



It is the New Year. Happy 2019!

For many of us, each year it is a tradition to make New Year's resolutions, commitments for the coming year. As I sit down to write in these days after Christmas, my 2019 resolutions appear to be leaning toward enjoying less of the delicious sugary treats and savory holiday fare of late and working toward a lot more time on the treadmill 😊 So often our New Year's resolutions revolve around health and well-being, don't they? But we might want to ask ourselves: What about our spiritual health and well-being? What spiritual commitments are we planning to make for 2019? And where should we start?

On Sunday, January 6th, we'll celebrate Epiphany, a word that often means "an awakening" or "an 'aha' moment." In the church, Epiphany begins the season of light, the period of time between the excitement of Christmas and the discipline of Lent. We're still in the darkness of winter but Epiphany will bring gospel stories that shed light on God's Son: his baptism, the miracle at Cana, the calling of his disciples, his teachings and healings. We get glimpses of the light – who Jesus is in the world, and who we are in the world.

The light shines on us during this season of Epiphany, and we all have the potential to keep the light shining through spiritual resolutions. Here are a few possibilities:

- Commit to hearing God's word and sharing in the Lord's Supper more often in 2019.
- Tell people about Zion and about the hope and promise you know through Jesus.
- Serve others in simple ways by following Jesus' example.
- Work toward alleviating hunger locally and in the world.

May you and your family experience a New Year filled with blessings.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Terry

Pastor Terry on Two-Month Leave of Absence

On December 18th, the Congregational Council accepted Pr. Terry's request for a two-month leave of absence beginning January 1st. Pr. Terry's brother John is experiencing critical health issues and needs care and support at this time.

Pr. Eleanor Russey has graciously agreed to serve as Zion's interim pastor during this time. She will preside at worship, conduct the semi-monthly Monday Bible Study on Revelation as well as the weekly Lectionary Bible Study. Pr. Ellie will attend congregation council meetings, preside at funerals and be available for pastoral care as needed. Pr. Terry will continue to teach confirmation classes.

Pr. Ellie can be reached by calling the church office at 906-341-5427. If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the church office or any Congregation Council member. Thank you for your understanding and prayers at this time.

*"Blessed are the merciful,
for they will receive mercy" – Matthew 5:7*

Backpack Buddies Continues to Grow

About this time in 2018, we were in the process of launching Backpack Buddies with help from our confirmands, congregation members, the community, and Manistique Area Schools.

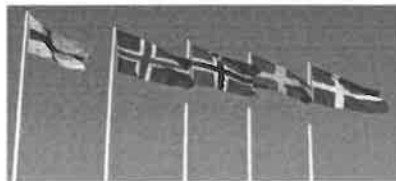
Thanks to the generosity of a number of faithful givers and a number of community organizations, Backpack Buddies is well-situated to feed young people who might otherwise go hungry on weekends. We are also blessed with two people who are coordinating the purchase, packing, and delivery of backpacks on a weekly basis. When you see **JoNell Berger and Kathy Peterson** from Zion, be sure to thank them for their commitment and dedication to our local school children.

In addition to providing backpacks for the students at Emerald Elementary this school year, we have reached out to the Head Start Program and St. Francis de Sales Catholic School. **Our backpack count is nearing 50 children per week!!**

In 2019, we want to offer additional opportunities to Zion members and others in our area to assist us with Backpack Buddies. We plan to hold occasional packing sessions, request donations of specific types of foods from the community, and seek volunteers who will be willing to deliver crates of food to three locations once per month. **If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact the church office at 906-341-5427.** Thank you!

Zion's Nordic Festival

A heart felt thank you goes out to all who assisted in making Zion's Nordic Festival on December 13th a huge success. Visitors who came to Zion enjoyed art displays by talented Manistique artists, past, present and future. In addition, guests were treated to delicious Scandinavian foods and desserts. Nordic decorations were provided by Maurita Holland, Pastor Ellie Russey and Linda Levin. The largest and most talked about art display was provided by art students at Manistique High School. Special thanks also goes out to the Lake Effect Art Association, the Schoolcraft County Historical Society and the Manistique Women's Club. Advertising for the event was largely paid for by a grant from the Schoolcraft County Community Foundation. A special thank-you also to the family of Dietmar and Karl Krumrey. The Nordic Festival was a financial success as well, taking in \$740.00 in matching funds to restore Zion's historic art and decorative painting.





