the steps in the front of the building. \$995.00 was donated and \$2000 was used from the Thrivent Choice dollars given to the church.

God's Window receipts received July 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019. \$112,265.00 of this amount \$87,769.99 was applied to principal on the God's Window loan.

Other Property Rent Income would include the rent on the Seeger house for 1 month and the monthly rent on the Northwoods Office building for 9 months.



Ursala Wachter	\$5	Zion Church
	\$25	Lutheran Island Camp
	\$25	God's Window
June Davis	\$220	Zion School
	\$10	God's Window
	\$300	Tuition Assistance
Marie Hertwig	\$10	God's Window
	\$10	Tuition Assistance
Floyd Miller	\$30	Tuition Assistance
Joan Hartsell	\$35	Tuition Assistance
Jason Bohlson's Grandpa	\$15	Tuition Assistance



Thank you to everyone who is saving cans for Zion Lutheran School and to Kevin Ketelsen for taking them to the recycle center. Zion Lutheran School received \$119.47!

Our Zion Funeral Committee paid \$1000 on the God's Window on 3rd loan.

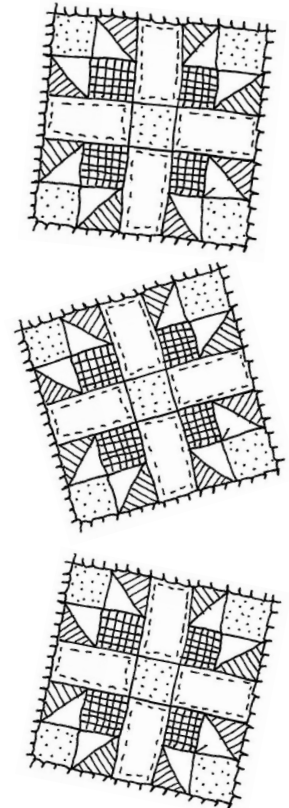
Thank you for all of your work here at Zion!



Zion Quilters have been donating many quilts lately. We gave 12 quilts to Love INC, 7 to Life Connections and 5 lap quilts to Alexandria Assisted Living. We also donated a quilt for the Gala. On April 24 we sent 12 boxes of quilts to Lutheran World Relief with Hensley Trucking out of Osakis. We only have to pay them \$35 for shipping and many churches in the area send quilts that day. Our next projects are for United Way and the Eagles Nest so we will continue to make quilts. We will be choosing some quilts to go to Lutheran Island Camp for their annual quilt auction and usually deliver them to LIC in May or June.

We have a nice selection of quilts on hand now—some novelty quilts featuring dogs, pheasants, elk or baseball, many baby quilts including some minke blankets that make nice gifts, all sizes for graduations, weddings or whatever the occasion might be. All of our quilts are for sale with the price written on the back of the labels.

Zion Quilters



ATTENTION YOUTH

6th-12th grade students

Senior High Youth Bible Study

is on Wednesday nights from 8 p.m.-9 p.m. in the Zion Youth Room. Come and enjoy fellowship while digging deeper into your faith!

May 24th from 7 p.m.-11 p.m. We will be having an **ALL YOUTH** summer party!! Bring a lawn chair or blanket and be ready for some fun!

*Jr. High includes 6th-8th grades *Sr. High includes 9th-12th grades

Grades are from the 2018-2019 school year

LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP AND CHRIST SERVE RANCH

Here it is. . .May—and time to think of fun and worthwhile summer things for your children and grandchildren to do. Here's an article from a recent Lutheran Island Camp and Christ Serve Ranch's weekly e-news . . .

The importance of going to camp has been something that most people would agree with. The lasting impact of a Biblically-based camp (both short term and long term) has been studied recently and the findings are important for your family. Parents report that the short-term impact on their child is general happiness, a desire to participate in church life, and agreement with church doctrine. However, new studies indicate that the long-term impact may be even more important. While church attendance didn't follow into college years, adherence to faithfulness did and long-term, past campers were more apt to come back to church, follow the values of their church teachings, and know that they could count on their church and religious friends in time of need. Studies show that long term, campers are more apt to attend church, bring up their children in the church, and positively participate in religious discussions. At Lutheran Island Camp and Christ Serve Ranch, we know that God is planting seeds in the lives of children and that He will provide the harvest to bring them home to Him.

