



From the Pastor's Cup...

Dear Church Family,

In preparation for this spring's synod assembly with the election of a new bishop, the Nebraska Synod sent a mailer about Calling a Bishop. We have had four bishops in the Nebraska Synod since the merger in 1987:

- Dennis Anderson (1987/1990) and Bishop Anderson was in office when I started the candidacy for seminary,
- Richard Jessen (1990/2000) who guided me through seminary and into my first call in Nebraska.
- David deFreese (2000/2012) who called me to serve as his associate pastor at First/Kearney before being elected as bishop. Born and raised in Omaha, NE.
- Brian Maas (2012/2022) who guided me to Zion when I was seeking a change of call. Born and raised in Pierce, NE.

This mailer then reviews the Current Challenges & Strengths the Nebraska Synod is facing:

- Last two COVID years have created conflict in churches over concerns for health and safety where members are not returning to in-person worship as quickly as they left.
- AND YET ministry is still happening with the growth and quality of online services whose audience is both local church family along with national and international viewers.
- In spite of a shortage of rostered ministers, the Nebraska Synod is responding in innovative ways such as the PMA program and raising up lay leaders in every congregation.

What Might Be Next? God is very much active and up to something inviting all of us to be a part of God's creative, redeeming, and reconciling work.

The challenges of ministry are real, so too are the invitations and endless possibilities for what might be emerging. The priesthood of all believers is real, and needs to be even more so as we serve together in new ways to do God's work and live life as the baptized Children of God.

Zion's delegates along with all the rest of the delegates of the Nebraska Synod, will be in the spiritual process of calling our new bishop at the end of May. We ask for your prayers for God's hand in all this!

God bless, Pr. Jer

ISRAEL'S MISSION: Becoming a Kingdom of Priests in a Prodigal World by Rav Vander Laan – 5 part DVD series that we may experience the Bible in historical context. We begin each Sunday morning with prayer concerns from the group. A brief introduction to the DVD session will cue up the DVD for the viewing audience.

4/3 Jesus Renews His Mission: Seeking the Lost

4/10 The Lost Son: In the Far Country

4/17 SKIP for Easter Sunday

4/24 The Seeking Father: The Lost Son Returns

WEDNESDAYS IN APRIL

Reminder to pick ASAP your Bible verse and My Faith Project for Confirmation Sunday on April 24, 2022. My Faith Project is explained at the end of this booklet.

4/5/2022 6 pm – 8th Grade Meet with Church Council We meet in the fellowship hall. This is NOT an interrogation of our confirmands by Zion's church council in the fellowship hall. It is a time to review of the past year with the added benefit of an established relationship of serving together during the Wednesdays in Lent.

4/6/2022 6-6:45 p.m. – Christian Denominations

5th Wednesday in Lent

Video Clip by the Skit Guys -- Meet the Sanders

Bible Text: Matthew 16:13-20; John 17:6-21; Ephesians 2:1-22

Lesson Focus: The various Christian denominations share our beliefs.

Big Question: If we all worship the same God, and Jesus is Lord of all, where did all the different "churches" come from?

Key Words: PROTESTANT, CATHOLIC, ORTHODOX, CREED, ECUMENICAL, INFAALIBLE, INERENT

Snack & drink plus staying the hour: Sullivan Family

HOLY WEEK BREAK: Pastor is with First Communion Class in preparation for First Communion on Maundy Thursday 4/14/2022. Those who acolyte on Palm Sunday are the acolytes for Maundy Thursday. Also, if you are behind in your 20 sermon notes,

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are two more opportunities to add two more completed sermon notes to your total.

4/17/2022 – Sunday Faith Project Display & Explanation – This is the Sunday that your faith project will be displayed in the hallway to the fellowship hall. You will also read your explanation to the church council and audience, answering any possible questions. This time is usually after our worship service.

4/20/2022 6-7 p.m. 8th Grade Confirmation Class Year End Review

Video Clip by The Skit Guys – God’s Chisel

Time to review the year, make sure all 20 sermon notes are completed, and whatever else we need to talk about.

Pastor and Karen provide snack that night!!! We invite parents to stay this evening to celebrate the end of the year!!!

