

The Mountain Top *Zion Lutheran Church*

Messenger

VOLUME 53, ISSUE # **AUGUST 2015**

August, sorry kids, one month to school starting, Walmart has all the back to school supplies on display. I am not sure where the summer has gone. Time just keeps rolling on by. I read an interesting article the other day that spoke about God and time, and how time really has no meaning to God. He created time when he created the universe. He was there before time began. He will be there when time ends. Past, present, and future they are all visible to Him at a glance. We spend our lives bound to time, when were you; born, baptized, started school, graduated school, married, anniversaries, children's birthdays, grandchildren's birthdays, when did we start a job, leave a job, go on vacation, take sick days, and then of course there is our last day on earth. Everything we do is bound by time. I think we have a very difficult time envisioning a God who is not bound by time. I believe we have a hard time envisioning eternity, the concept of forever. Even in our feeble human minds when we think of forever, I think we still try to see a beginning and end. That my friends is where faith comes into play, there are a number of things in the Word of God that we have to take on faith, things that we have to take God's Word for, things like the fact that God created the universe in 6 days, in our human way of doing things we want to redefine those days, we want to say "those days were longer", or "a day to God could be like a thousand years, or longer to us". However when we read; "and there was evening and there was morning", that sounds a lot like a day as we know it. We need to have faith that there was a great flood, that Moses with the help of God parted the Red Sea, that Jesus turned water into wine, that He fed 5,000, that He walked on water and calmed the storm, that He was crucified, died, was buried, and that on that glorious Easter morning was raised from the dead so that we too, those of us who have been baptized into His death, have also been baptized into His resurrection, and through His grace, by faith, and through the power of the Holy Spirit know that we will be with Him for eternity. On July 8th, our friend Duke Kuester was called home to be with his Lord for eternity, in human terms, he was called home 87 years and one day after he began the count of time on this earth. A mere blink of an eye in God's history of the world. A lifetime to those who knew him and will miss him. All of us should take comfort knowing that following those 87 years and one day, Duke will be with his Lord and Comforter for eternity, that's a really long and glorious time. And one day, our time on this earth will end and we too, through faith, will join our Lord, in that joyous eternity. A reminder to everyone that Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of August 10th and will run through Thursday the 13th.

I close with the words of the Apostle Paul: May the peace of God, which surpasses our understanding, keep your hearts and minds on Christ Jesus.

Amen.

Vicar Rick



**Church Office - 1111 - 11th Ave. W
Ashland, WI 54806
Phone # - 715-682-6075
Website: www.zionashland.org
E-mail - zionashland@hotmail.com**

Vicar Rick Williams - 715-209-0479 Office Hours: M/W/Th 8:00am-5:00pm Tu 1:00-5:00pm, F 8:00am-12:00pm (Please call ahead if you need to speak with Vicar 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



Do You Know ? Janet Houle

Janet was born September 26, 1954 at Trinity Hospital in Ashland, WI. Her parents were Harry and Luverne Nelson. She was the last born in her family of four brothers and three sisters. She was baptized at Zion on November 28, 1954.

They lived six miles west of Ashland on a dairy farm. There was always something to do living on a farm, especially chores. During nice weather, when chores were done and haying was complete they would go swimming. Family picnics at Pine Lake were prevalent, especially during any holidays with over 50 family members attending.

Janet married Kenneth Houle on August 3, 2004 in Ashland. They have two boys and one girl.

Church is a strong principle in Janet's life. Her mother, Luverne was a very active member in the Church, and Janet is following in her dedication. Plus, Janet encourages Tiffany to join her to many events. Janet enjoys the Christmas candlelight service and Easter services the best. Pastor Gatz is one of her favorite Pastors. She got to know him very well as a teenager since he taught confirmation on Saturday mornings, two hours the first year and four hours the second year. She is active in Sunday School, Altar Guild, LWML and the Education Board.

Janet enjoys going to Pow Wow's at Odanah, Red Cliff Flambeau, St. Croix, and several in Michigan, taking in the ceremonies, festivities, lots of good food and people to share and hear stories. The children and granddaughter dance. Janet has sewn their regalia and Josh and Tiffany have been Bad River royalty.

Childcare has been her main focus for the last 17 years, sometimes 24/7, so that's take up most of Janet's time. Otherwise you will find her doing embroidery, reading historical, romance, and religious books; almost anything except horror and sci-fi.

When asked if there was a chance to go anywhere, Janet would go to see her sisters in Oregon.



ICE CREAM SOCIAL
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH
7:30pm after worship service



That Wednesday will be the VBS children's service.

