

# *The Mountain Top* **Messenger**

VOLUME 51, ISSUE 5 Zion Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod MAY 2013

Grace, Peace, and Mercy to you from  
God our Father and Jesus Christ His Son.

Well here we are, the May Newsletter, couldn't tell by looking outside and by listening to the weather forecast, 7"-11" by tomorrow morning. When will it end? Seems like winter is going on forever. Our waiting for spring reminds me of our waiting for our Lord's return. "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only..." (Mt 24:36). Patience is the key in all things. Fortunately God is far more trustworthy and predictable than the weatherman. Praise be to God.

I wanted to let you know that I have been having discussions with the Board of Elders about having a midweek service. We are looking at Wednesday night's once confirmation ends. This service would have two main objectives, the first would be to allow an opportunity for those who can't make Sundays to be able to worship, and secondly to allow those who would like to worship more than once a week that opportunity. The services would be different than the Sunday services and would be theme based similar to the Lenten and Advent services we have had, no costumes however, and there will be communion. If you have any questions or comments regarding the midweek service please feel free to contact one of the Elders or me.

On the SMP update, things are still moving along, I have begun studying for my upcoming Entry Level Equivalency Exams and the last of the paperwork from the congregation will be finalized very soon.

Thank you for all your prayers and support while I was ill, I am feeling much better now and I really appreciate you all. Please continue to Pray for Zion and for me as we continue in our SMP process.

May the Peace of our Risen Lord and Savior be with you all!  
Your Brother in Christ,  
Rick Williams, Deacon

# Zion's Ministry Staff and Church Officers

E-Mail: [zionashland@hotmail.com](mailto:zionashland@hotmail.com)  
Website: [www.zionashland.org](http://www.zionashland.org)



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

Deacon - Rick Williams 715-209-0479 (M/W/Th 8:30-4:30,

T 1-5pm, F 8:30am-12:30pm)

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

\* \* \* \* \*

Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 am

Sunday School 10:15am (last class is May 12th)

## Stewardship Thoughts

Stewardship isn't about us. It's about God. The focal point of our stewardship is outward. We don't give witness to our faithfulness, but to the Lord's faithfulness to us. Our witness does not seek to serve ourselves, but to serve our neighbors. The disciples gave all they had for the common good and testified of the risen Christ. How we manage life and life's resources speaks volumes about our witness. If it speaks about the Lord and what He has done for us and it points the lost in the direction of salvation, to Jesus, our witness is pleasing to God.

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.



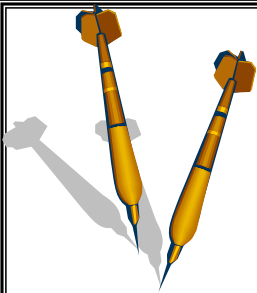
## Altar Guild Meeting

Sunday, May 5th

7:45am

Coffee will be brewing





**The Zion Dartball Team** had an outstanding year, finishing the regular season in first place with a record of 31-11. The North Star Dartball League is comprised of men and women from eight area churches representing several denominations. There are five Lutheran churches including Zion, Saron, Good Shepherd, Marengo St. Paul, and Washburn Messiah. Rounding out the league is St Anne's Catholic, Sanborn Methodist, and Salem Baptist. Games are typically played on Monday nights starting in early October and going through February. During this year's post season tournament, Zion won 5 out of 7 games, and placed second. In this league, however, the number of wins and losses are not nearly as important as participating in good Christian fellowship within our community.

**Confirmation Students  
2013  
Confirmation Sunday  
May 19th**

Kathryn Draeger  
Riley Heglund  
Tiffany Houle  
Cierra Maday



**SOCIAL MEDIA**

You can access the official social media accounts of the LCMS to help stay on top of news and other important information.

[www.facebook.com/thelcms](http://www.facebook.com/thelcms)

[www.twitter.com/thelcms](http://www.twitter.com/thelcms)

[www.youtube.com/thelcms](http://www.youtube.com/thelcms)

Check out all of their social-media accounts at:

[www.lcms.org/socialmedia](http://www.lcms.org/socialmedia)

**FAQS**—Frequently Asked Questions—They have more than 150 FAQs on the LCMS website. Check it out at:

[www.lcms.org/faqs](http://www.lcms.org/faqs)



**A Mother's Love**

There are times when only a mother's love  
Can understand our tears,  
Can soothe our disappointments  
And calm all of our fears.

There are times when only a mother's love  
Can share the joy we feel  
When something we've dreamed about  
Quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a mother's faith  
Can help us on life's way  
And inspire in us the confidence  
We need from day to day.

