

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TIOGA, ND 58852
PERMIT #3

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

Pastor ~ Richard Carr

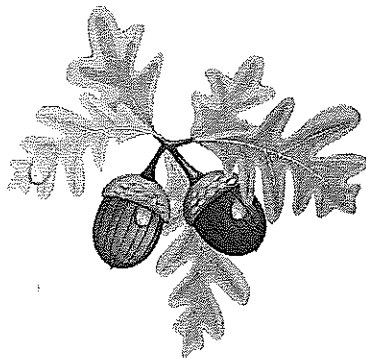
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



SEPTEMBER
2019

One of the traditional themes held as important by Biblical Lutherans is the distinction between Law and Gospel. The basic idea behind this is that throughout the Bible all Scripture is understood as being Law focused or Gospel focused. The passages that describe the Law show the reader his or her sin and the effects of what that sin leads to. The Law also illustrates how we need to live our lives properly. The Law also explains what we must do. We are called to live holy and pleasing lives, the reason for this is that we are not our own, we were bought with a price. The Law therefore shows us what it means to be holy, by living holy lives.

The Gospel passages of the Bible obviously illustrate Jesus' death and resurrection and how God freely forgives us because of Jesus. However, the Gospel found in the Bible goes wider than just what Jesus did. The Gospel is everything that God does for us because of our helpless state. When God provided the manna for the Israelites in the desert, this is Gospel. When God forgave David after he confessed to the sin of murder after Nathan confronted him, that also is Gospel.

It may seem easy to determine the difference between Law passages and Gospel passages. For some Scripture passages it is easy, but there are many times where people and even preachers confuse Law and Gospel. The danger between confusing Law and Gospel in reading or understanding the Bible is profound. For instance, if a person believes that the Israelites were provided manna through the lens of a Law understanding might argue that they earned their provision of God through *their* steps of faith. Likewise, they might teach that *we earn* the provision of God when we take steps of faith in our lives. God becomes a cosmic vending machine when a clear Gospel passage is understood as being Law. Put your faith token in the slot, and out pops what you need. You get because of what you put in. The reality is that God gave the Israelites food, because they needed it, and because He loved them and wanted to care for them. The Israelites were people of little, almost non-existent faith in God for provision. Yet despite the Israelite nation's strong-willed love to complain and doubt, God gave them blessings.

As I have been working through the book of Hosea I have clearly seen a distinction of the Law and Gospel. God over and over again explains how the nation of Israel and Judah are like an unfaithful wife. God asks the rhetorical question, "What more can I do?" The people delight in doing and living in wickedness. God makes a case against both the nation of Israel and Judah. Despite the clear provision of God, despite God's protection and goodness, His chosen people reject Him. This is all Law. While the Law is clearly seen throughout the book of Hosea, what makes this book so sweet are the section of Gospel found in small sections. In chapter 2 God has used the Law to describe the punishment He was going to lay out for His people. However toward the end of the chapter beginning with verse 14 we see God use these words:

14 "Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the desert and speak tenderly to her. 15 There I will give her back her vineyards, and will make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. There she will sing as in the days of her youth, as in the day she came up out of Egypt.

16 "In that day," declares the Lord, "you will call me 'my husband'; you will no longer call me 'my master.' 17 I will remove the names of the Baals from her lips; no longer will their names be invoked. 18 In that day I will make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field and the birds of the air and the creatures that move along the ground. Bow and sword and battle I will abolish from the land, so that all may lie down in safety. 19 I will betroth you to me forever; I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion. NIV

It is important for us to clearly understand that when we approach God we come as poor beggars desperate for help, with nothing to offer God. We don't become Christians because of our works, nor do we receive God's grace in our daily lives because now that we are Christians we deserve it, or have earned it. The beautiful truth is that everyday we wake up and experience God's grace and mercy, we do so only because of God's goodness and love. We like the nations of Judah and Israel have sinned by thought, word, and deed on a regular ongoing basis. Yet God in His mercy offers us what we don't deserve, the daily washing and renewal of our faith. So that each morning we can rejoice that truly God's mercies are new every morning! This is the Gospel that we must recognize and live in. This is the Gospel that we need to cling to, and this is the Gospel that sets us free.

