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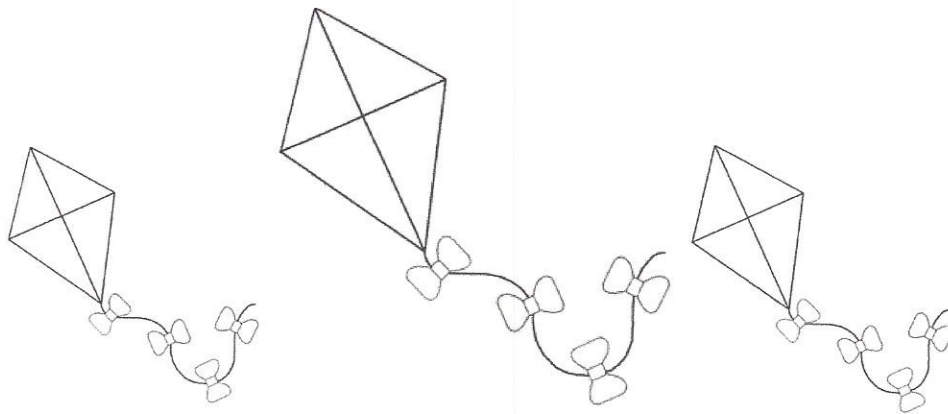
Zion Lutheran Church
221 N. Main Street
P.O. Box 548
Tioga, ND 58852

Pastor ~ Richard Carr
Cell ~ 701-641-1736
Church ~ 701-664-2187

Email: zionfreelutheran@gmail.com

Church Website: www.zionfreelutheran.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



MARCH 2019

How should Christians react to recent abortion rulings?

In many ways it is easy to become discouraged from the political rulings regarding abortion that have recently been passed, as well as those rulings that have not even been allowed to be voted on. Both New York and Illinois have taken major steps forward in making abortions easier to perform, as well as providing money to make citizens of their states (many of whom are against abortion) pay for whoever wants to have an abortion. Furthermore, when a bill was being proposed to force hospitals and abortion providers to provide life saving support for any live babies that come from a failed abortion it was not even allowed to go before the U.S. Senate for a vote. The bill was blocked from any debate, or any vote. By blocking the ability to even vote on the passage of this bill, some of our political leaders have basically agreed that infanticide is acceptable. It is truly heart breaking that political leaders within our country believe it is acceptable to allow babies born alive to starve, die of exposure, or die from some other easily treatable condition.

What is a Christian to do? Some might be tempted to throw their hands up in despair and walk away from the problem. After all what can any one person really do to make a difference? Others have taken the extreme other view that we are to rise up and violently oppose abortion by taking the lives of those who take baby's lives. Neither of these reactions are correct. To keep things in perspective abortions and infanticide are not new. In ancient Rome during the times of the early Christian church when families had children they didn't want, they would literally take them out to open pit garbage dumps and abandon them. There were actual laws not only allowing this, but in cases of children having deformities it was expected that those children would be killed or simply allowed to die from exposure. Many early Christians were no doubt disgusted over this practice. But what is so encouraging, as well as instructive for us today is the reaction that some of these Christians took. Recognizing the inherent worth of every human, since we are all created in God's image, they would rescue many of these children.

Individual Christians took it upon themselves to make a difference, one life at a time. They could have been easily discouraged at the immensity of the problem. They could have decided that there was really nothing they could do. But many families decided to adopt the unwanted child into their family. Perhaps we in the church need to take a look at following the example of the early church. Many of us have room in our homes, as well as in our hearts for an adopted child. Adopting children doesn't always mean adopting babies either. There is a huge number of children that are in the foster care program waiting to be a part of a forever family. Sadly, once a child leaves the early years and becomes a teenager, very few ever get adopted. Perhaps adopting isn't right for you. There are still ways to help one life at a time. One can volunteer at the Dakota Hope Clinic. Give your time, talents, and money to help those on the front line who work with unplanned pregnancies.

Maybe there is a single parent family you know of that is a hot mess. Maybe God is calling you to get involved with that family that needs a strong Christian influencer like you. Another way we can make a difference is when it comes time to vote in future elections we allow our Christian principles to influence our decision on who we vote for. I in no way believe any one party is perfect, or that as a Christian we only vote for certain candidates from certain parties. However, I do believe that because of our political system where every vote matters, we must be informed voters who seek to be the salt and light we are called to be in our culture by our personal actions, as well as the people that we vote for in elections. We need to stand up and be heard as well. God has allowed us to live in a country that is a representative based democracy. Our country's political figures are representatives of us. Become involved in the political process by writing, calling, or emailing our representatives.

