



The Mountain Top Messenger

ZION LUTHERAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH, ASHLAND, WI TEMPLATE 2018

This morning as I was trying to determine a topic for this month's newsletter I decided to take a stroll around the sanctuary. If I walk in a circle in and out of aisles once around the sanctuary it is 200 steps, do that 5 times you have a thousand, do that 10 times and you have your 10,000 steps a day. But I digress. As I was walking around the sanctuary, I do find it calming, I was reading banners, I was reading all of the different names that identify our Savior, I saw the banner that shares the message of how we share the message "Come See – Go Tell", I enjoyed looking at the banner our recent confirmands made and I thought about what an amazing group of young people they are. And then on the back wall the lead verse of one of my favorite sections of scripture, John 14:1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled." Now the banner adds another line, "do not be afraid" not sure where that comes from as it is not in any translation that I could find, I think it is there for affect, and it is certainly not wrong, it is just not part of John 14:1. But that isn't what I am writing about, I am writing about the first part, the part that is in every translation, "Do not let your hearts be troubled". That my friends is the challenge of Christianity, the challenge of our faith, as fallen sinful human beings who like to be in charge and have control over everything, how do we not have troubled hearts? How do we, the control freaks that we are, do what we so frequently hear; Let Go and Let God? I don't know about you ,but I struggle with this and have for most of my life. Slowly however, I have learned that I am not in charge, I need to know my limitations, I must trust in a power higher than myself. The part that makes this challenging is that the world is telling us all the time the exact opposite thing, the world, Satan, and all his minions would like me to believe that it is all about me. That I don't need God, that I am the master of my destiny. The more I do, the more I have, the more I take control of, the better, more powerful I will be. I can do it! Trust me nothing could be further from the truth. The biggest problem with wanting more is it is like tomorrow, more never comes, regardless of how much you have there could always be more, more, more, where does it end. It ends when we realize that putting any or all of our earthly stuff before our fear, love, and trust in God is sinful. It is the first commandment sin, whatever we place before God in our lives is actually our god, be that money, possessions, sports, even family, they can become our god.

So you ask, what is the answer? Well the second half of John 14:1, the actual second half, not the one on the banners says; "You believe in God; believe also in me." Believe in Jesus, trust in Jesus, trust in God and His plan for your life. He tells us in scripture, not only has He known us since before we were in the womb, but he has plans for us. Because of our belief and faith in Jesus he has prepared good works for us to do, not to be saved but because we have been saved. We don't need to worry about all that other stuff, we don't need to acquire all those things that world tells us we so desperately need, all we really need is Jesus, and because we have him he tells us where our true treasure is and it is most certainly not in this world. The rest of my favorite verses of John 14 go through verse 6, you know them:

(continued on the next page)

Pastor Rick Williams -

715-209-0479

Pastor Rick's office hours
for the summer:

Monday—8:00-4:30

Tuesday—Off

Wednesday—12:00-8:00

Thursday—8:00-4:30

Friday—8:00-4:30

Please call ahead because
Pastor may be out for visit-
ations, nursing home ser-
vices, conference, etc.**Office Secretary**

Lynn Ladd 715-682-6075

Office Hours M-Th 8-12

Days and times may change
upon need of work and other
commitments.**Church President:**

John Pruss 715-292-4825

Head Elder:

Darryl Warren 715-492-0488

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

Karyn Leino 715-682-6075

Websitewww.zionashland.org**E-mail**secretary@zionlutheranashland.com**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH****1111—11TH AVE WEST****ASHLAND, WI 54806****715-682-6075**

Sunday Worship Service 9:00am

Wednesday Evening Service 6:30pm

Sunday School 10:15am (Sept.-May)

Bible Studies

Sunday 10:15am Monday 10:00am (Sept.-May)

(cont. from last page)

² My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

So my friends "Do not let your hearts be troubled." We know that because of our faith and love in Jesus Christ we have an eternal home with our Savior and our Heavenly Father for eternity. The world has nothing that it can offer that could ever compare.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you all at the church outdoor service and picnic on July 15.

May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ bless you and keep you in His care.

