

# *The Mountain Top* **Zion Lutheran Church**

## **Messenger**

VOLUME 53, ISSUE # **JULY 2015**

July, mid-point of the year, the bustle of summer is really starting to come into play, people vacationing, traveling to all parts of the country, and the world. We are all trying to cram as much activity as we can into the short summer that we have here in Northern Wisconsin. In all that hustle and bustle we sometimes become so focused on all of our activities we forget about the one who has made it all possible for us. We forget to remember our God, the creator and giver of all that we have. We fall into that human pattern of "out of sight, out of mind". It happens to all of us at one time or another. It's not that we have lost our faith, or have left God behind, it's just that in our human, sinful way of doing things we get so caught up in the fun, the excitement, the enjoyment of breaking away from our normal routine, we forget that routine is supposed to include a time of prayer, devotion, and thanksgiving to our Lord and all the wonderful things that he has provided for us.

So with all of that being said, my point is simply this, as you enjoy your summer, as you travel, visit family and friends, take in sights you perhaps have never seen before, or even visit old familiar sights, just remember to take a little time to thank the one who has made all of this possible. Take time for prayer and thanksgiving. If you are traveling, take time on Sunday to visit the local LCMS Church, join your fellow Christians in worship. If you are traveling the weekend and church isn't available where you are, remember we offer mid-week services here at Zion every Wednesday night at 6:30pm, we would love to have you join us. And just a reminder it is a different service than Sunday so if you made last Sunday but will miss the next, it won't be a repeat.

With that being said, enjoy your summer, be safe, and the Lord's blessings on you as vacation, travel, spend time with your family, fish, golf, garden, camp, simply stay home and relax, or do whatever it is you enjoy doing during the summer in Northern Wisconsin.

The Lord bless you and keep you,

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you,

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Blessings, Vicar Rick

*p.s. I will be traveling to St. Louis from Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup> returning Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup>, please contact an elder if you have an emergency during that time. If you need to talk with me personally you may call my cell phone and I will get back to you as soon as I am able.*



**Church Office - 1111 - 11th Ave. W  
Ashland, WI 54806  
Phone # - 715-682-6075  
Website: [www.zionashland.org](http://www.zionashland.org)  
E-mail - [zionashland@hotmail.com](mailto: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 ? Merlin Fuhrman**

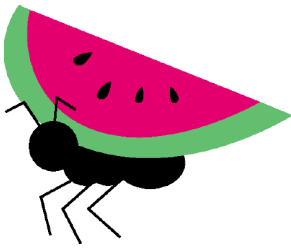
Merlin was born at home in Iron River (Town of Tripp), Wisconsin on March 16, 1927. His parents were Fran and Ellen Fuhrman and he has one brother and one sister. Church services were held at homes monthly with the Pastor from Zion in Ashland officiating. He was baptized at his house. His family moved to Moquah when he was two and started the cheese factory. He served as church treasurer and Pastor Gatz was one of his favorite pastors and he enjoys the Christmas season.

He grew up in Moquah, attended grade school there and High School at Ondossagon. He enjoyed fishing, skiing and baseball. There weren't a lot of vacations because taking care of the "cheese business" required a lot of time. When they went to visit his mother's relatives in Brillion, Wisconsin, they would spend the evenings churning butter and talking.

He married Elinor in 1947 and they had four children, Gail, Linda, Kenneth and a son who passed away. Merlin continued the family cheese business and it was a very important part of his life. He was very proud of the business and the product he produced. The family did get away to New York during some summers and he likes to reminisce about them. When he retired from the business he enjoyed going with his wife and other couples (Gustafson's and Rusch's) on trips to Hawaii, Florida and California. He learned golf during this time and thoroughly enjoyed playing the sport.

Merlin is currently living at Birch Haven Assisted Living—Falcon Crest. Stop by sometime and he's sure to enjoy your visit.





# Outdoor Church Service

with Picnic to follow!

**Sunday, July 12th at 10:00 am**  
**Bayview Park**

**Bring a dish to pass – see sign-up sheet in Narthex. Please sign-up by July 5th so we have an approximate count of the number attending.**

**Zion will provide the meat, coffee, plates and silverware!**

**Also bring your own beverage & lawn chair.**

**Pray for sunny weather!**

**However, if it rains the service will be at the Church –10:00 service, and picnic will follow in the church basement.**



## Our Prayer Concerns JULY

### 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, Duke Kuester, Linda Stolarzyk, Sandi (Sorenson) Fletcher, Cheryl Hildebrandt, Wendy Meierotto, James Albright, Jan Hallman, Kathy Osmak, Joni Frisco*

