

The Mountain Top **Messenger**

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

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

Well here we are, almost September, seems hard to believe that in just another week we are going into fall, school starts, vacations end, and temperatures start to cool down. You would never guess it by the temperatures at the time I am writing this, thank the Lord for air conditioning, boy am I spoiled.

Well, we just completed a very successful VBS, we had almost 40 kids here at Zion for four fun filled days of learning about the Love of Jesus. For me the culmination was the church service on Wednesday night, 76 people in church, a good number of them children and parents who are not members. I believe the Camp Luther staff and our people helping out did an outstanding job of sharing the Gospel message. God Lord willing and with the power of the Holy Spirit we can get some of them to return and share in God's love. I would like to give a special thank you to Maria Truchon for the outstanding job she did in coordinating this whole project and great big thank you to everyone that helped. I am not going to name you by name because I would hate to miss anyone, without you it would not have been anywhere near the success that it was. I believe everyone is looking forward to doing it again next year.

I wanted to give you all an update on my status and on the status of both Lay Deacons and the SMP program in the Synod. At the LCMS National Convention, which was held in July, it was determined by convention action that both the Lay Deacon Program and the SMP Program continue as they are presently. At the next convention (3 years from now) they will review them again to see if any changes are needed. On the personal side Pastor Bahn and I are anxiously awaiting our trip to St. Louis for the SMP orientation. We will be leaving here on Sun., Sept. 1st and returning on Sat., Sept. 7th. During our time at the seminary we will be attending orientation classes, getting to know the staff at the seminary, meeting other SMP students and Pastor mentors, and I will become a vicar, meet my vicarage supervisor, and receive my vicarage assignment (Zion Lutheran Church, Ashland, WI). I will also be attending my first classes while in St. Louis and then continuing them here in Ashland starting the following week. We will also be taking one day there to participate in a community servant event. Looks to be a very exciting time and then back home and the work begins on the way to ordination.

I sincerely thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to serve you. This past year has been a true blessing to me and my family. I hope it has been spiritually uplifting experience for you as well. I look forward to serving you as Vicar and the good Lord willing as your Pastor. Thank you again for allowing me to serve and for all your support.

May the Lord Bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

Rick Williams, Deacon

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 (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

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Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 am Wednesday Evening Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 10:15am (starting September 15th)

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

Stewardship Thoughts

Some people have come to believe that worship is needed only two times a year—Christmas and Easter. However, we really need to worship regularly because it is where God has provided, through His Word and Sacrament, to give us His gifts of forgiveness and eternal life. It is also the place where God speaks to us through His Word, and for those of us who do not attend Bible Studies or read the Bible at home, it is a place to learn and be assured of the blessings God has promised. By regular attendance at services we find ourselves surrounded by other people who love God and eagerly worship Him.

Luther said, "People are made holy only through God's Word. We must hear it, learn it, ponder it, remember it, and apply it. We should fear and love God that we may not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it."

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.





CHOIR - CHOIR - CHOIR

The choir is going to start back up on Wednesday, September 11th, 7:15pm (about) after the Wednesday's service.

Depending on our turn-out we will discuss when the choir will be singing for the next few months. Please plan on joining us. You don't have to know how to read music. We have a great time singing and laughing. You won't want to miss it!



inter-



INSTRUMENTS AND VOICES

At any time we welcome youth and adults who play an instrument and would like to share their talents during a service. You can join in with the choir, the organist/pianist, do a solo, duet, the options are endless. Or if you would like to sing a solo, duet, etc. that would be great also. Contact the office if you are interested in providing some special music sometime.



LWML - Lutheran Women's Missionary League

All women are invited to join in on the activities of the LWML.

Upcoming Events:

LWML Meeting - Saturday, September 21st - 9:00am at Church

LWML Rally Saturday, September 28th at Trinity Lutheran, Glidden at ??? - people will car-pool from the church parking lot at ?????

LWML Sunday, October 6th during the worship service.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

To start off, a huge THANK YOU to Maria Truchon for organizing VBS Day Camp (the theme Live/Love(d) - August 12-15). Also, thank you to all the volunteers and the four counselors from Camp Luther. The Youth Group girls not only helped with Day Camp but partook in the evening youth activities. The VBS 2013 was a huge success!

