

# Zion Lutheran Church

# MESSENGER



J  
U  
L  
Y

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 7

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA ★ LAKE CRYSTAL, MN ★ 507-726-2849 ★ WWW.ZIONLUTHLAKECRYSTAL.ORG

## Guest Preacher on Sunday, July 16

Please join us for worship as we welcome Pastor Robert Lee Berger as our Guest Preacher, on behalf of

Food for the Poor. Food for the Poor is an interdenominational Christian ministry serving 17 countries in



**FOOD FOR  
THE POOR**

the Caribbean and Latin America; providing emergency relief assistance, clean water, medicines, educational materials, homes, support for orphans and the aged, skills training and micro-enterprise development assistance.

The mission of Food for the Poor is to link the church of the First World with the church of the Third World in a manner that helps both the materially poor and the poor in spirit. The Lutheran Church has been a powerful partner for over 30 years; witnessing the grace and mercy of God, as we together serve the poorest of the poor in love through Christ our Lord.

Since its founding in 1982, "Food For The Poor has empowered one family at a time to be become self-sustaining, self-confident, and self-empowered," said Robin Mahfood, President/CEO of Food For The Poor.

For additional information, please visit [www.FoodForThePoor.org](http://www.FoodForThePoor.org)

## Service of Healing: July 30

*"Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord."* **James 5:13-14**

Our need for healing can be felt individually, and as a community. Join us as we lift up these many needs in prayer, trusting that life and wholeness comes in the name of our Lord.

Prayer stations will help us lift up prayers for all those in need of healing of body mind and spirit, whether those prayers be for ourselves,



for others, or for the whole world. Anyone who wishes may receive individual prayer with laying on of hands and anointing.

All are welcome, and you're encouraged to invite a friend! If you'd like to assist with planning or leading this service, please contact Pastor Andrea.



Lord, teach us to pray...” (Luke 11:1)

“Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication.” (Ephesians 6:18)

“In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” (Philippians 4:6)

As we read the Bible, it’s clear that prayer is important. Jesus prayed frequently, in public with the disciples as well as privately. In his letters to the fledging Christian communities, the apostle Paul exhorted them again and again to pray for their community, for Paul and his ministry, as well as offering thanks or making requests to God for themselves.

And yet, as fundamental as prayer is, many of us have been left to wonder, “What is prayer? What am I doing when I pray?” I’ve found the words of Pastor Michael W. Foss helpful in this regard. In his book *Real Faith for Real Life: Living the Six Marks of Discipleship*, Foss writes:

*One of the most incredible truths of Christianity is that God desires a real relationship with us. This is the desire of God’s heart. Christians believe that in the coming of Jesus as Savior that God the Creator came to us in person. We believe that our God created us in a burst of eternal love, the same love that calls us back to God. Daily prayer affirms the relationship between Creator and humanity, bringing heaven to earth in the life of the disciple of Jesus. In prayer we rediscover and claim God’s love and promises for our lives. We live eternity in the here and now. (p. 15)*

And so just as we see conversation as the building block for our earthly relationships, prayer is how we “rediscover” God’s grace and love in the midst of our daily lives. As we pray for others, we entrust them to that same powerful love of God that has

been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

Zion has had a “Prayer Chain” ministry for many years, to equip us in prayer for one another. Recently, the Social Ministry team worked with me to make some adjustments and “re-launch” an important ministry that had become inactive.

Together, we affirmed that the purpose of Zion’s Prayer Ministry is to support one another and our community during times of loss, crisis, illness, decision making, thanksgiving, and joy. We decided to build on the foundation of the weekly prayer list already published in the bulletin and used during worship. We also decided that email would be our primary way to share prayer requests, since it allows information to be shared quickly and accurately. These emails will come out weekly from the church office, and will also include other intercessions related to our community and the world. After a three-month “trial-run,” we will evaluate things in September and make any needed adjustments.

Please note that even in times of need, maintaining privacy for our members is important. No one is added to the prayer list unless they (or a member of their family) have given permission, or the information has been published publically (e.g. an obituary). Normally, names are included in the list for two weeks, but in certain cases names may remain on the list indefinitely. As we pray for these brothers and sisters, some of their stories are known to us. However, it is not necessary for us to know all the details in order to pray for them. God knows their needs (and ours) already!

If you are ever in need of personal prayer, or would like to be on the prayer list, please don’t hesitate to contact me. If you’d like to be added to the weekly Prayer Ministry email list, simply contact Mary Gilman in the church office.

My prayer is that as you turn to God, in thanksgiving and supplication, that you will be drawn deeper in life-giving trust in God’s love for you!

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Andrea Myers

## Zion Lutheran Church Women

### Monday Bible Study

11:00 a.m. in Classroom 21  
Zion Lutheran Church, Lake Crystal



Join us each week for a study that incorporates prayer, silence, and sharing as a way to deepen our understanding of the Gospel lesson for the coming Sunday.

