



# Eye on Zion

A Quarterly Newsletter for the People of Zion Lutheran Church

May-June-July  
2015

## STAFF

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Pastor Sonja Pancoast

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and Family Ministries**  
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**Director of Music Ministries**

Adam Torres

**Organist/Accompanist**

Kathryn Peiffer

**Bell and Chimes Director**

Thomas Chen

**Building, Office, and Support  
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Ginger Klein

**Technology and Communications**

**Ministries Coordinator**

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## Growing in God

*Pastor Sonja Pancoast*

As disciples of Christ we are always growing deeper in our relationship with God. We desire to keep God at the center of our lives because God is the One who gives us life, who preserves our life, who gives us abundant life, and eternal life.

Throughout this newsletter you will find numerous ways that members of our congregation are growing in God personally and communally. You will find information about the pastors' sabbatical and how this time of sabbatical is a time for us all to grow in God as a community of faith as we dream how God is calling us out into the larger community. We invite you to participate in any of these ministries that will provide growth for your own faith and fellowship in the community.

Our current worship theme for the Easter season, ending with Pentecost Sunday on May 24, is *GO . . .* This theme helps us to reflect on many different ways that the Risen Christ calls us and empowers us to live as disciples in

the world.

Our summer worship schedule begins May 31, and with that our theme turns to the theme of this newsletter, "Growing in God." Throughout the summer our worship will center our lives and send us out with three different emphases on our growing in God as a community of faith centered on worship and God's word:

May 31 – July 5

*God's Prayerbook* (Psalms)

July 12 – August 2

*God's Wisdom* (Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon)

August 9 – September 6

*God's Faithfulness* (Hebrews)

Starting May 31, take note of the changes in worship times. Early worship will be at 8:30 a.m., and we will gather outside on the lawn, under the trees, in the beauty of God's creation. The second service is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, with the first, third, and

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*Growing in God continued from page 1.*

fifth Sundays of each month a traditional style of worship and the second and fourth Sundays a contemporary style. If you worship at 8:30, please consider staying for a few minutes afterward to greet one another, especially those who are arriving to attend the later worship service. If you worship at 10:00, please consider coming early to greet those who attended early worship. Come, grow with God!

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## Growing in God through Sabbatical

*Pastor Joel Pancoast*

The pastors' sabbatical has been in planning stages for at least a year, and now it's finally here! Since the beginning of this calendar year, the pastors and Dream Teams have been gathering to start working on the ministry strategies and priorities that came out of the cottage meetings held last October. During sabbatical, some of that work will continue. The Dream Teams will continue to dream, and the pastors will have time during sabbatical to talk with other communities and leaders, both across the church and in the greater Loveland community, to gather ideas and dreams beyond what our own limited time and space would allow on a regular basis.

Some of you have heard this in various presentations as we prepare the congregation for this sabbatical experience, but dreaming and focusing reflects our own biblical understanding of "sabbatical." Exodus 20:8-11 and Deuteronomy 5:12-15 both contain the commandment to "honor the Sabbath." Apparently it is important enough that in both accounts it is the longest of the ten commandments. But the pattern set in the 7 days of creation is also witnessed as annual cycles in

the Bible. According to both Deuteronomy 15:1-2 and Leviticus 25:3-6, every 7 years was to be a "shemmitah" (Hebrew), or a year of release. For Deuteronomy, it was about relationships, a year to forgive all debts. For Leviticus, it was a year for the soil to lay fallow so that the earth could regenerate and be prepared for future harvests. Over time, these commands became more holistic, and the people began to see the 7-year sabbatical as a time for the entire nation to collectively focus on higher pursuits, taking a break from distractions in order to focus on their identity as people of God's covenant.

So sabbatical has two purposes. One purpose is for rest, renewal, and regeneration. Another purpose is for learning and reflection on identity and calling from God. We as pastors will be using these 3 months in the fullness of that sabbatical understanding, not only for us as individuals, but for the entire community of faith gathered. We feel that if we needed this time only for the first purpose, we would need to reexamine our weekly sabbath routine, and if we only used this time for the second purpose of learning and reflection, we would return to the community exhausted. So we have a full schedule that

*Continued on page 3.*

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*Growing in God through Sabbatical continued from page 2.*

contains time and opportunities for us to learn and grow and reflect on the gifts of our community at Zion and the larger community of Loveland, and it also includes opportunities for us to rest and regenerate with family and in the beauty of God's creation.

There will be ongoing communication about our learning and reflection. Already, there is a bulletin board in the fellowship area of the church building sharing both the work of the Dream Teams and our ongoing work, and a rough timeline of our sabbatical schedule. Below this article is also a rough schedule of how we see our time during sabbatical taking shape, as well as a reading list that we will be tackling over the summer. Pastor Paul Joncas may also give you occasional updates before or after worship. Finally, we invite you to check out our occasional posts on our learning and reflections at [www.ziongrowingingod.blogspot.com](http://www.ziongrowingingod.blogspot.com).

We want to thank you as a congregation, the council, Long-Range Planning Committee, and staff for giving us the opportunity to experience sabbatical. We pray that this opportunity gives us all an opportunity to grow together in God, as a community of faith in a location where God has planted us to bear fruit.

### May

- Visit After Hours Denver Worshipping Community

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## PASTORS' SABBATICAL SCHEDULE

- Pastor Sonja weekend retreat in Arizona
- Sunday, May 17—Colfax Half Marathon (Denver), Run4Refugees
- Visit Kyrie Fort Worth Worshipping Community and Trinity Lutheran Church
- Volunteer and meet with faculty at Monroe Elementary School
- Pastor Jerry Herships, Denver After Hours
- Mustard Seed House Churches

### June

- Visit After Hours Denver Worshipping Community
- June 25 – July 9—Nicaragua
- House of Neighborly Service
- City of Loveland Community Partnering Office
- Ride-Alongs with Loveland Police Officers
- Visit with Pastor Rob Moss, author of **The Neighborhood Church: God's**

### Vision of Success

- Michael and Heidi Thrash, Owners of The Coffee Tree
- Lutheran Church of the Master Lakewood, Colorado

### July

- Pastor Joel hiking across the breadth of Rocky Mountain National Park
- Longview, Texas, where Pastor Joel grew up
- Fredericksburg, Texas, to worship with Pastor Joel's entire family
- Galveston, Texas, to celebrate Pastor Joel's parents' 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary

### Sunday, August 2

- Homecoming Worship at Zion in Loveland!
- *Wide Welcome: How the Unsettling Presence of Newcomers Can Save the Church*, Jessica Krey Duckworth

*Continued on page 4.*

# Looking ahead to summer —musically

*Adam Torres*

It is hard to believe that we are already approaching Summer 2015! We have been blessed at Zion to continue a music ministry that is giving of its time and talents, and I am especially grateful for the extra offerings centered around Holy Week, including our guest musicians for Easter Sunday services. For me, hearing the recital presented by CHLOE ALLEN on April 12 was an especially uplifting experience. Chloe presented a diverse repertory, including works in the art music genre, sacred music realm, and even staples of Tin Pan Alley. As she prepares for the Summer Lutheran Music Camp, I hope that you will continue to support her and keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Looking ahead to summer (and to our summer theme “Growing in God”), I invite you to be a part of ministry through Zion, music or otherwise. I look forward to our opportunities to explore our work as a faith community while Pastors Joel and Sonja are on sabbatical, and I hope this allows us to search within on how to make the world a better place through our work at Zion. With that

said, please consider sharing your time and talents with the congregation. With regards to the music ministry, summer provides an excellent opportunity to offer your voice as a song leader for outdoor worship or to present special music offerings. Please be in touch if you would like to be a part of our music ministry this summer.