Obviously as Christians we should also be praying for our nation to repent of the evils we have embraced, and ask God to send a revival in our land. Perhaps we will turn en masse from our sins like the ancient people of Nineveh did as Jonah preached about their coming destruction. May each one of us find a way to make a difference, and not focus on the immensity of the problem, but rather see the problem as one life at a time.

Pastor *[Signature]*



**march
Newsletter**

Lent Reading Plan – Preparing for Easter

from Bible Gateway

This Lent reading plan takes us through each of the four Gospels, reading the complete story of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection.

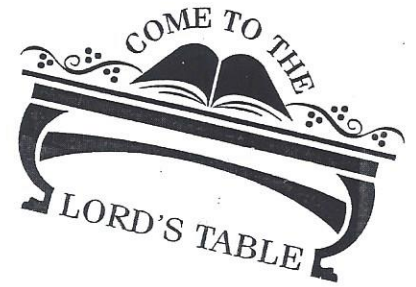
- ✓ ~Chapters~
- Day 1: Matthew 1-3
 - Day 2: Matthew 4-6
 - Day 3: Matthew 7-9
 - Day 4: Matthew 10-12
 - Day 5: Matthew 13-14
 - Day 6: Matthew 15-16
 - Day 7: Matthew 17-18
 - Day 8: Matthew 19-20
 - Day 9: Matthew 21-22
 - Day 10: Matthew 23-24
 - Day 11: Matthew 25-26
 - Day 12: Matthew 27-28
 - Day 13: Mark 1-3
 - Day 14: Mark 4-6
 - Day 15: Mark 7-9
 - Day 16: Mark 10-12
 - Day 17: Mark 13-14
 - Day 18: Mark 15-16
 - Day 19: Luke 1-3
 - Day 20: Luke 4-6
 - Day 21: Luke 7-9
 - Day 22: Luke 10-12
 - Day 23: Luke 13-14
 - Day 24: Luke 15-16
 - Day 25: Luke 17-18
 - Day 26: Luke 19-20
 - Day 27: Luke 21-22
 - Day 28: Luke 23-24
 - Day 29: John 1-2
 - Day 30: John 3-4
 - Day 31: John 5-6
 - Day 32: John 7-8
 - Day 33: John 9-10
 - Day 34: John 11-12
 - Day 35: John 13-14
 - Day 36: John 15-16
 - Day 37: John 17-18
 - Day 38: John 19-20
 - Day 39: John 21
 - Day 40: 1 Corinthians 15

march

March likes to tease and make us think
That spring's around the bend;
The winds are soft and gentle
Like a little lamb and then—
Before we know what's happening
The winds are harsh and cold;
We know that winter's still around—
We are not really fooled.

March is so unpredictable,
It can't make up its mind—
But we need a little patience
And one day we will find
That there are little catkins
On the pussy willow trees;
Spring is just around the corner
And the wind is just a breeze.

~ Edna C. Lovelace



COMFORT

When your heart is sad and lonely,
And your friends seem far away,
Turn to Him Who is all holy,
And He'll drive your cares away.

When a dear one seems to fail you,
When for friendship true you long,
Confide in Him Who is all true,
And He'll right your every wrong.

Jesus' heart is your true refuge,
To Him you can always flee,
Even when your hopes are sinking,
He will then a True Friend be.

He will soothe your lonely spirit,
He will love and bless and say,
"Come to Me and I will comfort
You, today and every day."

~ Author Unknown

The Power of the Bended Knee

Birds go to sleep on their perches, but they never fall off. This is because of the tendons in the bird's legs. They are so constructed that when the leg is bent at the knee, the claws contract and grip like a steel trap. The claws refuse to let go until the knees are unbent again. The bended knee gives the bird the ability to hold on to his perch so tightly.

Isn't this also the secret of the holding power of the Christian? Daniel found this to be true. Surrounded by a pagan environment, tempted to compromise with evil, urged to weaken his grip on God, he refused to let go. He held firm when others faltered because he was a man of prayer. He knew the power of the bended knee.