As to Sunday School, the materials have been ordered—Grow in Christ through Concordia. We have enough teachers - two per class with a great volunteer group from the Youth Group. Thank you very much everyone. There will be a Sunday School teachers' meeting Wednesday, August 28th after the service.

Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 8th along with induction of the teachers and subs during the service. Sunday School classes are scheduled to commence September 15th.

We can always use a few extra hands to do projects such as maintain the bulletin board for Sunday School, take pictures (camera in the office), help with crafts and other projects now and then.

Thinking way ahead - the Christmas Program is scheduled for December 15th this year. Please mark it on your calendar for reference when you start adding other dates for December.

God's Blessings,
Katie Colgrove
S.S. Superintendent



LIVE/LOVE(D) 2013 VBS

Camp Luther VBS was a great success! We had about 35 different children join us for the week and they enjoyed the devotions, songs, lessons

and arts and crafts projects. Students that attended on Monday made a great tie-dye t-shirt which most wore to the program on Wednesday evening. We had a great turnout of families who attended church that evening and church attendance was around 75 people.



Thank you to everyone who volunteered time and talents, housing, meals, food and beverages, clean up or repair help during the week. This was a great outreach program for the community and I've heard from families who were unable to attend this year to let them know if we do it again next year. The counselors from Camp Luther: Artemis, Splash, Minnie and

Shade brought more enthusiasm than I expected and I was impressed by their knowledge and how they could pass this on to the children they worked with. They were great role models for everyone involved.



In Christ,
Maria
Truchon



Secret Pals

I'm sure some of you remember participating in or maybe your mother was involved in Ladies Aid Secret Pals, or maybe through some other source. We would like to start a "Secret Pal" for the women (gals) of the congregation. We feel this is an opportunity to connect with each other while having some fun.



Everyone girl-woman-lady, confirmed and older are encouraged to participate. All it takes is a small form to be completed (sample below), hand one in and that is it. Deadline for getting these forms in is September 17th. The forms are in a box on the small table by the office. When you have completed the info card you can put it in the manila envelope on the table. We will then put all the names in a hat and have everyone select a name to be their secret pal. We will have "the hat" available to pick names after church on Wed., Sept. 18th and Sun. Sept. 22nd. We will have someone pick for you and get you the information if you are not able to pick a name during those times.

The fun then begins. It's up to you to "secretly" keep in touch with your secret pal. You can make cards for special occasions, maybe share special Bible verses or whatever you have to the time to do. Some may even give a small gift, but this isn't necessary and we ask not to go overboard spending money. This is a time to keep someone in your heart and mind and periodically let them know someone out there cares.

In May, around Mother's Day we will have a special morning, afternoon or evening event with devotions, maybe a speaker or entertainment along with food and beverages. Then we will reveal to each other our secret pal. At the end of the event those who want to do a new year of "Secret Pal" we will pick new names.

Remember this is a secret, no telling a friend whose name you have. We want to keep everyone guessing. If at any point you aren't able to continue being a "Secret Pal" please contact Lynn in the office and she will take care of it.

You can leave cards, notes, etc. in the mailboxes at church, drop things off at house (when they're not home) or any other ingenious method.

We're hoping for a great turnout for this opportunity to grow together as women of Zion.

Any questions call Lynn at the office.

Thank you,
The Education Board

Name _____
Address _____
Birthdate _____
Baptism date _____
Anniversary _____
Favorite day of the year _____
Any other information you would like to share

Scrapbooking and Projects

The second and fourth Tuesday of every month (unless something else comes about) you can join Lilly and the others and work in the basement, spreading out your projects and having a good time conversing.

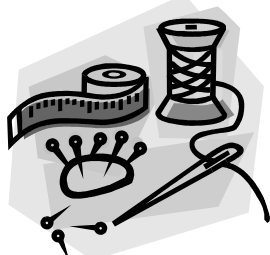
September 10th and September 17th 5:30pm



QUILTERS

September 10th and 17th

The Sewing Circle (Quilters) will be starting up again in September. They meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:00pm. They can always use more hands to help.



No need to be a seamstress as this work can be done by anyone. So ladies, please find a couple extra hours twice a month to do the

Lord's work.

