Bethlehem Lutheran Church

E19675 State Road 27

Fall Creek, WI 54742

**FEBRUARY 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**

 February 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th - Quilting @ Bethlehem 9:00am

 February 6th - Zion Ladies Aid with Potluck @ noon

 February 7th - Joint Council Meetings 7pm @ Bethlehem

 February 10 - Zion’s Annual Valentine’s Dinner & Movie

 February 10 - Mission Board Soup Dinner @ Bethlehem

 February 10 - Youth Group Meeting 6:30 @ Bethlehem

 February 14 - Bethlehem Ladies Aid @ noon with potluck

 February 17 - Mission Board Soup Dinner @ Zion

 February 28 – Bethlehem Sunday School Teachers Meeting 7:00pm



Zion Lutheran Church

1286 S 150th Ave.

Fall Creek, WI 54742

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 “YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH. BUT IF THE SALT LOSES ITS SALTINESS, HOW CAN IT BE MADE SALTY AGAIN? IT IS NO LONGER GOOD FOR ANYTHING, EXCEPT TO BE THROWN OUT AND TRAMPLED BY MEN.” (Matthew 5:13)

 Jesus wants to change the world. So, what does He do? He uses us, His Christians as salt. Just like you add salt to make food more tasty, He sprinkles us into the world where we come into contact with others, giving them a taste of Jesus. This happens as we live with, speak and act among others.

 Is that too much to expect? Not at all. Jesus doesn’t say ‘try to be salt’. He says, ‘you are salt,’ He has come to us with His pardoning grace, given us faith, and made us temples of His Spirit. In this way He has given us a new heart. Now, it is our very nature as children of God to think like Christ, talk like Christ, and act like Christ—for Christ lives in us.

 The gift, however, comes with a warning. Jesus asks us to think about a shocking alternative. What if salt would somehow stop being salty? It would be thrown out as worthless. It would not even be salt anymore. Since it is the very nature of salt to be salty, anything that is not salty cannot be salt. Now, what if a Christian stops living the Christian life? Such a person will be thrown out and rejected by God, for he is no longer a Christian.

 As Jesus teaches us about the precious will of God, He makes it very clear that obeying God’s will is not an optional extra. But neither is it impossible or irksome for Christians to embrace God’s will and live in obedience to it.

 Rather, it is now our very nature as Christians to do so. By the gracious gift of God, we are the salt of the earth.

 Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Norton



*“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

 - The youth will be meeting on Feb 10 at 6:30 at Bethlehem. In March (probably the 17th) the youth are planning on having their annual Youth Sunday Service & Meal. The Youth would like to invite everyone to come and enjoy this youth style service. Our youth are excited to be in fellowship with the congregation.

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**BETHLEHEM LADIES AID:**

****The ladies aid met January 10th, beginning with a delicious potluck. Pastor led the Bible Study “I Can’t Handle This.” It was decided to give the proceeds from our Christmas bazaar in the amount of $700.00 towards the confirmation picture display. Janet will take the leftovers from the bazaar to the Bethseda Thrift store in Eau Claire. The ladies will be quilting every Monday morning at 9am until further notice. Contact Sharon or Margie for further information. The next meeting is February 14. The Bible Study will be “The Shepherds Peace” on page 16 in the winter quarterly. All ladies are welcome.



**Sunday Morning Bible Study** – every Sunday @ 9:00am @ Bethlehem. Come join us!



Camp Luther is 2019 Hearts for Jesus mission “Filled with the Spirit”!
The money will be used to purchase new and larger round tables for the new dining hall and Community Center. We will collect for this mission during February! There will also be a collection jar in the back of the church for congregation contributions.

Upcoming Sunday School lessons in February will cover: The Baptism of Jesus, Luke 3:15-22; the Temptation of Jesus , Luke 4:1-13; Jesus Calls Philip & Nathaniel, John 1:43-51; and the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5:1-12.