4/24/2022 – Confirmation Sunday!!! We confirm those 8th graders that have completed ALL their requirements prior to this day! Reception to follow!!

Zion Lutheran Church Council Minutes March 8, 2022

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Wiese

Members present: Kristi Dorn, Brenda Gronewold, Alan Folkerts, VeAnn Jurgens, Neal Meints, Cindy Parde, Paul Remmers, Pam Trauernicht & Gary Wiese

Pastor Jer shared: Regroup & Reflect – reflect on our relationship with Zion.

Motion made and seconded to accept minutes from the 2/09/2022 meeting.

Motion made and seconded to accept meeting agenda for 3/08/2022 meeting.

Upcoming Weddings:

- 05/07/2022 - Caylee Lueders & Connor Mason
- 06/11/2022 - Jayde Carstens & Jared Marsh
- 06/18/2022 - Dillon Buss & Cari Lineweber
- 07/09/2022 - Nicole Busboom & Nathan Bartels
- 07/16/2022 - Blake Lenners & Marisa Pitre

Upcoming Baptisms:

- 4/2/2022 (Saturday) Garin & Neely (Remmers) Leehy
- 4/10/22 Finn O’Brien Sturek son of Kelly & Brittany Sturek
- 5/15/22 Watson Ridge Gronewold son of Joel & Joselyn Gronewold

February mileage: 468 miles

Outside lights – some need to be on to allow outside cameras to have enough light to work

- **Fellowship Hall lights** –Leave on to see motion from school house camera.

Celebrating God’s Work in Progress – Old Business

- **Well Update** – Will start soon. Getting a well witcher
- **Elevator** – continue to look at elevator. Calling Omaha company for evaluation of current elevator and ability to fix.
- **Lights in outside fixtures** – get fixed for Lent services
- **Parrish Hall Bathrooms** – Will order supplies to have on hand with remodeling starting after VBS around June first. Vanities, sink, new flooring, refinish partitions, etc. Evaluate sanding and powder coating the dividers in the women’s restroom.

- **Storage Shed/Garage** – Look at a committee to discuss. Potential members: Todd Bohlmeyer, Dean Siefkes, Blake Meints, Gerald Ideus and council members.
- **Spring Cleaning Date** – March 26, 2022 at 9:00 am
 - Outdoors cleaning & Indoor Cleaning
 - Serve as a confirmation project for confirmation youth.

Discerning God's Will – New Business

- **Medical list of members for help in emergencies.**
 - Keep list of names and numbers in closet for emergencies.
- **Information for potential new members –**
 - Create small gift bags for potential new members. Informational flyer, plastic cups, snack, etc. Will check to see if there is there a Thrivent Grant.
- **Tekton Committee** has reconvened discussing manning the welcome center, welcoming visitors,
 - Songs verses bulletin
- **Picture Directory** – look at updating a picture directory.
 - Discuss the use of house photographers
 - Create own book to add and remove pictures as congregation changes.
 - Cost of books, local printing vs etc.
- **Sunrise Service -**
 - Sunrise service program – will youth be involved?
 - Breakfast – will this be offered, if so will it be eat in/take out?
 - Sunrise Easter & Breakfast offer TBD

Ministry Team Report as of 3/08/2022

- Financial-General Fund-Balance on hand 2/01/2022 \$101,135.11
- Income-\$28,443.84 Expenses-\$35,280.01
- Balance on hand- 3/8/2022--(\$6,836.17)
- Sinking Fund - \$139,110.21
- Seminary Fund - \$30,830.03
- Thrivent Mutual Funds - \$2,819.15
- Open Savings - \$26,426.83
- Memorial Balance - \$10,729.39

Motion was made to approve the Financial and Ministry Team reports.

Next council meeting will be Tuesday, April 5, 2022

Devotions – 7:00

Committees – 7:05

Council – 7:30

We closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, *Brenda Gronewold*, Secretary

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Worship Committee: Alnora Daubendiek, Shirley Gronewold, Pam Trauernicht

New Business: Picked out Hymns through May 1st

Parish Ed: Allison Lane, Jess I, Heather H, Linsey G, Kate M, Jay B.