**Come, Dwell in the Word!**



The Southeastern Minnesota Synodical Women's Convention is scheduled for September 16 at St. Olaf's Lutheran Church in Austin. Non-voting members can register until September 8. Watch for more information from your circle chairs.

The ZLCW Board would like to thank everyone who donated food, worked at or attended the Picnic and Band Social on June 7. Your support of the Community Band and our organization is greatly appreciated!

Please continue to save Box Tops for Education and Milk Moola caps and labels! If you donate these directly to a student or school, Tri-Mission members appreciate it if you'd let them know the number you're donating. You can leave information in the drop box in the narthex or by contacting Kay Carlson or Diane Sandstrom.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 14, the date of our Tour of Tables. A speaker has been secured and many of our members are already thinking about their table decorations. It promises to be another wonderful day!

Our annual church cleaning day has been moved from August to September 9. We hope that many of our women are able and willing to spend a couple of hours cleaning specific areas of the church. Many hands make light work!

### Medical Missions Opportunity

Do you have a passion for global mission? An interest in medicine? The Southeastern Minnesota Synod's Medical Missions Team (MMT) is seeking new members. The MMT is part of our synod's Global Mission and Companion Synod ministry. MMT members will assist in prioritizing funds to address medical challenges within the Central Diocese of Tanzania. Committee members can be any medical personnel (nurses, technicians, public health, doctors, administrators, dentists, etc.) who have an interest in global ministry. The meetings take place every 4-6 weeks. For additional information or questions, please contact Kathy Chatelaine, Director of Global Missions/Companion Synods at [chatelaine@semnsynod.org](mailto:chatelaine@semnsynod.org).

## A Word From the President Let the Celebration Begin

You should all know by now that Zion is celebrating 125 years of its existence this year. We kind of started on June 16<sup>th</sup> at the Battle of the Bands Lake Days parade. I want to give special thanks to Lewie Fleming for driving his old International pickup in the parade and allowing us to put a couple of banners on the side boards. A big thank you to David Hoechst, Sharpline Images, for making and donating the banners which are now in front of the church and inside the narthex. Special thanks to Steve Marshall and Diane Sandstrom (anniversary co-chairs) for helping us to kick off our Anniversary celebrations! Thank you to the following members for their participation in the pa-

rade: Lewie Fleming (driver), Judy Hanson, Cassie Carlson, Kendall Anderson, Taylor Antony and Pastor Andrea. Also, a thank you goes to Rebecca Circle for donating the candy that was given out during the parade. We had half a dozen walkers handing out the candy and a good time was had by all! It did not rain and the temperature was rather mild.

We have a committee of volunteers who are working out some details of future dates and events

that will also help us celebrate Zion's Anniversary. As of right now, I can share with you that former Pastor Glenn Taibl will be here on August 6<sup>th</sup> as our guest preacher. There will be time after the service to socialize and get reacquainted with Pastor Glenn. The committee is also working on getting a couple more of our former pastors here as a guest and those dates will be coming to you in the near future.

We have Bishop Delzer from our SEMN Synod preaching for us on November 19<sup>th</sup>. This day will be the culmination of our celebration. The committee is also planning to have a dinner on this day and we hope that as many as possible can participate and help Zion celebrate this milestone.

As more dates are confirmed, we will make you all aware of what is happening. Mark your calendars.



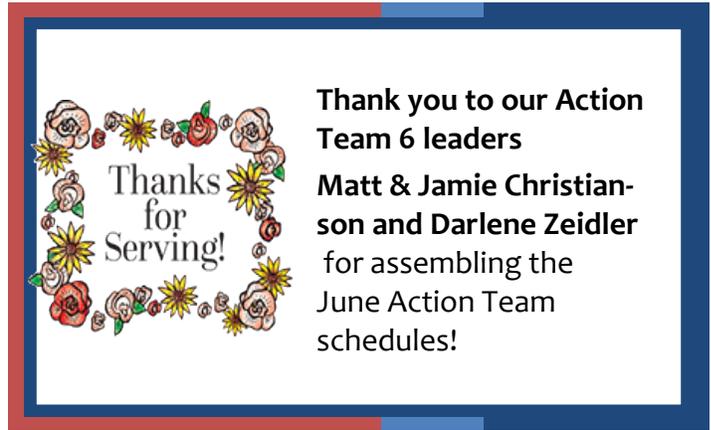
One last note about last month's article about the Power of Prayer. I want to thank all of you for your prayers during my recovery. The cards received and words of comfort have meant so much to me. I feel so blessed to be a part of this Christian family. Please continue your prayers for all of our members on our prayer list that need God's help in their healing.

