

Tidings from



February 2020

Volume 61, Number 3

Lent at Zion 2020

The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5-7

from our Lenten preacher, Gary Gilthvedt



An observant Bible teacher noticed five places in the Gospel of Matthew where the text concludes a block of Jesus' teaching with these or similar words: *When Jesus had finished saying these things...*¹

This consistent conclusion to an extended passage of Scripture is Matthew's way of signaling the end of what Jesus had been saying or doing and Jesus' readiness to move on with what is next on his missionary horizon.²

We may think of these sections of Scripture as sermons or teachings or disciplines. Many writers refer to them as *discourses*, perhaps in order to include all such descriptions of the spiritual truth that Jesus imparted to his disciples *then* as well as to his church *now*, for the life and walk of faith.

There are five such discourses in Matthew's gospel. They are *preceded* by the birth, infancy, and baptism of Jesus, his testing in the wilderness, calling of first disciples, and beginning of ministry, all in the first four chapters. The discourses are *followed* by the last supper, arrest, trial, crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Jesus at the gospel's end, in chapters 26–28.

Between the gospel's beginning and ending are the five discourses that include the following sustained texts in chapters 5–25.

Discourse #1: 5:1–7:29	<i>Sermon on the Mount</i>
Discourse #2: 9:36–11:1	<i>Instructing the Twelve</i>
Discourse #3: 13:1–53	<i>Teaching in Parables</i>
Discourse #4: 17:22–19:1	<i>Instructing the Disciples</i>
Discourse #5: 23:1–26:2	<i>Conflict and Tribulation</i>

This brings us to Lent at Zion, which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26. The next five Wednesdays after Ash Wednesday are occasions for us to turn our attention to Matthew's Gospel, and especially the first discourse in Matthew 5–7. These three chapters, commonly called *The Sermon on the Mount*, contain the first and longest body of Jesus' teaching that Matthew has bequeathed to the church.

¹ We meet this phrase at Matthew 7:28; 11:1; 13:53; 19:1; 26:1.

² Benjamin Wisner Bacon, *Studies in Matthew* (New York: Holt, 1930), and *The Sermon on the Mount* (New York: Macmillan, 1902).

(Continued on page 7)

Lent begins February 26 with Ash Wednesday

Pastor Mary Gilthvedt

Midweek Lenten worship begins February 26 at 6:15 pm with Ash Wednesday and continues each Wednesday evening through Lent. Since Ash Wednesday is considered a day of fasting, we will not begin Lenten meals until March 4.

Loose offerings for Wednesdays in Lent will go to the Warroad Food Pantry in conjunction with the March Campaign for the MN FoodShare. Δ

Council News

Barb Knutson, Council Secretary

Got blood? Zion will be hosting a blood drive with Vitalant, formerly called United Blood Services on Tuesday, February 11, from 1:15 pm to 6:00 pm at the church. Vitalant is the area's sole provider of blood and

(Continued on page 2)



In this month's issue...

<i>Financial Update</i>	p. 2
<i>Education programs</i>	p. 3
<i>Synod Update</i>	p. 6
<i>Creative Works</i>	p. 4
<i>Calendar</i>	p. 8
<i>Stewardship</i>	p. 11

(Continued from page 1)

blood products to patients including preemies, surgery patients, accident victims, and those battling cancer in almost 70 area hospitals! To meet the daily needs they have to see 250 volunteer blood donors every day!



The council is looking for volunteers to help with this year's drive. We need people to register donors, provide homemade or store bought bars and cookies or juice, make phone calls, and help in the

kitchen. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jeff at 242-1140 or see the sign-up sheet. What a great way to make a difference in someone's life.

The council retreat for January 18 was cancelled due to inclement weather. The council is looking forward to rescheduling this event as it is a productive event for the council. Δ

Council Meeting

The next council meeting will be Thursday, February 20, at 6:00 pm. Δ

Office Hours & Contact Info

Rev. Mary Gilthvedt, Pastor
386-1733, ext 2
218-689-2641, cell
mgilthvedt@gmail.com

Church Office
Vicki Dalager, Office Manager
Deb Quesnell, Admin. Asst.
386-1733, ext 1
zlcw@mncable.net
Core hours are
Monday-Thursday
10:00 am to 4:30 pm
with additional appointments
by prior arrangement.

