**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

E19675 State Road 27

Fall Creek, WI 54742

**JANUARY 2019** **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**WORSHIP SERVICES are held Sunday at 9am @ Zion, & 10:30am @ Bethlehem**

**Communion is offered on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: ZION 10:00AM, BETHLEHEM 9AM**

**CONFIRMATION is every Wednesday 5-6pm**

 January 2nd  Zion’s Ladies Aid @ noon; No Confirmation today

 January 3rd Joint Council Meetings @ Zion

 January 6th **Party @ the Norton’s for both congregations 2-4 or 7-?**

 January 6th Sunday School resumes at both churches

 January 8th Dartball Resumes

 January 9th Confirmation Resumes @ Bethlehem

 January 10th Bethlehem Ladies Aid @ noon – turn in Mite Box savings

 January 12th Remove Christmas decorations at Bethlehem

 January 13th Youth Group meeting @ Bethlehem

 January 14, 21, and 28th Quilting @ Bethlehem

 January 20th Annual Voters Meeting @ Bethlehem

 January 27th Annual Voters Meeting @ Zion

 January 31st Bethlehem Sunday School Teachers Meeting

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**Zion Lutheran Church**

1286 S 150th Ave.

Fall Creek, WI 54742

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GOD’S GRACE IS IN CHARGE OF TIME

Every New Year celebration reminds us we have no control over the passing of time. We only watch it go by. Not so with God. He isn’t a helpless bystander who wrings his hands hoping for the best or winces when things go wrong. Time is His creation. It must serve His purposes. His grace is in charge, as He proved by sending His promised Son ‘when the time had fully come.’ Not a moment too early. Not a moment too late. Jesus entered time at the precise moment circled on His calendar of Grace.

God has a gracious purpose for the time He has given you too. “All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be” (Psalm 139:16). You were born at exactly the right time. Later you were adopted as God’s child through Baptism. Since then you have had time to grow in your knowledge of Jesus and mature in trusting His grace.

But often we ask, “How long, O Lord? How long before this problem goes away? How long before things change? How long before you take me to heaven?” God’s answer is, “When the set time has fully come.” He encourages you to “humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time” (1 Peter 5:6). He knows when the ‘due time’ is, the ‘set time.’

When you bake a cake, you put the pan in the oven, set the timer and wait. When the time expired, you took the cake out to cool. God’s grace is in charge of time. When His timer of grace went off, Jesus came.

The answers to all our prayers in this New Year are governed by that same timer, that same grace.

May the Good Lord abide with you in this New Year, blessing you and yours.

 Pastor James E. Norton

 Romans 1:16



*“Bethlehem Lutheran Church* reaching out to our community and to the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Facebook Address: Zion-Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Email: countryc@centurylink.net Website: zion-bethlehem.org

Office Telephone (715)877-3249 Address: E19675 State Road 27, Fall Creek, WI 54742



BETHLEHEM LADIES AID:

Thanks to those of you who are supporting our Bazaar table and Bake Sale. We also are thankful for everyone who attended our Christmas party. Our next meeting is January 10th at noon. Quilting will begin soon. Remember January is mite box month, bring yours to the meeting. Our Quarterlys are here. Pick yours up.

**Bethlehem Sunday School resumes Sunday, January 6th, 9am to 10:15.**

Thank you to all the students, teachers, and helpers for the wonderful Christmas program. What an awesome job you did. We enjoyed it.

 

*Bethlehem’s Adult Bible Study Class has resumes January 6th at 9am, and will meet every Sunday at 9:00am. There are some interesting studies. Feel free to come and attend whenever you can.*



The January Youth Group meeting is on the 13th @ 6:30. All youth from 5th grade thru high school.are welcome to come whenever you are able. Come and bring a friend.



Check out our church library. We have many scriptural books and also a great fiction selection for adults. We have many children’s books and dvd’s. Reading is a great way to spend a cold winter afternoon or evening.

**ANNUAL VOTERS MEETING:**

It’s that time again… the Annual Voters meeting will be held on **Sunday January 20th**. There will be a potluck following the church service, and then the meeting. All adult members of the congregation should plan on attending if possible. Please let Marvin or an elder know if you are willing to serve on a Council position. We are in need of a church treasurer. ALSO, THE **SUNDAY SERVICE ON JANUARY 27TH, WILL BE AT 9AM at Bethlehem**, so that Zion can have their annual meeting and Pastor can attend.

\*\*\*\*Please have your annual meeting reports to Karon by January 6th to allow time for typing and printing the 2018 report.



 **BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Monthly Council Meeting Minutes December 6, 2018**

**Old Business:**

1. Replace Parsonage Picture Window Update – Tom just heard from Chwala, they will be replacing the window Monday, December 10th.

2. Church Credit Card Update – Paperwork has been submitted for approval, cards will be issued shortly.

**New Business:**

1. Set the Date for Annual Meetings – As discussed at the Joint Council Meeting:

Bethlehem’s meeting: Sunday, January 20th following 10:30 a.m. service and lunch.