### Homebound

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

### Military

Aaron Esala  
David Wright



## NEED A PRAYER?

Zion Lutheran Church has two active prayer chains—a day-time 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



Sunday School teachers and the Board of Education met June 15th at 5:30pm in the church basement to discuss the Sunday School curriculum for the fall, Christmas program and an arranging of supplies. The curriculum for Pre school-Kindergartners Lisa chose The Faith Weaver, Kathryn chose The Buzz Group for First-Second grade, Peggy and Renee chose The Buzz Group for Third-Fifth grades and Confirmation has their curriculum set. Discussed Rally Day, set for Sunday, September 13th for parents to enroll their children and both parents and children to enjoy a light breakfast and an activity for the children. Regular Sunday School classes will start September 20th. We discussed the Sundays when children would be singing during the service, craft Sundays, when there would be no Sunday School and the Christmas Program. We discussed the various dates for the program and the possibility of having the program on a Saturday, December 19th at 2:00pm instead of during a Sunday church time. We would like the input from the congregation of this possibility so we can schedule a set date for the program. We are planning on a Christmas Program planning committee to meet August 24th at 6:00pm. After our meeting the group cleaned out the storage area and sorted and organized the supplies and put them in the Sunday School storage area.

The next event is Vacation Bible School with Camp Luther Counselors leading the daily program and Maria Truchon as VBS Coordinator. Thank you Maria for taking on this wonderful children's event again. The theme for this summer is "KNOWN HE KNOWS ME John 10:27." The program is August 10th-13th. See more information on the VBS page.

God's Blessings to All,  
Katie Colgrove, Sunday School Superintendant

## "Just Because Moments"

1— My friend needed someone to confide in. She told me about the verbal abuse her daughter-in-law gives her. She talked for 1 1/2 hours. Thank you Lord for being a listener. *Anonymous*

2— I was watching my friend play tennis the other day and a kindergartener rode his bike by, but as he rode his shoe fell off. After seeing some kids laugh at him, I went and helped him get his shoe on and get back to riding. *Thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness Sydney.*

Please join in with YOUR "Just Because Moments". These are spur-of-the moment acts of kindness to people. There are slips of paper in a flowered box by the office to write on and then put back in the box. Or just write it up on a piece of paper. You can name names or remain anonymous. Each month a few will be shared with everyone. Those who have dropped off a kindness with a name will be in a drawing for a small gift.

# Stewardship Thoughts

Stewardship Newsletter Article July 2015

"Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means" (Luke 8:1-3).

There were many who provided out of their means for our Lord's work of proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God while He was on earth. Think about that for a moment. These pious women gave to God in the flesh for God the Father's work of bringing the good news of God's kingdom. Their generosity, which was moved by the generosity of God Himself to them in the healing of their infirmities and evil spirits, was employed so that others could benefit as they had. The means they provided was put into God's service to feed and clothe and provide shelter as Jesus and the twelve travelled preaching, teaching, and healing.

That's amazing. These women were widows who had been oppressed by demons. They were forgotten, thought of as nobodies. The world didn't think much of them, or perhaps that they were just in the way. Regardless of what the world thought, God forgets no one. No one is a burden to Him. He cares for the widow and the fatherless. He puts the solitary into a home. And more than that, He brings them the good news of the kingdom and lets them be a part of building it by their giving of what He has provided them. He presses their gifts into His service to His glory. And they are not forgotten. They are inscribed in the Holy Scriptures as a monument of what giving from out of their means does. It helped to turn the world upside down, which happens to be right-side up, reconciliation and healing through what Jesus accomplished on the cross. (Acts 17:6).

This is what your giving to the church does also. It provides the ministers of the Gospel food and clothes, house and home, all that they need for this body and life so that they may preach and teach, and bring the healing of the Gospel of Jesus's death and resurrection to those who need it, those who are homebound and infirm, those who are sick and suffering, those who are bedeviled by evil spirits, depressed, and plagued by guilt and shame. Your gifts are put to use for God's work on earth to bring the good news of His kingdom which has no end.

Who wouldn't want to be part of that? And you are! Thanks be to God. And it does not go unnoticed. Your pastor gives thanks for it and prays for you. And so does your Lord. And the angels rejoice over one sinner who repents and believes. You help to make that happen. You do it because someone else has made it happen for you.

Dear Friends,

## LFOJ HAPPENINGS

The ministry of Little Friends of Jesus invites you to invest your gifts and talents in the lives of our young students. Becoming a LFOJ volunteer could mean reading a book, doing crafts, baking cookies, making cards, singing songs, and so much more. The only requirements are to attend a short training session (will be held in the fall) and show up with a willing heart. Please talk (682-6075) to Karyn or Amy with any questions and your offer of service. Thank you for saying "yes" to God's work in our preschool.