May God's peace be with you all,  
Rod Isebrand, President



**Happy Anniversary to the following Zion members celebrating July anniversaries!**

- Tom & Kayla Caven
- Scott & Nancy Ellanson
- Pete & Kelle Goeringer
- Matt & Tammi Greenough
- John & Kari Gustafson
- Robert & Linda Hauge
- Lowell & Linda Heydt
- Dustin & Angie Knutson-Icks
- Don & Deb Richmond-Johnson
- Christopher & Michele Kennedy
- Dee & Mary Pendergast
- Donald & Byrene Schmidt
- Tim & Melanie Smith
- Mike & Patricia Thompson
- Clarence & Boni Thompson



**Thank you to our Action Team 6 leaders Matt & Jamie Christianson and Darlene Zeidler for assembling the June Action Team schedules!**

**Happy birthday to the following members celebrating July birthdays!**



- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Shawna Brandts        | Ryan Madsen      |
| Jackie Graham         | Steve Marshall   |
| Linda Hauge           | Jeanine McDonald |
| Dave Hoffer           | Verone Nelson    |
| Pam Hollerich         | Bobbie Nuytten   |
| Lonnie Honstad        | Derek Olson      |
| Patti Hylan           | Steve Preston    |
| Linda Isebrand        | Bill Richmond    |
| Tony Jacobs           | Jerome Sandstrom |
| Don Johnson           | Dorene Spencer   |
| Lisa Johnson          | Helen Thorstad   |
| Phyllis Johnson       | Paula Tibbetts   |
| Matt Lantz            | Jay Utter        |
| Marsha Larson         | Joyce Vee        |
| B.J. Larson-Kittleson | Adam Ward        |
| Eric Lee              |                  |

**Team 7**

**July leaders**

Matt & Cheryl Lantz

**Team Members:**

- Karl & Sarah Anderson
- Pat Baskfield
- Mike & Sally Bottin
- Jeff & Michelle Cloyd
- Tom & Gina Cooper
- Eric & Grace Fjeldberg
- Seth & Leesa Gilman
- Ann Hagen
- Bob & Teri Hobart
- Lonnie Honstad & Nancy Hanson
- Brian & Heather Isebrand
- Roger & Carol Jones
- Sandra Knapp
- Scott Larson
- Todd Manke



- Ryan & Danielle Mueller
- Michael & Beth Paumen
- Bill & JoAnn Richmond
- Myron & Cheryl Sandstrom
- Codey Schultz
- Robby Sorenson
- Ron & Rhonda Teigen
- Harold & Kathryn Torgerson
- Kim VanRyswyk
- Jennifer Zumwalt



**Bible Quiz Answer: A (See Judges 6:11.)**

# zion youth news



## St. Louis Summer Mission Trip Thank You!

Thank you for your financial and prayer support of your youth and the Summer Mission Trip to St. Louis! This newsletter went to print while we were still on our adventure. Stay tuned for future stories and photos as we share our experiences with the congregation!

## 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering It's Registration Time!!

The 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering is now less than a year away and it's time for students to register! Pick up an information packet with the registration worksheet on the youth bulletin board in the Narthex.

Zion's Gathering trip is open to students who will complete grades 9-12 in 2018. (Space permitting, we may be able to include 8th graders.) **To reserve your spot, submit your \$150 non-refundable deposit by Friday, September 15, 2017.**

Did you miss the Interest Meeting in May? **Check the church website** (under News) for important information about schedule, costs, and what we'll be doing in Houston. Then contact Pastor Andrea to let her know you're interested in being a part of this life-changing event!

## Attention Rising 7th Graders

If you haven't been contacted yet regarding Confirmation classes this fall, please contact Pastor Andrea at the church office!

## Calendar Notes for Fall Planning:

- **September 6 at 6pm:** Confirmation Kick-Off Meeting. This meeting is for all incoming 7th and 8th graders and their parents.
- **September 15:** Deposit due-date for ELCA Youth Gathering participants
- **September 24:** Third Grade Bible Presentation, with family Bible exploration class on September 24, October 1 and 8.
- **October 15:** Confirmation Sunday
- **November 15:** Winter Warm-Up

## July's favorite hymns:

July 2:

"Blest Are They, the Poor in Spirit"

July 9:

"How Can I Keep from Singing"

July 16:

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

July 23:

"Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"

July 30:

"Softly and Tenderly"



## Social Ministry

Thank you to everyone who has continued to contribute to our monthly Caring Coins. Your generosity helps many organizations, locally, nationally and globally.

Social Ministry and the ZLCW will be partnering later this year to learn more about ways we can support Lutheran Social Service's REACH Drop-In Center in Mankato. A speaker from LSS will present information on October 8 and we'll be asking for donations to help students as they return to school and prepare for the cooler fall weather. More information will be coming as the date draws near.

The first Prayer Ministry email was sent on June 7th. Those requesting information by phone will receive a call from a member of Social Ministry either the same day or the next. As with the church bulletin, details about each person or family is generally not included. God understands their need; therefore, specifics from those who offer prayer are not necessary.

The Salvation Army was recently visited by the Minnesota Department of Health. Changes to serving procedures will not affect Zion since we are currently purchasing groceries and preparing the food there. Homemade bars and cookies are still accepted. It may be necessary for some of us to attend training in food preparation, but for now, no changes are necessary.