Zion’s meeting: Sunday, January 27th following 10:30 a.m. service and lunch. On this day the regular times for Sunday School and church service will switch – Bethlehem will have 9:00 a.m. service with Sunday School following, and Zion will have 9:00 a.m. Sunday School with 10:30 a.m. service so that Pastor Norton can attend both annual meetings.

2. Eau Claire Electric Bill for November – Erin noted that the bill for November is still high. Karon will ask Marvin to check into it.

3. Thaler Oil Invoice – Parsonage fuel tank was filled recently. Tom will look to see if a fill slip was left in the door.

4. Parsonage Septic Tank – will be pumped Monday, December 10th

5. Treasurer’s Position – Erin Pilgrim will be giving up her job as Treasurer. She will continue in the position until May 1st.

The Lord's Prayer was prayed in closing. Joan Drehmel, Secretary

**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Council Meeting Minutes December 16, 2018**

**New Business:**

1. Church Loan for Remodel Project – Marv noted that Kelly from Citizens State Bank (Cadott) will be drawing up the paperwork for the loan now that the construction phase has been completed. The balance is $79,099. The Building Fund has $13,292.04 in it. Marv asked if the Council would like to move some money from the Building Fund to lower the loan balance, and thereby lowering the monthly payments.

* **MOTION** (Karon Davidson/Dennis Anderson) to move $9,099 from the Building Fund to bring the balance of the loan to $70,000. PASSED, without negative vote.

Marv noted that he and Erin will have to work out a time to meet with Kelly to sign the loan documents.

 Joan Drehmel, Secretary

Zion Lutheran Church 

Zion Lutheran Church seeks to preach and teach God’s Word to all people of all ages, and to show God’s love through our witness, fellowship, and service.

**January 2019 Newsletter**

Joint Council Meeting is at Zion, January3, beginning at 7:00, followed by each congregation’s council meetings, and then the Elder’s meeting,



***Lunch is served at Zion each Sunday, following the worship service:***

***First Sunday is hosted by the Sunday School. Second Sunday is hosted by the Church Council. Third Sunday is hosted by the Mission Board. Fourth Sunday is hosted by the Ladies Aid. All are invited to join us for good food and fellowship.***



**Zion Congregation, and our choir are seeking someone to be our organist.** If you know of anyone who would be interested in this position please speak with a member of the church council.



**Zion Ladies Aide and Bible Study –**did not have a usual meeting on December 5—we had a Christmas party! We invited the ladies of our congregation and the ladies aid group from Bethlehem church. We started with a pot-luck lunch and lots of fellowship. Then we had a presentation about Christmas cards and sang many Christmas carols and hymns. Of course, we played BINGO and everyone got a prize (or gift). There was a gift exchange, too, and one lucky person got the door prize! A good time was had by all!

**Be sure to check the Bulletin Boards for community events and opportunities.**

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**Zion Council Meeting Highlights December 6, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 7:17, by Dave Kiesow. There were 6 members present.

Secretary Report: The secretary’s minutes was read by Sue Stephan. Earl J motioned to accept the minutes. Chris H. seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Chris reported. Paid wages, utilities, offering envelopes, mileage, and Portals of Prayer. Discussion was held concerning Church treasurer position, as Chris would like to resign. Chris reported what she found out from Kim from K1…. this sounded quite expensive for our small church. And Kim was not sure if she would have time to take on Zion for a client, as she had just taken on a large client. Discussion was held concerning the possibility of paying Chris for the book keeping portion of the position. This will need to be addressed at the Annual Voters’ Meeting. Ken K moved to accept the report, with Earl J seconding. Motion carried.

Elders: Average attendance for November was 41 with 3 children, and 37 communing. Candles have been filled on Nov. 18. Advent candles have been filled, need more oil ordered. Discussion on size of the communion wafers. Earl J moved to accept the report with Ken K. seconding. Motion passed

Sunday School/ Ladies Aid: No one present to report

Mission Board: Nothing to report.

Old Business: Discussion about recording the services for the shut-ins. Not having much luck at resolving the issue. Will keep looking for solutions. Discussion concerning continuing to seek an organist.

New Business: It was discussed to remove Kayla Gender (Anderson) from our roles, as she lives in New Richmond. To be voted on at Annual meeting. There are 5 Sundays in December, with hymn sing on December 30.

Chris H made the motion to adjourn, with second by Pastor Norton. We adjourned at 8:14, and closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

Zion’s Annual Meeting is January 20. Please have your reports to Sue no later than January 13, so they can be put in the annual report.