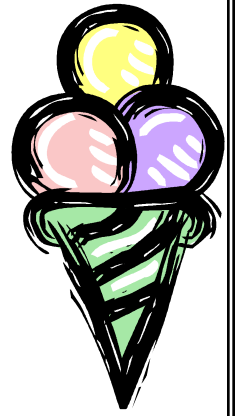


## ICE CREAM SOCIAL (Tentative Event) WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH

7:30pm after worship service

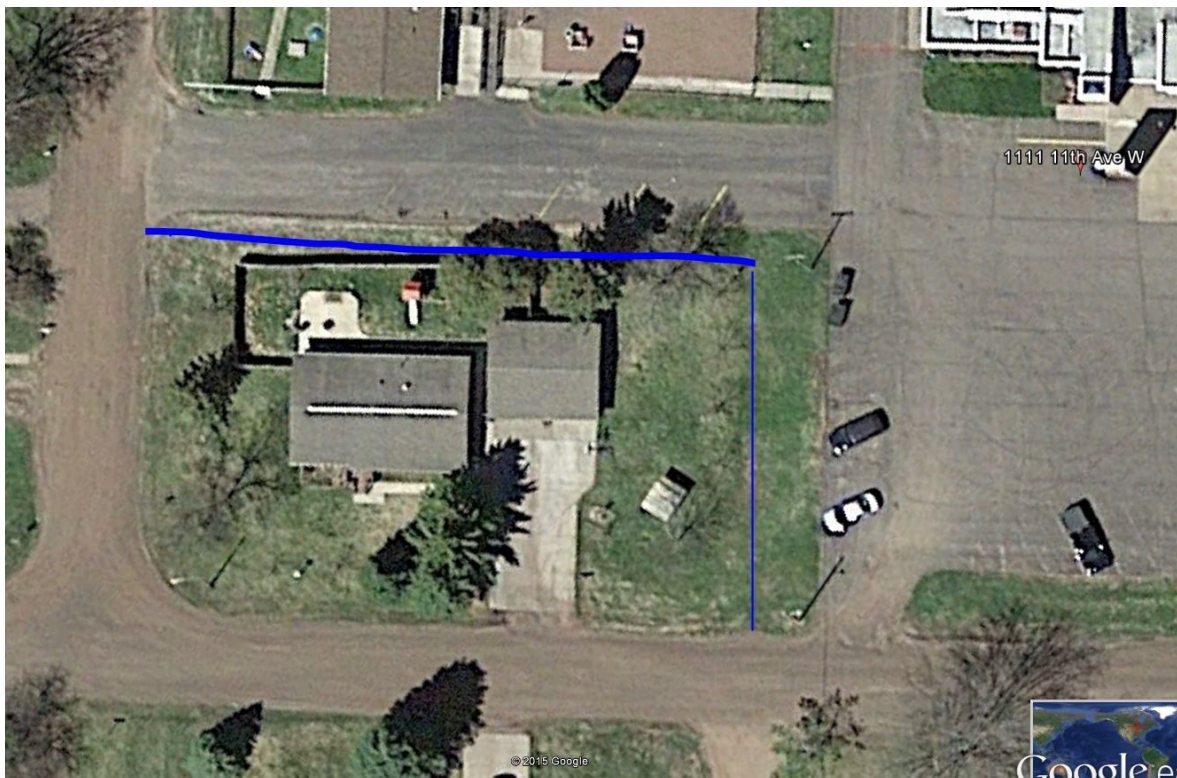
That Wednesday will be the VBS children's service.

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. We are applying for Thrivent matching funds and won't know about that until the end of July. 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.



### Lawn Mowers:

When mowing the church lawn, please mow only as far as the blue line. This is best visualized by looking south, seeing the alley and mowing up to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the alley. This is to avoid damage to the apple trees. Also, you only need to mow 3-5' along the LFOJ parking lot on the south side, again, up to the blue line. If you have any questions, please see me. Thanks, Scott Thimm



**At Pentecost, the color red symbolizes the “fire and joy” of the Holy Spirit.**

June 1, 2015

### **Like a Mighty Wind**

Last week, Herb and I joined family members and 2200 other passengers for a week cruise on the Baltic Sea. Our trip included several ports: Copenhagen, Stockholm, Tallinn, St. Petersburg, Helsinki. When I consider many of the highlights, I think that it is timely to mention that we were sailing during the time of Pentecost. For we represented passengers and crew members from more than 60 countries, all on the same voyage trying to speak the same language.

