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 **ZION** Lutheran Church

October Newsletter | Vol. 26, Issue 10



On love and loss

Before meeting my wife, I could not imagine a love deep enough that would cause me to want to change my life to better fit another. I thought I would never find someone worth altering my very specific and sometimes niche life goals, until I met my wife. I learned of a love unlike any other: a love that would scatter my plans to the wind, change my life forever and alter my outlook on love in ways I never thought possible. It has been one of the greatest gifts of my life to learn of a love like this. This was manifest in the wedding we hosted at the beginning of September; our wedding was a celebration of this love.

As September comes to a close, I am holding in one hand the joy and celebration of our wedding and in the other, the grief of loss. And facing such grief has caused me to wonder in a way I've never wondered before: "Is it worth it?" Is the pain of grief and loss worth the love gained, whether it be a spouse, a friend, a neighbor or someone else? The conclusion I've come to, at least for now, is this:

Love is worth it every time. However, that does not take the sting of death away or the weight of grief off of our hearts, in fact, it may cause it to hurt more.

Even this is something that God demonstrates for us. God sent Love into the world whom we call Jesus Christ. He loved, he taught, he fed, he cared. And then he faced a most brutal and painful betraying resulting in death. God knew this would happen when God sent Love to us. God knew that we would crucify God's son, but God sent him anyway. God knew the grief of loss and death and knew the love gained would all be worth it. That's how much God loves us. We wouldn't know Love in the same way if God had decided otherwise.

Love may make loss more painful. And when we love, we will certainly lose at some point; that's the nature of this life. But I chose to believe that life is more beautiful and more worth living when there is more love, even if it means more loss too.

In love,
Pastor Christina



EcoFaith Action! October 2026

Practical ideas and inspiration for how you and your faith community can take action for Creation! Prepared by members of the NEMN EcoFaith Network. This EcoFaith Action is by Tom Uecker, Duluth, MN

Monarch butterflies need milkweed. It is the only plant upon which a female will lay an egg and the only food the caterpillar will eat. So, if milkweed were to disappear, monarchs would also disappear. For many years milkweed was considered a weed even though it is a native plant. Communities were more likely to encourage milkweed destruction than milkweed planting. Growing milkweed was even illegal in many places. Habitat loss was the greatest

danger for monarchs. Fortunately, in more recent years milkweed has become more acceptable, but habitat loss still exists. So, planting milkweed helps keep monarch butterflies off the endangered species list.

There are over 100 kinds of milkweed and several are native to Minnesota. The three most common milkweed plants in Northeast Minnesota are common milkweed, swamp milkweed and butterfly weed. Also, but less common native milkweeds are whorled milkweed, poke milkweed, and showy milkweed. Female monarchs will lay eggs on these plants.

Female monarchs are experts at locating milkweed plants. They will lay only one egg on a milkweed plant and then fly off in search of another milkweed plant. Unfortunately, sometimes there are no milkweed plants available, and it is like a desert to the female. No more eggs will be laid. However, female monarchs are such experts at finding milkweed that they can find it when it is present. So, plant some milkweed to help the monarchs.

Native Plant Sources: Shoreview Natives, Two Harbors, MN; Prairie Restorations/Esko Garden Center Esko, MN



Meatball Supper

Wednesday, October 28th, 2026

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 pm.

Zion's Traditional Meatball Recipe,
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetable,
Coleslaw, Apple Crisp & Beverages

Ticket Price: \$12.00

🌰 Cash or Check payment only, please 🌰

**To order meals for Delivery call
218-879-4647**

Delivery orders will be taken until
noon on the day of the supper.

**Pre-sale & Takeout Tickets available during
office hours and from congregation members.**

Zion Lutheran Church

1000 Washington Avenue

Cloquet, MN 55720

With support of Cloquet DAV Chapter 18
and
The Minnesota Wilderness



RAIN OR SHINE

apple festival



**SUNDAY,
OCTOBER
4, 2026**
1:30-4P

FREE ENTRY

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
1000 WASHINGTON AVE
CLOQUET, MN

PRESENTATION | 1:45-2P

GREETING FROM ZION'S
HUNGER & JUSTICE
COMMITTEE AND UPDATE
ON MINISTRY IN MEDICAL
MISSION

LIVE MUSIC | 2-4PM



*the
deviled
eggs*



APPLE PICKING

BRING YOUR OWN BAGS
OR BOXES FOR APPLES.
APPLE PICKING TOOLS
WILL BE AVAILABLE.

CIDER PRESSING

TAKE JUICE HOME IN YOUR
CONTAINERS OR OURS

APPLE TASTING

5 DIFFERENT VARIETIES
WITH OR WITHOUT
CARAMEL



TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED FOR

MINISTRY IN MEDICAL
MISSION.

