

# Zion Messenger

*A Monthly Publication of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church--Elgin, ND*

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\*Phone: 584-2902 \* Email: [zelc@westriv.com](mailto:zelc@westriv.com) \*

September 2024

The peace of Christ be with you!!!

I pray that you are doing well. One thing that I have learned since we moved to North Dakota is that harvest time is not just in the fall. Some of the harvest is well under way, while other crops are not ripe yet. It all depends on what was planted. We have been praying for the weather we need for a good harvest, and we pray for the safety of those who are working in the fields. Any time we are working with equipment it can be dangerous. This is on my mind a lot, and they are in my prayers. Please keep them in yours as well.



Our school year has officially begun. Students are in the classroom, both at public school and Sunday school. I pray this is a good learning year and a safe year for all of our students and all of our teachers. It is not easy to be a child in this day and age. They need all the support we can give them, and the same can be said for all of our teachers.

I have been reflecting recently on our time together thus far. I have realized that I think I am approachable and easy to talk to, but that might not be the case with everyone. When there are things that are bothering you, I will change my plans when possible to make sure we have time to talk. I know that I am not a trained psychologist or therapist, but I can listen. There are some things I can talk to people about, especially when it concerns our parish or our faith as members of the ELCA.

If I do not know something, I will not pretend to know it. I will try to find out those answers from my colleagues and other resources. I do not want to tell you something that is false. I care what happens to the people here. If you are not comfortable talking with me, that does not mean that I care for you any less than anyone else. If it is one thing that Jesus has taught me, it is that I am (we are) to love all the same way Jesus loves us. There are no exceptions to this

commandment that Jesus gave us on the night He was betrayed.

*34 "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)*

I believe we are to love one another; period. That does not mean that we will always agree with one

*(continued on page 2)*



**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
Elgin, North Dakota

**Special Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday  
September 8  
After worship**

Purpose: To decide on gutters and drainage on the church, installation of remaining soffit on the church, and repair of pillars at the Cemetery



**PICNIC IN THE PARK**

**Sunday, September 15  
11:00 - 2:00  
Elgin Park**

**Sloppy Joes • Hotdogs  
Chips • Baked Beans  
Bars • Lemonade**

Free to the community!

Sponsored by Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church & Thrivent





God's work.  
Our hands.

## WELCA News

**Serving** - Group 2 serves next.

**LWR School Kits - September 15** is the deadline to donate for school kits. There is a list of supplies below. You may make a financial donation if you prefer, and we will purchase supplies for you. We appreciate all the donations to this project. We are blessed to be a blessing to those who need these kits. A date to pack these kits and assemble and pack personal care kits will be determined soon.

**Fall Gathering** - The Heart River Cluster Fall Gathering is Saturday, October 19, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bismarck. Pastor Gail Hagerty will be speaking about the Bridges of Hope. This is an outreach and reentry ministry that serves youth and adults on the campuses of the Youth Correctional Center & Heart River Correctional Center in Mandan throughout their incarceration and reentry. Services include providing meaningful community, resources, and opportunities for fellowship and wellness.

**Next Meeting** - Thursday, September 5, at 1:30 pm.

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### LWR School Kit Supplies List

- 4 - Notebooks with 70 sheets each, wide or college-ruled paper (about 8" x 10½")
- 1 - 30-centimeter ruler (may have inch measurements on one side)
- 1 - Pencil sharpener
- 1 - 2½" eraser
- 1 - Blunt scissors
- 5 - Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- 5 - Ballpoint pens, black or blue (no gel pens)
- 1 - Box of 16 or 24 crayons

The deadline for WELCA's collection of school supplies is **September 15**. Thank you!

The secret of contentment is the realization that life is a gift, not a right. Next to faith this is the highest art - to be content with the calling in which God has placed you.

Martin Luther

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## Pastor's Message

*(continued from page 1)*

another. We can agree to disagree and still treat one another with respect and kindness. My sincere hope is that we are able to talk through our differences as adults and still remember that we are all sisters and brothers in Christ. At the end of the day, we are all family.

One of the things that I was told before I left seminary is to love your people; love the people that you are pastor to. I do this as best I can, and I take this seriously. If the members of our congregation are not able to come and talk with me as their pastor, that is a problem. Please know that I am available—just ask.

Not all families always get along all the time, but when it comes down to it, they usually pull together when one of them is in need. My hope and my prayers for our congregation and the communities we live in is that we can be there for one another when needed and that we learn to live together in harmony.

God be with us all!!

*Rev Michael S. HarriSon*

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### The Gift of Work

Missionary and author Elisabeth Elliot considered work a gift and a blessing. Ponder the following quotes of hers as you celebrate Labor Day. How do they mesh with your own views of work?

