



Zion St. John

LUTHERAN CHURCH

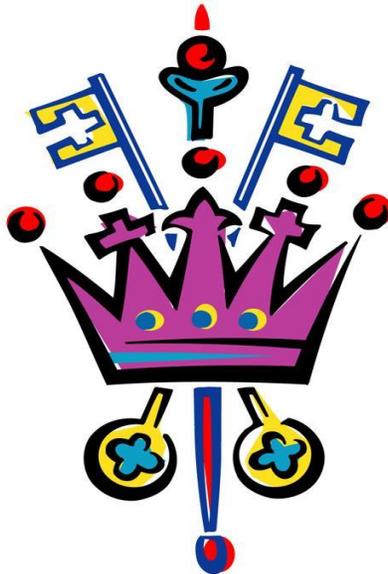
Being the Body of Christ

November 2018 All Saints/ Pentecost/ Christ the King Vol. 24 No. 11



“You shall count seven weeks: begin to count the seven weeks from the time the sickle is first put to the standing grain. Then you shall keep the Festival of Weeks to the Lord your God contributing a freewill offering in proportion to the blessing that you have received from the Lord your God.” Deuteronomy 16: 9-10

ALL SAINTS' DAY



CHRIST THE KING

OUR VISION STATEMENT

At Zion St. John Lutheran Church, we are committed to being the body of Christ until He returns. Led by the Holy Spirit and gathered around God's Word and Sacraments, we join in worship, fellowship, learning, spiritual nurture, outreach, and service, as we grow in faith and invite others to experience Christ's presence.

This passage from the Book of Deuteronomy describes one of the three pilgrimage festivals devout Jews were expected to participate in each year. During each of these festivals they were to bring an offering to the Lord God. If possible, they were to travel to Jerusalem, but there were also a number of other designated sites people could travel to if circumstances made travel to Jerusalem unrealistic.

In this passage we learn about proportionate giving in relation to the blessings God has given to us. In another congregation that I served there was a sign above the doors leading into the sanctuary that said, “We give out of gratitude to God in relation to our faith.” That statement has a slightly different feeling. The proportionate giving in this case in relation not to blessings, but to faith, which is also a gift to us from God.

Our annual stewardship emphasis will take place during the first three weeks of November. This year we will hear about three of the many ministries our congregation is involved in. Consecration Sunday will take place on November 18. On that day, people will be invited to make pledges to God for the upcoming year.

Some people are reluctant to make a pledge because they are unsure of their income in the next year. That is certainly understandable. Still, I would encourage people in this situation to make a pledge. Then, if your income changes, you can always give less (or more!). These pledges help the council to plan the upcoming budget for 2019.

Deuteronomy, the Book of God's Law allows for changes in giving based on income. My wife Diane and I have found that pledging is an important spiritual discipline for the two of us, and when our kids were still at home, for our family. Just as we sat our

kids down and went through the family bills with them when they were old enough, we also sat them down and talked with them about the expenses that needed to be covered at our church.

I ask that you prayerfully consider making a pledge on Consecration Sunday in proportion to your income – and your faith.

God's blessings to you,
Pastor Kim



Sunday November 4



JESUS AND ME, JAM



This year has been a busy one for the youth at ZSJ and it just continues to get busier! Each week, youth from Sheffield and several other surrounding communities come together to enjoy fellowship and grow in faith at ZSJ. The activities they engage in are different from week to week, but the attitude is always the same: contagiously positive. This month, I would like to highlight the youth in the 5th and 6th grade youth group, Jesus and Me or JAM.

This group of 10-15, 5th and 6th graders meet each and every week at church. They come right from the bus at school, and often run all the way from school to the church! Following a small snack, the kids do one of their favorite things, share their highs and lows. We take time for each youth in the group to share about one thing that was great in their week and one thing that was not so great in their week. Some kids take this very seriously, and others really just like to giggle, but each youth gets the floor for just a couple of minutes to share something about themselves. I didn't realize how important this was to the kids until one week when we ran out of time and didn't get to it.

All the kids asked to stay late to do highs and lows.

Following snack and highs and lows, we spend time playing games together and having fun. We almost always make the effort to do something that makes us run and play. The kids, though on the upper end of elementary school, need time to run and just be kids. This is something that many of them have expressed they don't have enough of. Recently, we learned a game that is similar to Simon-Says called Ships and Sailors. This game involves running, diving onto the ground and paying close attention to the leader of the group as they call commands.

Of course, we spend time working with the Bible and with each other. The kids always are amazed by stories of courage and faith from the Old Testament, like *Samson and Delilah*, *David and Goliath*, or *Daniel in the Lion's Den*. We almost always play a game or do an activity that helps us understand the story and why it is important. The kids always ask smart questions and learn the very, human nature of some of the characters from the Bible.