We are looking to have a short hymn sing of patriotic music between services on the July 4 weekend, as I know many of you have asked about opportunities for this particular weekend. Along the way, there will be a few other (incredibly exciting) surprises, and I hope that you’ll stay tuned as those details are ironed out for our music offerings for the remainder of 2015.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in our work together at Zion.

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*Growing in God through Sabbatical continued from page 3.*

## **Pastors’ Sabbatical Reading List**

- *Life Together*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- *Prayerbook of the Bible*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices that Transform Us*, Adele Ahlberg Calhoun
- *Life with God: Reading the Bible for Spiritual Transformation*, Richard J. Foster
- *Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus*, C. Christopher Smith and John Pattison
- *Fully Awake and Truly Alive: Spiritual Practices to Nurture Your Soul*, Rev. Jane Vennard
- *The New Parish: How Neighborhood Churches are Transforming Mission, Discipleship and Community*, Paul Sparks, Tim Soerens, and Dwight J. Friesen

*Continued on page 5.*

# Zion Welcomes Pastor Deb Abbott

Please welcome PASTOR DEB ABBOTT, who will be preaching and providing pastoral care and support while PASTOR JOEL and PASTOR SONJA are away. Some of you know Pastor Deb, either from University of Northern Colorado Lutheran Campus Ministry, Sky Ranch, or from previous times she has preached at Zion while the pastors were away. We are excited to have her back with us, but for an extended time. If you have any pastoral needs, please call the church office to be connected with her. She will only be in the office 2 days each week, but if there is an urgent need, the office will be able to reach her.



**Pastor Deb Abbott**

Theological Seminary in Berkeley, California. Between college and seminary she spent a year in the Lutheran Volunteer Corps in Washington D.C.

Since Pastor Deb's ordination in 2006 she has served congregations in Billings and Kalispell, Montana. She currently serves as Campus Pastor for Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley. Pastor Deb lives in Fort Collins with her husband Brad Abbott, who is the Executive Director of Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp.

Pastor Deb Abbott was born and raised in the sunny land of Fresno, California. She is a graduate of Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, and Pacific Lutheran

We are blessed to have Pastor Deb with us as we grow in God.

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*Growing in God through Sabbatical continued from page 4.*

## **Pastors' Sabbatical Reading List** (continued)

- *Why Nobody Wants to Go to Church Anymore and How 4 Acts of Love Will Make Your Church Irresistible*, Thom and Joani Schultz
- *The Externally Focused Quest: Becoming the Best Church FOR the Community*, Eric Swanson and Rick Rusaw
- *Shaped By God's Heart: The Passion and Practices of Missional Churches*, Milfred Minatrea
- *The Present Future: Six Tough Questions for the Church*, Reggie McNeal
- *24/6 A Prescription for a Healthier, Happier Life*, Matthew Sleeth, MD
- *Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to a Culture of Now*, Walter Brueggemann
- *Remember You are Dust*, Walter Brueggemann
- *The Pastor: A Spirituality*, Gordon Lathrop
- *Luther on Vocation and the Neighbor*
- *The Neighborhood Church: God's Vision of Success*, Robert G. Moss

# **It's All About Bikes and Bikers**

**Blessing of the Bikes and their Riders—Sunday, June 21**

**Loveland Bike-to-Work Day—Wednesday, June 24**

Wednesday, June 24, is Bike-to-Work Day in Loveland, offering an opportunity for people

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**This blessing is for all types of bikes, whether they have one, two, or three wheels, whether they are powered by a motor or your legs.**

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throughout the community to try a means of transportation outside of the usual car, since biking is both healthy and better for the environment.

To prepare for this day celebrated throughout Loveland—and for safe bike riding for both exercise and fun—Zion will be blessing bikes and their riders in

worship on Sunday, June 21, during both services. Bring your bike (ride it if you are able) to either worship service to receive a blessing for safety and the joy of being out in God's creation. Invite your neighbors and friends, too! This blessing includes all types of bikes, whether they

have one, two, or three wheels, whether they are powered by a motor or your legs. We pray for health, safety, and stewardship of all the gifts God has given us.

On Wednesday, June 24, the City of Loveland will celebrate Bike-to-Work Day with several breakfast stations located around town. Last year, there were around 500 participants riding their bikes and participating in this event, and a handful of Zion volunteers sponsored a breakfast station at the southwest corner of 29<sup>th</sup> Street and Taft Avenue. We are hoping to sponsor another station this year, this time sharing in this ministry with the other Lutheran (ELCA) congregations in Loveland. It only requires a few people to stay at the station and greet riders, but of course, the more, the merrier, so let the church office know if you are interested in helping.

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*He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."*

—EXODUS 33:14

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# Sprouting Seeds to a New Career

*Deborah Huth Price*

**Y**ou never know how your path in life will be directed, but I do know that Zion helped me grow my present career.

I worked in the Zion office for 9 years, in between careers. I had majored in communication arts, and worked in journalism and public relations. I wanted to do something different but wasn't sure which direction to go. I loved working at Zion—I felt I contributed to the life of the congregation in many ways, beyond the job description I was given. But I felt I could contribute more outside the walls of the church.

During my time there, I helped start and coordinate “Kid’s Club,” an after-school program for elementary children on early-release Wednesdays. Half of the children who participated were from Zion and half were from Monroe. It was a great eye opener in many ways, but it also helped send me on a new path.

In addition to homework help and crafts, we had guest speakers each week who provided some type of program for the kids—from firemen to dog trainers. One week we didn't have anyone scheduled. I had previously lived in the California redwoods and was so fascinated with those awesome trees. I decided to share with the kids my love of redwoods. I showed them pictures of the trees, samples of their tiny cones, and shared stories about my experiences in the redwood forest.

The reaction was amazing. The kids were so interested and bombarded me with lots of questions. “This is what I want to do,” I thought, although I didn't have a definition for what that was.