Sometimes this shared language was expressed in conversations with new friends at the meal table, or relaxing in lounges, or riding elevators. Sometimes, this language was expressed in applause for wonderful music at evening stage performances. Sometimes this language was expressed through bumping elbows at line dancing classes...or running on treadmills...or listening to new sounds in a Russian language class...or acts of kindness like a morning cup of hot coffee... or bowed heads in quiet prayer. For this week, we were in this lifeboat together and we were family. But the story does not stop here. In Helsinki, Herb and I had made arrangements to meet up with colleagues from the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FELM) that we had worked with in Pakistan over twenty-eight years ago. When we exited the ship there at the end of the dock were Arto and Sirkka waiting for us. What joy to see these life-time friends...but there was more. They took us to the FELM headquarters and seven more dear friends from Pakistan years joined us: Eeva-Liisa, Mirja, Chris, Jouko, Mia-Lena, Ulla, Taisto.

After greetings and hugs, we gathered in the mission chapel for a communion worship service. How interesting that the Pastor spoke about the Tower of Babel and how language differences can divide people. But this is not the final word. For although our friends speak Finnish and we speak English, our shared call to Pakistan united us in one purpose to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Even twenty-eight years later, we picked up the language of love right where we left off. When our ship left the Helsinki, we carried precious prayers of gratitude for our Finnish brothers and sisters.

That evening I was grateful that I had a “fire and joy” red dress to wear on this amazing Baltic Sea adventure. For we are in this lifeboat of faith together and there are moments we bump elbows, or feel like we are dead in the water. But it is through the power of the Holy Spirit that we walk and talk the divine vocabulary of Jesus to revive this Pentecostal fire within ourselves and others. *“Raise the sails, a mighty wind is blowing.”*

- A. Ellis





Hello Families at Zion:

We are hosting a Camp Luther VBS program again this summer. The Camp is scheduled for Aug.10-13 and we will be learning about what it means to be known by Je-



sus, to be one of his sheep. Our day camp is open to students in first grade through sixth grade.

Families at Zion Lutheran for our day camp/VBS by Ju-

# VBS

are encouraged to register ly 19th. After that an invita-

tion is open to all children in the area. You can contact Maria Truchon by phone: 715-682-9508 or by email: [dmhktruchon@gmail.com](mailto: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, August 19th, 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.

So keep those days and times open on your calendar!  
In Christ, Maria Truchon

## REMINDER: Camp Luther Day Camp

**DATES:** Aug. 10-13

**TIME:** 8:45am-3:00pm

**Theme:** KNOWN-He Knows Me  
(John 10:27)

2014 VBS Camp Luther Day



**Lawn Mowing** - schedule needs more names – Thank you to those who have mowed so far this summer!



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

### ELDERS

Jul 1 Chuck Chronis  
Jul 5 Randy Spangle & Doug Warren  
Jul 8 Darryl Warren  
Jul 12 Chuck Chronis & John Pruss  
Jul 15 Doug Warren  
Jul 19 Darryl Warren & Randy Spangle  
Jul 22 John Pruss  
Jul 26 Doug Warren & Chuck Chronis  
Jul 29 Randy Spangle

### Acolytes

Jul 5 Abbi  
Jul 19 Justin & Heather  
Jul 26 Tia

### Ushers

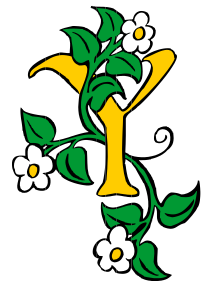
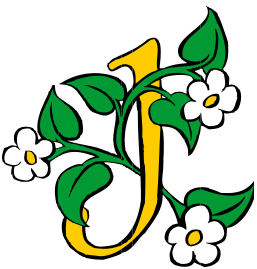
Jul 5 Luke Barker & Tim Bauer  
Jul 19 Dave Ovaska & Karl Williams  
Jul 26 Mike Cashman & Todd Vyskocil

Kim Westman 682-6471  
Lynn Ladd  
292-0592  
Katie Colgrove  
209- 2512  
Kathryn Draeger  
746-2160



### GREETERS

Jul 5 Draeger Family  
Jul 19 Lipske Family  
Jul 26 Sapper Family



**Food shelf Sunday is the last Sunday of every month. Please bring non-perishable items to the church. There is a basket at the end of the hallway by the mailboxes. After the last Sunday of the month the items will be brought to The BRICK.**

**FLOWERS** - Anyone wishing to share their beautiful flowers with Zion and have them on the altar please contact Renee Bolz at 715-965-0944. Or if you would like to sign-up for flowers for a special occasion or remembrance for the Altar you can call Renee.