

# *The Mountain Top* **Messenger**

VOLUME 52, ISSUE # 9 Zion Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod SEPTEMBER 2014

Seems to me I just wrote one of these a week or so ago. Welcome to September, everyone is busy getting back into the grind of the school year; kids start school next week, rally day next Sunday, confirmation starts on the 10<sup>th</sup>, and congregation wide we begin the study of "The Story", and a voters' meeting on Sept 14<sup>th</sup> to look at purchasing a new organ as well as some capital improvements to the church. And that's just the first two weeks of the month, wow.

I really wanted to touch on a couple of subjects this month. First is a recap of a couple of last month's items; first was the conference on Liturgy, Preaching, and Music. It was an amazing experience and I learned many things and met many wonderful people. Several of the things that I learned I have been working in to both my preaching and teaching methods. I am always looking for feedback so, if you notice anything please let me know. The other subject from last month was the visit here at Zion by Wally Becker. Pastor Becker is the Vicarage Supervisor for all 40 members of the 2013 SMP class at Concordia St. Louis and he stopped by to visit with Pastor Bahn, June, and me, to see how things were going. As part of his visit we reviewed the survey results that a number of you submitted, thank you all for your responses, they were very helpful. Wally was pleased with what he saw and it looks like I am good to go for another year.

Now the big item I would like to touch on this month is our moving forward with "**The Story**" as our topic for Sunday School and for Adult Bible Study. There is more information on the table in the Narthex and inside this newsletter regarding this, but in short, "The Story" puts the Bible in chronological order to make it easier to follow and understand, and the entire congregation studies the same lesson each week. The other thing we are going to be doing is that starting the 17<sup>th</sup> of September the theme for all the Wednesday night services and the message that night will be based on the "The Story" lesson from the prior Sunday. I am really looking forward to this learning opportunity and I hope all of you will join in.

I know this time of year can be hectic and I know that when that happens sometimes we lose sight of our Lord and Savior. I encourage all of you to take a little time each day in prayer, devotion, or Scripture, in keeping our Lord's saving grace fresh in your mind. While we sometimes lose sight of Him, He never loses sight of us, He is with us always.

The Lord's blessings to you all,  
Vicar Rick

# Zion's Ministry Staff and Church Officers

E-Mail: [zionashland@hotmail.com](mailto:zionashland@hotmail.com)  
Website: [www.zionashland.org](http://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

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## **Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 am**

Sunday School 10:15am

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

## **Stewardship Thoughts**

The love that we read about in 1 Cor.13 is a love that is carried out in ordinary ways. We daily use the elements of our ordinary lives to be stewards of the love that we have received from God through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He does extraordinary things through us. There is great value to the body of Christ and to our neighbors when those baptized use their ordinary gifts. Whenever God's people do little things like show kindness to others, great things can happen. Gathering together to share an anniversary or the birth of a child or a death in a family is stewardship. Helping the aging or anyone in need shows Christ inspired love. Using your singing voice to enhance worship is stewardship as is serving as Elders, Trustees, or any church board. Through these acts Christ does extraordinary things. The lines of communication are opened and the Word of the Gospel is passed from one to another—The greatest form of Stewardship!

## **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.

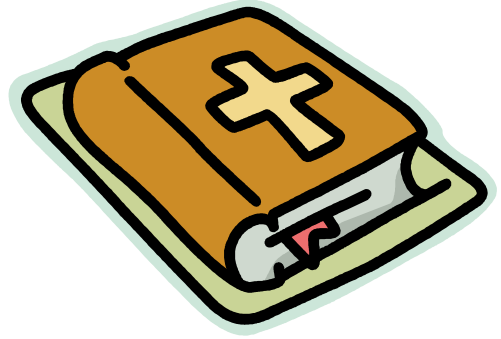


**Wednesday  
September 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Choir starts –  
5:15pm

## Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> Service

Sunday School Rally Day

Blessing of the Bibles - Bibles will be given to every Sunday School student and then the Bibles will be blessed prior to the prayers. We hope that all Sunday School children will be present.



## Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> Service Holy Cross Sunday

We invite people to bring a cross from home on Holy Cross Day, preferably a cross that hangs in a prominent place in your home or that might after this Sunday. Children will be making crosses on Rally Day after the service that they will have for this service.

With crosses raised, a prayer for the crosses will be at the end of the service.

## VOTERS' MEETING

Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>  
10:15am

Agenda: 1 -Voting for the purchase of a new organ (recommendation from the Organ Committee and approval from the Church Council)  
Information selected organ on the table across from the bulletin board in the Narthex.  
2 -Capital Improvements



## Fall Humor

What did one autumn leaf say to another?  
I'm [falling for you](#).

Autumn is a season for big decisions -- like whether or not it's too late to start spring cleaning.

The autumn leaves are a lot like raising kids. First they turn on you, and then they fly away. And next thing you know, you look out the window and they're back!

I got tired of looking at all those leaves in my yard, so I got up off the couch and went into action. I closed the curtains.

## Organ Concert

Grace Episcopal Church Rice Lake  
Sept. 21st 4:00pm

Please speak with Pastor Bahn if you are interested in attending. The CEO from Allen Organs will be performing the concert on the organ.

## Attention High School Students:

**"2015 Guide to Admission and Financial Aid" Booklet is on the upper shelf across from the bulletin board. There are several copies, so you can take one.**



# SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

This August has been a very busy month, awaiting Vacation Bible School with the Camp Luther Counselors to conduct the four day camp. Maria Truchon had organized "everything" as she did last year's VBS. The theme was "Here We Grow" There was a total of 40 campers signed up - the maximum amount established. We decided to feed our campers lunch this time; seemed to go over very well with pizza and ice cream the last day. The response from a couple of parents of the campers was that the parents appreciated the lunch provided and the campers liked the choice of food served. The campers and counselors sang a couple of songs during the Wednesday evening service with 90 in attendance for that service.

Our next project is getting ready for Rally Day Sunday and Sunday School. Rally Day is set for Sunday, September 7th and each Sunday School student will be presented with their own Bible and blessed during the worship service. Following the service, the Sunday School teachers will have a welcome for the students; they will be making their own crosses (wooden crosses made by Pat Colgrove-thank you very much) for the following Sunday Worship Service, September 14th, which will be Holy Cross Sunday when the crosses will be blessed.

What a great response I've had recruiting Sunday School Teachers. The hope is to have enough teachers where they will teach once or twice a month. This year's curriculum will be set up to coordinate with the all the Sunday School classes, Confirmation Class, and Teen and Adult Bible Class - the theme "The Story" - covers the entire Bible in 31 weeks. Vicar Rick purchased the kit, after reviewing its content and speaking with several other congregations that have done this curriculum and thought highly of it.

I want to thank everyone who has agreed to be a part of the Sunday School Team. We would be thrilled to add anyone else who might be interested in helping with the Sunday School this year.

God's Blessing,  
Katie Colgrove, Sunday School Superintendant

**SECRET PAL - MUG BUDDIES** We are doing year two for secret pal. Those who participated this past year thoroughly enjoyed it and want to do it again. Information is on the table by the office door. This is open to all gals of the congregation, high school and older. We need forms completed by the morning of September 14th.





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## LWML FALL RALLY 2014

The Ladies Circles of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Mellen, Wisconsin, cordially invites you to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Fall Rally for Zone #1 of the North Wisconsin District. The date is Saturday, September 27th. Registration will start at 9:30am and the Rally will be from 10:00am to 2:30pm. The registration fee will be \$5.00

The Rally theme is "inside out and upside down". Service and devotion will be by the Rev. Shawn Andersen. The Gifts of the Heart Ingathering for this Rally will be for the Food Pantry in Mellen. Any non-perishable food items are welcome.

We look forward to spending the day with you as we worship and study our gracious Lord's Word.