Our family vacations always took us to national parks and camping expeditions, and I loved wildlife and the outdoors. Now I knew I wanted to share that with others.

One day I browsed through the CSU catalog. I came across a description for a major in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism, emphasizing Interpretation (or Environmental Education). I read it and said aloud, “This is exactly what I want to do.”

I took the step and enrolled at CSU, heading towards a second bachelor's degree. It was scary, but turned out to be one of the best decisions of my life. Zion supported me through this, allowing me to rearrange my work schedule and encouraging me in my new endeavor.

In my career today, I believe that I am doing what I was meant to do. Most days I am amazed I get paid for the job I perform because I love what I do so much. And I am thankful for that Wednesday afternoon when I stepped out of my comfort zone. Zion helped give me wings to fly.

## Among Members and Friends

### At Rest in Our Father's House

*Long-time member **Ione Franzen**, who was 99 years old, died on April 17, and her funeral was held at Zion on April 23. Please keep her daughter, Rhonda McCaughey and all Ione's children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren in your prayers.*

### Joyous Celebrations of the Gift of Baptism

*We rejoice with Chas and Afton Farasyn at the baptism of their daughter, **Elle**, on Sunday, April 26.*

### Prayers of Thanksgiving

*We rejoice with **Lisa Burbank**, wife of Bruce Burbank, as she celebrated her Ordination into Word and Sacrament Ministry at Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sandwich, Illinois, on February 22.*

*Prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of **Luke Galvan**, Phyllis Zimmerman's second great-grandchild.*

### We Keep in Prayer

***Dallas Hansen** who is in rehab following removal of his big toe.*

***Rhonda McCaughey** who is to have a kidney removed due to a mass which is most likely cancerous.*

*The **Schwartz family** who recently experienced two deaths in their family —Jeff's aunt and Jeff's 42-year-old cousin.*

***Tim DePumpo** at the death of his mother.*

***Barb Schreiner** at the death of her cousin, Annette Gobber.*

***Deane Steine** at the death of his brother, Ken.*

***Gerry Sanders** at the death of her son, Bob.*

***Kevin Patrick** at the death of his brother-in-law, Frank Sundquist.*

***Vicki Johnson** at the death of her sister-in-law, Diann.*

*The **Juergensen family** at the death of Linda's mother, Leona Loechner.*

### First Communion

*We rejoice with the following young people who received their First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 2, or Sunday, April 12.*

***Annabelle Arzuolaitis***

***Aliza Bauer***

***Johann Klammer***

***Hudson Klaas***

***Ryan Ward***



## Among Members and Friends

*Thank you so much for taking the time to put together the chemo therapy bags for the patients at McKee Cancer Center! They are greatly appreciated.*

*McKee Cancer Center*

*Dear Friends,*

*You all have been such a blessing at this time. The heart valve replacement went very well. Thanks so much for all the cards and prayers. I felt God's healing power. You are a joy for me.*

*God bless you,  
Connie Wahlers*

*Thank you for all your prayers, concerns, and support while I was going through cancer treatments and hip surgery. Thank you, Pastor Joel, for sharing very comforting scriptures and prayer. Your visit while I was in the hospital I enjoyed very much. We are blessed to have such a warm and caring church family. God bless you, one and all.*

*Dave and Elaine Hart*

*Thank you to everyone who supported  
Chloe Allen in her concert on  
Sunday, April 12.*

*We raised almost \$2,000 for Chloe to attend  
Lutheran Summer Music Camp this summer  
at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, from  
June 21 to July 19.*

*We rejoice in the gifts that God has given Chloe.  
We rejoice in the support of the Zion community  
as we support one of Zion's youth.*

***My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips . . . .  
And in the shadow of your wings  
I sing for joy.***

*—PSALM 63:5 AND 7*

*Thank you to Jim Vosberg for building our  
Connecting with God prayer station for worship  
in April and May.*

### Thank You Letters to Zion

- March 18, 2015—From Wartburg Theological Seminary for \$600 credited to the account of Bruce Burbank.
- April 6, 2015—From Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp for a gift of \$655.
- April 6, 2015—From House of Neighborly Service for a contribution of \$929.
- April 7, 2015—From House of Neighborly Service for a contribution of \$488.90.

KEN AND STACEY EBERHARDT

invite you to join them on  
May 16, at 3:00 p.m.,  
as they celebrate the half-way  
point of Ken's journey  
through veterinarian studies.



They are celebrating this  
accomplishment as well as his acceptance into  
the bio-med program at Colorado State  
University.

The celebration will be at their home,  
1119 East 15<sup>th</sup> Street, and they look forward to  
seeing you there.

# Pictorial Directory

*Ginger Klein*

As we are enjoying the benefits of a newly revised and up-to-date Zion Directory, we especially want to thank people who helped with the preparation and printing of it.

Our esteemed photographer, SARAH BAUER, assisted with sign-up appointments, took the photographs, and made the entire experience so painless that many people couldn't believe they were through the entire process in 5 minutes! Sarah and her family were a joy to work with and the end results were so pleasing.

LINDA STERNER was in charge of assembling photographs and information for the cover and activity pages and many people have commented that they loved the focus on the people and ministries of Zion. We thank TERESA MAJESKI, PASTOR SONJA, PASTOR JOEL, and ANGIE ELDER for all of the pictures they contributed for these pages.

BROOKE LOFTUS worked her usual magic on the data base information, making all of the revisions and updates that are such an important part of this congregational resource. Brooke will also provide information elsewhere [see insert to this newsletter] that can be used to access the directory from your telephone. Many people have commented how much they appreciate this particular feature.

Last, but certainly not least, are the office volunteers and people who made all of the telephone calls, entered the information into the computer, and made themselves available to assist at the actual time the pictures were taken. They include DIANA ABRAHAM, HARRIET COLTON, ELAINE DEVENNEY, LOIS JURGENS, TERESA MAJESKI, ELAINE NICHOLS, ROSEMARY NILSON, PEGGY OLSON, CHARLOTTE SCHMIDT, and JEAN VOSBERG.

Directories continue to be available at a cost of \$7.00 each and can be purchased on Sunday mornings or any time you can catch me in my office. One of the best features of this type of directory is that additions can be made in a timely manner so it can be more accurate.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to GINGER KLEIN for her overall coordination of resources essential to this project.]

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## SAVE THE DATE!

### Summerfest 2015 is August 23

Come join in a time of faith, fellowship, and fun on Sunday, August 23, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Winona Pool in Loveland. Bring a sack dinner, your swimsuit, and a towel. Ice cream will be provided! ALL ages are welcome (you do not have to swim!). Contact ANGIE ELDER with any questions.