Worship Services

Wednesdays at 6:15 pm
Sundays at 9:00 am

Zion Church Council

Jeff Galle 242-1140
President
Liz Hardwick 230-4423
Vice-Pres, Worship & Music
Barb Knutson 242-4280
Secretary, Memorials
Marty Howes 242-0886
Mission Endowment Fund
Heidi Lien 242-5015
Stewardship
Dan Lykken 791-9838
Property, Capital Campaign
Jenée Provance 242-2137
Christian Education
Jana Thompson 689-5200
Congregational Care
Laurence Wright 242-0806
Personnel

Tidings from Zion is a communication tool circulated monthly among the members and friends of Zion Lutheran Church, Warroad, Minnesota. The copy deadline for the next publication is February 19, 2020.

Editor Vicki Dalager
Contributing Editor Pr. Mary Gilthvedt

Zion Lutheran Church Financial Update

Fiscal year is October 1 through September 30.

General Operating Account as of December 31, 2019

Income	Dec	YTD
General Envelopes	\$21,552	\$43,681
Electronic	\$9,714	\$28,018
Loose Offerings	\$487	\$1,229
Misc.		\$0
Total	\$31,752	\$72,927
Expense	Annual Budget	YTD
Support Staff	\$191,987	\$45,699
Benevolence	\$18,300	\$300
Cong. Care	\$0	\$0
Admin	\$19,179	\$3,480
Worship & Music	\$1,720	\$255
Christian Ed	\$2,842	\$131
Outreach Services	\$5,922	\$891
Property	\$23,519	\$7,941
Total	\$263,469	\$58,696

Loan Repayment Account as of December 31, 2019

Dedicated Funds	Dec	YTD
Deposits*	\$781	\$2,196

Note: On January 15, 2020, we made our annual principal payment of \$55,000 plus an additional \$15,000, totaling \$70,000. Our loan principal balance after this payment is down to \$196,500.

Building Fund as of December 31, 2019

Dedicated Funds	Dec	YTD
Gifts Received	\$12,145	\$18,240
Loan	\$0	\$0
Building Fund Account Balance		
Security State		\$45,736
ELCA MisInvFnd		\$2,460
Total		\$48,196
Payments	Dec	YTD
Other		\$147
Loan Interest		\$1,666
Loan Principal		\$0
Total	\$0	\$1,813
Building Loan		
Principal Outstanding		\$266,500
Repayment Acct balance		\$54,060
Net Loan Balance		\$212,440

* Monies received from Warroad Community Church are dedicated to the repayment of our building loan.

Christian Education News

Send some love from Zion
to our college students!

Sheri Hard

Thank you to parents and grandparents who submitted Zion college students' names and addresses so our congregation can send them some love in the form of care packages.



Boxes have been placed in the church Gathering Space with a student's name on each box. The congregation is invited to fill the boxes with "care package" items... snacks, school supplies, notes, gift cards, etc. Ideas for each student are located on their respective box. Please do not include anything liquid, including applesauce or fruit cups (they could freeze and make a mess). The boxes will be prepped and mailed the week of February 9. Contact Sheri Hard at 701-541-0673 or email zlcw@mncable.net with questions. Δ

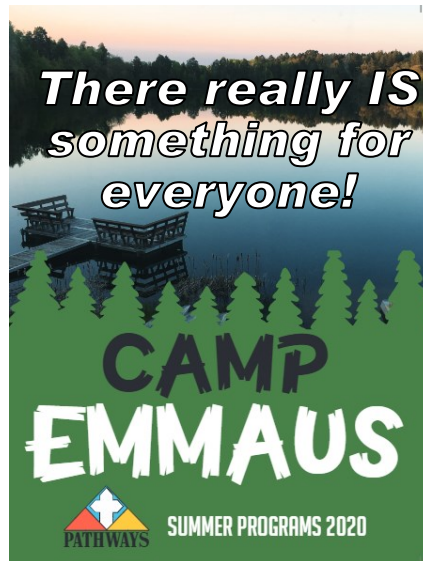
Sunday School

10:05-10:45 am
for Ages 3 to Grade 5

Please join us!

Sunday School will be in session
February 2, 9, and 23

No Sunday School on
February 16 due to
the President's Day holiday.



Pathways camp experiences are custom-designed for kids in kindergarten through grade 12! Save \$20 by registering before March 14. Brochures are available at the church or online at pathwaysbiblecamps.org. Inquire about camperships at the office. Δ

Start a collection:

"Our Family" UPC barcodes!

Zion's Christian Education program receives \$.05 for each "Our Family" UPC barcode you



collect for us. Please place your barcodes in the collection box

on the Christian Ed bulletin board by the church offices. Δ

Noisy offerings
will be collected
Sunday, February 16.

All donations will go to the
Warroad Food Pantry.

Spring is
coming!

...will we
be ready?



Spring is coming and we are starting to look for either new or gently used wooden playground equipment for the young ones to enjoy.

