



Eye on Zion

A Quarterly Newsletter for the People of Zion Lutheran Church

August-September-October
2015

STAFF

Pastors

Pastor Joel Pancoast

Pastor Sonja Pancoast

**Director of Children, Youth,
and Family Ministries**

Angie Elder

Director of Music Ministries

Adam Torres

Organist/Accompanist

Kathryn Peiffer

Bell and Chimes Director

Thomas Chen

**Building, Office, and Support
Services**

Ginger Klein

**Technology and Communications
Ministries Coordinator**

Brooke Loftus

Bookkeeper

Jessica Nutting

Childcare

Lauren Albin

Rae Bowker

Gabrielle Ligotke

Custodian

Ronda Buck

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Parish Nurses

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Glenn Schreiner

Reflections on Sabbatical

“Loving and Growing into the Future Together”

Pastor Joel and Pastor Sonja Pancoast

In the last newsletter, Pastor Joel wrote the following about how the idea of sabbatical developed through the Old Testament.

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.

This ideal of higher pursuits and living into God’s promise led us toward a sabbatical through May, June, and July, and specifically to

the way we chose to use that sabbatical time. We did not see that time as ours alone, but as a time that we invited the congregation to also participate in, to focus on God’s direction for us as a community of faith.

Based on information from twelve conversations held throughout October 2014 with over 100 people participating, the pastors, long-range planning committee, and council discerned three strategic areas that the congregation felt we might be “growing into the future together” with God, as the theme for our sabbatical was named. Those three areas are Service, Offsite Gathering, and Relationship with God.

1. Service

We desire to seek ways to deepen our relationships with those who live in our

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Reflections on Sabbatical continued from page 1.

community. Primarily, this will happen by extending our relationships with Monroe Elementary School, but the service dream team has also been collating the many ways to serve in our community, as well as discovering ways people at Zion already serve.

2. Offsite Gathering

Based on data that shows that at least 60% of our area population does not have a faith community they call home, we are considering locations, target audiences, and formats for an offsite gathering of some kind that would share our amazing Lutheran core message of love, grace, and forgiveness with others in our local community.

3. Relationship with God

The goal is to develop a congregational initiative to help support anyone at Zion in our pursuit to read God's Word, pray, and share our faith with others.

During sabbatical, much time was spent learning more and thinking about these three areas. Between the two of us, we read many books and learned from many others. We interviewed and spent time working with other pastors who lead communities we felt we could learn from, as well as community and social service agency leaders, a teacher and a principal at Monroe Elementary School, and Loveland police officers. All through this, we continued to focus on our theme verse from Scripture, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and

with all your mind. This is the first and the greatest commandment. And the second is like it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:38-39).

We also had some surprises along the way that didn't necessarily fit into the strategic growth areas of our sabbatical, but were certainly ways that we can "grow into the future together."

With your help, we raised almost \$2,000 for the Lutheran Family Services Refugee & Asylee Program by running a half-marathon together!

While we were in Nicaragua visiting Pastor Sonja's family, we were able to travel to the little town of Somoto, in the northern region of the country, where we saw how a handful of Lutheran congregations from Northern Colorado has been serving those in need in that country for over 20 years. Our children were with us, allowing us the chance to explore the possibility of taking people of all ages back in future years to build houses, help in a childcare center for working parents, provide possible Vacation Bible School opportunities, and more. It is possible that Loveland Habitat for Humanity may be returning there with a stronger emphasis than ever before, and we just might be frontrunners in this mission opportunity!

All of those different learning opportunities sound like a lot, right? Well, we were fortunate to find many opportunities for rest, enjoyment, and renewal individually and for our entire family that we have not ordinarily taken.

Continued on page 4.

Zion's Music Ministry: A rejuvenating summer and much on the docket for fall

Adam Torres

When not one, but two pastors go on sabbatical, it is a testament to the dedication of a congregation that these past several months should pass with relative ease. On behalf of the staff at Zion, I want to thank you for continuing to allow our ministries to shine through this summer, through prayers, financial support, and participation in worship and beyond. I continue to be grateful to be a part of the Zion community as the leader of our Music Ministries.

While the summer has offered time for rejuvenation, it has not been a quiet summer for the music ministry. I would like to thank those members of Zion who have served as songleaders or offered their musical gifts in worship this summer in our outdoor services or in our indoor contemporary or traditional services.

In addition to our usual musical offerings, I am happy to bring to your attention the musical work of young adults CHLOE ALLEN and JOSH SCHAIRER. Chloe had the wonderful opportunity to attend a Lutheran Summer Music program; I'll let her give you the details [see page 23 of this newsletter], but will simply express my thanks for your support of her musical journey. Josh's quartet performed a recital at Zion in June, which was a blessing to all in attendance. Additionally, I am grateful for our special musical guest Mike Patterson who played with the Praise Band on July 11 for an unofficial "Jazzy Sunday" at the second service. Finally, I want to thank JOANNE STERKEL for leading our Patriotic Hymn Sing on the July 4 weekend between services.