- Thank you to all who supported the Lutheran Island Camp (LIC)/Christ Serve Ranch Campership Fund by attending the **Lenten Supper** on March 27. We were able to raise \$400 for the Campership Fund. (A big "Thank You" to Thrivent—a Thrivent Action Team Grant was used for this activity.)
- In order to help many Zion children attend camp, you can also help by **donating to the fund anytime**. (Memorials, Honorariums, etc.)
- Zion Evening Guild (LWML) has a Christmas Stocking project-where each month, dimes (one in January, two in February, etc.) are collected through December. The group has designated "LIC Camperships for Zion Children" as their **2019 Christmas Stocking project**. Thank you, ladies, for helping Zion children attend LIC!
- Zion Church families can **pick up applications** for LIC Camperships from Bonnie Brooks, our Business Manager.

Many people drove by and stopped to take in what has become a tradition with many families... History on 3rd.

The weather kept the Nativity scene from being presented this year, but the Lord provided wonderful weather for the presentation of the Jerusalem, Crucifixion, and the Guarding of the Tomb. We wish to thank all who were involved through prayers, financial support, and volunteering of your time as you were a part of our ministry and witness to the community. Thank you. See you May 30 for the presentation of the Ascension.



A Thank You to Zion Church: "We were in town for an Easter Family get together and drove by your "Easter Demonstration" on Saturday as the Romans were guarding the Tomb. We were so impressed and had to drive by several times to take it all in. My children and grandchild were amazed as were my husband and I. So very realistic and well-done that we felt we had arrived at the actual site of the Tomb and Crucifixion. What a beautiful way to Evangelize! We wished we could have come to see all that you offered as I imagine that you had the Crucifixion and all that happened on Good Friday through the Resurrection! THANK YOU for being a light amid all the darkness these days." The Stadsvolds, Moorhead MN



Announcing

Scenes are presented as a **drive by**, but all are welcome to park at Zion Lutheran at 3rd and Lake to view the scenes.

HISTORY ON 3RD



The members of Zion Lutheran and Good Shepherd Lutheran churches will present **History on 3rd** in five vivid scenes to be shown along 3rd Avenue on these dates.

The Nativity

Friday, April 12, 4:00 - 7:00

Triumphant Entrance into Jerusalem

Palm Sunday, April 14, 12:00 - 3:00

The Crucifixion

Friday, April 19, 11:00 - 2:00

Guarding of the Tomb

Friday, April 19, 2:00 through Easter morning

His Ascension

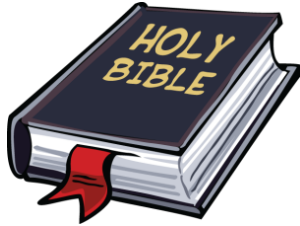
Thursday, May 30, 4:00 - 7:00

For more information
call Zion Lutheran at
320-763-4842

Presented outdoors at
Zion Lutheran Church
300 Lake Street
Alexandria, MN

Women's Bible Study

May 2 @ 1 p.m. in the Fireside room!



We will be looking at the study from the Spring Quarterly page 18, "Caring for the Body of Christ".



May families being prayed for by members of Zion's Prayer ministry team: Sch-Zw

Zion Men's Ministry will meet on Tuesday, May 21, at 6:30 P.M. in the Zion Church Basement. A Potluck Dinner is served at 6:30 with devotions and meeting to follow.

MEN'S MINISTRY

The Men's Ministry would like to invite all men that would like to join our ministry for food, Christian fellowship, and fun activities. Men's Ministry meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month. Zion men, please come and join us and learn more about God's Word and how He works in our lives. God bless.



Zion Evening Guild (LWML) will meet as a society on Tuesday evening, May 14th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We welcome all women to our meetings, where we gather as Lutheran Women in Mission-supporting grants chosen both on the district and national level. We're very excited and thankful that the LWML goal of \$2,075,000 was met recently, so the commitment we made for the designated grants can be carried out throughout the world. Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow.

As Sisters in Christ, we also get together with others on the zone level. The Alexandria Zone is holding their Spring Rally on Friday, May 3, at Good Shepherd Lutheran, Alexandria, with registration beginning at 9:00 am. This is a rally you don't want to miss!



Missionary Joy Markus

Hear the story of a Muslim girl who came to know Jesus, while living

9:15-10:15

in a Muslim country!

May 5

Joy Markus will share her life story of how she came to know Christ as Savior while living in a Muslim country, and was miraculously able to escape her dangerous situation and the threats on her life. Joy will tell you that she risked losing her family and even her very life just so she could come to know the living God.