For a mother's heart and a mother's faith  
And a mother's steadfast love  
Were fashioned by the angels  
And sent from God above.

--Author Unknown

**Mowing  
Schedule**

To be posted soon  
- that is as soon as  
we get grass and it starts growing.  
Watch for sign-up in the Narthex. We need everyone's help!





# SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP



More good news! Maria Truchon has graciously volunteered to be this summer's VBS Site Coordinator. Thank you Maria! Remember VBS will be August 12th-15th. We will have a limit of 40 children so pre-registration will be necessary. More information will be sent out soon.

May 12th will be the last day of classes for Sunday School. The children will be singing "God's Not Dead" during the service and then in Sunday School classes there will be a short devotion, craft and ice cream sundaes.

March 100% attendance included: Cooper Tamke, Sydney Vyskocil, Angela Ylitalo, Kathryn Draeger, Tiffany Houle, Austin Vyskocil, Lily Truchon, Sophie Truchon, Daniel Truchon and Taylor Vyskocil **AWESOME!**



A digital camera has been donated to the Church for Church events. It will be kept in the office on the green file cabinet by the copier. There is a sign-out sheet so we know where it is.

Please return it back as soon as you are finished with it. Please share your pictures on the bulletin board and/or send to the office to be included in upcoming newsletters. Thank you.

## List of Veterans at Zion Lutheran Church 2013

**THANK YOU AND GOD'S BLESSING** to the known, living, active and veteran members of our nation's armed forces at Zion:

*(Please let the office know of anyone that has been missed.)*



Kristina [Ladd] Aschenbrenner  
James Bullis  
David Buss  
Charles Chronis  
Warren Draeger  
Herb Ellis  
Gerald Frisco  
Nick Frisco  
Wendell Friske  
Francis Graves  
Thomas Halvorson  
Robert Heggie, Sr.  
Clarence Houle, Sr.  
Nick Jarvela  
James Johnson  
Lloyd Koosmann  
David Kuester  
Tracy [Colgrove] Meller  
David Olby  
Clarence Osmak  
James M. Pearce  
Donald Pocernich  
Lester Pufall  
Ron Schwiesow

Eric Sickich  
David R. Sorenson  
Steve Sorenson  
Willy Sunie  
Scott Thimm  
William Truchon  
Gordon Vyskocil  
Timothy Vyskocil  
Rick Williams  
Duane Ylitalo

## Scrapbooking and Projects

Sat., May 11th 10:00am-4:00pm and/or Fri. May 31st, 5:30pm  
It's going to be fun, fun, fun. It is a great time to get caught up on organizing photos, doing cards, laying out other projects. There's plenty of room for everyone! Please RSVP to Jodi Truchon if you are interested in coming or just show up. Jbtruchon@yahoo.com 715-774-3870



## Update on Debra Elmore-Nesheim

I love my job. I have begun working at the National Institutes of Health. The people I work with are awesome. We work with patients 0-21 years old or so, who have rare diseases and cancers. They come from all over the world to help with research for cures. And I only work 4 days a week, 10 hours each day. No weekends or holidays! We found a great LCMS church, too!

Now some news on my trip to Tanzania-

- OK! For one, I just mailed my VISA application yesterday. Luckily it just goes to the Tanzania Embassy in Washington, DC and takes only 5 days to process.
- It looks like a challenge for me is going to be finding a doctor in my new location. I have to start taking anti-malaria medication at least 3 weeks before leaving on my trip. That means I have to start this week.

Also, I got my flight schedule. When I was in WI, I was going to fly to Atlanta to meet up with the rest of the team and we'd fly to Tanzania from there. Now that I live here, I have to fly out of DC to Paris, transfer there and fly to Amsterdam before meeting up with the team! Yikes! I hear Paris is a crazy airport to get around in.

God is really at work in my life. Between this mission trip, my new job and where we live now I'm...awestruck. Seriously! That's about the only word I can think of to describe it. (Besides "blessed"). God is up to something!

## TO GOD GIVE ALL GLORY ZION'S MISSION IS SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS AND ALSO PROVIDING FOR OUR NEIGHBORS



The sewing circle has ended its year in sewing with the completion of 50 blankets for the Orphan Train that works with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and the International Lutheran Laymen's League, who deliver quilts to the needy in disaster areas in the United States and other countries. We also do Baptismal Crib blankets for our newly baptized members.

We thank the Lord that he has provided us the materials and the busy hands that has made this possible .

We will again be looking forward to donations of old sheets and materials that can be reused for making these blankets and quilts for the needy. Please feel free to give Lynn a call as to when it's best to drop off these items at the church. We can take them any time throughout the year. Thank you very much for the donations that we've already have received.