Art Restoration Grant Funding

Zion recently received official notification from the Nordic Heritage Churches Project and Partners for Sacred Places of their approval of a grant award in the amount of \$10,500. The grant will support restoration of August Klagstad's *Christ in Gethsemane* painting; restoration of Jonas Olaf Grafström's *Ascension* painting and restoration of the decorative painting and stenciling in the chancel area of the sanctuary. Zion is required to match the grant funding in order to complete the project.

Partners for Sacred Places, founded in 1989, is the only national, non-sectarian, nonprofit organization focused on building the capacity of congregations of historic sacred places to better serve their communities as anchor institutions, nurturing transformation, and shaping vibrant, creative communities.

The Work of the Church - 2019

Very soon, Zion's Nominating Committee will begin the important work of putting together lists of people willing to serve in elected roles. These roles include the Audit Committee, Congregation Council, Nominating Committee, and Synod Assembly Representatives, as well as Delta Conference Representatives. At Zion's Annual Meeting on February 10, 2019, members will review and elect members to fill these positions. Following is a brief re-cap of the roles and responsibilities of our elected positions:

Audit Committee: Audit Committee members are elected by the Congregation Council to a three-year-term. Individuals who serve on this committee provide an independent evaluation of the financial records of Zion and provide an opinion as to its financial statements. The Audit Committee also recommends improvements as to internal controls of the congregation.

Congregation Council: Congregation Council members are elected to a three-year-term and may serve a second consecutive full term. Council members have general oversight of the life and activities of Zion, and in particular, its worship life. Congregation Council members are also responsible for the financial and property matters of the congregation. The Council normally meets monthly on the third Tuesday at 6:00 p.m., and members are asked to serve on at least one standing committee (Christian Education and Youth; Evangelism and Membership; Finance and Stewardship; Personnel;

Property; Worship and Music). On a rotating basis, members are also asked to find Sunday worship readers and serve as communion ushers.

Nominating Committee: Six Zion members are elected to a one year term (two of whom, preferably, are outgoing members of the Congregation Council). The committee meets in the weeks prior to the Annual Meeting to identify nominees for open elected roles. They do this with the pastor and president of the congregation council who may be aware of potential candidates. Once the slots are filled as fully as possible, the report is included in the Annual Report and used as the basis for elections.

Synod Assembly Reps: Each year, two persons are elected to attend the Northern Great Lakes Synod Annual Assembly. In 2019, the assembly will be held in Escanaba (Bethany Lutheran Church and Bay de Noc Community College) from the evening of Thursday, May 16th through Saturday afternoon, May 18th. Zion Reps will gather with representatives from 80 other churches, as well as their pastors, to vote on issues affecting the synod and to learn and come away inspired through worship and workshops.

Delta Conference # 6 Reps: We are able to elect four persons as conference representatives. Zion is the newest church in the Delta Conference and joins nine others, from: Escanaba (3), Gladstone, Perkins, Rapid River, Rock, Stonington, and Trenary. The next conference meeting will be held on Sunday, April 7, 2019, at 4:00 p.m., and we also anticipate another Walking Together Event in October 2019.



The Decorating Committee will be “undecorating” the church on **Monday, January 7th**. Anyone who would like to help, please be at the church at **12:30pm**. We will need able bodies to help take down the Christmas tree.

Quilters

The quilters will be meeting at their regular time on Monday, January 7th.



Sunday School classes will begin again following the Christmas holiday break on January 13th, at 10:30am.

First Communion and Bibles

Please join in celebration with Aurora Demers, Carson Nelson, and Zoey Nelson, who are participating with their families in First Communion on Sunday, January 6th! These three students are in the third grade and completed their communion instruction in December. Aurora, Carson, and Zoey will also receive their Bibles at this service. May God’s blessings be with them as they take this important step in their faith formation.

Confirmation News

In December, our confirmands offered the congregation opportunities to donate to ELCA Good Gifts and receive ornaments from God's Global Barnyard. Our members donated a total of **\$870.00** which will provide **five piglets, eight chick groups, two roosters, ten honeybee groups, four goats, a pair of goats, one water filter, six sets of school supplies for children, and two stocked backpacks** for the world. Thank you confirmands for taking on this project!

On January 20th, confirmands and their parents are reminded that, **with the help of Sheila Clark, we will be making prayer beads**. Each student and one parent will go home with prayer beads and a devotion book to be used at home and for future confirmation classes. These beads and prayers will help guide and strengthen our prayer lives.