Before we leave to go home, the kids have some time to voice prayer requests. We spend time in prayer together and take a couple of minutes to just be quiet and at peace. Before they leave, the youth trace the sign of the cross on their friend's foreheads and bless each other, saying "Jesus loves you, and so do I."

This group of kids is comprised of students who are very different from each other. Many of them don't spend much time together outside of JAM. But, through JAM, they grow bonds that will take them into the tough world of being a teenager in 2018. And for that, thanks be to God.

Grace and Peace,
Caitlin

THANK OFFERINGS

Women of ZSJ, we will be collecting our thank offerings in the month of November! You give give them to Diane or drop them off in the church office or place them in the offering plate. Please make sure to designate ZSJ WELCA. Watch for more details in the weekly bulletin and the website.





HOLIDAY FOOD FAIR

Just wanted to keep reminding you of the Holiday Food Fair coming up on Dec. 8, 2018. Coffee and cinnamon rolls will be served at 8:30 am and the sales will begin at 9:00 a.m. The items for sale will be cookies by the dozen, candies, cards, Rada, Fair Trade items (coffee, tea, chocolate, olive oil and more), and as always in the past - a few surprises.

The proceeds are divided between the West Fork Food Pantry, our kitchen repairs, and Wings of Refuge in Iowa Falls which is a refuge for victims of human trafficking.

Every member of the congregation is encouraged to donate items or volunteer to help that day (no training is needed and the pay is rewarding). Last but not least, everyone is encouraged to come for coffee, fellowship and shopping.

Items to be donated can be brought to the fellowship hall on Friday, before 3 pm or before 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. Please label your items and the containers so they will get back to you. If you wish, you can list ingredients or suggest a price for your item.

In His Service, Carla N, 892-4985



to Charles Sukup for being elected to the National Academy of Engineering!

THANKSGIVING DISPLAY

Thank you to the members of Dorcas circle for the beautiful Thanksgiving Display in the Narthex!



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Here's a look at our finances as of September 30, 2018

Budgeted Income	\$163,629
Offerings Received	\$135,202
Current Deficit	\$ 28,427
Expenses Year to Date	\$153,682
Checking Acct. Balance	\$ 8,620



This month our deficit grew by the smallest amount this year, just over \$2,300.00 and the amount in our checking account increased by \$300.00. Thank you for your faithful giving! As we focus on Stewardship during the month of November, this is an excellent time for each of us to review our own giving for 2018.



Thursday Nov 1, 10am-12pm
Thursday Nov 15, 3:30-5:30pm

We serve residents of Franklin County or the West Fork School District. Proof of residency, either ID or a current utility bill is required. We gratefully accept donations of money, personal hygiene items, perishable and non-perishable food and garden produce. We are still searching for a permanent space to house the food pantry. This space must be climate and pest controlled. If you have questions or donations, please contact the church office.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Our Thanksgiving Eve worship will be on Wednesday, November 21 @ 7 pm. Please take time to attend worship and be thankful for all the blessings God provides every day for you and your family.



CHURCH FAMILY NIGHT

Our annual Thanksgiving feast will be on Sunday November 11, 4-7 pm. Turkey and drinks will be provided, please bring a dish or two to share. This is open to families of any size and ages! After our feast we will have a board game night and share some family



ALL SAINTS WORSHIP

All Saints Sunday is November 4. As is our custom, during the prayers that day, the names of those who have died in the past year who are members of our congregation, and those whose funerals Pastor Kim has performed, will be read and the bell will toll. It is appropriate during this time for us to also remember our loved ones and friends who now rest in the Lord, and to give thanks to God for the ways they have impacted our lives.

Nov. 25	Christ the King Sunday
Dec. 2	Advent by Candlelight
Dec. 5, 12, 19	MW Advent Worship
Dec. 8	Holiday Food Fair
Dec. 9	SS Program



Thanks to everyone who remembered me on my 95th birthday! God has been good to me- "His mercy endureth forever!"

Doris E

*Just a reminder, the church office will be closed
November 22 & 23!
Happy Thanksgiving !!*

POINSETTIA GARDEN



If you would like to donate a poinsettia for the sanctuary garden, you may purchase one through the church office or directly from *Forever Yours* for \$20. Make your checks payable to Forever Yours. Please place your orders through the church office or ordering from *Forever Yours* by Sunday, November 25, so the garden will be in place for the start of Advent. If you are giving a poinsettia on your own, please let the church office know so that it can be noted in the Christmas bulletin.



Call to order on October 14, 2018, by Doug at 10:27. Council members in attendance: Jim B, Vickie B, Tony R, Scott C, Cindy H, Doug D, Pastor Kim. Devotions led by Pastor Kim.