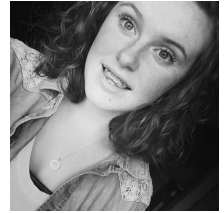


**Semiannual  
Meeting  
Sunday  
July 19  
11:00 a.m.**

## From My Perspective

# Growing in God at Zion

*Emma Blundell, Youth*



Emma Blundell

**W**hen I was younger, church was never a chore for my family, more of a routine. No one fought it, going was just something we did. We got up and put on nice clothes (we weren't allowed to wear jeans), did our laundry, and went to church.

My family started coming to Zion when I was probably 2 or 3. My brother was born into the church. We started coming when we were young so we knew a lot of people and kids that went/go to Zion. It felt like a family. Everyone is looking out for you and wants to know what is going on in your life.

I remember singing, doing crafts, games, stories, "sitting around the campfire," watching movies, cooking, and so many more things during Sunday School. We were learning about Jesus and God, while having a fun time.

When we were learning in Sunday School, it wasn't always just thinking for yourself. They told you God loved you, it wasn't something that was a maybe. He loves you now, he will love you then, God loves you even when you sin. We didn't need to see him to believe he loved us, we just knew he did.

While going through Sunday School, I went along with the same group of kids. Everyone had their role in the Sunday School room: the jokesters, the intellectuals, the shy ones, the outgoing ones. Even though we are all unique and different, it was what made our class so complex and fun.

As we grew older, our class only became closer. We started thinking different ways, becoming different people through God. In confirmation, is really when we started changing and growing. We questioned what we knew, we

wanted to know more about God. Middle School was a hard part of our lives. Church and our community helped us through the hard parts. Sunday School kick-started our lives in faith and with God. Confirmation gave us that final push.

Growing through God is a never ending process, and it is never complete. Growing up in Zion, going to church and Sunday School has made those huge impacts on my faith and faith journey. It has been a crucial part of becoming closer to God and my church family.

**Growing through  
God is a never  
ending process,  
and it is never  
complete.**

Emma Blundell is one of the youth at Zion who has chosen for her confirmation project to write articles for the Eye on Zion newsletter. Watch for her upcoming articles under the heading "From my Perspective."

# Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

*Angie Elder*

## Sunday School Teachers



What an amazing year we have had in Zion's Faith Formation programs.

We will have an end-of-the-year celebration on Sunday, May 17, during the Sunday School hour for preschool through high school students in the fellowship hall.

THANK YOU to the following teachers for giving of their time and talents throughout the past year:

**Preschool:** MEG SCHREIBER

**K-5:** LYNSEY WEIMER, PEGGY OLSON, RONDA BUCK, HOPE KLAAS, AMY OLINGER, AMY BLACK, DAWN ARZUOLAITIS, ALEXIS SMITH, LISA TEESDALE, CAROL LOWE, CHERYL GILLPATRICK, KRISTI PEACH

**Middle School:** JENNIFER BARELA, CHRISSY WOLFE, TRACEY KLAMMER

**High School:** BRENDON PEACH, BLAKE FISCHER, GENE ELDER

**Lutheran Forum:** SCOTT SPRAIN

**Sunday Morning Bible Studies:** JANIE LICHTFUSS

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## Zion Scholarship Opportunities

Zion's Endowment Committee is proud to offer three scholarship opportunities for students in higher education.

1. The Sprenger Scholarship is granted to a student who is or will be attending an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) college, university, or seminary.
2. The Therp Scholarship is granted to a first-year college student who has a high school grade point average (GPA) between 3.0 and 3.5.
3. The Petersen Scholarship is granted to a full-time education major enrolled at any college, university, or community college. The applicant must be in the upper 50 percent of his/her class.

Applications are collected each spring and scholarships are awarded for the following school year. Please see the next newsletter for the announcement of the 2015-2016 scholarship recipients!



# Celebrating our Graduates

Zion will be blessing the high school and college graduates in our congregation on Sunday, May 17. We celebrate with these young adults and send them with this blessing from Jeremiah 29:11:

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.*

## High School:

BEN BACA

Loveland High School  
Researching ELL (English Language Learner) programs and would like to teach English overseas.

ALEC STEINE

Loveland High School  
Plans to attend Western Colorado State University in Gunnison, Colorado, and study business with an emphasis on the entrepreneurship program.

MICHAEL HARRIS

Roosevelt High School

JOEL SCHREINER

Thompson Valley High School  
Plans to attend Colorado State University and study art teaching and studio art and would like to be a graphic designer, illustrator, or teacher.

SYDNEY SCHWARTZ

Thompson Valley High School  
Plans to attend Colorado State University and study either biomedical/chemical engineering or industrial design/mechanical

engineering.

## College:

ASHLEE DENNIS

Bachelor's degree in biology from William Penn University (May 2015).  
Plans to pursue nursing school or training to be a lab technician.

BRITTNEY FREED

Master's degree in business leadership from William Penn University.  
Plans to pursue coaching in strength and conditioning at the collegiate level or private sector.

TATE HEDGESEPTH

Bachelor's degree in political science; minors in business and history from Colorado State University (December 2014).  
May pursue further training in special education.

BEN MOENING-SWANSON

Certificate in laboratory animal caretaking from Eastern New Mexico University—Roswell.

Plans to move to Denver or Northern Colorado and find a job in animal caretaking (i.e., Denver Zoo).

ANDREW PETER

Bachelor's degree in supply chain and operations management from the University of Minnesota—Twin Cities (May 2015). Has accepted a management trainee position with Ferguson Enterprises and will relocate to Billings, Montana, in June.

JOSHUA SCHAIRER

Bachelor's degree in music: instrumental performance from the University of Northern Colorado (May 2015).  
Plans to pursue a master's degree in music at the University of Northern Colorado or the University of Denver.



## Children's Church this Summer at Zion



This summer season (May 31—September 6) Zion is excited to offer Children's Church—a time for the children of the congregation (ages preschool through fifth grade) to grow in God in an

age-appropriate way during worship. The children will leave the worship space prior to the daily readings and return to worship following the sermon. Children's Church will take place in the fellowship hall and will be offered during both worship services (8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.). During this time, children will hear the gospel lesson and interact with the story in a variety of ways, including through music, art, and movement.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact ANGIE ELDER. Weekly lesson plans and resources will be provided.

## Vacation Bible School May 1 Registration Deadline

Kids will embark on an icy expedition where they'll learn to overcome obstacles with God's awesome power. Come experience "EVEREST: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power" Vacation Bible School (VBS) at Zion! Zion is partnering with King of Glory Lutheran Church this summer to bring you an amazing VBS experience!

- **Monday, June 8 — Friday, June 12**
- **9:00 a.m. — 12:00 noon**
- **Ages 3 through entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2015.**

Registration forms are available at the welcome center and can be turned in to ANGIE ELDER until May 1, including \$15/child or \$25/family!

Many volunteers are needed to make this great event happen. If you are interested in helping during VBS week, see ANGIE for more information.



