

The Mountain Top **Messenger**

VOLUME 51, ISSUE 1 Zion Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod APRIL 2013

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

What a wonderful and exciting time of our Christian year, we have entered Holy Week and I so look forward to its culmination on Easter Sunday. While it was happening Lent seemed to be such a busy time and now I find it hard to believe it is almost over. I have enjoyed bringing you the "Trials of Jesus" series on Wednesday nights and really appreciate the wonderful attendance throughout Lent. I must say I believe I am out of costume ideas for now. It has been a challenge, but it was a very fun and exciting challenge. I do believe we sometimes need to find fresh ways of presenting our Lord's story. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

In other exciting news we will be welcoming four new members to Zion at the nine o'clock service Easter Sunday. The new members are Chris Bolz, Lilly Harrelson, Heather Usher, and Karl Williams. While it is exciting to have four new members, I find it even more exciting to know that these new members will be able to join in communion for the first time on Easter morning, nothing could be more appropriate. We will have them enter into fellowship with us this Sunday, and then an official new members welcome a Sunday later in April.

Things are moving forward with the planning and preparation for the national youth gathering in San Antonio, Texas in July. The hotel assignments have been released and those attending, besides joining in an amazing and Spiritually uplifting experience, might lose a pound or two with the walking. It looks to be a very exciting and motivating trip.

On the SMP front, all of my application information is in the hands of the district office. They are reviewing it and taking the necessary steps to complete the requirements from both the district office and the District President. The elders have been working on the required paperwork from Zion. We have worked out most of the details and as of now I am scheduled to begin fulltime hours here at Zion starting Monday, April 15th.

Again, I thank you all for giving me this opportunity to serve and ask for your continued prayers. So now as we prepare for Easter remember:

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

In the name of our risen Lord, Happy Easter!

God's Blessing to you all,
Deacon Rick

Zion's Ministry Staff and Church Officers

E-Mail: zionashland@hotmail.com
Website: www.zionashland.org



Church Office 715-682-6075 (M/T/Th 8am-12noon, W-2-6pm)

Deacon - Rick Williams 715-209-0479

President, Chuck Chronis 715-682-0070

Head Elder, Darryl Warren 715-492-0488

LFOJ Child Care Center - Administrator, Karyn Leino 715-682-6075

Little Friends of Jesus Child Care Center 715-682-5185

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Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 am

Sunday School 10:15am

Bible Studies: Sunday 10:15 am, Monday 10:00am,

Stewardship Thoughts

Witness is a word that we talk about in the Church. Jesus said, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:1-8) The disciples were the very first witnesses and we, too, are called to join in the testimony to bear witness to Jesus Christ—to His Gospel of salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, on account of Christ alone.

Being an eye witness is telling what you have seen and heard and experienced in the person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ on our behalf on the cross of Calvary. Like the disciples in the 1st century we, too, are called simply to tell the world what we have seen!

From your Stewardship Committee

NEED A PRAYER?

Zion Lutheran Church has two active prayer chains—a daytime and an evening chain. If you would like to have the chain activated to pray for a specific need, please call Marge Douglas at 682-2160. If you reach the answering machine, please leave a message, but then call the church office at 682-6075 and give the request to the church secretary and the chain will be activated. The Prayer Chain members are asked to keep all prayer requests confidential and not discuss them with others, but caller discretion is advised.



Scrapbooking (and other)

Friday, April 5th

5:30pm

If you need space, time, or inspiration to get caught up on one of your hobby projects, join everyone in the church basement on the 5th. Lots of room to spread out and great company. Please RSVP Jodi at 866-267-8749 or jbtruchon@yahoo.com.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

We will start off with the best news! Katie Colgrove has graciously accepted the Superintendent's job. She will begin her duties in April. Thank you Katie!

We still will be looking for people to take on special jobs within the duties of the Sunday School. We will have a request out for those jobs soon One of those jobs is someone to be VBS Camp

Site Coordinator - we would like that position filled ASAP. There will be a BRIEF meeting on Sunday, April 7th, after the service for anyone who is willing to help out with this summer's VBS. The Camp Luther Team will be leading the day's activities but we will need assistance. Thank you Kaitlyn and Kathryn for already volunteering! More information on the bulletin board.

February 100% attendance included: Kathryn Draeger and Tiffany Houle



February 27th, The Trustees and Men's Club served for the Soup/Sandwich Supper and the proceeds were given to Ken Philaja to help defray costs incurred as he receives cancer treatments at Mayo Clinic. Superior Shores Thrivent co-sponsored the event. It was well attended and Kenny thanks everyone for their prayers and thoughtfulness.



LWML Spring Rally

Marengo—St. Paul's Lutheran April 27, 2013

Registration 9:30am

Gifts of the Heart—for The BRICK

There will be a registration slip in our Narthex for those thinking of attending. Remember, ALL women are members of LWML, so they are hoping for high attendance. They will be car-pooling from the church parking lot at 8:45am, that Saturday morning.