Make Checks Payable to
Moose Lake Covenant Church
| Memo: MMM

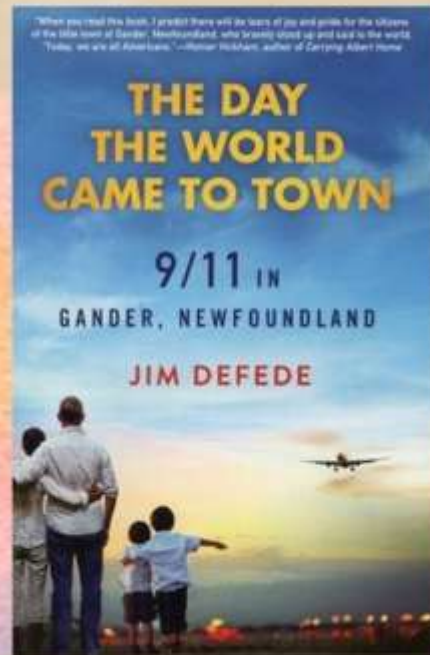
3RD THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH

BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY OCTOBER 15

11A | LOUNGE

THE DAY THE WORLD
CAME TO TOWN
BY JIM DEFEBE



HEART TO HEART

*A Gathering of Women, Young & Old... Meeting in
Friendship & Fellowship in Christ
"ALL are Welcome... Ages 14-104"*

EVENT WILL BE ON: SATURDAY OCTOBER 3, 2026
FROM 9:30-11:30AM
(REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9:15AM)
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH-1000 WASHINGTON AVE., CLOQUET, MN



INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER:

Sarah VanderMeiden, Educator, Counsellor, Life Coach,
Administrator, sharing her message: "Faith over Fear."



OUTREACH SPEAKER:

Sue McClermon, Executive Director of "Star of the
North Maternity Home" - Offering Housing & Help for
Pregnant Mom's and/or their children.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

Robin Johnson

PRE-REGISTER BY:

Wednesday,
September 30th

*SIGN-UP SOON
LIMITED SEATING*

PLEASE CONTACT:

Annette Mills
Annette75@msn.com
218-590-4873
(CALL/LEAVE MESSAGE
or text)

HEART TO HEART IS A NON-DENOMINATIONAL FRIENDSHIP MINISTRY IN OUR AREA
BRINGING WOMEN OF ALL AGES TOGETHER FOR A TIME OF COFFEE, FELLOWSHIP & FUN.
THE GOAL IS TO OFFER WOMEN OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPACT THEIR COMMUNITIES WITH
THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST THROUGH WORD & DEED.

A \$3 DONATION FOR THIS EVENT IS APPRECIATED VERY MUCH.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU.



Pastor Christina's ~~getting~~ **is!**
married!
Let's Celebrate!

We will be gathering
this Sunday October 4th
during coffee hour to
have our own "Zion" reception
for

Pastor Christina and Pachia!

You are invited to bring your
cards or gifts to this gathering.
Please join us in marking this
milestone in their lives!



Zion Lutheran Church

SECOND SUNDAY SURPRISE

Intergenerational Sunday School

Sunday | 10:45 | Social Hall

September	 13th
October	 11th
November	 8th
December	 13th

Fellowship | Discussion
Craft | Lunch





QUILTERS

TUESDAYS | 9A

SOCIAL HALL

STARTING ON SEPTEMBER 15



All skill levels are welcome to
join this friendly group!
Come sew, socialize, and
collaborate.



Ongoing Help Needed!



Daily stockers of the Little Free Pantry are needed to help keep our pantry a consistent source of food for our community. Commit to one (or more) scheduled days per week to load the Pantry. Training and Building Key provided.

Pairs of counters are needed to help record & deposit monetary tithes and offerings. One Sunday every 2-3 months. Training provided.





Zion Choir Practice

ZION CHOIR PRACTICE

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH AT 4:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH AT 6:30 PM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22ND AT 4:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 4TH AT 6:30 PM