**Soup and Fresh Bread**

**February 10, hosted by the Mission Board…make it a plan to join us, and bring a dessert to share.**

***\*\*\*Remember:* Beth. Altar Guild Meeting Feb. 17 following worship service.**



**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Monthly Council Meeting Minutes - January 3, 2019**

On January 27th, Sunday School and the church service will be at 9:00 a.m. at Bethlehem so that Pastor Norton can attend Zion’s Annual meeting.

Elders Report:

1.) Lapel Microphone Repairs – Pastor will contact Ultra Sound and Video to see if they can make a house call to fix the microphone.

Board of Education Report:

1.) Christmas Program – went well, had 22 kids participating

2.) VBS - materials have been ordered

Old Business:

1.) Church Credit Card Update – Erin had heard comments about the policy regarding the credit cards and accountability for purchases. Marvin explained that there is only one credit card number. Four designated people are allowed to use the credit card for purchases. They must contact the Treasurer to use the card, and submit an invoice when they return the card.

2.) Kitchen Ceiling Fan - The electrician who worked on the narthex project will take a look at installing the ceiling fan that the Ladies Aid have purchased for the kitchen.

3.) Parsonage Picture Window Replacement – Tom reported that the window has been replaced.

4.) Newsletter – looking for ways to cut costs on the newsletter, including editing content for fewer pages printed, discontinuing mailing newsletters that are not picked up at church. Elders could deliver the newsletters in their efforts to visit members that are not attending church regularly.

5.) Loan Papers – Erin reported that the loan papers have been signed. The loan is for 20 years with payments of $511.72 per month. The current balance in the building fund could make payments for 11 months. The interest rate of 4.75% is set for three years, after that it will change. It would be prudent to pay off as much of the loan as possible in those three years. Marvin will try to have totals for the construction project at the Annual Meeting.

6.) Eau Claire Energy Electric Bill – for the parsonage is now back to normal. The November bill must have been the “left-over” of when the water pump malfunctioned.

New Business:

1.) Future of the Parsonage – Marv would like to hold a Special Voter’s Meeting a few weeks after the Annual Meeting to bring all the information available to the members to decide what to do with the parsonage.

2.) 2019 Budget – Council members worked on the budget for 2019 which will be presented at the Annual Meeting – January 20th.

3.) Extra keys for church doors – Duplicates can be obtained from Karon.

Adjourn.

The Lord's Prayer was prayed in closing. 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.

**February 2019 Newsletter**

Joint Council Meeting is at Bethlehem, February 7, 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.***

****

**February 10 **

**Annual Valentines Dinner and a Movie after worship service.**

**All families are invited to join us for a great meal followed by an inspiring movie. Watch your bulletin for more details.**

**S****oup and Fresh Bread**

**February 17, hosted by the Mission Board…make it a plan to join us, and bring a dessert to share.**



**Zion Ladies Aide and Bible Study –**will have their meeting on February 6 at noon, with a potluck lunch. Everyone is welcome to come. All ladies of the congregation are welcome. There is no membership to sign, and you can come any time after lunch, too. We have a Bible study right after lunch, led by Pastor Norton. We conclude with a business meeting. Come and enjoy the fellowship with other ladies of the congregation.

