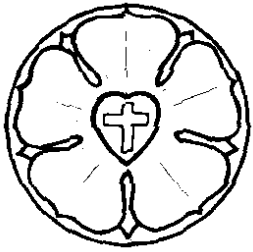


The Pastor's Ponderings

Pastor Erik's cell phone—(906) 364-1035 and email address—grayvolde@gmail.com



Since it is rather difficult for us to gather in any way to do Christian education or formation, I have decided that I will be taking the space for these articles to review and write some small reflections on Luther's Small Cate-

chism. Unless something else comes up that requires a specific article, please follow along over the next months as we review Luther's perspective on the ten commandments. Feel free to dust off your old Catechism if you wish to read ahead or if you have a smartphone, you can download a free version of it both from the ELCA and LCMS publishing houses. You can also find a copy of it within the ELW if you have one at home.

The Tenth Commandment:

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What is this, or what does this mean?

We are to fear and love God, so that we do not entice, force, or steal away from our neighbors their spouses, household workers, or livestock, but instead urge them to stay and fulfill their responsibilities to our neighbors.

When this commandment was first heard, all of the relationships within it are assumed to be property. Looking at this commandment in modern times, we need to understand how these relationships have changed. We no longer consider women in marital rela-

tionships to be property, and we believe slavery to be an abomination. Yet this commandment can still apply to us not coveting the relationships others have with their spouses, friends, coworker, or those employed by another person. Yet, it is very common for companies to lure away desirable workers from other businesses. It is even seen as good business. At the heart of this commandment, this would be considered a sin. However, charging interest on a loan is regarded as a mortal sin in the Bible. If we were to stop doing that practice, our current economic system would completely collapse.

While no one should lure away friends and spouses from other people, luring away workers does indeed fall into a gray area. Unlike the slaves mentioned in this commandment, modern workers can make choices for themselves. Slaves were beholden to their master's whims, and if someone wanted to steal them, they had to go with it. In our modern times, people employ their workers and should provide incentives to keep their workers. If an employer cannot control their employees, they should rightly be criticized for their poor treatment of workers.

While this commandment seems outdated, really what has changed is how society views these relationships. The bottom line is that we should not lure away the relationships others have because we are dependent on the people around us to survive. When we covet other's relationships, we are telling God that God has made a mistake by having the Holy Spirit bring people together. If we say we know better than God who should be in what relationships, we break the tenth commandment and the first.

Some questions to ponder:

1. During the wedding liturgy, the pastor will often ask those assembled if they are willing to be supportive of the relationship before them. How have you fulfilled that vow for the couple whose marriage you witnessed?
2. Describe a friendship between two people you admire (not covet).

Pastor Erik

Zion's 2021 Council Members

Elder & President.....	Jody Stanley
Elder & Vice-President.....	Mark Prout
Secretary	Shay Clamme
Deacon	Drew Walker
Trustee.....	Scott Clamme
Treasurer	Libby Stroble

Thank You



Dear members of Zion's council and congregation,

It was very kind of you to present me with a Bonus Appreciation check during our worship service on March 28th.

It was certainly unexpected and greatly appreciated.

I would also like to thank you for allowing me to take extra time off from working in the church office so that Dennis and I can travel now that he is retired.

God's blessings to each of you.

In Christian love,

Debbie Walker

May Birthdays

Carolyn Hughes	5-1
Teresa Banter	5-1
Larry Langdon	5-2
Nolan Willman	5-4
Dick Smith	5-5
Dorothy Hale	5-14
Zackary Monce	5-14
Carolyn Smith	5-18
Michael Habegger	5-20
Chris Walker	5-22
Bill Thomas	5-23
Abigail Fleener	5-27

May Lectionary Readings

5 Easter - May 2nd

1st Reading - Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31

2nd Reading - 1 John 4:7-21

Gospel - John 15:1-8

6 Easter - May 9th

1st Reading - Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

2nd Reading - 1 John 5:1-6

Gospel - John 15:9-17

Ascension of Our Lord - May 13th

1st Reading - Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47 or Psalm 93

2nd Reading - Ephesians 1:15-23

Gospel - Luke 24:44-53

7 Easter - May 16th

1st Reading - Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1

2nd Reading - 1 John 5:9-13

Gospel - John 17:6-19

Day of Pentecost - May 23rd

1st Reading - Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

2nd Reading - Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21

Gospel - John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

The Holy Trinity - May 30th

1st Reading - Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

2nd Reading - Romans 8:12-17

Gospel - John 3:1-17



Happy Mother's Day

Sunday, May 9th

March Council Minutes



Congregation Council met on March 15, 2021. Council president Jody Stanley called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. via Zoom. Devotions were given by Scott Clamme

Present: Jody Stanley, Mark Prout, Shay Clamme and Scott Clamme

Absent: Libby Stroble, Pastor Erik Grayvold and Drew Walker

Secretary's Report: Scott made a motion to approve minutes of the last Council meeting. Jody 2nd. Approved.

