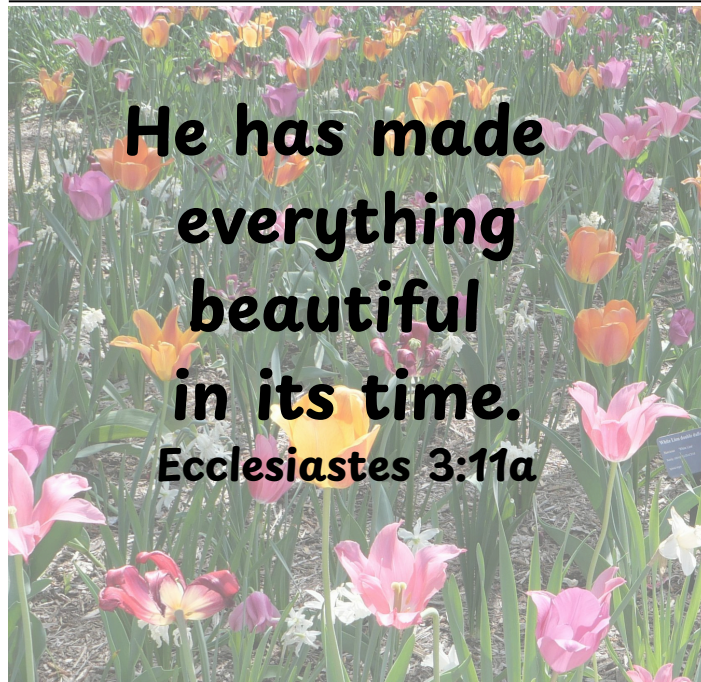


Life & Growth at Zion

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 9-10, 2026



**He has made
everything
beautiful
in its time.
Ecclesiastes 3:11a**

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...

Throughout our lives, we look for a helper. Maybe that's a parent who can hold our hand to cross the street, a spouse who can open the pickle jar, or an expert who delivers wisdom we don't have. Our Lord Jesus Christ sends us a helper, the promised Holy Spirit. The Spirit opens our heart to faith and then fills it with heavenly wisdom. Present in our Baptism and present today in worship, the Spirit keeps our hand firmly in our Savior's, so that linked by love, we can walk confidently in His promises.

Week at a Glance

Saturday, May 9

- 5:00pm: Worship
w/ Holy Communion

Sunday, May 10

- 8:30am: Worship
- 9:30am: Muffins for Mom
- 9:30am: Sunday School
- 9:40am: Bible Class
- 10:45am: Creative Worship
w/ Holy Communion



Monday, May 11

- 6:00pm: Annual LWML Salad Supper at Bethel
- 7:00pm: AA Meeting

Tuesday, May 12

- 1:00-2:30pm: Tuesday Bible Study

Wednesday, May 13

- 7:30pm: Youth Group

Thursday, May 14

- 9am-3pm: Zion Quilters
- 6:30pm: MLS Spring Concert @ Zion
- 7:00pm: Ascension Day Service at Holy Cross
- 8:00pm: Ice Cream Social at Holy Cross

Friday, May 15

- 9am-12pm: Zion Quilters

Saturday, May 16

- 11am-4pm: Sanctuary Reserved
- 5:00pm: Worship

Sunday, May 17

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



UPCOMING Events

Monday, May 11

6:00pm

Annual LWML Salad Supper
at Bethel

Tuesday, May 12

Tuesday Bible Class
will meet this week.

Thursday, May 14

7:00pm

Ascension Day Service
at Holy Cross

Sunday, May 17

Youth Sunday @ Zion

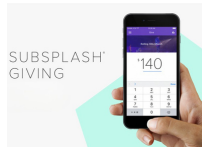
June 7-10

Vacation Bible School



June 7-10
6-8:30pm

Zion is updating its online giving platform. Zion will now be using Subsplash. If you are presently using Vanco for your online giving there are handouts on the table in the back of the sanctuary on how to make the change, if you have any issues please contact the church office. Zion's new app is now available in your app store. Download it on your phone today to stay up to date with everything happening at Zion!



