



# The Prairie Land Lutheran Parish Messenger

April 2019



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

Friends in Christ:

*Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.*  
*John 20:18*

As we work our way through our worship service, this month we've reached one of the central parts: the sermon. Why do we always (or nearly always) insist on having a sermon, anyway?

The story starts with Mary Magdalene.

When Mary Magdalene came to tomb that first Easter Sunday morning, she found the stone rolled away and the chamber empty. Angels announced that Jesus was not there, because he had been raised from the dead. This was too overwhelming to take in!

But then Jesus himself appeared, and she believed. And Jesus sent her to tell all the others. And she did.

Mary Magdalene was the very first Christian preacher. She was the first to announce the good news of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. It's been said that in that brief moment, between Jesus' sending and her first telling, she was herself the entire church on earth. In the oldest traditions, she is known as the "Apostle to the Apostles", the one who was sent to the ones who would be sent.

Everyone who has ever proclaimed that same good news follows in her footsteps! Jesus also sends us to go and tell others.

Lutheran Christians have always valued preaching. The Augsburg Confession, for instance, defines the church as the assembly of believers where the sacraments are administered *and the gospel is preached*. The gospel is proclaimed in throughout a worship service: it's in the words of the prayers and the hymns and in the readings. The sermon is simply one obvious and visible place in public where the gospel is proclaimed.

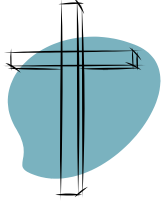
**"Gospel" means "good news"**. While we were all rookies in our very first preaching classes, one of my seminary professors would always ask, "Where's the good news, preacher?" We learned very quickly that as long as you could answer that question, a sermon had been preached. But if nobody could find any good news in what you had just said—well, it might have been an interesting talk.

The good news (see what I did just there?) is that the gospel does not depend on the skill of the preacher. God makes sure that the gospel is proclaimed! Lutheran Christians believe that wherever the gospel is announced, that's one of the places where we really (not just symbolically) encounter God's Word.

Wherever the gospel is preached, God is speaking. That doesn't mean that God always agrees with every preacher! It means that the Holy Spirit gets involved. So whenever I preach, the Spirit might work through what I am saying, or around what I am saying, or even despite what I am saying. The Spirit might even work through wherever your thoughts wander as you listen!

Of course God doesn't only (or even mostly) speak through formal sermons in a formal worship service. God speaks whenever *anyone* announces good news, even if that news is as simple as "Jesus loves you". And that is *always* good news.

Pastor Sarah Taylor



**Vital Statistics**

**Lake Hanska**

Feb 24th Worship cancelled

March 3rd 11

Ash Wednesday 35

March 10th Worship cancelled

March 17th 10

March 20th Lenten Worship 32

**Zion**

Feb 24th Worship cancelled

March 3rd 31 \$3,257.00

March 10th 5

March 13th Lenten Worship 30

March 17th 48 \$1,872.00



**Worship Schedule for April**

**9:00a.m. Worship at Lake Hanska**

**10:30a.m. Worship at Zion**

**Sunday School April 7th during Worship**

**No Sunday School April 21st (Easter)**

**Lenten Worship Schedule**



**Wednesday April 3rd at Lake Hanska**

6:00p.m. Supper

7:00p.m. Worship

**Wednesday April 10th at Zion**

6:00p.m. Supper

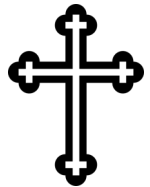
7:00p.m. Worship

**Maundy Thursday Worship at 7:00p.m. at Zion**

**Good Friday Worship at 7:00p.m. at Lake Hanska**

**Easter Worship Services**

**Sunday April 21, 2019**



**7:00a.m. Worship at Zion**

**(rolls, coffee and juice will be served after worship)**

**9:00a.m. Worship at Lake Hanska**

**He is Risen Alleluia!**

# Prairie Land Lutheran Parish Women of the ELCA

## Lake Hanska W-ELCA

**Altar Guild:** Beth Kral, Bonnie Lilleodden  
and Nancy Lilleodden

**Wednesday April 3rd - 9:30a.m.**  
quilting, 10:30a.m. Coffee for all women  
of Lake Hanska Church

**Wednesday April 3rd**  
**Lenten Worship at Lake Hanska**  
6:00p.m. Supper  
7:00p.m. Worship

## Zion W-ELCA

**Altar Guild:** Karen Peterson

**Communion:** Brenda Thormodson  
and Brenda Blackstad

**Flowers:** Dorcas

**Sewing -** Monday April 15th and  
Tuesday April 16th

**Bibles Study -** Tuesday April 16th

**Wednesday April 10th**  
**Lenten Worship at Zion**  
6:00p.m. Supper - Served by both circles  
7:00p.m. Worship

## Living Meadows Auxiliary Spring Festival

Tuesday April 9th

at Trinity Lutheran Church in Madelia - 10:30a.m. - 1p.m.

Salad Luncheon served from 11:00a.m. - 1:00p.m. - \$6:00 a person.

Drawing for prizes will be at 12:30p.m.



## Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering

Watonwan River Conference

Saturday April 6, 2019

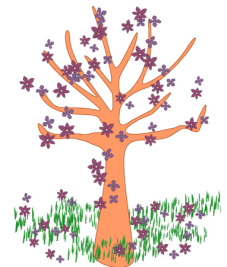
Augustana Church in St James, MN

Registration and Coffee - 9:00a.m.

9:30a.m. Meeting/Program

“Facing Forward” - Speaker Tina Haroldson

Cost - \$7.00 per attendee for lunch



**Offering will go to ½ Synod, ½ Lutheran Disaster Relief**

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Miraculous Mission Vacation Bible School



**Jesus Saves The World**

**June 10-14 from 8:00-11:30am**

**at Zion Lutheran Church**

**Calling all students ages 4-13!**

At VBS children will learn that Jesus saves the world! They'll look into the Bible and explore five Bible accounts where they will get to learn about the vast and amazing love that God has for each of us.

Pick up a registration form at Zion Church or at the Hanska Community Library. You can also register online at [vbsmate.com/ZIONVBSHANSKA](http://vbsmate.com/ZIONVBSHANSKA) Can't wait to see you there!!

**Also, we are looking for volunteers, without you VBS won't be a success!**

**We are having a volunteer informational meeting on April 10th  
in the Zion Church basement at 5:30pm.**

No commitment necessary just come and check us out!

If "Hands on" isn't for you, we also have donation opportunities!

-Zion Board of Ed

Questions? Please contact Sarah Mosenden at [slomo@live.com](mailto:slomo@live.com) or leave a message at (507)240-0134

### Food For Kidz

**We will be packing food!**

**Sunday April 14, 2019**

**12:00p.m. - Lunch**

**1:00p.m. - Packing Food**

**At the Hanska Fire Station**

(Note change of packing place)

**Bring your friends, anyone can help!**

**Spread the Word!**

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

John 3:16



Prairie Land Lutheran Parish  
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Hanska, MN 56041

Non-Profit Organization  
Permit 7  
Hanska, MN 56041

Address Service Requested

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Prairie Land Lutheran Parish  
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213 Summit Avenue  
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Hanska, MN 56041  
Phone: 507-439-6201

**Worship Schedule for April**

**9:00a.m. Worship at Lake Hanska**

**10:30a.m. Worship at Zion**

**Sunday School April 7th during worship**

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**Easter Morning Worship**

**Sunday April 21, 2019**

**7:00a.m. Worship at Zion**

**(Rolls and coffee served after worship)**

**9:00a.m. Worship at Lake Hanska**

