

The Mountain Top **Messenger**

VOLUME 51, ISSUE 6 Zion Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod JUNE 2013

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

Here we are, June already upon us, hardly seems possible. It has been quite a spring, if you can call it that, between rain, snow and cold, it seems like summer won't ever get here. But as I write this today the sun is shining and everyone's spirits are high. It's amazing what a little sun can do in our lives. What is even more amazing is what the Son can do in our lives. To think that we, the sinners that we are, are totally forgiven and assured of a life forever in the Son's shine (Glory). That my brothers and sisters, is truly the most amazing thing ever, praise be to God!

I had the honor last week of confirming four of our young people, the future of Zion. What a blessing it was to see all the families and friends, all partaking in this important day. God's Blessing to all the confirmands and remember always, "We are justified by Grace, through Faith in Jesus Christ to life everlasting"

Another item on the youth front, the trip to San Antonio for the national youth gathering is rapidly approaching. Apprehension is starting to build, plane tickets have been purchased, reservations made, and fund raising efforts are in their final stages. There are several events coming soon including a bake sale on June 2nd. This is a very exciting opportunity for those involved. It is a great faith building opportunity and something the participants will remember for a lifetime. Thank you in advance for all of your support with this project.

Also coming up in June is the church picnic. The picnic will be held at Prentice Park on June 23rd, with church services starting at 10:30 with the picnic to follow. This event will be open to the public and we will be advertising it to the community. Please watch for more information coming soon from the evangelism committee.

We will be starting Wednesday night services beginning June 5th at 6:30pm. We will be serving communion at all these services. The services will be theme based and for the first six weeks the topic of our services is "A Season of Psalms". We will be taking an in depth look at each of the following Psalms 30, 3, 41, 27, 138, 100. The service and the sermon on Wednesday will differ from Sunday. So please if you have the opportunity join us on Wednesday nights along with Sundays.

As I was preparing this article one of the devotions that I read this morning seemed too good to keep to myself, so I have to share.

Approach each new day with desire to find Me. Before you get out of bed, I have already been working to prepare the path that will get you through the day. There are hidden treasures strategically placed along the way. Some of the treasures are trials, designed to shake you free from earth-shackles. Others are blessings that reveal My Presence: sunshine, flowers, birds, friendships, answered prayer. I have not abandoned this sin-wracked world; I am still richly present in it. Search for deep treasure as you go through this day. You will find Me all along the way.

May you find the Lord's treasures throughout your days. May the Lord Bless you and keep you, may He make His face shine upon you, may He grant you Peace, Amen.

Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!
Deacon Rick

Zion's Ministry Staff and Church Officers

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



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

Deacon - Rick Williams 715-209-0479

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

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Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 am Wednesday Evening Worship 6:30pm

Stewardship Thoughts

The way we manage our spiritual gifts gives a clear testimony to who Jesus is. While our stewardship of the gifts that our Lord bestows upon us will not cause someone to come to faith in Jesus or earn us favor with the Lord, but it is possible that our poor stewardship of our time, our talents, and our treasure can get in the way of the Gospel. This is a sobering reality that many Christians do not understand. Poor stewardship of the gifts, which the Lord gives, is poor stewardship of the Gospel.

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 Members,

There will not be assigned people for Wednesday nights for clean-up. Though we request anyone attending a Wednesday night service if you could help out now and then with the communion clean-up. Thank-you.

GRADUATES –

Graduating June 2nd from AHS - Casey Cashman (plans on going to UM-Crookston); Charles John Reardon (will be studying chemistry at UW-Eau Claire); Kaitlyn Bochler (is pursuing a career in Radiography, starting at WITC-Ashland, then transferring to North Central Technical College – Wausau in 2014) ; Robbi Pearce Walter Gurske is graduating from Mcfarland School District (WIVA program) (plans on going to technical college in the fall)



SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

I want to start off with a big "Thank You" to Maria Truchon who has agreed to be the Summer VBS Site Coordinator.