From sleeping birds we can learn the secret of holding things which are most precious to us — honesty, purity, thoughtfulness, honor and character. That secret is the knee bent in prayer, seeking to get a firmer grip on those values which make life worth living. When we hold firmly to God in prayer, we can rest assured he will hold tightly to us. ~Rollin S. Burhans

SEVEN RULES OF LIFE

1. Make peace with your past so it won't disturb your future.
2. What other people think of you is none of your business.
3. The only person in charge of your happiness is you.
4. Don't compare your life to others. Comparison is the thief of joy.
5. Time heals almost everything. Give it time.
6. STOP thinking so much. It's alright not to know all the answers.
7. SMILE. You don't own all the problems in the world.

LIFE IS TOO SHORT

Often we allow ourselves to be upset by small things we should despise and forget. Perhaps some man we helped has proved ungrateful, some woman we believe to be a friend has spoken ill of us, some regard we thought we deserved has been denied us. We feel such disappointments so strongly that we can no longer work or sleep. But isn't that absurd? Here we are on this earth, with only a few more decades to live, and we lose many irreplaceable hours brooding over grievances that in a year's time will be forgotten by us and by everybody else.

No, let us devote life to worthwhile actions and feelings, to great thoughts, real affections and enduring undertakings. For life is too short to be little.

BEYOND THE RISING SUN

Have you seen the purple twilight
dance upon the snow,
Or seen a thousand stars appear
till Heaven was aglow?
Have you seen the golden moonlight
caress the surging tide,
Or camped beside a campfire
with loved ones at your side?
Have you heard a songbird singing
on a foggy, quiet night,



Or seen a night owl winging
before the morning light?
Have you stood atop a mountain
to watch the day begin
When the majesty of God
erased the things of men?
How complicated life can be
beyond the rising sun,
But often the voice of God is heard
before the day's begun.
~ Clay Harrison



TILL MAY FLOWERS BLOOM AGAIN

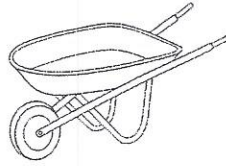
It was a quiet winter day,
The snow lay on the ground,
As I glanced slowly heavenward,
I saw a rainbow 'round
The sun which shone so brightly
On that midwinter day,
When earth in snowflake coverlet
Awaited flowers of May
Within the rainbow's arc I saw
A myriad of hues...
Red, yellow, green, a touch of white
And, too, a bit of blue.
Though flowers of May were far away,
These colors spoke of them;
God's rainbow garden I'll recall
Till May flowers bloom again.

~ Loise Pinkerton Fritz



What Kind Are You?

A lot of Christians are like wheelbarrows – not good unless pushed.



Some are like canoes – they need to be paddled.

Some are like kites – if you don't keep a string on them, they fly away.

Some are like kittens – they are more content when petted.

Some are like footballs – you can't tell which way they will bounce next.

Some are like balloons – full of air and ready to blow up.

Some are like trailers – they have to be pulled.

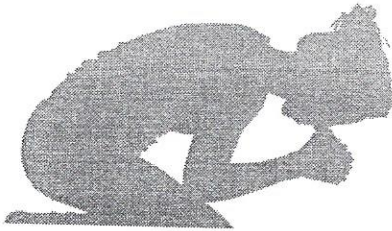
Some are like neon lights – they keep going on and off.

Others are letting the Holy Spirit lead them.

And some are like a good watch; open faced, pure gold, quietly busy and full of good works.

~ Author Unknown

As I was in worship yesterday, with my face on the floor and earplugs in my ears to keep the distractions away, I begged the Holy One to let me know He was near. As Heaven and earth came together, I bowed my heart before His throne of grace and I heard these gentle words whispering in my spiritual ears: "My child, you are in My treasure pouch."



~ Bev DeSalvo

Just ponder this with me for a moment. In God's treasure pouch? Oh, how I love that place of safety! It is our refuge where we find comfort...for in this place, He is our strength!

We are safe in His treasure pouch, even in the stormiest of times. "Even when you are chased by those who seek to kill you, your life is safe in the care of the LORD your God, secure in His treasure pouch!" I Samuel 25:29

The preacher came to call the other day. He said that at my age I should be thinking about the hereafter. I told him I do, all the time. No matter where I am, in the den, upstairs, in the kitchen or down in the basement, I ask myself, "Now, what am I here after?"



When my husband and I arrived at an automobile dealership to pick up our car, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door. As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered it was unlocked. "Hey," I announced to the technician, "It's open!" To which he replied, "I know – I already got that side."