Pastor Rick



Our Prayer Concerns

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:

<i>Bob Heggie</i>	<i>Kevin Heggie</i>	<i>Joni Frisco</i>
<i>Brad Prill</i>	<i>Jean Wickman</i>	<i>Johnny Galligan</i>
<i>Alice Balmer</i>	<i>Mary Bullis</i>	<i>Tim Smith</i>
<i>Jim Bullis</i>	<i>Ellen Hodgson</i>	<i>Doug Tutor</i>
<i>Patti Louko Berg</i>	<i>Barb Bjork</i>	<i>David Kaarre</i>
<i>Joan Spalding</i>	<i>Ruth Goldman</i>	<i>Eric Kontny</i>
<i>Lloyd Koosmann</i>	<i>Sandy Fletcher</i>	<i>Tim Fulton</i>
<i>David Palm</i>	<i>Theresa Koosmann</i>	
<i>Randy Lauer</i>	<i>Mary Helen Bergschneider</i>	
<i>Marie Carlson</i>	<i>Margaret Goodwin</i>	<i>Mike Dimich</i>
<i>Steve Wahlston</i>	<i>Crise Family</i>	<i>Crystal Flectcher</i>
<i>Gail Schielke</i>	<i>Doris Nye</i>	<i>Steve Gilmore</i>
<i>Peggy Aschenbrenner</i>		<i>Ruth Young</i>
<i>Sheryl Hildebrandt</i>	<i>Marty Kaarre</i>	<i>Heather Gust</i>
<i>David Janes</i>	<i>And those in our hearts.</i>	

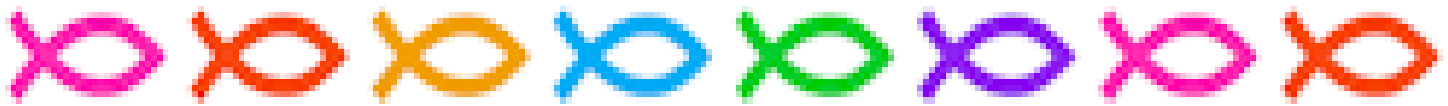
PRAYERS FOR HOMEBOUND

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, Donna Graves*

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



Stewardship Thoughts



We will examine, briefly, Exodus 35 as the inspiration for this stewardship topic. The people of Israel had just fled Egypt and Pharaoh's suppression by traveling through the Red Sea on dry ground to go to the Promised Land. As they did so, Israel stopped at Mount Sinai to hear The Lord's instruction to build the tabernacle as commanded through Moses.



Ex. 35:4-5a states, Moses said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, "This is the thing that The Lord has commanded. Take from among you a contribution to The Lord. Whoever is of a generous heart, let him bring The Lord's contribution." The people had just witnessed The Lord's mercy. They celebrated the Passover and had put the blood of the lamb on their doorposts and lintels so the Angel of Death would pass over them when the last plague of the death of the first born afflicted Pharaoh and Egypt. Egypt also supplied Israel with supplies and wealth when they fled Egypt. This was a simple call to respond in generous thanksgiving to The Lord who gave Israel new life in freedom.



God's mercy served more than a call for the ingathering of supplies. It was a call to action. Moses writes in Ex. 35:10 "Let every skillful craftsman among you come and make all that The Lord has commanded." The call to a generous response from The Lord to Israel was for Israel to be fully engaged. The tabernacle would be built out generosity and service, not compulsion.



What is impressive was the people's response. In Ex. 36:2-7 we read Moses' account of Israel's generosity, freely given, to the point where Moses had to instruct the people to stop giving as there was more than enough contribution for the material to do the work to complete the tabernacle. There were plenteous materials and laborers.



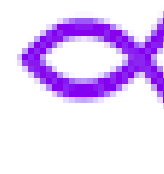
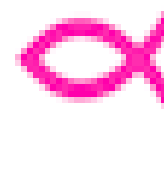
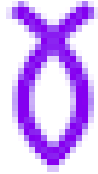
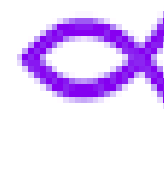
The Lord's generosity is still experienced through clear and accurate proclamation of His Word and weekly reception of the Lord's Supper. The Lord's generosity is experienced in full sensory form. The Gospel is heard, seen, tasted, touched and smelled. Through this generosity The Lord calls His people (the Church) to live generously in response. As Peter writes in 1 Peter 2:4-5, "As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."



