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**May  
2017**

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**Mission Statement**

Zion Lutheran Church, Cologne, MN is a branch of Christ's family saved by grace alone, rooted in God's love, and growing in faith through worship, teaching, fellowship, and service as we reach out to others with the good news of Jesus.

## **The Power of Christ: Forgiveness**

*Pastor Eric Zacharias*

"The Copts of Egypt ... are made of ... steel!" Amr Adeeb said, after hearing from a Christian widow. Her husband had led a suicide bomber away from worshippers coming to Palm Sunday worship. His sacrifice saved the lives of many. The widow said, "I'm not angry at the one who did this. I'm telling him, 'May God forgive you, and we also forgive you. Believe me, we forgive you. You put my husband in a place I couldn't have dreamed of.'"

Egypt's talk show host was amazed. "How great is this forgiveness you have!" His voice cracked. "If it were my father, I could never say this. But this is their faith and religious conviction." Coptic Christians have been persecuted by their Islamic neighbors for centuries, as they are only ten percent of the population.

Attacks are designed to scare Christians and others away from their faith. The opposite is happening. Christians crowded the churches during Holy Week, not fearing death or persecution. A local cleric said, "I long to talk to you about our Christ, and tell how wonderful he is." He offered his Christian audience this challenge: "How about we make a commitment today to pray for them? If they know that God is love and experience his love, they could not do these things—never, never, never."

Forgiveness stands in great contrast to the prevailing Islamic culture which is based on honor and shame, demanding revenge. "Since we are united to Christ, in this life we are his image. As he forgave, so must we."

Although we are far removed from the violent persecution of Egypt, we are not far removed from the Christian message of forgiveness. This is the gift God gives us and the power that transforms our lives. For that reason, we join with the apostle Paul who wrote: I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God for salvation for all who believe (Romans 1:16).

Tap into that power. Forgive your persecutors and pray for them. Live as the forgiven and grace-filled person you are.

In Christ.  
Pastor Eric Zacharias

Minutes of the Meeting of  
Zion Ladies Aid/LWML  
April 6, 2017

The Zion Ladies' Aid/LWML met on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 with 11 members present. The meeting was opened with a devotion given by Darlene Ulrich. Pastor led the Bible Study entitled, "The Wondrous Cross", from the Quarterly.

The meeting was called to order by President Julienne and the LWML pledge was recited. The minutes of the previous meeting and the financial report were read. A motion was M/S/C to accept them.

Under Correspondence: We received thank you notes regarding the Gary Bruesehoff funeral, ZEL for the 2 quilts and cookbooks donated for their Silent Auction and the SWC Food Shelf for our \$25.00 donation. Eight other organizations sent letters asking for financial help. We also received notice of the Chaska Ladies group hosting their luncheon on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. After discussion, a motion was M/S/C to give our \$25.00 offering to the American Bible Translators. This gift is to be doubled by a donor's gift.

Committee Reports: Christian Growth noted the April 17<sup>th</sup> Rally is to be held at St. John's, NYA – with 6:30 PM dessert and 7 PM rally. The speaker is Shug Bury (H.I.M. Prison Ministry) and cash donations go to Gift from the Heart. The funeral committee reported that the Gary Bruesehoff and Audrey Brueggemeier funerals went well.

Unfinished Business: The Quilting Group reports that they have about 16 quilts and are deciding where they are to go. Carol Henschen will consider some area church options. It was suggested to purchase batting in bulk and fabric for next year's quilts. The Lenten Supper went well and we received many compliments on the hot dish served from Hillcrest. It was noted that the books were audited by Darlene Ulrich and Darlene Leistiko on Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>.

New Business: Bev Rolf had noted that a request was made from Zion's kitchen. Betty would like to have a taller cart with shelves, a large frying pan and more spatulas and servers. Some suggested that the cart alone might cost upwards of \$200. It was suggested that Bev be asked to look into prices for these items and we make our decision as soon as that information is available. A motion was M/S/C to take \$200 from the Lenten collection and give it to Mites. The Confirmation Reunion will be held on Sunday, April 30 and the Mary Group is in charge of serving.