DOGS

The reason a dog has so many friends, is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue.

Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful.

There is no psychiatrist in the world like a puppy licking your face. A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself.

We give dogs time we can spare, space we can spare and love we can spare. And in return, dogs give us their all. It's the best deal man has ever made.

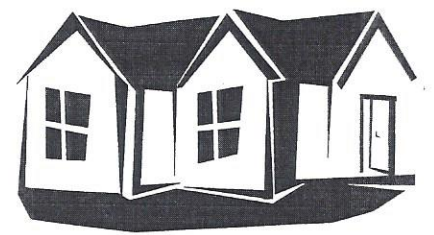


Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea.

You can say any foolish thing to a dog, and the dog will give you a look that says, "Wow, you're right! I never would've thought of that!"

We all should strive to be the great person that our dogs think we are.

~ Author Unknown



Shouting It From the Husetops

I'm So Glad

The love of God has caught me,

But first His Spirit sought me

In order to tell me

The blood of Christ has bought me
and I believed!

And next the Lord has brought me
Through a wilderness where He taught me
His treasures and His truths.

New life and peace He's wrought in me
So I say, "Believe and you will see!"

"What I tell you in the dark, utter
in the light; and what you
hear whispered,
proclaim upon the husetops.

Matthew 10:27

AN OLD IRISH BLESSING

May love and laughter light your days,
and warm your heart and home.

May good and faithful friends be yours,
wherever you may roam,

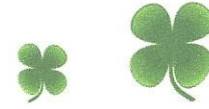
May peace and plenty bless your world
with joy that long endures.

May all life's passing seasons
bring the best to you and yours.








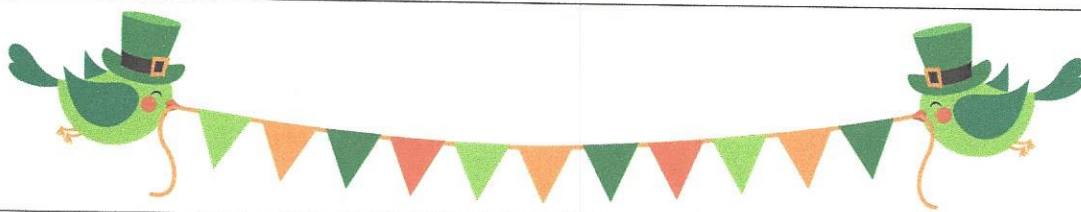


MARCH








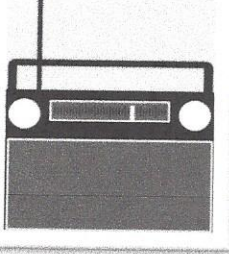
MARCH 2019 BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

	<p><i>~A cheerful friend is like a sunny day~</i></p>		 <p>Happy Birthday!</p>		1	2 "Youth looks ahead, old age looks back, and middle age looks tired."
<p>3 David Davidson Chance Roussin Helen Weber</p>	<p>4 Taylor Anderson</p>	<p>5 Kim Thull Naomi Smithberg</p>	<p>6 Paul & Kelli Mattern Scott & Stacey Sundhagen Pastor Rodger Olson</p>	<p>7 Madison Eraas</p>	<p>8 </p>	<p>9 Alexius Knudson Heidi Johnson Grayson Briggs Weisz</p>
<p>10 Joel Landsverk Sarah Buchholz</p>	<p>11 Glenda Lovdahl Nancy Sundhagen Richard Welsch</p>	<p>12 Jenice Davidson</p>	<p>13 Brent Raan Bree Pederson</p>	<p>14 Easton Rehak Gerda Nylander Ronelle Gravgaard Steven Larson</p>	<p>15 Joanne Enger Justin Postovit Orabelle Pederson</p>	<p>16 Michael Osthus</p>
<p>17 Michaela Moberg</p> 	<p>18 Joanne Nelson</p>	<p>19 Ethan Fuson Scott Sundhagen</p>	<p>20 Marge Postovit Sally Iverson Steven Dinolfo</p>	<p>21 Harley Knudson Neal Nelson Marion Raad Monica Sundhagen</p>	<p>22 </p>	<p>23 Chuck Steward Esther Nelson</p>
<p>24 Don Knudson</p> <hr/> <p>31 Thor Rieniets</p>	<p>25 Brianne Welsch</p>	<p>26 Harold Sundhagen</p>	<p>27 Shay Rieniets</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Scott Fifer Randall Pederson</p>	<p>30 Jim & Karen Smithberg Tom & Donna Haustveit</p>



