



Zion
Lutheran
Church

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February Sower 2023

Wyoming District Response to H.R. 8404 - "The Respect of Marriage Act"

Dear Members of Zion,

During this month when the world seeks to sell romance and love, I am including the following response to HR 8404 - "The Respect of Marriage Act," which was signed into law in December by President Biden. The new law repealed the "Defense of Marriage Act" and sought to "same-sex marriages" at the federal level. I include this response not only for the unnatural relationships that this statement condemns, but also for the helpful confession of God's original design for Holy Marriage.

God's peace,

Pr. James DeLoach

A Statement from the Wyoming District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod For Her Pastors and Congregations

god-the-crucified.blogspot.com

Dec. 5, 2022

God created man as male and female and instituted marriage as the lifelong conjugal union of one man and one woman. By this design for mankind God continues to create the fruit of children, gives companionship in marriage and family, and provides help against lustful desires. God gave marriage to be the fountainhead of goods that He intends for all children and adults, for all communities, and for all churches.

These truths about marriage are not private religious opinions. The Biblical teachings on marriage are taught by nature itself. They have no particular traditional, national, ethnic, or cultural character to them. They are universal truths. They apply to all people of all places and all times. They are the foundation and source of all just civil laws for marriage and family. Every legitimate government is bound by God to promote and defend them.

H.R. 8404, "An Act to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act," rejects this foundation for just and good laws. It proposes to repeal "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God," to replace God with government and His laws with unnatural laws. It requires that lies about man's nature and about marriage be established with favored legal status.

All legislators who voted for H.R. 8404 have publicly repudiated the works and will of the one true God. By this

legislative action they have established a favored, secular religion which is openly set against the Holy Triune God. They have rejected God as the only source of just laws, that is, of justice, goodness, beauty, and every civil good. Legislators who claim that Christian doctrine permits or even requires the passage of H.R. 8404 have compounded a sinful vote with a false confession.

The governmental establishment of an unnatural, unbiblical definition of marriage does not obligate Christians to give it any faith or credence. Christian love does not permit us to live a lie. All Christians are called to confess the truth of marriage even if this law brings down civil and financial penalties on them. "We must obey God rather than men." By upholding the lifelong, conjugal union of one man and one woman we defend God's plan for protecting people from the loneliness, pain, and other evils that follow from the destruction of the family.

God the Father sent His Son to be born of a woman within a marriage, to be born under His eternal law. By His crucifixion and resurrection He obtained eternal redemption and life for all. The Church rejoices with every Christian that Jesus offers this redemption and this healing as an answer to all evil, loneliness, and pain. We bring the good news to every sinner that Jesus invites you into the true family of God through faith in Him.

We acknowledge that the passage of H.R. 8404 will give the enemies of Christ the legal means to afflict faithful Christians and churches with many evils. Yet by God's grace in Christ we will continue to proclaim God's truth, live according to God's Word, love all our neighbors as God teaches, and bear the malice of others with fortitude. For we have a never-ending source of comfort and hope in God our Savior. God teaches us to strengthen one another's hearts to have hope "through the endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures" (Romans 15:5). Jesus Himself bids us "rejoice and be exceedingly glad" when we are persecuted for the truth of Christ (Matthew 5:12). And He says, "When these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near" (Luke 21:28). God grant us peaceful hearts, cheerful minds, and bold courage to speak and live according to His Word.

In Christ's name,
Pastors of the Wyoming District of The Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod

CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS

Be sure you have signed up for a time slot for the church directory. The photographers will be here February 6th-8th from 2:00p-8:30p.

NOTE DATE CHANGE* - Originally, we had Thursday, February 9th available. We have switched it to Monday, February 6th, as the photographers had a change of schedule on their end.

This is a great opportunity for everyone to learn of new families and to reconnect with one another. Contact the office with any questions.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Please plan to join us Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00 pm for our Ash Wednesday Divine Service.



