



Heal me, Lord, and I'll be healed. Save me and I'll be saved, for you are my heart's desire. See how they harass me:

"Where's the Lord's word? Let it come now!" Yet I didn't urge you to bring disaster; I didn't want the calamity to

happen. You know what comes out of my mouth; it's always before you. Don't terrorize me; you are my refuge in time of disaster. -Jeremiah 17:14-17

I have been sitting in prayer with these words from Jeremiah a lot over the last couple of weeks. I find myself crying out calamity." I didn't choose this pandemic, and I am looking to for healing, and saying time and again "I don't want this God to be my refuge even though things are still not as I wish they were. I too grow impatient with quarantine, and I am counted among the group that's harassing Jeremiah saying "Where's the Lord's word? Let it come now!" The best we can do, is to continue forward with what we have, and to look for God at work in our time of distress. Because even if we did not chose the calamity, God will surely be there working out in the world where God is needed most. And God has promised to be with us especially in the hard times like these ones. It is precisely in the time of disaster that God has promised to be a refuge.

Recently Bishop Katherine of the Northern Great Lakes Synod shared a power point with council presidents of all our ELCA congregations entitled "Winter, Blizzard, Ice Age." Where she talked about how we have different tools and coping strategies for different sized calamities. So, for instance, when something big like Winter is coming, we know what to do like changing our tires, and gassing up the snow blowers. And then there is something sudden like a blizzard that we also have similar tools to cope with. However, what we face now is more like an Ice Age. For a long-term problem like this at the massive scale that it has hit us, we have no tools in our garage that currently outfit us for something that massive. And so we as a church are forced to adapt, and hunker down for the long-haul through a calamity for which we have no easy immediate answers. And I thank you for your compassion and your trust in me as a leader during this time. Because I am having to adapt and change as we go and I have the same scarcity of tools to deal with this as we all do.

This is why I am fervently praying along with Jeremiah, and we're exploring as many ways as we can to be church in the time of Corona Virus. I am giving things my reverent best guess, but that's all it is: a best guess. And so I rely on your compassion as we test the waters of faith in this calamity. I am looking forward to our fall educational programs that are starting up this month. Inside this newsletter you will find more about our plan for distanced Sunday School and for bible studies. We will also be starting Confirmation Classes, and we're going to give a Sunday Morning parking lot worship a go the last Sunday of the month, while the weather still might permit it. Let God be our refuge and strength



Daylight Savings Time ends November 1st. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, or you could be way too early for church on Sunday morning!

Holy Communion will be offered each week at the Saturday parking lot worship and on the second Sunday of each month during parking lot worship at 11:15am. Thank you to Karin Sjogren, Tom Graham, Anna Sjogren and Elsa Couch for their gifts to make this possible. If you are interested in helping defray the cost of the individually packaged communion sets, please call the office. The cost is \$71.00.

To join the Zoom Worship go to our Website and click on Covid Info. There is a big blue button that says "Join our Zoom worship" click on it. Click **Open** on the dialog shown by your browser. If you don't see a dialog, click **Launch Meeting**. You can also join by phone by calling 929-205-6099 and entering the following ID # 9063415427, Passcode 49854.

THANK YOU!!

To all who have so generously given to our Augustana Hall Roofing project. Those who gave in August are:

Karin Sjogren

Teddy Nelson

Lila Panek

Frank & Shirley Leitgeb

Joanne Nelson

Lois Bentley

Naomi Fletcher

Bill & Donna Mott

Ruth Jones

Elizabeth Macklem

Sheila Clark



Stewardship materials will arrive in your mailbox soon. Please prayerfully consider your gifts to the congregation for 2021. We would ask that your pledge card be returned by mail in the addressed and stamped envelope that is included in your packet by November 30. Thanks!