Pastor's Report

Weddings Scheduled

October 20, 2018, Tyler G & Emily @ ZSJ
July 20, 2019, Zac C & Shaunda M @ Diamond Oaks

Weddings Performed

October 6, 2018, Cassidy K & Brady R @ ZSJ

Other Activities

- Coordinated Grand Opening of the West Fork Food Pantry.
- Participated in ditch cleanup on HWY 65 with Sheffield Lions Club.
- Presurgical Visit, 4 member visits.
- Participated in Riverside Golf Classic.
- Hosted the Conference Pastors here on Thursday, September 20. Good discussion on funerals and Pastor will get a committee together here as mentioned at an earlier meeting.

Items to Consider

- Pastor presented the following candidates for the council's approval to participate in the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism on Sunday, October 28th – provided they complete all of their requirements: Delaney C, Nate H, Taylor K, Emma M, Malachi R, Hayden S,

Alex S, Kalli T, Isaac T. Vickie, motion; second, Scott; passed.

- Eran Miller is willing to offer training on the AED at no cost to us. We need to determine if we want him to do a non-certified training that would take an hour or a half, or have people be certified; that would be a half day class. Open to anyone that wants to do this - Pastor will schedule training.
- We received a \$610 memorial from the family of Byron H. The family wants this money to go towards the LED light replacement project in the Fellowship Hall. \$1300 quote for this project. Motion, Scott; second, Jim; passed. Remainder of funds will come from Parsonage Fund.
- The Boiler passed inspection on Thursday, October 11. The inspector suggested that we have the ball valve for the water shutoff replaced because it is very rusty. Next time Murphy's comes we need to replace ball valve. Also need to get an estimate for boiler pumps that we never replaced. He also noticed that the water heater in the kitchen is 22 years old. He suggested we look at replacing it with an on-demand model. We will wait on until it shows signs of needing repair.
- Pastor has written a letter to Total Mobility (the company that installed the vertical lift) about the repairs that we had to make to the elevator because the "creep switch" was never calibrated, including a copy of the AEL repair invoice AEL. He has not heard back from them.
- Pastor and Diane will be out of town on Sunday, October 21. He has provided a sermon for Caitlin and she will lead worship that Sunday. We will have communion on October 28. Pastor will be in Dubuque for Fall Pastor's Conference Oct 15-16.

Connecting ZSJ with the Larger Church

- Pastor serves on Outside Council of The Church of the Damascus Road.
- Pastor serves on Synod SAFE Committee.
- Diane Wills serve on Synod Council and as synodical president of the Women of the ELCA.

Secretary's Report - Motion to approve, Jim; second, Tony; passed

Treasurer's Report - reviewed

Committee Reports

Parish Education - Going well. Kids sang in church today.

Property Management

- Roofing repair was done Oct 12th. Motion was made via email to fix the roof and it passed. Roofing needing repairs was the north side valley by the bell tower.
- Lorna is taking pictures of things that need to be fixed and will get to committee.
- Sanctuary door leading to education wing fixed; needed to be shortened.
- Doug will clean gutters.

Stewardship -Meeting Oct 18@ 5pm.

Technology

- Youtube going well. 2-3 watching live: 8-9 view during the week.
- Frontier cannot deliver speed promised. Might need to switch to Mediacom.
- Note needs to be put in the bulletin so people know service is being streamed. Link is on website.
- Diane keeps website up to date.
- Scott has a wish list of technology equipment he will give to the Memorial Committee.

Worship & Evangelism - Nov done.

Youth & Family

- Caitlin has an energetic group for JAM.
- Confirmation going well.
- UNI lock-in. All attended but one.

Old Business

- Community church service
- Motion by Cindy that Kari, treasurer and Doug, president can sign for all church accounts at the bank; second, Pastor; passed. This motion will be updated yearly.
- Food Pantry - two families donating \$100/month to cover expense and anything else needed like a cover for the frozen food during distribution; donated - a refrigerator (in the church basement, women's storage room); Freezer - in garage; Another freezer was donated - will be delivered on Monday and put in garage. This freezer is new and can be locked. Jim will put a lock on the garage door. Pastor will check to see if freezers can withstand the winter in an uninsulated garage.

New Business

- Kitchen supplies - Church pays for 4 months - Sept-Dec. Vickie did

for Sept.

- Talked about nominating committee for new council members. Some people have already been asked.
- 2019 Portico Benefits Summary Deductibles were discussed between different plans and premium costs. Gold + is the better deal. Timeline will require us to go with Portico this year, but we need to do some research on different companies for next year. Scott will do this. Motion to go with Gold + for Pastor and Caitlin for 2019; Jim; second, Scott; passed.
- Meeting adjourned @ 11:50 am

Submitted by
Cindy H

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

CALL TO ORDER: President Alice Greimann called the meeting to order on Sunday, October 14th at 10:10 a.m. Those present were: Alice G, Arliss G, Marlene S, Maxine H, Judy S, and Marcia E. Diane Wills joined later in the meeting. Alice gave devotions and the statement of purpose was read.