May the recipients of these blankets feel the Lord's Blessings.  
God Bless, Sewing Circle



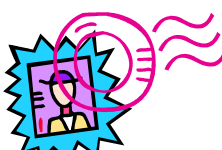
## Alleluia Living

When the accounts of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ are read in the Four Gospels, a person quickly realizes there are mixed reviews on what really happened. After seeing the empty tomb, some ran and told others, some told no one, some saw angels, some were trembling, some were astonished, some were amazed, some were perplexed, some remembered Jesus' words, some believed, and others doubted. Imagine the confusion, the terror, the joy, the fear...this was no ordinary day... no ordinary event.... no ordinary sight... For this was God at God's best. Turning everything upside down. Transforming ordinary into extraordinary. Transforming awful in awe-full. Transforming amazing into amazing grace. Transforming grief into joy. Transforming doubt into faith. Transforming sin into righteousness. Transforming despair into hope. Transforming earthly into divine. Transforming time into eternity. Nothing was half-baked. The stone was rolled away. The tomb was empty. The grave clothes were shed. It was "the resurrection from the dead." Jesus is Alive! He is Risen! Alleluia.

I believe multiple empty tomb accounts are recorded for we best see ourselves in the response of the disciples: trembling, confused, fearful, doubting... Like them, we see the ordinary and miss the extraordinary. We seek earthly rewards... but miss divine grace. We see problems, and miss promises. We see losers, and miss angels. We grieve sin, and miss righteousness. For there is no other event in history where God becomes a servant and takes upon Himself the sin of the world.

Easter invites us to the empty tomb... and we need to go. For it is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ that moves the stones and sets us free to speak words of divine awe, that tunes our vision to the eternal, that equips our hands to serve others, and energizes our feet to run with the Good News of Redemption. Jesus is alive! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia... Alleluia... Alleluia.



 LWML is collecting stamps for its Mission projects. If you choose to trim the stamps, please leave a 1/4" border. Place the stamps in the marked container in the Narthex.

**LFOJ HAPPENINGS** LFOJ's annual Mother's Day Tea Party will be held May 9th for 3 year olds and May 10th for the 4/5 year olds.



## **SPAGHETTI FEED**

**Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm—8:00pm**

**Benefit for Ken Philaja to help with medical expenses incurred for stem cell replacement at the Mayo Clinic. It will be a goodwill offering.**



### ***The Lutheran Witness Goes Digital***

They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks. *The Lutheran Witness* begs to differ. Even at 131 years old, the Synod's flagship magazine is proud to adapt and grow into the 21st century with the introduction of a new, digital edition. The new digital edition of *The Lutheran Witness* provides readers with many new features and benefits. The magazine is now available to any subscriber anywhere. The digital format functions on most devices, including smartphones, tablets, laptops and desktop computers.

The cutting-edge digital edition enhances reading with zooming and scrolling capabilities, and links are now clickable in order to simplify browsing for readers. *The Lutheran Witness* team also plans to further enhance the digital format by adding bonus content such as videos and motion graphics. The digital edition is available as an add-on to a current print subscription or as a stand-alone product. Also released is a mobile application that delivers *The Lutheran Witness* as a digital reading experience for iPad, iPhone and iPod Touch. The new app is available on Concordia Publishing *Diane Grimm Joan Pogue* House's website and provides subscribers access to the same trusted articles, news stories and opinions found in the print and online editions. While the existing online edition at [www.cph.org/witness](http://www.cph.org/witness) allows readers to enjoy the magazine with an Internet connection, the new app provides the capability to save the magazine and review its content regardless of Internet connectivity. Issues printed prior to 2013 can be found at <http://witness.lcms.org>.

Features include a page-preview carousel with page thumbnails, easy "finger swipe" page scrolling and the ability to store complete issues within the newsstand library. Once subscribers download the free *Lutheran Witness* magazine app, each new issue automatically will be sent to their newsstands for convenient viewing. Note: While the app itself is free, you will need a paid subscription to the magazine in order to receive it via the app.

If you have any questions or would like to see whether the magazine is available for your device, visit [www.cph.org/witness](http://www.cph.org/witness) to learn more or to download the new *Lutheran Witness* magazine

# Zion Lutheran Church Council Minutes

April 15, 2013

The April 15, 2013 meeting of the Church Council was called to order by President, Chuck Chronis who opened the meeting with prayer.