All Saints Sunday – Oct. 31 – Nov. 1

By ringing the bells, we remember those who have joined God's heavenly kingdom in the past year. Glass angels, furnished by the Endowment Fund, are presented to the families of Zion loved ones who have died. They include: **Amelia "Amy" Johnson, James Barker, Robert Panek, Sally Ketchum, Eleanor Jackson, Victor Cole, Helen Lynts, Carole Johnson.**



Gay Waldvogel. Gay passed away on October 1st.
May God's comforting arms surround and comfort you.

Gifts to our congregation have been given in memory of

Carole Johnson
Judy Brimacombe—Memorial

Zion Quilters Thank You!

Many thanks go out to all of you who helped the Zion Lutheran Quilting program this past quilting year! Many people gave of their time to do the numerous tasks that were needed to complete the quilts. Several people were also involved in the packaging of the quilts for shipping and delivery to Gladstone. Thank you for the donations of fabric, sheets, batting, blankets, thread, crochet cotton, other supplies and monetary gifts. They were greatly appreciated. Thank you to Jim and Mary Ansell for taking all the boxes to Gladstone.

If anyone would like to join us on Monday mornings, 9:15am, please feel free to do so. If you have any questions, please ask a Zion Quilter or contact either chairperson, Kaye Jarski or Mary Ansell.

Join us for Bible Study

The Monday night Bible study group will be and 4th Mondays. Pr. Tommy will be leading Ecclesiastes. We will meet in person in Augustana Hall. Be sure to wear your mask and social distance. If you have any questions about this opportunity for study, please contact the office. *In November we will meet only on the 9th because of the Thanksgiving holiday and we will not meet in December. Join us in January.*



meeting at 6:30, every 2nd
our study on the book of



We are once again filling **six baskets for Thanksgiving**. Even though we are not meeting in person, the church office is open Monday-Thursday, from 9:00am to 12:00pm. You can bring your items in during those times or if you are unable to come during those times, call the office to make arrangements to come in at a later time. All items need to be at the church by November 22nd. They will be delivered on that day. Also if you can help with delivery, please contact the office.

The **Community Thanksgiving Worship** sponsored by the Manistique Ministerial Association will be held on Tuesday, November 24th, at 7:00pm, via Zoom. Pastor Tommy will be preaching the service.

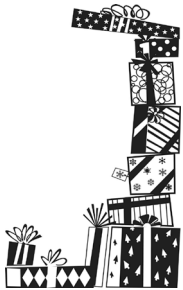


Salvation Army Bell Ringing

The Salvation is in need of Bell Ringers. If you are able to help, please call the church office. They have locations at Jack's Fresh Market and Tractor Supply.



The **56th Festival of Lessons and Carols**, has been canceled this year due to Covid. Make plans to attend next year!



The Department of Health and Human Services **will not** be having family sponsors or giving tree tags or any form of donations this. Instead they will be mailing food vouchers to eligible families who apply to help them with food costs and a Christmas meal.

Circle News

The Circles are able to start their monthly meetings. If you are not a member of a circle and would be interested in joining one, please contact any one of the following ladies for more information:

Sarah Circle—Liz Macklem
Joy Circle—Donna Gauthier
Ruth Circle—Verda Kreuzwieser
Hope Circle—Sheila Clark

The **Sarah Circle** meets on Mondays at 1:00pm

The **Joy Circle** meets on the second Thursday at 10:00am.

The **Ruth Circle** meets on the third Wednesday at 11:30am.

The **Hope Circle** meets on the third Thursday at 6:00pm.

Be sure to check with your Circle Leader to find out if and where your circle will be meeting.



We will once again be ordering Poinsettia's for Christmas.

The cost will be \$10.00. There will be more information in the December Beacon regarding when they will be available for pick up.