Quilts made at Zion go to the Orphan Grain Train and to local fire victims and baby quilts to babies

Crossroads Outreach Center

is a non-denominational, regional ministry. As a way of introducing the mentoring aspect of this ministry, we are offering an event called Kicking Bear One-on-One. This event will take place on September 13th and 14th. If you're interested in mentoring youth in the outdoors and would like to know more, please visit our website at crossroadsoutreach.org or contact Mike Cashman at 715-682-1180.

Michael Cashman

Administrator

Crossroads Outreach Center, Inc.

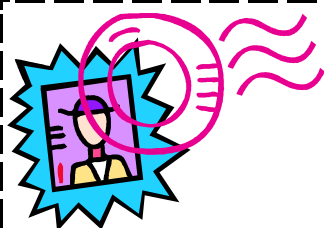
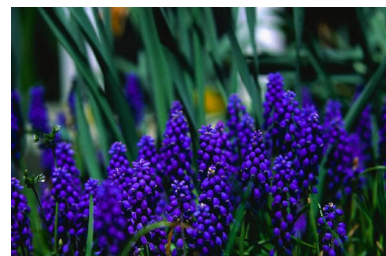
308 1/2 9th Ave W

Ashland, WI 54806

715-682-1180

crossroadsoutreach.org

LFOJ will be doing a fall planting bulb sale through Dutch Mill Bulbs. Details weren't available at printing but a poster will be put on the bulletin board and in September 1st bulletin. It will be very soon, so contact the office if you might be interested.



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.

A land flowing with milk and honey. Exodus 33:3a

If the Old Testament Children of Israel had arrived upnorth in August, they would have surely thought this is the Promised Land. For our golden-ripe summer days spread a full table of gifts gathered from "a land flowing with milk and honey."

In August, dairy cows pasture on thick-heavy grasses and rich-nutritious clover. There is plenty of shade to chew the cud, and increased butterfat content produces flavor-loaded milk. While buzzing bees do somersaults in pollen and suck nectar to manufacture thick sweet-mead for the coming winter. Hives sing the golden-song of honey in these easy days of summer.

Even humans embrace this leisure lifestyle as we see shadows lengthen and hours of daylight shorten. We feel a warm contentment in the glow of an August sunset; our soul is touched with a renewed gratitude for earthly riches.

The Children of Israel wandered for forty years before they crossed into the Promised Land. The wilderness had become a classroom to learn and relearn the faithfulness of God. Likewise, our rough winters, muddy springs, and short summers teach and reteach us that there is a bigger picture than our short-sighted vision. For throughout every season God is at work.... and earthly gifts of milk and honey feed our longing for His eternal landscape.

So let us sit in the summer shade, sip sweet lemonade, speak words of contentment, and celebrate the ever-flowing generosity of God. We are His Beloved Children and our wealth is forever established in the riches

CONGREGATIONAL DIRECTORY

It hasn't been that long since we completed our last directory, but there have been so many new faces and changes that a new Directory is needed. So we are looking for volunteers to be on the Directory Committee. Timeframe would be early Spring April-May. If you are interested please contact Lori Hebert at 715-292-2122.

Thank-you, Evangelism Committee



Vicar Celebration Sunday, September 15th 10:30am service 11:30am celebration

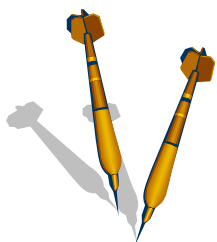


Deacon Rick Williams will be going to St. Louis, Missouri the first week of September to begin his SMP (Specific Ministry Pastor) Program. When he returns he will be considered a Vicar. There

will be a celebration commemorating this next step for Rick. It will be recognized during the church service and then a celebration in the fellowship hall at 11:30am following Sunday School and Bible Study. The meal will have a Taco theme...so a Taco Bar with build your own taco be it a salad, hard or soft shell, taco casserole, taco dips etc....There will be a sign-up sheet out soon. We would appreciate some help with set up and clean up too. Please plan on attending and make this a huge congregational celebration!