Second, I would like to thank Lynn and Lori for all the assistance they've given me with learning the duties of being Sunday School Superintendent.

May 12th the Sunday School Class sang "God's Not Dead" during the church service.

May 12th was the last Sunday School class for the season; Jodi Truchon opened class with the opening devotion and song, acknowledgment of summer birthdays, and followed with handing out certificates for best attendance for:

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

Listing the top 25-31 days of Sunday School for this year were given certificates:

30 Sunday School days, Lily, Sophie and Daniel Truchon

26 Sunday School days, Sydney Vyskocil, Tiffany Houle

25 Sunday School days, Austin Vyskocil, Kathryn Draeger, Taylor Vyskocil

Everyone in attendance for the Sunday School year were given a Special Attendance Certificate.

Followed the devotions was the "Grow With God During the Summer" project of selecting a pretty flower to plant in a pot, and last was the "Sunday School Scoop" treats for the students, teachers, and Youth Volunteers (thank you very much for helping the younger students).

The next month will be focused on summer VBS with The Camp Luther Team leading the day activities scheduled August 12th-15th. There will be a limit of 40 children. Camper registration forms will be going out the first part of July, so please keep in mind of the August dates. There will be more information provided in the coming month. There will be a need of adult/youth volunteers, so please keep the dates in mind (we already have a few signed up-THANK YOU) Please watch for postings -will be great fun!

Of course, I will keep in mind Sunday School Teachers for the fall classes, so, if you might be interested in teaching or even being a substitute please contact me anytime. There is a Sunday School mailbox in the Narthex or you can e-mail the church (zionashland@hotmail.com) or call me at 715-682-5162.

*God's Blessings,
Sunday School Superintendent
Katie Colgrove*

See pictures from the "Sundae-Sunday School" last day on the next page.





Summer Bible Studies

Sunday mornings 10:15

Christianity and the Competition — DVD with Dr. Paul Maier

The world horizon is littered with competing religions and philosophies. Which has it right? In our multicultural age, should we insist on the TRUTH of Christianity? Dr. Maier looks at sacred sources (Biblical documents that are reliable and essentially unchanged over time) and secular sources. A look at Eastern religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Shinto, Tao, Judaism, Baha'i, Islam, etc.) and also Western religions (Jehovah Witnesses, Mormons, Scientology, etc.) in comparison to Christianity.

Monday mornings 10:00

The group will put a hold on Deuteronomy and study the smaller chapters of the New Testament such as Jude, Philemon, Titus, 1 and 2 Peter/John. So even though you can't make it every Monday during the summer you won't be behind.

Outdoor Church Service

With Picnic to follow!

Sunday, June 23rd at 10:30 am

at Prentice Park

Zion will provide the meat!

Bring a dish to pass – see sign-up sheet
Also bring your own beverage, plates, silverware & lawn chair.
Coffee will be furnished.



Pray for sunny weather!
However, if it rains the service will be at the
Church–10:30 service, and picnic will follow in church basement.

LFOJ Happenings

Little Friends of Jesus CCC has openings for preschool-only clients.
4/5 Year Old P.S. meets Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays from 9:00 to 11:30 am
3 Year Old P.S. meets Tuesdays/Thursdays from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Children need to be 3(4) years old by September 1st.
For more information, please contact Amy at 682-6075.

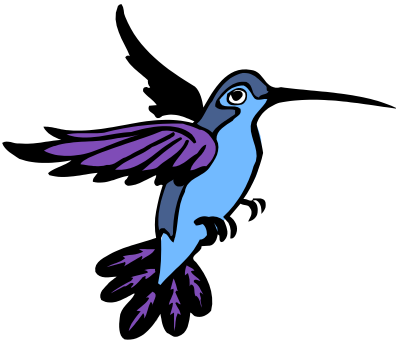


While you are checking out local garage sales, keep your eyes out for outdoor play equipment for LFOJ. The center is in need of jump ropes, hula-hoops, scooters, nerf-style balls, rubber bases, bug containers (non-glass). Your donations are greatly appreciated!