The generosity of God's living stone, Jesus, builds us into a new and different "tabernacle" called the Church. The church never lacks for resources if it remembers from whence the greatest generosity comes. God's generosity washes over His people. His generosity inspires the generosity of His people. Every time it is given, it works!



LCMS Newsletter StewardCAST



JULY Mission



Project Promise Personal Care Kits are shared with people who have lost everything from a natural disaster or life-threatening violence.

Give hope through a bar of soap.

- 1 – bath towel (light weight, dark colors, between 20"x40" and 52"x27")
- 2 – bars of soap (any brand, in original wrapping)
- 1 – toothbrush (adult size, in original packaging)
- 1 – comb (remove packaging) 1 – nail clippers (metal, remove packaging)

Fold towel in half. Place rest of items in the towel. Fold and roll (burrito style) so nothing falls out and secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands.

Some important guidelines to remember:

- Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- Bath towels vary in size. The 52" X 27" size listed in the guidelines is the maximum size. 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size. Smaller bath towels are acceptable as long as they are not hand towels.
- Please give new items only, except where otherwise noted.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.]
- All items should be new and in good condition.
- Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.



2018 VBS - Aug. 6th – 8th

Esther 4:14b. Throughout the week, we'll be digging into the story of Esther and exploring what it means that we are called by God. (Camp Luther)

Grades 1st - 5th

The sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex soon, be watching. We will have 30 as our 'cap' number for enrollment this year. Zion members have first chance to sign up by July 9th, after that date it will be open to others. If your child has a friend they would also like to attend please include their name. 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 is doubtful), they will be used at the Wednesday night service or than 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 Traci Meller, 218-391-5841, tracimeller@hotmail.com

In thirty seconds, the drama unfolded. The spotted fawn came racing at heart-beat speed. I first saw it dash across the driveway and then could hear it crashing through the brush. There was a snappy-desperate rhythm in the breaking of branches. I then saw the little fawn sprinting along the edge of a row of trees; this little fellow was in a race for his life.

Just when the fawn was out of sight, the fox arrived. This bushy-tailed predator ran with the turbo-propulsion of a hovercraft. Floating along the ground, tail straight out and eyes locked on the prey. I tried to yell and catch its attention to throw it off rhythm, but he had the fawn in his cross-hairs and distractions were blocked out. The fox still had some distance to catch up, but barring a miracle, he had the upper hand. There was no evidence of fatigue, but rather his whole body moved with the hope of the prize.



I don't know the end of the story. I don't know if something occurred to save the fawn. Endurance was not on his side. The fawn had so little life experience to draw on, whereas this seasoned fox knew that victory was linked to perseverance.

This running film today was a reality-check about nature. Nature is not a cozy-romantic force, but rather it is a drama that shows the best and worst of creation won. No der, we see ourselves in the events of creation. Sometimes we are the fragile-desperate fawn and other times the focused fox. The good news is that we know the end of the story for in Christ the promise of victory is secure: *Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ 1 Cor.*

Mark YOUR Calendars!

Zion Lutheran Annual Picnic

Date: Sunday, July 15th

Time: 10 a.m. Praise Worship service

Where: Prentice Park Pavilion

Church back-up in case of thunderstorms and/or strong winds.

For Your Information:

Zion will provide meat/buns/utensils. Pot-luck picnic meal. Sign-up sheet in Narthex for a dish to pass. Bring a lawn chair and beverage of choice.



REVIEW

Martin Luther's Small Catechism - when was the last time you looked through your catechism? One year? Ten years? Forty years? A review at any time is a good thing and more times the better. It helps us to keep refreshed in our beliefs and ideals. This will be a monthly addition to the Newsletter. We hope that you will review and enjoy, and maybe learn something that was forgotten.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

1. The Nature of Baptism

First

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.

Which is that word of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew:

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." [Matt. 28:19].

What does the word baptize mean?

