



Welcome to Worship!

Information for guests & visitors, including our beliefs and procedures for Holy Communion as a congregation of the LCMS, can be found on the cards in the back of each pew. If you have any questions please reach out to our pastors or the church office using the contact information found on the last page of this newsletter.

Blessings on your time in worship!

As We Gather...

In today's Gospel, our Lord Jesus moved beyond His ministry initially among the Jews now to the Gentile woman of Canaan. The miracle greater than the healing of her daughter was her great faith in Jesus addressing Him, saying, "Lord, help me" (Matthew 15:25). Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord said He would bring "foreigners" to His "house of prayer for all peoples" (Isaiah 56:6-7). Here He gives "many blessings even though we are undeserving" (Prayer of the Day). The early church learned how the Gentiles are grafted into Israel, making the Christian Church the fulfillment of the true Israel, God's people! The outreach of the Gospel of Christ continues through His church, calling all people "that He may have mercy on all" (Romans 11:32). Because of God's effective call, you can have steadfast confidence in His loving kindness and mercy.

Week at a Glance

Saturday, August 15

- 5:00pm: Worship

Sunday, August 16

- 8:30am: Traditional Worship
w/ Holy Communion
- 9:40am: Bible Class
- 10:45am: Creative Worship

Monday, August 17

- 6:00pm: Zion Council
- 6:00pm: Stewardship Meeting
- 7:00pm: AA Meeting

Tuesday, August 18

- 6:00pm: Board of Lay Ministry

Wednesday, August 18

- 6:00pm: Summer Worship
w/ Holy Communion at
Shepherd of the Valley-
Pastor Woodside
- 7:30pm: Youth Group

Thursday, August 20

- First Day of School Martin Luther School

Saturday, August 22

- 5:00pm: Worship

Sunday, August 23

- **9:30am: Single Service Sunday
w/ Holy Communion**
- 10:30am: Brunch
- 11:30am: Voters' Meeting



UPCOMING Events



Sunday, August 16

9:40am

Pastor Otto will
lead Bible Class
in lower level.

Monday, August 17 Stewardship Meeting

6:00pm

in Conference Room

Monday, August 17 Zion Church Council

6:00pm

Tuesday, August 18 Board of Lay Ministry

6:00pm



Wednesday, August 19

6:00pm at

Shepherd of the Valley
801 E. Denver Avenue
Pastor Woodside

SINGLE SERVICE SUNDAY

Sunday, August 23, 2026

9:30am

Followed by a
Fellowship Brunch
in the Basement
and Voters' Meeting

September 13, 2026 Capital Campaign Finale and



Rally Sunday
12:00pm



Sunday, August 16

8:30am: Hadley Zacher
10:45 am: Morgan Mehrer

Sunday, August 23

9:30am: Aubree Cowan
David Orgaard

Today's Sermon

What is Great Faith?

Matthew 15:21-28

What is your definition of great faith? The centurion and the Canaanite woman showed that great faith. Great Faith is Humble. The centurion said I am unworthy to have you in my home. The Canaanite woman accepted the term dog as indicating her status relative to the Lord's people. Humility before God is important because it will cause our faith to be sincerely directed to Him in obedience. Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time. (1 Peter 5:6) A Great Faith Trusts The Power Of God. The recognition of the centurion that Jesus could heal his servant, with a word, even from a remote location is evidence of great faith. God has shown us His love and desire for our salvation, "in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8) A Great Faith is persistent. Notice how the Canaanite woman was not easily turned aside not even by the appearance of insults. Jesus taught that great faith was capable of great things. So, Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. (Matthew 17:20) A Great Faith is Active not Passive. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:16)

Questions:

1. How would you define great faith?
2. How did the centurion show great faith?
3. How did the Canaanite woman show great faith?

Are you interested in what the North
Dakota District is doing in ministry?
Sign up for their email newsletter:

[https://nodaklcms.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?
u=a99a2019808aa9ce12b638653&id=bd4ca31e62](https://nodaklcms.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=a99a2019808aa9ce12b638653&id=bd4ca31e62)

Today, Pastor Otto will lead Bible Class.
This study of the book of Judges meets in
the basement beginning at 9:40am.