The 2019 Marked! Event, "celebrating our identity as baptized children of God in our Lutheran expression" will take place on **Sunday, March 17th, at Our Redeemer in Newberry**. We'll be collecting financial donations for Lutheran Disaster Response and collecting items for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits: dark color bath towels, bath size bars of soap, adult size toothbrushes, sturdy combs, and metal nail clippers. There is a goal of making over 500 kits together. Last year's Marked Event was great, and we're looking forward to another!



All committee chairpersons are reminded to turn in their annual reports to the church office by the week of January 20th and earlier if possible. Please submit the reports in Microsoft Word format if possible. These reports are reviewed

by our auditors before they are ready to be copied and assembled. The annual reports will be ready for your preview the weekend of February 2 & 3. Our annual meeting will be held on Sunday, February 10th right after worship and following a potluck meal.

Reports are needed from the following committees:

Ahlstrom Trust Fund

Audit Committee

Endowment Fund

Funeral Luncheon Committee

Quilters

Tanzania Church Committee

Thrivent

Sunday School/Christian Education Committee

Property Committee

Finance & Stewardship Committee

Personnel Committee

Evangelism & Membership Committee

Worship & Music Committee

Offering
Counters



Several members of our congregation serve the church as weekly offering counters. We are currently in need of additional people to take on this responsibility as well as people to substitute on an as-needed basis. Two people are assigned each month to count the offering after church on Sunday morning. A short report is prepared and the money is brought to the bank for deposit. Training will be provided! If you are interested, please talk to Pastor, Cyndee Miske or Linda Levin.



We received a thank you from the Beacon House: “You’ve made life less difficult today with your gift to Beacon House! On behalf of the Beacon House Board, the staff and guests, thank you for your gift of \$99.13.” Sincerely, Ann Labaie

* * *

Save the Date – Darren Hicks – Eagle Scout
Darren Hicks’ Eagle Scout Court of Honor will be held at Zion Lutheran Church on Saturday, February 2nd, at 2:00 p.m. Please plan to join us for this important occasion!

*Gifts to our congregation have been given
in memory of*

Kathy Selling

Harry & Verda Kreuzwiser—Altar Guild

Mable Patz

Joel & Sherri Krause—Pew Cushions

Marilee Blower

Joel & Sherri Krause—Pew Cushions

Peggy Arnold

Joel & Sherri Krause—Pew Cushions

Join us for Bible Study and Conversation

The Wednesday morning Lectionary conversation continues at 10:30am beginning January 16th.



The Monday night group will be meeting at 6:30, every 2nd and 4th Mondays. Members will be starting their **new study on the Book of Revelation** on Monday, January 14th.

If you have questions about either of these opportunities, please call the church office or see Pr. Ellie.

NOISY OFFERING

December 2018 \$156.75 - Salvation Army

November 2018 \$114.47 - Manistique Ministerial Assoc

Circle News

The **Sarah Circle** will meet Monday, January 7th, in the conference room at 1:00pm.

The **Joy Circle** will be having their annual Christmas Auction and luncheon in Augustana Hall. Contact Donna Gauthier for date and time.

The **Priscilla Circle** will be going to lunch at Big Boy on Tuesday, January 15th at 12:15pm, weather permitting.

The **Ruth Circle** will be meeting on Wednesday, January 16th at 11:30am at Big Boy weather permitting .

The **Hope Circle** will meet on Thursday, January 17th at 6:00pm and will be continuing their Bible study .

2019 Sign-Up Sheets

There are many opportunities in 2019 to help with Flowers for the Altar, Bulletin, Bread, & Wine, Coffee-Fellowship Hours and Greeters.

Please consider donating and/or volunteering at least once per year so that all weeks are covered. With everyone participating, we will beautify our sanctuary, cover ongoing costs, enjoy weekly fellowship, and ensure all are welcome for Sunday worship. Please check the sign-up sheets posted in Augustana Hall.

