



ZION NEWS

MAY 2018

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Insert – Calendars for May

*Don't forget Mother's Day
May 13th*



Custodian Position: Zion Lutheran Church and School invites applications for the position of custodian, as our current custodian has accepted another job opportunity. Applicants should submit a resume to the church or school office **by May 4th to apply**. Contact Pastor Moldenhauer for more information about the position.

ZION NEWS

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

540 OAK PARK AVENUE, P. O. BOX 369
BEECHER, IL 60401-0369

CHURCH (708) 946-2271 SCHOOL (708) 946-2272

ZIONBEECHER@COMCAST.NET WWW.ZIONBEECHER.NET



May 2018

Dear friends in Christ Jesus,

Years ago, at a conference with fellow pastors, the subject of “forgiveness” was under discussion. One of the men remarked: **“Forgiveness is the air that we breathe!”**

I *loved* that expression of words! In fact, I later used it as a sermon title. Also, I’m quite confident that I’ve added that phrase to be a favored expression to periodically use when in conversation.

In one of the books that I use to guide me in my daily devotions, I read the following excerpt from Martin Luther’s writings. It speaks of forgiveness. Please read this excerpt and I’ll rejoin you following its conclusion.

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FORGIVE & FORGET

Forgive one another as God in Christ forgave you. (Eph. 4:32)

Christian faith ready to rest completely on God’s Christ requires a person cheerfully to forgive and forget injury that he has suffered. That is what God has done with us and continues to do when He forgives sin. He

expunges it from the record and no longer remembers it. Still, it is neither necessary nor possible for a man to forget it in the sense that he never thinks of it again, but in the sense that your heart is just as friendly toward your neighbor as it used to be before he injured you.

If the stump remains in your heart and you are not as friendly and kind toward him as you used to be, that is not forgetting or even cordially forgiving. You are still the scoundrel who comes before the altar with his sacrifice and tries to serve God even while his heart is crammed full of anger, envy, and hate. But very few people pay any attention to this at all. They all walk around in their beautiful mask; they fail to see the relation of their heart to this commandment, which summarily rejects any anger or ill will against the neighbor. [From *The Sermon on the Mount* (Luther's Works 21:82-83)]

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In the above devotion, you get the very real sense that “forgiveness” is not only that which we *receive*, but it’s also that which we Christians give out!

Yes, with wide open arms and hearts full of gratitude we gratefully receive God’s forgiveness earned by Christ on His Cross. However, we also are called to then offer forgiveness to others who may have injured or hurt us along life’s way. In other words, ***Forgiveness is not only the air that we breathe; but it’s also that which we exhale!***”

During this Easter season, let us all continue to relish the free forgiveness of sins that’s been lavished upon us through the crucified and risen Lord Jesus. And... let us all *also* seek to grant forgiveness to those around us who have hurt us. God calls us to do nothing less!

And, where – *exactly* – do we get the strength to go forward with others in love and forgiveness? Well, that ability also comes from God; for, indeed, that which He expects us to do, He also provides the ability by His Spirit!

Let us each go forward day by day in gratitude toward God for Christ’s love and forgiveness. And, as we go forward, may we willingly, eagerly, and generously grant to others that same forgiveness!

Yours in Christ Jesus, our Savior,

Pastor Rock



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH NOTES

A sincere and hearty “Thank you!” is extended to our Zion members who helped make the youth group’s Annual Easter Breakfast to be a wonderful success once again this year! So many attended that late arrivals to the breakfast had to wait for a few minutes to find seating! Thank you, everyone, for your attendance and generous donations to make the meal to be the wonderful thing that it has been for many, many years. Thank you also goes to the parents of the youth who did much work behind the scenes in the kitchen!

The youth cordially invite everyone to attend their **pizza booth** that they will again set up at the **Beecher Fourth of July Festival** food court this summer. The earnings from their pizza sales along with their profits from their pancake breakfasts throughout the year provide funding for their activities. One of their activities is their *nearly*-annual trip to the Higher Things Youth Conference. This year’s conference will be held at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS in July.

If you have questions, please contact Barb Harvey, the youth leader, at 708.567.6834. Thank you for your support and encouragement to our youth!