If you would like to support this project financially, you may place your donations (designated as "Playground Equipment") in the offering plate or mail them to the church at PO Box 61, Warroad. If you or someone you know may be selling equipment or if you have questions, please contact Keith Landin at 242-4284. This is a coordinated project between the Property and Christian Education committees.

Confirmation this Month

Grades 6 and 7 Pre-Confirmation Class

Shawn Brunelle

Students may attend class at 2:30 or 5:30 pm on Wednesdays:
February 5, 12, and 19

There will be no class February 26. Students are required to attend the Ash Wednesday service and complete a sermon note. Δ

Grade 8 Confirmation

Shawn Brunelle

Please choose one day per week that works best for you. One class-time each week is required per student.

Wednesdays at 5:15:
February 5, 12, and 19
Sunday mornings at 10:15:
February 2, 9, and 23

We will not have class on Ash Wednesday, February 26, but all Confirmation students are required to complete a sermon note for the Ash Wednesday service.

We will not have class on Sunday, February 16, President's Day weekend. Δ

9th Grade Confirmation

Pastor Mary Gilthvedt

9th grade Confirmation students will not meet for class in February. Instead, they may meet with their mentor at the regular 7:00 pm time or at a time convenient for both the student and mentor.

Please give "Route 8" from the mentoring booklet to Pastor Mary before Ash Wednesday, February 26. Δ

All Confirmation Students are required to attend the Ash Wednesday service at 6:15 pm on February 26 and complete a sermon note.

All confirmation students are expected to attend mid-week Lenten services and fill out worship notes for each service. The Lenten services will be at 6:15 pm as follows:

Wednesdays:
February 26,
March 4, 11, 18, 25
April 1
Maundy Thursday, April 9
Good Friday, April 10. Δ



Pathways Lutheran Outdoors Ministries' annual meeting is happening in March

This summer's Pathways theme is: "Pass It On: From Generation To Generation". Pathways hopes to reconnect past campers to instill a new generation of campers with positive memories and growth in their faith at camp. Bringing generations of families together in the name of the Lord is the goal for Pathways this summer.

The Pathways' Annual Meeting is on Sunday, March 22, at Camp Emmaus in Menahga. Check-in and fellowship time is from 2:00 to 3:00 pm with the annual meeting to follow. Please contact Dave Dalager at 242-2191 if you are interested in attending the meeting. Δ



Thank you to all who donated and/or attended the Christian Education Egg Bake fundraising breakfast. Funds will be used to support various Christian Education ministries. Δ



Let's set aside time for some fun!

The next Creative Works is February 9

The next Creative Works is on Sunday, February 9! Feel free to bring your hobby projects (sewing, quilting, crafting, art, knitting, crocheting, traditional or online scrapbooking, or whatever!) anytime after 10:00 am.

You are invited to bring a snack to share. Anyone who wants can help make fleece tie blankets for our graduating seniors.

Optional classes and activities:

A beginning crochet class will start at 11:30 am. Yarn will be provided. If you have one, please bring a size H crochet hook. The cost of the class is \$5. Pre-registration is appreciated, but not essential.

But, wait! There's more! You can come to make assorted homemade Valentine goodies starting at 11:00. The cost is \$5, and no pre-registration is necessary.

If you pre-registered for the wall hanging class, we'll start at 11:00 am. Δ

An annual update from Pathways Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

Submitted

"Providing unique experiences where God encounters people and renews them to live lives of love"



What an amazing year 2019 was for Pathways and for our mission of offering unique environments where God encounters people and renews them to live lives of love. The amount of faith establishment and faith development that happens within our programs is so amazing. We are connecting young people to their faith and to a Christian community while teaching them life skills. Our summer staff was smaller than usual but they all did a fantastic job of carrying out our mission and providing quality, Christian camping programs.

In our 50th year of camping ministry we saw many positives. Our summer theme was "Growing Together" based on our theme Bible verse from Romans 12:2. *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.* Within this summer theme we impacted the lives of over 588 campers on-site at Camp Emmaus. That is an increase of 38 on-site campers compared to last year. Through daily devotions, camp games, challenge course activities, and campfire worship services, the faith of campers and counselors was solidified and expanded through God's grace.

Pathways also increased our number of Day Campers. We reached over 633 youth at 19 Day Camps across northwest Minnesota and made so many meaningful connections. Our Day Camp/VBS ministry give us an opportunity to spread God's word to those who may not have an opportunity to experience it at camp. Our House Boat trips to Rainy Lake were another example of our mission in action. The beauty of Rainy Lake and the experience of staying on a boat in fellowship with others has a powerful impact on one's faith and personal growth. We also welcomed several retreat groups out to Camp Emmaus and Camp Minne-Wa-Kan for spiritual renewal, growth and fun.