Joy is now serving the Lord and is available to speak to your Church, Bible Study Group, Women's Group, Youth Group And LWML

Joy Markus, a former high school Islamic religion teacher, believed in Jesus Christ in Kuwait. A Christian teacher on staff pointed her to Christ, and a local pastor taught her the Christian faith. Finally, however, it was in a dream that Joy heard Christ's own words of John 14:6: "I am the way, the truth, and the life—No one comes to the Father except through me." Becoming a Christian turned Joy's world upside down. Great pressure was put on her to revert back to Islam. Finally, she was subject to severe physical beatings. When it looked like she would be killed for her faith in Christ, God provided His own miracle. Connections were made with a U.S. embassy worker in Kuwait who was ready to help. After POBLO Ministries promised to take care of her, Joy was on a plane, and heading to America.

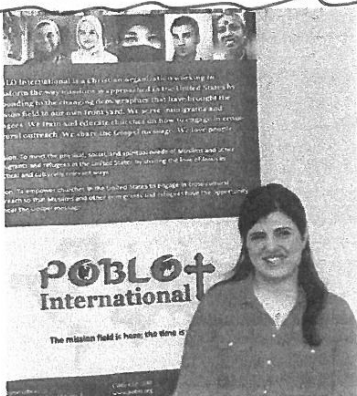
Since 2015, Joy has been witnessing her faith in Christ to the residents of Dearborn, especially to women and children. Through her ministry, dozens of families are hearing the message of God's love in Jesus Christ. Please take advantage of the opportunity to hear the story of God's grace in Joy's life, and please consider making a financial commitment to support Joy's outreach effort in Dearborn, MI through your gift.

Invite Joy to your church.

Learn how POBLO International is sending missionary converts throughout the U.S.

Have your own faith strengthened as you listen to hers.

Zion Lutheran



POBLO+
International

Please contact for more information:

Office Phone: (586)-477-1530

E-mail: joy@poblo.org

Poblo International

35555 Garfield Rd., Suite 7

Clinton Twp, MI 48035



Rev. Roger & Amy James,
serving the Lord at Lutheran Theological Seminary & Training Center, Baguio City
The Lutheran Church of the Philippines

The Philippines is the only majority Christian nation in Asia. The figures I have seen estimate that 81-83% of Philipinos are Roman Catholic. Muslims comprise about 5% of the population. Ten percent are "other Christians," which would include non-Christian religions such as Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses, *Iglesia ni Cristo*, as well as truly Christians denominations like Assembly of God, Baptists, and, yes, Lutherans. (As a quick aside, *Iglesia ni Cristo*, is a unitarian religion started right here in the Philippines about 100 years ago. It now has about 2 million members! I don't think there is any formal or historical connection to the American Church of Christ.)

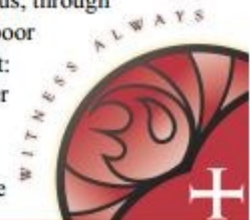
Thinking of the Roman church, we know that there are fellow believers in every place where the forgiveness of sins in Christ is professed, along with the foundational teachings of the Apostles' Creed. We are thankful that in the Roman church the creeds

are taught and confessed. Within the Roman Mass the people sing of Christ the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Baptism is administered in the name of the Holy Trinity. Even in the Holy Communion, although there are accretions of false teachings, the body and blood of Christ



are fed to sinners for the forgiveness of their sins, just as the words of Institution proclaim. So, in the Roman church the gospel is still proclaimed, and from that Word the Holy Spirit works salvation and faith where He pleases.

But then you run into something like the picture above, "To Jesus, through Mary." The false teachings of Romanism are evident, turning poor sinners away from the one and only hope, our Lord Jesus Christ: "There salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). "There is one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ" (1 Timothy 2:5). Mary is not the Savior; nor is she



Prayer Requests

- For good health and protection from accident; and full recovery for Amy after a knee injury.
- For the ability to teach well. Roger is teaching theology, and Amy is teaching English.

Mailing Address

Rev. Roger & Amy James
No. 3 South Drive
Lutheran Theological Seminary
Baguio City 2600
Philippines

Contact us at

roger.james@lcms.org

if you would like us to visit or
Skype with your congregation or
organization.

To be added to or removed from this
mailing list, send an email message to
roger.james@lcms.org
with the word ADD or REMOVE in the
subject line.



