

The Mountain Top **Messenger**

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

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

Wow, November, hardly seems possible. The big three holidays rapidly approaching....Thanksgiving, Christmas, and hunting season. We even get to set our clocks back an hour this Sunday. All signs that our year is almost over. Well not only is our calendar year almost over but our church year will be ending even sooner. November 24th is the last Sunday in Pentecost and by the time you get the next newsletter we will be starting the new church year with Advent. There are three Wednesdays in Advent this year and for those three Wednesdays as well as Christmas Eve and Christmas we will be doing a special series called "Unto us a Child is Born". In this series we are going to look at the names of the Messiah referenced by Isaiah 9:1-7. The names of the Messiah found there: Great Light, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, and One of Us. Along with the messages related to those names we will be singing a number of favorite Christmas hymns. So please join us on Wednesday nights at 6:30 starting December 4th. Also just a reminder you don't have to wait until December 4th to join us on Wednesday night, we are still having regular Wednesday night sessions as well. Next week will be the final message in our 6 parts series on Joseph. Wednesday night services are a completely separate service from Sunday on a slightly more informal setting, please come and check it out.

I wanted to thank everyone for all their prayers, thoughts, and kind words before, during, and after my shoulder surgery. Thank the Lord the surgery went well and the healing process is going well and the pain I do have has been very manageable. I am a little tired of the sling already, but I am told that is quite common.

I wanted to take just a moment and share two acronyms with you, the first we heard a couple weeks ago, P.U.S.H. Pray Until Something Happens, I have been reminded of this so many times since that sermon message, when I leave the gas station, when I see a friend who heard the message, on the door of my hospital room. Such a powerful message, remind each other always. The other acronym is a new one I learned this week in my classes, S.O.A.P., it stands for Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer. So in other words, S-Scripture, read a passage of scripture, take your time don't rush. O-Observation, pick out a particular verse or verses that stick out to you and then paraphrase it in your own words. Then for the A-Application personalize it by asking how it applies in your life right now. Perhaps it is instruction, encouragement, revelation of a new promise, or correction for a particular area of your life. And then P-Pray, come before the Lord in prayer, it can be as simple as asking God to help you use this scripture, or it may be a greater insight on what He may be revealing to you. REMEMBER, prayer is a two-way conversation, so be sure to listen to what God has to say! For the next couple weeks we are going to be looking at how to use the S.O.A.P. method for personal Bible Study and Prayer growth in our Sunday morning Bible study. Pick some of your favorite scriptures and bring them with. The other nice thing about this method is it works equally as well or perhaps even better on unfamiliar scripture. So please come and join us.

So until next month, the Lord Bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon you and gracious unto you, the Lord give you Peace. Amen

Vicar Rick

Zion's Ministry Staff and Church Officers

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



Church Office 715-682-6075 (M/T/W 8am-12noon, Th-1-5pm)
Vicar Rick Williams 715-209-0479 (M/T/W/Th 8:00-5:00)
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

Wednesday Evening Worship 6:30am

Sunday School 10:15am

Bible Studies: Sundays 10:15am Mondays 10:00am

Stewardship Thoughts

The only real gift that we have from the Lord to steward or manage that has any lasting or even eternal consequences, is the Gospel. It is this Gospel that the Holy Spirit uses to call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify the whole Christian Church on earth, including you and me. It is this message that we as the church are tasked to manage.

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” [2 Tim. 3:16-17] the Holy Spirit does the work through the word. Our stewardship is nothing more than keeping clear and sharing what the Lord has handed down to us - The Word.

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.



Pencils

If you happen to have a few old, used pencils cluttering your drawer, drop them off at the church office. We are looking for used shorter ones to put in the pews. They don't have to have erasers on them.
Thank you.





YOU ARE INVITED!!!

All women of Zion - young and seasoned

"Mary Martha LWML Thanksgiving Gathering"

Saturday, November 16, 2013

- 10:00am -

Here at Zion!

This event will include a brief meeting followed by a

"Surprise Guest Speaker".

Light refreshments will also be served.



