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The Zion Spirit



"Grounded in Christ: Sent to be a blessing"

September 2017



The St. John's Bible: More Info Is Now Here!

Last month we told you: the St. John's Bible is coming to Elgin! This project will be a part of the 500th Anniversary Commemoration of the Reformation. This incredible bible took eleven years to hand make and is a true masterpiece. We are bringing two of the seven volumes to town: The Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament) and Gospel-Acts (the first five books of the New Testament).

With funds for the joint Lutheran Ministry Fund and sponsorships from Christ the Lord Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church, the ELCA has taken the lead on this. But St. Mary's Catholic Church is a partner to symbolize increased unity since the Reformation split the church 500 years ago. And Congregation Kneseth Israel, our local Jewish synagogue, will be sponsoring it to help bring an Old Testament volume to Elgin and symbolize Christian-Jewish healing and partnership as well.

The St. John's Bible is a calligraphy bible with illuminated (gold leaf) artwork. It is a seven-volume bible, weighs a total of 165 pounds, and was hailed

by the Smithsonian as one of the most significant works of art in the 21st century.

Gail Borden Library is also a partner and will be displaying the Bible and all 160+ images from this incredible work for the three months the Bible will be in Elgin. The bible will also be in the sponsoring synagogue and churches on weekends for use in classes and in worship.

Two important dates to keep in mind:

Monday, October 23rd @ 6:30 PM – The BBC movie, *The Illuminator: A Bible for the 21st Century*, will be shown at the Gail Borden Library in the Meadows Commons Room. The evening will begin with refreshments at 6:30 and the one-hour program will be shown at 7:00 PM.

Sunday, November 12th from 1:30 to 4:30 PM – The two volumes on loan to Elgin will be on open display in the rotunda of the library with docents able to turn pages and show specific works of art, explain the history behind the making of this incredible work, and share stories and insights that will make these books come to life.



**God's work.
Our hands.**

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

On Sunday, September 10th, we will again join other ELCA Lutheran congregations around Elgin and across the country as we participate in "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday. Christ the Lord Lutheran Church will host this year's meal and the lunch will begin at 12:30. Then teams of people will go out and provide community service as we go out and make a difference in the surrounding area. Projects will range from easy, sit down work, all the way to more physical things that include carpentry or painting. Everyone can contribute something and kids are welcome to do this with their parents or grandparents. Sign up and be a part of the team!



International Peace Sunday – September 24th

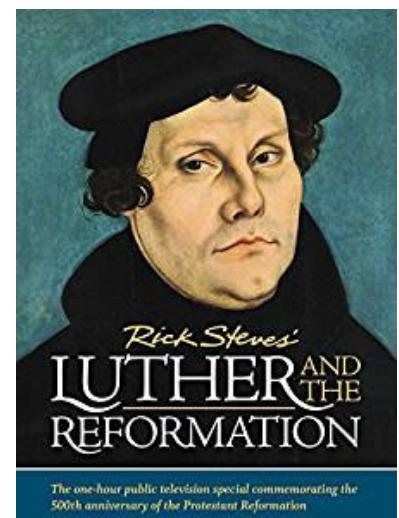
Many faith communities throughout Elgin are celebrating International Peace Sunday on September 24th. We will have a special focus on peace, use a Rite of Blessing of Hands for Peace in our worship, and focus on how we can honor the "Prince of Peace" in our faith life and work today.

In addition, there will be a special Interfaith outdoor service for all people in Elgin held at 3:00 PM in the Peace and Prayer Garden at Zion. Our new space will be available and on display for our neighbors to see and enjoy as we celebrate and pray for peace together.

Perhaps no recent time has needed workers and people to pray for peace than the times in which we live. There is much happening to break God's heart. Come be a part of this special and important day.

Rick Steves Movie: *Luther and the Reformation*

On Monday, September 25th, we will show a one hour special made by PBS's Rick Steves. Rick is an ELCA Lutheran who made a special on the Reformation and Martin Luther to document the background for the Reformation. In addition, Rick donated a copy of this movie to every ELCA Lutheran congregation in the whole country. We were blessed to receive a copy of this excellent film. We will gather with dessert at 6:30 and show the film at 7:00 PM.



SEPTEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Office Closed	2 09:30 AM-Prayer Shawl 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
3 08:30 AM-Worship 10:15 AM-Worship 04:30 PM-AA Dist 22	4 Labor Day - Office Closed	5 05:30 PM-Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	6 Office Closed 06:00 PM-Praise Team 07:00 PM-AA 07:00 PM-Choir	7	8 Office Closed	9 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
10 Newsletter Articles Due 08:30 AM-Worship 09:45 AM-Sun. School 10:00 AM-Adult Ed 10:45 AM-Worship 12:30 PM-God's Work Our Hands (CTL)	11 06:30 PM-Church Council	12 05:30 PM-Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	13 Office Closed 06:00 PM-Praise Team 07:00 PM-AA 07:00 PM-Choir	14	15 Office Closed	16 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
17 08:30 AM-Worship 09:45 AM-Sun. School 10:00 AM-Adult Ed 10:45 AM-Worship	18 07:00 PM-SWAN	19 10:00 AM-Ladies Bible Study 12:00 PM-CERL Zion hosts 05:30 PM-Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	20 Office Closed 06:00 PM-Praise Team 07:00 PM-AA 07:00 PM-Choir	21 07:00 PM-Inclusive Church mtg	22 Office Closed	23 10:00 AM-AA 03:00 PM-Jasica Wedding 06:00 PM-Centro de Información Gala 08:00 PM-AA
24 08:30 AM-Worship 09:45 AM-Sun. School 10:00 AM-Adult Ed 10:45 AM-Worship 03:00 PM-Int'l Peace Day reception at Zion	25 06:30 PM-Reformation film at Zion	26 05:30 PM-Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	27 Office Closed 06:00 PM-Praise Team 07:00 PM-AA 07:00 PM-Choir	28	29 Office Closed	30 08:00 AM-Youth Grp to 6 flags 10:00 AM-AA 11:00 AM-AA Dist 22 05:00 PM- Blessing of the Animals 08:00 PM-AA