LTS Student Spotlight

Glenn J. Cabiltes

27 years' old

Final Year of Seminary

Home
Medina, Misamis Oriental
Home Church

Good Shepherd Lutheran
Church

Native Tongue: Visayas

Vicarages:

St. Mary Lutheran Church (rural)
Bonifacio, Misamis Oriental
Our Savior Lutheran Church (urban)
Urdaneta City, Pangasinan



What prompted Glenn to study for the Holy Ministry?

Glenn first completed four years of college in secondary education and taught for two years in a public school. When he expressed a desire for change, his foster parents urged him to consider studying at the seminary. He was also encouraged by his fellow youth group friends, some of whom joined him when he started here at LTS. Although Glenn was orphaned at a very young age and then raised by his grandmother until the age of nine, he knows that God was watching out for him. After staying with many families between 3rd and 9th grades, his high school teacher took him into his home and saw that he completed school. Glenn credits his determination to stay in school, his blessing in choice of friends, and, most of all, God's providence for bringing him to the seminary.

There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at

www.lcms.org/service.

Click on "Service Opportunities"

the mediator to the Savior.

The pure word of the Gospel is needed here in the Philippines. The Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCMS partner church) is a necessary witness in this, the only, Christian nation in Asia. Pastors are needed. Theologians are needed. That means Lutheran Theological Seminary and Training Center is much needed in order to prepare shepherds and other church workers who know and who can teach the word of truth. Thank you for making it possible for the LCMS to have a part in this important work by your prayers and gifts. Thank you for making it possible for Amy and me, your LCMS missionaries, to work here in the Philippines, side by side with our LCP pastors and professors. God grant that this one Christian nation in Asia may be an ever greater light of the pure Gospel of Christ in this region.

Peace in Christ!

Roger B. James



This picture is from a Reformation festival in a highland area of Luzon. See the Luther Rose background! The festival was supposed to happen in October but had to be postponed because of a major typhoon. Part of the festival included traditional dancing in traditional garb. They also got Amy and me out there dancing, but thankfully they let us remain in our own "traditional garb"!

To support the LCMS through the work of Roger James, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or LCMS. Include
"James-Philippines"

on the memo line. Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website at
www.lcms.org/jamesfamily.

PRAY FOR AMERICA **LOVE ONE ANOTHER**

LOVE ONE ANOTHER, JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. JOHN 13:34

MAY 2, 2019

Three Opportunities to Participate in National Day of Prayer

PRAYER BREAKFAST

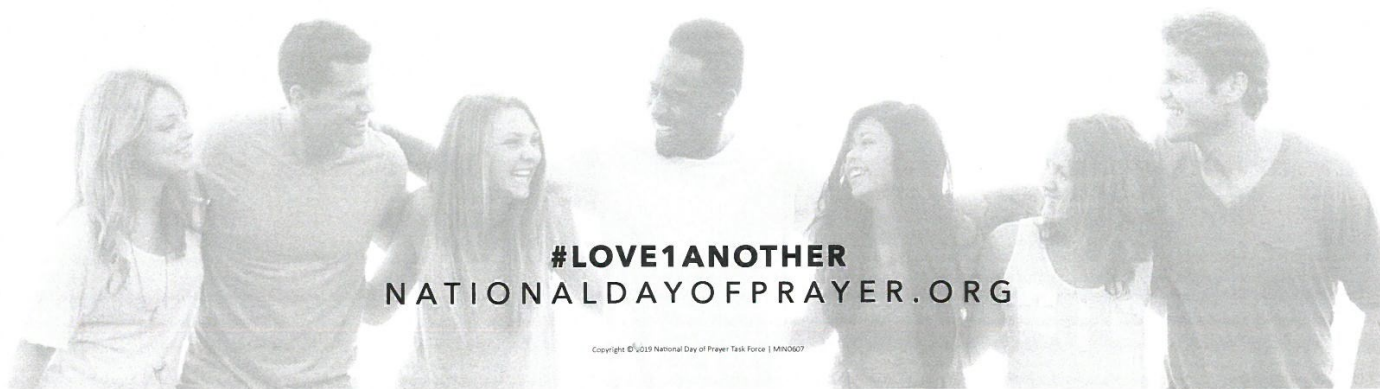
5:45-7:45 am • Tickets \$12.50 • Broadway Ballroom
Please purchase tickets in advance by calling Linda, 320.766.2446

PRAYER AT ALEXANDRIA CITY HALL

12:00-12:30 pm

PRAYER AT LOCAL CHURCHES

Check with your church for service details.