Ash Wednesday begins the Christian's Lenten journey with a reminder of our mortality and a call to repentance. We will observe the ancient practice of imposing ashes on the foreheads of all those who wish to receive them. The ashes remind us that the "wages of sin is death." They are applied in the form of a cross to remind us of Christ's victory for us over sin and death.

Before the service, a meal will be served by Mary Martha in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30-6:30. There will be a freewill offering.

ADULT CHOIR

Adult Choir will begin Wednesday, February 1th at 7 pm in the balcony. Choir will meet every Wednesday. Starting Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22nd), they will meet after Lenten Service.

MISSIONS

The first quarter (January-March) missions will support Lutherans for Life. If you are lead to donate to the missions please use the special marked envelopes located in the narthex. Please make sure that the missions are clearly marked and placed in the offering plate.

MARY MARTHA

Mary Martha will meet February 13 at 7:00pm. This will be our circle meeting. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies of the congregation are invited. Just bring your bibles and money for mites.



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible Study will meet on Thursday, February 16th at 7:00pm.

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

James & Tiffany Davis	2/21
Gerald & Nancy Dulitz	2/28

BIBLE READING CARDS

A new set of Bible reading cards for the new year can be picked up in the Church entryway. Each card is a tool to keep track of your Bible reading progress as you mark each chapter you have read in 2023. God works through His word.

AMAZON.COM PURCHASES

Did you know you can support Zion when you shop at Amazon? Simply go to smile.amazon.com and designate Zion as your charity. Amazon will then donate 0.5% of your eligible orders to Zion. Call the office if you have questions.

RADIO BROADCAST

Date	Radio
2-5	
2-12	Lennis Hodgson
2-19	
2-26	Jerry and Nancy Dulitz - Anniversary (28 th)

Please help Zion spread the Gospel! Consider sponsoring (or going in with another family) one of our radio broadcasts. The cost is \$162.

FEBRUARY ALTAR FLOWERS

Please consider signing up for altar flowers to beautify the sanctuary during the worship services. All dates are available and we are able to enjoy them during the service times.

Date	Flowers
2-5	
2-12	
2-19	
2-26	

OUR MEMBERS RESIDING IN CARE FACILITIES

Cambridge Court -4107 Central Ave	Pat Flodine
Mt. Carmel - 412 West 18th	Vaughn Albrecht
Northridge - 5410 17 th Ave.	Norrine Rockwell
Prairie View - 1705 Prairie View Place	Vi Fox
Mother Hull-125 East 23 rd	Lyle Colsden
	Evelyn Heiden
St. John's 3410 Central Ave	Hazel Stickney
Christian Homes - Holdrege, NE	Phyllis Willuweit
Brookstone Meadows - Elkhorn, NE	Norman Abels

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Joni Brooks	2/2
Austyn Plummer	2/2
Miriam Gaunt	2/5
Janel Lange	2/5
Thomas Altwine	2/7
Philip Kreutzer	2/7
Darcy Willers	2/8
Pauline Jacobson	2/9
Randall Ahrens	2/10
Tanner Oertwig	2/10
Heath Schake	2/10
Morgan Dulitz	2/13
Katherine Nuttelman	2/16
David Banner	2/17
Joyce Hartman	2/19
Jarren Blattner	2/21
Madison Vetter	2/21
William Herron	2/22
Charles Zehendner	2/22
Arlee Abels	2/24
Asher Splittgerber	2/24
Teresa Leising	2/25
Emily Baker	2/27
Margene Stevens	2/27
Lyle Colsden	2/28
Ree Ronning	2/29



Where our Triune God strengthens us through His mercy in faith toward Him and in fervent love toward one another.