We decided to discontinue our formal support for Operation Christmas Child, although limited support may continue for at least 2017. Our new focus will be on ELCA programs. Watch for more information in the *Messenger* and weekly bulletins. We envision this as a more long-term venture and are excited about the opportunities we can offer our congregation.

## Faith Night at Mankato Moon Dogs!



Zion has 14 tickets remaining for sale to the Faith Night Moon Dogs Game with the Waterloo Bucks on Sunday, July 16 at 6:05 p.m. The cost is \$6.00 per ticket. You can upgrade the ticket for a meal deal at the ticket window at the ballpark if you desire. A sign up sheet is posted in the Narthex. You can also call the church office to get signed up.

## Sharing Shelf

Each month a volunteer from Zion delivers this food offering to the Sharing Shelf. Thanks to Deb Richmond-Johnson for serving in June. The July volunteer is Marsha Larson.

***Sharing Shelf needs for July include: flour, sugar, muffin mixes, cereal, canned chicken, and toilet paper.***

The Sharing Shelf is located at the First Baptist Church, 312 South Oakland Street. Hours are Wednesday evening from 6:00 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.

## A New Home for Zion's Dishes!

After serving us well for many years, Zion's heavy stoneware dishes have found new homes with Zion members and others who purchased plates and bowls at the May Garage Sale.

The remainder of the dishes were donated to the Mankato YWCA, which provides gently-used housewares and furnishings to local immigrant and refugee families. Our old dishes will continue in good service for many years to come! Thank you to **Linda Isebrand** for packing up the dishes for donation, and to **Susan Gengler** who brought this great outreach opportunity to our attention.

## Caring Coins

Thank you to everyone who donated \$380.55 toward June's Caring Coins. This was designated for the Youth Summer Mission Trip. To date, local, regional and global organizations have benefitted from Zion's generous giving. Our next Caring Coins will be July 9 when our focus will be for Crossroads Campus Ministry. Every week during the academic year, Crossroads offers worship, Lunch for a Buck, Bible studies, book studies and other group meetings. They also socialize together, serve the community in a variety of ways and hold occasional special events. You can learn more about Crossroads by visiting <https://crossroadsatmnsu.org>.

## Zion Receives Award!

During the Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly in May, Zion Lutheran Church was presented with the LSS *Servant of Christ* award. This award is presented annually to congregations who are leaders in social ministry and social justice in their community, have a connection to LSS services in their area, and faithfully provide financial support for the service ministry of Lutheran Social Services.

Zion was recognized this year as one of five SE MN Synod congregations who have faithfully supported LSS Senior Dining Services in their community. Zion has done this through our ongoing support of Meals on Wheels in Lake Crystal. Through home-delivered meals and congregation-based dining programs, LSS served more than **84,176** meals in 2016, offering vital nutrition and relational support to aging adults.

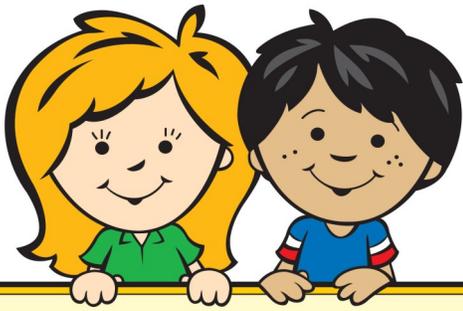
Special thanks to Marsha Larson, who presently serves as Zion's Meals on Wheels coordinator. If you'd like to get involved in this important ministry, please contact Marsha (507-726-2796).

## VBS Volunteers Needed!

Mark your calendars and join the fun at **Community VBS: Sunday, August 6 through Thursday, August 10 at First Presbyterian Church. Adult and youth volunteers are needed to help our younger students have a GREAT week exploring the story of Jesus. We'd welcome your help for part or all of the week! If you're interested, please talk with Jennifer Fleming or Pastor Andrea.**

**June**  
Baptism: Cooper Vernon  
Copeland





# KIDS PAGE

## Friendship Snack Mix



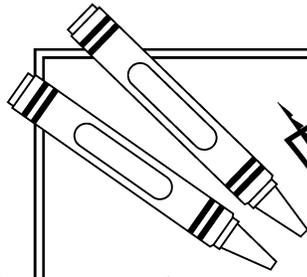
Life is more interesting when you have a diverse "mix" of friends. Show your variety of buddies how much they mean to you by making this snack for (or with!) them.

### What you need:

- 1 cup fish-shaped crackers
- 1 cup chocolate Chex
- 1 cup mini pretzels
- 1 cup peanut butter crackers
- ½ cup mini M&M's
- Large bowl
- Snack-sized zippered baggies
- Permanent markers
- Foam stickers

### What you do:

1. Mix all the food in the bowl.
2. Write a personalized message on each baggie. Decorate with stickers.
3. Measure some snack mix into each baggie. Seal them shut.
4. Share this snack with your friends!



# PUZZLE

## Friends in the Lord

Proverbs 27:17 (NIV) says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." It's important to choose friends who help us be more like Jesus. How many words can you make from the word *friendship*?

