



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...

Any gardener will admit they have seen certain plants flourish while others fail. The plants don't get a choice in the matter. A plant cannot affect the amount of sunlight, moisture, or attention it receives. It simply grows the way it was designed to. You have been planted by the Lord in His garden. You have seen the light of His Gospel, been watered in Baptism, and been nourished by heaven's food. You have been designed to flourish! A pear tree doesn't grow pumpkins, and neither do the redeemed fall back into fear or slavery. You are the harvest of the Lord. We grow to His glory.

Week at a Glance

Saturday, July 11

- 5:00pm: Worship
w/ Holy Communion

Sunday, July 12

- 8:30am: Worship
- 9:40am: Bible Class
(South Classroom)
- 10:45am: Creative Worship
w/ Holy Communion
- 12:00pm: 40th Anniversary Luncheon
Pastor Marcis years
in Ministry
- Jr. High Encounter Camp
@ Shepherd's Hill July 12-17

Monday, July 13

- 7:00pm: AA Meeting

Wednesday, July 15

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

Saturday, July 18

- 5:00pm: Worship
w/ Holy Communion

Sunday, July 19

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



UPCOMING Events



Sunday, July 12

9:40am

Pastor Otto will lead Bible Class in the south classroom.

Today, Sunday, July 12

12:00pm

40th Anniversary Luncheon for Pastor Marcis



July 12-17

Junior High Encounter Camp



Wednesday, July 15

6:00pm at

Shepherd of the Valley
801 E. Denver Avenue
Pastor Marcis

SINGLE SERVICE SUNDAY

Sunday, August 23, 2026

9:30am

Followed by a
Fellowship Brunch
in the
Basement

2026 CONFIRMATION PICTURES

Are now available for pickup in the church office. Call the office to arrange a time to pick up the photograph. (223-8286 from 11am-5pm)

ACOLYTES



Sunday, July 12

8:30am: Chase Johnson

10:45 am: McKenzie Wilson

Sunday, July 19

8:30am: Aubree Cowan

10:45 am: Cooper & Kira
Yunker

Today's Sermon

The Rev. Thomas R. Marcis Jr. ...

40 Years of Faithful Service

Joshua 1:9

Forty years ago, Pastor Marcis was ordained into the Holy Ministry. A lot of things have changed over those 40 years, the price of gas, the price of a car, the price of groceries. However, there is one thing that has never changed, and that is the Gospel power of God's love. The hope that is found in Jesus Christ and Him crucified is what Pastor Marcis has been proclaiming in the sermons preached, the Bible Studies led and the comfort provided at a loved one's bedside for the past 40 years. That is the same message that has been a beacon that continues to shine through the work that has been done at Zion. Joshua 1:9 is a great passage that reminds us that wherever you go, whatever you do, whatever situation you are found in, the Lord goes with you and will always give you the strength you need to endure. Looking back over the past 40 years, it is easy to see how God has worked and continues to work through his faithful servant, the Rev. Thomas R. Marcis, Jr.

Questions:

1. What stands out about the history of Zion Lutheran Church?
2. What has been the marks of the ministry of Pastor Marcis over the past 40 years?
3. What comfort can be received from the Bible verse Joshua 1:9?



To hear or view Zion's podcast or video podcasts, go to: www.zionbismarck.org

Choose: "About Us", then "Ministries"

Scroll down to: "Living the Faith" podcasts,

Click on: "Learn More", choose either the Video Podcasts or Podcasts, then select the one you would like to see or hear.

Adult Bible Class

Today, Pastor Otto will lead Bible Class.
Today, class meets in the south classroom beginning at 9:40am.



Today, We Welcome our Guest, Pastor Peter C. Marcis

The Rev. Peter C. Marcis was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He is the younger brother of Pastor Thomas R. Marcis, Jr. Pastor Peter Marcis is a 1983 graduate of Concordia College in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and earned his MDiv. degree from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1987.

His first call was to Gethsemane Lutheran Church in North Jackson, Ohio, where he served for seven years. In 1994, he accepted the call to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Napoleon, Ohio, where he has served as Senior Pastor for more than 20 years.