Old Business: Ordered Curriculum

Bible School Theme (Monumental) Celebrating God's Greatness

VBS Date May 31-June 3, 8:30-11:30, June 5 VBS program and picnic @ Park

New Business: New Teachers Needed 2022-2023

Also need Substitute teachers + a list with contact info.

Palm Sunday-April 10

Balance on Hand: \$726.54

Park Board: Kenny N, Don S, Doug D, Jerod I, Paul J, Neal M, Kenny R.

Old Business: Fun Zone

Elected Officers; President-Kenny N, Vice President- Doug D, Treasurer- Paul J Secretary- Kenny R.

New Business: Batting Cage. Well to help fund then we would have “ownership” of old.

New Members; Luke Ideus, Jason Wallman, Chad Fikar

Property & Management: Alan Folkerts, Paul Remmers-Council Rep, Doug Parde.

New Business: Well- looking for someone to water. Elevator continuing to look for where its binding, checking motor it checked out good.

Memorial Committee: Cindy Parde, Carrye Meints

Treasurer's Reported a balance of \$10,729.39

Endowment Committee: Did not meet.

Hospitality Task Force: Did not meet.

Publicity: Did not meet.

Willie and Anna Meints Youth Endowment Fund.

Committee members: Steve Oltman, Deann Oltman, Doreen Wallman, Council Rep. Brenda Gronewold.

New Business: Advisory account balance: January \$356,875.01 February \$336,348.97

March 22 \$333,488.00

February 2022, 20 College Student Application checks wrote for \$941.00 each, for a total of \$18,820.00.

WELCA Meeting

Sunday, immediately after church service

March 6, 2022

Chairperson Judy Carstens welcomed the group.

Opening Prayer was given by Elnora Lenners.

The business meeting was then called to order by Judy Carstens. The minutes from the September 29, 2021 General Meeting were passed out and reviewed.

Susan Newman passed out the Treasurers Report and reported a balance of \$1,321.50 in the WELCA General Fund and \$2,966.53 in the Kitchen Fund for a combined total of \$4,288.03. Both Secretary report and Treasurers Report were approved.

Mission Reports:

Action: Karen Gilbreath said there were extra WELCA yearly books available if anyone was still needing one. Denise Schlake-Ideus said Blanket Sewing would be Monday March 14th and Tuesday March 15th from 9:00-3:00. Denise would be checking into a Thrivent Grant for some sewing supplies. She also mentioned that Mildred Fossler had 14 blanket tops done.

Committee Reports:

Kitchen: Discussion was held on considering using recycle products for serving. Elnora will check on different options and the costs that might be available. Some items that may need to be replaced are dish towels, pot holders, knives, and an additional creamer/sugar holder. Denise Schlake-Ideus made a motion to that if Elnora needs to buy any items for the kitchen, that she should go ahead and do so. Lynette Jurgens seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Old and New Business:

Budget: Susan Newman passed out the proposed 2022 budget. Denise Schlake-Ideus made a motion to approve the 2022 Budget and Elnora Lenners seconded. Motion was approved.

Funeral Serving: Elnora Lenners had checked into several options regarding salads for Funeral Serving. It was agreed by all to try for awhile serving Cole Slaw, which we would serve from the bowls like we do the potato chips. We would no longer have pickles.

Banner and Baptismal Blankets: Denise Schlake-Ideus asked if there was anyone who would be interested in making the banners to please let her know. Karen Gilbreath said Caroline Ideus has agreed to make the Baptismal Blankets on her machine.

The SE Conference Spring Gathering at Zion was cancelled due to remaining concerns of Covid and illnesses. Zion has been put on the calendar to hold the Spring Gathering for 2023. The Conference wanted to still hold a gathering which will be May 24, 2022 at Lutheran Center in Lincoln. They are looking for any volunteers to help such as greeters, registration table, etc.

Spring Fling Luncheon and Style Show invitation at American Lutheran Filley will be April 9, 2022 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. If interested in attending you can let Judy Carstens know. They would like a response by March 25th. Carol Frerichs, Filley had asked if Zion would provide a volunteer to help with a skit they are planning and Linda Hooper has agreed to help.