Pastor Stu



~Zion Activities for Growth and Fellowship~

Youth:

Confirmation Classes start Wednesday, September 18th at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday school for ages 3 yrs. thru Adult, start Sunday, September 22nd. Join us for Breakfast Treats at 9 a.m.

(Would you be willing to teach a Sunday school class? We are looking for Teachers, Team/Teachers, and someone who would like to lead opening music for the children. If interested, please talk to Jen Koehlinger.)

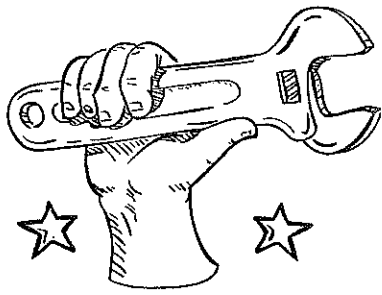
Jr. High and High School age girls - Join Chelsy for morning devos and treats at the Red Moose at 7:45 a.m. on September 26th and October 1st.

Adults:

Wednesday, September 4th at 7 p.m. Choir Kick-off dinner/picnic for all former AND new choir members, at the Lovdahl's. Please bring a side dish to share. Meat, beverages, and picnic supplies will be provided. If you have any questions regarding choir, please call Michael Osthus or the church office.

Monday, September 16th, Dakota Hope Annual Fundraising Banquet at 6:30 p.m. in Minot. Please contact Corinne Coughlin or Claudia Tande for free ticket information. A free-will donation will be taken that evening.

Sunday, September 22nd, "Effective Parenting in a Defective World" by Chip Ingram - Faith-Based Parenting Classes. This is an 8 week series from 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. Free baby-sitting will be provided at the church.



LORD, ON THIS LABOR DAY,

We thank You for the blessing of work.
 We ask for strength to complete each day.
 We ask for rest when we are weary.
 We ask for Your guidance
 for everyone seeking employment,
 and we ask that
 You be with those whose faces
 we might never see
 but who work tirelessly each day
 for the good of us all.
 Amen.



Coffee Cups

A group of alumni, highly established in their careers, got together to visit their old university professor. Conversation soon turned into complaints about stress in work and life. Offering his guests coffee, the professor went to the kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups, (porcelain, plastic, glass, crystal, some plain looking, some expensive, some exquisite) telling them to help themselves to the coffee.

When all the students had a cup of coffee in hand, the professor said, "If you noticed, all the nice looking, expensive cups were taken first, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress. Be assured that the cup itself adds no quality to the coffee. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was coffee, not the cup, but you consciously went for the best cups...and then you began eyeing each other's cups.

Now consider this: Life is the coffee. The jobs, money and position in society are the cups; they are just tools to hold and contain life, and the type of cup we have does not define, nor change the quality of life we live.

Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee God has provided us. God brews the coffee, not the cups... enjoy your coffee!

Pearls of Wisdom from Grandparents

- 1) "Do unto others as you would like them to do to you!"
- 2) "What you put out in the world will come back to you ten-fold...good or bad."
- 3) "Stay honest and keep your integrity."
- 4) "Life will have high peaks and low valleys, and neither is forever. Enjoy the peaks, pull yourself out of the valleys and keep going."
- 5) "I would like my grandkids to know that everyday is an opportunity to be better than they were the day before."
- 6) "Learn to love themselves, then love the Lord God like themselves!!!"
- 7) "I hope they will always be true to themselves, be honest about who they are and not try to be someone else or live up to someone else's expectations. So I would say to my grandson, if you would rather play trumpet in the college band than tight end on the football team... Go For It!!!"
- 8) "Family first!"
- 9) "Embrace all kinds of people into your life. Welcome their healthy different mindsets, skill sets... and honor diversity and change."
- 10) "Don't be judgmental. You don't know what someone else is going through until you've walked in their shoes."
- 11) "Take time to have fun and smell the flowers along the way."
- 12) "Good manners don't cost a thing. Practice them and make an impression."
- 13) "People will forget how you look but they'll never forget how you have made them feel."