### King Soopers Cards

Thanks to the many members who have recently picked up a King Soopers gift card and to all the members who continue to use the cards. Zion receives 5 percent of all food, fuel, or pharmacy purchases. Unfortunately, our income from this source has dropped off a bit in the past few months—maybe due to the renovation of the North King Soopers in Loveland or to the lower gas prices. We were receiving approximately \$450 a month and that has dropped to \$350. Half of the proceeds are currently funding ELCA World Hunger and half to the ELCA youth gathering in Detroit this summer.



If you need a new card or need a replacement card, please see SCOTT SPRAIN after any worship service at the fair trade coffee table. Cards are free and always available. This is an easy way to support the mission and ministry of Zion; just load funds onto the cards by check, cash, or credit card and then use them when checking out or paying for fuel.

## 29 Zion Kids are Going to Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp

Zion is blessed to be sending 29 kids to Sky Ranch this summer to experience Christ on the mountaintop! Please keep Zion's youth in your prayers during the following weeks that they will experience Christ in new and amazing ways as they grow in God!

### June 21-26

- High School Helpers for Confirmation Camp  
(4 high school students)
- Confirmation Intensive Camp  
(12 middle school students).

### August 2-4 and 2-7

- Round-Up Camp  
(5 first through third grade students)
- Homestead Camp  
(8 third through fifth grade students).



## Labor Day Family Weekend at Sky Ranch



Let's grow in God together at Zion's annual family event at Sky Ranch over Labor Day weekend.

Enjoy hiking, fishing, campfires, crafts, Frisbee golf, stargazing with telescopes, and just relaxing in the beautiful Rocky Mountains.

Bring your tent or camper, stay in a cabin or lodge room. You can stay 1, 2, or 3 nights —whatever your schedule allows.

Meals are available for a small fee at the lodge.

Reservation forms are available at the welcome center and are due to ANGIE ELDER by June 15.

Please contact ANGIE for additional information.



## Middle School and High School LOCK-IN

The youth of Zion will celebrate the end of the school year with a lock-in at Zion from 6:00 p.m., Friday, May 29, until 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 30.

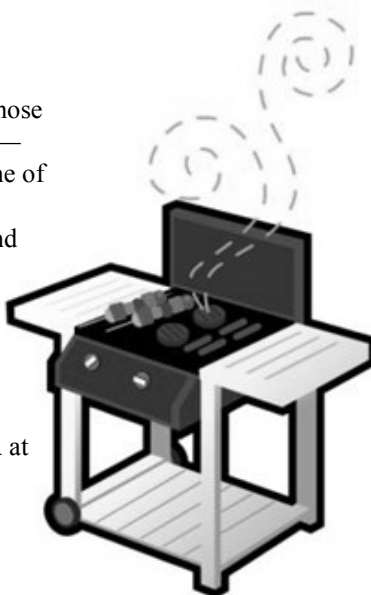
Parents are encouraged to come and enjoy dinner and fellowship from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening. Youth need to sign up on the youth and family bulletin board so we can best plan this fun and exciting event.

## Young Adult BBQ

All young adults  
—those living in the area and those  
returning home from college—  
are invited to a BBQ at the home of  
PHIL and DONNA FREED  
1709 James Drive in Loveland  
for an evening of  
food, fun, and fellowship.

**Sunday, May 31  
beginning at 6:00 p.m.**

Please RSVP to ANGIE ELDER at  
[angie@zionloveland.com](mailto:angie@zionloveland.com)  
by May 15.



## Faith Day at the Rockies Sunday, July 26 2:10 p.m.

Join in the fun of Faith Day at the Rockies! For 10 years, this post-game event has continued to grow, and the Rockies are looking forward to another great event! Faith Day at the Rockies offers Colorado churches and Christians from all over the state the chance to come together for a time of fellowship at the ballpark!

The baseball game will begin at 2:10 p.m. and immediately following the game there will be a concert by *Michael W. Smith*. With over 15 million albums sold, three Grammys and over 40 Dove Awards, Michael has influenced the musical world with songs that speak to the heart of worship.

Zion has a block of 100 tickets and they will be sold on a first-come/first-serve basis. ALL AGES ARE INVITED! Tickets are \$18, but Zion will pay \$8/ticket so you only have to pay \$10/ticket! Please sign up on the youth and family bulletin board. Ticket payments can be given to ANGIE ELDER. Please contact ANGIE with any questions.



# ELCA Youth Gathering

## July 15-19, 2015

Detroit, the host city for the 2015 ELCA youth gathering, is a diverse, distinct city with a rich history. The birthplace of the car industry and Motown music, Detroit also played a critical role in the underground railroad and in the industrialization of America. Although the media would have you believe Detroit is on the verge of collapse —its residents know a different story.

The city they know, our host city, has faced and continues to face its share of challenges. Yet there is a growing revitalization effort underway, and we believe God is calling us to Detroit for the 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering to learn from and serve among our brothers and sisters there.

Downtown Detroit, where the two main venues for the gathering are located, is a hub of vibrancy and activity. With new companies headquartered downtown and more than 11,000 new employees working and living in the city, Detroit is home to many young adults at the beginning of their professional careers. With great architecture, cultural opportunities, and winning sports teams, Detroit has much to offer visitors.

The Detroit metro area is also the home to several faithful ELCA congregations who are living out their faith in new and exciting ways. Take Grace in Action, for instance. Grace in Action is an ELCA faith community dedicated to reclaiming the mission of the church, being transformed by God and each other and building a more just society for all of God's people. The ministries at Grace in Action are inspired by the visions and dreams of people in the community: open mic

night, citizenship class, prayer group, and more. That is just one story from Detroit.



Detroit has much to teach us about being a part of what God is up to at this time in our history. The story that youth and their adult leaders will hear there, and will proclaim there, is that Jesus endured death for us, and Jesus rose from the grave in fulfillment of God's plan, to make us worthy in Christ, to write us into a new story in which we are free from our fears of the powers of sin, death, and the devil.

There are many people in Detroit who know experiences of death, and there are many Lutherans, and brothers and sisters from partner communions who stand alongside the citizens of Detroit with the cross, proclaiming healing and wholeness in the midst of the death and despair. God is calling us to bear witness to their story, and to his creative and redeeming story of death and resurrection.

We will gather in Detroit in July 2015 to be inspired, encouraged, strengthened, connected, and sent out to do God's work in the world.

# Zion's Library Promotes Summer Reading



## Summer Reading Contests for Youth May 31-June 28 and July 5-August 2

- ◆ Preschool through Grade 1 will be rewarded for most books read (or read to them if they don't yet read).
- ◆ Grades 2 through 5 will be rewarded for most pages read.
- ◆ Children can participate in one contest or both.
- ◆ Reading Logs will be provided at the time of sign-up.
- ◆ All participants get a little prize at the time of sign-up.
- ◆ Special prizes to the top three readers in each age group for each contest (12 altogether).
- ◆ In case of a tie, additional prizes will be awarded within 2 weeks of the contest's end.