ZION FINANCIAL REPORT - Jan.- Feb. 2013

Actual Expenses	\$16,482.08
Giving	<u>\$18,364.57</u>
	\$ 1,882.49

LCEF Balance (\$26,186.22)

He who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 2 Cor. 9:6

CAMP LUTHER -

Summer camp information booklet is on the table in the Narthex. There are scholarships available for first-time campers. Check the bulletin board for the Camp Luther E-Breeze bulletin. Lots of exciting events happening for all ages.

LFOJ HAPPENINGS

Trike-A-Thon April 22nd—26th

Trike-A-Thon is a fun, week-long curriculum and fundraising program that teaches children ride-toy safety lessons through a series of interactive stories. Children receive these lessons from special St. Jude friends, Bikewell Bear and Pedals the Bunny while raising money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

At the end of the Trike-A-Thon week, students ride the bikes supplied by LFOJ or brought from home and practice the safety lessons they have learned.

We ask the parents to help their children gain sponsorship. This can be from family, friends, etc. The amount does not matter. Typically, sponsors donate a flat donation amount for the child to participate. After the Trike-A-Thon, parents help collect donations from sponsors and turn them into LFOJ. Children that participate in the program learn riding-toy safety, help St. Jude and earn fun prizes. In the four years the center has participated, our children have raised over \$4,000 for St. Jude! If you would like to be a sponsor let the office know or call the Center. (682-5185)

LFOJ Anniversary

March 31st marked our center's 16th year in existence. We'd like to say a special thank-you to our parents and children who use our facility, as well as our staff for making our center a success and for Zion for providing us with this wonderful mission.

Staff Changes

Ms. Cassie and Ms. Laurel officially are on maternity leave as of 3/28. We will update you all when the little miracles arrive. We are blessed to have Ms. Andrea step into the lead role and also blessed to have Ms. Julie Oxley Scott return as an Asst. Teacher. Ms. Julie is Amy's cousin and has worked at the center previously, in 2009 as the summer certified program lead teacher and in 2011 as an Asst. Teacher. Our cook, Ms. Carleen Rich will be helping with our school-age children., along with Debbie Stanley, when needed. We are truly blessed to have extra hands during this time of transition, Thanks to all the staff for their dedication to LFOJ.

Bless, Karyn

Preschool year winds down with these special dates:



Preschool Dr. Seuss Day



Kids had fun in the snow even during our cold winter.



April Snow-surprise!

You have to hand it to God. Just about the time you anticipate His next move, He sends a surprise. And this time it was snow...and lots of it! We were sure the mud-season was postured to hatch the first spring-green shoots. But yesterday's blizzard blew us back into a white landscape to witness a never-before-seen display of God's handiwork.

When the wind started to whip out of the northeast, moisture and air were spun to create a 12-inch beautiful white blanket. With no school today, this open-classroom invited us to take a walk and record snapshots of beauty with our eyes. We saw trees clothed with heavy meringue, bare-branches embroidered with feathery snow threads, cattails topped with dollops of rich cream, pure-white latex poured on rooftops, and fine-spun cotton fastened on thorny blackberry bushes. Makes you wonder what heaven will look like? For this chiffon landscape feels like a fashion-preview of cherubim and seraphim.

Yes, we are eager for spring, but I would not have wanted to miss the sights and sounds of this day. The swoop of birds to snatch pieces of cracked-corn. The glitter of sunlight on the snow. Delicate snow crystals stamped on windows. A leisure cup of coffee with Mom and Dad. Drifts whipped by gusts of wind. Stray flakes drifting like confetti. Herb (wearing a smile) plowing with the Kubota tractor. White-caps perched on birdhouses. Ducks huddled in pools of open water on Chequamegon Bay. Ten white-tailed deer prancing through the snow. Even as I write, wispy winds twist fluffy-snow like dairy-queen swirls.

Although the view outside our window shifted in 24 hours, we do know that God's ways are much higher, deeper, and wider than we understand. We do know that in the appointed time winter will melt into spring; I even saw my first robin today. So as we close with a white-spring greeting, may the Good News of Easter continue to surprise us: **He is Risen Indeed! He is Risen Indeed!**

From Our Circuit: Rev. Dwayne M. Lueck, President LCMS North Wisconsin District has informed us our Circuit Counselor, Rev. Wesley Baumeister has accepted a call to Hope Lutheran Church in DePere, Wisconsin. Rev. Stan Bahn, Trinity Lutheran Church, Glidden, Wisconsin, has graciously consented to serve in this capacity and his duties will begin immediately.

Zion Lutheran Church - Council Minutes

February 18, 2013

The February 18, 2013 meeting of the Church Council was called to order by President, Chuck Chronis. Deacon Rick Williams opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer.

ROLL CALL: President – Chuck Chronis, Elder – Darryl Warren, Trustee – Nick Jarvela, Education – Lynn Ladd, Secretary – Becky Sapper, LFOJ – Cheri Tamke, Evangelism – Lori Hebert, Deacon – Rick Williams.