***Happy Anniversary***

*“You’re a wonderful couple, joined by God above. May your marriage continue in God’s love.”*

January 6 – Gerald & Dorothy (Noel) Smith



 *1/3 Wendy Frank, Lexis Hermann, Branson Jaenke, & Gavin McCann*

 *1/5 Aaralyn Sachsenmaier*

 *1/6 Kayla Huth, Brian McCann*

 *1/8 Marcus Boyea*

 *1/9 James Stephan Sr.*

 *1/12 Joshua Wangen*

 *1/13 Andrew Hermann*

 *1/14 Sara Luedtke*

 *1/15 Delores Starck, Don Schuknecht*

 *1/17 Matthew Grunewald*

 *1/22 Kathy Berlin, Sharon Tumm, Karon Davidson*

 *1/23 Christina Hausmann*

 *1/24 Beverly Curler*

 *1/28 Irene Schiefelbein*

 *1/30 Marilyn Norton*

 *1/31 Edward Raether, Diane Woodford*

*JANUARY BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS* 

 1/1 Brynda Raether

 1/5 Keith Hermann

 1/6 Josephine Sperber, Justin Sperber

 1/7 Kasey Maland

 1/13 Maxtyn Glenz

 1/15 Randy Luedtke, Travis McCann

 1/20 Marvin Sperber, Virgil Hermann, Jeremy Jaenke

 1/21 Bradley Grunewald 1/26 Colleen McCann

 1/27 Susan Luedtke, Sally Weggen, Kimberly Ruff

 1/31 Terisa Glenz

(Please tell us if there are mistakes or omissions. We can’t correct them if we don’t know.)



 Please remember in your prayers: Dorothy Smith, Don Lane, Bev Curler, Penny & Olivia Schmidt, Martha Jaenke, Pastor Jones at Zion-Chippewa, Diane Goss, shut-ins and members living in Care Facilities.

 OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS                  HOMEBOUND

 Augusta--Diane Goss--Zion                                 Brian Markham--Beth

               Geneva Smith--Beth.                            Carol Huff--Zion

                Eileen Hagedorn--Zion                          Don Berlin--Beth.

                Amy Bergman--Zion Ellie Grunewald-Beth

                Naomi Sudbrink--Beth.  Delores Starck

 Winifred Boyea-Wicksey

 Marlene & Bo Tessmer

 Also in nursing homes, or assisted living:

The Manor, Chippewa Falls--Delores Staats, (Marilyn Norton’s mother)

Grace-Woodlands, Eau Claire--Florence Korn-Beth. Neillsville--Dorothy Solberg-Beth.

Stanley--Robert Reppe-Zion River Pines, Altoona--Julia Phillips-Beth

Reminder – both Zion and Bethlehem have prayer chains, that is people who will pray for someone who is ill, in need of a job, or need God’s loving support in another way. Zion members can call Betty Woodford @ 715 877-3225 & Bethlehem members can call Sharon Tumm @ 715 877-2402, with a prayer request for yourself or for anyone else.

There are also “Prayer Request Boxes,” paper, and pencils available in the narthex. You may write down any request and put it in the box provided.
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 **Bethlehem-Zion Lutheran Parish**

**Rev. James Norton Cell 1(217)725-2487, Home (715)514-5478**

**Bethlehem Office (715)877-3249 (Office Hours T, W, TH 9-noon)**

**Zion Office (715)877-3128**

 **Facebook**: Zion-Bethlehem Lutheran Church **e-mail –** countryc@centurylink.net

**Web address**: [www.zion-bethlehem.org](http://www.zion-bethlehem.org)

**SUNDAY SERVICES: ZION 9AM; BETHLEHEM 10:30AM**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL: ZION 10:00AM & BETHLEHEM 9:00AM**

***Elders:* Bethlehem – Steve Davidson *Altar Guild*: Bethlehem – Joan & Kim Drehmel**

 **Zion – Ken Kiesow Zion – Lois & Jerry Kolpien**

January 2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
| Image result for free christian new years greeting |  | 1**New Year’s Day** | 2Zion Ladies Aid @ noon | 3 **Jt. Council Meetings @****Zion 7pm** | 4 | 5 |
| 6**Party @ the Norton’s****2-4p & 7-10pm****Come & Enjoy!** | 7 | 8**Dartball** | 9**Confirmation** **5 pm** | 10**Bethlehem Ladies Aid @ noon** | 11 | 12**9am Remove Christmas Decorations @ Bethlehem****Come Help us.** |
| 13**Communion****Youth Group @ 6:30pm** | 14 **9am****Quilting** | 15**Dartball** | 16**Confirmation** **5 pm** | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20**Potluck & Annual Voters Meeting @ Bethlehem after service** | 21**Quilting** | 22**Dartball** | 23**Confirmation** **5 pm** | 24**Bethlehem Sunday School Teachers Mtg 7pm** | 25 | 26 |
| 27**Communion****Bethlehem Worship @ 9am; Zion Worship @ 10:30 - Potluck & Annual Voters Meeting** **After Service** | 28**Quilting** | 29**Dartball** | 30**Confirmation** **5 pm** | 31 |  |  |