Life & Growth at Zion

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 24-25, 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...

Though many congregations observe Reformation on the last Sunday in October, there are those who keep it on the day appointed. For those, the propers of the day place us in conversation with Jesus about the greatest commandment and a discussion of David. This is not unrelated to the issues that gave birth to the Reformation—Law and Gospel and the confession of who Christ is. Jesus spoke well to those who questioned Him—so well that from that day on no one dared question Him anymore. As hard as it is to admit, we do not reason ourselves into the kingdom of God but enter by faith, trusting in Christ who fulfills all the Law and the Prophets and the promise of salvation as David's Son and David's Lord.

Week at a Glance

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

Monday, October 26

- 7:00pm: AA Meeting

Tuesday, October 27

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

Wednesday, October 28

- 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

Saturday, October31

- 5:00pm: Worship w/ Holy Communion

Sunday, November 1

All Saints Day

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

UPCOMING Events

Sunday, October 25
9:40am
Pastor Marcis will lead
"The Writings of the Apostle Paul",
Bible Class in lower level.

Pray & Praise with Parents
9:30am
Class in the Nursery.



Today, October 25
10:45 service
First communion for 4 Confirmation students.

Tuesday, October 20
Tuesday Bible Class
1-2:30pm
Everyone is welcome to join this study of Job.

Wednesday, October 28
8:20am
Martin Luther School Chapel



The Weigh-In Challenge to fill the pantry has begun.
See page 5 for current results.



Poinsettia orders due November 1st.



Sunday, October25

People Build a Tower at Babel
(Preschool-Grade 4)
Servant Event
(Grades 5-8)
Large Group Opening

Sunday, October 25
8:30am: Chase Johnson
10:45am: Preslei Sailer
Sienna Schmidt
Sunday, November 1
8:30am: Liam Granlie
10:45am: McKenzie Wilson
Hadlee Schmidt

Today's Sermon

"The Sola's of the Reformation"
Romans 3:19-28

At the heart of the Reformation movement was the question of ultimate authority in the Christian Church and the life of the Christian. It was a call back to biblical Christianity, to acknowledge that the authority on all matters, both for the Church and believers, is God's Word alone and that sinful man is reconciled with God by faith in Christ alone. Out of the Reformation emerged the essential points of doctrine known as the Sola's of the Reformation. These Latin statements serve as a summary of the core beliefs of the reformation. SOLA GRATIA - "Grace Alone". Salvation from the judgment and condemnation of God that every human being deserves (because we are sinners) is a gift of grace from God. It has nothing to do with human merit. (Ephesians 2:8-9) SOLA FIDE - "Faith Alone". The Biblical truth that we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ alone is what sets Christianity apart from all other religions in the world. It is not by the believer's works or efforts but by Christ's work on the cross that a person is saved. (Romans 4:4-5) SOLA SCRIPTURA - "Scripture Alone". The Bible is the sole authority for Christians in faith, doctrine, and practice. Sola Scriptura acknowledges the facts that the Bible is the Word of God, inerrant, sufficient, without error, and the source of all truth. (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Questions:
1. To what was the Reformation calling the church back?
2. Why were these Latin statements important?
3. What is the final authority?

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.

The Meaning of Luther's Seal

The black cross in a heart, which retains its natural color, so that I myself would be reminded that faith in the Crucified saves us. "The just shall live by faith" (Rom. 1:17) by faith in the crucified.Such a heart should stand in the middle of a white rose, to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace. It places the believer into a white, joyous rose, for this faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). Such a rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that such joy in spirit and faith is a beginning of the heavenly future joy, which begins already, but is grasped in hope, not yet revealed. And around this field is a golden ring, symbolizing that such blessedness in Heaven lasts forever and has no end. Such blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and goods, just as gold is the most valuable, most precious and best metal.

The Solas:

