
Life & Growth at Zion

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 17-18, 2026



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...

God calls His people to lives that include showing respect for the authorities placed over us. At the time Paul wrote to his coworker Timothy, "I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions" (1 Timothy 2:1-2), the Roman world had been ruled by a series of tyrannical and cruel emperors for decades. When Jesus spoke of the duty of people to "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's" (Matthew 22:21), the Roman emperor was Tiberius Caesar, portrayed by noted historians of his time, Tacitus and Suetonius, as a mean-spirited tyrant and a man ever ready to spill blood. Sometimes, in His providence, God shows His dominion in ways not readily understood and chooses to work through untoward and unlikeable people. He may even use non-Christian leaders and unchristian nations to further His gracious plans. In living as faithful citizens, we are called to carry out the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, including paying taxes. At the same time, we are to demonstrate our highest allegiance to God by being people of faith who evidence our eternal hope in Christ in all situations and who offer prayers for those who rule over us.

Week at a Glance

Saturday, October 17

- 5:00pm: Worship

Sunday, October 18

- 8:30am: Traditional Worship
w/ Holy Communion
- 9:30am: Sunday School
- 9:30am: Pray & Praise with Parents
- 9:40am: Bible Class
- 10:45am: Creative Worship

Monday, October 19

- 6:00pm: Mary/Martha Potluck
Bible Class
- 6:00pm: Board of Lay Ministry
- 7:00pm: AA Meeting

Tuesday, October 20

- 1-2:30pm: Tuesday Bible Class
- 6:30-8pm: Grief Support Group at
Shepherd of the Valley

Wednesday, October 21

- 8:20am: Martin Luther School Chapel
- 5:45pm: Hosanna Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00pm: Confirmation
- 6:00pm: King's Kids
- 6:45pm: Bells
- 7:30pm: Youth Group

Thursday, October 23-Sunday October 25

South Dakota Youth Retreat

Saturday, October 24

- 5:00pm: Worship
w/ Holy Communion

Sunday, October 25

- 8:30am: Traditional Worship
- 9:30am: Sunday School
- 9:30am: Pray & Praise with Parents
- 9:40am: Bible Class
- 10:45am: Creative Worship
w/ Holy Communion

UPCOMING Events

Sunday, October 18

9:40am

Pastor Marcis will lead
"The Writings of the Apostle Paul",
Bible Class in lower level.

Pray & Praise with Parents

9:30am

Class will resumes today
in the Nursery.

Monday, October 19

6:00pm/6:30pm

Mary & Martha Fellowship

Monday, October 19

6:00pm

Board of Lay Ministry

Tuesday, October 20

Tuesday Bible Class

1-2:30pm

Everyone is welcome to
join this study of Job.

Wednesday, October 21

8:20am

Martin Luther School Chapel

October 18-November 15

Weigh-In Challenge

To fill the pantry returns!

SOUTH
DAKOTA
YOUTH
RETREAT

October 23-25, 2026

For More Information

See flyer on the
bulletin board by
Kristin's office.

Sunday, October 18



God Floods the Earth

Genesis 7:-8, 9:8-16
(Preschool-Grade 4)

Servant Event
(Grades 5-8)

Large Group Opening

Sunday, October 18

8:30am: Alijah Schiermeister

10:45am: Hailey & AJ
Hjelmstad



Sunday, October 25

8:30am: Chase Johnson
10:45am: McKenzie Wilson
Hadlee Schmidt

Today's Sermon

"To God What Is God's"

In our Gospel reading for today, Jesus doesn't answer a question. Instead, He answers a better one. When the Pharisees and Herodians come trying to entrap Him, He shows them why He is the master and they are not. Instead of getting sucked into debates about church and state, Jesus gets to the heart of the matter: what do we think belongs to God? And furthermore, what do we do about it? Jesus, who bears the image of the invisible God, shows us what God deserves, our whole lives. And so we turn to Christ who died for us, gives us his righteousness, and allows us to bear His image to the world.

Questions:

1. Who were the Herodians?
2. How do you "render to God what is God's"?
3. Who bears the image of God?



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

Choose: "About Us", then "Podcasts", click on "Learn More;"

Choose either the Video Podcasts or Podcasts,
then select the one you would like to see or hear.

Bible Class continues to meet in the basement.

Pastor Marcis will lead
"The Writings of the Apostle Paul",
Bible Class in lower level.
Everyone is invited to attend.



KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



What is that great big candle?

There are many candles in our church sanctuary. Some we light every Sunday. Some we only light on certain occasions. The tall candle that you see up front, possibly next to the Baptismal font or up in front next to the altar, is one of those candles. That's the Paschal Candle!

What is the Paschal Candle used for?