Sunday, May 10

Last day
of Sunday School



Sunday, May 10

8:30am: Hadley Zacher
10:45am: AJ & Hailey
Hjelmsted

Sunday, May 17

8:30am: Alijah Schiermeister
10:45am: Preslei Sailer
McKenzie Wilson

Today's Sermon

"Foreign Divinities and Resident Aliens"

"He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities" is how the people in the city of Athens described Paul. God sent Paul, a foreigner to Greece and a guest in the land, to speak about Him to a people who didn't recognize their own creator. Though the Athenians thought Paul's God was the stranger, it turns out that they were the strangers to their own spirituality. Paul stood among them as a resident alien. Even though he was not Athenian, he understood more about the true God of the Athenians than they ever could otherwise. Paul was among them, but not of them, and while among them, he loved them. He shared the clear message of repentance and forgiveness with them, making them natives to the spiritual landscape of the one true God. Now the call comes to us. We go out as resident aliens in a land of people who believe our God to be foreign to their lives. Though we have been called out of the world (like aliens) we have a uniquely helpful understanding of the world and our place in it (spiritual residents) because we have been brought into the family of the Creator by His Son, Jesus Christ.

Questions:

1. What is a resident alien?
2. What kind of altar does Paul find in Athens that helps him talk about Jesus?
3. How can we follow Paul's example from this passage?



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 & Sunday School For All Ages

Opening for Sunday School & High School Bible study will be held in the Youth Room at 9:30am. Adult Bible Class will meet in the lower level beginning at 9:40am.



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



What is the Invocation?

At the beginning of the Divine Service, you will hear Pastor say: "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" as he makes the sign of the cross. This is the Invocation. The word "invocation" comes from a Latin word that means "to call upon."

Why do we begin the Divine Service with the Invocation?

The Small Catechism says that the right way to use God's name is to "call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks." The Invocation and the sign of the cross begins the Divine Service by "calling upon" God who, through the power of the Holy Spirit in Baptism, called us to faith in Jesus. When we call, He comes to be with us, giving us His wonderful gifts of salvation!

Can I call upon God in this way in my own daily devotions?

Of course! Speaking the Invocation and making the sign of the cross is a wonderful way to begin and end your daily devotions. Go ahead and try it!



Parents: During the service, help your children listen for times when the Pastor speaks the name of our Triune God. Practice speaking the Invocation and making the sign of the cross with your children during family devotions. Remind them that this reminds us of our Baptism.

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Graduation cards are available for sale on the racks outside the sanctuary. Place the payment in the metal box to the left of the card racks.



The youth group used Thrivent grants to purchase groceries for the pantry. They bought tuna, rice, pasta, mac-n-cheese, peanut butter, cereal, soups, water, Gatorade, and much more. Thank you to the youth for shopping, and special thank to those who wrote the Thrivent grants!



High School Youth Group
 Activities in the Youth Room.
 Stop in and join the fun!



Today, May 10

**Please note change in date!!
 Last Day of Sunday School.*

Mother's Day activity during SS Opening

Mother's Day Activity

During Sunday School Opening, we will be having students create a special fresh flower bouquet

with a vase and ribbon for their moms.

Cards included.

Please arrive by 9:30 in the youth room.

Classes will still meet in their rooms after the project is complete.



Sunday, May 17, we will recognize Zion's 2026 High School Graduates at both the 8:30 and 10:45 services Youth Group helping with the 10:45 service.



You are invited to stop in the lower foyer between services today as we recognize Moms and Thank God for them!

An assortment of muffins, juice, and coffee will be available for your enjoyment.





Special thanks to the following dedicated Sunday School, Kings Kids, and Confirmation teachers.

Sunday School:

Helen Christensen
Donna Davidson
Fae Glass

Lindsey LaMontagne

Jennifer Zacher
Sarah Zainhofsky
Russ Weixel
Dan Johnson
Kristin Nistler

Kings Kids:

Brenna Quirk
Alli Beckers

Confirmation:

Pastor Otto
Kristin
Pastor Marcis

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6



You're Invited!

Bethel's LWML would like to invite all of the women of Zion to their annual Salad Supper.

ANNUAL LWML SALAD SUPPER

Monday, May 11 @ 6:00 pm

Bethel Lutheran Church
615 Turnpike Avenue

Pastor Wolfgram
will speak on

ADDICTION & MENTAL HEALTH

Women of all ages are invited to join us for an evening of salads & fellowship. Salads are welcome but not necessary.



Thank You to Everyone who donated money toward the purchase of the new candles and snuffers. We are so blessed! Our goal has been reached. The Chancel Circle.



