



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...

We know that it is our calling in Christ to forgive one another, but that does not eliminate the question of how much or how often we should forgive others. It becomes a particularly vexing question when we are asked to forgive the same sin over and over again. The great temptation is for us to make forgiveness conditional upon the person no longer offending us with their words or actions, but God applies no such condition upon us. Our temptation is to count how often we forgive but to forget how often we are forgiven. Our weakness counts the sins of others, but could it be that God counts only the times we refused to forgive from the heart? We know the riches of the Lord's limitless grace to forgive us without counting the cost. Today, we pray that we may joyfully receive this precious gift of forgiveness and joyfully forgive others in Christ's name, counting not the cost to forgive but the cost to refuse forgiveness.

Week at a Glance

Saturday, September 12

- 5:00pm: Worship
w/ Holy Communion

Sunday, September 13

- 8:30am: Traditional Worship
- 9:30am: Sunday School
- 9:40am: Bible Class
- 10:45am: Creative Worship
w/ Holy Communion
- 12:00pm: Campaign Finale Picnic

Monday, September 14

- 7:00pm: AA Meeting

Wednesday, September 16

- 5:45pm: Hosanna Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00pm: Confirmation
- 6:00pm: King's Kids
- 6:45pm: Bells
- 7:30pm: Youth Group Scavenger Hunt

Thursday, September 17

- 9am-3pm Zion Quilters

Friday, September 18

- 9am-noon: Zion Quilters

Saturday, September 19

- 5:00pm: Worship
- LWML Fall Rally-Jamestown, ND

Sunday, September 20

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

UPCOMING Events

Sunday, September 13

9:40am

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

TODAY

**September 13, 2026
Capital Campaign Finale**

and

**Rally Sunday
12:00pm Picninc**



Thursday, Sept 17

9am-3pm

Friday, Sept 18

9am-Noon

Zion Quilters



September 18-19

LWML ND District

Fall Retreat

Concordia Lutheran Church

Jamestown, ND

Monday, September 21

Mary & Martha

Ladies Fellowship & Bible Class

6:00pm Potluck

6:30-8:00pm Bible Study

Tuesday Bible Class

1-2:30pm

Begins September 22nd
everyone is welcome to
join this study of Job.

Sunday, September 13

God Creates the World

Genesis 1:1-2:3



(Preschool-Grade 4)

Intro-Using the Bible

(Grades 5-8)

Sunday, September 13

8:30am: Alijah Schiermeister

10:45 am: Liam Granlie



Sunday, September 20

8:30am: Chase Johnson

10:45am: Hadlee Schmidt

Today's Sermon

Unforgiveness is the Cancer of the Soul

Matthew 18:21-35

Unforgiveness is the cancer of the soul. In stubborn blindness we don't see the good God is doing when He teaches us to forgive. Instead, we see ourselves as losing out in some way, not getting the last word, not being on top of the pile like we think we should be. That's what drove Peter to look for loopholes, for some way to put forgiveness into a little box that he controlled. When is enough? The rabbis of Jesus' day said three. Peter wanted to do one better, and so he moved up to seven. Forgiveness that has limits is really no forgiveness at all. To forgive means to leave behind the wounding words of another, to let go of how someone else has wronged you. Forgiveness isn't a bargaining chip. Responding to Peter's wish to restrain and leash God's forgiving Word, Jesus told the parable of the unforgiving servant. The parable is Jesus' commentary on the fifth petition of His prayer: "Forgive us our debts, in the same way that we forgive our debtors." The forgiveness our Lord's speaks to us is not something we are to hoard. It's to be active and living. It also gives life and energy to our own speaking. For it begs to be repeated. Just as we desire that our Father in heaven not look at our sins or deny our prayer become of them, so in the same breath we ask that His Word not die in us a prisoner's death. Instead, we also ask to forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us, just as Christ has done for us.

Questions:

1. How is unforgiveness a cancer to the soul?
2. Why would Peter want a loophole for forgiveness?
3. How is forgiveness to be living and active?

Are you interested in what the North Dakota District is doing in ministry?