F R I E N D S H I P

2-letter words: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3-letter words: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4-letter words: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5-letter words: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Words with 6 or more letters: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Answers include: in, is, hi, he, hip, end, sip, dip, rip, nip, pie, sir, hid, ship, send, ride, dine, find, fine, drip, shed, dish, fish, rind, ripe, hide, tried, pride, siren, fresh, ferns, friend, fisher, diners, rinsed, shrine, finish, shinier, insider, hinders, inspired, re/finish, finished

### BIBLE QUIZ

What is Gideon doing when the angel of the Lord appears to him with God's call to lead Israel's fight against the Midianites?

- A. Threshing wheat
- B. Harvesting grapes
- C. Keeping sheep
- D. Making a sacrifice to the Lord

Answer: A (See Judges 6:11.)



## Report for: May 2017

<b>Income</b>	<b>May 2017</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>May 2016</b>	<b>Change (+/-)</b>	
Offerings	10,901.70	73,216.22	12,508.80	(1,607.10)	<b>A summary of income for all sources, and any change from the previous year.</b>
Non-Benev.	1,660.00	8,680.00	2,280.00	(620.00)	
Building Fund	2,418.00	19,599.15	2,938.00	(520.00)	
Memorial Fund	25.00	160.00	180.00	(155.00)	
Special Projects	465.44	3,218.31	379.29	86.15	
Scholarship Fund	15.00	160.00	1,070.00	(1,055.00)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,485.14</b>	<b>105,033.68</b>	<b>19,356.09</b>	<b>(3,870.95)</b>	

<b>Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>May 2017</b>	<b>Month Budget</b>	<b>Variance (+/-)</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>Variance (+/-)</b>	
Salaries and Related Costs	9,999.55	11,096.61	(1,097.06)	50,828.81	55,483.02	(4,654.21)	<b>"How do our ministry expenses compare to what we planned for in the budget?"</b>
Utilities, Maintenance, Other	1,422.98	3,375.01	(1,952.03)	10,926.07	16,874.93	(5,948.86)	
Education, Mission, Related Costs	1,475.57	1,583.34	(107.77)	4,703.28	7,916.69	(3,213.41)	
Supplies	1,397.92	1,262.49	135.43	6,517.89	6,312.57	205.32	
Synod Mission Support	0.00	1,140.00	(1,140.00)	2,481.11	5,700.00	(3,218.89)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,296.02</b>	<b>18,457.45</b>	<b>(4,161.43)</b>	<b>75,457.16</b>	<b>92,287.21</b>	<b>(16,830.05)</b>	

<b>Budget Cash-flow</b>	<b>May 2017</b>	<b>Month Budget</b>	<b>Variance (+/-)</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>Variance (+/-)</b>	
Income available	12,561.70	18,457.44	(5,895.74)	81,896.22	92,287.22	(10,391.00)	(General & Non-Benevolence)
Ministry Expenses	14,296.02	18,457.44	(4,161.42)	75,457.16	92,287.21	(16,830.05)	<b>"What is our net cash-flow for the year for our ministry expenses?"</b>
Net (+/-)	-1,734.32			6,439.06			

<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>May 2017</b>	<b>YTD</b>	
Income	2,418.00	19,599.15	<b>"What is our net cashflow for the year for the Building Fund?"</b>
Payments	(3,891.00)	(21,596.23)	
Interest	2.21	10.66	
Current Balance	10,574.81		

<b>Balances</b>	<b>May 2017</b>		<b>Attendance</b>		<b>Communion</b>			
			<b>May</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	*2016 Confirmation
General Checking	2,616.61		<b>Week 1</b>	382*	86	157		
Memorial Fund	6,206.29		<b>Week 2</b>	116	97		89	
Non-Benev	1,161.01		<b>Week 3</b>	145	180	109	130	
Special Projects	2,073.30		<b>Week 4</b>	201	65			
Scholarship	5,288.93		<b>Week 5</b>	84	79			Week 3 both years was Celebration
Line of Credit	9,100.00							
Mtg Principal	(468,613.13)	(Thrivent)						
Youth Ckg Acct	7,362.15							



### Quilt Auction at Green Lake Bible Camp, 9916 Lake Avenue South, Spicer, MN

July 21-22  
Online bidding at [www.gllm.org](http://www.gllm.org)  
Music and supper Friday from 5 pm—7 pm  
Smoked pork lunch Saturday from 10:45 am—1:00 pm  
Auction begins Saturday at 11:30 am rain or shine

### Wake the World

July 20 from 9 am-4 pm  
We are helping host a central MN community youth event called Wake the World. Basically Wake the World was set up to share the love of Jesus through water sports to kids that would not otherwise have the money or connections to have a normal lake day like many Minnesotans enjoy. We teach skiing, wake boarding, surfing, knee boarding and tubing to the kids. We eat lunch, share a devotional about why we're doing this event and who Jesus is to us. After that, we get back on the lake for more fun.

All boats, boat drivers, instructors and leaders are volunteering from around the state. Free Event for Minnesota kids age 8-18 that can't afford a normal day at the lake.

