

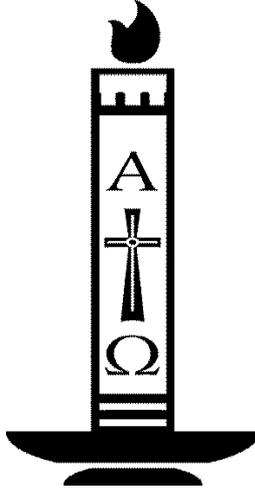
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

360 CHESTNUT STREET EAST

ANNANDALE, MN 55302

(320) 274-5226

The Candle



February 2019

Rev. Thomas Queck, Pastor

Email: (Pastor) zionandl@lakedalelink.net

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Webpage: zionannandale.org

Like us on Facebook: Zion Lutheran Church

Church Office Hours:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Thursdays - 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

February 2019 Candle

“From the Pastor”

“Spiritual Economics”

^{ESV} **Romans 4:4** “Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵ And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness.”

It's at this time of year that we are confronted with economics whether we like it or not. Tax season is in full swing as W-2's and 1099's are sent and received. Search for receipts, donations, contributions, can be very frustrating. A bit of budget fear happens as one wonders if there is a tax refund coming or if a check will have to be written to the IRS. And then what has to be budgeted for the coming year? Just how precarious financial stability can be for people was revealed by the partial government shutdown. Repeatedly it has been revealed that many people live only from paycheck to paycheck with no assets to get them through such situations. The answer to the stability problem quickly given is that people need more money and higher pay. Such higher pay is needed to pay the higher prices and taxes- that are caused by higher pay. Which is why take-home pay does not stay at home very long.

The apostle Paul imparted a critical economics lesson to the believers in Rome. Wages aren't gifts. Employers agree to pay those who work for them for they rightfully

expect diligence and effort from those hired. Workers rightfully expect pay that fairly compensates them for their thoughts and actions.

“However”, as Paul says, spiritual economics operates in quite the opposite manner. By all appearances, those who work for their eternal living should be worthy of high reward. We might expect God to commend those who toil to earn His favor and a room in His executive suite. God, however, sees things differently. He notices flaws in what others perceive as goodness and quality. He knows when we resentfully attempt to do His will rather than eagerly work to serve Him. His annual evaluation (as if He needed to wait a year!) indicates the less-than-perfect and completely unsatisfactory exertion of our thoughts and deeds. That’s why we need to quit the chores of earning salvation.

Our inability to do God’s will dooms us. We cannot possibly work hard enough, contribute enough money, or say sufficient prayers to earn eternal living. God saves through faith, not work. We simply trust God, who sent Jesus Christ to work for us. God credits Jesus’ work to us. Talk about unearned income! Jesus made us truly wealthy, and now instead of working for salvation we have ample free time to use that infinite wealth. How? There are infinite ways to freely love God and love your neighbor. Try that.

Pastor Queck

January 13, 2019 Quarterly Voters Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Peter Minear at 10:10 a.m. with 38 members present. Pastor opened with devotions.
- II. Reports:
 - a. Secretary: Dorothy Minear read the minutes from the October 14, 2018 quarterly voters meeting. M/S to approve by John Truenow/Dale Fischer. Motion carried.
 - b. Treasurer: Gloria Ulrich read the Treasure's report for 4th quarter 2018 and provided a 2018 full year recap. M/S to approve by Ken Truenow/Doug Triplett. Motion carried.
 - c. Pastor's report was given for 4th quarter 2018 as well as a 2018 full year recap which follows:
 - i. The Word:
 1. Worship Services: 64 including Holidays with an average attendance of 131.
 2. Care Center Services: 28
 3. Weddings: 2
 4. Funerals/Committals: 7
 5. Bible Classes: Sunday: 91
 6. Confirmation Classes: 30
 7. Adult Instruction Classes: 18
 - ii. Sacraments
 1. Baptisms: 5
 2. Communions:
 - a. Sunday: 3,593
 - b. Care Center: 163
 - c. Private: 60
 - iii. Administrative meetings for the quarter:
 1. Zion Meetings: 72
 2. Circuit/District: 17
 3. Pastor used 30 of 35 vacation days
 - d. Boards
 - i. Elders: No report.
 - ii. Trustees - 2018 recap:

1. Purchased a new electric range for parsonage.
2. Repaired moldings on Sanctuary stained-glass cross
3. Painted safety strips on back steps
4. Removed parsonage carpeting and refinished original hardwood floors
5. Installed donated stained-glass windows in front entry and above office door
6. Completed Sanctuary remodel including new altar, pulpit, lectern, baptismal font, communion table and other pieces
7. Painted the Sanctuary
8. Added an automated defibrillator
9. 2019 Proposed Actions:
 - a. Seal Coat & stripe parking lots
 - b. Repair/upgrade exterior lighting fixtures
 - c. Convert interior lighting to LED
 - d. Review adding electronic message board to front yard

iii. Education:

1. Wonderful children's service on December 23rd
2. About 28 kids are now enrolled in Sunday school
3. 30 kids attended VBS in July
4. We recycle used lessons sending them to Orphan Grain Train where they can be redistributed

iv. Stewardship: No report.

v. Evangelism: No report.

e. Old Business:

- i. Pastor reviewed information about the various groups/individuals we support as a congregation with our time and treasures. These included:
 1. Minnesota South District

2. The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
 3. Concordia Seminaries in Fort Wayne and St. Louis
 4. Pre-Seminary student Gabriel Strawn
 5. CLEF – Confessional Lutheran Educational Foundation
 6. Higher Things – provides Lutheran support for youth and young adults
 7. University Lutheran Chapel
 8. Annandale Food Shelf
 9. Share Your Christmas – support for Annandale -South Haven families
- ii. New Church Directory is planned for May 2019. See Peter Minear if interested in helping. A new directory is needed as there have been many changes since the last one.
 - iii. Remaining balance of City Street Assessment has been paid in full (\$6,256.90)
 - iv. Gene Stueven has filled one of the Elder positions. We are still in need of one Elder and one for Stewardship committee. Please consider this and contact Peter Minear.
- f. New Business:
- i. Nominations for Synodical Officers
 1. Pastor provided several names of qualified candidates. Motion/Second by Gloria Ulrich/Barb Peterson to nominate Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison and Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast for President and Rev. Dr. John C. Willie and Rev. Peter K Lange for First Vice President. Motion carried.
 2. Motion/Second by Mike Schmidt/Doug Triplett to nominate Rev. Nabil S. Nour for Vice President Great Plains Region. Motion carried.
 3. Peter Minear was selected to be our representative to cast the nominations.

4. Peter asked for volunteers to perform a financial audit. No response. He will follow up.
- III. Adjournment: Motion/Second by Ken Truenow/Fred Jude to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.. Pastor closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Minear, Acting Secretary



Note of Thanks: Pastor Queck and Kathy want to thank all for your Christmas greetings, cards, and gifts. They are very much appreciated by our entire family. Most of all we thank our God for the gift of our Savior, Jesus – a gift we all share so thankfully.



Busy Needles will meet on Monday,
February 4, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m.



Altar Flowers

To order altar flowers for a special occasion or in memory or in honor of a loved one, contact Myra Steere at 320-224-2985.

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