MEN'S CLUB - DARTBALL



The Men's Club Dartball Season will soon be upon us. They are looking for a couple of new players. Please contact either Ken Philaja, 715-682-8578 or Scott Sapper, 715-682-8867, if you would like to play. Practices will be Monday, September 16th and 23rd at 7:00pm. Zion had a good season last year. But the best part of it is the camaraderie that is had and the fun. They rotate with six other churches, Marengo St. Paul, Sanborn Methodist, Sanborn St. Anne's, Ashland Good Shepherd, Washburn Messiah Lutheran and Ashland Saron Lutheran. During last 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. The season usually ends at the end of February, beginning of March. It is a fun night of camaraderie and sport. They hope to see you come out for darts. No experience necessary. You'll have some great teachers.

Taken from The Happenings (North Wisconsin District)

Be a Caleb

Rev. Dwayne M. Lueck

Then Caleb . . . said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it." But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people." Numbers 13:30-31

Caleb was one of the spies who spied out the Promised Land along with 11 others. Only Joshua sided with Caleb and believed they could overcome. The other 10 did not think they should take the risk. The Israelites rebelled. The result was 40 years in the wilderness for every day that they spied (14:34). The 10 spies obviously did not want to go into the land they were sent to spy. Why? Scared? Frightened? Intimidated? Where was their faith?

In 2013 we face many challenges. There are a lot of changes going on in our society and some of them we don't care for on the moral side of things but many love the technology changes that keep happening. At the Synodical convention in St Louis this past July, the delegates used electronic voting devices versus the old days of handing out paper ballots. LCMS President Harrison was re-elected as delegates voted for the first time from their home. It is a different day. It is 2013. Do we want to do 1965 over again or do ministry in 2013?

Things keep changing and there are those who don't like change when it comes to church. God's Word doesn't change but September how we do ministry September have to change or least give it a shot. As someone once pointed out - not all change is bad. In fact some of the changes in our lives were good. Answer this question - "What was one of the best days of your life?" - Most people respond with their marriage or the birth of their children. Was that change? Absolutely! But it was a wonderful change. There are parishes in our District that are getting old and declining. September it is worth it to become a Caleb in your congregation and encourage taking the risk of trying something rather than doing the same thing over and over again with the same results. September it works, September it doesn't. Ultimately God just doesn't want us to just sit there - He has said, "Go!"

In the end Caleb was correct. God directed them across the Jordan and the Promised Land became the land of Israel. September God direct you and as you carry out our Lord's ministry in 2013. Be a Caleb!



SEPTEMBER 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

Our Prayer Concerns SEPTEMBER

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 Dan Truchon Donna Graves
Ken Philaja Mary Koosmann
Don Pocernich Patty Kegel Otto Rusch

Nursing Home & Assisted Living Resident

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

Shut-in's

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

ELDERS

Sept. 1 Darryl Warren & Don Pocernich
Sept. 4 Mike Cashman
Sept. 8 Doug Warren & John Pruss
Sept. 11 Darryl Warren
Sept. 15 Chuck Chronis & Darryl Warren
Sept. 18 John Pruss
Sept. 22 Don Pocernich & Doug Warren
Sept. 25 Mike Cashman
Sept. 29 John Pruss & Chuck Chronis
Oct. 2 Darryl Warren

GREETERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Greeters should arrive by 8:40am

Sept. 1 Ethel Guss & Penny Mattson
Sept. 8 Jerry & Sandy Frisco
Sept. 15 Guski Family
Sept. 22 Loren & Ellie Munson
Sept. 29 Brian & Linda Koblucher



September

SEPTEMBER Acolytes

Sept. 1 Jordan Thimm & Angela Ylitalo
Sept. 8 Eric Bochler & Carolyn Gurske
Sept. 15 Brooke Sapper & Sydney Vyskocil
Sept. 22 Jordan Thimm & Cooper Tamke
Sept. 29 Angela Ylitalo & Eric Bochler

SEPTEMBER Ushers

Ushers should arrive by 8:40am

Sept. 1 Tim Bauer & Paul Osmak
Sept. 8 Herb Ellis & Clarence Osmak
Sept. 15 Curt Harpster & Randy Spangle
Sept. 22 Jim Hebert & Nate Warren
Sept. 29 Nick Jarvela & Todd Vyskocil

SEPTEMBER ALTAR GUILD

Penny Mattson 682-6065
Lou Pearce 682-2597
Dawn Reardon 682-0312