Zion Preschool News: Hello to everyone! We are enjoying our long awaited Spring weather and getting outside as much as we can. We only have a few letters left to talk about before our Pre-K friends are off to Kindergarten and our Preschool friends start Pre-K! Some of the themes we will be having fun with will be Ice Cream, I Spy, Butterflies, Ladybugs, Ocean Life, Kites and Kindergarten. The Pre-K class will get to go on a field trip in May to the Exploration Station in Bourbonnais. Have a wonderful summer!





Music Notes – ZLS

The fifth-eighth grade students are working on a program to sing for the residents at Beecher Manor on May 17th. The first part of the program will be hymns. Then our students will sing songs using different genres of music such as bluegrass, jazz, folk songs, and rap. The K-8 choir will sing on Sunday, May 13th. They are busy learning "The Church's One Foundation" and the Introit for that day. The students have been playing songs using the Boomwackers and colored handbells. They are practicing rhythms and music reading skills while playing in a group. A Piano Recital is scheduled for *Sunday, May 20th, at 2:30.*

CONFIRMATION – MAY 6TH

**THE FOLLOWING JUNIOR YOUTH WILL CONFIRM THEIR
BAPTISMAL FAITH HERE AT ZION DURING THE 9AM
WORSHIP SERVICE.**

**STEVEN WALKER RAGGETT ADAM
JAIDEN TIFFANY BUSS
ALYSSA VIOLET COLLINS
PAUL WILLI MUEHLBERG
CHARLISE PIPER PETERSON
CHEYANNA MICHELE STLUKA
IAN JAMES WRIGHTSMAN**



**WE WILL PUBLISH THEIR CONFIRMATION VERSES IN THE
JUNE ZION NEWS.**



PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND...

Our congregation is hosting a joint Ascension Day worship service held in conjunction with our area sister Lutheran churches. It is set to be held on the

Day of Ascension – Thurs., May 10th. The Divine Service will begin at **7:00 pm.**

Besides an adult choir comprised of members from area LCMS congregations, a children's choir is also being planned. Also, some of the many great hymns selected to be sung are from C.F.W. Walther's hymnal. (Walther's hymnal was first published in the English language by CPH in 2012.) Light refreshments will be served following the service by our Dorcas Society. This is a great opportunity to worship our risen and ascended Lord Jesus and to do so with fellow Lutherans. You may call our church office (708.946.2271) for more information.

QUIPS TO PONDER

In this month's newsletter, we conclude the list of quips that LaVerne Froehner sent to me some time ago. (And, yes, you can be sure that LaVerne is happy to read *that!* 😊) Here they are! Pr. Rock



- Please don't wait for 6 strong men to take you to church.
- Forbidden fruits create many jams.
- God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.
- God grades on the cross, not the curve.
- God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.
- He who angers you, controls you!
- God Himself doesn't propose to judge a man until he is dead; so why should we?
- If God is your Co-pilot, swap seats!
- Regarding prayer: Don't give God instructions, just report for duty!
- The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.
- The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.
- Don't put a question mark where God put a period.
- We don't change the message, the message changes us.

Special Monthly Worship & Luncheon (11:00am)

Thursday, May 17th

Attention all seniors, retirees or anyone available on the 3rd
Thursday of the month!!



You are encouraged to attend this monthly Worship services, no matter what your age. We are encouraging everyone who is available to come to this special worship service and luncheon. Following the communion service, you will be served a luncheon which is sponsored by private donations of individual members of Zion and served by some of our members.

This event is held on the 3rd Thursday of every month. Please join us at 11:00am for a time of worship and fellowship. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**



UPDATE ON COVERED WALKWAY PROJECT!

On Sunday, April 15th, Zion's Voters Assembly met to consider the Building Committee's recommendation of a general contractor to construct our covered walkway. Riechers Construction, owned by Vince Riechers, was approved to be engaged to build our addition. At the

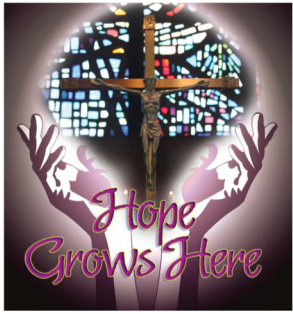
time of printing this newsletter, Zion's architect along with members of the Building Committee were setting up meetings with Mr. Riechers to sign a Letter of Intent, make application for building permits, and other necessary "paperwork" to get the project begun. Please pray for good weather and for safety for all those who will work on this project.

