

PASTOR'S NOTES

Pastor Michael Harrison

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Elgin

God's blessings be with you!

It is that time of year when we are celebrating with our graduates as they complete another milestone in their lives. This past Sunday we honored our graduates. It was not a farewell, never a farewell. We cheer them on and we commit to support them as they continue to on with their lives. We are part of their foundation and safety net if they hit difficult times.

We can only hope and pray that we have been the example they needed to experience. This is why it is important to live out our faith in our daily lives. We show our youth how to live, by our own example of living our life. How we carry ourselves as we interact with each other says volumes about what we believe.

One of the most important things that I have learned over the years, is that our children learn just as much if not more from observing our actions, as opposed to what they retain from our words of wisdom.

I grew up with the phrase, "Do as I say not as I do." That may make sense as a parent, but it is a flawed concept. What we see the adults in our lives doing tells us that it is acceptable behavior. Now I know that we all make mistakes, but it is important for us to keep trying to live our best lives. We do not ever know who is observing our behavior. I believe this is why we should never stop trying to do our best. Knowing that we are not perfect and we will fail from time to time, that is no reason to ever give up.

This past Sunday, part of our Gospel reading was a promise that Jesus gave His disciples.

"[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you." (John 14:15-17 NRSVUE).

We are never alone, ever! The Spirit of God dwells within us, so if we are not alone, we have the help and support of our God wherever we go. I know it can be difficult at times. Temptation is meant to be attractive, but we

do not have to give into it. But if we do make a mistake, or we fail miserably and we fall flat on our faces, that is not the end. We can get up and ask for forgiveness and the strength to carry on. God wants good things for us. Jesus came so that we would have life and have it abundantly!

Keep in mind that Jesus didn't go around telling people that they needed to be wealthy to inherit the Kingdom of God. Yes, many of us are blessed with financial stability and that is wonderful. But Love is the basis of the abundance Jesus talked about.

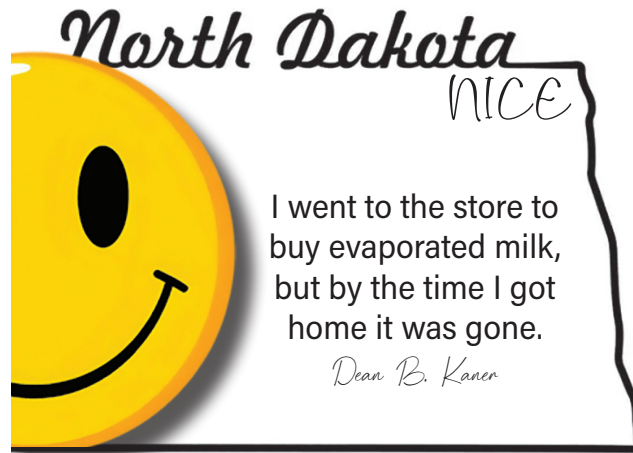
¹ "If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers and un-

derstand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast^{4a} but do not have love, I gain nothing.

¹² For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:1-3, 12-13).

The love we model for our children, nieces and nephews, grandchildren, and one another is what is learned most deeply, and it has a profound impact on our communities and our world. Never stop trying!

May God's peace and love surround and fill you.



RE-ELECT

Representative

Karen Rohr

June 9, 2026 - District 31

paid for by Friends of Karen Rohr

4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14

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Call for Bus Route Bids

Notice for School Bus Route Direct Negotiations Elgin/New Leipzig Public School District #49

The Board of Education of the Elgin/New Leipzig Public School District #49, is soliciting bids for contracted bus services for six (6) rural bus routes for a three (3) year contract to transport school children from residences on established routes to the school building location in Elgin, ND, as per the annual school calendar. The Board wishes to act on submitted bids and potentially negotiate with current contract holders and consider additional bids on current and additional routes.

The current established routes and miles per route are as follows:

- Route #1 – 105 miles**
- Route #2 – 168 miles**
- Route #3 – 84 miles**
- Route #4 – 56 miles**
- Route #5 – 139 miles**
- Route #8 – 98 miles**

Route mileage will be established and verified as necessary by the contractor and Superintendent.

Bids must specify a per mile driven billing. District payment will be on miles driven basis. Bid shall reference a local vendor per gallon gas and diesel price.