Upcoming Scripture Readings

November 1 —All Saints Sunday

Revelation 7:9-17, Psalm 34:1-10,22, 1 John 3:1-3,
Matthew 5:1-12

November 8—Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 5:18-24, Psalm 70, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18,
Matthew 25:1-13

November 15—Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18, Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12,
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, Matthew 25:14-30

November 22—Christ the King Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, Psalm 95:1-7a, Ephesians 1:15-23, Matthew 25:31-46

November 29—First Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9,
Mark 13:24-37

News from the Evangelism & Membership Committee

God's Work/Our Hands was on September 19, 2020. Our project this year was to clean some headstones at Lakeview Cemetery. We would like to thank the volunteers: Pastor Tommy, Mary Ansell, Cindy & Randy Olli, Kay MacGregor, Linda Levin, and Donna & Bill Mott.

Adopt-a-Highway was on September 26, 2020. Kathy Peterson, Jo Nell Berger, Ruth Jones, John Barry, Donna & Bill Mott volunteered their time to clean U. S. 2 (our 2 mile stretch). We collected 17 bags of trash. Thank you all!!

We would like to thank the 11 volunteers who are participating in a mission to contact our parishioners to let them know we are thinking about them and how they are doing during this time of no in person worship. We are keeping them informed about what is happening at church. This will be our mission until we can safely be together again. If by any chance you have not been contacted and would like to be we encourage you to call Donna Mott at 341-6414 and we will make sure you receive a call.

The Evangelism & Membership Committee,



Cindy Olli
Cathy Knudson
Larry Peterson
Mary Ansell
Ruth Jones
Donna Mott

Griffin Maline was
confirmed on
Sunday, October 25,
2020.
Congratulations
Griffin!!



The Sarah Circle had an idea in the spring before Covid to help set up a personal hygiene pantry at the high school/middle school for the students. The social worker from the school call the church about back packs, so I had an opportunity to ask her about supplying the hygiene products and she thought it was a wonderful idea. With her help and the guidance counselor we got a list of needed items. Linda Levine applied for and received a Thrivent grant for \$250 and our Circle had \$100 and with Linda ordering for Sam's Club and Costco we were able to purchase lots of good stuff. Thank you Linda for your help!



*I am
about to
do a
new
thing;
now it
springs
forth, do
you not*

perceive it?

*I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert. ~Isaiah 43.19*

Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

God is indeed doing a new thing, and if we are not perceiving it, we haven't been paying attention. While binging Netflix certainly has its place, especially during a pandemic, there is value in taking a break now and again, to consider what God is up to in these days. 😊

I see God at work as the Church discovers again what is necessary and what can be dispensed with. Many of our congregations have taken a hiatus from in-person worship at some point. Some still are, as cases continue to rise in their counties making in-person, inside worship irresponsible. But what I think we have discovered is how much we miss in-person, inside worship. We miss the gathering, seeing each other, the liturgy, the rhythm, the fellowship, the food, and more. For something that we took for granted in pre-pandemic days, we now know, without a doubt, that no matter how necessary online worship is, it will never completely replace the blessing of being together as the community of faith in worship.

I believe online worship is here to stay. But we will eventually be able to gather again as we did, with singing and trumpets and sharing the peace with hand shaking and hugs shared. Not yet, but someday. We would do well to be patient as that day will not come soon, even though we are well past wanting it to be today.

I also think we would do well to acknowledge the power of grief and lament in these days. Grief is a powerful force, even when it is unacknowledged. In these last months, we have experienced significant loss. Even if you have not lost a loved one to COVID-19, even if you have not had to navigate what a funeral looks like in these days, there is still loss.

Church is not the same. Gathering with family and friends is not the same. Work and school are not the same. Visiting is not the same. We can't sing, even if we do gather. Meetings are canceled or online. "You're on mute" has become the most frequently uttered sentence in all of history. We feel ourselves stretched thin. We sigh more often. We have trouble making decisions. There's maybe a lack of motivation. A lack of patience, a lack of energy, of having a

shallow emotional stamina to cope with anything else that comes at us. Maybe you feel your reserves are spent, wrung out, dried up, close to tears more often than you'd like to own. This, my dear synod, is grief.