Finally, please recall that all of the funding for this project has come from members or families of members in memorials to loved ones who now are with the Lord. This means that we expect that no funding appeal will be made to the congregation to complete this work. We thank God for those who contributed to this project so that many people, for many years to come, may more easily enter the Lord's house for worship!



FAMILY OUTING POSTPONED

The family outing that was planned for Sat., April 14th had to be cancelled due to unseasonably cold weather. The outing was to provide an opportunity for some target shooting in a safe and highly controlled setting. Plans are now being put into place to set another date for this event. Please watch future bulletins and newsletters for announcements.



Save the Date - **Saturday, October 27th**
ZION'S 9TH ANNUAL DINNER
AUCTION: "HOPE GROWS HERE"
New location: Glenwoodie Golf Club
19301 S State St, Glenwood
Catered by Scrementi's
Next Committee meeting-
May 8th @ 5:30pm



ZION DORCAS SOCIETY AND CHRISTIAN GROWTH are planning on holding a "garage sale" again this year **8am-4pm on June 2nd and June 8th-9th**. While you are doing your "spring cleaning", consider donating those items you no longer have need of to the sale. Please put reusable, sellable items in a box marked "garage sale" and save them for our sale. We **CANNOT** accept exercise equipment, TV's, or large appliances. **Bring your donations to the gym Thursday, May 31st (8am -7pm) & Friday, June 1st (8am-5pm)**. Senior Citizens, if you need your items picked-up, call Kay 946-2472 or Alleen 946-6477. We are asking Zion congregation and school parents, MEN & WOMEN, for help. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Money raised will go to a church project. Last year we raised over \$2,300.00! Thanks for your support!



**DEDICATION OF THE RIBBON OF HOPE
CANCER AWARENESS GARDEN**
On Sunday, May 20th, a dedication ceremony will be held for a cancer awareness garden named *Ribbon of Hope*. It will held in the northwest corner of Firemen's Park in Beecher. The ceremony will begin at 2 PM and will be held rain or shine!



LOOKING FOR OLD PICTURES...

Recently a few old photographs were shown to me of our original church building on Indiana Avenue. I was greatly intrigued by the pictures and thought that perhaps others of our congregation would likewise be so interested and intrigued by seeing them. If you have any photographs (particularly of the interior) of Zion's first facilities, would you please bring them to the church so that I might look at them? We will scan them in the office and immediately return them to you. If enough pictures can be found, I was thinking of having a portion of our web site to be dedicated to displaying these pictures. Perhaps many (young and older members!) would benefit from seeing pictures of the original church and school building. Thank you! (Now... have fun digging into those old, musty boxes of photos!!! ☺) Pastor Rock

Dorcas Society



DORCAS SOCIETY NEWS

Thursday, May 10th Dessert Luncheon & Meeting beginning at **1pm**. **All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend!** *Hostesses are: Janet Guritz & Ardith Schroeder.* Program: Bible Study



WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

After a lengthy time allowed to receive input from the congregation, Zion's Board of Elders made a change to our worship schedule. The congregation, by a margin of nearly 6-1 (29 "for" and 5 "against"), indicated that they wished to move our regular Saturday evening service to be held on Mondays for the summer months. Accordingly, beginning the Monday *after* Memorial Day Weekend (June 4th), our Saturday evening service will be moved to be held on Mondays at 7 PM. Again, this worship day and time will be in play throughout the summer. The Monday service will revert back to Saturday's on Sat., Sept. 8th.

The Elders express their sincere thanks to everyone for their time and thoughtful input to this matter. May God bless us as we go forward together – sometimes putting our brother's and sister's cares, concerns, and preferences ahead of that of our own. Thank you again!