On June 9th, Bill & Jodi Truchon lost their house to a fire. Dan and Carla Schwantes, Jodi's parents, lived in the house, therefore lost their home. Thrivent will be matching funds for this event. Please plan on attending that evening's service and enjoy a sundae, ice cream cone, a float or any other ice cream concoction. If you aren't able to make it that evening and would like to donate, drop it off at the office. Checks should be made out to Dan & Carla Schwantes.



Our Prayer Concerns
AUGUST

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 Riley Bretting, Bob Wolfram, Larry Korbein, Katie Stipetich, Isaiah Majetich, Diane Hyvonen, Bob Heggie, Kevin Heggie, Linda Stolarzyk, Sandi (Sorenson) Fletcher, Cheryl Hildebrandt, Wendy Meierotto, James Albright, Jan Hallman, Joni Frisco, Roger Dewey

Homebound

Dorothy Rusch, Gordon & Mariann Vyskocil, Walt Schutte, Merlin Fuhrman

Military

Aaron Esala
Tyler Heglund



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.



Hello Families at Zion:

We are hosting a Camp Luther VBS program again this summer. The Camp is scheduled for Aug.10-13, 8:45am–3:00pm, and we will be learning about what it means to be known by Jesus, to be one of his sheep. Our day camp is open to students in first grade through sixth grade.

Families at Zion Lutheran are encouraged to register for our day camp/VBS by July 30th. After that an invitation is open to all children in the area. You can contact Maria Truchon by phone: 715-682-9508 or by email: dmhktruchon@gmail.com. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex and information for volunteers that will be needed. At the first day of VBS we are asking for a donation of \$5.00/child (\$10.00/family) to help defray some of the expenses.

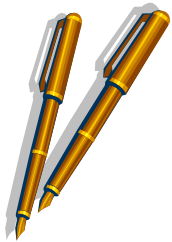
Another date during VBS is Wednesday, Aug. 12th, 6:30pm, the VBS children will be singing during the service. We hope everyone will come and see the smiles and enthusiasm of the all children and counselors. There will be a special ice cream social fundraising event after the service (see pg.3)

So keep those days and times open on your calendar!

VBS

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

In many areas of the world, children do not have the opportunity to attend school. They do not have any school supplies and can not afford them. These school kits will be distributed to those children in need. You may donate items from the list below. Collection boxes will be in the narthex. Deadline for donations is Sept. 11, 2015.



Each school kit contains:

- 4 Notebooks (70 sheet wide or college rule)
- 1 Ruler (must have centimeters on one side)
- 1 Pencil Sharpener
- 1 Blunt Scissors
- 5 Pencils (unsharpened)
- 5 Pens (black or blue, no gel ink)
- 1 box Crayons (16 or 24 count)
- 1 big Pink Eraser



shutterstock 10627841



Please do not donate items with symbols, flags, camouflage, etc. Plain is best/safest.

Thank you! Thank you!
Lisa Sunie

And just a side note...sometime in September I will get a group of kids together and we will box up all the school kits. I then drop them off at a church in Ironwood (their collection day is usually the second Saturday in October). Our label should track our boxes and let us know where our school kits end up.

Stewardship Thoughts

August 2015

Busyness is the new black. It's stylish. We spend an inordinate amount of time comparing how busy we are with everyone else. We compare our schedules, our kid's schedules, how productive we are and how much we have because of it to everyone around us. And if we don't do or have what the next guy does or has, we just get busier and produce more so that we can.

This consumes our conversations and thoughts. And this should give us pause: Who is consuming whom, here? Are we the consumer or are we those consumed? It's no accident that our adversary the devil is described as a lion prowling around seeking to devour us, to consume us. He gives us the liturgy of this world, the liturgy of productivity and consumption. For if he can keep us busy in "muchness" and "manyness," he can be satisfied.

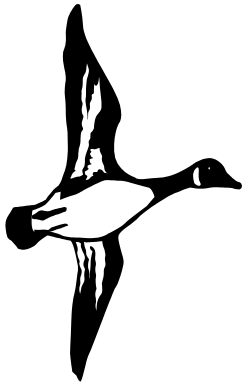
And this is why the Lord, after finishing all His work of creation, rested on the seventh day. This is why He established the Sabbath day—to give His people rest from all their work. As they rested, He continued to work for them, to satisfy them, to fill them with His gifts—food from heaven by His Word and Promise.

That day came when from our Lord's cross and in His death, He proclaimed, "It is finished" (John 19:30). And so His work of redemption was complete. And so His body rested in the tomb, the belly of the earth. Though He is the Lord God who always works, yet as the Lord rested on the original Sabbath, now Jesus kept the Sabbath by resting in the tomb and rising from the dead to live forever. For this is why He came. This is why He became man: to draw all to Himself so that He could give rest and refreshment to the weary and the heavy laden.