Sign up for their email newsletter:

<https://nodaklcms.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=a99a2019808aa9ce12b638653&id=bd4ca31e62>

Bible Class will meet in the basement. Pastor Marcis will lead the study on "The Writings of the Apostle Paul". You are invited to join the class





Rally SUNDAY

AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

	8:30 Divine Service - Traditional	AT BOTH SERVICES:
	9:30 Sunday School Families have open house activities in their classrooms. This will be a time to get to know the teacher and the room before class starts.	 3rd Graders receive Bibles
	10:45 Divine Service - Blended	 ALL Confirmation students come forward for prayer
		 New Confirmation students receive Catechisms

12:00 MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN FINALE

in South Parking lot



MEAL:
Pulled Pork and sides

FOR THE KIDS:

- Inflatables
- new playground equipment
- Photo Booth
- Door prizes
- fellowship, etc.



Everyone is welcome to join us.
FOR THE FREE CELEBRATION!



Capital Campaign Finale

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
Today
12:00P.M.
Picnic begins!

Come celebrate the three year conclusion of the campaign and all the Lord has provided.

Food/Music/Games/Bouncy Houses

All members are encouraged to wear a Zion T-Shirt

****LIMITED PARKING SPOTS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE MAIN PARKING LOT FOR ELDERLY PRIORITY****



SUNDAY SCHOOL

AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEW CURRICULUM!

AGES: Infant -12th Grade

TIME: 9:30 -10:30 am

DAY: SUNDAYS starting 9/13/26

WHERE: MLS Classrooms

High School will be attending the adult Bible class in Zion's basement.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS A GREAT TIME TO LEARN BIBLE BASICS AND HISTORY, AND GOD'S PLAN FOR HIS PEOPLE!

REGISTER TODAY!

NEW! PRAY & PRAISE WITH PARENTS CLASS
For those under age 3 to come with their parents and learn about God's Word.

PLANTING FAITH. + GROWING DISCIPLES.



Campaign Financials

Total Commitments: \$1,124,144

Total Fulfilled to date: \$1,044,198

Additional Contributions outside of commitments: \$89,805

Total Funds Received: \$1,134,003

Many people have contributed their time, talents, and treasures to the success of the, "Tell the Next Generation" campaign. We are so thankful God has blessed Zion in so many ways.

THANK YOU



9-Week Sunday Bible Class

The Writings of the Apostle Paul
in Chronological Order



Begins Sunday, September 13th



Sundays, 9:40 AM–10:40 AM

Weekly Monday–Friday reading assignments
correspond with the Sunday class.



Class Begins Today!

Hope and Healing Through Grief

Starting October 6th

Tuesdays for 5 weeks 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

center
COUNSELING
Hope and Healing in Christ

Join us for a welcoming Christian grief support series for adults mourning the death of a loved one.

What to Expect:

- Week 1: Welcome, Trust, and Understanding the Grief
- Week 2: Making Space for the Pain
- Week 3: Remembering Together and Reconnecting
- Week 4: Carrying Love Forward
- Week 5: Remembrance, Hope and Candlelight

Refreshments provided.

Led by:



Les Wolfgram



Jasmin Yoder, LMSW

Sign up:



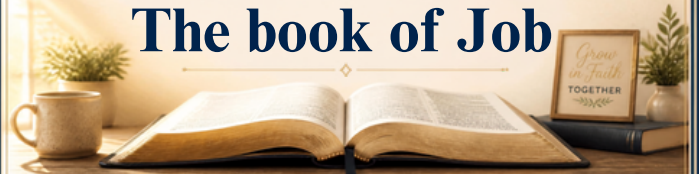
Tuesdays
October 6th - November 3rd
6:30pm - 8:00 pm

Location:
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
801 E Denver Ave, Bismarck, ND 58504

Call or Email with questions
office@centercounseling.org
(701)380-5100

Tuesday Bible Study

The book of Job



1-2:30 PM every Tuesday

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Study meets in the church basement

North Dakota Pro-Life Youth Event

Saturday, Sept. 26, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Heritage Center, ND State Capitol

Registration begins at 9:30.

Taco bar lunch included.

To Register, please email Bismarck Mandan

LFL (Lutherans For Life)

by Fri, Sept. 18, at

bismarckmandanlfl@gmail.com

(More info available on the table in the rear of the sanctuary.)

MLS Chapel
September 16
Pastor Walla


Martin Luther
SCHOOL

Thursday, September 24 at 6:30pm

Martin Luther School

Back to School Concert



School Bus Driver Needed

Martin Luther School is in need of a part-time bus driver, hours are 12-2:30, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday. Position primarily involves transporting children to Bismarck Baptist Church from Martin Luther School, but may include an occasional in-town field trip.

Two teachers are on the bus to supervise the students.

Applicants need a current CDL license, Class B, with both passenger(P)endorsement and a School Bus (S) endorsement.

