

The Mountain Top Messenger

Zion Lutheran Church

VOLUME 54, ISSUE #7 JULY 2017

God's blessing to all of you as we approach the celebration of our country's independence. It seems not that long ago we were celebrating this country's two hundredth anniversary and now here we are at 241, all I can say is WOW, well happy birthday USA, may you have many, many, more and God Bless America. As much as I hate to say it, it also seems that the 4th of July marks the midpoint of summer around here, days are already starting to get shorter. Just because the days are getting shorter doesn't mean there isn't a lot going on, I know we have the church picnic in just a few weeks, July 23rd, we will be having our Sunday worship in Prentice Park at 10:00 AM followed by the picnic, please make sure to sign up, details are in the narthex or by calling the church office. Also, we have VBS on the horizon, again this year we will be have a program supported by the wonderful councilors from Camp Luther. We are going to need help and support and we will be having signup sheets for that in the narthex as well.

As many of you know I have been preparing for my final class of the SMP program in St. Louis the week of July 10th. In preparation for that I have been required to read 8 books and write a report for each one prior to arriving in St. Louis, so I have been just a bit preoccupied with my reading, I am doing well, 5 down 3 to go, with 10 reading days left. The title of this final class is *Pastor as leader and theologian*. The books have been on several subjects but they all seem to point toward an understanding of what the mission of the church is? Where should our primary focus be? Should it be about having the best worship services every? Or how about the best small groups and Bible studies? What about outreach and missions? If we do that, should they be local or global? What is the mission of Christ's church? What is the mission of our church? We have a mission statement; do you know it? Do we practice it? What are the responsibilities of the pastor in the local congregation? What about the laity? The course is quite intense with the reading and I am sure it is designed to help me think about what it is that we do as part of the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ? What do we do well? What don't we do well? What are our strong points? Where are our weaknesses?

After I finish my assigned readings and attend this final session I will be coming home to serve you with no further distractions from the formal educational world. It will be a time to renew my focus, to center it solely on the ministry here at Zion. I look forward to that day in July, I look forward to working with all of you to address some of the questions mentioned above. I have some ideas, some thoughts on things that we as God's people can do, both here at Zion and here in our community. So I ask you now for your prayer, your thoughts, your input, and the sharing of ideas you may have. We are all in this together. I have read hundreds if not thousands of insightful things over the last few weeks and over the past four years, so many it is kind of a jumble at times. But one of the things I read recently said this: "Satan has a simple mission: to keep lost people lost" Our mission, should we decide to accept it, is to defeat Satan's mission, to reach out and save the lost, we are not alone; by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will not fail.

God's peace be with you all as you enjoy your summer, be safe, have fun, enjoy your travels, if you can't make here on Sunday's remember Wednesday nights.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Pastor Rick



**Church Office - 1111 - 11th Ave. W
Ashland, WI 54806**

Phone # - 715-682-6075

Website: www.zionashland.org

E-mail - secretary@zionlutheranashland.com

Pastor Rick Williams - 715-209-0479 Office Hours: Monday 8-5 Tuesday 1-5
Wednesday 12-8 Thursday 8-5 Friday 8-12 (Please call ahead if you need to speak with
Pastor Williams as he may be visiting shut-in's, at a conference, etc.)

Church President: Nick Jarvela 715-682-0385

Head Elder: Darryl Warren 715-492-0488

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

LFOJ Administrator: Karyn Leino 715-682-6075



LFOJ HAPPENINGS

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of our center, through your financial donations toward the LFOJ t-shirts. Your financial gifts are a significant contribution to our operations.



Little Friends of Jesus
Childcare Center & Preschool

LFOJ's New Logo

We are grateful that you help us meet our daily challenges through your prayers and financial support. We feel very blessed that we can continue to share the love of our Lord with our children and their families through our Child Care Center.

God Bless,
Karyn & Amy

Our Prayer Concerns JULY

Mission

Zion Lutheran Church (monthly missions, Sewing Circle) LWML Jordan Kroll Mission
Little Friends of Jesus Childcare Center

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.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

For good test results, treatment, positive thinking, healing, and comfort during cancer treatments, for those suffering from addiction, mental illness and for healing, strength, comfort, and peace for family we pray for: *Bob Heggie, Kevin Heggie, Joni Frisco, Brad Prill, Jean Wickman, Fran Fleig, Emily Hagstrom, Eddie Brown, Johnny Galligan, Alice Balmer, Mary Bullis,, Sheldon Henri, Charles Ylitalo, Violet Basina, Tracy Steward, Tim Smith, Melissa Grage, Jim Bullis, Ellen Hodgson, Buzz Leciejewski, Joe Stach, Bob Schwiesow, Gerald Johnson, Tyler Lehto, Stan Bahn, Doug Tutor, Pastti Louko Berg and those in our hearts.*

PRAYERS FOR HOMEBOUND

Those who aren't able to attend common worship that they would find comfort knowing that the Lord is with them.

Walt Schutte, Arlene Zimmerman, Madge Houle



PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION

For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families.

