



# The Prairie Land Lutheran Parish Messenger

November 2018



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

Friends in Christ:

*If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9*

We've spent some of the last months discussing some of the furniture and other items we see in our worship space. Now we turn to the elements of the worship service itself!

We'll start with the confession and forgiveness, which is especially appropriate right now because we've just celebrated Reformation Sunday, remembering the special contributions that Martin Luther brought to the history of our church. And confession and forgiveness was one of Luther's favorite things!

Luther loved the rite of confession because it was a great opportunity to get to the forgiveness part, which was really the whole point. People sin. We turn away from God. We mess up. We damage our relationships with other people and our relationship with God. Forgiveness is God's way of healing the relationship, of restoring us to wholeness.

When we are baptized, God forgives all our sins. But then we sin again! So God has promised that we can return to the brand-new forgiveness of our baptism every time we confess our sins.

Anybody can confess their sin to God at any time and receive forgiveness at any time. God doesn't need another human's help in order to forgive us. But sometimes it helps us to hear the words spoken by another human. That's what the confession and forgiveness is all about.

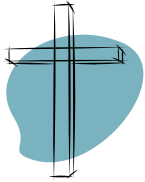
In Luther's day, it was common for most Christians to confess specific sins one-on-one with a priest. That's not such a bad idea—in fact some people still do it! We still have a rite for Individual Confession and Forgiveness in our hymnals! (If you ever want to give it a try, let me know.)

Nowadays, Lutheran Christians mostly confess our sins all together, in general words that cover more or less everything. (Sometimes the words we use change with the seasons, and in that case, they often echo the Scripture readings we'll be hearing in that season.) We mostly do this at the beginning of the service, not because we *have to*, but because it's always good to start worship with a clean slate, freshly reminded of God's great love for us.

Then, after we confess our sins, I always announce God's promise of forgiveness. When you hear that, you can trust that it is really true: God is really forgiving your sins, right then and there! I usually say this part myself, not because I have any special powers, but because I have a special responsibility. (Anybody *can* announce God's promise to forgive sins, and it'll be just as true. But as a pastor it's my *job* to make sure it gets said!)

When I share communion with folks in homes and hospitals and care centers, often I start with the confession and forgiveness, just as an extra excuse to get to tell someone their sins are forgiven (and to get to hear it myself). You can never hear too much about God's forgiveness!

Pastor Sarah Taylor



## Vital Statistics

### Lake Hanska

|                                   |    |            |
|-----------------------------------|----|------------|
| Sept 16th                         | 12 | \$975.00   |
| Sept 23rd                         | 25 | \$448.00   |
| \$25.00 Hurricane Florence Relief |    |            |
| Sept 30th                         | 15 | \$753.00   |
| Noisy Offering \$13.38            |    |            |
| Oct 7th                           | 23 | \$1,035.00 |

### Zion

|                                    |    |            |
|------------------------------------|----|------------|
| Sept 16th                          | 63 | \$2,160.00 |
| Sept 23rd                          | 38 | \$719.00   |
| Sept 30th                          | 27 | \$1,544.00 |
| Noisy Offering \$48.08             |    |            |
| Oct 7th                            | 32 |            |
| Oct 14th                           | 16 |            |
| offering for 7th & 14th \$2,021.00 |    |            |



## November Worship Schedule

### Sunday worship

9:00a.m. - Lake Hanska

10:30a.m. - Zion

Sunday School the 1st and 3rd Sundays at Zion

## Sunday School

Sunday November 4th and 18th

During worship at Zion Church



## Thanksgiving Eve Joint Worship Service

Wednesday November 22nd 7:00p.m.  
with communion  
at Zion Church



## Parents of Zion Sunday School Students

Zion Christmas Program  
The Sunday School children will be singing  
during worship on Sunday December 2, 2018



Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Phillipians 4:6

My Personal Thank you to the Zion Church Ladies for serving the luncheon after the funeral service.

So very much appreciated!