Correspondence: Blackford Band Boosters are trying to raise \$26,000 for band uniforms. Discussion on using outreach money. Jody made motion to use \$500. Mark 2nd. All approved vote. Jody will talk with Libby or Debbie to make this happen.

Synod sent letter regarding the constitution. We will need to discuss this at the next congressional meeting.

Thrivent- Michelle had suggestions on what to do with money. It was suggested that we keep it in the money market because it is doing well. We discussed this last meeting and this is just an update that we decided to keep it where it was.

Letter from Menards showing we can get a tax exempt account. Scott will be looking into what he needs to do to have the account set up so we can use this. Mark suggested not doing anything until we actually need it. Might not need it this year.

Add items to agenda: Issue with the trash being around the church, especially in the front of the church.

Scott will talk to Tom about getting it picked up this week. Scott may also just clean it up himself.

Should we get flowers for the church for Easter?

Pastor's Report: Pastor was sick and did not give a report.

Committee Reports: There were no Parish Education or Mission and Ministry reports.

Worship/Music/Memorial: Jody said that Nyla is picking music.

Council Reports: Elders and Trustees had nothing to report.

Deacons: 48 attended - 1 week ago; 31 attended yesterday

Treasurer's Report: February 2021

Libby was not at the meeting and no official report was given.

Old Business: none

New Business: Delegates for Virtual Synod Assembly - June 11th & 12th. Announcement will be made in church to see if anyone will be available and like to do this.

Flowers for Easter - No need to buy any flowers, but Jody will be buying flowers for her anniversary on that weekend.

The meeting closed with all praying the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting will be April 19th at 6:00 p.m. with devotions by Drew Walker.

Respectfully submitted,

Shay Clamme,

Recording Secretary

Wernle Youth and Family Treatment Center

Wernle's Church Relations Officer, Chris Parker, will be visiting with us at Zion on, Sunday, June 6th.

The residents at Wernle are in need of some supplies so this would be a great time to collect some for them. Please place your donations in the box marked "WERNLE" in the narthex.



Supplies needed at Wernle include:

Men and Women's Deodorant
Body Wash (No Nozzles Please)

Liquid Hand Soap

Hand Sanitizer

Feminine Hygiene Products

Shampoo and Conditioner (No Nozzles)

Basketball Shorts Men's and Women's Sizes S-XL

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 5 Easter 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 6 Easter 10:30 a.m. Worship	10	11 9:00 a.m. Piecemakers	12	13 <i>Ascension of Our Lord</i>	14	15
16 7 Easter 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion	17 6:00 p.m. Council meeting via Zoom	18	19	20	21	22
23 Day of Pentecost 10:30 a.m. Worship	24	25 9:00 a.m. Piecemakers	26	27	28	29
30 The Holy Trinity 10:30 a.m. Worship	31					

The Zion Herald

May 2021

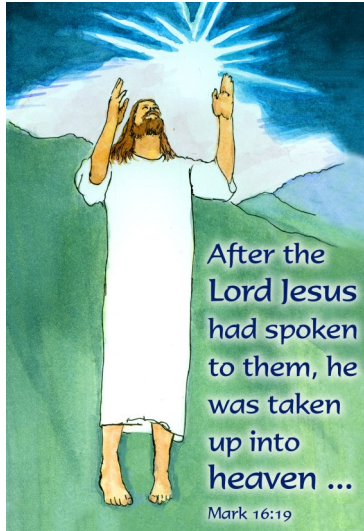
"Happy are those whose strength is in God, in whose heart are the highways to Zion." (Psalm 84:5)

**Zion Lutheran Church
308 S. Monroe Street
Hartford City, IN 47348**



✠ Serving the Lord in Gladness ✠

**Erik Grayvold, Interim Pastor
Church Office: 765-348-3157
zionluth.hc@gmail.com
www.zionhc.org**



ASCENSION OF OUR LORD, MAY 13, 2021

Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m.

May 2021 Lay Ministry Servers

Worship Leaders

May 2 Pastor Erik Grayvold
May 9 Neil Stroble
May 16 Pastor Erik Grayvold
May 23 Michelle Walker
May 30 Jody Stanley

Ushers

May 2 Drew Walker
May 9 Drew Walker
May 16 Drew Walker
May 23 Drew Walker
May 30 Drew Walker

Lectors

May 2 Michelle Walker
May 9 Sandy Langdon
May 16 Linda Baker
May 23 Jody Stanley
May 30 Linda Baker