Graduation was held on May 24th. Beginners Bibles were presented to 11 graduates, who are heading off to school this fall. We've enjoyed their smiling faces throughout their time here.

June- month of humming and hammering



The month of June has its own personality as creation recreates life after our upnorth winters of hibernation. There even is a new partnership between humans and creatures as both are busy outdoors with summer projects. The birds are darting around gathering food and nest building, while bees buzz for pollen and construct new hives. Likewise humans are dashing around with plants to set into the earth, fences to build, boats to clean up, lawns to mow, barbeque grills to fire up, air-conditioners to install... and more. To the casual observer this frantic pace seems opposed to the fresh life of vegetation and the long hours of summer daylight. But to us who live here, it all makes sense. If we get all of these projects done in June, we can swim in July and drink lemonade in August. One month of hard and steady work can mean two months of picnicking and celebrating summer.

Yes, there are many things about June that are like no other month in the year. Maybe it is the emerald green grass that fuels our hands and feet. Or the mad-pace of hummingbirds that reminds us that we can flap our wings again after the weight of heavy winter coats. How about the swamp call of frogs to plant a song on our lips while we work? Or the thrill of newborn life in the twitchy tail of a doe who just had her fawn? Or the rat-a-tat-tat of woodpeckers to set our heartbeat. I can already see the first beans sprouts and tender corn plants. The strawberry blossoms are at their best, and the grass grows with no intention of holding back. At night, we keep our windows open to hear the birds. Their chatter brings memories of teen-age slumber parties when we would finally fall to sleep at dawn. The air is charged with the hum and hammer of hope. June helps us to feel young again.

So dear friends, hope you can get your projects done so we can all "kick back" for fun and games in July and August. The God of all seasons continues to run with us... and He will be our rest when we are weary at the end of the day. God bless you and your plans for this month of meaningful work and fresh-born hope.



2013 ZION'S NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY STUDENTS

Matt Draeger (Jr.)
Kaitlyn Bochler (Sr.)
Case Cashman (Sr.)
Tate Warren (Jr.)
Robbi Pearce (Sr.)

Bake Sale

(by the Youth)

Sunday, June 2nd (after the service)

Proceeds to help with expenses for the youth who will be attending the Youth Convention in San Antonio, Texas, June 29th to July 6th.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

Sign-up for one week (or more) of mowing at the Church and LFOJ.

New riding and push mowers!!!

Contact Nick at 682-0385 for more information

Thank you for the prayers and kind words during my stem cell transplant. Thanks to the Breakwater Café for donating the spaghetti, meat sauce and garlic bread. Thanks to Jim Day and his crew for preparing the food. Thanks to all who donated food for the spaghetti feed and soup/sandwich supper.

Thanks for all the workers, Zion Men's Club, Dartball teams, Trustees' and others who helped. A special thank you goes to Roger Stenroos and Jerry and Sandy Frisco for coordinating these events.

My gratitude goes to all who attended and supported me in my fight with cancer. Thank you and God Bless, Kenneth Philaja



Zion Lutheran Church Council Minutes

May 20, 2013

The May 20, 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, LFOJ – Cheri Tamke, Trustee – Nick Jarvela, Treasurer – Todd Vyskocil, Deacon Rick Williams

MINUTES: Motion by Warren, second by Jarvela, to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2013 Council meeting as printed. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Tamke, second by Ladd, to approve the Treasurer's Report as given. 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 Jarvela, second by Warren to accept the Board Reports as given. Motion carried.

Education: Finished up Sunday School and now working on VBS and potential bible studies.

Evangelism: Organizing an outdoor service and church picnic to be held on June 23rd at Prentice Park with the service at 10:30am. The service and picnic will be advertised and open to the public.

Little Friends: Thrivent Choice has two "Give Back to Schools" Charitable Grant opportunities. See Zion's monthly newsletter for more information. LFOJ held a Trike-a-thon and raised \$1,000 for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. They also raised \$301.40 during Lenten Soup and Sandwiches and proceeds will go towards new flooring project.