Camp brochures are available by Kristin's office.

Zion's Board of Youth will pay half the camp cost for Zion students. Students can also use money from their youth account to pay for the rest of the fee. Check it out!!

**Bismarck-Mandan LCMS
Ascension Day Service**

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(7111 Williamson Drive, between US-83 & N. Washington)

Thursday, May 14

7:00 p.m. Divine Service

8:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social



"While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven." (Luke 24:51)

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!

THANK YOU!

The Adult Ministries Board

appreciates all of you who took the time to participate in the survey we recently passed out. We are excited about implementing many of the ideas that you shared with us and utilizing the results of the survey to continue to grow various areas of ministry here at Zion.



In the near future, we will be introducing some additional small group topical Bible studies, announcing our first “Pizzas, Pints, and Prayer” get together.

A mission trip the first part of November for those who expressed an interest in going to Kids Kingdom orphanage.



And a “Helping Hands” group to assist congregation members who may have some minor home repairs that need to be addressed.



Finally a fall “Marriage Enrichment” event.



Other items are also in the planning stage. Keep an eye out in Life and Growth for more information.

In His Service,
Pastor Christensen



Staff, students, and the Board of Martin Luther School would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who made Mayfest '26 a success. Your donations and continued prayers are greatly appreciated.

Please join us Thursday, May 14 at Zion beginning at 6:30pm for our Spring Concert.



Mark your calendars!

Zion Quilters will meet
Thursday, May 14 from 9am-3pm
Friday, May 15 from 9am-12pm
This mission minded group meets in the Youth Room.

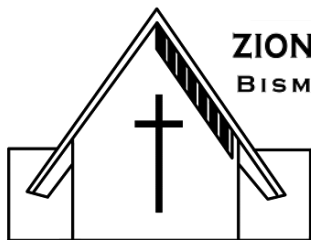
Anyone interested in lending a hand is welcome.

As we pause to honor mothers today, let us pray protection and guidance for all mothers. The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty thanks God for mothers. See www.LCRLFreedom.org for more information.



From the District President's Desk

Happy Mother's Day. Let us thank God for all mothers—for those who gave us earthly life, as well as for aunts, grandmothers, friends, teachers, Sunday School teachers, neighbors, and all women who have served as mother-figures in our lives. May the Lord bless them in their vocation in which He has placed them that they would always be an example of faith and a blessing to us. Let us also pray for those whose mothers have finished their course in this life, thanking the Lord for all the love and good they received from them in this life, and to find comfort in the death and resurrection of Jesus, by which He has destroyed the power of death for all who trust in Him. -Rev. Mark Chepulis, North Dakota District President



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

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tmarcisjr@gmail.com

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Director of Family Ministry:

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

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zionlcmsbis@gmail.com

Assistant Secretary:

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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



Altar flowers are given today by Tiffany and Mike Schiermeister in memory of their daughter, McKenna. Linda Sullivan is in charge of altar flowers for the month of May. You can reach Linda at 701-955-2500.

Worship Attendance

Saturday, May 2

5:00 pm - 41

Sunday, May 3

8:30am -103

10:45am -155

Stewardship

May MTD

General Offering:
\$13,017.

Average Budget
Monthly Expenses:
\$58,750

“Building Healthy Families”



How do you put a mother’s love into words? It’s steady and selfless, quiet yet powerful—woven into everyday

moments and lifelong sacrifices. Scripture paints this kind of love in many places, and while 1 Corinthians 13:4–8 isn’t always labeled as a “mother’s passage,” it beautifully reflects what so many mothers live out each day: Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. Happy Mother’s Day to all women who so lovingly care for their children and others. (P.S. No texting or snapchatting today: call or visit your mother!)

www.LutheranFamilyService.org

Main Street Living

Rev. Karl Weber, St. John’s Lutheran Church, Ottertail, MN, and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Richville, MN, presents the message: “If You Love Me” based on John 14:15–21. This is the Life program: “The Now Crowd” – A soldier on leave helps his brother work through struggles in his life.



“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 9:00 am Mountain 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:

First Reading

Acts 17:16–31

Epistle

1 Peter 3:13–22

Holy Gospel

John 14:15–21

Next Week:

First Reading

Acts 1:12–26

Epistle

1 Peter 4:12–19;
5:6–11

Holy Gospel

John 17:1–11