Things That Will Not Save Your Soul

1. Church membership
2. Baptism
3. The Lord's Supper
4. Confirmation
5. Almsgiving, saying prayers
6. Keeping the Ten Commandments
7. Obeying the "Golden Rule"
8. Doing the "best you can"
9. Dying for your country
10. Lodge membership

"For by grace are ye saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God NOT works..." Ephesians 1: 8,9

GRANDPARENTS

Few can bring the warmth
 We can find in their embrace,
 And little more is needed to bring love.
 Than the smile on their face.

They've a supply of precious stories,
 Yet they've time to wipe a tear,
 Or give us reasons to make us laugh,
 They grow more precious through the years.

I believe that God sent us Grandparents
 As our legacy from above,
 To share the moments of our life,
 As extra measures of His love.

~ Writer Unknown



RICH REWARDS

It happened some time ago, but the memory still blesses me when I think about it. I was going through the check-out line at the store. Ahead of me was a small boy and he was obviously having a problem. Lying on the counter was a package of candy, and beside it was the little boy's money. The clerk spoke to him, and he began to dig first in one pocket and then the other pocket. Finally, he looked up at the clerk in silent despair. I tapped him on the shoulder and asked, "How much do you need?" He answered, "Eight cents" I said, "Let me help you, okay?" and I placed the eight cents in his hand. The look of gratitude on his face will never be forgotten!

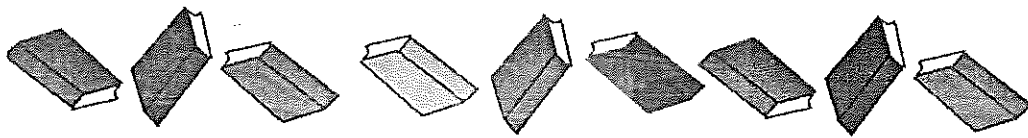
I didn't have to do that, but what a blessing. What a deep down good feeling I would have missed if I hadn't given the boy eight cents. I believe it is those "didn't have to do it" kind of things that are the real seasoning of life.

The opportunities for such rich rewards are all around us if we will just take the time to recognize them; a word of praise, comfort, or encouragement, a card, or a note of appreciation for "just being you" - just little gestures of love and friendship when "you didn't have to do it" What a difference they can make.

There is so much in the life of the believer that "we don't have to do" but when done always seems to bring God's special blessings to those who are the recipients as well as for those of us who do what we really didn't have to do.

Let God use you to be a blessing to someone today.

Pastor Dean Gross



SOME QUOTES:

"It's never too late to be what you might have been."

"Grow old with me...the best is yet to come."

"We talk of the second coming: half of the world has never heard of the first."

"Our family is founded on faith, joined in love, and kept by God."

"This too shall pass."

"Speak your truth, live your truth, and always be true to yourself."

"Always speak the truth, even if your voice shakes."

"Faith is taking the first step even if you don't see the whole staircase."

"Everyone's perfect in unusual ways."

"Chase your dreams, not your competition."

"We are never really gone. We survive in the things we leave behind."

"Frogs have it easy; they eat what bugs them."

"If it goes without saying, don't say it."

"Almost right is still wrong."

The U.S. Guard at the Mexican border asked the bicyclist what he was carrying in the two sacks slung over his shoulder.

"Sand," the cyclist replied.

The guard checked and found nothing but sand. The same thing happened week after week.

Then finally, after six months, the cyclist failed to appear.

Soon after, the guard happened to meet the guy downtown.

"Say, buddy, you sure had us crazy," he said. "We knew you were smuggling something. I won't say a word...but what was it?"

"Bicycles," the man answered.



Something of God

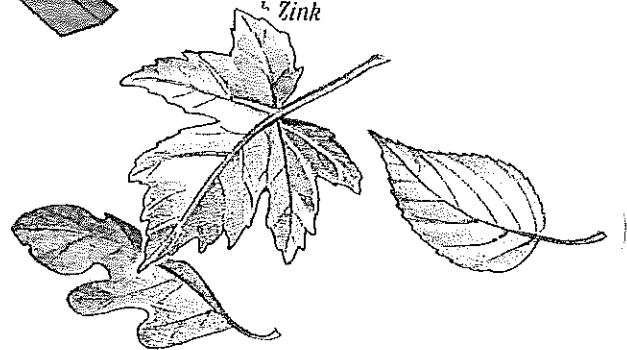
Something of God pours into me
from the blue of the sky above
from the song of a bird,
the red of the rose,
the touch of the hand I love.