Deacon's Report: Preparing to start Wednesday night services on June 5th, a Season of Psalms, is the series we will be offering for the first 6 weeks, communion will be offered every week. Monday morning Bible study is going into summer mode covering select short Epistles for study, the first one up for study is James, starting Monday morning June 3rd. The list of people interested in adult instruction is growing and we will be starting another class, hopefully by mid-summer.

OFFICIAL ACTS:

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

Deaths: John R. Beiersdorff (April 15, 2013) and Alice Hansen (May 01, 2013)

Youth Confirmation: Kathryn Draeger, Riley Heglund, Tiffany Houle, Cierra Maday (All on May 19, 2013)

New Members: Steve and Carol Key – from Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS) Tinley Park, IL

NO OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

Chequamegon Bay Quilters would like to display a quilt in each of The BRICK's covenant churches that will be used to raise money for The BRICK. More information will be coming with specific information of timing and how monies will be raised. No concerns were voiced from Council members.

Motion by Jarvela, second by Tamke to have the church pay for hamburgers, hot dogs, brats and buns for the Church Picnic. Motion carried.

Discussion on how to handle requests from youth to raise money for causes by placing basket out for freewill donations. Due to concerns of having a basket continually out for various needs and that the basket does not tend to raise much money, it was suggested that the youth consider a bake sale in June for the most recent request to support a classmate recently diagnosed with cancer.

Council meetings will be held on an "as need" basis until September. Summer yahoo!

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

JUNE 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

JUNE

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 Otto Rusch
Chuck Gretzlock Patty Kegel
Baby John Galligan Matt Raspotnik
Katie Stipetich Donna Graves

Nursing Home & Assisted Living Resident

Ed & Elna Torkko Margaret Mahoney
Corrine Tolliver Alice Hansen
Sharon Johnson Otto & Dorothy Rusch

Shut-in's

Gordon & Marianne Vyskocil Gloria Mills
Clarence & Madge Houle Donna Graves

Local & US Concerns

(fulltime and/or deployed military)

Steve Sorenson, son of
Dave & June Sorenson,
U.S. Navy, stationed in San
Diego, CA



ELDERS

June 2 Darryl Warren & Chuck Chronis
June 5 Doug Warren
June 9 John Pruss & Don Pocernich
June 12 Darryl Warren
June 16 Mike Cashman & Doug Warren
June 19 Don Pocernich
June 23 Chuck Chronis & Darryl Warren
June 26 John Pruss
June 30 Don Pocernich & Mike Cashman

JUNE Acolytes

June 2 Eric Bochler & Sydney Vyskocil
June 9 Brooke Sapper & Carolyn Gurske
June 16 Jordan Thimm & Angela Ylitalo
June 23 Sydney Vyskocil & Cooper Tamke
June 30 Brooke Sapper & Eric Bochler

GREETERS FOR JUNE

Greeters should arrive by 8:40am

June 2 Ingrid Pocernich & Lou Pearce
June 9 Ron & Brenda Schwiesow
June 16 Sapper Family
June 23 Roger & Linda Stenroos
June 30 Thimm Family

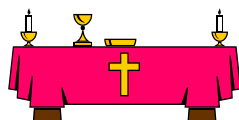
JUNE Ushers

Ushers should arrive by 8:40am

June 2 Terrel Bolz & Warren Draeger
June 9 Jim Johnson & Karl Williams
June 16 Dakota Tamke & Loren Munson
June 23 Blake Zakovec & Herb Ellis
June 30 Andrew Pruss & Jerry Frisco

JUNE ALTAR GUILD

Becky Sapper 682-8867
Michelle Vyskocil 682-2498
Brooke Sapper
Sydney Vyskocil



OFFICIAL ACTS

Death: Alice Hansen 05-29-13
Youth Confirmation: 05-19-13 Kathryn
Draeger, Riley Heglund, Tiffany Houle,
Cierra Maday