### Spirit Ride Motorcycle Retreat Camp House

August 17-21  
This is the long weekend you've been waiting for! Mike & Jeanette Jacobson will lead tours of the North Shore area each day, and evenings will be spent in the comforts of Camp House. This is a great opportunity for a relaxing weekend and enjoyable rides through some of God's beautiful creation. Spirit Ride is open to individuals, couples, and groups.  
Fee: 4 Nights: \$189 3 Nights: \$147 2 Nights: \$105

### Help Wanted at Green Lake Bible Camp!

We are looking for a wedding host. The host would work between the Green Lake Save Chapel and the Marble Church at Shores of St. Andrews. The schedule would be every other or third weekend a wedding is scheduled, depending on how many wedding hosts are on staff. For more information of to apply, please contact Sonya at (320) 796-2181 or [serickson@gllm.org](mailto:serickson@gllm.org).

### Newsletter Due Date



The August newsletter due date is Tuesday, July 18. However, feel free to submit your information any time prior to this deadline.

Ministry Teams, we would love to hear what you are doing.



## Zion Lutheran Church

### “To Make Jesus Known to All in Our Words and Actions”

#### Council Meeting Minutes – May 16, 2017

**Present:** Phil Bachman, Matt Christianson, Jennifer Hawker, Dave Hoffer, Linda Isebrand, Rod Isebrand, Steve Marshall, Pastor Andrea Myers and Melanie Smith

**Guests:** Gary Sandstrom and Beth Paumen

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Rod Isebrand.

#### 1. Devotions

Gary opened the meeting with devotions.

#### 2. Approve Agenda

Items added under New Business: b. Payment to Line of Credit and c. Clarence Schultz Property. Motion by Steve, second by Phil to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

#### 3. Thank You Notes

Pastor received a certificate from Lutheran Social Service thanking Zion for its support in feeding our communities, specifically our *Meals on Wheels* program. Zion was one of several congregations recognized at the recent Synod Assembly.

#### 4. Reports: Consent Agenda

Motion by Linda; second by Phil to approve the Consent Agenda; motion carried.

- a. Pastor's Report: Pastor Andrea shared her renewed sense of energy and focus at Zion, noting the progress and listing some of specific accomplishments of each ministry team. Deadline for submission of information/articles for the June *Messenger* is a noon on Tuesday, May 23. Important dates/events include Celebration Sunday (May 21), Office closed (May 29), Pastor in Rochester for training (June 6-7), Pastor absent for the St. Louis Mission Trip (June 24-30), Pastor attending Emotional Intelligence workshop for clergy (July 10-16) and Pastor's vacation (August 23 through September 5). She outlined information regarding background checks for all volunteers.

The vendor is Reference Services, Inc., recommended by Guide One Insurance, our provider. Prayer concerns were also listed.

- b. Corrections to the Secretary's Report for April 19 were noted. Motion by Pastor Andrea, second by Dave to approve the changes. Motion carried.
- c. Statistical Reports: Council members received these reports via email.
- d. Finance and Stewardship (Matt Lantz, \*Doug Midthun and Gary Sandstrom): The team met at Doug's home on May 9. A comparison of the financial statements from 2016 to 2017 (January through April) showed an increase of \$9,875.20 in checking/savings balance. The team recommends \$3,000 payment to the line of credit. Income is up by \$10,589.08 from 2016 to 2017 during the same period, which is positive news for our members. The team may ask VANCO to come to Zion to make a presentation. There is some concern about the low number of people who have signed up for the financial sessions on June 11 since they want to ensure that the use of our presenters' time is appropriate. Their next meeting will be held at 10 AM on June 10 at Doug's home.
- e. Social Ministry (Carol Dunker, \*Linda Isebrand and Judy Meyer): The team met at the church at 4:30 on May 9. They began with prayer, then reviewed correspondence and the agenda. May Caring Coins, designated for GRACE Thrift Store, totaled \$385.44, bringing the yearly amount to \$1,533.31. June's focus will be the St. Louis Youth Mission Trip; the congregation can donate specific items that will be taken with the youth, or they can donate toward items that will be purchased by members of the Social Ministry Team. Linda will meet with Pastor Andrea to finalize the Prayer Ministry (formerly Prayer Chain Ministry). Caring Coins' focus for the next three months is tentatively scheduled. The next meeting is at 4:30 on June 13<sup>th</sup>, at the church.