Our 50th Anniversary celebration was a success on Saturday, July 13, 2019. We welcomed approximately 200 people to Camp Emmaus. Formers campers and staff were able to reminisce about their experiences at Camp and how it changed their lives for the better. Current staff and other friends were able to join for an outdoor worship service on the shore of beautiful Lake Morgan. The weather was great and people left feeling renewed and excited about what Pathways has to offer and where we are headed in the future.

The positive signs continue regarding the financial health of Pathways. We are so blessed to

have individuals, churches, and businesses who support what we are doing and the impact we are having on today's youth. We were able to purchase 2 mini-vans to transport our staff to area Day Camps and we raised over \$19,000 to help with facility improvements through support on Give to the Max Day on November 14. We continue to expand our support base and build for the future. Thank you to everyone who has supported Pathways with your thoughts, prayers, and financial gifts.



Looking ahead to 2020 we will focus on our summer theme "Pass It On: From Generation to Generation" and our theme Bible verse from Psalm 100:5 - *For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.* As Pathways continues to strengthen and connect with more and more people, we will ensure the future sustainability of this life changing ministry. Help us Pass On the Bible camp experience to the next generation. Thank you for your support.

With Joy and Gratitude,

Chris Andreasen

Chris Andreasen,
Executive Director
Pathways Lutheran Outdoor
Ministries Δ

A Year-end letter from Bishop Bill Tesch

Submitted



Bishop Bill Tesch

"Mary was thoroughly shaken, wondering what was behind a greeting like that." "I'm bursting with God-news; I'm dancing the song of my Savior God."
Luke 1:29 and 46 (The Message)

Dear Siblings in Christ of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod,

Greetings in the name of the One who both shakes us to the core and fills us with joy!

I write now in the fourth week of Advent, 2019. The gently falling snow outside my window belies the turmoil now swirling in our world and in our hearts. Deepening political divides both here and abroad, dire reports of a changing climate, mass shootings, the crisis facing our farmers all conspire to convince us that we are headed toward catastrophe. I submit that the world of Mary the mother of Jesus was no less disconcerting. Into such a world God spoke a new word, showed up in a new way and by so doing transformed Mary, then us, then one day: all of creation. I wonder if we could seek the heart of Mary, if we could boldly interrogate God like Mary interrogated the messenger of God, if we could embrace the promised future even if it seems (for now) as fragile as a suckling child. For this I pray, and I invite you to join me. I firmly believe it is a prayer that God and God's angels rush to answer!

As you gather in your annual meeting, I invite you to think of the other 222 congregations and 90,000 siblings in Christ across our

synod who are also gathering. Many of the decisions you make today will be an expression of your partnership in the Gospel with them, with us. The Gospel is the treasure we cherish and to which we bear witness, a treasure that we guard only by giving it away.

In the first 90 days of my time serving as your Bishop, I am pleased to report on the outstanding accomplishments of your amazing synod staff with whom I am privileged to work.

- We have established a vision: "Communities so emboldened by the grace of God through Jesus Christ that we are freed to be wholly devoted to loving Jesus and loving our neighbor.
- We have articulated three core values: "Faithfulness, Authenticity, and Love."
- We have put in place three operating principles: "Making a safe space for the ministry of the Gospel to unfold; Making a way into the future; Making places at the table for diverse or unheard voices."
- We have introduced an innovative new synod staffing model that is producing over 200 hours each month of face-to-face engagement with communities and leaders across our synod.
- We have responded to the emerging crisis in our farming communities and have developed plans for further response early this year.
- We have assisted 11 communities in conflict with professional guidance and support.
- We are accompanying 36 congregations and parishes in call processes, and have developed new tools to make our work more efficient and responsive.
- We have invited our eight Conference Deans to play a

larger role in the process when congregations have a change of pastors, and they have graciously and professionally stepped up to the challenge!

- We have reorganized our Candidacy Committee and clarified the candidacy process, thus clearing the way for what we believe will be many new candidates for ordained ministry.
- We have met with our Synodically Authorized Ministers (SAMs) and are developing a system to equip and support them in their work while also holding them and the congregations they serve accountable to our church's unique witness to the Gospel.
- We have identified and begun work with five clusters of congregations where God may be calling them to move into the future in a new way: reaching out together to their increasingly diverse communities, and/or restructuring for

SYNOD STAFF



Pr. Karla Mickelson
Associate to the Bishop for Synodical Administration



Pr. Keith Zeh
Director for Evangelical Mission



Pr. Jon Olson
Synod Minister for Vocations



Kathy Levenhagen, SAM
Synod Minister for Community & Leader Engagement (Conferences 1 & 2)



Cheryl Zeh
Office Manager
Financial Coordinator



Kristina Dernier
Director for Communications, Events, and Youth Ministries

Not pictured:
Pr. Karen Young Trenne,
Pr. Genelle Netland,
Pr. Brad Skogen

(Continued on page 7)

long-term sustainability.