Aaron Esala, David Wright, Johanna Pearce, Emily Melecha, Tucker Melecha

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.





SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

VBS - August 7-10

8:45am-3:00pm

Sign-up by July 21st in the Narthex.



We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain. Heb:6:19

There is a **\$10.00 fee per camper** to help pay for some of the supplies and food. We are also requesting if you could bring a **batch of cookies or pan of bars** one of the days. If we have any leftovers (which I doubt), they will be used at LFOJ and/or Sunday's service.

A parent letter will be sent with more details the week before camp.

Contacts:

Katie Colgrove, 715-292-2512, katiecolgrove@hotmail.com,
or Lynn 682-6075 secretary@zionlutheranashland.com

Stewardship Thoughts

Continuing the theme of questions and answers of stewardship, two questions that are central to stewardship are: How has God blessed me and how is God calling me to respond? If these questions aren't asked it is unlikely there will be an increase in funds for the ministry of the Gospel. Human beings do not voluntarily part with the money they have been given by God. Our Lord in His mercy and grace, has restored the baptized into full relationship with Him. This baptismal restoration brings into full view to the Christian that they are called by God to steward what has been entrusted to them in this life on earth. This growth as a baptized child of God includes the challenge to grow in generosity. Congregations that are open and honest about financial generosity will have a more genuine approach to stewardship when there isn't a pressing need for money.

An important aspect of stewardship is the goal of thankfulness. As the congregation is taught that individual stewardship is thankful response to God's generosity, wouldn't it make sense for the congregation to do the same? A quiet note of thanks sent to donors is positive for stewardship. What harm is done if thanks are given to long time servants of the congregation? It is not done to provide a spectacle, but rather to give recognition to a pattern of faithful stewardship to be emulated. Personal investment of time, a note and stamp can far outweigh Sunday morning accolades during the announcements at worship.

What if you woke
UP
TODAY
with only the things
that you
thanked
God for
yesterday?



CAREER HYMNS

DENTIST: Crown Him with Many Crowns

CONTRACTOR The Church's One Foundation

OBSTETRICIAN: Come, Labor On

GOLFER: There is a Green Hill Far Away

POLITICIAN: Standing on the Promises

DRY CLEANER: O For a Faith That Will Not Shrink

CREDIT CARD HOLDER: A Charge to Keep I Have

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Sing Them Over Again To Me

TRAFFIC ENGINEER: Where Cross the Crowded
Ways of Life

Please join us for an
Outdoor Church Service & Picnic
Prentice Park
Sunday, July 23rd
10:00 – 2:00 p.m.



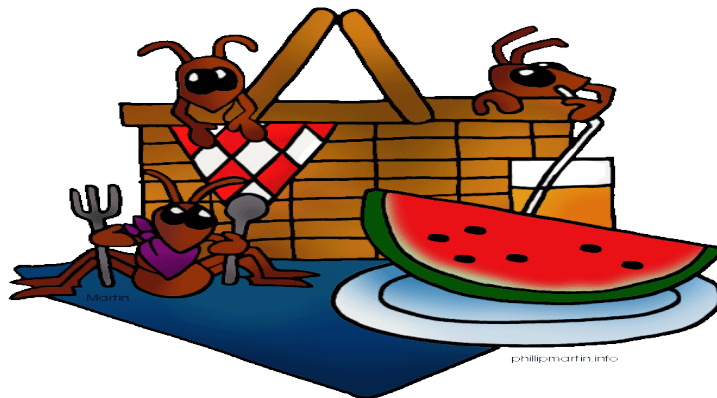
Church service will start at 10:00 a.m. with a picnic to follow!

Bring a dish to pass and your beverage of choice.
Oh and your favorite lawn chair if you want!

Everything else will be provided!

Sign-up by Sunday, July 16th (sheet is in the Narthex)
We'll need a head count to order the
Hamburgers and Brats!

Any questions please contact Lynn at the church
Or Lori Landry 715-292-2122



Hope to see you there!

June 2017

A. Ellis

Yesterday was Pentecost- 50-days after Easter. An important milestone in the history of the church for it marks the date when God poured out His spirit “like a mighty wind” upon His inner-circle and tongues of fire empowered them to preach the message of salvation in Jesus Christ. In the Book of Acts, it says that 3000 new converts were cut to the heart, repented and were baptized. God’s Church on Earth was up-and running.



Somehow this year, I totally lost track of the days after Easter. Maybe it had to do with traveling to Seattle and Montana, but I was surprised when Pastor Rick announced it was Pentecost. I didn’t even wear “red” which is traditional on this day of “flame and fire.” As I listened, my mind also wandered to other special memories of Pentecost: when we spoke words in different languages, visiting Lutheran countries on the Baltic Sea, singing hymns of Pentecost, church banners of fire, and more.

I also thought of the mighty wind that blew through our bedroom window last July. It was a front of straight-line winds that came out of the blue. I jumped out of bed and even felt the house shudder. In the morning light, it was evident that many trees were uprooted, and we were without electrical power for 40 hours. I suspect the mighty wind of that First Pentecost may have arrived with similar power and awe.