NEXT WEEK ...

SINGLE SERVICE SUNDAY

Brunch will be served in the basement following the service.
Stop down and enjoy
eggs and sausage, fresh fruit,
caramel & sweet rolls.

Zions' Annual Single Service Sunday.

Sunday, August 23, 2026

9:30am



Voters' Meeting will begin at 11:30.

Not a voter?

This is your opportunity to become a voter!

Election of the Board of Directors will also take place.

CHURCH VOTERS' MEETING

Zion will hold a Voters' Meeting Sunday, August 23rd at 11:30am. At this time, the updates concerning the new model of Policy Based Governance will be shared. The congregation will have the opportunity to ask questions and voters will be able to vote on the change to the bylaws. (New voters will be accepted.) Following the vote, Zions' Board of Directors will be elected by the Voters' Assembly.

RALLY SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13



Time for a new beginning!

Sunday School & Sunday Bible Class.

Plus, the Campaign Finale and Picnic begins at noon.

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What is the "Agnus Dei"?

The "Agnus Dei" (pronounced AHN-yus DAY-ee) has been sung by the Church for almost 1,200 years. "Agnus Dei" is Latin for "Lamb of God." We usually sing these words in the Divine Service after the Words of Institution have been spoken by the pastor.



Why do we use the Agnus Dei?

In John 1:29, John the Baptizer proclaims, through the power of the Holy Spirit, that Jesus is the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." He said this as Jesus was walking up to him. When we sing the Agnus Dei, like John the Baptizer, we are once again hearing, proclaiming and learning the great Gospel message which confesses that Christ is here with us in Holy Communion, giving us His very body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. What a great way to recognize the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament!

Parents:

After the Divine Service, read John 1:29-34 with your children. Compare John the Baptizer's words to the Passover story in Ex. 12:1-11, 21-23. Be sure to discuss why John calls Jesus the "Lamb of God." Jesus was the ultimate sacrificial Lamb of God by whose death we have been rescued from sin, death and the power of the devil.



Chancel Circle

The Chancel Circle, (altar guild), is in need of helping hands.

Each week the members of the Chancel Circle prepare the altar for communion, fill the candles, change the paraments when needed, order and maintain the flowers. No prior experience is needed. If you would like more information, or would like to be a part of this team, call Nadine Ehrhardt at 220-4874 for more information.

Thank You...

We want to thank all of you who helped me at church after my accident, and all who brought food to our house in the days after.

We are blessed by your prayers and Christian love. God bless you all.

Betty Trautman and family

Board of Stewardship

will meet Monday, August 17th at 6:00pm in the conference room.

ZION

YOUTH

GROUP

All youth in high school and college are invited to attend Youth Group Wednesday, August 19th.

See you for Bible study and activities in the Youth Room at 7:30.

CONFIRMATION PARENTS

Confirmation meeting for all parents who will have students in the confirmation program this fall, (grades 5-8) will be held

Wednesday, September 9th at 6pm.

Confirmation classes begin

Wednesday, September 16th at 6pm.

The Champions Network for Religious Liberty enables congregations and individuals to engage the community for the sake of the church.



See <https://champions-network.com> for more information.

From the District President's Desk

From the ND District President: Another ND Pastor author highlight. Rev. Dr. Matthew Richard, pastor of St. Paul – Minot, has written two books in a series. Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?: 12 False Christs and Will the Real Church Please Stand Up?: 7 False Churches. In the first book, Pastor Richard notes, in a winsome and engaging way, various false portrayals of Jesus that are commonly taught and believed. In the second of these books, Pastor Richard takes the reader through various congregations that fall short of making the good confession of Christ. In both of these books, Christ shines forth, bringing the full comfort of Christ's redeeming work. Pick up your copy at cph.org.
–Rev. Mark Chepulis, North Dakota District President



*At the Voters' Meeting on Sunday, August 23rd,
the Voters of Zion will be asked to vote to change the
governance of Zion to Policy Based Governance.
The following information is a summary of
Policy Based Governance.*

Mission: *To spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people through Word and Sacrament; encouraging and supporting one another as a fellowship of believers.*

One of the items for discussion at our August 23rd Voter's Meeting will be a proposed change in governance. After prayerful consideration, research, discussion, and approval from Zion's voters, our church leadership is aiming toward policy-based governance. This change is intended to strengthen our church's ministry and reflect current practices.