Throughout his ministry, he has served as Chairman of the Board for Parish Services of the Ohio District and as a Vice-President for nine years. In Napoleon, he also serves as chaplain for the Napoleon Fire-Rescue, the Napoleon Police Department, the Napoleon Sheriff's Department, and the Four-County LOSS team. He is a handler for Damascus, St. Paul's comfort dog, and is a certified Catalyst for FiveTwo.

Rev. Marcis has been married for 42 years and has two daughters. Molly serves as a DCE in Janesville, Wisconsin, along with her husband, David, who is a pastor, and their son, Christian. Erin is a second-grade teacher at a Lutheran school in Toledo.

2026 Congregational Self-Study

As we begin the process of preparing to call our next Senior Pastor, Zion's leadership would like to get some feedback and perspective from the members of the congregation. The District asks calling congregations to complete this self-study to help them understand who they are, to assist the newly called pastor in understanding the congregation which has extended him a Divine Call, and to assist the District President as he adds names to the congregation's call list.

- **Please only submit ONE form per member.**
- **Please read instructions carefully & answer ALL questions.**
- **Your responses will remain anonymous.**
- **If you would prefer to complete this form online,**

scan this QR code or go to: <https://forms.gle/juEtKzueppyGFegL9>

If you have questions about this survey or about the Call process, please reach out to Congregational Vice-President Darrin Anderson. Please complete by Sunday, July 26, 2026.



KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



Every Sunday morning, God's people gather together to receive the wonderful gifts of salvation. The gifts that our Lord has for us are delivered in different ways. One of these very important ways is the sermon.

Why is the sermon so important?

Some people don't like the sermon. They think it is too long, or maybe it is too boring. Some people even try to think of other things while the pastor is preaching. When we are tempted to think this way, we must remember what the sermon is all about. In the sermon, **the wonderful Gospel message of Christ** and all that He has done for us on the cross is proclaimed. Through the sermon, the pastor brings this great message to people right where they are. Though we see and hear our pastor in the pulpit, The words of the Gospel are spoken to us and all people by Jesus, saving all from their sins. Wow! What a great way to actually hear the voice of our Savior!



Parents: Before church, remind your children that Jesus speaks to them directly during the sermon. Let them know that the message is not just for adults, but for Jesus' little lambs too! Encourage them to sit and listen to Jesus as he tells them the Good News. If they get lost in the sermon, comfort them by, after the service, explaining things that might have been confusing.



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Martin Luther School now has openings for students in Kindergarten through grade 8.

Dear Members,

Please be aware that neither Pastor Marcis nor Pastor Otto will ever contact you asking for favors, gift cards, donations, or any other personal requests.

Recently, phishing emails have been circulating that appear to be from clergy members. These emails are not from Zion's pastors. If you receive such a message, please disregard and delete it immediately.

High School Youth Group

All youth in high school and college are invited to attend Youth Group this week.



SHEPHERD'S HILL
AT THE
CROSSROADS
ST. JOHN, NORTH DAKOTA

There are still openings for youth interested in attending camp at Shepherd's Hill this summer. Pastor Otto will attend Jr High Encounter Camp: July 12-17. Kristen will be attending High School Encounter Camp: July 26-31. Zion will provide transportation to these camps.



Can you spare a few groceries?

Zion's food pantry is in need of a helping hand. We have enough food to fill the Little Outdoor Pantry one more time. Would you be willing to purchase an extra can of vegetables or fruit, or a box or two of pasta? We can use your help. We need:

Peanut butter Jelly Boxed Pasta Rice
Canned & bagged beans Boxes of Cereal
Canned fruit Canned Vegetables
Pasta sauce in cans
Bottled water Gatorade or Similar
(Please remember we can't accept glass containers)

Thank you for your help.

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!

Select "I Will Pickup My Order" during checkout to have your items delivered directly to Zion for free!



Weekly Summer Services

Services will be held each Wednesday at 6pm at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

801 East Denver Avenue.

All summer services will include Holy Communion.