MINUTES: Motion by Jarvela, second by Hebert, to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2013 Council meeting as printed. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Ladd, second by Tamke, to approve the Treasurer's Report as printed. Motion carried.

AGENDA: Motion by Warren, second by Jarvela, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

BOARD REPORTS:

Motion by Hebert, second by Tamke, to accept the Board Reports as given. Motion carried.

Elders Meeting to discuss Specific Ministry Program; confirmands will meet with Elders on Palm Sunday.
Trustees Ongoing monthly maintenance to Church and LFOJ completed. Bell Tower repairs will be revisited and decision made regarding need for improvements.

Education Need superintendent and a lead volunteer for Camp Luther VBS. Discussion occurred with ideas on how to parcel out Superintendent's responsibilities into multiple positions so that it isn't as overwhelming for one person.

Little Friends of Jesus Brainstorming options for expansion due to the communities need for (2 year and under) child care.

Evangelism Jim Johnson is working with Deacon Rick who is reviewing Sharing Jesus without Fear program and he may be adapting portions to use in evangelism outreach.

Deacon's Report LFOJ chapel and Lenten services going well; he has completed visitation rounds and hopes to increase the frequency when he has more hours; Rick has completed the application for the Specific Ministry Program and has sent it into the District Office. New member classes have been completed and their profession of faith will take place on Easter Sunday. Preliminary discussions were held regarding adding an additional service mid-week, perhaps in the summer. No decisions were made, but the idea will continue to be explored.

OFFICIAL ACTS:

Transfer: Eudora Peepo to St. Paul's Lutheran Church (LSMS) Marengo, WI

There were no old business items to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Agreed to send out a mailing to church members regarding moving forward with filling our pastoral vacancy through the Specific Ministry Program.

B. Lynn will get a quote for printed letterhead and envelopes, since our current stock is close to getting depleted and has old information on it.

C. Evangelism committee will fulfill a request from Faith in Action for a gift basket (\$25) for their fundraiser. A freewill offering for the BRICK will occur on Palm Sunday in response to a request, information will be placed in the bulletin.

ADJOURN: Motion by Jarvela, second by Ladd to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

APRIL Servers for Worship Services 2013

Our Servers for our Worship Service are very important. We ask that if you are unable to serve on your designated date, please find someone else to take your place. We really appreciate your help in this matter!!

Our Prayer Concerns

APRIL

Mission

Zion Lutheran Church
Little Friends of Jesus Childcare Center
Jordan Kroll Mission in China

Thanksgiving

To all of you who have worked faithfully and joyfully to serve our Lord by serving others and often go unnoticed by all but our Heavenly Father.

Illnesses

David Hebert Dan Truchon
Ken Philaja Mary Koosmann Chuck Gretzlock
Patty Kegel Otto Rusch Baby John Galligan

Nursing Home & Assisted Living Resident

Ed & Elna Torkko Margaret Mahoney
Corrine Tolliver Alice Hansen
Sharon Johnson Otto Rusch Walt Schutte

Shut-in's

Gordon & Marianne Vyskocil Gloria Mills
Clarence & Madge Houle Dorothy Rusch

Local & US Concerns

(fulltime and/or deployed military)

Steve Sorenson, son of Dave & June Sorenson, U.S. Navy, stationed in San Diego, CA

Aaron Aschenbrenner, son-in-law of Lynn & Chuck Ladd, stationed in Eau Claire, WI



GREETERS FOR APRIL

Greeters should arrive by 8:40am

Apr. 7 Jerry & Sandy Frisco
Apr. 14 Ethel Guss & Penny Mattson
Apr. 21 Brian & Linda Klobucher
Apr. 28 Herb & Alice Ellis

APRIL Acolytes

Apr. 7 Eric Bochler & Cierra Maday
Apr. 14 Carolyn Gurske & Tiffany Houle
Apr. 21 Brooke Sapper & Riley Heglund
Apr. 28 Annie Ylitalo & Sydney Vyskocil

APRIL Ushers

Ushers should arrive by 8:40am

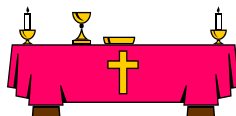
Apr. 7 Curt Harpster & Rick Nutt
Apr. 14 Ron Schwiesow & Logan Tamke
Apr. 21 Scott Thimm & Henry Truchon
Apr. 28 Nate Warren & Todd Vyskocil

ELDERS

Apr. 7 Don Pocernich & Mike Cashman
Apr. 14 Doug Warren & John Pruss
Apr. 21 Darryl Warren & Chuck Chronis
Apr. 28 John Pruss & Darryl Warren

APRIL ALTAR GUILD

Linda Klobucher 746-2064
Pam Gendron 682-9614
Lori Hebert 292-2122
Briana Klobucher 746-2064



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Transfer: Eudora Peepo to St. Paul's Lutheran Church (LSMS) Marengo, WI 03-18-2013