

Christians serve God above all else

Please join us a bring a friend who might benefit from the day's topic!

State Accreditation the our visiting team will be here September 24-26. They will observe classrooms, interview parents and teachers, and pour over our 15 binders of documents. During this time we are responsible for feeding the 4 people on our team for lunch and for providing drinks and snacks throughout the day. If you are able to donate any of the following, please contact Mr. Humann: soda , snacks, juice, water, coffee, \$50 for lunch each day

Hmong Congregation Opening Service Trinity Hmong Lutheran Church would like to invite our brothers and sisters in Christ to celebrate God's grace with them. This congregation recently formed as a daughter of First German Lutheran Church and was recognized at the Synod Convention in July. On Sept. 22 at 1 PM they will host a service of celebration and install the first resident pastor, Nau X. Lee. A free meal will follow. The service and meal will be at First German, Manitowoc.

Pancake and Porky Breakfast Served by the Youth Group on Sunday, September 29 We will Serve from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. and from 10:15am to 12:30pm

Ladies Aid will meet after 10:30 worship on September 29. This meeting is to decide on the future of Ladies Aid. Please join us for this meeting. If you have any questions please contact an officer.

WELS Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Ministry is offering a series of webinars that would be useful for families of people with special needs and many other Christians! The webinars are free! You can sign up for as many as interest you. Check out poster at church and school for more info – all of them are offered at 9:00 pm Central time during October and November.

The Lakeshore Lutheran Chorale will resume rehearsals, Sunday, September 22, at 6:30 p.m. in the music suites at Manitowoc Lutheran High School. Interested singers are encouraged to attend

Please remind children not to run in the basement. We do not want someone to fall and be injured. Thanks!

Questions/Comments about Zion? Contact:

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Principal Brian Humann	864-2349, school@mzluth.org
President Erv Zeamer	660-1161
Elders: John Ihlenfeldt	864-2822
School Board: Jim Laabs	864-2458

School Faculty: Joan Wegner, Brenda Kuchenbecker, Brian Humann, Tim Pingel, Rick Muchka

Website: www.mzluth.org **Synod :** www.wels.net

Custodian: Beverly Leiterman 864-2355

Church/School Secretary: Nancy Pantzlaff 864-7334

Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service (WELS counseling)
Appleton, Kathleen Jasman, Administrator, 731-9798

Living Hope Counseling Ministries De Pere (WELS counseling)
Dr. John Johnson, Director, 338-8699

Pentecost 18

Sept. 19 & 22, 2013

The believer has a right relationship with worldly wealth. Faithful service to the Master is marked by faithful use of the Master's possessions.

Service: Word & Sacrament (p. 36)

Hymns: 484, 421, 492, 469, 485, 125:3,4

Prayer of the Day: Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and leave no one standing idle. Help us to order our lives by your wisdom and to serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Junior Choir: *Where Your Treasure Is* (Sunday 8:00 a.m. after Prayer of the Day)

First Lesson: Genesis 14:8-24

Abram comes to the rescue of his nephew Lot from the hands of Kedorlaomer and the Eastern Kings. After receiving bread and wine from Salem's Priest-King Melchizedek, Abram credits the Lord with victory by making an offering of a tenth of the spoils. At the same time Abram declines the offer from the King of Sodom to keep all the remaining possessions. Is it not God who gives us the ability to make money and possess the things of this world? Does he not bless our efforts and prosper his people? These are resources to be used to give glory to his name and used for the accomplishment of his kingdom work.

⁸Then the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar) went out, and they joined battle in the Valley of Siddim ⁹with Chedorlaomer king of Elam, Tidal king of Goiim, Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar, four kings against five. ¹⁰Now the Valley of Siddim was full of bitumen pits, and as the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, some fell into them, and the rest fled to the hill country. ¹¹So the enemy took all the possessions of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. ¹²They also took Lot, the son of Abram's brother, who was dwelling in Sodom, and his possessions, and went their way.

¹³Then one who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew, who was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and of Aner. These were allies of Abram. ¹⁴When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, 318 of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. ¹⁵And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them and pursued them to Hobah, north of Damascus. ¹⁶Then he brought back all the possessions, and also brought back his kinsman Lot with his possessions, and the women and the people.

¹⁷After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who

**Morrison Zion
Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran
Synod

*Our mission is to
Glorify God
as we help people
Grow in the Gospel
and
Go with the Gospel*

Welcome! We thank



God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We humbly acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).¹⁸ And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.)¹⁹ And he blessed him and said,

“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,
Possessor of heaven and earth;

²⁰and blessed be God Most High,
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!”

And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.²¹ And the king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself.”²² But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have lifted my hand to the LORD, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth,²³ that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich.’²⁴ I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me. Let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share.” (English Standard Version)

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 38 (p. 81)

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 6:6-16

Here is managerial balance for the life of faith: godliness with contentment. Love of money leads to a wandering from the faith and eternal destruction. Love for Christ results in fighting “the good fight” in this world in the sure hope of serving the King of Kings and Lord of Lords now and into eternity.

⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain,⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world.⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

¹¹But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.¹³ I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession,¹⁴ to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,¹⁵ which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,¹⁶ who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. (ESV)

Verse of the Day: Alleluia. Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

The Parable of the Shrewd Manager has caused some consternation among New Testament believers. Was the manager dishonest or was he merely taking advantage of his master's manipulation of the law of Moses? If he was dishonest, how can the Lord hold up sin as an example for faithful living? Do not miss the point. This is a “fish or cut bait” lesson being taught by the Great Teacher. Love for money or love for God are the options. Each brings with it eternal results. Those who love money will not be trusted with greater treasure. Those who love the Lord and faithfully use his possessions for kingdom work will be trusted with the eternal treasure of heaven.

He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions.² And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this

that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’³ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg.⁴ I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’⁶ He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’⁷ Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’⁸ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light.⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

¹⁰“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much.¹¹ If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?¹² And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?¹³ No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” (ESV)

Sermon:

**The Believer Grows In Christian Character
Christians Have A Right Relationship With Worldly Wealth**

Hosea 3:1-5

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

Worship:	318 (46, 144, 128)	Bible Class:	98 (35, 37, 16, 10)	Youth Study:	12
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Youth Group Bible Class			
Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Bible Class, church basement			
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation class			
	5:30 p.m.	Bible History Class			
	7:30 p.m.	Choir, school			
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Worship			
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Worship			
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School, church basement			
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Class, church			
	9:15 a.m.	Translation Bible Study, school commons			
	10:30 a.m.	Worship			
	7:00 p.m.	Today's Light Bible discussion, church basement			

Communion is a part of worship today. Because the Bible speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice closed communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor before communing.

Thank You to Rick Muchka for leading us in worship on Sunday.

Adult Christ Light meets Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the church. We will study the Old Testament this year.

Translation Bible Study will not meet this Sunday.

Today's Light Bible Discussion will not meet this week.

Tuesday Bible Class meets at 2:00 p.m. in the church basement. We are studying: Christian Decision Making. This week we look at “I would like to know the future.”

The Believer Grows in Christian Character is our current seven week series. The remaining topics are:

*Christians find real wealth in heavenly treasure
Christians do their duty
Christians live a life of thanksgiving
Christians are persistent in prayer*