- f. Youth Ministry (Kris Anderson, Jennifer Fleming and \*Susan Gengler): The team met on May 2, at 5:30 PM. They created a list of tasks, as well as who is responsible for each, as they wrap up a year of Sunday school and plan for VBS. Planning for the Youth Director position continues. An agenda has been set for their recap meeting of this year scheduled for 6:15 on May 31 at the church. Many of the details for summer Bible School are in place. VBS is August 6 through 10 at the First Presbyterian Church. The first day will begin at 5:30; remaining days begin at 6:00. They also discussed the Lenten Supper, Easter Brunch, teacher gifts and a book fair next Christmas. Their next meeting is at 10:30 AM on June 4.
- g. Membership and Outreach (\*Steve Marshall, Beth Paumen and Doug Winter): The team met on May 11 at the home of Steve Marshall. The membership list is an ongoing project. There are 21 envelopes left in the office. Doug needs a street address in order to deliver most of those. They are considering better/more effective ways of dealing with these in the future. Choices for *Faith Night* at a Moon Dogs game are June 18 or July 16. They believe July is a better option since the June date falls on Father's Day. Tickets are \$6.00, with an option of purchasing a \$10 ticket, which includes a hot dog, soda and chips. Steve will get more information on this option. There are 16 pictorial directories left in the office. Steve will write something for the newsletter in hopes of getting these picked up/distributed.
- h. Treasurer's Report effective 4/30/17: General Checking \$3,044.99, Memorial Fund \$6,180.17, Building Fund \$12,045.60, Non-Benevolence \$2,500.61, Special Projects \$1,685.86, Available to Pay Bills and Payroll \$5,545.60, Overdue Bills \$0.00, Current Bills \$2,231.05, Line of Credit \$9,100.00. Rod thanked Melanie for assuming the task of church treasurer. She noted that things are going well and

appreciates Zion's current positive financial situation, making her job easier.

## 5. Other Reports

- a. Worship, Music and Adult Education (\*Phil Bachman, Karen Granger and Kristi Grindstaff): The team continues their work with Action Team leaders, seeking ways to resolve problems or concerns. They are working with the head ushers to create a list of expectations and responsibilities. Pastor Andrea is leading this subtask. Cindy Jacques continues to expand the roster of individuals willing to assist with communion, as well as with creating seasonal banners, maintaining communion supplies and equipment, etc. The Narthex Design Team meets regularly. The City of Lake Crystal is updating its equipment; when that transition is completed, Zion will get a new camera, which will greatly improve the quality of our broadcast.
- b. Building and Grounds (Mike Bottin, \*Dave Hoffer and Brett Strenge): The spring cleanup was completed on May 6, with 6 youth and 3 adults taking part. Dave expressed appreciation for the hard work of the youth. Boyum Siding submitted a bid of \$2,050 for work on the fascia and windows. A verbal quote of \$2,400 to repair/construct sidewalks and ramps has been received from Clay and Hands of Lake Crystal. Dave has requested a written bid before we proceed. Someone in the congregation volunteered to pay for this work; Rod will speak to that individual once the written bid is in hand. Permits still need to be acquired.

*\*Indicates Ministry Team Chair*

## 6. Old Business

- a. Council Secretary Update: Despite requests via the newsletter, bulletins and a temple talk, no volunteers for the Council Secretary position have come forward. Rod will contact members of the

new Nominating Committee and ask them to get feedback from the 2016 committee and begin work to find a candidate.

- b. Zion's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Progress: Steve reported that tasks have been created and assignments made. They are considering a float for Duck Days, although they thought a convertible might be a better option in case of wind, etc. Congregational members would be invited to walk alongside. They would like to purchase a banner for the parade, which would then be displayed in the church. The 'official' celebration date is November 19, when Bishop Delzer will be present. Invitations to preach on another Sunday will be sent to former pastors. The team is working to manage the details of a meal since we want to offer this at no cost to the congregation, but want people to have a ticket so we know how many will be attending. Truffles will cater the meal.
- c. Financial Stewardship Fair: Steve mentioned that more individuals have signed up for the Financial Stewardship event on June 11; however, the sessions may be reduced based on the numbers. The deadline for signup is May 21.
- d. Compostable Products: Linda was able to get information about compostable products. These products are cost efficient, e.g., we could purchase 6000 napkins and 1000 each of other products (10' plates, hot beverage cups, cold beverage cups, knives, forks and spoons), for about \$250 plus shipping. More discussion in June.
- e. SE MN Synod Assembly Information: Pastor Andrea, as well as Rod and Linda Isebrand, shared information from this event on May 6 and 7. They agreed it was a positive experience, with wonderful opportunities to learn and worship with our fellow ELCA members. Next year's event will be held at the Verizon Center in Mankato.
- f. SE MN Synod Communications Work

shop: This event will be held at St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Austin on May 22. Pastor Andrea, Rod and Steve will attend. Pastor will complete the registrations on May 18.

## 7. New Business

- a. SAS Signup for Fall 2017: The financial commitment to Zion is \$1,000 to the Synod for training, printing and brochures. Our focus would be learning how to 'do' stewardship all year and involves continuing what has been accomplished, then build upon it. The coaching process will evolve. Motion by Steve: As a leadership team, the council supports financially supporting the continued work of stewardship at Zion. Second by Linda; motion carried.
- b. *Faith Night* at the Moon Dogs: July 16 was selected as the date to participate.
- c. Line of Credit: The Finance and Stewardship Ministry Team recommends a \$3,000 payment toward our Line of Credit as funds are available. Motion by Steve; second by Melanie; motion carried.
- d. Clarence Schultz property: A member had asked if Zion would consider purchasing the adjoining property to be used as a parking lot for Zion. There are many things to consider, the first of which is whether zoning would allow this. Gary will check with the Zoning Commission. The property is currently listed at \$69,900.