The Paschal Candle reminds us of Jesus' victory over death. Do you remember the story of the pillar of fire that led the Israelites at night in the wilderness after the Lord delivered them from slavery in Egypt? When Jesus died on the cross, He released us from the slavery of darkness and death due to our sin. Now, through our Baptism, we have been buried with Him in His death and we are now raised to new life through His resurrection! The Paschal Candle reminds us of this. Let that Gospel light shine!



Parents: Before or after the Divine Service, take your children up to look at the Paschal Candle. Point out the beautiful symbols on its surface that remind us of our Savior and what He has done for us. Remind them that "Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, the Light no darkness can overcome." (Lutheran Service Book, 243)



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Wednesday, November 11th,
Zion will participate in a
Mercy Meals packaging event.
If you would like to help cover the cost
of the meals please use one of the
envelopes on the table in the back of the
sanctuary & place it in the offering plate.



It's time to renew
your "Lutheran Witness"
subscription.
The 2026/2027 subscription
cost is \$31.75.

You can place your renewal in an envelope
and place it in the collection plate;
please note that it is for the
Lutheran Witness renewal.

You are also able to
renew your subscription on Zion's
giving app.

Zion YOUTH

Wednesday, October 21st
7:30-9:00pm

Devotions with Pastor Otto
Begin Cross Fundraiser
in the basement.

Questions? Contact Director of Family Ministry,
Kristin Nistler

Kristin.nistler@gmail.com

*Activities are subject to change based on weekly
needs, so, please make sure you check the
GroupMe App on Wednesdays.



Kristin is in need of
used magazines.
(Home & Garden magazines
are good.)

A collection box is located in the lower
foyer. Please place used magazines there.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS

Mary & Martha

FELLOWSHIP

Two sisters. Two callings. One heart in Christ.

"Mary has chosen what is better."

LUKE 10:41-42

JOIN US ON MONDAY EVENINGS

9/21

10/19

11/16

12/14

Times
6:00 pm
Potluck

6:30-8:00 pm
Bible Study

All ladies are welcome!

COME AS YOU ARE. BRING A FRIEND.
LET'S GROW TOGETHER IN GOD'S WORD.

RED & GOLD **POTATOES**

Grown in the Red River Valley

ZION YOUTH FUNDRAISER

10 lb bag for \$10

**Pick up is at
Zion Lutheran Church
Thursday, 11/5
through Sunday, 11/8**

Payments by check or cash
or on Zion's giving app
- Youth Fundraising

**Potatoes can also be
purchased and donated
to the Heaven's
Helpers Soup Cafe'
or to families in need.**

Students:

**50% of your sales go
directly into your
youth account for
activities and trips!**

MLS Chapel
8:20am
October 21
Pastor Thompson

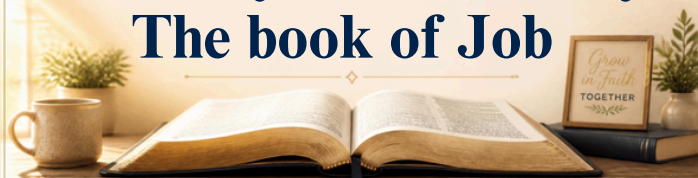


No school, fall break.
October 22-23

Martin Luther School Purse Raffle Continues.
Students in Pre-K through
grade 8 are selling the raffle tickets.

Tuesday Bible Study

The book of Job



1-2:30 PM

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Study meets in the church basement

Martin Luther School Purse Raffle



 Tickets available now through December 7,

 Each raffle ticket is \$10

 Every student will receive a pack of ten
tickets to sell to family and friends

 Tickets will also be available at the LCMS
churches in Bismarck/Mandan

 Drawing will be held December 10th after
the annual Christmas concert at Martin Luther School

Your opportunity to win one of **14**
DESIGNER HANDBAGS

Pray & Praise with Parents

For toddlers under
age 3 with a parent

Sunday mornings
9:30-10:30am
Meet in the
Nursery



Have you noticed the Sunday School Prayer Wall?


You are encouraged
to read the prayers
and include your own
on one of the prayer
cards which are
located on the
round table by the
prayer wall.



It's that time of the year again. The Chancel Circle is asking the congregation of purchase poinsettias to decorate the church for Christmas.

Either red or white poinsettias are available for \$12 each.

Envelopes are provided on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

**Please complete the information, enclose your payment,
then place in the offering plate or the Chancel Circle mailbox
which is located by the elevator.**

**Please make checks out to Zion, or you may also
purchase online using Zion's app before November 1st.**



Christmas CANTATA



All LCMS church musicians are invited to participate!