**Be sure to check the bulletin board for other opportunities in the community**

**Zion Council Meeting Highlights, January 3, 2019**

President Dave Kiesow called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. There were 14 members present.  **Secretary’s Report:** The minutes from the December 6, 2018 meeting were read. The minutes from the December 16, 2018 special council meeting were read. As an addendum to the December 16th meeting minutes Debbie Lane said the mission board also gave $10.00 to each of the shut-ins.  **Treasurer’s Report:** Chris Hausmann gave the Treasurer’s report. **Elder’s Report:** Ken Kiesow reported that there was an average December attendance of 41, 7 children, and 38 for communion. It was suggested that there should be an alternate elder available. **Sunday School Report:** The children’s program went well*.* Deb Prill keeps trying to E-mail and make visits to improve Sunday school attendance. **Board of Education Report:** Elaine Frank said she will be retiring from the board of education at the end of the year and that there really should be two more people added to the board. She also mentioned that since she will not be handling the checkbook for the Sunday school she thinks the checkbook should go to Debbie Prill, the Sunday school superintendent. **Ladies Aid Report:** Elaine Frank reported that the Ladies Aid decided that the charge for serving funeral meals will be $150.00 plus expenses. **Mission Board Report:** None. **Trustee’s Report:** The framework for the Sunday school program was assembled and LED lights were checked out. The mowers have been winterized. Cleaning has been done and that there is a cleaning log by the refrigerator. If anyone cleans or fills napkin holders or does anything to help with janitorial duties they can write it on the log so it is known what does or doesn’t need to be done. **Old Business:** Chris Hausmann reported that she looked into accounting software programs to help with the treasurer’s duties and there is a $35.00 program that looks good. There was a lengthy discussion about all of this and a suggestion was also made that we could pay our treasurer. Chris mentioned that she spends four hours a month on the treasurer’s work. A motion was made to recommend to the voters that our treasurer get the $35.00 accounting program and that we pay her $10.50 per hour. Brenda Thompson and Dan Maco said Dan had not been paid for the security camera he purchased for our church. The camera was about $800.00 and this matter will be taken care of. There was discussion about when the meeting minutes have to be finished and posted. **Adjournment:**  We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.



 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-Beth.

 Winifred Boyea-Wicksey-Zion

 Marlene & Bo Tessmer-Beth.

 Phyllis Peterson-Zion

Also in nursing homes, or assisted living:

Bev Curler...Oak Gardens Place, Altoona

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.

 **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**:

 Winifred Boyea 2/1

 Leann Wiese 2/5

Maxie May Huth & Brynda Raether 2/7

Robert (Bob) Thomas 2/15

Eric Huth 2/17

Steve Single & Mike Pilgrim 2/20

Arlene Anderson 2/21

 Kim Drehmel 2/24

 Barbara Huff 2/26

 Nancy McCann & Halle Luedtke 2/28

 **FEBRUARY BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS**  **FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

  

 2/3 Kayla Huth 2/10 Steven & Michelle Pilgrim

 2/4 Wendy Frank 2/11 Justin & Jessica Sperber

 2/6 Shaylee Dekan, Sara Luedtke 2/17 James & Marilyn Norton

 2/6 Lexis Hermann

 2/8 Dakota Hadorn

 2/13 Emma Childers & Matthew Grunewald

 2/17 Branson Jaenke

 2/22 Leann Wiese

 2/23 Gavin McCann

**HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!**



 **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 – Dennis Anderson *Altar Guild*: Bethlehem – Steve & Karon Davidson Zion – Earl Jaenke Zion – Ted & Pat Biegel**

February 2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4**9am****Quilting** | 5**Dartball** | 6Zion Ladies Aid @ noon**Confirmation** **5 pm** | 7**Jt. Council Meetings @****Bethlehem 7pm** | 8 | 9 |
| 10**Communion** **Zion-Valentines Dinner****Mission Board Soup Dinner @****Bethlehem****Youth Group 6:30pm** | 11**9am****Quilting** | 12**Dartball** | 13**Confirmation** **5 pm** | 14**Bethlehem Ladies Aid @ noon**Image result for free black and white christian love | 15 | 16 |
| 17**Mission Board Soup Dinner @ Zion****Beth. Altar Guild Meeting** | 18**9am****Quilting** | 19**Dartball** | 20**Confirmation** **5 pm** | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24**Communion** | 25**9am****Quilting** | 26**Dartball** | 27**Confirmation** **5 pm** | 28**Bethlehem SS Teachers Mtg 7pm** |  |  |

I will show you a more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prohetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. . . . . faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 12: 31b-13:13