- We have designed a process and pulled together a team for developing a strategic plan - a draft of which will be presented at this year's synod assembly.
- We have 12 congregations engaged in "Cultivating Generous Congregations," a collaborative effort with several other synods to train leaders of small membership congregations to build a culture of generosity in their church and community.

I want you to know how immensely grateful I am for your trust in extending this call to serve with you in this way. I'm a newcomer here, and you have shown me nothing but grace and patience while I have learned the names of people and places, ways of doing things, directions to here and there, etc. I must beg your continued patience, as I continue to learn and to grow to know you, the wonderful people of God of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod!

In Christ our Brother,



Pastor Bill Tesch
Bishop of the Northwestern
Minnesota Synod, ELCA Δ

LWR Supplies needed

Marlene
Lewis



Quilters are still taking supplies for quilts such as fabric, sheets, blankets, pillowcases, mattress pads, and bedspreads. You can leave the items at the

I encourage you to read Matthew's Gospel this Lenten season. Matthew is also the main source for Gospel readings in Sunday morning worship times this year. It is known as *Year A* in the three-year cycle of readings. The same disciplined arrangement is shared by all churches of any denomination that use the Revised Common Lectionary for the selection of Bible readings in worship. Matthew's Gospel is a beautiful and dramatic story of Jesus' mission, useful for a church's teaching of the Christian message.

In fact, that is thought by many students of the Scriptures to be exactly what Matthew did, as an apostle and pastor, with respect to those who were his responsibility. He wrote his gospel as a study manual for his parishioners to learn and know the facts about Jesus, the meaning of faith for their own lives, the ethical standards their Lord instilled and expected in their personal discipline and life choices, and the hopeful certainty of the life to come.

Here are the texts and themes for our Wednesdays in Lent.

March 4	Matthew 5:1-20	<i>Blessed to be a Blessing</i>
March 11	Matthew 5:21-48	<i>When the Going Gets Tough</i>
March 18	Matthew 6: 1-24	<i>The Tough Get Going</i>
March 25	Matthew 6:25-34	<i>The Single-minded Church Member</i>
April 1	Matthew 7:1-29	<i>Live Love, and Live Again</i>

Take, read, reflect, and be bold in your Lenten disciplines!

Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God! (ELW 728)

Gary Gilthvedt Δ

church or drop them off at the Community Center.

You can still drop off towels, fingernail clippers, wide tooth combs, and toothbrushes for the personal care kits. Also, you can drop off school supplies for the school kits. If you have upholstery fabric and would like to donate that, it is used for the school bags. All these items can be dropped off in the receptacles in the Gathering Space marked LWR.

LWR sent Zion's personal care kits and school kits to Peru in July, quilts to Angola in August, and school kits to Nicaragua in September. Δ

Your relationship deserves Marriage Encounter!

Married husbands and wives can celebrate their special relationship and learn unique insights and tools to improve their communication for the long haul with Marriage Encounter! It's a whole Valentine's Day weekend away from chores, jobs, and kids to learn how to reap joyful long-term rewards for their relationship, their family, and their faith journey.

The next Marriage Encounter weekend is February 14-16 in Brooklyn Center. Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org! Pre-registration is required.

