



Martin Luther School

Opening chapel for the new school year was held Thursday, August 20th.

Thank you to Pastor Marcis for leading opening chapel, and to Pastor Otto for dedicating the new playground. It will be an exciting new year of learning at Martin Luther School.



*Experience the power of generosity!
See how Thrivent Action Teams
can increase your impact.*

Thrivent is a member-owned financial services organization, offering advice, investments, insurance, banking and generosity programs to help clients make an impact on the people, causes and communities they love.

One way we do this is through programs like *Thrivent Action Teams*. Thrivent Action Teams make it easy for Thrivent clients to gather a team of volunteers to make an impact around a cause they care about—such as your organization.

The team can help you meet a need by organizing one of the following:

- Fundraiser Service project
- Educational event

Thrivent provides a customized kit of resources to get started.

Volunteers provide the passion to bring it to life.

Want to learn more?

Visit thrivent.com/actionteams

How can we help?

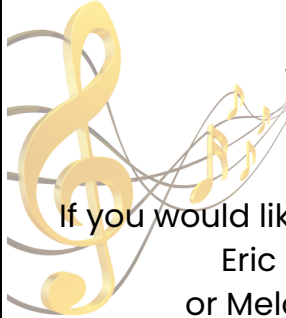
Are there ways Thrivent clients can support your organization throughout the year?

If so, consider these steps to get started:

- 1) Identify your organization's top five needs and how our clients can support and serve you.
- 2) We'll share the information with Thrivent clients who would like to form a Thrivent Action Team around the needs you've identified.
- 3) If you would like to participate in an Action Team event, or use one of your Action grants for a project at Zion, please notify the office at zionoffice501@gmail.com.

**ZION
YOUTH
GROUP**

**ACTIVITIES,
FUN, & BIBLE STUDY!
MEET IN THE YOUTH
ROOM
WEDNESDAY AT 7:30.**



**Music rehearsals begin
Wednesday, September 16th.**

Hosanna Choir: 5:45pm

Bells of Zion: 6:45pm

If you would like more information, contact
Eric Rooke, (Hosannas)
or Melody Hintz-Rau, (Bells)

**NEW
COLORS**

**CHECK
IT OUT!!**

**NEW
DESIGNS**

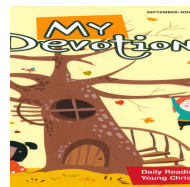
Order your NEW Zion Merch!

Multiple Color Options + Toddler/Youth/Adult Sizes Available



**Proceeds
benefit
Zion
Youth!**

To place an order: scan the QR code above,
visit www.tinyurl.com/22rbdczk,
or contact the church office!



My Devotions

for September - November
is available on the counter in the
upper foyer. Please take one
for your family devotions
with your children.

Nursery Roll Circle

will meet Tuesday, August 25th at 1:30pm
at the home of Kathy Rath.
For information, contact Kathy at
701-333-8989



*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!



The Board of Stewardship
will meet
Monday, August 24
at 6:00pm in the
Conference room.

STEWARDSHIP

+ + +
**KIDS IN THE
DIVINE SERVICE**
+ + +

What is the "baptismal font"?

In church, the baptismal font is a place where we see the Holy Spirit do His stuff! As St. Paul says in Titus: "He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life" (Titus 3:5-7). This all happens at the baptismal font.

Why do we use a baptismal font?

Baptism is important in the lives of God's people. In Baptism you were given the forgiveness of sins, rescued from death and the devil, and given salvation. All of this comes to you through God's Word with the water in Baptism. The font reminds us of the wonderful gift of God's forgiveness. It also reminds us that our old sinful self has been drowned, and a new person arises to live in faith!



Parents: Before or after the service, allow your child to walk up to the baptismal font to get a better look. Remind them to be reverent in God's holy places. During the service, when the sign of the cross is made on the congregation, remind your child that the sign of the cross was made on them at their Baptism. It was there that they were marked as one redeemed by Christ.



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Campaign Financials

Total Commitments: \$1,124,744

Total Fulfilled to date: \$1,064,219

Additional Contributions
outside of commitments: \$50,156

Total Funds Received: \$1,114,375

**YOU ARE INVITED TO BRUNCH
FOLLOWING THE 9:30 SERVICE.**
Come down for eggs, sausage, fruit & rolls!
Voters' Meeting follows brunch.

**Today, the stained glass windows will be
dedicated during the service.**

**The stained glass windows were once part
of Trinity Lutheran Church in Drayton, ND.**

**Zion is blessed to have these beautiful
windows as part of our sanctuary.**



**For more information,
scan the QR code to learn more
about the stained glass windows .**

**You will also find interesting
information about Zion history.**

**A special floral arrangement has been donated
in honor of the stained glass dedication.**

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
On this Dedication Sunday, May these beautiful
and telling stained glass windows remind us all of
the great God that we serve.*

Love, The Art & Amy Schumacher Family
(Kathy Rath, Sue Schumacher, Wanda Terpening,
Loretta Nicholas, Lorna Hildebrandt & Val Iacovangelo)

In 1749 Benjamin Franklin wrote, "The good Education of Youth has been esteemed by wise Men in all Ages, as the surest Foundation of the Happiness both of private Families and of Commonwealths." The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty advocates for educational freedom. See www.LCRLFreedom.org



From the District President's Desk

Schools and universities are starting another academic year. God bless the students who are returning to their places of education, and the faculties and staff of each school, college, and university. The Lord grant wisdom and knowledge to those who learn and those who teach, so that all would use these gifts to the benefit of their neighbor.

*-Rev. Mark Chepulis, North Dakota
District President*



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

413 EAST AVE D
BISMARCK, ND 58501
701-223-8286

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Thomas R. Marcis, Jr. (701) 220-8437
tmarcisjr@gmail.com

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Vincent J. Otto (701) 319-5667
rev.vincentotto@gmail.com

Director of Family Ministry:

Kristin Nistler (701) 400-2069
kristin.nistler@gmail.com

Director of Junior Youth Ministry:

Russ Weixel (701) 400-6492
weixelzion@gmail.com

Administrative Secretary:

Gayle Little (701) 220-0582
zionlcmsbis@gmail.com

Assistant Secretary:

Roxanne Rosin
zionoffice501@gmail.com

Website:

www.zionbismarck.org

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.



Today, altar flowers are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving and praise for His abundant blessings. 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 15

5:00 pm - 38

Sunday, August 16

8:30am - 78

10:45am - 83

Stewardship

August MTD

General Offering:

\$35,025.

Average Budget

Monthly Expenses:

\$58,750



"Building Healthy Families"

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit... therefore honor God with your body." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) This Biblical instruction isn't just for young people! No matter what your age, take time this week to do something that will make your body stronger or healthier. Fix a healthy snack, go for a walk, and invite a friend or neighbor to join you. Shared activity makes it more fun, and creates an open door for conversation about wellbeing, including the importance of faith and spiritual wellness. Thank God for and honor Him by taking care of your body, no matter how many years it's been around!

www.LutheranFamilyService.org

Main Street Living

Rev. Dan Bodin, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND, presents the message: "From Dead to Alive" based on Isaiah 51:1-6. This is the Life program: "Flight Plan" - A man has to deal with the death of a young boy with a terminal illness. Will it strengthen his faith or destroy it?



"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 -



Today's

Readings:

Old Testament

Isaiah 51:1, 1-6

Epistle Reading

Romans 11:33-12:8

Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

**Next
Week:**

Old Testament

Jeremiah 15:15-21

Epistle Reading

Romans 12:9-21

Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28