#LOVE1ANOTHER
NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG

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Electronic Giving is here and available to you as a member of Zion!!!!

As a member of Zion Lutheran Church, you may have your weekly/semi monthly or monthly offerings direct deposited from your account to Zion's account!

There is no charge to you for this service.

A New Way to Give

Our church has embraced a giving option that may be more convenient for many of you

Electronic Giving This option works in the same manner as mortgages, loan payments, or insurance premiums that are automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings account.

To sign up for **Electronic Giving** and have your donations transferred electronically to the church account on a regular basis, please stop in or call the office and fill out an authorization form. You choose the donation frequency (weekly, semi-monthly or monthly) and the donation amount for each fund you wish to support.

Benefits to you:

- Satisfaction of giving to God first
- Convenient option for giving – no more checks to write
- Allows you to contribute even when you are away
- More secure than bringing cash or checks to church

Benefits to Zion Lutheran:

- Consistent giving
- Balanced cash flow for better planning
- Reduces the number of checks to process and deposit
- Less work for volunteer counters and staff
- Secure and easy maintenance of commitments

You will still receive an offering number and box of envelopes for any special gifts you would like to make. You may still put your weekly envelope in the offering plate marked EFT.

For any questions, please contact Bonnie in the business office.

Are you age 70.5?

Are you required to take a distribution from your IRA, SEP IRA or Simple IRA?

With the new tax laws in effect, you may want to consider a Qualified Charitable Distribution to Zion Lutheran Church and/or School.

This gift could be your monthly/annual tithe or a special gift in addition to your regular offering.

How will the new standard deduction impact my charitable giving?

To maximize your deductions, you claim the larger of the standard deduction or the total of your itemized deductions. For example, under pre-2018 laws, a 70-year-old retired couple who pay \$10,000 in state income tax, \$5,000 in property taxes and \$10,000 in charitable gifts would typically itemize their deductions, because they total \$25,000 vs. their \$15,200 standard deduction (\$12,700 plus \$1,250 over age 65 per person additional deduction). In this case, the couple obtained a financial benefit for their charitable donations.

Under the new law, however, the deduction for state and local taxes (both on income and property combined) is capped at \$10,000. As such, their itemized deductions would now only total \$20,000. In this case, instead of itemizing, the couple would claim the \$26,500 standard deduction for married couples (\$24,000 plus \$1,250 over age 65 per person additional deduction).

To be clear, when you claim the standard deduction, you get no financial benefit for any of your itemized deductions, including your charitable donations. However, if you're taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) from your traditional IRA, there's a smart strategy that will still allow you to obtain a financial benefit from your charitable donations, even if you're still claiming the standard deduction.

Reintroducing Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

Using a QCD is a tax-savvy strategy that allows you to transfer up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA directly to a qualified charity. It is only available to IRAs and individuals who have reached RMD age (70.5). Any amount processed as a QCD counts toward your RMD requirement and reduces the taxable amount of your IRA distribution. This lowers both your adjusted gross income and taxable income, resulting in a lower overall tax liability.

So, if our 70-year-old couple, who have an annual RMD between the two of them of \$24,000, can instead direct \$10,000 of it to charity as a QCD, it will reduce their taxable income by \$10,000 and they still get to claim the same \$26,550 standard deduction. In this case, if the couple is in the new 24% tax bracket, by using this strategy, they would have saved \$2,400 in federal taxes alone — and potentially more in state tax savings, which is why this strategy will likely become commonplace in the future.

Talk to your tax and financial advisor and/or tax preparer to see if this might be right for you!



**THANK YOU TO ALL THRIVENT MEMBERS WHO CONTINUE TO
DIRECT THEIR CHOICE DOLLARS TO ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
OR SCHOOL!**

Between July 1, 2018 and April 23, 2019:
Zion Lutheran School has received \$9,858.00. The school continues to use their gifts to keep curriculum up to date and help with technology needs.

Zion Lutheran Church has received \$2,768.00. \$2000.00 was used to help pay for the railing along the curved sidewalk in the front of the church.

According to what we can find out from the Thrivent office, Zion could receive upwards of \$85,000 if everyone eligible directed their dollars to Zion Lutheran Church or School.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE

If you are a Thrivent member, there are 3 ways to direct these Choice dollars.