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Abbreviations</p> <p>(R) or () Building use requested/granted</p> <p>FH Fellowship Hall</p> <p>S Sanctuary</p> <p>MP Multipurpose Room #</p> <p>CY Classroom Yellow</p> <p>CB Classroom Blue</p> <p>K Kitchen</p> <p>YR Youth Room</p>						1
<p>2</p> <p>8:00 am- Choir rehearsal</p> <p>9:00 am- Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>10:00 am- Coffee & Cookie fellowship</p> <p>10:05 am- Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 am- 8th Grade Confirmation</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>12:00 pm- <i>Items for Bulletin due</i></p> <p>2:30 pm- Pre-Confirmation</p> <p>5:15 pm- 8th Grade Confirmation</p> <p>5:30 pm- Pre-Confirmation</p> <p>6:15 pm- Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>7:00 pm- 9th Grade Confirmands may meet with mentors</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 am- Rostered Leaders conference meeting, Roseau</p> <p>5:15 pm- Rebecca Circle meeting (5-7 YR)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 am- Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>No Choir rehearsal</p> <p>9:00 am- Worship with healing service</p> <p>10:00 am- Coffee & Cookie fellowship</p> <p>10:05 am- Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 am- 8th Grade Confirmation</p> <p>10:00 am to 4:00 pm- Creative Works TBD</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:15 pm- Christian Education Committee meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 pm- Congregational Care Committee meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:30 am- WSLC Communion</p> <p>12:00 pm- <i>Items for Bulletin due</i></p> <p>2:30 pm- Pre-Confirmation</p> <p>5:15 pm- 8th Grade Confirmation</p> <p>5:30 pm- Pre-Confirmation</p> <p>6:15 pm- Worship with healing service</p> <p>7:00 pm- 9th Grade Confirmands may meet with mentors</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Valentine's Day</p> <p>6:30 am- Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>8:00 am- Choir rehearsal</p> <p>9:00 am- Worship with Holy Communion and Noisy Offering</p> <p>10:00 am- Coffee & Cookie fellowship</p> <p>No Sunday School</p> <p>No 8th Grade Confirmation</p> <p>3:00 pm- Conference meeting in Baudette</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Presidents' Day</p> <p>Church offices closed</p> <p>6:00 pm- Stewardship Committee meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:30 pm- Property Committee meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>12:00 pm- <i>Items for Bulletin due</i></p> <p><i>Items for Tidings newsletter due</i></p> <p>2:30 pm- Pre-Confirmation</p> <p>5:15 pm- 8th Grade Confirmation</p> <p>5:30 pm- Pre-Confirmation</p> <p>6:15 pm- Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>7:00 pm- 9th Grade Confirmands may meet with mentors</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:00 pm- Council meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 am- Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>8:00 am- Choir rehearsal</p> <p>9:00 am- Worship</p> <p>10:00 am- Coffee & Cookie fellowship</p> <p>10:05 am- Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 am- 8th Grade Confirmation</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p> <p>10:30 am- WSLC Communion</p> <p>12:00 pm- <i>Items for Bulletin due</i></p> <p>No Pre-Confirmation or Confirmation classes</p> <p>6:15 pm- Ash Wednesday Worship</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:30 am- Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>29</p>

26 Pray that we will always be attentive to the presence and work of the Holy Spirit in the world and that we will be moved by the Holy Spirit to be bright, shining witnesses, bearing the hope and promises of God.

27 God is great and awesome, forgiving and a lover of justice. Give glory and praise to God!

28 Creation, humanity and nature are knitted together intricately by our Creator in ways that sustain all life and enable the earth to thrive. Pray that we will repent for what we have done to harm or unbalance creation, and that God will grant us wisdom and insight for restoring creation and treating it with care and respect.

29 Give thanks for ELCA missionaries and young people serving in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission programs in Egypt, Israel, Jerusalem/West Bank and Palestine. Pray that God will bless and further their work with our companions in the Middle East and North Africa, especially in finding nonviolent paths to peace and justice.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

PRAYER VENTURES

FEBRUARY 2020

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 *Black History Month* Give thanks for the gifts, accomplishments, influence and witness of our African descent neighbors and siblings in Christ — we stand together to glorify God as partners in the gospel, doing God's work in the world together. Though we are unified as siblings in Christ, we ask God to guide and help our church as it recommits to the work of racial justice, socioeconomic equity, racial reconciliation and ending racism.

2 Pray that God will soften our hearts and focus our love on our neighbors in poverty and food insecurity, communities grieving for victims of violence, people in regions of conflict and war, refugees and immigrants, and people who are persecuted or disparaged.

3 Ask God to deepen our understanding of the peace that God desires for the world. Pray that the Spirit will inspire us to be bold peacemakers grounded in God's vision of peace, the gospel and love for our neighbor.

4 Pray that when we are embarrassed or hesitant to speak of the crucified and risen Christ, our faith in God's love and the gospel message will encourage and embolden us to be confident yet humble witnesses in the world.

5 We are scattered around the world as siblings in Christ, seeking and affirming our unity in the mystery of the Trinity and the good news of Jesus Christ. Explore the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, which enables us to journey in prayer throughout the world every week of the year, affirming our solidarity with Christians everywhere.

6 Pray for ELCA outdoor ministry leaders who are seeking young adults to serve in summer programs across the country. Ask that the Spirit be at work in young adults and move them to respond to God's call to serve and share their faith, skills, gifts and enthusiasm with children, youth and adults.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact info@elca.org for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4101. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.

7 Pray that our hearts will be open to doing what God asks of us: to hold to what is good, to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God.

8 Give thanks for pastors and seminary students who respond to God's call to serve as federal chaplains, ministering to inmates and staff at federal prisons and to staff, patients and their family members at Veterans Affairs medical centers.