When we visited Copper Falls State Park yesterday, I also thought of that mighty wind. How a few threads of water (or air) when gathered together can cause such a roar. For at the park we could hear the force of power... music to our ears, but also deafening at times. It can even feel scary or make us jump out of bed when you are caught off guard.

Yes, Pentecost is meant to knock us out of our comfort zone, and rekindle the fire of faith within our hearts. For we have a life-giving-life-saving message to share with others. Do we dare trust that we can learn the new words to tell others? Is our faith real enough to inspire others to throw their lives into this “ring of fire?” Pentecost asks tough questions, but also encourages us for God can show up as a mighty wind, or a gentle whisper, but the message is the same: He loves us now...today!

I hope and pray that Pentecost does not feel like a “has been” event, but we will continue to hear the wind... see the flames...feel the fire... drink the living water... and run (or walk/crawl) with perseverance the race that is set before us looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfect of our faith. Pentecost is today...everyday. We are this journey together. Let’s hold hands and run!

THE TIME IS
now

Timely tips, insight,
wisdom to share

From Lutheran Women in Mission

2-Minute Tuesdays 

June 6, 2017

Send Me!!

Isaiah 6:8 ~~~~~ "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send Me."

I love this scripture and it has been very important in my life . . . especially when I decided to go on the five mission trips I've been blessed to be a part of. I've been to Alaska, Guatemala, Navajo Nation twice and most recently Nicaragua. On each trip we were prepared to minister to the local people but I was surprised to find that I always came away more blessed than I could have imagined.

God will put us in situations where we can witness with our lives. You don't have to go on an organized mission trip far from home. Right where you live is a huge mission field. If you are asked "how do you handle your situations with such joy, peace and grace," be sure to give the credit completely to The LORD. Share with your neighbors, friends and family that it is not you that gets you through your daily situations . . . it is your faith, your church, your fellow believers who keep you in their prayers. God is so good to have put us in this Mission Field right in our own back yards!!

Prayer: Dear LORD, thank you for being my faith God who gives me the strength and guidance I need on a daily basis to handle any situation that may come my way. Please let me be a witness to all I come in contact with no matter what the situation may be. You are a mighty God and I love and praise you. Amen!

Linda Larson
Utah-Idaho District President
2014-2018

THE TIME IS *now* 

**JULY
Servers for
Worship Services**

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!! If you would like to be added or taken off one of our lists please contact the office. Greeters and Ushers should arrive 15 minutes before services start. Thank-you to all who serve.

July	Elders	Ushers	Greeters
Wed. June 28	Darryl Warren		
Sun. July 2	Doug Warren John Pruss	Chris Bolz Loren Munson	Herb & Alice Ellis
Wed. 5	Andy Pruss		
Sun. 9	Scott Thimm Darryl Warren	Jim Hebert Brian Klobucher	Sandy & Jerry Frisco
Wed. 12	Randy Spangle		
Sun. 16	Andy Pruss Scott Thimm	Paul Osmak Adam Hinch	Honkala Family
Wed. 19	John Pruss		
Sun. 23	Picnic	Picnic	Picnic
Wed 26	Randy Spangle		
Sun. 30	Andy Pruss Doug Warren	Andrew Wickman Jordan Thimm	Karen Wahl
Aug. Wed.2	Darryl Warren		
Aug. Sun. 6	Doug Warren Randy Spangle	Scott Sapper Alan Sunie	Wickman Family

Penny Mattson 682-6056
Lou Pearce 682-2597
Maria Truchon 682-9508



OFFICIAL ACTS

Baptism
Heinrich John Williams 6-11-17
Death
Duane DeLasky 5-27-17

Little Friends of Jesus
 Preschool and Daycare
 1111 11th Ave. W.
 Ashland, WI 54806
 715-682-5185



2017

Zion Lutheran Church
 1111 11th Ave. W.
 Ashland, WI 54806
 715-682-6075
 zionashland@hotmail.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
VBS August 7-10						1
2 Mite Sunday Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am	3	4 	5 LFOJ Chapel 11:00/1:30 Worship 6:30pm	6	7	8
				Pastor leaving for St. Louis →		
9 Worship 9:00am	10	11	12 Worship 6:30pm	13	14	15
Pastor at St. Louis → → → → → → → → → → → →						
16 Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am	17	18	19 Worship 6:30pm	20	21	22
23 Prentice Park- Worship 10:00am Picnic to follow	24	25	26 Worship 6:30pm	27	28	29
30 Food Shelf Sunday Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am	31	Pastor Rick Williams - 715-209-0479 Office Hours: Monday 8-5 Tuesday 1-5 Wednesday 12-8 Thursday 8-5 Friday 8-12 (Please call ahead if you need to speak with Pastor Williams as he may be visiting shut-in's, at a conference, etc.) Office 715-682-6075 Hours: M/W/8:00-1:00 T/Th 11:00-2:00 (Subject to change, sorry for any inconvenience)				