Wednesday Night Worship Services

6:30pm now
until Advent

Advent Services

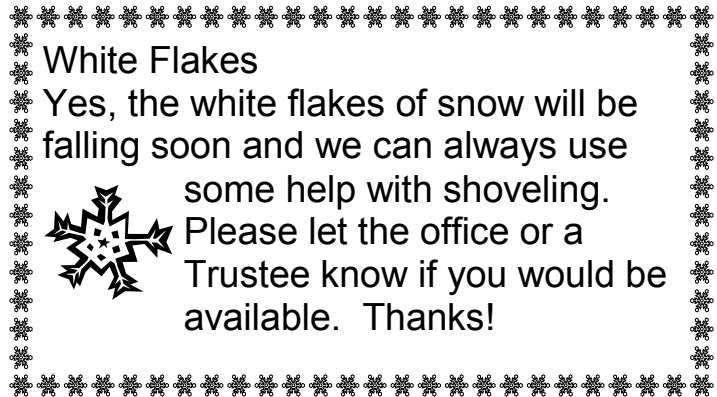
Wednesdays, 6:30pm

Dec. 4, 11, 18

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Wednesday, November

27th 6:30pm



White Flakes

Yes, the white flakes of snow will be falling soon and we can always use

some help with shoveling.

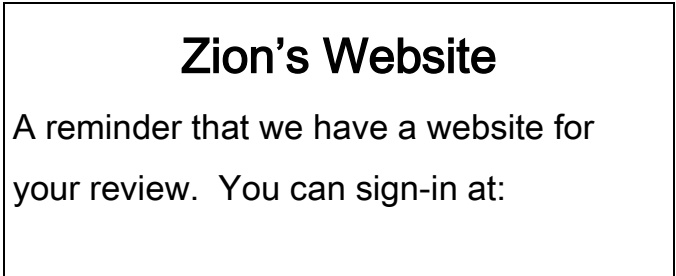
Please let the office or a Trustee know if you would be available. Thanks!



ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING

December 1st

Time and more details will be coming up in the Sunday bulletins.



Zion's Website

A reminder that we have a website for your review. You can sign-in at:



SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

Sunday School News:

The perfect attendance for the month of September is:

Pre-school, Kindergartners: Jonah Barker, Jeffrey Guski, Sophie Truchon, Maya D

1st, 2nd and 3rd Graders: Lily Barker, Daniel Truchon, Henry Graves, Kenneth Harrelson, Austin Vyskocil, Ben Snyder

4th, 5th Graders: Lily Truchon, Mark Barker, Logan Esala,

Jodi Harrelson, Naomi Snyder

6th-8th Graders: Jacob Graves, Kyle Sapper, Taylor Vyskocil, Tia Warren, , Justin Esala, Jordan Thimm, Mary Beth Barker, Eric Bochler, Cooper Tamke, Sydney Vyskocil

Great Work Everyone-a good start to the Sunday School Year.

The Christmas Program materials have arrived. A reminder to parents of Sunday School age children; that our Children's Christmas Program is set for Sunday, December 15th, at the 9:00am worship service. The program title is "Silent Night, Holy Night". We will start practicing the music for the program and hope that attendance for the next seven weeks is 100%.

I will be scheduling a Sunday School Teacher's meeting during the month of November to discuss the Christmas Program and DVDs and special projects I've set up for the students to do once a month.

God's Blessings

Katie Colgrove

Sunday School Superintendent

November Trivia

According to the Georgian calendar, November is the eleventh month of the year. In the early Roman calendar, it was the ninth month. The Roman Senate elected to name the eleventh month for Tiberus Caesar, and since Augustus time, it has had only 30 days. Originally, there were 30 days, then 29, then 31.

VETERANS DAY is celebrated on November 11th.

THANKSGIVING DAY is celebrated November 28, 2013

There is no mention of the month of November in any of Shakespeare's plays or sonnets

John F. Kennedy was assassinated in November 1963

Winter once began on November 11, according to the calendar of ancient Rome.



WELCOME TO ZION!

Alice and Pastor Stanley Bahn have joined us from Trinity Lutheran, Glidden, Wisconsin. We hope your time with us will be blessed.