9 As children of God, we are the salt of the earth and light of the world, bearing witness to God's love and mercy. Pray that we will understand how our good works, words and faith – even when unseen or unappreciated in our lifetime – can have profound, far-reaching impact.

10 ELCA Young Adult Ministry offers inspiration, opportunities and resources to young people aged 18 to 30. Pray for churchwide staff and leaders across the church as they work with young adults to form faith, discover identity and gifts, discern vocation and develop servant leadership.

11 Pray for church leaders as they gather for the Ignite the Church Conference in Orlando, Fla., an annual event that fosters conversation among leaders and inspires the church to live out its tradition of renewal.

12 Give praise and thanks to God for being our light and strength throughout our baptismal journey of following God's ways; for being generous, merciful and compassionate; and for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

13 The light and warmth of God's love is welcome nourishment for our faith and spirit. Pray that God's love will move us to provide both spiritual and physical light, warmth and shelter for people who long for hope and relief during these dark, cold days of winter.

14 Amid our worries and turmoil, we ask for God's help in seeking freedom for the oppressed, sharing our food resources with the hungry, sheltering the homeless and attending to the cries of people in poverty.

15 Pray that we will take to heart Jesus' teachings that love is not weakness and that power does not equal force or superiority. Pray that we will follow Jesus' example by being humble, loving servants in the world and will trust in the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us and through us.

16 Trusting in God's grace and forgiveness, pray that we will be repentant and humble when we consider our daily actions, words and thoughts, as well as what we fail to do. Ask God to redirect our lives so we might follow God's ways and commandments, resist comparing ourselves to others and avoid citing cultural norms to rationalize contrary behavior.

17 Pray for our president, legislators and other public servants, that their decisions and actions will be guided by a spirit of compassion and justice, a commitment to peacemaking and building relationships globally, and a determination to work across ideologies and political divisions for the well-being of our communities and of people in need.

18 Give thanks for ELCA Global Mission programs, relationships, opportunities and partnerships with global companions that bring us together as the body of Christ for doing God's work in the world.

19 Give thanks for the happiness we experience when we walk in the ways and wisdom of God.

20 Stewardship is more than annual pledge cards, balanced budgets and financial responses to God's love – it's a way of life. Pray that we will recognize and give thanks for the breadth of resources and assets – time, talents, possessions and money – God has entrusted to our care as individuals, families and congregations, and that we will discover ways of using everything we have to live out God's call to love God and our neighbors.

21 We are "God's servants, working together" for the sake of the world, sharing the gospel and growing the church. Pray that we will be of one mind and spirit as God's humble servants, and that we will see accomplishments, growth and change as the result of God's presence and power working through us.

22 Continue to pray for immigrants and refugees, who often experience daunting challenges and loneliness as they pursue sanctuary and a welcoming place to rebuild their lives in this country. Give thanks for the work of congregations, synods, individuals and agencies in welcoming and accompanying immigrants and refugees as part of the ELCA's AMMPARO strategy (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities).

23 Pray that the Spirit will sustain our awe, gratitude and reverence for our savior, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and our true source of hope and life.

24 Remember in prayer the thousands of people left homeless after Hurricane Dorian struck the Bahamas this past September. Pray for the long-term relief and recovery of people impacted, and for the extensive rebuilding of their communities and infrastructures by Lutheran Disaster Response in partnership with the Florida-Bahamas Synod, its congregations, and other agencies.

25 Give thanks for the Deaconess Community of the ELCA and for women who have responded to God's call in a variety of roles and settings in the church and world, proclaiming the gospel through ministries of mercy and servant leadership.

February Volunteers

Ushers/Greeters

Sunday Morning Services

2/2 Trent & Sheri Hard family
2/9 Brian & Lori Schaible
2/16 Buck & Barb Bue
2/23 Maynard Nelson
Dan Lykken

Wednesday Evening Services

2/5 Kyler Lien / Carson Pilgrim
2/12 and 2/19 Mikayla Curtis
Carson Pilgrim
2/26 Leah Loeffler
Nissa Nestegard

Sunday Lectors

2/2 and 2/9 Dr. Deb Erickson
2/16 and 2/23 Dan DeMolee

Altar Care

2/2 and 2/16 Marilyn Bjorkman
Muriel Olson
2/5 and 2/19 Joleen Kezar

Communion Assistants

2/2 Rhonda Kruger / Jeff Galle
Phyllis Haggan / Dave Dalager
Jenee Provance
2/5 Joleen Kezar
2/16 Rhonda Kruger
Liz Hardwick / Phyllis Haggan
Two more volunteers needed
2/19 Joleen Kezar

Acolytes

2/2 Nissa Nestegard
2/5 Ben Norris
2/9 Volunteer needed
2/12 Landon Thompson
2/16 Allison Bratlie
2/19 Kyler Lien
2/23 Volunteer needed
2/26 Carson Pilgrim

Sound Board Attendants

Sunday Morning Services

2/2 Dan Curtis
2/9 Jim Provance
2/16 Jim Provance
2/23 Trent Hard

Wednesday Evening Services

2/5, 12, 19, 26 Brenda Haats

Radio Broadcast Sponsorship

January 5 - by Bill & Marlene Lewis in memory of Marlene's dad, Bennie Pederson.