Announcements: Reminders of April 17<sup>th</sup>, Carver North/South Zone Spring Rally at St. Johns, NYA; April 22<sup>nd</sup> St. John's Chaska, Luncheon, 12-2pm, "Tales of a Tea Totaler" by Patti Kachel; speaker May 20<sup>th</sup>, "Everyone's a Witness Workshop" in Rochester.

Birthday Hymn was sung for our hostess, Ruth Harms. The meeting was adjourned and the closing prayers were said. Our next meeting is Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Zacharias, Secretary

**INSIDE CLEAN-UP DAYS**

Inside clean-up days will be Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, starting at 8 AM each day. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the narthex. There will be a list in the narthex and on the doors of each classroom as to what needs to be done. We would appreciate help, especially if you have students at Zion, many hands make light work. If you can't make it these days, contact Mr. M, and an alternative time may be scheduled for you!

May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 is Ascension Day. It is when the Lutheran Church celebrates the ascension of Jesus, 40 days after His resurrection from the dead.

In Matthew 28:18-20, before he ascended into heaven, Jesus challenged his disciples to spread the good news by saying, "Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

This is usually referred to as the Great Commission, but for the purposes of this article, I am calling it a challenge.

Think about it though; Jesus' disciples were afraid for their lives when Jesus was arrested, put on trial, beaten, crucified, and buried. Most of them weren't even there for those events. They were even locked in a room after Jesus rose from the dead, for fear of the Jews (John 20:19).

This was not going to be a popular time to be a follower of Christ, a Christian. They were persecuted by the Jews and the Romans. Understandably, it was not an easy time to be a Christian. But still, they persevered and shared their faith with others, even to the point of death.

Our students at Zion have also been issued a challenge. Yes, they have been challenged by Jesus to share their faith with others, just as you and I have been challenged; but there is another challenge I want to speak about. A challenge that is definitely not as dangerous for them, as the disciples' challenge was.

Mrs. Rodman, our Pre-School/Kindergarten teacher, and I, have challenged the students to raise money for our chapel offering project, the local food shelf. If they meet our goal of \$250,

then we will rent a dunk tank on the last day of school, (May 26), and allow them to dunk us.

This challenge to the students is not only about raising money, but it is also about giving them the opportunity to share their faith while working with a worthwhile community organization. This is just one way we show the students how to share their faith with others.

We have also created step-up amounts to reach in order to have even more teachers and staff members enter the dunk tank. As the students at Zion are trying to reach this challenge, luckily they do not have to fear for their lives. All they need to fear, is the wrath of Mrs. Moen if they raise enough to get her in the dunk tank, because I've heard she doesn't really want to go in the cold water at all.

### **PLAY DAY 2017**

Playday will be held at Emanuel - Hamburg this year on May 24<sup>th</sup>. This is a great day of fun and activities for the students. Come over and cheer on the Tigers!

### **CALLING ALL GRADUATES**

Do you have a child graduating from high school or college this year? If so, we would love to hear what their future plans are. Please contact the office, so we can include these graduates in our next newsletter. Also, all graduates are invited to attend our service on May 28<sup>th</sup>. We would like to recognize you for all your hard work.

### **ZION PAST & PRESENT**

## Usher Schedule

### MAY USHERS

May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Reagan Sauter Anica Herrera
May 14 <sup>th</sup>	Sydney Bruesehoff Dylan Bingham
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Olivia Stahlke Tori Stacken
May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Collin Vinkemeier Caleb Vinkemeier
May 29 <sup>th</sup>	Canton Vinkemeier David Lenzen

## From the Office

*Office Hours: M-F, 8 AM to Noon  
Summer Hours: W-F 8 AM to Noon  
(starting the week of May 29<sup>th</sup>)*

Please note: Bulletin items are due by Thursday at noon and newsletter items are due by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month. Thank You!