Baptize means to apply water by immersing, washing, pouring, and the like.

Mark 7:4 When they [the Pharisees] come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing [baptizing] of cups, pitchers, and kettles. Sponsors witness that those who receive this sacrament have been properly baptized. They also pray for them and in the case of children, help with their Christian upbringing, especially if they should lose their parents. Only those of the same confession of faith should be sponsors.

Matt. 18:16 "Every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses."

Eph. 4:16 From Him the whole body, joined and held

Note: To baptize with the Holy Spirit (Matt. 3:11) means to "pour out" the Spirit (Acts 1:5 and Acts 2:17-18).

What is so special about the water of Baptism?

"It is nothing else than a divine water, not that the water in itself is nobler than other water but that God's Word and commandment are added to it"

Who instituted Holy Baptism?

God Himself instituted Baptism, for our Lord Jesus Christ commanded His church to baptize all nations.

Matt. 28:19-20 Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

What does it mean to baptize "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"?

It means that in Baptism, God, the Holy Trinity, receives me into communion or fellowship with Himself.

Who is to baptize?

Normally the called ministers of Christ are to baptize, but in cases of emergency and when no pastor is available, any Christian should baptize.

1 Cor. 4:1 Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God (NKJV).

Who is to be baptized?

"All nations" are to be baptized, that is, all people, young and old.



(Continued on next page)

(Review continued)

What distinction is to be made in baptizing?

A. Those who can receive instruction are to be baptized after they have been instructed in the main articles of the Christian faith.

Acts 2:38-39 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Acts 2:41 Those who accepted his message were baptized.

Bible narratives: The Ethiopian was instructed before he was baptized (Acts 8:26-39). The jailer was instructed before he was baptized (Acts 16:25-33).

B. Little children should be baptized when they are brought to Baptism by those who have authority over them.

Mark 10:13-15 People were bringing little children to Jesus to have Him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, He was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

Why are babies to be baptized?

Babies are to be baptized because

A. they are included in the words "all nations";

Matt. 28:19 Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38-39 Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children.

B. Jesus especially invites little children to come to Him;

Luke 18:15-17 People were also bringing babies to Jesus to have Him touch them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. But Jesus called the children to Him and said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child, will never enter it."

C. as sinners, babies need what Baptism offers;

John 3:5-6 No one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

Eph. 2:3 Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

D. babies also are able to have faith.

Matt. 18:6 If anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.

Bible narrative: John the Baptist was "filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth" (Luke 1:15), and even before birth (1:41-44).

Why does the church encourage the use of sponsors at Baptisms?

Sponsors witness that those who receive this sacrament have been properly baptized. They also pray for them and in the case of children, help with their Christian upbringing, especially if they should lose their parents. Only those of the same confession of faith should be sponsors.

Matt. 18:16 "Every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses."

Eph. 4:16 From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.





Mustard Seed

Daily Devotions
Lutheran Women in Mission

***How, Lord...
...can I look to the future?***

In the Word

Forget what happened in the past, and do not dwell on events from long ago. I am going to do something new. It is already happening. Don't you recognize it?

[Isaiah 43:18-19a](#)

Of the Word

It is impossible to walk forward if we're looking back. Sooner or later we will stumble. It is much safer to look to where we are going than to where we have been. Likewise, we won't ever see what the future holds if we continue to live in the past. How can we possibly have a better tomorrow if we are still living with the troubles of yesterday? The past is past.

God wants us to live joy-filled lives. That is possible if we focus on Him. We receive God's forgiveness when we go to Him in prayer, confessing our wrongs, fears, regrets, and doubts about the past. *God is faithful and reliable. If we confess our sins, he forgives them and cleanses us from everything we've done wrong* ([1 John 1:9](#) GOD'S WORD).

We are forgiven! Now it's time to move on, time to focus on hopes not fears. It's time to recognize God is waiting to lead us to a future He has already planned for us.

Walking with My Lord

Gracious Lord, I am ready to focus on Your promises of forgiveness and love. Help me to grow in faith and be willing to allow the Holy Spirit to lead me where You have planned for me to go. May I recognize Your blessings along the way. In Jesus' name. Amen.