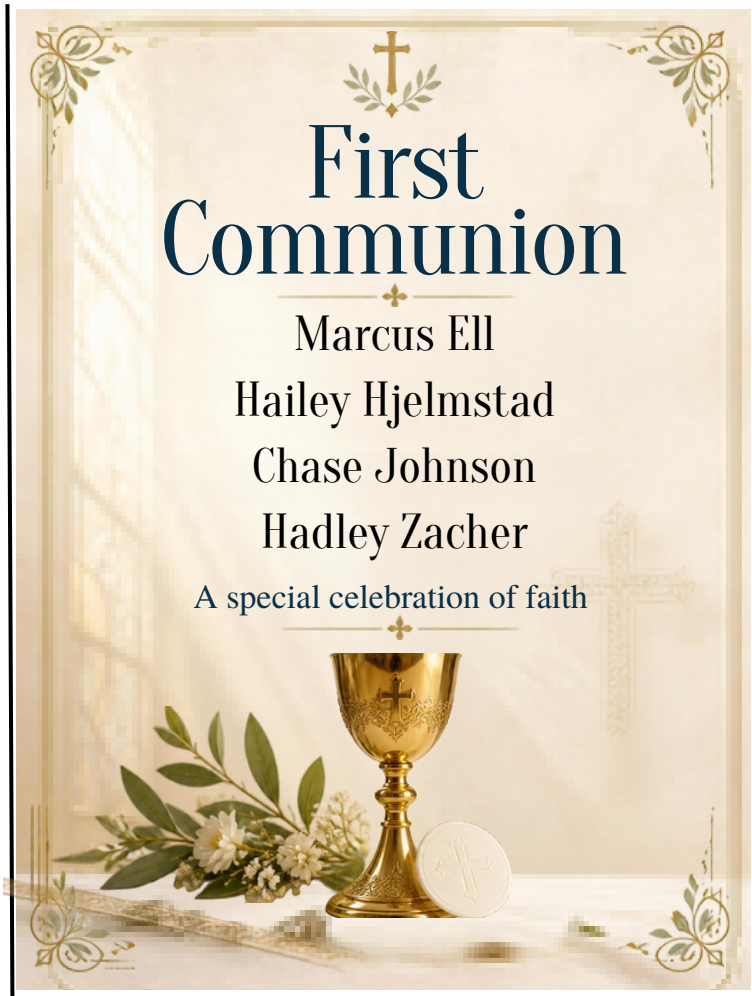
"Grace Alone" Salvation from the judgment and condemnation of God that every human being deserves (because we are sinners) is a gift of grace from God. It has nothing to do with human merit.

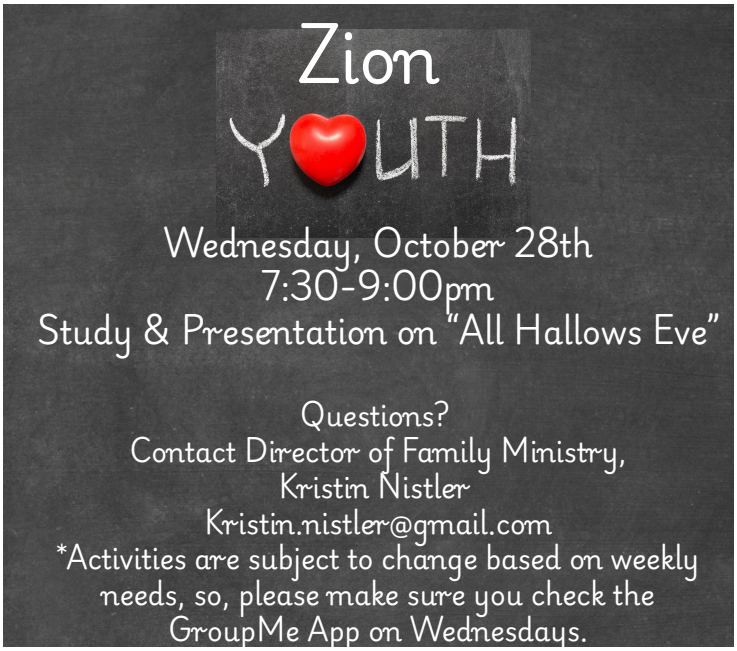
"Faith Alone" The biblical truth that we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ alone is what sets Christianity apart from all other religions in the world. It is not by the believer's works or efforts but by Christ's work on the cross that a person is saved.

"Scripture Alone" 2 Peter 1:21. The 66-book Bible is the sole authority for Christians in faith, doctrine, and practice. Sola Scriptura acknowledges the facts that the Bible is the Word of God, inerrant, sufficient, without error, and the source of all truth.

Order today In the Lower Foyer!









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.

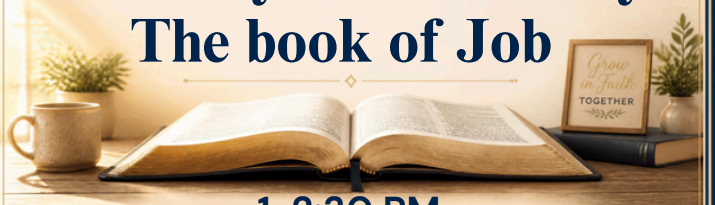
MLS Chapel
8:20am
October 28
Pastor Walla

Martin Luther
SCHOOL

Martin Luther School continues to look for a part-time bus drive to transport students to gym classes M, T, W, & F.
A current CDL license, class B with both a Passenger and School Bus endorsement is required.
If interested, call the school office at 224-9070.

October 30
Reformation Day Celebration!

Tuesday Bible Study
The book of Job



1-2:30 PM

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Study meets in the church basement



Praise with Parents

For toddlers under age 3 with a parent

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



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.