January 12 - by the congregation's summer coffee donations. Happy New Year blessings!

January 19 - by Dave & Jan Kragness in celebration of their 56th wedding anniversary.

January 26 - by Pam & Gary Rachuy in memory of family members.

Please consider sponsoring a radio broadcast in 2020. The weekly broadcast is especially appreciated by those who cannot physically get to the church but still wish to worship with their church family. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, please sign up on the bulletin board by the church offices or call/email the church office. The cost is \$85. Δ

Scan with your smartphone to make donations, pay for radio broadcasts, and more!



Projector Attendants

Sunday Morning Services

2/2 Mikayla Curtis
2/9 Volunteer needed
2/16 Volunteer needed
2/23 Sam or Matthew Hard

Snow Shoveling

for the week beginning...

2/3 Dan DeMolee
Maynard Nelson
2/10 Dennis Abernathy
Melissa Tveit, Blake & Ben
2/17 Steve Hagen / Chuck Lindner
2/24 David Goulet
Brandon Barker

Worship Attendance

	Sun. AM	Mid-wk. PM	Week Total
1/1*		No worship	
1/5	71		71
1/8		17	
1/12	113		130
1/15		17	
1/19	59		76
1/22		25	
1/26	70		95
1/29		tba	

* No worship on New Year's Day

Tithes and Offerings

Offerings for week ending 12/29:

General Fund: \$9,322.58
Building Fund: \$135.00
Furniture Fund: \$6,000.00

Offerings for 1/5:

General Fund: \$4,507.00
Building Fund: \$405.00

Offerings for 1/12:

General Fund: \$3,576.00
Building Fund: \$80.00
Quilting Fund: \$200.00

Offerings for 1/19:

General Fund: \$5,811.00
Building Fund: \$1,000.00
VBS Fund: \$200.00
Noisy Offering: \$79.04
(Warroad School Social Concerns Fund)

Offerings for 1/26:

General Fund: \$2,994.00
Building Fund: \$1,405.00 Δ

Free Family Movie "Overcomer"

Wednesday, February 5
7:00 pm
Roso Theater

Sponsored by First United Lutheran
Church of Roseau.



P. O. Box 61
Warroad, MN 56763
ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

(218) 386-1733
zlcw@mncable.net
www.zlcw.org

Tidings from Zion February 2020

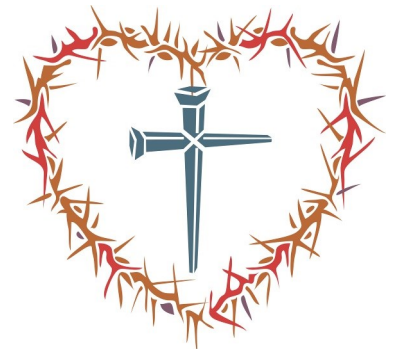
Please let us know if you would like
to receive the newsletter via email.

Nonprofit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Warroad, Minnesota
Permit No. 9



Join us for mid-week Lenten Services beginning February 26:

Lenten worship services will be held
Wednesdays at 6:15 pm.



Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 26.

Come to Zion for fellowship and spiritual growth each Wednesday evening during Lent! More details about the themes and lessons for each week's worship focus are on pages 1 and 7 in this newsletter.

Parents are encouraged to bring the entire family to the mid-week Lenten services to emphasize to our young people the importance of the season of Lent in our church and especially in our individual lives.

Loose offerings for Wednesdays in Lent will go to the Warroad Food Pantry.

*Although Lent starts before spring appears in many areas, it's an appropriate time for spring cleaning. Indeed, Lent comes from old German and English words for "spring." So, while it might be too soon to open windows or hang clothes on the line, **now** is ideal for some spiritual spring cleaning.*

Lent calls us to examine our beliefs, confess and dispose of old grudges and selfish habits, dust off our Bibles for a new routine of study and prayer, air out our hearts, and brighten up our attitudes. "Lent cleaning" lets the Holy Spirit freshen our faith — and it's never too early for that.

from Newsletter/Newsletter