Karen Haack and her Family

Don't forget that the deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of each month

Prairie Land Lutheran Parish  
Annual Meeting  
Thursday December 6 2018  
7:00p.m.  
at Zion Church

# Prairie Land Lutheran Parish Women of the ELCA

## Lake Hanska W-ELCA

**Altar Guild:** Sue Stoesz, Lanna Raatz  
and Deb Koch

**Wednesday November 7th**  
Quilting at 9:30a.m. Coffee at 10:30a.m.

## Zion W-ELCA

**Altar Guild:** Sonja Smesmo

**Communion:** Darlene Odegard  
and Mary Paulson

**Flowers:** Dorcas Circle

**Sun. Nov. 18th**  
Thank Offering

November 2017 - October 2018

### Our Saints

#### Saints who have died in the faith

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Sharon Larson      | November 21, 2017 |
| Jane Lilleodden    | December 10, 2017 |
| Carrie Gustafson   | December 19, 2017 |
| Wally Schmiesing   | January 21, 2018  |
| LaVerne Paulson    | January 28, 2018  |
| Delores Bentsdahl  | April 5, 2018     |
| Sharon Anderson    | April 17, 2018    |
| Richard Nelson     | April 21, 2018    |
| David Frederickson | May 7, 2018       |
| Gordy Haack        | July 18, 2018     |
| Ron Bocock         | July 26, 2018     |
| Don Olson          | August 12, 2018   |

#### Saints who have been baptized into the faith

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| Teagan Joy Miller      | 11-19-2017 |
| Brody Lee Kraus        | 11-26-2017 |
| Nolan Brian Kamm       | 2-11-2018  |
| Leah Mae Greising      | 2-18-2018  |
| Nadia Marie Goblirsch  | 4-1-2018   |
| Jontae Ja'King Ahlness | 9-16-2018  |
| Owen Robert Budahn     | 10-28-2018 |



Prairie Land Lutheran Parish  
PO Box 65  
Hanska, MN 56041

Address Service Requested

Non– Profit Organization  
Permit 7  
Hanska, MN 56041

Address Service Requested



Prairie Land Lutheran Parish  
Parsonage Office  
213 Summit Avenue  
PO Box 65  
Hanska, MN 56041  
Phone: 507-439-6270

## **November Worship Schedule**

### **Sunday worship**

9:00a.m. - Lake Hanska

10:30a.m. - Zion

Sunday School November 4th and 18th  
during worship at Zion

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### **Thanksgiving Eve Joint Worship Service**

Wednesday November 21, 2018 at 7:00p.m.

with communion

at Zion Church

## Share God's Love. This Year, Give Gifts That Change Lives!

If you are looking for a place to donate money over the Holiday Season here are some ideas! These are some local and church based groups. Let me know if you have any other suggestions!

|  |  |
|--|--|
| United Way in Brown County   | Brown County Humane Society                            |
| Hanska Library/Madelia Library   | Oak Hills Auxiliary                                    |
| Food Shelf in Watonwan County or Brown County  | Luther Memorial Home Auxiliary                         |
| Hanska, LaSalle or Madelia Fire Departments  | Relay for Life – Brown County or Watonwan County       |
| NUMAS House in New Ulm – New Ulm Ministerial Association Haus  | American Legion- New Ulm, Madelia and St James         |
| Southern Minnesota Crisis Nursery in New Ulm   | God's Global Barnyard - <b>www. ELCA.org/goodgifts</b> |
| American Red Cross – <a href="http://www.redcross.org">www.redcross.org</a>                            | Lutheran World Relief – <b>LWR.org</b>                 |
| Habitat for Humanity - <a href="http://hfh-mn-brown.huterra.org/">http://hfh-mn-brown.huterra.org/</a> | ELCA's – Young Adult in Global Mission                 |
|  | Green Lake Lutheran Ministries - GLLM.org              |

These are just a few organizations. There are many others out there to donate to as well.

### Wedding in the PLLP

Ryan and Michelle (Paulson) Melhiem - Saturday September 29, 2018 at Lake Hanska Church



The Family of Gordy Haack would like to take the means to thank everyone for their visits with us at our home, for the prayers, the many cards and the phone calls while Gordy was confined to his home. A special thank you for all the expressions of sympathy following his passing. all these acts of kindness shown were so much appreciated by his family. He was admired by everyone who knew him and will be dearly missed.

Thanks again and God bless all of you.

Karen Haack and her family

### Christmas Community Youth Workshop

Saturday December 1st  
2:00p.m. - 5:00p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church

Join us for String Art, Cupcake Decorating, Photo Booth Fun and Ornament Making!  
All Ages are Welcome!

Admission: one non-perishable food item. Items will be donated to the Brown County Food Shelf.  
Sponsored by Zion Board of Education and Thrivent Financial