Scrapbooking and Projects Nights

Tuesday, Nov. 12th and 19th 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 Lilly Harrelson if you are interested in coming. If there aren't enough able to make an evening, it may get postponed.

Lillyc_00@yahoo.com or 715-292-5699

Greetings!

I am writing to let you know about a new and exciting project at The BRICK. On November 16th from 1-3 pm we will be hosting a Hunt Out Hunger Scavenger Hunt to collect items needed at the food shelf. Anyone can participate in this fun community event by forming a team of 4-6 participants plus a driver (food items get heavy after a block or two!). Teams will go door to door in Ashland searching for items on their scavenger hunt food list. Prizes will be awarded to the team who raises the most pledges in the weeks before the hunt and also for the team who finishes their list first! As the teams return we'll enjoy hot cocoa, food, and fun!

This is a fantastic way for people to get involved in the community and have fun at the same time. Please support our event by posting this information in your church bulletin, spreading the word to those you think may be interested, or posting the attached flyer.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or to register a team!

Take care,
Courtney Rauschenbach, Special Projects Volunteer
The BRICK Ministries, Inc. 715-292-2897
420 Ellis Ave.
Ashland, WI 54806

The BRICK made a request for an annual giving offering for November 17, 2013. A motion passed by the Church Council to increase November's giving amount instead of placing a basket for free will offering. But, anyone who wishes to assist the BRICK with their own personal offering can place it in the offering plate on November 17, 2013 with it clearly marked as a donation for the BRICK.

John Muir wrote: Everybody needs beauty... places to play and pray in.

Even in the details of nature God did not hold back and many of us northerners agree that autumn is God's show-stopper season. When trees lift brilliant flags of color, cattail plumes stand at attention, grasses wave sun-baked raffia, lawns record frosty footsteps, and geese sing and wing the melody of migration. Nature is at work pumping out the last-hurrah march before the blanket of winter is thrown over the earth. Those who hear the bugle call to get outside are delighted by the fresh scent of change, the chill of whipped wind, the ticker-tape of falling leaves, and the forward march of creation. For as autumn struts-her-stuff, nature is parading the dynamic energy of the ever-present Creator.

I hope you have time to cheer the players in this outdoor show: quilted clouds, crystal raindrops, carpeted paths, golden wheat, ruby red cranberries, snappy squirrels, scattered acorns, bird flocks, and so much more. Yes, we participate in a world that is orchestrated by the Almighty and in this earthly procession, we are urged to hear His song and know the beauty of His majesty.

Blow the whistle. Strike up the band. Forward march. God is afoot to broadcast Jesus' invitation of sweet grace and tender mercy. Play and pray. God is with us. Let the parade of His promises place a song in your heart, a skip in your step, and hope in your soul.



LFOJ HAPPENINGS

We are having a volunteer orientation on Monday, November 18th at 9:00 a.m. if any members of the congregation would be interested in spending time at the center. We would love to have people to help rock babies or help with

Zion Lutheran Church - Council Minutes

October 21, 2013

The October 21, 2013 meeting of the Church Council was called to order by President, Chuck Chronis. Vicar Williams opened the meeting with prayer.

ROLL CALL: Chuck Chronis (President), Darryl Warren (Elder), Lynn Ladd (Education), Todd Vyskocil (Treasurer), Mary Koosmann (Financial Secretary), Penny Mattson (Stewardship), Becky Sapper (Secretary), Lori Hebert (Evangelism), Rick Williams (Vicar).

MINUTES: Motion by Mattson, second by Warren, to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2013 Council meeting with addition of Mary Koosmann (Financial Secretary) added to the Roll Call and the remaining minutes as printed. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Ladd, second by Hebert, to approve the Treasurer's Report as printed. As of September 30, 2013 Zion had \$75,711.12 in assets and \$21,534.29 in liabilities. 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 Warren, second by Mattson to accept the Board Reports as given. Motion carried.