## May Activities & Events

Ladies Aid/LWML Meeting | May 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7 PM  
Track & Field Day @ LHS | May 5<sup>th</sup>  
Play Day | May 24<sup>th</sup> @ Emmanuel - Hamburg  
Last Day of School | May 26<sup>th</sup> (1/2 Day)  
Graduation | May 28<sup>th</sup> during service  
Memorial Day Service | May 29<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 AM  
Inside Clean-Up Days | Tues. May 30<sup>th</sup> –  
Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>

## Finances

*Account Balances*

### Salary

Balance (1/1/17)	-\$60,043.06
YTD Income	+\$100,686.90
YTD Expense	-\$127,907.67
Balance (4/21/17)	-\$87,263.83

### Missions

Year to date total (3/31)	\$2,459.00
2016 Pledged	\$7,500.00
2016 Goal	\$15,000.00

### LHS:

Year to date total (3/31)	\$2,412.66
2016 Commitment	\$22,825.00
Per communicant member	\$55.00

### Building/Repair Fund (4/24/17):

Contributions	\$6,680.00
Administrative and Events	\$720.00
Repairs	\$1,617.00
Utilities	\$3,187.00
Worship	\$277.00
Suggested household contrib.	\$550.00

## Thank You

Dear Members of Zion,

Sincere thanks to all for your prayers, visits, phone calls, cards and food. Special thanks to Pastor Zacharias for his visits and prayers. It was all appreciated very much. God Bless.

Ellen Arndt

Pastor Zacharias opened the meeting with Devotion – John 14: Jesus prepared his disciples for serving, promising that God honors those who are faithful and who carries forward the words and promises of God.

Terry Bruesehoff was elected as fill-in Chairman for Chris Dehning. Meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM.

The minutes from the October 2016 meeting & January 2017 meeting were made available in church on the Sunday prior to our Voters' meeting and also available as voting members entered this meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurers' Reports as read.

Pastor provided a printed report of activity from the events of past quarter (January, February and March), events of the current quarter (April, May and June), new membership, new Communicants-Confirmands, funerals, and upcoming events. This report will be made a permanent part of these minutes.

Pastor Zacharias provided information on LHS's capital campaign for their building project and the need for host families for the international students,

Chris Dehning provided a written report highlighting National Lutheran Schools Week, basketball season, awards, spelling competition, and field trips. Achievement testing begins April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Evangelism Committee hosted a successful Easter breakfast. They had a good turnout, raising over \$500, with proceeds going to Chance Int'l. Thrivent cards were used to cover costs.

Trustees update:

- Still working with the bathroom issues of freezing pipes, they added more insulation around the pipes.
- Organ cleaning is scheduled for May 15<sup>th</sup>; it will be posted in the bulletin. We will need 5 volunteers for up to 5 days to help with the process. Est. cost \$10,000.00. This was approved back in April, 2016.
- Annual Fish Fry, served approximately 775 people, went through 800 lbs of fish.
- Maple tree on corner was removed successfully.
- Outside cleanup went well - 15 volunteers/3.5 hours
- Softball field/ backstop needs repair.
- Revisiting the gym roof
- Cleanup trees along the creek
- Defibrillator needs to be replaced (ZEL will fund)
- Kitchen mats need replacing (ZEL will fund)
- Suggested future projects:
  - Church landscaping
  - Replacing lights and floor in gym
  - Speakers in kitchen and 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade room
  - Outdoor half-court basketball area, location where the teacherage was located. (getting quotes)

Salary Proposals

Staff/Spouses were excused before discussion. Motions were made and seconded to have salaries approved for pastor, janitor, cook, secretary, and teachers. It was noted that our organist did not want a salary increase.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM. Jen Buetow closed with a reading from the Portals of Prayer, (April 17<sup>th</sup>) Prep for Peering.