The contest coordinator is ANGIE ELDER. Sign-up for the May 31-June 28 contest begins May 17. Sign-up for the July 5-August 2 contest will begin around June 21.



## Summer Readers of ALL Ages



## Help Grow Zion's Bookworm

Read a book and add a body part with your name on it to Zion's bookworm featured on the exterior wall of Zion's library.

**May 31 through August 2**



**Visit the Zion Library today for your  
summer reading materials. If you  
need assistance, contact our librarian  
CAROLYN SMELA.**



# News from Lutheran Campus Ministry

*Pastor Deb Abbott*

The month of May is filled with papers, projects, exams, and graduation. Please keep all of our students and the students you know in your prayers! Pray also for faculty, staff, and all those who teach and mentor young adults. As the school year wraps up with finals week and graduation, our campus ministries will continue to minister to young adults and begin planning for next year.

Thank you for your support for campus ministry this past school year! For more information about Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at University of Northern Colorado contact PASTOR DEB ABBOTT at [lcm.unco@gmail.com](mailto:lcm.unco@gmail.com). For Lutheran Campus Ministry at Colorado State University, contact Interim Pastor Chad Adamik at [pastor@lcmcsu.org](mailto:pastor@lcmcsu.org).

## BBQ and Bluegrass A Benefit for Sky Ranch

- WHERE:** Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church  
4501 South Lemay Avenue,  
Fort Collins, Colorado
- WHEN:** Saturday, June 6, at 5:30 p.m.
- WHAT:** Food, music with the community, and  
the Sky Ranch summer staff
- FOOD:** BBQ, Coleslaw, Chips, Dessert  
(vegetarian and gluten-free available)
- TICKETS:** \$12 (5 and over), \$30 (family)  
(under age 5 are free)
- LIVE MUSIC:** Jerusalem Road

### Proceeds Benefit Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp

All are invited to a great evening.



**BBQ & BLUEGRASS**

**Live Music By:**  
**JE RUSALEM ROAD**  
[www.jerusalemroadmusic.com](http://www.jerusalemroadmusic.com)  
[facebook.com/jerusalemroadmusic](https://facebook.com/jerusalemroadmusic)

**Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church**  
4501 S. Lemay Ave., Ft. Collins  
**Sat. June 6, 2015**  
**@5:30 pm**

Food: BBQ, coleslaw, chips, dessert  
(vegetarian and gluten-free available)  
Tickets: \$12 (5 and over) | \$30 (family) | (under 5 free)

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT SKY RANCH**  
Supplemental Funds from Thrivent

## Table Talk Returning in July!—by Popular Demand!!

Martin Luther was known for hosting guests, colleagues, and friends around his dinner table, where they talked freely and openly about nearly everything around the Bible and church that touches the nerves of life. Many volumes are written of these conversations that came to be known as “Table Talk.” Now Table Talk at Zion is back by popular demand! We offered a round of Table Talk last fall, and many who participated enjoyed it enough that they have been asking for another round.

Table Talk at Zion is a small-group opportunity to grow in God with others in the Zion community, and to celebrate together how we as a community are growing in God. Table Talk groups will only meet once a month from July through October, so the commitment is limited but the benefits are deep and lasting. This is a way to get to know people at Zion you have not met, or to take faith and relationships to a deeper level with meaningful conversations around living your faith. Conversations will focus on getting to know each other, and on the three strategies of the pastors’ sabbatical focus.

Sign up for Table Talk at Zion either on a sign-up board outside the sanctuary, through the link provided in the e-On Zion, on the Connections sheet in the Sunday bulletins, or by calling the church office. The last day to sign up will be Sunday, May 17.

After the sign-up deadline, Table Talk participants will be placed in groups of 7-9 people, selected by the coordinating team. If you sign up with a spouse or partner, you will be placed in the same group. After the groups are assigned, one facilitator will communicate with the small group to arrange a date, time, and location that works for everyone in the group. At the end of each gathering, groups will plan the date and place for the next gathering.

We hope you will consider participating in Table Talk as an opportunity to grow in God with others.

The two main ingredients for Table Talk are:

1. Shared food
2. Mutual guided conversation.

Very Important Do and Do Not Rules for Table Talk are:

DO—

- meet when you want, once a month, at a date and time determined by your group
- meet where you want, but feel free to be creative with your meeting locations
- eat what you want (whether a full meal or a light snack), but bring food to share that suits you and your group, no matter how simple or elegant
- include beverages of your choice
- have fun, and get to know others in your group around conversation with a discussion guideline provided by the planning team.

DO NOT—

- feel you cannot participate, even if you are homebound (we'll help you get there!)
- feel you need to follow a particular style of meal (even meals that include hot dishes, casseroles, or Jello salad)
- feel you have to host a Table Talk gathering
- feel you need matching china or silver to make the Table Talk meaningful.

## Great Gift Away

Great Gift Away is an opportunity through Zion's Endowment Fund to celebrate growing in God by helping ministries in our community grow! In anticipation of a birthday, you may have received letters from the Endowment Committee giving thanks for this milestone in your life and inviting you to give thanks to God for each year of your life by contributing \$1 (plus or minus) for each year being celebrated to the Great Gift Away ministry. Each year, the Endowment Committee is blessed to invest half of these contributions in the Endowment Fund, ensuring a healthy, long-term, mission-oriented ministry for Zion. Of the other half of these funds contributed each year, the goal of the Endowment Committee is to invest in ministries within both the congregation and the broader community.

We are asking for your help and feedback for ministries not already supported by Zion's budget that would benefit from Great Gift Away funds. The sky is the limit! Typically each gift has ranged from \$500-\$800. To make a suggestion, please speak with one of the following members of the Endowment Committee:

- BRENT ANDERSON
- LARRY HUDDLE
- JAYE LUJAN
- BRENDON PEACH
- JOHN STERNER
- JEAN VOSBERG
- PASTOR JOEL.

In 2014, Great Gift Away supported the new House of Neighborly Services Life Center and Boy Scout Troop 314 that meets at Zion. In previous years, Great Gift Away has supported community agencies such as Alternatives to Violence and Habitat for Humanity, and it has helped purchase items within Zion's ministry like digital projectors, art supplies, and a vacuum cleaner.

## Generosity Picnic Sunday, August 2 11:00 a.m.

*Rhonda McCaughy*  
*Don Roney*  
*Craig Wilson*

We grow in God as we share our gifts with others. So let's celebrate all the ways that we grow in God.

The Generosity Team thanks you for your generosity, for sharing your gifts and giving back to God.

Join us for a picnic on Sunday, August 2, at 11:00 a.m. on Zion's front lawn as the Generosity Team says "Thank you." Can you think of a better way of growing in God and generously loving and growing into the future together?

