

MAY 2011 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR

You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know --this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope.

Acts 2:22-26

The month of May is full of little celebrations here and there. It is a fun time of the year when the grass grows and the sun shines and school is out! I have long enjoyed May and the many reasons it has given us to celebrate. We at Zion will be celebrating our way through the month of May.

The first Sunday in May will be confirmation Sunday. We will take the morning to hear the faith stories of five of our young people and welcome them into a faith life of responsibility. Remember, confirmation is when we “confirm” our faith in Christ and promise for ourselves the promises that were made for us in our baptism: live among God’s people, read the Word of God, share in the Lord’s Supper, say the Lord’s Prayer, recite the Creed, remember the 10 Commandments, proclaim Christ in word and deed, care for God’s creation, and work for justice and peace. These five young people will be making those promises for themselves and remind us that we need to work harder at following through on those promises for ourselves.

The second Sunday is Mother’s Day. We will give thanks for mothers in our lives and remember the important women in the life of the church. There are many ways in which God acts like a mother to us, and we give thanks for God’s “mothering nature.”

The third Sunday in May is also the Fourth Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday. The fourth Sunday of Easter is always celebrated as Good Shepherd Sunday and we remember all the parables and sayings of Jesus which remind us that he is the Good Shepherd and we are his sheep. Shepherds have always been important characters in Scripture from Able to David to the shepherds in Bethlehem; shepherds have been raised up as blessings from God. We use the metaphor of Jesus being a shepherd as way of explaining his role in our lives as guide, protector, and life-giver.

The fourth Sunday of May is when my wife Lori graduates from seminary and we will have the opportunity to welcome back Pr. Doug Allen. The Gospel reading for that day is one that is common at funerals, “In my father’s house, there are many rooms...I am the way, the truth, and the life...” Another promise of eternal life in Jesus and resurrection through the cross.

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NOTE:
*Stewardship
will meet on
April 25 @ 7pm
in the Nolte
Center.*

Please donate new or gently used stuffed animals for children hospitalized in the Omaha Children's Hospital.

This donation is in support of



Sarah Rezac and Michaela Krichau to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award.

The green donation box is located in the Nolte Center.



Thank you so much for all the support Zion has shown during our loss. Thanks to all who helped with the funeral.

Sincerely,
The Family of
Joy Rezac

With the approach of summer, my office hours will change. I will plan to be in the office on Wednesday mornings. I may be in other times, but plan to work from home most of the time.

As before, if you need to reach me, you may contact me at 402-796-2648 or schroeders@windstream.net.

I am planning (not promising) that the telephone directory will be out to you by May 15th.

Thanks. Jeanne

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The fifth Sunday falls during Memorial Weekend. We will take time that day to remember and give thanks for all the saints who now rest from their labors. The many people who have raised us in the faith and the ones who have raised them in the faith are important witnesses of Christ. We give thanks for our loved ones and the faith they have taught us.

On a more personal note, a petition has been submitted that would cause my home congregation in Gothenburg to take a first vote to leave the ELCA. This is the congregation that has raised me in the faith and supported me in my training for ministry. I am deeply saddened and overwhelmingly upset. It has put me in a bad mood and sent my blood pressure climbing (it was high enough before!). The signers of the petition have done so out of greed and selfishness, fear and power; not out of reasons of faith or conscious...*the* definition of unrepentant sinners. I am thankful that Zion had decided to stay in the ELCA before I arrived; it was the right decision and we would have never come together. My prayer is that those in Gothenburg who wish to leave for selfish reasons – not reasons of faith – will do so and do so without causing further harm to the congregation. Selfishness, power, and greed tear the body of Christ apart far too often.

In this season of Easter I am thankful for the promise of resurrection and new life in Christ. May we be reminded to resurrect ourselves each morning and greet the rising sun with new life. Then, when our earthly journey is through, we will be greeted by the Son and be granted a new eternal life and perfect resurrection. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Pr. Andrew

<http://zelca.org>



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will be May 1st at 9:00a.m.

Members of the 8th grade confirmation class are:

Marrissa Marie Dian Allsman, daughter of Joe & Charlene Ganz, Lincoln, NE.

Jacob Roger Mensik, son of Darin & Brenda Mensik, Denton, NE.

Darian Nicole Ogden, daughter of Craig Ogden, Nikki Steele & Paul Spanel, Lincoln, NE.

Sarah Elizabeth Rogge, daughter of Steve & Michelle Rogge, Pleasant Dale, NE.

Charlee Marie Sindelar, daughter of Tom & Vicky Sindelar, Lincoln, NE.



*Congratulations to
Lori Kitzing.*

*Lori will be graduating from
Pacific Lutheran Theological
Seminary in Berkeley, CA, on
May 21!!!*

Graduating from High School this spring are:

Scott Deinert, son of Mel & Linda Deinert,
Malcolm High School.

Casey King, daughter of Tom & Betty King,
North Star HS, Lincoln.

Jake Krupicka, son of Shelli Krupicka, Mal-
colm High School.

Scott Schmalken, son of Steve & Tammy
Schmalken, Malcolm High School.

THANKS

Thanks to everyone who participated in Spring Clean Up the weekend of April 16th.

The Property Comm.

AND MORE THANKS

Thank you to the choir for all their devotion. We appreciate your time and your talents.

Your Zion Family



Thanks to the Education Committee for sponsoring the Easter Egg Hunt on April 17th. Fun was had by all!