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 20 minutes before services start. Thank-you to all

ELDERS' SCHEDULE

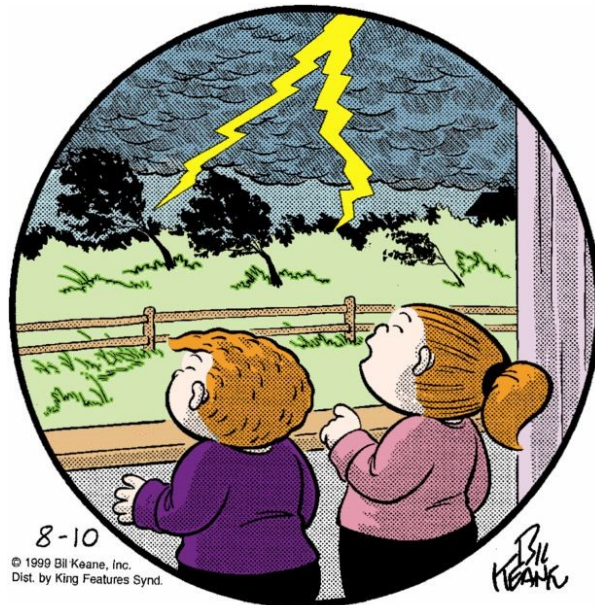
- June 24 John Pruss
Andy Pruss
- June 27 John Pruss**
- July 1 Darryl Warren
Doug Warren
- July 4 Darryl Warren**
- July 8 Doug Warren
Andy Pruss
- July 11 Randy Spangle**
- July 15 John Pruss
Darryl Warren
- July 18 Andy Pruss**
- July 22 Randy Spangle
Doug Warren
- July 25 John Pruss**
- July 29 Andy Pruss
Darryl Warren
- Aug. 1 Randy Spangle**
- Aug. 5 Darryl Warren
John Pruss
- Aug. 8 Darryl Warren**
- Aug. 12 Doug Warren
Andy Pruss
- Aug 15 John Pruss**
- Aug. 19 Scott Thimm
Doug Warren
- Aug. 22 Randy Spangle**
- Aug. 26 Scott Thimm
John Pruss
- Aug. 29 Scott Thimm**
- Sept. 2 Andy Pruss
Doug Warren
- Sept. 5 Randy Spangle**

USHERS' SCHEDULE

- June 24 Tim Bauer
- July 1 Chris Bolz
- July 8 Larry Hildebrandt
- July 15 Jake Pruss
- July 22 Kyle Sapper
- July 29 Cody Sunie
- Aug. 5 Jim Johnson
- Aug. 12 Brian Klobucher
- Aug. 19 Scott Sapper
- Aug. 26 Todd Vyskocil
- Sept. 2 Ron Schwiesow

GREETERS' SCHEDULE

- June 24 Vyskocil Family
- July 1 Warren & Peggy Draeger
- July 8 Honkala Family
- July 15 Roger & Sally Gustafson
- July 22 Clarence & Kathy Osmak
- July 29 Scott & Tami Thimm
- Aug. 5 Don & Laurie Moreland
- Aug. 12 Ron & Brenda Schwiesow
- Aug. 19 Wickman Family
- Aug. 26 June Williams
- Sept. 2 Lipske Family



8-10
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"When the lightning flashes in their eyes, the clouds get mad and grumble."

July
Sandy Frisco 682-5401 Stephanie Wegener 682-9822
Judy Nevala 682-2927

August
Kim Westman 682-6571 Lynn Ladd 292-0592
Katie Colgrove 209-2512





2018

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 Mite Sunday Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am	2 Evangelism Mtg. 5:30pm	3	4 Offices Closed No Wednesday night service Happy July 4th	5	6	7
8 Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am	9	10	11 Worship 6:30pm	12	13	14
15 ✂ ✂ Worship 10:00am at Prentice Park - Picnic to follow	16	17	18 Worship 6:30pm	19	20 <i>Newsletter</i> <i>Reports Due</i>	21
22 Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am	23	24	25 Worship 6:30pm	26	27	28
29 Food Shelf Sunday Worship 9:00am Bible Study 10:15am	30	31				