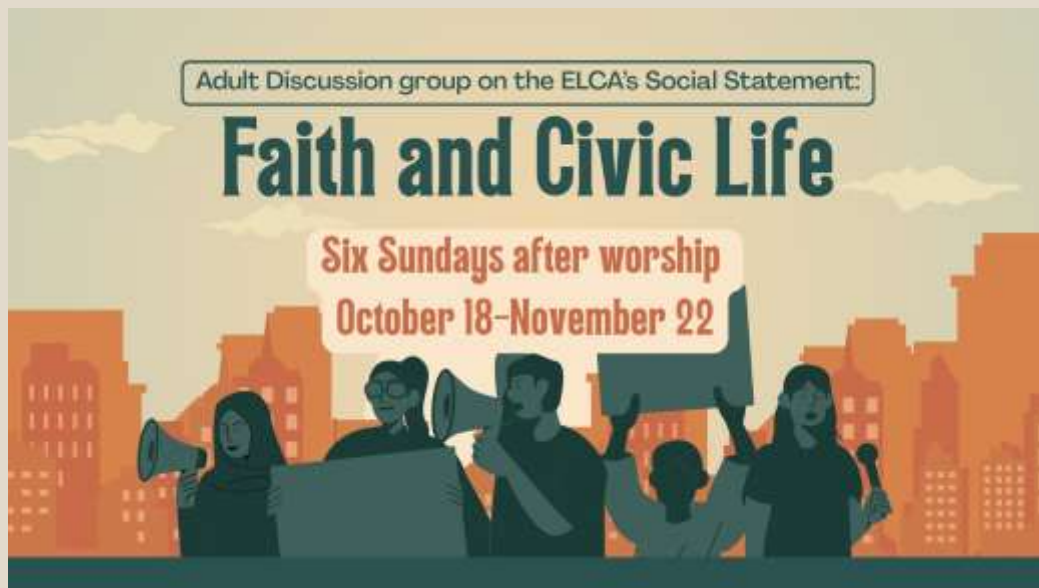
THURSDAY, NOV 19TH AT 4:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2ND AT 6:30 PM

THURSDAY, DEC. 17TH AT 4:30 PM

Presbyterian Church of Cloquet

47 4th Street



In 2019, the Churchwide Assembly called for a social statement on faith and civic life to address issues of politics, faith, discipleship and the Constitution. Since then, the need for such conversation has only increased.

Together, we will follow a 6-week study guide created by Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa) and the Office of the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA for Theological Ethics to study together the ELCA's Social Statement on Faith and Civic Life.

You can find a copy of the Social Statement on Faith and Civic Life [here](#) or on the pew outside Pastor Christina's office.

Please join us for these six weeks of learning, discussion and growing as we seek to grapple with this statement, navigate the way between faith and civic engagement and become a community better in tune with the moral discernment it takes to be a Lutheran in the United States today.

November 3 | Election Information



Research Candidates Before You Vote! Trusted, Nonpartisan Resources



VOTE 411

By the League of Women Voters

- See personalized ballots for your area
- Compare candidates side-by-side, learn about the office
- Read candidate statements in their own words, watch available forums
- Get details on where, when, and how to vote



My Ballot Finder

By the Minnesota Secretary of State

- Find out which races and questions will appear on your ballot
- Identify which candidates you need to research

Congress.gov

- Follow what current U.S. Senators and Representatives have done
- Track their voting records and the bills they've sponsored
- See committee assignments and official statements

OpenSecrets.org

- See where candidates get their money
- Look up top donors and industries by name
- Covers both federal and many state-level candidates

VoteSmart.org

- Check how incumbents voted on specific issues
- See speeches, public statements, and campaign promises
- Learn about a candidate's work history, education, and affiliations
- Review ratings by advocacy groups

Ballotpedia.org

- Learn about candidates at local, state, and national levels
- Read biographies, past election results, endorsements
- Explore key policy positions and campaign contributions
- Includes info on judges, ballot measures, and more

Notes from the Office

Office hours are Monday-Thursday,
8am-2pm.

**Office will be closed Thursday
(10/15), Friday (10/16), and
Wednesday (10/21).**

Kristy can be contacted at
office@zioncloquet.org about
prepping worship materials,
printing, scheduling,
announcements and general
questions.



Elise continues to support Zion's worship life through liturgy preparation and
offsite graphic design support.

Contact Elise at media@zioncloquet.org for support with bulletins, website,
posters and social media.



ELISE AMES



LITURGICAL ASSISTANT
& OFFSITE GRAPHIC DESIGN SUPPORT



**IF YOU NEED
HELP WITH THE:**

- Bulletin
- Website
- eNewsletter
- Posters
- Social Media

EMAIL ELISE:
media@zioncloquet.org



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion Lutheran Church in Cloquet Minnesota is committed to expressing the holy hospitality of God and welcomes all people into the community of this congregation and to the celebration of Holy Communion. We believe that Christ's death and resurrection is for all people, therefore we affirm the sacredness of all people: all sexual orientations; gender identities and gender expressions (LGBTQIA2S+); races and ethnicities including Black, Brown, Indigenous, & Persons of Color (BIPOC); ages and abilities; those who struggle with addiction, physical or mental illness; socioeconomic or citizenship statuses. We stand together in Christ, striving to reflect the expansive diversity of God's image and creative work, through our commitment to racial equity, diversity, inclusivity; to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8)



ALL ARE WELCOME HERE.



Zion Lutheran Church

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Cloquet, MN 55720

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Gretchen Chelseth

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James Sheetz

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✠ ZION Lutheran Church

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