But, *wait just a minute*; we have one more thing to celebrate—or make that four more things. This is the weekend that PASTOR JOEL, PASTOR SONJA, SOPHIA, and HANNAH are back from their sabbatical.

Bring nothing but yourself. Everything will be provided

## Could you save a life? YES!

*Vicki Johnson*

Zion is hosting a CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) class that will include use of an AED (automated external defibrillator). The class will be held at Zion on Saturday, August 29, at 9:00 a.m. The cost is \$25 to Zion members.

Participants will be taught using the current American Heart CPR guidelines and upon completion of the class will be issued a card certifying their ability. The techniques and class have been simplified and almost anyone can master CPR.

Using a defibrillator on a individual in cardiac arrest increases survival rate by 60 percent, according to OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration). For every minute that passes without CPR or defibrillation, the chance of a cardiac arrest victim's survival decreases by up to 10 percent.

Zion will soon be home to a new automated external defibrillator. Zion's staff have been trained in its use and more members soon will be. Our goal is to have at least 20 members trained in CPR and AED use by the end of 2015.

To determine who is qualified in CPR and AED, look to the side of the member mailboxes and you will notice a sign saying AED.

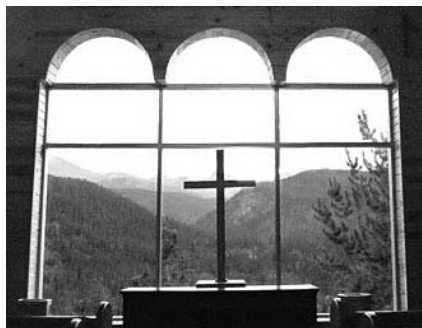
Zion's AED unit will be stored in an alarmed box with oversight by the parish nurses and medical director, Dr. Will Reents.

We encourage everyone to take a class in CPR and AED use. Please make taking a class your priority. It's simple! You can do it!

Give questions or concerns to parish nurse VICKI JOHNSON.

## **Zion Women's Weekend Retreat November 13, 14, and 15**

Plan now to attend the women's



weekend retreat at Peaceful Valley Ranch near Lyons, Colorado, for a time of spiritual growth, relaxation, and fun.

The retreat will be facilitated by Emma K. Lee who is an inspirational speaker and a well-known retreat leader.

We will carpool to Peaceful Valley late Friday afternoon in time to enjoy our evening meal together. We will return Sunday after worshipping at the mountaintop chapel and enjoying lunch.

Accommodations at the ranch are hotel style with each woman having her own bed.

Registration information will be available this summer. In the meantime, save the dates on your calendar to be part of this time away with lasting impact.

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# STEPHEN MINISTRY: A PLACE FOR YOU?

*Brent Anderson*

Our congregation is in the midst of exciting happenings in the area of Stephen Ministry.

I recently attended a week-long training course in Anaheim, California, where I learned how to implement the Stephen Series, a program of lay caring ministry for the congregation. My instruction included both how to train and supervise lay people in caring ministry.

Though the ministry is long-lived and active at Zion, we are always looking to find a “few good men (and women)” who are willing to answer the bell to serve as Stephen ministers.

In September, Zion will offer a new Stephen Ministry training class. The 50 hours of stimulating and useful training in Christian caring skills will be led by me and the three other leaders: CHERYL GILLPATRICK, GINGER KLEIN, and JAYE LUJAN

While being a Stephen Minister requires commitment of time and effort, it also brings joy and fulfillment. It may be one of the most rewarding challenges you will ever embrace. You

will find the skills you learn not only service your caring ministry but also your everyday relationships with family, friends, neighbors, and fellow workers.

Are you ready? Think and pray about this exciting opportunity. Please contact me or any of the other Stephen Ministry leaders listed below with any and all questions you may have.

BRENT ANDERSON	776-9074
CHERYL GILLPATRICK	203-0995
GINGER KLEIN	518-4264
JAYE LUJAN	613-4818



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**The Stephen Ministry logo tells a story—the story of a care receiver’s journey from brokenness toward wholeness through the cross of Jesus. It is a journey made possible by “Christ caring for people through people,” which is the Stephen Ministry motto.**

## Building bridges faith to faith

By Megan Nuehring

“God has used us in ways beyond our ability ... we have reached milestones [in a relationship of love and understanding] with our neighboring Muslim community,” says Rani Abdulmasih, pastor of Mother of the Savior Lutheran Church, an ELCA congregation in Dearborn, Mich.

A mission congregation, Mother of the Savior is unique. The congregation is one of two Arabic speaking congregations in the ELCA and is the only Middle Eastern Christian congregation in Dearborn. The church property is next to the largest mosque in North America. Members of Mother of the Savior worship in a community where 90 percent of the residents are Muslim.

“In the past year, I have brought 900 people to the mosque to meet and learn about our Muslim neighbors,” he says. In a society that can

often be fearful of those with varying beliefs, Rani immerses his congregation in activities that help them walk with their neighbors. Every other weekend an interfaith event is held, and 80 to 150 people attend. These events allow the participants to experience one another’s faith and fellowship.

One year ago, Mother of the Savior hosted an ELCA Glocal Event. The overall event called for a celebration of what the congregation has accomplished and the bridges that have been built. Rani emphasizes that it does not matter if someone is Muslim, Jewish or Christian. The main concern is building relationships.

“My belief tells me to walk with my neighbor, no matter their background,” he says. “It is amazing the need to just simply be there and open the relationship with those who are different, [and] although we may have different beliefs, we

are both in the journey together.”

The interfaith activities benefit the youth in many ways, Rani adds, including encouraging young people to ask questions and learn about and from their peers.

“Some [of the youth] were born in the United States, and some were raised in the Middle East,” Rani says. The youth are asking their peers, “Why are you Christian? Why are you not Muslim?” and vice versa. This allows youth to build bridges among their neighbors.

“Interfaith work is not a complicated business,” says Rani. “It is simply walking with my neighbor.”



# Run4Refugees

*Pastor Sonja Pancoast*

On Sunday, May 17, PASTOR JOEL and PASTOR SONJA are running the Colfax Half Marathon (13 miles) as they Run4Refugees.

Refugees are people who are forced to flee their country because of a well-founded fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, or membership in a particular social or political group.

Many refugees have literally run for their lives, living constantly in fear. They often flee their homes with only the clothes on their backs and tell stories of loved ones who have not made it. Today there are 20 million refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced people throughout the world, living in an uncertain future.

Lutheran Family Services is the largest refugee resettlement agency in Colorado, serving more than 1,000 newly resettled refugees annually.