In Christ,

The Ladies of Immanuel's Ladies Circle

*There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Meet in the church parking lot to share a ride. Any questions you can contact Ethel at 715-682-3885*

## The STORY

"THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD" IS MORE THAN JUST A CLICHÉ. God goes to great lengths to rescue lost and hurting people. That is what The Story is all about: the story of the Bible, God's great love for humanity. Condensed into 31 accessible chapters, The Story sweeps you into the unfolding progression of Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation. Using the clear, accessible text of the NIV Bible, it allows the stories, poems, and teachings of the Bible to read like a novel. And like any good story, The Story is filled with intrigue, drama, conflict, romance, and redemption; and this story's true! *From the foreword by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee:* "This book tells the grandest, most compelling story of all time: the story of a true God who loves his children, who established for them a way of salvation and provided a route to eternity. Each story in these 31 chapters reveals the God of grace—the God who speaks; the God who acts; the God who listens; the God whose love for his people culminated in his sacrifice of Jesus, his only Son, to atone for the sins of humanity."

We will be starting this adventure **Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** with the adult bible study. Sunday School classes from preschool through confirmation/high school will start on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Everyone will be on "week 2" on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Please plan on attending this wonderful adventure. It will be a family quest where everyone can share their stories and learning. Materials for the curriculum are on the table across from the bulletin board in the Narthex.

# LFOJ HAPPENINGS

LFOJ staff and children would like to say Thank You to the following for your wonderful donation of fresh garden produce. We have implemented all the veggies into our lunch menu. What a delicious treat.

Esther Arganbright

Gerald & Sandy Frisco

Rick & Sandy Nutt

Duke & Fran Kuester

We have also received donations of fresh produce that were left at the church with no names ~ Special thanks goes out to you as well.

## 3 year old Preschool

- First Day of Class ~ Thursday, September 4, 2014
- Currently full with 10 students
- 8 child care clients, 2 preschool only clients

## 4 year old Preschool

- First Day of Class ~ Friday, September 5, 2014
- Currently full with 12 students
- 7 child care clients, 5 preschool only clients

## Infant/Toddler Room (7 children)

- One available opening starting September 8, 2014
- Currently working through the waiting list
- Next available opening September, 2015

## Learner Room (15 children)

- Full • Next available opening ~ September, 2015

## School-Age Room (17 children)

- No available openings.

On August, 13, 2014, the school-age children went on a field trip to the Vaughn Library. Ms. Amy and Ms. Kate took the children to the Library on Trolley, which the children highly enjoyed.





*Transitions invite us to live in the present.... and the presence of God.* - A. Ellis

Mid-September upnorth is a time of transition. We are caught between hanging on to summer and anticipating autumn. On the south side of the house, the hot sun warms our dining room. On the north side, a chilly lake breeze cools our bedroom. Green leaves start to blush. Hungry birds seek brittle oat heads. Apples hang with red ripeness. Thistle flowers weave fine fibers. Milkweed pods wait to be cracked. Sunflowers become seed-plates. Bees sip sweet drinks. Geese flock together.

This shift of nature invites us to consider the gift of earthly time. To recall with gratitude the summer berries we picked, the picnics we enjoyed, the vacations we took, the long evenings we played, the mornings we slept late... but also acknowledge the forward movement of time.

Our senses respond to September's outward shift and our inner bones know colder days are coming. During times of change, the unchanging presence of God become even more precious: *"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever"* (Heb. 13:8). For it was on an earth-bound cross that the eternal message of hope was set, and seasonal shifts do not wither or erase this promise.

I love mid-September. I love the fresh breeze. The new look of nature and the change of light. Let us remember to acknowledge each day that the Spirit of the God dwells among us. He offers sweet grace. He reworks disappointments for our good. He encourages us to hold hands in prayer and proclaim promises of hope. We are the apple of His eye. Every day is a special day in His presence.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES**, starting September 17th will be based on "The STORY" curriculum. So if you missed a Bible Study or would like to hear "more" on the subject join us on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm.



## **MISSION U SCHOOL OF WITNESSING – “Christ Alone” in a Coexist World.**

Become equipped through MISSION U to help fulfill your mission with boldness to the diverse mission field around you. You and your church can gain a scripture-based understanding of how outreach works in a culture that doesn't care about God. Presented by Christ Lutheran Church LCMS – Wausau, Saturday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>, 9am-2pm. Please speak with Vicar Rick if you would be interested in attending.

