



A BEACON OF HOPE ON THE NORTH SHORE

# PARISH NEWS

MARCH 2015

## THINGS TO PONDER

Rev. EvaLyn Carlson

### From the Pastor

The time of budding trees, little crocuses poking their heads through the snow... signs of spring...signs of hope...signs of new life. I see it happening especially here at Zoar. When the people of Israel were brought out of the land of Egypt, they had to leave everything behind. That doesn't mean that they forgot their old life, but in leaving everything behind they were able to start over. They were able to discover who they were as children of God. This is what is happening for you right now. In moving into the future, you too will have to leave some things behind. During this interim journey you will have the opportunity to discover who you are as the Church of Jesus Christ. It will take time and patience but the flowering of our ministry will bring new life, hope, joy to the community of faith and your wider community. I am so thankful to be enjoying this "spring" with you.

Just pondering, EvaLyn

Harry says:

What is going on around here? I had been pretty cranky because EvaLyn got to get a new Norwegian knit sweater but I was the one who stays in the church all week even when the heat is turned down. Then...last week this handsome young man came in to the office and with a lot of scrunching and pushing and pulling I was stuffed into the most wonderful Norwegian knit sweater!!! Does this make me Lutheran, then? Thank you, thank you to that handsome man and his very lovely talented wife. I think I have fallen in love with Zoar! I hope others will see all the wonderful things that I see going on around here. Maybe not more sweaters, but all you do for each others and all others. Think: Shoe boxes, Red Kettle, prayer shawls, mitten trees, game night, Kids Bible Club, and that is just a start... whew. It makes me tired. I think I will cuddle up into my new warm sweater and take a nap. Harry



## Minnesota Food Share **DURING MARCH PACK THE PEWS**

Zoar Church will support the Cook County food shelf by collecting non-perishable food items during the month of March. Please bring your bags or boxes of food with you to worship services and put them in the front pews. The Church will be open on Wednesdays, and you can place your donations of food items in the narthex. Monetary donations are also welcome.

## **GOOD NEWS: CONGREGATION CALLS**

On January 4th, the congregation met to vote on the recommendation of the Call Committee. With a unanimous vote, they agreed to call Daren Blanck. Daren has accepted the call and will be here for his first Sunday on July 19th. Daren and his wife Michelle, son Elijah and daughter Sophia are familiar with the North Shore and are looking forward to being here. Watch future newsletters for more information about them.

## **THANK YOU, ELIZABETH**

For nearly five years, Elizabeth Peterson has been hard at work carrying out the duties of Office Manager at Zoar Church. Liz faithfully performed her duties in a truly professional manner, going above and beyond what was expected, and she always greeted visitors with a friendly “Hello”. It is with regret that the Church Leadership Team accepted Liz’s resignation. We look forward to her continued participation in many church activities including “Generations for Christ”.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONGOING EVENTS

Sunday Worship

Church Service—9:30 a.m.

Traditional service: 1st & 4th Sundays

Contemporary service: 2nd & 3rd Sundays

Communion served: 1st & 3rd Sundays

Adult Bible Study:

Wednesdays 9:00 AM

Kids” Bible club

At Birch Grove Community Center

Wednesdays

3:15 to 4:00 PM

Confirmation for youth in grades 7 and up has begun. If interested in more information please call Tina at 663-0070.

Diane Parker is joining our staff as Zoar’s secretary. Diane lives in Lutsen with her husband, Sam, and their sixteen-year old Rat Terrier, Maude.

Since last August, Diane has been involved in editing the First Congregational Church, UCC newsletter. You may remember Diane from her day at the Tofte Post Office. She is happy to reconnect with all of her Tofte/ Schroeder friends.

Lenten Schedule

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. March 11, 18, 25  
Soup Supper followed by “Bread for the Journey” service

Good Friday Service April 3rd 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Service April 5th 9:30 a.m.

Easter Garden

If you wish to purchase a Lily in honor or in memory of someone special in your life, fill out the information below, enclose a check and drop it in the offering plate or mail it to: Zoar Lutheran Church, PO Box 2098, Tofte, MN 55615

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Plants \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

Orders for Easter Lilies need to be received by March 22. The cost of the Lilies is \$10.00 each.





**ZOAR LUTHERAN CHURCH  
(LCMC)**

PO Box 2098  
7239 W. Hwy. 61  
Tofta, MN 55615  
Office: 218-663-7925  
Email: zoarlc@boreal.org  
Pastor: 218-370 -7842

Staff  
Pastor EvaLyn Carlson  
Interim Pastor

Elizabeth Peterson  
Administrative Assistant  
Newsletter Editor

Judy Gregg  
Ministry Team President

Tina McKeever  
Treasurer  
Custodian

**TO: BOX HOLDER**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Tofta, MN  
Permit No. 1

On December 31, 1905 Zoar Lutheran Church was officially established. Zoar is an uncommon name for a church. It's also an uncommon name in the Bible. In the Hebrew language Zoar means "small." In the days of Abraham, early in the Old Testament, a town just south of the Dead Sea bore that name. It is likely that the founders chose the name Zoar because of what Zoar was for the ancient Hebrews—a place of refuge. It was fitting in 2006, our 100th anniversary, to celebrate under the motto "A Place of Refuge—Past, Present, and Future."



LIKE us on Facebook



Zoar Lutheran Church in Tofta, MN

## EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

April 5th 9:30 a.m.  
Everyone is  
Welcome  
Please Join Us