**ROLL CALL:** President – Chuck Chronis, Elder – Darryl Warren, Education – Lynn Ladd, Secretary – Becky Sapper, Evangelism – Lori Hebert, Stewardship – Penny Mattson, Treasurer – Todd Vyskocil

**MINUTES:** Motion by Ladd, second by Mattson, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2013 Council meeting as printed. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Motion by Warren, second by Ladd, to approve the Treasurer's Report through March 29, 2013 as printed. Motion carried.

**AGENDA:** Motion by Warren, second by Hebert, to approve the agenda as printed with additions to new business. Motion carried.

## **BOARD REPORTS:**

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

**Elders:** Met to discuss compensation plan for Rick Williams, met with confirmands (extremely happy with their progress), Confirmation classes will conclude April 24 and Confirmation Sunday is on May 19, 2013.

**Education:** *Superintendent and VBS positions have both been filled. Last day of Sunday School will be on May 12, 2013.*

**Evangelism:** Contributed a basket to Faith in Action fundraiser, planning the new member potluck on April 28, 2013.

**Stewardship:** Learning more about a year-long LCMS stewardship program to consider utilizing in the future.

**Deacon's Report:** In the past month, Holy Week services were well attended, 2 baptisms occurred and 4 new members accepted into the congregation. All shut ins (except one that wasn't feeling well) were visited prior to Easter, Circuit Winkle attended and also a visit occurred with John Beiersdorff prior to his passing. Rick is also preparing for entrance examinations to St. Louis Seminary and has requested the Vicarage application forms from the district.

## **OFFICIAL ACTS:**

Motion by Ladd, second by Hebert to approve the official acts. Motion carried.

**Baptism:** Lillian C. Harrelson (March 31, 2013), Dylan Joseph Osmak (April 14, 2013)

**Adult Confirmation:** Terrel Bolz, Karl W. Williams, Lillian C. Harrelson, Heather Usher (All on March 31, 2013)

**Transfer:** Steve and Deb Nesheim – The Lutheran Church of St. Andrews (LCMS) Silver Spring, MD

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Lynn will print envelopes/letterhead via the computer printer instead of ordering them for local printers.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion by Ladd, second by Warren, to provide the following compensation to Rick Williams effective April 16, 2013: Annual Salary (\$33,863), Annual Housing (\$12,000) and up to \$5,000 in reimbursable Continuing Education. Motion carried.

Hebert reported on one of two quotes solicited for a sign to be placed on 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue West. A second quote will be solicited for comparison.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Warren, second by Hebert to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.



# MAY 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!!

## Our Prayer Concerns

MAY

### 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

### Shut-in's

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

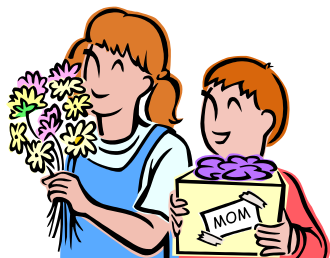
### Local & US Concerns

(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

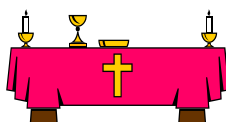


## Mother's Day

## May 12th

### MAY ALTAR GUILD

Ethel Guss 682-3885  
Brenda Schwiesow 682-4292  
Kaitlyn Bochler 682-3899



### ELDERS

May 5 Mike Cashman & Don Pocernich  
May 12 Chuck Chronis & Doug Warren  
May 19 Don Pocernich & John Pruss  
May 26 Doug Warren & Mike Cashman

### GREETERS FOR MAY

*Greeters should arrive by 8:40am*

May 5 Loren & Eleanor Munson  
May 12 Clarence & Kathy Osmak  
May 19 Karen Wahl & Stephanie Wegener  
May 26 June Williams & Janet Houle

### MAY Acolytes

May 5 Kathryn Draeger & Riley Heglund  
May 12 Tiffany Houle & Cierra Maday  
May 19 Carolyn Gurske & Cooper Tamke  
May 26 Jordan Thimm & Annie Ylitalo

### MAY Ushers

*Ushers should arrive by 8:40am*

May 5 Tim Bauer & Nick Jarvela  
May 12 Herb Ellis & Dylan Williams  
May 19 Chris Bolz & Randy Spangle  
May 26 Larry Hildebrandt & Jim Hebert

### OFFICIAL ACTS

#### **Adult Confirmands 03-31-13**

Terrel Bolz, Karl W. Williams,  
Lillian C. Harrelson, Heather Usher

**Death**—John R. Beiersdorff - 04/15/2013

**Transferred** Steve & Deb Nesheim - The Lutheran Church of St. Andrew (LCMS) Silver Spring, MD 04-15-2013

#### **Adult Baptism —**

Lillian C. Harrelson 03-31-13

#### **Baptism —**

Dylan Joseph Osmak – 04/14/13