When a person is grieving, it helps to see that the shadow that is cast, is indeed the power of loss over our lives. This is your cue, to be gentle with yourselves. And since we are all experiencing grief in some capacity, then please be patient and gentle with each other as well. Grief can present as anger, as a quick temper, as impatience. So I ask you again, breathe deep, and exhale. Do not let fear, or grief, or all that comes with it, steal your joy, undermine your faith, or add to your worry. God is up to something. God is at work. And God is with you, and your congregation, and your pastor, and your leaders, as you together figure out, in prayerful discernment, how to meet our current challenges.

As we continue to journey through these wilderness days, these days darkened by the shadows of death and loss, be comforted as it is precisely at these times that Christ our Lord promises to be with you. Though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, Christ is with you. And God will indeed make a way in the wilderness and will guide us along that way toward all that we are becoming and all that God would have us be.

I pray that you have such a sense of God's presence with you, that your spirit will find peace, that your fears will be at rest, and you will be surprised by joy and unexpected blessing.

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Katherine Finegan

News from the Northern Great Lakes Synod

A Year of Discovery The Northern Great Lakes Synod declared May 2020 to May 2021 as a "Year of Discovery." It is a call for our synod members to better understand the history, heritage and culture of Native American peoples, to reflect on the historical content of the Doctrine of Discovery, and to engage in dialogue with Native American siblings. To learn more, go to the synod homepage (www.nglsynod.org) to find a variety of resources to begin your study. We encourage individuals and groups within congregations to engage in this "Year of Discovery." If you wish for further guidance or resources on how to do something in your congregation, please contact Pastor Jim Duehring at the synod office (jduehring@nglsynod.org). We have members from the "Year of Discovery" Task Force who could be available to assist you in your, "Year of Discovery."

Check Out What's Happening with LMM

With a focus on men's health, talking about issues of race and racism, and the Project XII initiative, LMM is headed in an important direction! To learn more, find resources and connect with the Lutheran Men in Mission, visit their [website](#).

COVID-19 Response Fund

The ELCA provides ministry to its members, to those who are hurting and searching for peace, and to those in need. We see rising demands on our food pantries, homeless shelters and social services. Around the world, millions of people living in poverty are facing this pandemic

without reliable access to sanitation and health care. You can help the ministries of the ELCA during this time of uncertainty by supporting your local congregation and making a gift to the ELCA's COVID-19 Response Fund. Click [here](#) to donate.

Resources from the Christian Education Board of the ELCA

For 2021, we are excited to announce that the "**Christian Education Network Presents**" will be in support of the [Life of Faith](#) initiative. This ELCA grassroots effort seeks to equip all God's people for ministry in their daily lives. People see how they serve God and their neighbor through their roles in their job, as spouse, as parent, as caregiver, as friend, rather than just in their service at church. In the face of a pandemic which keeps us apart as a gathered community in so many ways, this initiative could not be timelier. Learn more about this effort and more on the [Life of Faith website](#) and the [Christian Education Network of the ELCA website](#).

Summer 2021 Opportunity for High School Students

The NEXUS Institute is a life-changing opportunity where young adults engage in theological learning, leadership development, and vocational discernment, all in the context of intentional Christian community, and are sent out to transform their local communities. Click [here](#) for an informational flyer and [here](#) to visit the NEXUS website for complete details.

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Secretary: Shirley Leitgeb

shirley.leitgeb@zionmanistique.org

Musician: Linda Levin**Choir Director:** Rebecca Peterson**Sunday School Coordinator:** Sheila Clark**Custodian:** Pat Toennessen**Congregation Council:**

Rick Pink, President

Cathy Knudson, Vice President

Kay MacGregor, Secretary

Marie Bellville, Treasurer

Cyndee Miske, Financial Secretary

John Barry

Jo-Nell Berger

Naomi Fletcher

Linda Levin

Kathy McDonough

Donna Mott

Teddy Nelson

Cindy Olli

Jim Russey



A congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.