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE AT BEECHER JULY 4TH FESTIVITIES

Here are several opportunities to get involved as a Zion member during this coming summer's Beecher July 4th activities:

- **Bingo Tent** Zion will again manage the Bingo Tent this summer. Please consider volunteering to help with this effort. It's really a lot of fun to work with fellow members and get to see many from the community at the same time! *To volunteer or learn more about this, please contact Margie Cook 708-805-1440.*
- **PTL Walking Taco Stand** Sign up for a shift serving walking tacos at our school's PTL food stand. It's simple work and you get to see and visit with people from throughout our community! *To volunteer or learn more about this, please contact Rhonda Stadt 708-946-9017.*
- **Zion H.S. Youth Group Pizza Stand** Here's another opportunity to provide service to Zion and the community. This, too, is easy work and while performing it, you can visit with others from our church and those of the community who stop by the food stand. *To volunteer or learn more about this, please contact Barb Harvey 708-567-6834.*



Please consider helping with one (or more!) of these efforts. By doing so, you will enjoy yourself and, at the same time, represent our wonderful congregation to our community! Thank you!

LOST & FOUND



Dear Congregation: Please check the coat room for any coat you may have forgotten over the past few weeks/months. Also, there are several mittens, gloves, hats, eyeglasses, etc. that are looking for their owners!



GET INVOLVED: SEEK TO SERVE

Our church body recently observed National Volunteer Month. As part of their encouragement to LCMS members, this came from the national office:

To all LCMS volunteers: Your servant’s heart, enthusiasm, and joyful service are truly felt by all those we reach in fulfilling our mission throughout the world. You share your God-given gifts to “do good” in a troubled world. You ignite enthusiasm in others, and your efforts inspire and model service for future generations. By sharing your gifts, you are sharing the love of God with others. Indeed, you become the advocate, the voice and the spirit of Christ among us.

We have a wonderful opportunity to get involved in the community of Beecher with others! On **Saturday, May 12th**, a “**Beecher Beautification Day**” will be held. Volunteers from various community organizations, churches, residents, businesses, etc. will gather at **Firemen’s Park in Beecher at 8:30 AM**. Various tasks will be assigned to do that have previously been identified as in need of being “spruced up.” The tasks will include such things as mulching, raking, painting, and litter pickup. The morning’s work will conclude at noon with a **free lunch** for all participants! Please join others of Zion to “do good” in our community and to represent our wonderful church in that effort!



ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR

You are welcomed and encouraged to arrange for flowers to be put on the Altar in memory of loved ones, in honor of birthdays, anniversaries, or any special occasion you choose. You may order the arrangement from the florist of your choice or

Beecher Florist (708-946-2541). Please make delivery arrangements with your florist. There is a calendar in the church office for you to choose your special day in 2018.

Save the Date

Zion Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School
June 25th – 29th





Enrollment Open for 2018-2019 School Year

Enrollment is now open for Zion Lutheran School for the 2018-2019 school year. Zion offers ½ day & full day preschool and kindergarten along with grades 1-8. If you know of a prospective family, please encourage them to speak to Pastor Moldenhauer (708-946-2272) for more information about the school and enrolling their students. We look forward to another successful school year in 2018-2019.



WORSHIP ANEW

The well-received Lutheran TV program known as *Worship Anew* is partially sponsored by our congregation. Six different times throughout 2018 our congregation is sponsoring the airing of this 30 minute worship program.

Previously, *Worship Anew* was only available through cable or satellite provided television systems. Now, this program is also available in our area through WPWR, broadcast channel 50 based in Chicago. It airs at 8 AM each Sunday on channel 50. And, of course, that channel is *also* available through cable and satellite systems. Finally, DirecTV also carries the broadcast each Sunday on the TCT Network (channel 377) at 10:30 AM. So, regardless of how you receive your television “feed,” you should be able to view this weekly program.

Worship Anew is a 30 minute program where Christ’s love is shared through Scripture readings, favorite church hymns, prayers, and a pastor’s message that reveals God’s grace and truth. Be sure to watch it, or, better yet, record it and watch the program after attending our own church services!



Gift Cards Available

Once again this spring, Zion’s Board of Stewardship & Outreach is selling a wide variety of gift cards. In past years, many members have utilized these cards to speed their shopping for confirmands, new graduates, Mother’s & Father’s Days, etc. The proceeds realized are used to help fund some of our outreach efforts, such as paying the fees for our “electronic presence” – cable TV station fee, internet web domain name fee, equipment purchases, etc. The cards are **on sale now until Sunday, May 6th**. **Order forms are in the narthex.** Thank you for considering to help our outreach efforts in this way!