Thank you to Kathleen Lostron for helping me review the directory information.

I appreciate it very much.

Jeanne



MEETINGS

Choir	On Summer Break	Linda Deinert
Thrivent Coordinators	TBA	Burdette
Church Council	Tuesday, May 10 @ 7:30p.m.	Scott Stratton
Education	TBA	Deborah Lewis
Evangelism	TBA	Karen Brhel
Stewardship	Monday, April 25 @ 7:00p.m.	Mark Porath
Health Cabinet	TBA	Dorothy Rippe
L. O. Y. A. L.	Nothing scheduled for May.	Tom Schwarten
Property	TBA	Dave Wacker
Sound System Comm.	TBA	Dave Wacker
Young Adult Group	May 15, noon, Pioneers Park	Karen Brhel
Worship Committee	Monday, May 02, 7:00pm	Pete Petersen

Daily Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries

By Pastor Ken Klaus, Speaker Emeritus of **The Lutheran Hour**[®]

From a devotion originally written for "By the Way"

"Exhaustion"

April 17, 2011

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 1 John 4:7

So many folks I talk to tell me they feel absolutely exhausted at the end of the day.

Even so, as they look back, they can't think of anything they've really accomplished to make them feel that way.

Having said that, a good friend of mine suggests we become tired for many different reasons -- not all of which can be measured. Although he hardly claims to be scientific, he came up with a list that is food for thought. He said, when you ...

- beat around the bush, you burn up 75 calories;
- jump to conclusions, that consumes 100 calories;
- climb the wall, you can count off 150 calories;
- swallow your pride, that's 150 calories,

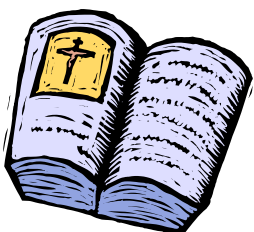
but if you...· beat your own drum, you expend 300 calories.

As I say, his calculations aren't very scientific. Still, in a silly sort of way, they do have a ring of truth.

Think for a moment, don't you know somebody who spends most of his time and energy doing those things which were just listed. As a matter of fact, if we're being honest, we have to admit that we, on the rarest of occasions, do the same.

That's not the way God wants us to be. He, who is completely filled with love, wishes His people to be the same way. He wants us to be responsible individuals who -- in the Name of the Savior who has redeemed us -- live their lives in service to others.

It's quite a challenge, but if we do as He wishes, this day will be well spent and our evening will be peaceful because we know we have served the Lord who gave His Son so we might be saved.



THE PRAYER: Father, help us to use our time wisely. In all we do and say, let us reflect the Savior to others. In His Name we ask it. Amen.



In Memory of

Joy C. Rezac

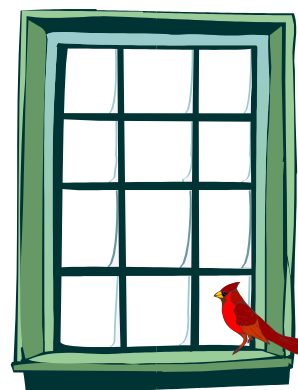
Joy Carolyn (Borgmann) Rezac was born on February 12, 1933, on the family farm west of Emerald Nebraska to William and Lurretta Borgmann. She passed away peacefully at home in Lincoln Nebraska, on April 19, 2011, at the age of 78 years, 2 months, 8 days. Joy enjoyed going to dances and outdoor movies at Malcolm, where she met Simon E. Rezac. On September 30, 1950, Simon and Joy were joined in Holy matrimony. To this union seven children were born, Simon Gene, Elane, Debra, Cindy, William, Ricky and Betty.

She was a life member of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and a member of Lincoln Women of the Moose Chapter #1164 for 43 years, an officer of T.O.P.S #508. Joy was a Cub & Girl Scout Leader for several years. She enjoyed BINGO, her flowers and the many birds that came to enjoy her bird feeders. The neighborhood squirrels (Pepe) loved her left-over bread.

Joy is survived by her son, daughter-in-law, Simon Gene and Penny, Lincoln; daughters, Elane Muhlecke, Ashland; Debra Peterson, Lincoln; Cindy Foster, Geona; sons, daughter-in-law William L., Lincoln; Ricky and Kathy, Sheridan IN; daughter, son-in-law Betty and Thomas King, Lincoln. Sisters, Violet Allen, Lincoln; Pat Danekas, Crete. Grandchildren; Simon G Rezac Jr, Rachel Rezac, Agnes Pinknie, Carl Muhlecke, Dana Muhlecke, Joy Barrier, Ranea Hammad, George Brundage, Ronald Foster II, Helen Foster, Sindi Foster, Jonathan Foster, Charles Foster, Charlotte Kohlman, James Foster, William L Rezac Jr, Charlene Allsman, Quentin King, Carolyn King, Casey King; and 35 Great-Grandchildren, 1 Great-Great Grandson; many Nieces, Nephews and Friends. Proceeded in death by husband Simon E Rezac, parents; William F & Lurretta Borgmann, sister; Genevieve Sutton, brothers; Donald, Paul, William F Jr, & Charles, sons-in-law; Ronnie Muhlecke, & Ronald Foster.



Our prayers go out to the family of Joy Rezac. May God comfort them in the days to come.



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**Small enough to know you.
Large enough to serve you.**