If you have concerns or joys to share, please call the church office at 847-888-2882 and press 2 to place a request on the prayer line.



BIBLE READINGS for September

September 3

1 Samuel 21:1-9 (sermon text)
Matthew 12:1-8

September 10

Genesis 1:1-2:4a (sermon text)
John 1:1-5

September 17

Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14 (sermon text)
John 1:29-34

September 24

Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17
(sermon text)
John 1:43-51

October 1

Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17
(sermon text)
John 8:54-58

Amanda Fraas to Go to Madagascar!

Amanda Fraas will leave for a year of missionary service in Madagascar. As we write this article she is in her orientation sessions being trained on all the issues and things she will need as she moves to a new place to work with new people.

Amanda knows that she will be spending her year of service working in a school for deaf children. She is excited about it because she has had experience learning sign language here in America. While she will need new skills to work with people there, her experience here should give her a great foundation to make a real difference in the lives of these children and their families.

Amanda's host family will be a local church family, the husband in the family being the vice-president of the church there. This will give her a chance to be with a family of faith as her hosts, have support and relationships to work from, and also learn more about local life in Madagascar.

Madagascar is a large, island country off the southeastern coast of Africa. It is one of the places where there have been Lutheran missionaries for a long time. The work she does is part of the broader work that Zion is a part of in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The program she is sent through is called Young Adults in Global Mission.

Amanda would like to express her thanks to the congregation for its support. She writes:

"I want to say a big thank you to my Zion family for all the love and support. I can't really express how amazing it felt to feel you all rally behind me when I announced my plan to be a YAGM volunteer for a year. With all of your support I raised over \$6000! With all your love and support, I go with a calmer body and mind. I take you all with me as I go."

Love Always,

Amanda

SEPTEMBER VERSE OF THE MONTH

So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them;

Genesis 1:27

The Bible is alive,
it speaks to me;
it has feet, it runs after me;
it has hands, it lays hold of me.

Martin Luther



Youth Group to Six Flags

On September 30th our youth group will join with youth from Holy Trinity to spend a fun day at Six Flags in Gurnee. It should be a great day and a lot of fun! If we get 15 or more people to attend, we will also get a discounted rate. Talk to Deacon Marlene or Jennifer Leatherby if you are in grades 7-12 and would like to go.

September 12th – Kids Hope Event

Kids Hope leaders are putting on a special kick off event just for Elgin churches involved in Kids Hope. David Stahl, the national president, will be with us. The event will begin at 6:15 PM at Harvest Bible Church and all Kids Hope mentors and prayer partners are invited to attend. This event is a special gift to Elgin churches because so much great work has been done to establish Kids Hope as a leader in U-46 and a model for many others across the country.



- September 10 – Fall Worship Schedule begins. Sunday School and Adult Education begins.
- September 10 – God’s Work Our Hands event
- September 23 – Centro De Información Gala
- September 24 – Zion hosts the International Peace Celebration for Elgin (at our Peace Pole)
- September 25 – Special movie showing of “Luther and the Reformation” by Rick Steves at Zion
- September 30 – Youth Group to Six Flags
- September 30 – Blessing of the Animals service
- October 15 – CROP Walk
- October 23 – BBC Film on the making of the St. John’s Bible. Shown at Gail Borden Library
- October 29 – Joint Reformation Service at St. Mary’s Church
- November 19 – Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
- November 21 – Thanksgiving Service at Zion
- December 2 – Advent Retreat - For children and adults





Gala for Centro de Información – September 23rd

Our congregation council has set up a task force to help us build helpful relationships with our diverse neighbors in Elgin, many who are Hispanic people. Centro de Información has been helping the Hispanic community in the Elgin area for 45 years. Their annual gala is on Saturday, September 23rd at Villa Olivia. Church council has committed to a table of ten to support this cause and build relationships with our neighbors. If you'd like to be a part of the table, a few seats are left. Tickets cost \$100 and will help Zion be visible to a new audience of people and support this important partner in their work. Talk to Dan Garcia or Pastor Dave if you are interested.

Fall Schedule Begins September 10th

We resume our Fall schedule on Sunday, September 10th. This will mean the following pattern for Sundays:

- 8:30 AM – Early Worship Service
- 9:45 AM – Children and Youth Sunday School
- 10:00 AM – Adult Education
- 10:45 AM – Late Worship Service

There will be classes for all ages from age 3 through adult. Learning and spiritual growth are an essential part of following Jesus. Be sure to be a part of it!

A Christian is
the most free lord of all,
and subject to none;
a Christian is
the most dutiful servant of all,
and subject to everyone.

Martin Luther

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Worship/ Holy Communion
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Adult Education
10:45 a.m. Worship/ Holy Communion