## 8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Pastor Andrea closed the meeting with prayers of intercession, which were followed by all members praying the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is June 21, at 7:30 PM. Linda Isebrand is responsible for devotions and refreshments.

Faithfully submitted,

Linda Isebrand, Acting Secretary



# THE BRIDGE

*A Monthly Resource from the Southeastern Minnesota Synod*



## CALL PROCESS: WHAT IS IT?

By Rev. Emily Carson [carson@semnsynod.org](mailto:carson@semnsynod.org)

“Call process is one of the most important ministries of the Office of the Bishop,” reflects Rev. Susan Miller, Assistant to the Bishop for the Southeastern Minnesota Synod.

Congregations need rostered ministers to equip and empower them. Rostered ministers need congregations to serve and accompany. The steps that facilitate the connection between rostered ministers and congregations comprise what is called the “call process.” Miller expresses, “Call process is an important partnership between the Office of the Bishop and congregations. We absolutely want to make sure that congregations in call process have the next best chapter... both for them and for the new pastor!”

Call process is the way by which the synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) engage their congregations and rostered ministers in a time discernment of the way God may be drawing each toward the other for the sake of the mission of the church. Said more succinctly, call process is the series of steps that connect a church and a leader.

Described broadly, these steps include:

- Step 1: A Time for Farewell
- Step 2: A Time for Interim Ministry
- Step 3: A Time for Self-Study
- Step 4: Elect a Call Committee
- Step 5: The Work of the Call Committee
- Step 6: Calling the New Rostered Minister
- Step 7: Welcome & Installation

The Office of the Bishop accompanies the congregation and leader throughout the entire process. The team members most involved from the synod are Rev. Susan

Miller ([miller@semnsynod.org](mailto:miller@semnsynod.org)) and Cheryse Brenno ([brenno@semnsynod.org](mailto:brenno@semnsynod.org)). They are both highly experienced and find great joy in the ways the Spirit works through the call process.

Rev. Shane Koepke was called last year to serve Grace Lutheran Church in Albert Lea. He found the process energizing. Koepke reflects, “Honoring where a congregation has been and dreaming of where God is calling can be an exciting and hope-filled part of the call process.”

Rev. Grace Gravelle went through the call process last year and is now serving the two-point parish, Fountain Lutheran Church & Root Prairie Lutheran Church. She shares, “The most life-giving part of the process was being able to sit down with Rev. Susan Miller to talk about why I was looking for a new call and what openings there were that matched my passions and abilities.”

The blessings of the call process are experienced by both the rostered ministers and the congregations. Each congregation has a call committee with an identified chair. Elloyce Queensland served as the call committee chair for Trinity Lutheran Church in Blue Earth when they called Rev. Jeanette Bidne last summer. “The congregation had a great deal of input, the committee spent a year and a half reading resumes, interviewing several candidates and praying that what was best would happen. During this time, we knew that we would not settle on anyone but the best and Trinity has a gem for a leader. Rev. Jeanette Bidne is a blessing and the whole congregation celebrates her and her joy-filled Christian leadership.”

The Office of the Bishop is committed to doing all they can to ensure every call process leads congregations and rostered ministers into their next best chapter. Thanks be to God for the Holy Spirit’s work in the midst of all the steps of this important function of the synod.

# Zion Lutheran Church

211 E Robinson St.  
P.O. Box 236  
Lake Crystal, MN 56055  
Phone: 507-726-2849  
Fax: 507-726-2119

Church Office e-mail:  
[zioninfo@zionluthlakecrystal.org](mailto:zioninfo@zionluthlakecrystal.org)  
[pastor@zionluthlakecrystal.org](mailto:pastor@zionluthlakecrystal.org)

Church website:  
[www.zionluthlakecrystal.org](http://www.zionluthlakecrystal.org)

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday-Thursday 8 am—2:30 pm  
The Office is closed on Fridays.



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



The Office will  
be closed on  
Tuesday, July 4  
for Independence Day!



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Presort STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit # 2  
Lake Crystal, MN 56055

**Sunday Morning**  
9:00 a.m. Worship  
Communion the 1st & 3rd  
Sundays

Did you miss the Sunday  
service?  
Sunday worship services  
replay on Channels 7 and  
10 on Wednesday morn-  
ings at 10:00 a.m.

Our Mission Statement



“To Make Jesus Known  
to All in Our Words and  
Actions.”

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
211 East Robinson Street  
Lake Crystal, MN 56055

**Pastor**

Rev. Andrea Myers

**Office Manager**

Mary Gilman

**Choir Director**

Linda Isebrand

**Organist**

Sheldon Meyer

**Custodians**

Bob and Barb McDonald

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Service of Healing  
Zion Receives Award  
135th Anniversary Update  
July Favorite Hymns