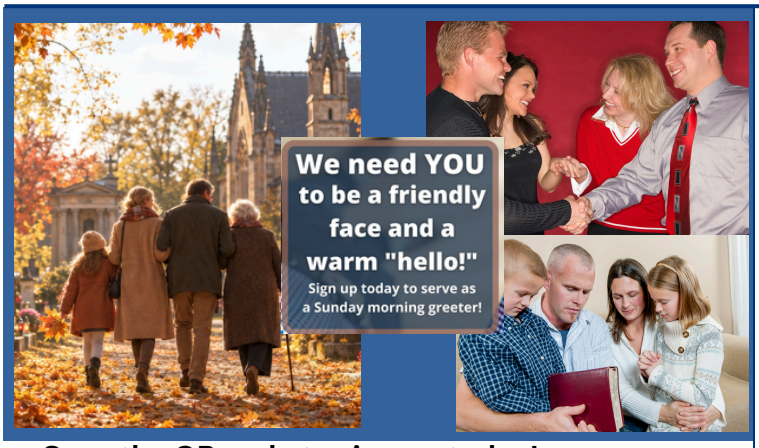
If you would like to participate in packaging Mercy Meals, packaging begins at 4pm, November 11th and continues until 9pm.
Watch Life and Growth for further information.

NEW GREETING CARDS

New Greeting Cards are available on the card rack in the upper foyer. The cost remains $1 per card. Stop by & check them out!

THE LUTHERAN WITNESS LW

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.



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!

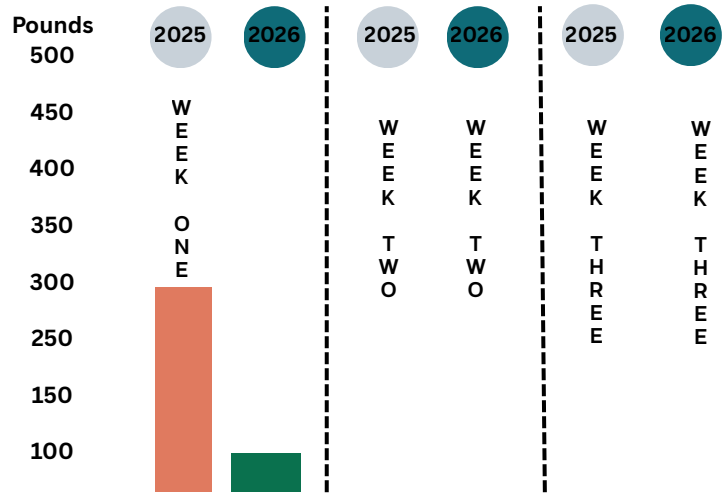
Here's a list of items that would be greatly appreciated.

Canned beef stew
Canned pasta w/meat
Canned chili
Canned black beans
Canned baked beans
Canned chili beans
Canned kidney beans
Canned pinto beans
Canned tomatoes
Canned pasta sauce
Cereal

Boxed pasta
Knorr pasta sides
Knorr rice sides
Boxed Mac & Cheese
Cans of Chef Boyardee
Dry Rice
Dry beans & lentils
Hamburger helper
Dried fruit
Powdered milk

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.





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.

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 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.

From the District President's Desk

Most churches are commemorating Reformation Day today. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Though his intention was merely to discuss and debate these 95 points, because of the religious and political climate of the day, these 95 Theses set off a firestorm that has come to be known as the Reformation of the 16th Century. At the center of our theology, indeed, at the center of Christianity, is Jesus Christ, and Him crucified for sinners like us. Let us hold dear Christ, that His Gospel be always in our ears, splashed on our heads, and placed on our tongues. –*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 today are given to the glory of God as a reminder of Martin Luther and the Reformation. The altar flowers are the colors of Luther's Seal.
Nadine Ehrhardt is in charge of the altar flowers for the month of November.
You can reach Nadine at 701-220-4874

Worship Attendance

Saturday, October 17
5:00pm: 30
Sunday, October 18
8:30am- 98
10:45am-114

Stewardship

October MTD General Offering:
$36,890
Average Budget Monthly Expenses:
$58,750

"Building Healthy Families"

Martin Luther encouraged Christians to remember their baptism each time they washed their face or bathed. He wrote, "In baptism, our sinful selves are drowned, and day by day a new self arises." As we celebrate Reformation Day and reflect on its meaning this week, take time to thank God for the gift of your baptism and remind your children and grandchildren of the promises God made to them through theirs. Happy Reformation Day from your friends at Lutheran Family Service!
www.LutheranFamilyService.org Lutheran Family Service

Main Street Living

Rev. Jordon Andreasen, LCMS missionary serving in Brasov, Romania, presents a message titled: "The Good News: An Offense." The sermon is based on John 8:31-36. This is the Life program: "The Sexton" - A pastor and a sexton (church caretaker) with magical powers fight an eerie duel in a church.
"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.



Church Worker Appreciation

Sunday, November 1
9:30-9:50 am
in the lower foyer

Join us for rolls & coffee as we show Zion's ministry staff appreciation for all they do.

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

Today's Readings:
Old Testament
Leviticus 19:1–2, 15–18
Epistle Reading
1 Thessalonians 2:1–13
Holy Gospel
Matthew 22:34-46

NextWeek:
Old Testament
Revelation 7:9-17
Epistle Reading
1 John 3:1-3
Holy Gospel
Matthew 5:1-12