On-line at [Thrivent.com/thrivent choice](https://thrivent.com/thrivent-choice)

Under "My Thrivent"
Direct Choice dollars
Log in and follow directions.

By Phone

Call 800-847-4836
Say Thrivent Choice
Press 1 to direct Choice dollars and a representative will come on the line to assist you.

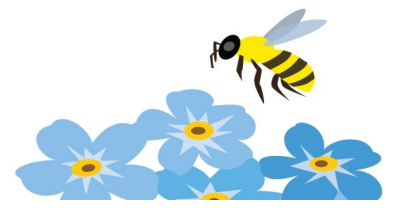
Stop in at your Thrivent representative's office and they will assist you.

Remember Choice dollars **DO NOT** come out of your personal account. These are dollars that the government would normally collect in taxes. Because they are a fraternal benefit society, this money must be used to carry out social, intellectual, educational, charitable, benevolent, moral, fraternal, patriotic or religious purposes for the benefit of its members and the public.

Choice dollars must be directed at least once a year, but can be directed more often.



May 2019



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

DEADLINES

Bulletin announcements are due on Wednesdays by 9 a.m.

Tidings articles are due on the 15th of each month.

			1 6:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 8:30 a.m. Chapel 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 3:30 p.m. Handbell Practice 5:30 p.m. Choir Practice 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 8 p.m. Senior High Bible Study	2 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study/ Breakfast 9 a.m. Quilters 10 a.m. Com-munion/Nelson Gables 1 p.m. Women's Bible Study	3 9:30 a.m. Spring Musical 1 & 7 p.m. Spring Musical	4
5 SCRIP 8 a.m. Worship w/Communion 9:25 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship, Sunday School, Bible Class, Youth Bible Study 10:45 a.m. Worship	6 5:30 p.m. Worship Planning Committee 7 p.m. Life Team	7 7 a.m. Staff Bible Study	8 6:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 8:30 a.m. Chapel 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Choir Practice 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 8 p.m. Senior High Bible Study	9 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study/ Breakfast 9 a.m. Quilters 10 a.m. Com-munion/Bethany	10	11
12 Mother's Day 8 a.m. Praise Worship 9:25 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship, Sunday School, Bible Class, Youth Bible Study 10:45 a.m. Worship w/Communion	13	14 7 a.m. Staff Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Evening Guild 7 p.m. School Board 7 p.m. Lay Ministry	15 6:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 8:30 a.m. Chapel 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Choir Practice 8 p.m. Senior High Bible Study	16 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study/ Breakfast 9 a.m. Quilters 10 a.m. Com-munion/Knute Nelson	17	18 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Zion School Plant Sale
			Pastors Conference at Madden's			
19 C.R.O.S.S. 8 a.m. 8th Grade Recognition, Worship w/Communion 9:25 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship, Sunday School, Bible Class, Youth Bible Study 10:45 a.m. Senior Recognition, Praise Worship	20 5 p.m. Mission Council	21 7 a.m. Staff Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Men's Ministry	22 6:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 8:30 a.m. Chapel 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Choir Practice 8 p.m. Senior High Bible Study	23 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study/Breakfast 9 a.m. Quilters 10 a.m. Com-munion/Grand Arbor 4:30 p.m. Board of Church Properties	24 7 p.m. Youth Party on the lawn	25
26 8 a.m. Worship 9:25 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship 10:45 a.m. Worship w/Communion 6:30 p.m. Book Club	27 Offices Closed  memorial DAY No School	28 7 a.m. Staff Bible Study 6:30 p.m. 8th Grade Graduation and Awards night	29 6:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 8 p.m. Senior High Bible Study	30 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study/ Breakfast 9 a.m. Quilters 4-7 p.m. History on 3rd, His Ascension 6:30 p.m. Circuit Ascension Service for circuit	31 8:30 a.m. Closing Chapel Zion School Last Day of School	

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Rev. Paul Dare, Senior Pastor

320-763-4842 ext. 42

Rev. Don Wilke, Visitation Pastor

320-267-8308

Muriel Stark, Principal

612-940-3359

Church email zionchurch@zionalex.org

School email zionschool@zionalex.org

Office **320-763-4842**

Fax **320-763-3676**

Website www.zionalex.org

Sunday Service Schedules

September - May 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

June - August 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School & Bible Class Schedule

September - May 9:25 a.m.