“This job has been given to me to do. Therefore, it is a gift. Therefore, it is a privilege. Therefore, it is an offering I may make to God. Therefore, it is to be done gladly, if it is done for him. Here, not somewhere else, I may learn God's way. In this job, not in some other, God looks for faithfulness.”



“Work is a blessing. God has so arranged the world that work is necessary, and he gives us hands and strength to do it. The enjoyment of leisure would be nothing if we had only leisure. It is the joy of work well done that enables us to enjoy rest, just as it is the experiences of hunger and thirst that make food and drink such pleasures.”

## "God's work. Our hands."

### Free Picnic is Zion's Service Project

Zion will observe "God's work. Our hands." day of service on Sunday, September 15, by hosting a free picnic for the community.

The meal will consist of sloppy joes, hotdogs, chips, beans, bars, and a drink. It will be served from 11:00 - 2:00 in the Elgin Park. We have been blessed with a case of hot dogs from a generous donor and with a Thrivent Action team grant applied for by one of our members. Both will help cover our costs.

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA - one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor. We are excited to be able to be a blessing to our neighbors by offering this meal.

We will have a sheet on the narthex table to sign up to bring a pan of bars.

### September 12 is National Day of Encouragement

*Kind words are like honey — sweet to the soul and healthy for the body. (Proverbs 16:24)*

Sometimes we just need to know we're valued, celebrated, seen. So in honor of National Encouragement Day on September 12, would you consider how you can lavish the simple kindness of encouragement on those around you? Here are some ideas to get you started:

#### Ten Simple Things to Say to Encourage Someone

1. I see you.
2. I'm proud of you.
3. God made you beautiful.
4. You shine doing that thing you're created to do.
5. I'm thankful for you.
6. You inspire me.
7. I appreciate your hard work.
8. God delights in you.
9. You make my day brighter.
10. I'm blessed to call you friend.

Look for that frazzled mom in the grocery store or that shy coworker in the corner cubicle. Think of your best friend or school secretary or the crossing guard you pass every day. Stop and say, *"Thank you. I see you. You're making a difference."*

Submitted by Cyndy Zacher  
Excerpt from *The Big Difference of Simple Encouragement* by Becky Keife (incourage.me)

Offerings & Gifts - August		
	Undesignated	Attendance
August 4	\$ 495	13
	1,412	58
August 11	180	10
	1,770	54
August 18	130	7
	1,074	55
August 25	336	12
	1,291	81
<b>Total Undesignated</b>	<b>\$6,688</b>	<b>Avg Sun Attend: 61</b>
Bulletins	20	
Parish Ed	300	
Thrivent	33	
Sunday School	11	Avg Attend: 13
Income & Expenses - Year to Date		
Income	Undesignated	Other
\$79,331	\$74,688	\$4,643
Expenses	Budgeted	Designated Funds
121,722	103,576	1,245 Brick work - 8,276 Concrete (half) - 8,625
Income vs Expense		
-42,391		

### Alzheimers Empowered Caregiver Series

The Alzheimer's Association Minnesota-North Dakota chapter is partnering with local organizations in southwest North Dakota on a four-part series for dementia caregivers. Called the "Empowered Caregiver Series," classes will be shown as live broadcasts over four sessions, one each Thursday in September, from 1:30 - 3:30 MDT.

The classes, which are open to the public at no charge, will provide dementia caregivers helpful tools and ways to reduce stress. They will be presented by Alzheimer Association Program Manager Vanessa Hoines and Community Educator Jacklyn Geiger. "During this series, we'll share strategies to help caregivers provide quality care, find ways to cope with stress, and access a network of support. It will include real-world examples and lots of practical tips," said Hoines.

In this area, the sessions will be broadcast at Carson in the Grant County Courthouse (701.567.2967) and at the Mott Health Care Center (701.824.3222). The schedule for sessions, a brief description of each session, and the location/registration information for all sites can be found at the end of this newsletter issue. To register, call the site(s) where you would like to attend. Participants can attend any or all of the four sessions.

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
August 14, 2024**

Present: Terry Bentz, Sydney Richardson, Jackie Seibel, Travis Friedt, Kenny Friedt, Chris Gathright, Pastor Mike HarriSon, John Schock, Brandy Fuchs, Rhonda Haas, Virginia Rivinius, Kayedenn Rivinius.  
Absent: Blake Ulrich.

Meeting was called to order by President, Terry Bentz followed with a prayer.

**Secretary's Report:** Motion made by Brandy Fuchs and seconded by Kenny Friedt to approve the July minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion made by Kenny Friedt and seconded by Rhonda Haas to approve the report. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:** The Church received a request for a donation from World Hunger.