Date is yet to be decided when the May General Meeting will be held. Amber Lovitt CASA of Gage County (help for neglected and abused children by Support and Action and educating the public on it) has agreed to be the speaker. We will work with Ambers schedule and a date and time will be announced as soon as we have it.

Nebraska Synod Women's Organization Events: Retreat will be "Saved to Serve Opportunity with Magdalene Omaha – Delivering Hope to Victims of Human Trafficking will be Friday, April 29 6 pm – Sunday May 1, 1 pm." Registration date is April 8th.

Offering of \$128.00 was taken.

Lynette Jurgens made a motion for adjourn the meeting and Karen Gilbreath seconded it. Meeting was adjourned.

Meeting ended with the Lords Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Hooper
Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Country Club 4-H Members will be picking up trash and creating an Earth Day craft on April 24 at 3:00 p.m. We would like to extend an invitation to any Clover Kids (ages 5-7) or anyone interested in joining 4-H (ages 8-18) to attend. We ask that adults attend with their Clover Kid. Please RSVP to Marcia Busboom (402-223-8309), Rhonda Dorn (402-520-1320) or Connie Thornburg (402-673-3605) by April 17.

Zion currently has a couple Thrivent Action Grants we are applying for!

Who are they for? Beatrice Community Food Pantry and a family in need in Gage County due to overwhelming medical bills.

How can you help? The pantry has a **great need** specifically for boxed cereal, oatmeal, egg noodles, spaghetti noodles, cream of chicken soup, condiments, shampoo and jelly. Our family in need requests Goodnite Pull-ups in size Large or XL or Gas Gift Cards for medical travel needs.

Why? Reflect on God's Words in Galatians 6:2

"Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Thank you so much to the Zion Bake and Take Ministry. - Elaine Waltke

We want to express our explicit gratitude for the beautiful arrangement, the contributions to his memorial and the words of support in the cards we received. We are blown away by the immense support these past few weeks. Thank you for your part in this hard time for our family! - Jannelle, Matt, Annastazia & Will.

It is with much gratitude that we Thank You for the many expressions of sympathy, whether it was the cards, messages, thoughts, and prayers, phone calls, food, floral arrangements or memorial donations. Your support of our family through out Mom's illness and after passing humbles us. We are so Blessed. Mom's pain is gone. She waited her whole life to hear him say "Well done my good and faithful one- Welcome to the place where you belong." She has run the race, and now she is home. Thank You, The Family of Shirley Gronewold; Lawrence, Patty, Larry, Jeremy, Brittany, and Macy.

God Saw You Getting Tired

God saw you getting tired
And a cure was not to be
So he put His arms around you
And whispered "Come to me."
With tearful eyes we watched you
As you slowly slipped away
And though we loved you dearly
We couldn't make you stay.
Your golden heart stopped beating
Your tired hands put to rest
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.



Welcoming ALL 4,5 or 6 year olds to be a part of Zion's newly formed Coed T-ball team. Sunday, 5 pm. game dates include May 22, June 5, 12, 19 & 26. Contact Connie Thornburg if interested.

Council would like to compile a list of phone numbers of people in our congregation that have some kind of medical training (Doctors, Nurses, EMT's) who we can contact incase of an emergency. Text Cindy Parde (402)-988-8032. Or contact any council member.

LWR Blanket (quilt) Assembly: The blankets made for Lutheran World Relief go all over the world, including recently 7400 to Ukraine. No sewing ability or experience is necessary. If you use a stick pin and tie knots you can help make a blanket and enjoy a day or part of a day of fellowship you are welcome. We will meet in the Parish Hall basement on April 11,12, 25 & 26 from 9 to 3. Come for a few hours or the day (bring a lunch). You can also volunteer to make a top or tie a blanket outside of these days. You can also arrange a group to assemble blanket(s) at another time. If you have questions please contact Karen Gilbreath (402) 661-9362 or Denise Schlake-Ideus (402) 806-2236.