***Vicar's Report:** Vicar Williams has had several trips to Duluth and MMC this last month for visitations. Two funerals and one baptism were conducted. Attended Pastor's conference and AAMA a local preacher circuit and Vicar Williams joined the schedule for preaching at area nursing homes every 8-12 weeks. 3 ½ weeks remain of the first semester of schooling for Vicar Williams. LFOJ will be recognized on Reformation Sunday. Wednesday services are continuing to go well.*

***Evangelism:** creating care packages for Zion's college students to help them prepare for finals and flu season.*

OFFICIAL ACTS: Motion by Hebert, second by Vyskocil to accept the Official Acts. Motion carried.

Baptism: Kenneth Thomas Philaja (10-20-13)

New Members: Stan and Alice Bahn from Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS), Glidden, Wisconsin

Transfers: Jim and Fran Fleig to St. Paul's Lutheran Church (LCMS), Marengo, WI

Deaths: Margaret Mahoney (09-17-2013); Judy Fletcher (10-07-2013)

OLD BUSINESS:

Nomination Committee for new board members consists of Brenda Schwiesow, Sandy Frisco and Doug Warren. The following positions are up for election: Council Secretary, Board of Elders (1), Board of Education (2), Evangelism Board (1), Board of Trustees (2), Stewardship Board (1), LFOJ (1).

Ladd found a policy regarding Sexual Harassment /Abuse last updated June 16, 2003. This policy may meet the needs that were requested by Guide One Insurance which would lower the insurance premium. The policy will be shared with trustees with the following additions made to section V.E. to read: Two adults will be in attendance at all youth functions with at least one adult with 6 months experience volunteering with youth as a member of Zion or with an established relationship with Zion, for example Camp Luther counselors. Motion made by Warren, second by Hebert to accept amendments to this policy with approval from trustees. Motion carried.

Adjacent properties to Zion are for sale, but there is not a current need for Zion to make a purchase. If a member is interested in purchasing the properties, Zion would like be considered for the Right for First Refusal if the property were to be sold in the future when needs of the church may be different. All agreed it would be beneficial in the long term for the property to be owned by the church or by a church member but it currently does not meet the need for a Zion investment.

NEW BUSINESS:

The BRICK has made a request for an annual giving offering for November 17, 2013. Motion by Warren, second by Koosmann to increase our monthly giving to the BRICK from \$135 to \$270 for November instead of placing a basket for free will offering. A notice will be placed in the bulletin and newsletter letting members know that if they wish to assist the BRICK with their annual giving offering that they can place it in the offering plate on November 17, 2013 with it clearly marked as a donation for the BRICK. Motion carried.

Individuals with Thrivent investments should take the opportunity prior to March to allocate their Thrivent Choice dollars. Both Zion and LFOJ are options for Thrivent Choice dollars. Allocations can be done on-line or in person at the Thrivent office in Ashland.

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

ORDER YOUR CAMP LUTHER 2014 CALENDAR NOW

Visit www.campluther.com and see our beautiful calendar for the new year. These are pictures selected from our 2013 photo contest. What a GREAT way to enjoy Camp Luther year round. They also make wonderful Christmas gifts!

THE \$100,000 MATCHING CHALLENGE!!

Give now to Camp Luther, and have your gift matched. This is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks for this ministry. Check out more about this wonderful opportunity to give at www.campluther.com and click "Get Involved!"

FAMILY FLURRY RETREAT (Jan. 31-Feb. 2)

We are getting excited about some of our "snowy opportunities" at Camp Luther this winter. Bundle up and bring the family for a weekend of winter activities and growing together in faith. Families can join in our staff led activities or do things on your own. There is something for all ages. Activities include tubing, broomball, snow shoeing, x-country skiing, Bible study and devotions. Check out www.campluther.com for more information.

CHOOSE CAMP LUTHER WITH YOUR THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS!!

Thrivent Choice is easy and it benefits Camp Luther and Every Kid to Camp! Log on to www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and get started TODAY!! Eligibility is established by Thrivent and by your premiums, account values and volunteer leadership! You simply go online and they do the rest. THANK YOU for giving to Camp Luther!!

