

ZIONNEWS

NOVEMBER 2014

A publication for the family of Zion Lutheran Church
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PASTOR'S DEVOTIONAL

"Be with us, O God, as we offer to you our remembering." – F.B. MacNutt, *A War Primer*.



Once again this year, our nation will pause on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month to remember those who have given their lives in defence of our nation and for the cause of freedom. On Remembrance Day, Canadians gather in churches, town squares, Legion halls, and arenas to pay tribute to fallen soldiers and sailors, hearing John McCrae's immortal words of how *"in Flanders fields the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row,"* reminding each generation that it is *"to you from failing hands we throw the torch; be yours to hold it high."* In our prayers of remembrance, we ask that God will *"grant that they may rest in your peace, and that we, through our actions, may be found worthy to inherit the eternal treasures of your kingdom."*

As people of faith join our fellow Canadians on this day of remembrance, God's Word calls us to consider how remembrance is not an act to be confined to a single day, but one that is at the heart of our practice of faith. As the Lord is about to liberate the people of Israel from their bondage to slavery in Egypt, he institutes the Passover meal which is to be *"a day of remembrance for you."* (Exodus 12:14). Israel is called to remember their faith as it is expressed in the *shema* (*"Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone."* – Deuteronomy 6:4) through acts of remembrance in which they *"bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."* (6:8-9). As Zechariah rejoices over the birth of his son John (the Baptist), he rejoices that through the birth of the Saviour whose way his son will prepare *"[God] has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant"* (Luke 1:72). As he institutes the Lord's Supper on the night of his last supper with his disciples, Jesus invites his followers to partake of the bread which is *"my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."* (Luke 22:19).

While our acts of remembrance call to mind what God has done for us in ages past, they also invite us to consider God's blessings in the present age and our assurance of God's presence in the future. One of our Lutheran confessional statements, the *Apology of the*

Augsburg Confession, expands our understanding of what it means when we hear our Lord's words every time we gather to receive Holy Communion:

"Do this in remembrance of me.' For to remember Christ is not an empty celebration or a show nor something instituted for the sake of an example, the way plays celebrate the memory of Hercules or Ulysses. It is rather to remember Christ's benefits and to receive them by faith so that we are made alive through them."

November is a month in which we remember both *"all the saints who from their labours rest"* on All Saints Sunday as well as those who laid down their lives in Flanders Fields and so many other arenas of battle on Remembrance Day. As we give thanks for their lives and sacrifice, we also give thanks to the God who we are called to remember as our Lord and Saviour who we remember as *"our God in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home."*

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Jeff Laustsen

ALL SAINTS' WORSHIP



On Sunday, November 2, our parish, together with Christians around the world celebrates the Festival of All Saints. A time to celebrate the triumph of the Lord of Life Jesus Christ over the powers of death, the day is traditionally the time Christians remember those by name who have died since the last All Saints' Day. Indeed it is a good time to remember all our loved ones who have died and to praise our Lord for his victory over death and the grave. Come and worship!

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND



Since its inception the Endowment Fund has annually distributed Funds to needy causes on behalf of Zion Lutheran Church. The distributions are split evenly between local, national and international needs. One of the largest recipients has been Canadian World Relief in the amount of \$114,000 since 1988. Locally, we have supported the Salvation Army and the House of Blessing for a combined amount of \$62,000 over the years. Nationally, we are supporters of the Synodical Budget having contributed \$61,000 towards our Synod.

Currently these donations are distributed based on the income of the Endowment Fund. Your committee endeavours to maximize the funds available while at the same time minimizing risk of loss of principal. We will continue to provide information to the congregation through future bulletins.

Respectfully submitted by
Your Endowment Committee



WOMEN OF FAITH NEWS

Monday, November 3: WOF Board meets at 7 PM.
Monthly Meeting, Wednesday, November 26 at 7:30 PM

This year for our Lutheran World Relief Project at Zion we will be doing the Living and Learning Kits again. We are asking you to provide the whole kit this time. There will be a copy of what goes in the kit. All kits will be accepted until April 30. The congregation is also welcome to do the kit as well. They were very much appreciated.

For more information about WOF happenings, please contact the WOF President Linda Springer at klspinger@rogers.com or 519-273-2093.



ZION TABLE FOR SENIORS

Our next gathering of Zion Table For Seniors, our ministry which promotes fun, food, and friendship takes place on Tuesday, November 25 at 12 noon. Please let Doris Bartlett (519-271-9622) or Beryl Horst (519-276-3501) know by Tuesday, November 18 if you can attend. Lunch cost is only \$12. Our after dinner entertainment will be speakers from the Diabetes Society. **P.S. Sign up date for December's Christmas dinner is by Tuesday, November 25. The Senior's Christmas Dinner will be Tuesday, Dec 16.**



YOU ARE INVITED! To a Composers Concert on Saturday, November 8 at 4 PM. Come join Marco Burak and friends as they present a concert of brand new music, mostly for piano. Admission is by donation, with proceeds going to Zion's Friendship Meal Program.



FRIENDSHIP MEAL NEWS

Our Friendship Meal ministry continues to serve the people of our community who are in need. Of course, given these difficult economic times the need increases. Our next Friendship Meal is Friday, November 28. Thank you "ministers" of Zion for your continuous support and help which is a great blessing. Questions? Call our coordinator Sister Jean Widmeyer (519-273-6810). She'd love to hear from you.

+ IN MEMORIAM +
Velma Pryde, October 10

NOVEMBER 2014 VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers assist with our Sunday morning worship services. Listed below are those who serve in November as a reminder and as a thank you for serving.

Date	Communion Assistants	Greeters	Readers	Usher Captains	Counting Captains
Nov. 2	Janet Ahrens & Barb Higgins	Jim & Judy Stanley	Brian Wilker	Brian Wilker	Paul Hansen
Nov 9	N/A	Fritz Steigmeier	Ed Illman	Fritz Steigmeier	Paul Hansen
Nov 16	N/A	Wayne & Joanne Young	Fritz Steigmeier	Fritz Steigmeier	Brian Gropp
Nov 23	Loralee McNaughton & Ed Illman	Paul & Norma Hansen	Erin Iredale	Steve Lamont	Brian Gropp
Nov 30	N/A	Pastor Bob & Lisa Hutchison	Liz Bomasuit	Steve Lamont	Wendy Holman