School News

- ✝ **No School:** There will be no school on Thursday and Friday, February 16 & 17 for Parent/Teacher Conferences.
- ✝ All Zion Lutheran School families should have received our P.E.A.C.E. Auction and Dinner donation letter in the mail. We ask for your support on this important fundraiser. A lot of help is required to have a successful auction. Below is a current list of ways you can volunteer:
 - Collect auction items from businesses that have items to be picked up
 - Call businesses to request donations
 - Talk to your place of business and to see if they are able to donate to the auction. Close to 500 area businesses have also received the donation letter but personal connections usually help in receiving donations.
 - Bundle and assemble silent auction baskets
 - Donate to the class baskets. Refer to the pink paper attached to the recent Crusader.
 - Attend the auction! It will be held at the Holiday Inn Convention Center, March 18th at 5:30pm. You can also partake in the online silent auction March 14th-18th at PEACE2022.ggo.bid.

If you are interested in helping out with the auction in any way, please stop by the office or email zionkearney@hotmail.com. Thank you.

- ✝ **Scrip Cards** - Scrip cards are still available during this time. Visit the office during normal hours to purchase your gift cards.

Our theme this year is "Christ Be My Leader", based on the lyrics of the Timothy Dudley-Smith hymn.

2023

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	01 8:30 Chapel 5:45 Midweek 7:00 Adult Choir	02	03	04
05 9:00am Divine Service 10:15am Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:30AM Radio Broadcast 1460AM & 92.1FM 5:00 Divine Service	06 2:00-8:30 Directory Pictures	07 1:30 Sleeping Mats 2:00-8:30 Directory Pictures 5:00 Girls BB @ E-Faith York	08 8:30 Chapel 2:00-8:30 Directory Pictures 5:45 Midweek 7:00 Adult Choir	09	10	11 BB North Platte Tournament
12 9:00am Divine Service 10:15am Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:30AM Radio Broadcast 1460AM & 92.1FM 5:00 Divine Service	13 7:00p Mary Martha	14 St. Valentine's Day 1:30 Sleeping Mats 4:00 Boys Home vs. Trinity GI 7:00 Board of Elders 7:00 Board of Trustees 7:00 Board of Ed.	15 8:30 Chapel 5:45 Midweek 7:00 Adult Choir	16 No School - Parent Teacher Conferences	17	18
19 9:00am Divine Service 10:15am Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:30AM Radio Broadcast 1460AM & 92.1FM 5:00 Divine Service	20 12:00 Senior Citizens	21 1:30 Sleeping Mats 7:00 Church Council	22 8:30 Chapel 5:30 Lenten Meal 5:45 Midweek 7:00 Ash Wed. Service 8:00 Adult Choir	23	24	25 BB C-Club Tournament -
26 9:00am Divine Service 10:15am Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 10:30AM Radio Broadcast 1460AM & 92.1FM 5:00 Divine Service	27	28 1:30 Sleeping Mats	01 8:30 Chapel 5:30 Lenten Meal 5:45 Midweek 7:00 Lenten Worship	02	03	04

Zion Service Calendar

Time of Service	Acolyte	Elder	Usher Captain	Engineer	Announcer	Altar Guild
Sunday, February 5 9:00 a.m. Divine Service	Addison Splittgerber	Eric Rosenthal	Fred Flessner	Jamie Nikodym	Brooke Fisher	Carolyn Westman Rachael Burger
Sunday, February 12 9:00 a.m. Divine Service	Landen Eckhoff	Ken Hockemeier	Steve Junge	Eric Rosenthal	Lonna Gronewoller	Carolyn Westman Rachael Burger
Sunday, February 19 9:00 a.m. Divine Service	Isaiah Gaunt	Nathan Gaunt	Andy Wollberg	Jared Nuttelman	Carol Kreutzer	Carolyn Westman Rachael Burger
Wednesday, February 22 9:00 Divine Service Ash Wednesday	Eli Randolph	Nathan Gaunt	Mike Wilkens	Jared Nuttelman		Carolyn Westman Rachael Burger
Sunday, February 26 9:00 Divine Service Transfiguration of Our Lord	Colton Zehendner	Keith Nuttelman	Steve Junge	Reilly Fisher	Brooke Fisher	Carolyn Westman Rachael Burger