Something of God pours into me
from the ocean's tidal road
as I stand alone
on the windswept sand
and watch the sea gull soar.

Something of God pours into me
from the mountains capped with snow,
from the pine trees
swaying gently
as the summer breezes blow.

There's something of God in everything
and in everyone we see,
I pray for the grace
to see Him in others
and hope they will see Him in me.

Zink



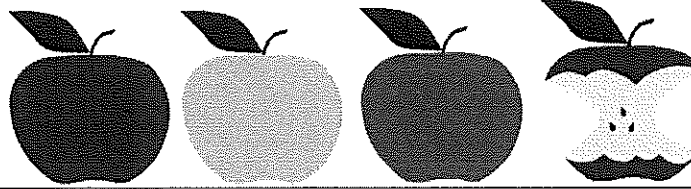
Reward

Dare to be faithful to Jesus
Faithful in all that you do;
Think how He watches your efforts,
Loving and caring for you.
He hath been over the pathway,
Knoweth your struggles and fears;
Dare to be faithful to Jesus;
He keeps account of your tears.

Dare to faithful to Jesus,
Faithful when pleasures surround;
Bravely displaying your colors,
Never deserting your ground.

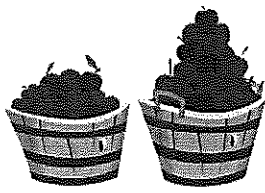
Faithfulness shineth in Heaven,
Bright as the fairest success;
Only be faithful to Jesus,
Trusting the Master to bless.

Dare to be faithful to Jesus,
Tho' darkness shadow your way;
Fear not, for Jesus is with you,
Faithfully serve Him each day.
Dare to say "No!" to the tempter,
Dare to withstand every foe;
Clad in the Heavenly armor,
Forth unto victory go.








SEPTEMBER 2019 BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

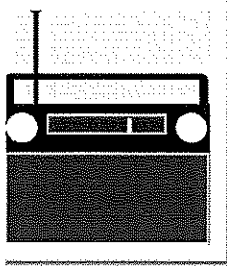
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>"Don't feel discouraged - even the sun has a sinking spell every night, but it rises again in the morning."</i></p>						
<p>1 Scott & Pam McGregor</p> <p>Debbie Keller</p> <p>Austin Buchholz</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Cody & Alexius Knudson</p> <p>Todd Thompson</p>	<p>4 Matthew Raam</p> <p>Don Sillerud</p> <p>Jack Seibel</p>	<p>5 Brenda Carr</p> <p>Jon Wolla</p>	<p>6 Eileen Strand</p> <p>Barry Ramberg</p>	<p>7 Gene & Robbie Johnson</p>
<p>8 Avis Lokken</p> <p>Dan Wolla</p> <p>Tina Houim</p>	<p>9 Karen (Haakenson) Anderson</p> <p>Annette Haakenson</p>	<p>10 Alexis Keller</p>	<p>11 Andy & Karen Anderson</p> <p>Whitney Keller</p>	<p>12 Elaine Martinson</p> <p>Lorin Bakken</p>	<p>13 Ethan Kucera</p>	
<p>15</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> </p>	<p>16 Kristy Knudson</p> <p>Brandy Houim</p> <p>Roxanne Houim</p> <p>Stephanie Sundhagen</p>	<p>17 <i>Happy Anniversary</i></p>	<p>18 Bryce Raam</p>	<p>19 Dennis Heinle</p> <p>Shayne Haustveit</p> <p>Joseph Larson</p>	<p>20 Henry & Laura Rieniets</p> <p>Paul & Kristie Slaamot</p>	<p>21 Bruce Lovdahl</p> <p>Kylie Davis</p>
<p>22</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> </p>	<p>23 Arnold & Marjorie Postovit</p> <p>Nikki Raam</p>	<p>24 Chelsy Weisz</p>	<p>25 Jordon Rehak</p> <p>Deanna Peterson</p>	<p>26 Tanner Roloff</p>	<p>27 Gary & Gail Haakenson</p> <p>Judy Wiedmer</p>	<p>28 Phyllis Haustveit</p> <p>Kya Schroeder</p>
<p>29</p>	<p>30 Lynae Strand</p> <p>Dave & Roxy Uhlich</p> <p>Dylan Keller</p>	<p><i>"Willingness to learn is the first step in knowing."</i></p>		<p><i>"No one has more self-confidence than the person who does a cross- word puzzle with a pen."</i></p>		