Week 3 -

COTTAGE RETREATS--Enjoy a cottage retreat at Camp Luther this winter. Our cottages have everything you will need for a relaxing getaway in the midst of God's beautiful creation. You can spend time outside cross-country skiing, snow-shoeing, ice fishing, or tubing. When you are done, settle into a comfy chair next to your fireplace. Stay for a weekend or a week. Camp Luther is currently offering a special rate that is **30% off of our regular rate**. Check out "Cottage Retreats" at www.campluther.com

HELP CAMP LUTHER BY USING GOOD SEARCH

Go to www.goodsearch.com and join both Good Shop and Good Search, so that whether you are searching or shopping, you will be giving to Camp Luther. Add Camp Luther as your charity and that's it. Just by using Good Search after that, you will be giving to Camp Luther. It's a win-win. There are coupons for you too!!

CAMP LUTHER GIFT CERTIFICATES!!

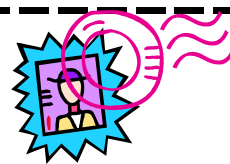
Looking for the perfect gift for your children or grandchildren? Consider a Camp Luther gift certificate. These certificates can be purchased for any amount and may be used for Camp Luther programs and at our canteen.

WHAT IS "EVERY KID TO CAMP?"

"Every Kid to Camp" is a ministry that sends kids to a week of summer camp at Camp Luther in Three Lakes, WI, at no expense to their parents. Kids in grades 3-8, who have never attended a summer camp at Camp Luther, qualify to attend. The ministry goal is that every child in our district, and beyond, attends a week of summer camp before they reach the ninth grade. You can help send kids to summer camp at Camp Luther through monetary gifts. Check out "Every Kid to Camp" under the "Get Involved" tab at www.campluther.com.

Camp Luther is a subsidiary ministry of the North Wisconsin District-LCMS. Our mission is to build up the Body of Christ for service to the church and witness to the world.

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.





NOVEMBER 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

Our Prayer Concerns

NOVEMBER

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

Ken Philaja Patty Kegel
Otto Rusch Riley Bretting Clarence Houle
Marlene Kerr Matt Raspotnik

Nursing Home & Assisted Living Resident

Ed & Elna Torkko Corrine Tolliver
Sharon Johnson Otto & Dorothy Rusch

Shut-in's

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

ELDERS

Nov. 3 John Pruss & Chuck Chronis
Nov. 6 Mike Cashman
Nov. 10 Doug Warren & Don Pocernich
Nov. 13 Chuck Chronis
Nov. 17 Darryl Warren & John Pruss
Nov. 20 Don Pocernich
Nov. 24 Mike Cashman & Doug Warren
Nov. 27 John Pruss



GREETERS FOR NOVEMBER

Greeters should arrive by 8:40am

Nov. 3 Thimm Family
Nov. 10 Roger & Linda Stenroos
Nov. 17 Sapper Family
Nov. 24 Karen Wahl & Stephanie Wegener
Nov. 27 Ingrid Pocernich & Lou Pearce

OFFICIAL ACTS

Death—Judy Fletcher 10-07-2013

Transferred Jim and Fran Fleig transfer to St. Paul's Lutheran Church (LCMS), Marengo, WI 10-21-2013

Baptism —Kenneth Thomas Philaja – 10-20-2013

New Members - Stanley and Alice Bahn, Trinity Lutheran (LCMS), Glidden, WI 10-21-2013

NOVEMBER Acolytes

Nov. 3 Eric Bochler & Kaitlyn Dickrell
Nov. 10 Brooke Sapper & David Ovaska
Nov. 17 Jordan Thimm & Justin Esala
Nov. 24 Carolyn Gurske & Heather Dickrell
Nov. 27 (6:30pm) Annie Ylitalo & Tia Warren

NOVEMBER Ushers

Ushers should arrive by 8:40am

Nov. 3 Terrel Bolz & Warren Draeger
Nov. 10 Ben Cashman & Gerald Frisco
Nov. 17 Patrick Colgrove & Wendell Friskie
Nov. 24 Scott Sapper & Jake Pruss
Nov. 27 Loren Munson & Roger Stenroos

NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD

Kim Westman 682-6571
Lynn Ladd 682-6034
Katie Colgrove 682-5162
Kathryn Draeger 746-2160