**Committee Reports:**

1. **Cemetery** – Terry met with Ronnie Fischer and the gentleman who is completing the brick work on the wing walls to get an idea of what to do with the two pillars out at the cemetery that are falling apart. Ronnie Fischer continues to do the cement work on the gravesites as long as Jim Nickel is in town.
2. **Mission Endowment Fund** – No update.
3. **Parish Education** – There are teachers and substitutes lined up for Sunday School. Pastor will be continuing to do one Wednesday out of the month for Confirmation.
4. **Property** – A couple more property items were completed at the church including servicing all fire extinguishers and parking lot signs are here to be put up. There is also a list of pending projects to be completed which are the west & east entrance wing walls, concrete at the east entrance and the crack on the brick sign.
  - Soffit by sanctuary windows – Terry received a quote from Bammer's to fix the soffit.
  - Gutters and drainage – Terry received a quote from Bammer's for putting gutters on the sloped areas on both ends of the church and down spouts to get the water out of the rocks. Terry also wants to get in touch with Glenn Rivinius about ideas for drainage.
    - ◇ A motion was made by Kenny Friedt and seconded by Brandy Fuchs to hold a special congregational meeting to discuss the outside gutters & drainage, soffit and the repairs of the pillars at the cemetery. Motion carried.

- Hang fabric behind cross – The fabric has been donated and needs to be put up to replace the old fabric.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor plans to start doing a once-a-month Sunday Service at the care center starting in September. He will be taking vacation starting September 24-26.

**Old Business:**

- Superintendent (terms ends June 30) – Kaci Ulrich agreed to do another year with the help of Brittany Klein.
- God's Work. Our Hands.- September 8, 2024 Ideas – Moving the date to September 15<sup>th</sup> as there will be a council meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup>. The event will be down at the park from 11:00-2:00 serving sloppy joe's, hot dogs, beans, chips and bars. A motion was made by Brandy Fuchs and seconded by Travis Friedt to approve the event. Motion carried.
- Mission Fest – Pastor will reach out to get more information to bring back to the next council meeting.

**New Business:**

- Renewal of CD #0434 (Cemetery) – A motion was made by Brandy Fuchs and seconded by Travis Friedt to cash out the CD and move to the cemetery savings account. Motion carried.
- Renewal of CD #0446 (Parsonage) – A motion was made by Brandy Fuchs and seconded by Kenny Friedt to renew the CD for 6 months. Motion carried.

**Other Business:**

Parsonage Discussion – The council is in agreement to continue the discussion of the possibility of getting a parsonage.

Adjournment – motion made by Rhonda Haas and seconded by Jackie Seibel to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Sydney Richardson, Council Secretary

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**Maintenance Completed in August**

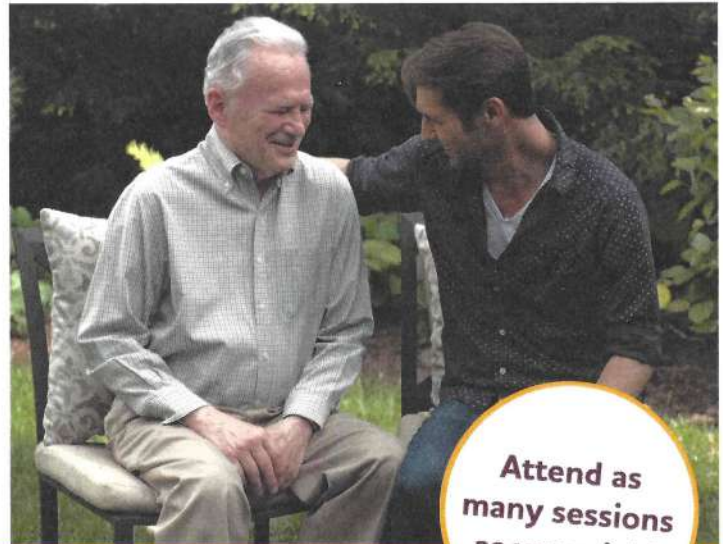
We have additional items to remove from the 'to-do' list:

- At the west entrance, the cracks in the walls were repaired and brick was put on.
- The vertical crack between bricks on the south wall at the east entrance was repaired.
- Cracks between bricks of the sign on the south side of the church were repaired.
- Parking lot signs were replaced.



# Empowered Caregiver Series

Caring for a person with dementia is challenging. This series of no-cost classes for caregivers is designed to provide helpful tools and reduce stress. Watch a live broadcast from a location near you!



Attend as many sessions as you wish!

- 1 Building Foundations of Caregiving**  
This class explores the role of the caregiver and the changes they may experience. Participants will learn how to build a support team and ways to manage caregiver stress.

Thursday, September 5 | 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. MT

- 2 Supporting Independence**  
Helping a person living with dementia participate in daily activities is important. Care partners will discover the right amount of support, and how to balance safety and independence while managing expectations.