### **Martin Luther and the Reformation**

How could Luther succeed when others had failed? This seminar explores the background of reform efforts, the life of “a man who changed the world,” and other 16th century reformers.

Major topics include:

- "Reformers Before the Reformation",
- "The Young Luther",
- "One Man Against the World" and
- "The Spread of the Reformation"



#### **Martin Luther: Theologian and Musician**

We will look at the contributions that Martin Luther has made to the worship and music of churches today. This session will look at worship life before and after the onset of the Reformation, including his writing of hymnody and revision of the way the liturgy was carried out. We will also get the opportunity to examine and sing some of his well-known, and not so well-known hymns.

**October 28, 2014**

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church  
Weston, WI 54476

#### **Keynote: REV. DR. PAUL L. MAIER**

Dr. Paul L. Maier is the Russell H. Seibert Professor of Ancient History at Western Michigan University and a much-published author of both scholarly and popular works. His novels include two historical documentaries — *Pontius Pilate* and *The Flames of Rome*— as well as *A Skeleton in God's Closet*, a theological thriller that became a #1 national bestseller in religious fiction when it first released. *Sequels*, *More than a Skeleton* and *The Constantine Codex*, followed in 2003 and 2011.

Dr. Maier lectures widely, appears frequently on national radio, television, and newspaper interviews, and has received numerous awards. He has also penned seven children's books and hosted six video seminars dealing with Jesus, St. Paul, the early church, and current Christianity.

#### **Bible Study Leader: REV. DWAYNE LUECK**

Rev. Lueck was born in Shelbyville, Illinois and grew up in Reedsburg, WI. He graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in 1979. He has served congregations in Nebraska and Oklahoma. In 1987 he received a call from the North Wisconsin District LCMS to serve in the position of Mission, Evangelism, and Stewardship Executive. In June 2012 he was elected President of the North Wisconsin District LCMS.

#### **Entertainer: MARK A. SCHULTZ**

Mark A. Schultz currently serves as the Minister of Music at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wausau, Wisconsin. Mark has served for over 30 years as a Minister of Music for LCMS parishes in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Nebraska. He has also served as an Assistant Professor of Music and University Organist at Concordia University in Ann Arbor.

*Complete brochure are available on the bulletin board. Please speak with Vicar Rick if you are interested in attending.*

## **Zion Lutheran Church Council Minutes: August 2014**

The August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014, meeting of the Church Council was called to order by President Chuck Chronis. Vicar Rick opened with devotions and prayer to remind us that God is working on our behalf.

**Roll Call:** Chuck Chronis (President), Mary Koosmann (Financial Secretary), Lynn Ladd (Education), Alice Ellis (Secretary), Penny Mattson (Stewardship), Diane Cashman (Stewardship), Lori Hebert (Evangelism), Daryl Warren (Elders), Nick Jarvela (Trustees), Stan Bahn (Organ), Cheri Tamke (LFOJ), Todd Vyskocil (Treasurer), Rick Williams (Vicar).

**Minutes:** Motion by Ladd, second by Jarvela, to approve the minutes of May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014, as printed. Motion carried.

**Vicar's Report:** Wednesday evening services going well. Vicar attended summer class opportunities.

Plans to set up schedule for shut-ins, and include help from elders. VBS response outstanding. New fall Bible study series called *The Story* runs 31 weeks.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion by Warren, second by Mattson to accept report. Motion carried.

**Agenda:** These items were added: reimbursement yard work, capital projects. Also organ report will be first. Motion by Ladd, second by Jarvela to accept the agenda with additions.

**Digital Organ:** a comprehensive presentation of the organ assignment and recommendation of the committee was given by Stan Bahn. There are memorial gifts to meet the first payment, and other memorials and fund-raising opportunities may be possible; total price is \$38,710. It was suggested to make the purchase of this organ as part of Zion's 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary recognition. Ellis made a motion to bring this organ information and opportunity to the Zion voters meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>, second by Hebert. Motion carried.

### **Board Reports:**

**Treasurer:** \$100 to be paid for lawn work completed. Vyskocil to bring information on capital investments regarding Zion's need for new furnace and roof.