The local LCMS pastors will take turns leading the services. If you use an envelope from your congregation, your offering will be sent to your congregation.

July 15 Pastor Marcis (Zion)

July 22 Pastor Marcis (Zion)

July 29 Pastor Otto (Zion)

August 5 Pastor Zellers (Messiah)

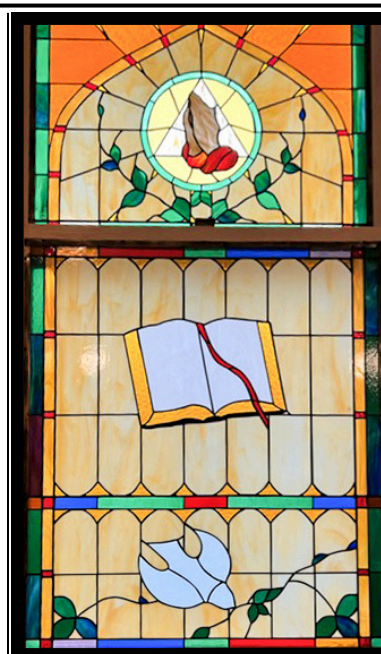


Sunday Van Drivers Needed

Each Sunday Zion's van drivers pick up few members who are in need of transportation to the 10:45 service.

If you would be interested in being one of the drivers, call the church office at 223-8286 for more information.

This would be a once or twice a month commitment.



New Stained Glass

for

Zion's Sanctuary

7,000

6,250 **Total to Date 7/10/26**

4,500

4,250

3,700

3,500

3,475

0.00

Thank You !

Thanks to everyone who helped make today a memorable day for Pastor Marcis.

America 250 designated July 4th as "Giving 4th" – a movement to transform Independence Day into the largest single day of charitable giving in U.S. history. You still can donate to the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty. See www.LCRLFreedom.org/donate.



From the District President's Desk

From the ND District President: Several of our North Dakota Pastors have recently authored marvelous books. I'll be highlighting more later, but I highly recommend Life in Christ: Rooted, Woven, and Grafted into God's Story, written by Rev. Dr. Adam Filipek, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran and Holy Cross Lutheran – Lidgerwood. In this book, Pastor Filipek guides readers through the narrative of Holy Scripture, showing how the Holy Spirit has woven the Bible into one marvelous tapestry. He places us right into Christ's work of redemption because we have been baptized into it. To purchase a copy, please go to the Concordia Publishing House [website: cph.org](http://cph.org). –Rev. Mark Chepulis, North Dakota District President



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

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701-223-8286

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Director of Family Ministry:

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Russ Weixel (701) 400-6492
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Roxanne Rosin
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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.



Altar flowers today are in
Thanksgiving for the 40 years
Pastor Marcis has given to the Ministry.
Rhonda Rath is in charge of
altar flowers for the month of July.
You can reach Rhonda at 426-1247

Worship Attendance

Saturday, July 4

5:00 pm - 14

Sunday, July 5

8:30am - 53

10:45am - 56

Stewardship

July MTD

General Offering:

\$13,844.

Average Budget

Monthly Expenses:

\$58,750



"Building Healthy Families"

Many of us were raised on a familiar script: be tough, don't ask for help, and "pull yourself up by your bootstraps." It sounds admirable—but it's not a recipe for a healthy life, and it's not what God calls us to. Scripture points us in a different direction. Paul writes in Galatians 6:2, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." We were never meant to carry everything alone. God places us in community—where we can be supported, and where we can support others in return. So challenge those old messages, even the deeply ingrained ones about self-reliance. Replace them with truth. Let someone in. Share what you're carrying with a trusted brother or sister in Christ. Reach out to family, friends, your pastor, or a LFS counselor who shares your faith and values. Strength isn't found in isolation—it's often revealed in the courage to seek and receive help.

www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**

Main Street Living

Vicar J. Blaise Longhurst, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Moorhead, MN, presents the message: "Planting the Seeds of Faith" based on Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23. This is the Life program: "Will to Live" - A man leaves a large portion of his money to the church and hospital, then has his will contested by relatives.



"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 -