What Is Policy-Based Governance? In a policy-based governance system, the mission comes first. The governing body, or Board of Directors focuses primarily on the mission, vision, values, and overall direction of the church, rather than becoming involved in every day-to-day decision. In this way, governance is separated from management. The Board governs and the Pastors and staff manage ministry. This new Board of Directors will establish clear policies, boundaries, and accountability for leaders and staff. The day-to-day, "boots on the ground" ministry decisions will be entrusted to the appropriate pastors, staff, ministry leaders, and volunteers within those established policies.

Why Are We Making This Change? Policy-based governance will help us focus on Zion's mission by allowing our pastors and staff the freedom to lead using their gifts and abilities and This approach will help us clarify roles and responsibilities of leaders, as well as provide consistency and clear accountability.

What Will Change for Church Members? Members will continue to have opportunities to participate in the life and ministry of the church. Some of the vocabulary and structure will look different but will function in a similar manner to our current practices. One item to note is that we will incorporate Ministry Teams, as opposed to boards and committees. The teams will vary in size, task, and duration of commitment. For example, a VBS Team might only meet and function in the spring and early summer, while a Church Properties Team would meet year- round. The goal is to "do" ministry, rather than govern ministry. There will also be a Board of Directors (as described above), rather than our current Church Council.

Any change in governance requires patience, communication, and a willingness to learn together. We recognize that some members may have questions or concerns about this transition. Those questions are important, and we want to provide opportunities for members to understand the new system and how it will work. We ask for your prayers, your support, and your continued involvement as we look ahead to Policy-based governance.

Please reach out to our pastors or current Council members with questions!



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

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Website:

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Worship:

Saturday 5pm - Contemporary
Sunday 8:30am - Traditional
Sunday 10:45am - Creative

Sunday School (September-May) 9:30 am

Adult Bible Class (year round) 9:40 am



Church Office Hours Summer 2026
Monday thru Friday 11am-5pm
or by appointment.



Linda Reinbold & Kitty Mettler
are in charge of altar flowers for the
month of August.
You can reach Linda at 417-294-6809.

Worship Attendance

Saturday, August 8

5:00 pm - 33

Sunday, August 9

8:30am - 83

10:45am - 86

Stewardship

August MTD

General Offering:

\$26,330.

Average Budget

Monthly Expenses:

\$58,750



"Building Healthy Families"

President Harry S. Truman once said, "A pessimist is one who makes difficulties of his opportunities and an optimist is one who makes opportunities of his difficulties." Which are you Pessimists... how's this working for you? It's usually true that mood follows message: what we think or tell ourselves about a situation results in how we feel about what is happening. The next time you are feeling low or having a difficult day, stop and listen to what you are telling yourself. Is it true? Challenge and then replace negative, untrue thoughts with the truth. (Hint: look for truth in your Bible.) If you're stuck in a negative pattern of thought and life, you don't have to stay there. Please reach out. Your LFS counselors are available to help you learn to identify and change negative thought patterns, replacing them with truth.
www.LutheranFamilyService.org

Main Street Living

Rev. Mark Chepulis, President, ND District LCMS, presents the message: "A Righteousness Not Your Own" based on Luke 18:9-14. This is the Life program: "Jeremy" - Deals with the relationship between a mother and a mentally challenged son who lives in a home.



"MAIN STREET LIVING" is a locally-produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service. Programs are broadcast starting at 10:00 am Central Time on WDAZ Xtra Channel 8.3, Bismarck/Dickinson.

"Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life."
- John 6:68 -