The Sabbath is a gift, not a burden. It is a gift of time free from the liturgy of this world, the liturgy of productivity and consumption. Sabbath is time for rest and refreshment, a time free from anxiety to enjoy the gifts God gives, all of them—His Word, His Promises, His Sacraments, His creation, everything. It is a foretaste of the rest we shall enjoy in heaven.

Sadly for many of us rest has become work. It's become drudgery. We long for it but we aren't able to do it because there's so much to be done and so little time to do it. But really what's the rush? Why are we so hurried and harried? Have we forgotten that Jesus is raised from the dead and lives forever?

Sabbath is God's gift of time free from all of the anxiety and hurry of this world so that we can rest, be refreshed by the gifts God gives. Society won't do it for us. They are addicted to the liturgy of productivity and consumption. Though we are in the world, we are not of it. We are the people of God, His own children by water and Word, joined to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jesus lives. And so shall we. So rest in the promise of our Savior that sin, death, and time have not hold on you because Jesus is raised from the dead. Jesus lives. And so shall we, forever.



A. Ellis



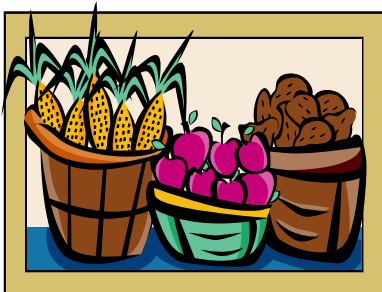
August

Soon we will witness the "V" formations of geese flying overhead as nature's performers flap their wings on the stage of autumn. Come to think of it...in August there are many indicators that summer is waning. Milkweeds are tucking their flowers into pods. Chokecherries are turning deep purple. Grapes are hanging on rope-like vines. Squirrels are scurrying at an urgent pace. Does are schooling fawns on-the-block. Pumpkins are growing. Apples are falling. Oats are bowing with ripeness. Grasses are slumping. Sunflowers are becoming seed-filled. Daylight is declining. Mornings are blurring with fog. Winds are blowing a thread of a chill. Gardeners are digging new red potatoes. Teachers are chatting about back-to-school. Moms are pulling out sweaters. Dads are checking the cars. Families are eating sweet corn.



Can we believe it? The lines are being handed out for the seasonal rehearsal while colorful costumes are still held in the imagination of the Creator. But before we surrender to autumn, we hold on to opportunities to make more summer memories. Glasses of ice-cold lemonade. A nap in the shade of a tree. A slice of watermelon. A good visit with a friend. A dip at the beach. A leisure walk with the dog.

As people of the earth, we accept that time moves forward and carries us with it. History becomes "our" story. May the words of our narratives be held together with the grace and goodness of God as together we celebrate the closing days of summer. For we carry within us the eternal spark of hope that the God of all seasons will continue to bless and keep us all.



AUGUST 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 20 minutes before services start. Thank-you to all who serve.

ELDERS

Aug. 2 John Pruss & Darryl Warren
Aug.5 Chuck Chronis
Aug 9 Randy Spangle & Doug Warren
Aug.12 Darryl Warren
Aug 16 Chuck Chronis & John Pruss
Aug.19 Doug Warren
Aug.23 Darryl Warren & Randy Spangle
Aug. 26 John Pruss
Aug.30 Doug Warren & Chuck Chronis
Sept. 2 Randy Spangle

Ushers

Aug. 2 Terrel Bolz & Ron Schwiesow
Aug 9 Don Moreland & Cooper Tamke
Aug 16 Loren Munson & Andrew Pruss
Aug.23 Scott Pearce & Jordan Thimm
Aug.30 Jake Pruss & Scott Sapper

GREETERS

Aug. 2 Pat & Katie Colgrove
Aug 9 Nick & Jule Jarvela
Aug 16 Karen Wahl
Aug.23 Loren & Ellie Munson
Aug.30 June Williams

Lisa , Tia & Shayla Warren
209-8547



Acolytes

Aug. 2 Kyle Sapper
Aug 9 Ashlee Moreland
Aug 16 Ella Bauer
Aug.23 Taylor Vyskocil
Aug.30 Heather Dickrell

OFFICIAL ACTS

LFOJ HAPPENINGS

Carnival Days

It was a country y-haw down with "snakes in boots", "herd up those balloons" and many other fun activities for all the children. It's one of the many fun activities LFOJ has during the year.

Sprinkler Days

The weather cooperated this year with sun and warmth.