CELEBRATE THE RISEN CHRIST in fellowship with breakfast immediately following the 7:00 am Sunrise service. We are asking for breakfast casseroles, sweet rolls, fruit, juice and milk donations from congregation members. Also needed are volunteers for kitchen help before, during and clean up following. You can find the food donation and volunteer sign up clipboards in the unity room. A freewill offering will be received at the door to benefit the family of Terry Ideus. Along with our monetary support, we also ask that you lift up with prayers of comfort and peace for Janelle, Will, Matt and Anastasia at this time of sorrow. May the promise of the resurrection be a blessing of joy to them and all believers this Easter!

Memorial service for Rev. Elwin Bergstaesser will be 2 pm Saturday, April 23, 2022 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Linnsborg KS. Pastor Elwin served Zion from 1964-1968. Rev. Evelyn Philips (Elwin's 2nd wife) said that the obituary can be read on the Crick-Christians Funeral Home's site www.Christians@ChristiansFuneralHome.com The family asked that memorials go to Oaks Indian Center and can be sent to Crick-Christians Funeral Home, 103 N. Washington Street, Linnsborg KS 67456

Beginnning April 3rd We will begin having communion at the rail in the front of church.
Confirmation Class of 72 is having a 50 year reunion May 1st.

WORSHIP LEADERS SCHEDULE

April 3, 2022

Acolytes –Kalleigh Bender, Addison Kastanek
Reader – Judy Carstens
Breakfast Club Food –Need someone
Special Music – Men's Choir

April 10, 2022

Acolytes – Garret Ideus, Nicole Davison
Reader – Dorothy Trauernicht
Breakfast Club Food – Kelly Lenner
Special Music – Kids of the Kingdom

April 17, 2022

Acolytes –Max Behrens, Cooper Lovitt
Reader – Carrie Reed
Breakfast Club Food – Sandi Davison
Special Music-

April 24, 2022

Acolytes – Cale Behrens, Hudson Fikar
Reader – Mary Lenner
Breakfast Club Food- Marcella Rademaehar
Special Music- Amigos

April Altar Guild: Denise Ideus, Cheryl Folkerts, Danelle Evers, Judy Carstens, Carrye Meints

April Table Troop Volunteers: Duane Zulauf, Mark Buhr, Alex Buhr, Jeff Bussboom, Doug Parde, Steve Gronewold, Stan Lenners, Mary Lenners, Al Wiese

April 4th Snow Brigade – Paul Remmers * Council, Craig Ideus **Captain. Dean Zimmerman-Tractor, Russ Wallman – Tractor, Terry Gronewold, Dave Holland, Greg Dorn, Alex Buhr, Mike Busboom, Dan Jurgens

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Jason Folkerts Jackson Grenemeier	10 Arnold Buhr Cole Schuster	22 Angela Blecha Grayson Borgman
2 Matthew Fossler Kace Schoen Booker Theye	11 Lawrence Gronewold	23 Lindsey Harms
3 Ella Archer Morgan Frerichs	12 Dennis Fossler Macy Oltman Lindsey Remmers	24 Garrett Ideus
4 August Garton	13 Devin Dorn Jadyn Huenink	25 Brittany Bohlmeier Beau Gronewold Jami Meints
5 Maximus Cornelius Larry Gronewold Emma Lane Kent Mahler Kevin Trauernicht	14 Monty Barnard Maverick Podany	26 Caroline Gronewold Duane Jurgens Doreen Remmers Ryan Wiese
6 Kim Folkerts Angie Grone Steve Gronewold Connor Mason	16 Rhonda Dorn Alan Folkerts McKenzleigh Ideus	27 Emma Meints
7 Presleigh Borgman	17 Jessica Ideus Carley Leners Janet Schuster	28 Emmalynn Blecha Gary Carstens Sandi Davison
8 Ron Scholl	18 Lauralee Sullivan Joni Folkerts Karissa Parks	29 Brian Daubendiek Josh Jensen
9 Emerson Ideus Anna Siebert Courtney Seward Brittany Thomas Ernest Zimmerman	20 Jonah Reed	30 Adam Frerichs Linda Ideus Savannah Mahler Mya Mierau Doug Parde Wayne Wallman
	21 Brian Evers Susan Newman	