December Congregation Council Highlights

- +The Council approved a two-month leave of absence for Pr. Terry to care for her ill brother. Pr. Eleanor Russey was hired as Interim Pastor for January and February.
- +The work in Augustana Hall is continuing. New chairs in the library are now in place. The work in the old nursery room will be done in January.
- +The Nordic Historic Spaces Committee reported on the successful Nordic Fest held on December 13th. Works of art from artists past, present and future were displayed. Scandinavian treats were served. \$740 was raised and will be used as matching funds for the grant.
- +Zion's Constitution Committee worked on updating our congregation's constitution. The NGLS Constitution Committee returned the draft for five minor revisions.
- +Check out Zion's new website! It was recently updated to be mobile ready. If anyone is interested in taking pictures or writing stories about events going on at Zion, please talk to Pastor or Linda Levin.
- +We are looking for people who are interested in counting the offering after church on Sundays. Two people are assigned per month to do the work. Training will be provided. Please talk to Pastor, Cyndee Miske or Linda Levin if you are interested.
- +Zion's Annual Meeting will be held on February 10, 2019. The budget committee has been working on a proposed budget. The nominating committee will soon begin its work. Please consider the ways in which you can contribute to the life of the congregation – council member, auditor, nominating committee, or delegate.
- +A letter was received from Bishop Katherine Finegan explaining that, with few exceptions, synod lay preachers will no longer preside at Holy Communion. Only ordained clergy will be allowed to preside.

Fortune Lake Has a New Camp Director!

From the Fortune Lake Board of Directors:

“With great joy and excitement, the Board of Directors of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp announces Amanda Rasner as the next Camp Director of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, to start in January 2019.

“Amanda has a passion and long history of participation and involvement with Fortune Lake. We are excited that Amanda is ready to lead where the Holy Spirit has called her! She is a passionate, diligent, and natural leader with a great gift of compassion.

“Join us as we celebrate the gifts that Amanda will bring to the ministry of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp as we continue our mission and vision into the future.”

Mission Interpreters from the Northern Great Lakes Synod

Pastor Jim Duehring is looking for people who are interested in being a Mission Interpreter! Mission interpreters are volunteers from congregations in each synod of the ELCA who tell the story of how our offerings and the gifts are transformed into effective ministries. They remind us of how we make a difference in Christ's mission and the work of the church, and they thank our people for their faithful giving. There is a training opportunity for people interested in learning more about being a "Mission Interpreter" here at Zion on **Saturday, February 16, 2019, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Upcoming Scripture Readings

January 6 —Epiphany of Our Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3:1-12,
Matthew 2:1-12

January 13—Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 20—Second Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 36:5-10, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2:1-11

January 27—Third Sunday of Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a,
Luke 4:14-21

End of December Giving		
Contribution Summary as of December 30, 2018 (52 weeks)		
Avg. Received Each Week	Needed Each Week (per 2018 budget)	Average Amount Ahead/(Behind)
\$3,092.00	\$3,034.00	\$58.00
Received Year-to-Date	Needed YTD (per 2018 budget)	Ahead/(Behind) Year-to Date
\$160,794.00	\$157,768.00	\$3,026.00

Serving Zion in January 2019

	Altar Flowers	Bulletin, Bread & Wine	Fellowship Hour
Jan 6	Bruce & Rita Rossier	****open****	****open****
Jan 13	****open****	****open****	****open****
Jan 20	****open****	****open****	****open****
Jan 27	Pat Mickelson	****open****	****open****



Zion Lutheran Church

435 Oak Street
Manistique, MI 49854
906-341-5427

A church of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America - ELCA

www.zionlutheran-manistique.org

or like us on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

~ January 2019 ~

Saturday – Worship and Holy Communion -- 5:00 PM

Sunday – Worship and Holy Communion – 10:30 AM

Office Hours – Monday-Thursday – 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Terry Frankenstein, Pastor

zion.pastor.terry@gmail.com

CONTACT US:

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906-341-5427

www.zionlutheran-manistique.org or find us on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

Rev. Terry Frankenstein, Pastor

zion.pastor.terry@gmail.com

Office: 906-341-5427

Cell Phone: 906-241-3311

Secretary: Shirley Leitgeb

shirley.leitgeb@zionmanistique.org

Musician: Linda Levin

Choir Director: Rebecca Peterson

Sunday School Coordinator: Sheila Clark

Custodian: Pat Toennesen

Congregation Council:

Linda Levin, President

Cathy Knudson, Vice President

Kay MacGregor, Secretary

Marie Bellville, Treasurer

Cyndee Miske, Financial Secretary

John Barry

Clyde Johnson

Frank Leitgeb

Jon Maline

Julie Malloy

Kathy McDonough

Donna Mott

Larry Peterson



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