Thursday, September 12 | 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. MT

- 3 Communicating Effectively**  
Learn how dementia affects communication and ways to communicate well with the person living with dementia, as well as family, friends and health care professionals.

Thursday, September 19 | 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. MT

- 4 Responding to Dementia-Related Behaviors**  
Dementia can cause changes in a person's behavior, including how a person communicates. Learn about the possible reasons for behaviors and ways to address them, including non-medical and medical approaches. You'll also learn to recognize when additional help is needed.

Thursday, September 26 | 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. MT

See reverse for locations & registration information.



This project is supported by funding through the North Dakota Department of Health & Human Services, Aging Services Section.

# ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION®

## Empowered Caregiver Series

All four classes will be broadcast live to the locations below. To register, please call the phone number of the location(s) you plan to attend. Register for as many sessions as you wish – participants are not required to attend all four sessions.



### BEACH

Beach Community Center | 153 E Main Street, Beach, ND

To register, contact Susan Zier, Roughrider North Human Service Zone, at **701.872.4122**



### BOWMAN

Bowman Regional Public Library | 18 E Divide St, Bowman, ND

To register, contact Sarah Snavelly, Library Director, at **701.523.3797**



### CARSON

Grant County Courthouse - Commissioner's Room | 106 2nd Ave NE, Carson, ND

To register, contact Cheryl Dix or Leilani Melling, SW Dakota Human Service Zone, at **701.567.2967**



### DICKINSON

Edgewood Hawks Point | 1266 Signal Butte, Dickinson, ND

To register, contact Casey Johnson, Assistant Executive Director, or Tosha Frank, Sales and PR Coordinator, at **701.225.9173**



### HEBRON

Brick City Activity Center | 707 Main Ave, Hebron ND

To register, contact Kyla Sanders, NDSU Extension/Aging in Community, at **701.348.9907**



### HETTINGER

Rural Collective | 506 2nd Ave S Hettinger, ND

To register, contact Cheryl Dix or Leilani Melling, SW Dakota Human Service Zone, at **701.567.2967**



### KILLDEER

Hilltop Home of Comfort | 95 Hilltop Drive, Killdeer, ND

To register, contact Breilyn Riggins, Social Services Designee, at **701.764.2714**



### MOTT

Mott Health Care Center | 401 Millionaire Avenue, Mott, ND

To register, contact Kirsten Friedt, Director of Nursing at **701.824.3222**



### RICHARDTON




Richardton Health Center | 8885 Hwy 10, Richardton, ND

To register, contact Michala-Jo Senn, Social Services Designee, at **701.974.3304**

Abbreviations

- A - Acolyte
- AG - Altar Guild
- C - Communion
- L - Lector
- G - Greeter



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>8:00 Worship</b> 1 <b>9:30 Worship</b> <b>10:30 Fellowship</b>	<b>2</b>  Jeremy I Reiny Z	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Bill W Melvin & Gen B	<b>5</b> <b>1:30 WELCA Meeting</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> AG: Bridget W Yvonne S
<b>9:30 Worship</b> 8 <b>10:30 S School / Confirmation / Special Congregation Meeting / Council Meeting /</b> A: Landon K L: Joy C: Bridget G: Kylor, Kenny	<b>9</b> Pastor @ Rostered Leaders' Retreat in Medora 	<b>10</b> Joel & Brittany K	<b>11</b> Kaydence Z	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Brianna R	<b>14</b> AG: Robin B Virginia R Becca F Eric & Jill F
<b>9:30 Worship</b> 15 <b>10:30 S School / Confirmation / 11:00 GWOH Picnic in the Park</b> A: Otto L: Eric C: Jill G: Kade, Reuben Elsie S	<b>16</b> Alta E	<b>17</b> Evan F	<b>18</b> <b>6:00 Confirmation</b> Chandler R	<b>19</b> <b>1:30 Fellowship at Dakota Hill</b> Verrick & Sarah S	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> AG: Rosemary P Sherri R Verna G Rosemary P Wilmer & Rosella Z
<b>9:30 Worship</b> 22 <b>10:30 S School / Confirmation / Fellowship 1:30 Worship at Dakota Hill</b> A: Axel L: Jace C: Mykayla G: Jim & Patty  Logan S	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Zoey H Douglas K Pete K	<b>25</b> Elijah D	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Marleen K Wanda S Jim & Patty Z	<b>28</b> AG: Nancy K Brandy F Doug & Nancy K
<b>9:30 Worship</b> 29 <b>10:30 S School / Confirmation / Fellowship</b> A: Shaylee F L: Yvonne C: Ronae G: Ruby, Marleen	<b>30</b>	<p><i>Create in me a clean heart, O God,                      and renew a right spirit within me.                      Cast me not away from your presence,                      and take not your Holy Spirit from me.                      Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,                      and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.</i></p>				