Open to all Martin Luther School parents!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR



Singers

- Flute
- Oboe
- Clarinet
- Bass Clarinet
- Bassoon
- Alto Sax
- Tenor Sax

- Horn
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Tuba
- Percussion
- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Bass



Cantata will be performed
Sunday, December 13 @ 2:00pm
at Zion Lutheran Church

Scan the QR code
to register!



**We need YOU
to be a friendly
face and a
warm "hello!"**

Sign up today to serve as
a Sunday morning greeter!

Scan the QR code to sign up today!

Once you scan the code
it will take you to the
"SignUp Genius" page
where you can sign up
to be a Zion greeter.

Choose the
date and the service time.



The Weigh-In Challenge has begun!

Here's a list of items that would be greatly appreciated.

Canned beef stew	Boxed pasta
Canned pasta w/meat	Knorr pasta sides
Canned chili	Knorr rice sides
Canned black beans	Boxed Mac & Cheese
Canned baked beans	Cans of Chef Boyardee
Canned chili beans	Dry Rice
Canned kidney beans	Dry beans & lentils
Canned pinto beans	Hamburger helper
Canned tomatoes	Dried fruit
Canned pasta sauce	Powdered milk
Cereal	

If you would prefer to donate a
monetary gift, there is an option to donate to
the Little Pantry on the Zion app, or place
your donation in an envelope and label "For
Pantry", then
place in the collection plate.



Sunday School Children

have been encouraged to
take part in the
Weigh-In Challenge



The following items have been requested
on the dates shown.

October 18: A can of vegetables.
October 25: A can of fruit.
November 1: A can of tuna.
November 8: Mac & Cheese
November 15: A can of your child's favorite soup.

Zion's Food Pantry Weigh-In Challenge

**Congregation,
Here is the Challenge:**

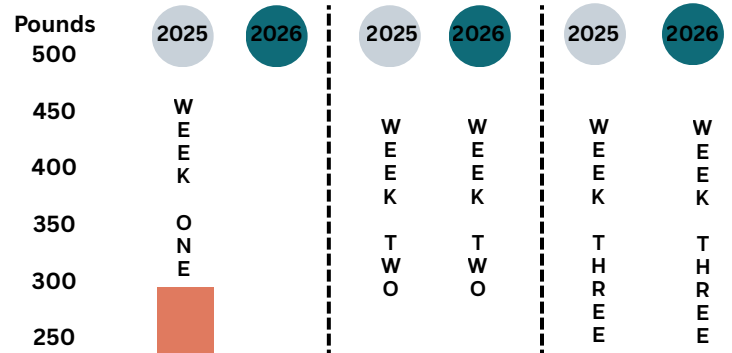
**Purchase non-perishable foods between
October 18-November 15.**

**Place your donation in the
pantry collection box
in the lower foyer.**

(Remember, we cannot accept food
that has expired or is in glass containers).

**Your donations will help stock
the Little Free Pantry
which located on the east side
of the church.**

**Donations will be weighed weekly and
amounts posted in Life and Growth.
On Sunday, November 15th the final
totals will be posted.**



From the District President's Desk

The harvest is in full swing in many of the
areas of the North Dakota District. May God
grant safety to all whom God has placed in
agriculture: the farmers, truck drivers, and
everyone who is working hard to bring in the
fruits of the earth. The Lord uses all these
people as a means to feed all people. May
God grant a fruitful harvest, and let us
praise Him for His provision as we receive our
daily bread with thanksgiving. -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



Altar flowers this week are given by Steve & Patty Graf in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Carol Baker is in charge of the altar flowers for the month of October.

You can reach Carol at 701-530-9981

Worship Attendance

Saturday, October 10

5:00pm: 48

Sunday, October 11

8:30am- 82

10:45am-106

Stewardship

October MTD

General Offering:

\$27,194.

Average Budget

Monthly Expenses:

\$58,750



"Building Healthy Families"

Are you hooked on live TV or internet news, which is so readily available 24/7? Constant exposure to the news can leave us anxious and overwhelmed by circumstances beyond our control. This week, consider taking a break. Instead, get out of the house, spend time visiting with and encouraging someone who is lonely, share a comforting Scripture, and remember and remind yourself and them that God remains faithfully at work in every circumstance. A few days away from the headlines, with a friend, and with the Word can reduce anxiety and help you refocus on the hope and peace found in Christ.

www.LutheranFamilyService.org



The board of Lay Ministry will meet Monday, October 19th at 6:00pm.

Main Street Living

Rev. Doug Thompson, Trinity Lutheran Church, Fischer, MN, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Euclid, MN, presents a message:

"The Image Of God In Christ" based on Matthew 22:15-22. This is the Life program: "Some People Need Help, Sergeant" - An amputee from a Veteran's hospital must learn that hurting others will not help him.



"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 -