MINUTES: Minutes of the September 4th general meeting were read. Minutes were approved with the addition that Alice G volunteered to help Marlene as a Mission & Growth co-chair next year.

CORRESPONDENCE: A thank you from the Retz family for serving Matt's funeral and for the memorial was read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Alice presented Diane's treasurer's report. The checking balance was \$1,942.03 and savings balance was \$1,456.18. Report placed on file.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mission & Action

- ◆ Co-chair Maxine reported that the truck for LWR will be in Mason City on Nov. 6 to take our projects.
- ◆ Memorials for Howard M have been received totaling \$150 for

quilting supplies.

Mission & Growth

- ◆ Co-chair Marlene presented ideas for confirmation gifts. She will purchase these for the 9 confirmands.
- ◆ She is proceeding with plans for a guest event possibly in November and waiting to hear from a potential speaker.

OLD BUSINESS

- ◆ A suggestion was made to post the kitchen supply list on the door in the kitchen and remind the group in charge of their four scheduled months to replenish supplies. The groups are the Women of the ELCA, the Youth/Sunday School and the church council.
- ◆ Rebekah Circle serves and entertains at the Sheffield Care Center birthday party October 15 at 2 p.m. Next year we will serve again in April and October.

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ Pennies for Poverty fund was discussed. Decision will be made at the November meeting for its distribution.
- ◆ Alice presented the idea of getting the beginning Bibles from the Children's Book Fair for baptismal gifts. She will order five of these.

Alice adjourned the meeting and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.



Secretary,
Marcia E

Rebekah Circle

Monday, November 5 @ 6:00 pm
Bible Study: Diane W

Dorcas Circle

Tuesday, November 6 @ 1 pm
Hostess: LaVonne C
Bible Study: Doris M

PRAYER LIST

In order to keep Pastor Kim informed and our prayer list accurate, please let the church office or Pastor know if you are in the hospital or are anticipating hospitalization.

Cindy R	Sarah P	Beth J
Lorri H	Sawyer A	Finley O
Pam B	Chuck N	Cliff C
Dick H	Christy M	Virginia C
Bev F	Louise C	Kira N
Gary S		



◆ All veterans and active military personnel and their families.

November 3	Merna S
November 4	Diane D
November 6	Don G, Allan K, Finley O, Tanner T
November 7	Lauren T
November 8	Sue R, Emily S
November 9	Bill P
November 10	Jane E
November 11	Brad M, Jameson G
November 13	Kim J, Sue K
November 15	Angie R, Jayla F, Ty S
November 16	Kyle O
November 17	Klayder W
November 18	Lindsey E
November 20	Holly H
November 21	Craig O, Nate P
November 22	Kim M
November 26	Carla N, Tom S
November 29	Alyssa B, Shyanne B, Alex B, Kinzli W, Sarah N, Libby T
November 30	Merlin M



STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS & CONSECRATION SUNDAY

During the first three weeks of November we will focus on Stewardship of Time and Talents. This year we will hear stories of a few of the many ministries our congregation is involved in. We will be reminded of the impact our congregation has locally, regionally, and globally. November 18th has been designated as Consecration Sunday. On this Sunday, we will collect estimate of giving cards for 2019. Your pledges help the council in planning the 2019 budget. We encourage you to come and hear our stories!



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Head Usher: Darin M

Altar Guild: Alice G, Marlene S

Lector:

4 Alice G
11 Diane W
12 Diane W
13 Diane W
14 Diane W

Greeters:

4 5-6th Grade SS Class
11 Marie L
18 Kathy M
25 Marie L

Offering Counters:

Doug D, Tony R

Fellowship Time Servers:

4 Johnsons
11 Trewins
18 5-6th Grade SS
25 Lubkemans

Acolyte:

4 Jake S
11 Ava H
18 Trevor G
21 Cole M
25 Carter B

Crucifer:

4 Cadence N
11 Sage S
18 Claire T
21 Lily D
25 Gavin M-O

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am Worship

10:15 am Fellowship and Sunday School



G Kim Wills, Pastor

pastor@zionstjohn.org

641-425-9453

9:00am-3:00pm, T-F

Caitlin Retz, Director of Youth/Family Ministries 641-494-6989

youth@zionstjohn.org

9:00am-4:00pm, S-M-T-Th

9am-noon Wed.

Church Office

mail@zionstjohn.org

641-892-4010

9:00am-12:00pm, M-F