MARCH 2019 ZION ACTIVITIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"There is no key to happiness. The door is always open, come on in!"</p>					1	2
<p>3 Mission Sunday Offering</p> <p>9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service Noon – New Members Class 7 pm The Truth Project</p>	<p>4</p> <p>1 pm Quilters</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 ~Ash Wednesday~</p> <p>5:30 pm Food & Fellowship Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6 pm Christian Ed. Meeting 6 pm Choir 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9 am "Stud/Work" Day at the new church bldg. Lunch provided!</p> 
<p>10 Daylight Savings Time Begins!</p> <p><i>"Mission Festival Sunday"</i></p> <p>9 am Sunday School Time with Andrew Olson & Family Sharing about their ministry in Tanzania, Africa 10:30 am Worship Service Speaker: Andrew Olson Noon – Mission Festival Dinner</p>	<p>11</p> <p>1 pm Quilters</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7 pm Deacon/Deaconess Meeting 7:30 pm Trustee Meeting 8 pm Church Council Mtg.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30 pm Food & Fellowship Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6 pm Choir 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Zion WMF Circles Meet: Circle 1 – 9:30 am Circle 2 – 2 pm Circle 3 – 7:30 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AFLBS</p>	<p>15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CAMPUS</p>	<p>16</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">DAYS</p>
<p>17 Building Project Sunday</p> <p>9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service Noon – New Member's Class</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>1 pm Quilters</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 <i>"Spring Begins!"</i></p> <p>2 pm Ladies WMF</p> <p>5:30 pm Food & Fellowship Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6 pm Choir 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>21</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Happy Spring</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service Noon – New Member's Class</p>	<p>25</p> <p>1 pm Quilters</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30 pm Food & Fellowship Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6 pm Choir 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16</p>
<p>31</p> <p>9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service Noon – New Member's Class</p>						



RADIO MINISTRY

Anyone who would like to sponsor a Sunday broadcast or contribute to the radio fund in memory of a loved one, please contact the church office, thank you! The radio broadcast is \$100 per Sunday. Our radio broadcast can be heard on Sundays at noon on AM Radio Station KTG0 1090.



~LOOKING AHEAD~

A "New Members" class is meeting after the Worship Service on Sundays. If you would like to join our church or just want to know more information about the AFLC, we invite you to attend!



Ash Wednesday, March 6th. Join us for an evening of food & fellowship, singing and blessing as we begin Lent. Meal: 5:30 p.m. Lent Service: 7 p.m.



Our church service is on the local NCC TV Station channel 17 on Thursdays, at noon and 8 p.m.

USHERS THIS MONTH

MARCH HEAD USHER: Craig Postovit

Richard Nelson

Dan Larson

~New Building Update~

"Stud Day" at the new church building Saturday, March 9th at 9 a.m.! The materials have been delivered, we need YOUR help to put up stud walls and do other miscellaneous projects inside the building. Lunch and snacks will be provided by Thrivent Action Team Funds. We hope you will join us for a fun day of work camaraderie as we work together to get this project completed. Thank you to all who volunteer their time, talents, prayer support, and financial gifts to this project.

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

~Special Offering Baskets~

FIRST SUNDAY of each month is Mission Sunday.
THIRD SUNDAY of each month is New Building Project. We will have a basket in the back of the church on these two Sundays for special offering.

If your birthday or anniversary is missing from our Newsletter and you would like to be included, please call the church office

~CLOTHES CLOSET~

HOURS TO SHOP ARE:
MONDAY 4-7 P.M. & SATURDAY 9-12 P.M.
IF YOU HAVE NEW OR GENTLY USED CLOTHES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE (PREFERABLY THAT GO WITH THE SEASON WE ARE IN) PLEASE DROP THEM OFF AT THE CHURCH. THANK YOU!
VOLUNTEER HELP IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED!



Youth News

Youth FLY Convention - July 1 - 6, 2019
YMCA Camp, Estes Park, CO
Theme: "I AM"



2019 AFLC Annual Conference – June 11-14
Spruce Lake Retreat Center, Canadensis, PA
Theme: "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."
More info on website: aflc.org