## Membership Notes

### BIRTHDAY LIST

- 2 Kurt Vinkemeier
- 3 Cynthia Henschen
- 4 Tara Bones
- 5 Jill Lenzen
- 6 Jacob Buetow  
Brooke Buetow  
Kellen Dose  
Zander Hoen  
Brett Pexa
- 8 Irene Rolf
- 11 Anne Traver
- 13 Dixie Brueggemeier
- 14 James Ische Sr.  
Victor Rolf  
Brentley Waller
- 15 Jacob Thompson
- 16 Jason Geisel
- 19 David Traver
- 20 Lorraine Dose  
Stephanie Gardner
- 21 Lindsey Moen  
Brentley Thuening
- 22 Larry Hodgkin  
Craig Pexa
- 23 Esther Sauter
- 24 Allen Friske  
Mark Klaustermeier
- 25 Brayden Schulz  
Joshua Thompson  
Samson Traver
- 26 Kaydra Boelke  
Denise Buetow
- 27 Harry Bruesehoff Jr.  
Gavin Fogarty  
Harriet Tellers
- 28 Paula Rolf
- 29 Anica Herrera
- 30 Todd Moen  
Deborah Walter
- 31 Philip Hokkanen

### ANNIVERSARY LIST

- 1 David & Lisa Traver
- 2 Tim & Amy Sauter
- 5 Darrin & Penny Dietzel
- 6 Jeff & Beverly Ulrich
- 7 Leon & Sara Vinkemeier
- 11 John & Connie Geis
- 12 Rodney & Ann Boelke
- 14 Kelsey & Jessie Hamble
- 15 Neil & Sheryl Gruenhagen
- 17 Jeff & Brenda Thompson
- 18 Joel & Chris  
Klaustermeier
- 20 David & Michelle Dietzel
- 24 Dane & Kelli Kissack
- 25 Eric & Leah Janzen  
Alan & Nancy Buckentine
- 26 James & Deanne Fogarty
- 28 Robert & Cassandra  
Thuening  
Eric & Mary Zacharias

### VISITATION LIST

#### Chaska

Florence Lindquist  
Joycelyn Rolf

#### Norwood Young America

Gloria AmEnd  
Erwin Schmidt

#### Waconia

Gertrude Honebrink  
Lillian Ische  
Ruth Krueger  
Irene Rolf (Mrs. Harry)

### Remembering our Soldiers

Eben Karnitz – Air Force  
Eddie Karnitz

Remember our  
fallen heroes.  
They are the  
reason we are free.

# 2017 MAY

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	01 Midterms Sent Home	02	03 Confirmation   5:30 PM	04 Ladies Aid/LWML Meeting   7:00 PM	05	06
07 Service   9:30 AM	08	09	10 Confirmation   5:30 PM	11 Chapel at the Harbor   10:15 AM	12	13
14 <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b> Service (C)   9:30 AM	15	16	17 Confirmation   5:30 PM	18	19	20
21 Service   9:30 AM	22	23	24 <b>PLAY DAY</b> (Emanuel - Hamburg) Confirmation   5:30 PM	25 <b>1/2 Day of School</b>	26 <b>Last Day of School</b> 1/2 Day	27
28 <b>GRADUATION SUNDAY</b> Service (C)   9:30 AM	29 <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> Service   9:30 AM	30	31	01	02	03
<b>Inside Clean-Up Days</b> <b>May 30th - June 1st</b> <b>Starting at 8 AM each morning</b>						

**Zion Lutheran Church**

14745 Co. Rd. 153

Cologne, MN 55322

*Return Service Requested*



Kelli Kissack  
23295 230th Lane  
Henderson, MN 56044 9331

# Last Week of School

**Play Day @ Emanuel, Hamburg**

Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>

**½ Day of School**

Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>

**Last Day of School & Picnic**

Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>

**Graduation**

Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>

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