**Education:** 40 students plus many youth participated in Vacation Bible School. 90 at Wednesday night worship for VBS week. Will set VBS dates for next year now.

Motion to accept Board Reports by Jarvela, second by Ladd. Motion carried.

### **Official Acts:**

**Baptism:** Zachery William Darwin 07-19-2014

Brayden Allen Darwin-Gervais 07-19-2014

**Funeral:** Clarence Houle 06-10-14

**New Members:** Lance Barnes to Zion 5-19-14 from St. Paul Lutheran, Marshfield, MO  
Heather Gust 07-06-14

**Release:** Katy (Nutt) Gumz 05-19-14 to Immanuel Ev. Luth. Church, Wisconsin Rapid, WI

### **New Business:**

**Budget Committee formed:** Williams, Ladd, Chronis, and Vyskocil to serve.

**PDF Software:** To be purchased (\$99) for Secretary and Vicar computers.

**Letter of Appeal:** Chuck Chronis read a letter from First Lutheran Church LCMS, Spirit Lake, Idaho asking for a donation for their new church building project to support their growing congregation. Motion by Warren to send \$250, second by Tamke. Motion carried.

**Directory Update:** Lynn and others met with representative. Zion's membership list needs work to update. We are moving forward on this.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Jarvela, second by Mattson. Motion carried. Council will meet in September. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted: Alice J. Ellis

# 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 in this matter!!

## 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** Otto & Dorothy Rusch, Dale Houle, Riley Bretting, Jim Fletcher, Matt Raspotnik, Bob Wolfram, Carl Sapper, Larry Korbein, Marlene Parkhurst, Katie Stipetich, Jim Morzenti, Bernie Henderson, George Schwiesow, Holly Nemec

### Nursing Home &

#### Assisted Living Resident

Corrine Tolliver Sharon Johnson  
Otto & Dorothy Rusch

**Shut-in's** Gordon & Marianne Vyskocil  
Walt Schutte

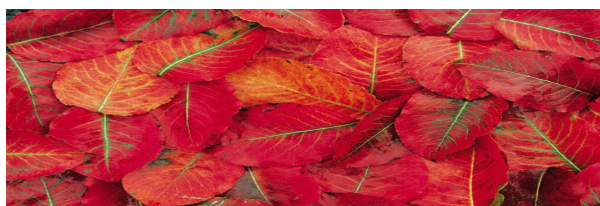
### Military

Aaron Esala  
Tyler Heglund



### ELDERS

Sept. 3 Doug Warren  
Sept. 7 Doug Warren & John Pruss  
Sept. 10 Darryl Warren  
Sept. 14 Don Pocernich & Chuck Chronis  
Sept. 17 Mike Cashman  
Sept. 21 Darryl Warren & Doug Warren  
Sept. 24 John Pruss  
Sept. 28 Mike Cashman & Don Pocernich  
Oct. 1 Chuck Chronis



### GREETERS FOR SEPTEMBER

*Greeters should arrive by 8:40am*

Sept. 7 Clarence & Kathy Osmak  
Sept. 14 Jerry & Sandy Frisco  
Sept. 21 Guski Family  
Sept. 28 Karen Wahl & Stephanie Wegener

### SEPTEMBER Acolytes

Sept. 7 Tia Warren & Jacob Graves  
Sept. 14 Justin Esala & Heather Dickrell  
Sept. 21 Ashlee Moreland & Kyle Sapper  
Sept. 28 Tia Warren & Taylor Vyskocil

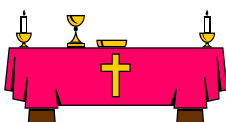


## CONFIRMATION

September 10th—6:00pm  
Parents and Students

### SEPTEMBER ALTAR GUILD

June Williams 209-8037  
Tami Thimm 682-4817  
Kaitlyn Thimm 682-4817



### SEPTEMBER Ushers

*Ushers should arrive by 8:40am*

Sept. 7 Brian Klobucher & Henry Truchon  
Sept. 14 Paul Osmak & Scott Thimm  
Sept. 21 Ron Schwiesow & David Ovaska  
Sept. 28 Cooper Tamke & Rick Nutt