September

SEPTEMBER ZION 2019 ACTIVITIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 <i>Mission Offering Sunday</i></p> <p>9 am Coffee Fellowship & Adult Sunday school 10:30 am Worship Service</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Labor Day</p> 	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6 p.m. Christian Ed. Meeting 7 p.m. CHOIR Picnic at the Lovdahl's for former AND new CHOIR members, please bring a dish to share! 7 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> 
<p>8</p> <p>9 am Coffee Fellowship & Adult Sunday school 10:30 am Worship Service</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7 pm Deacon/Deaconess Mtg. 7:30 pm Trustee Mtg. 8:15 pm Church Council Mtg.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>12</p> <p><i>Zion Circles Meet:</i> <i>Circle 1 - 9:30 am</i> <i>Circle 2 - 2 pm</i> <i>Circle 3 - 7 pm</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p>Tioga Farm Festival WeeKend</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>WMF Pie Booth @ Community Center</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10 am Farm Festival Community Worship Service at the Community Center <i>Meal served after by Tioga Ministerial.</i></p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>2 pm Zion Ladies WMF 5:30 pm Confirmation Begins 7 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 Building Project Offering Sunday Sunday School Begins! 9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship (ages 3 – adult) 10:30 am Worship Service 6:30 pm “Effective Parenting” Class starts (8 week series from 6:30-7:45 pm, free baby-sitting at the church)</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:30 pm Confirmation 7 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:45 a.m. Devos & Morning Treats with Chelsy at the Red Moose (Gr. high & high school age girls)</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9 am Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship (ages 3 – adult) 10:30 am Worship Service</p>	<p>30</p> 	<p>“God is more interested in making us what we ought to be than in giving us what we think we ought to have.”</p>		<p>“SORROW LOOKS BACK, WORRY LOOKS AROUND, FAITH LOOKS UP!”</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 KTGO 1090.



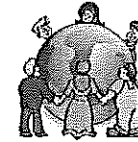
September

LOOKING AHEAD:

Sunday School starts September 22nd ages 3 years thru adult. Join us for Breakfast Treats at 9 a.m.!

"Effective Parenting in a Defective World"

Faith-based parenting classes starting Sunday, September 22nd from 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. (8-week series). Free baby-sitting will be provided at the church.



WMF District Fall Rally – Saturday, October 12th at Beaver Creek Lutheran Church, Ray, ND – 10 a.m. Theme: "Thinking Globally, Working Locally" Ladies, join us for a day of blessing and inspiration, a noon meal will be served.



Save the Date! Saturday, October 26th, Fish Fry & Bake Sale. Watch for details!

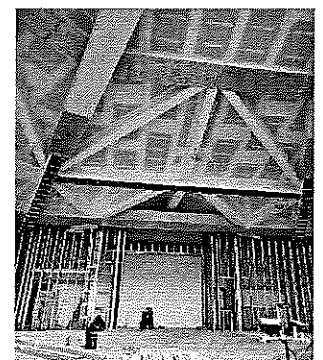
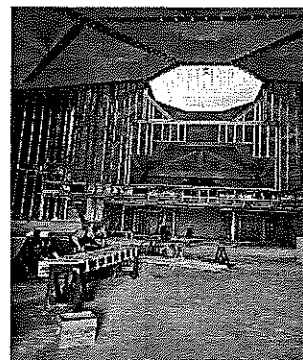


~New Building Update~



Progress continues to be made on the new church building! Thank you so very much to all who volunteer their time at the project sight. Those who help to water the new trees, work with the tree/scrub rows, general clean up and construction help, it couldn't be done without you! We praise God for the work that has been done so far, and ask for continued prayer for safety of the workers, wisdom for decisions being made, and continued gifts received to help complete this project.

"Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long." Psalm 25:4-5



USHERS THIS MONTH

SEPTEMBER HEAD USHER: Wilmer Roloff

Rick Raan

Kim Keller

~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~

SUMMER HOURS TO SHOP ARE:
MONDAY 2 - 7 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!