These refugees are resettled in the Denver, Colorado Springs, Fort Morgan, and Greeley areas. Lutheran Family Services refugee programs are dedicated to helping these vulnerable individuals and families rebuild their lives by equipping them to achieve self-sufficiency within their first year in the United States and fostering them to achieve integration into their new communities.

Funds raised by Run4Refugees will be used for interpretation services, emergency rent, housing setup, and case management services for the refugee clients of Lutheran Family Services.

To help the lives of these vulnerable individuals you can donate using the envelopes provided in the bulletin or the following website:

<https://www.crowdrise.com/ZionsFasterPastors/fundraiser>



## Loving and Growing into the Future Together

### Dream Team Updates

*Pastor Sonja Pancoast*

#### **Dream Team—Service**

The Service Dream Team is seeking ways to deepen our relationships with those who live in our community. The team feels the best way to do this is to further develop our relationships with Monroe Elementary School across the street from Zion. Team members and the pastors are meeting with the Monroe principal as well as volunteering in the school. They will take the lead from the needs set forth by the teachers and staff at Monroe.

The Service Dream Team is also creating a questionnaire to survey the congregational members as to the ways they are already serving in our community. They will collate this data to create a resource where others can connect to people at Zion who are already volunteering throughout our community.

Additionally, the Service Dream Team is collating various ways to serve here at Zion and putting together a resource with congregational service opportunities.

Finally, the team is finding community resources with volunteer opportunities listed such as websites and publications.

#### **Dream Team—Offsite**

The Offsite Dream Team is visiting various congregations in the Denver metro area that have offsite worships to find out the format that each gathering uses and learn more about those who attend offsite gatherings. Additionally, they are exploring various sites around Loveland that could be a place to gather offsite. Finally, the Offsite Dream Team is envisioning what the best format would be to share our amazing Lutheran core message of love, grace, and forgiveness in our local community.

#### **Dream Team—Relationship with God**

The Relationship with God Dream Team is developing a congregational initiative to help support each of us in our desire to read scripture, pray, and share our faith. They are exploring what people are interested in and ways to make this something that builds our relationship with God and others.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

PASTORAL CARE NEEDS

APRIL 27—AUGUST 2

PASTOR JOEL PANCOAST  
and PASTOR SONJA  
PANCOAST will be on  
sabbatical from April 27  
to August 2, 2015.

Here are the people to  
contact if you have any  
care needs while the  
pastors are away.

GINGER KLEIN  
will coordinate our  
*caring ministries*.

Church Office  
970-667-1836

Cell Phone  
970-518-4264

PASTOR DEB ABBOTT  
will *lead worship* at  
Zion and take care of  
any *pastoral care*  
*emergencies*.

Church Office Hours  
970-667-1836

Tuesday and Thursday  
11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Cell Phone  
970-817-4407

# Quiet Notes

*Carolyn Smela*

## THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

**Library Lily** by Gillian Shields is about Lily who loves to read. She reads and reads wherever she goes; she can even hang by her knees and still read a book. But one day, Lily meets a girl who hates reading. Milly invites Lily to have adventures of her own—outside the pages of a book. Together the two friends help each other discover the joy of both backyards and books—and find on the way that adventures are best with a friend along.

**Gonzalo Grabs the Good Life** by Janice Levy is about a rooster who wins the lottery. He quits his farm job and goes out to find the good life. He tries everything, from golf to boating to solos in the church choir, but no matter where he goes Gonzalo still does not find what he's looking for. You have to read this book to learn what finally makes this sassy rooster happy.

The “Heaven and Mirth” series by Mike Thaler teach biblical values in a fun and entertaining way, featuring five unique examples from the Bible in each book that will help your child realize the importance of that value in their own life. These books are for children of 4 years and up.

**Adam and the Apple Turnover** —Five stories that focus on the importance of obeying God.

**David: God's Rock Star** teaches children to have confidence.

**Daniel: Nice Kitty** helps a child understand the importance of having faith.

**David and Bubblebath Sheba** helps a child understand they can believe in God and His Word.

**Little Lamb, Who Made Thee? A Book about Children and Parents** by Walter Wangerin, Jr. is a book about relationships. He writes of his own with his children, as pastor, and finally as a “parent” of his parents.

In **Motorcycles, Sushi, and One Strange Book (Real Life)**, author Nancy Rue writes about 15-year-old Jessie Hatcher's life dealing with her ADHD and her mother's bipolar disorder. So why is Jessie shocked when the unexpected happens?

Another book by Walter Wangerin, Jr. is **In the Days of the Angels** in which he writes of a young girl encountering death for the first time who finds hope in an empty manger. Through her, we find hope as well.

**Pompeii: City on Fire: A Novel** by T.L. Higley is about a city shadowed by a churning volcano Vesuvius, a young politician running from his failed career in Rome, and a desperate Jewish slave girl with a desperate plan. The two must bridge their differences to save the lives of those they love, before the fiery ash buries Pompeii, leaving the city lost to the world.

In the introduction to **Three Free Sins: God's Not Mad at You**, author Steve Brown toys good-naturedly with an agitated caller on his radio program where he offers three free sins. The offer is real. Not that Brown has the power to forgive sins, but he wants to make the point that Jesus has made the offer to cover all of our sins—not just three. He continues to show readers that while they can never manage sin, they can relax in knowing that they are completely forgiven—not just of three, but of all.



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
815 East 16th Street  
Loveland, CO 80538

Phone: 970-667-1836  
Fax: 970-667-1468  
Email: [info@zionloveland.com](mailto:info@zionloveland.com)  
Web: [www.zionloveland.com](http://www.zionloveland.com)  
Facebook: Zion Lutheran Church-Loveland

## Join Us in Worship

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship

10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month,

**Summer schedule starts May 31;  
see article on page 1.**

### ***Our Mission:***

We build and nurture a  
welcoming faith community  
for all generations.

### ***Our Vision:***

All shall know Jesus Christ  
as Lord and Savior,  
and love each other  
as He loves us.

**Celebrate Your Faith—  
Renew Your Spirit—  
Love One Another**

Change Service Requested  
Issue 4/15

## Important Dates Related to Newsletter Content (Read the Articles for Details)

May 16	Eberhardt Celebration
May 17	End-of-Year Sunday School Celebration Celebrate our Graduates
May 29	Youth LOCK-IN
May 31	Summer Worship Schedule Begins; Start of Summer Children's Church; Grow Zion's Bookworm Start; Library Summer Reading Contest #1 Start
June 6	BBQ and Bluegrass
June 8—12	Vacation Bible School
June 21	Blessing of the Bikes and their Riders
June 21—26	16 Zion Kids to Sky Ranch
July 5	Library Summer Reading Contest #2 Start
July 15—19	Youth Gathering in Detroit
July 19	Semiannual Meeting
July 26	Faith Day at the Rockies
August 2	Generosity Picnic; Pancoasts Return!
August 2—7	13 Zion Kids to Sky Ranch