Bids must include specific language for any escalator clauses referenced in the bid regarding price fluctuations for fuel costs or any other circumstances. Base price of fuel and vendor/supplier must be included if an escalator clause is included.

Bid must include year of bus and capacity of bus to be used for services and must meet all State and Federal Regulations for schools. Proof of vehicle and passenger insurance must be provided.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope and plainly marked "Contract Bid for School Bus Routes."

Bids are to be submitted no later than 12:00 p.m. on May 19, 2026, to the School Business Manager's office. Bids will be opened at the regular meeting of the Board on May 20, 2026, at the high school in Elgin, ND. The school board reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or quotes, as may be in the best interest of the district.

For further information or to see a list of stops, bidder may contact the Superintendent or Business Manager at 584-2374.

By order of the Board of Directors
Elgin/New Leipzig Public School District #49
PO Box 70
Elgin, ND 58533
Gayle Beyer, Business Manager

Published May 7, 14, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF ABSENTEE/MAIL BALLOT EXAMPLE

Applications for absentee/mail ballots were mailed from the office of the Sioux County Auditor on April 22, 2026. Persons not receiving an application may obtain one from the office of the County Auditor or at the following website: vote.nd.gov.

ABSENTEE/MAIL BALLOT APPLICATION		For Office Use Only	
SECRETARY OF STATE SFN 51468 (10-2023)		Precinct Part	
For reference, see North Dakota Century Code, Chapter 16.1-07.			
Application must be for at least one of the following elections: (check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> June (Primary) election	<input type="checkbox"/> City or city special election	<input type="checkbox"/> State or county special election	
<input type="checkbox"/> November (General) election	<input type="checkbox"/> School or school special election		
Applicant Information: (ALL FIELDS REQUIRED)			
Voter's name		Date of birth	Daytime telephone number
North Dakota ID type used: (check one)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Driver's license	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-driver's ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Long-term care certificate (include with application)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal ID
<input type="checkbox"/> Passport (only for voters living outside the United States) or military ID**		<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant without ID*	
ID number (required only if driver's license, non-driver's ID, tribal ID, passport, or military ID is selected above)			
Residential address		City	State ZIP code
Ballot delivery address (if different from residential address)		City	State ZIP code
I do solemnly affirm that I have resided or will reside in the precinct where my residential voting address is located for at least 30 days next preceding the election and will be a qualified elector of the precinct.			
Signature (required)			Date
Applicant Unable to Sign:			
If the applicant is unable to sign the applicant's name, the applicant shall mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or use the applicant's signature stamp on the application in the presence of a disinterested individual. The disinterested individual shall print the name of the individual marking the "X" or using the signature stamp below the "X" or signature and shall sign the disinterested individual's own name following the printed name together with the notation, "witness to the mark."			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Printed name of person making mark or voter's signature stamp		
Voter's Mark	Signature of "witness to the mark"		
*Applicant Without ID:			
If the applicant does not possess or cannot secure an approved form of identification due to a disability with which the individual lives and which prevents the individual from traveling to obtain, another qualified elector of the state may attest that the applicant is a qualified elector of that precinct by signing below and providing his or her approved North Dakota identification number. NOTE: A qualified elector may not attest the qualifications of more than four applications in an election.			
Printed name of attester		Driver's / non-driver's / tribal ID number	
Signature of attester		Date	Daytime telephone number
**Active Military and Overseas Voter:			
Check ONE (if applicable):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Citizen living outside of the United States			
<input type="checkbox"/> Uniformed service or family member living away from the voter's residence, yet within the United States			
<input type="checkbox"/> Uniformed service or family member living away from the voter's residence, yet outside the United States			
If one of the check boxes above applies to you, please indicate your preferred ballot delivery method:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Mail		<input type="checkbox"/> Email (provide email address): _____	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Fax (provide fax number): _____	
Mail or submit to the auditor of your county of residence or appropriate election officer (The signature on this affidavit will be compared to the signature on the affidavit on the envelope in which the absentee ballot must be placed.)			

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the Seal of Sioux County at Fort Yates, North Dakota, this 27th day of April, 2026.

Angela Eagle
Sioux County Auditor

Published May 7 & 14, 2026