Pay: \$23.00/hour

For information, contact Mrs Wolfgram at
wolfgram@lutherschools.org

Zion Lutheran Church Lock-in for Grades 5-8
September 25, 2026
10:30 pm-6:00 am

? Forgive or Not Forgive ?

\$5 Cost covers:
 Pizza, chips, candy, pop, Breakfast (muffins or donuts and juice!!!)

Group games
 Grog
 Relay race
 Human Hungry
 Hungry Hippo
 Free time & More!!

Bring Friends- (even more than one!!!)
If you choose to sleep, you may bring pillow or sleeping bag (optional)

Bible Study
"Forgive or Not Forgive"

Questions?
Contact- Russ Weixel at
400-6492 or email at
weixelzion@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE
Love and Respect
A Marriage Enrichment Conference

This conference is an excellent opportunity to invest in your relationship and learn what could be life changing insights into male and female dynamics. Married couples and engaged couples will learn how to resolve conflict, dealing with the negative reactions (the crazy cycle). They will also learn how to motivate each other by meeting each other's needs (the energizing cycle). Even those who feel hopeless in their relationships will gain understanding on how to handle an indifferent or unresponsive partner (the rewarded cycle). Each cycle centers on two concepts: love and respect. These two words surface in social research and the Bible (Ephesians 5:33) as the two key ingredients for a successful marriage.

Those attending a Love and Respect conference experience understanding, forgiveness, reconciliation, change, and hope.

Zion Lutheran Church
413 E Ave. D
Bismarck, ND

October 9, 2026
6:30pm-9:30pm

October 10, 2026
8:30am-3pm

Cost: \$40 per couple
(includes conference workbook, snacks and lunch on Saturday)

A cord of three strands is not easily broken.
Ecclesiastes 4:12

A sign-up sheet is located on the table at the back of the sanctuary or email pastormarkchristensen@gmail.com to reserve your spot (space is limited).

Zion
YOUTH

Mark your calendars for our
Digital Scavenger Hunt,
Wednesday, September 16th
7:30-9:00pm

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.

 This weekend, students entering the third grade will receive their Bible during the services.

As we mark the 25th anniversary of September 11, 2001, we remember the lives lost and the heroes who served. We pray for healing, unity, and steadfast hope in Christ as we continue our public witness in a world still longing for peace.



See www.LCRLFreedom.org.

From the District President's Desk

God provides for the proclamation of eternal life in Christ, the propagation of new life, and for protection and order for this life in what the old Lutheran theologians called the Three Estates. These three Estates are: The Church, The Home, and the State. Though Luther did not use this exact term, the concept is found throughout his writings. Each of these Estates has its various vocations, or stations in life, into which the Lord places people for the good of their neighbors, most often in what seem like mundane things that we do every day. In the coming weeks, I will take up each one of these. For a fuller view on the subject, see my articles at:

nodaklcms.org/blogs/district-president-s-blog. —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.



Linda Sullivan is in charge
of the altar flowers
for the month of September.
You can reach Linda at 701-955-2500

Worship Attendance

Saturday, September 5

5:00 pm - 27

Sunday, September 6

8:30am - 75

10:45am - 84

Stewardship

September MTD

General Offering:

\$12,552.

Average Budget

Monthly Expenses:

\$58,750



"Building Healthy Families"

Want to be closer to your spouse, children, or grandchildren? Praying as a couple or as a family is one of the most powerful and intimate things you can do together. Start simply by praying for things you're thankful for, things you need, or things you're worried about. Pray for people you know who are struggling. If you're not currently praying aloud together, consider the many positive impacts of doing so. You will be drawn closer to God, and to each other. Find a creative, practical, and free downloadable resource for fun ways to build prayer into you and your family's daily life, created by our friends at Concordia Center for the Family at <https://www.concordiafamilystore.org/resources/p/family-prayer-handout>. www.LutheranFamilyService.org

Main Street Living

Rev. Caleb Worrall, Zion and St. John Lutheran Churches, Ada, MN, presents the message "Family Tensions" based on Genesis 50:15-21. This is the Life program: "No Laughing Matter" - A woman must learn to deal with her past in order to help someone else in her present.



"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
Genesis 50:15-21

Epistle Reading
Romans 14:1-12

Holy Gospel
Matthew 18:21-35

Next Week:

Old Testament
Isaiah 55:6-9

Epistle Reading
Philippians 1:12-14,
19-30

Holy Gospel
Matthew 20:1-16