As we look towards the fall, there will be one significant change to the week-to-week music ministry schedule. The Chancel Choir will be changing rehearsal times to 6.45 p.m. on Thursdays (instead of the past time of 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays). This change will facilitate many positive effects on the Chancel Choir, and I hope, for those of you for whom Wednesday has been a conflict, that you will consider joining us this fall.

The music ministry has much on the docket this fall. Milwaukee Children's Chorus Director Marco Melendez will be coming to Colorado as a guest artist to Zion where he will work with the Chancel Choir. Marco holds a sacred music degree from the prestigious Westminster Choir College and has an extensive background in working with sacred music programs. Our cantata this fall is currently scheduled to take place on November 8 and will be centered around "With Praise, In Thanksgiving." You won't want to miss the cantata, or the special additional performance that we hope to present between services—stay tuned for more details.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers in my first 3 years here at Zion. I look forward to our continued work together as we explore what it is to be "Named and Claimed" this fall, and how that affects us in ministry through our everyday lives.

Soli Deo Gloria

Reflections on Sabbatical continued from page 2.

Pastor Sonja was able to take a retreat to Sedona, Arizona, with one of her oldest, dearest friends.

Pastor Joel was able to backpack across Rocky Mountain National Park, from Grand Lake to Allenspark, with two friends he has hiked with for 20+ years.

We spent over a week on the beaches of Playa Colorado on the Pacific Ocean in Nicaragua with most of Pastor Sonja's family.

We spent another week on the beach in Galveston, Texas, with all of Pastor Joel's family to celebrate his parents' 50th anniversary.

We took a "spiritual homecoming" to Pastor Joel's childhood hometown and church, where he has not been for 25 years.

Finally, we learned how much fun it can be for our little family of four to be together in new and fun places, to explore and laugh and celebrate and relax.

There are so many things we have learned over these 3 months that it will take months to unpack it all!

Now is the time for us to unpack how and where God will lead us to "love and grow into the future together." Stay tuned for new insights and opportunities in those areas of service, offsite gathering, and relationship with God. We believe

the ways that God will lead us into the future together will be amazing, exciting, and always revealing our identity as children of God called to share God's love with others.

That would be a great way to end this reflection on our sabbatical experience, except that we would be remiss not to show our gratitude for this incredible experience.

We give thanks:

- to the long-range planning committee and council for giving leadership both in preparation and during the sabbatical
- to Pastor Joncas and Pastor Huth for facilitating the Wednesday Bible studies
- to the staff for their incredible love and support during this time
- to the entire congregation for allowing this opportunity and for being a part of the ministries of Zion in so many ways
- for the generosity team for planning a picnic for our return on August 2
- to Pastor Deb Abbott for her faithful pastoral ministry in our place
- to God for guiding us into a future together.

You did not choose me but I chose you.

—JOHN 15:16

Named and Claimed—Fall Worship Theme

Starting September 13, the focus for worship during the next 9 months at Zion will return to the Narrative Lectionary. The Narrative Lectionary follows the sweep of the entire biblical story from start to finish, starting with creation in Genesis each September, sweeping its way through the Old Testament until Christmas, then working through one of the Gospels and Acts in the spring.

The intent of the Narrative Lectionary is to help worshipers understand the story of Scripture as one and become fluent in the language of faith. Going through the Bible in order gives us a chance to put the stories in context. Our Bible stories are filled with flawed and very, well, *human* people. And yet, the theme you can't ignore when you work through these stories in order is that God never lets us down. God's covenant is renewed over and over and over again.

These are our stories—the good, the bad, and the ugly, and the good news is that God's work in the world didn't end at the end of the written Word. The stories we're living—our lives now—are part of that narrative that began generation upon generation ago. We find our story in God's story.

Our first theme this fall will be “Named and Claimed.” We learn the power of names in the first two books of the Bible, and the good news that we are named and claimed by God.

September 13—“What's in a Name?” (Genesis 2:4b-25)

Adam and Eve, man and woman, are named, and their names are more than simply personal names. Their names mark their vocation, the image of God they carry, and the deep relationship they have with God.

September 20—“His Name is Laughter” (Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7)

“Isaac,” Abraham and Sarah's son born to them in spite of their old age, means “laughter.” There is joy in God doing the impossible! Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?

September 27—“You Shall No Longer be Called Jacob, but Israel” (Genesis 32:22-30)

“Israel” means “one who wrestles with God.” What does it mean to wrestle with God? It transforms lives, even in the most difficult of relationships.

October 4—“The Unnamed Pharaoh and the Named God” (Exodus 1:1-14; 3:1-15)

The most powerful man on earth bears no name in this story, but God's name is revealed, and may reflect on our own names and identities.



Woman's Story Gathering

*A monthly gathering
where women share their*

*experiences, hopes, and spiritual journey. It
provides opportunities for prayer rituals,
reflections, storytelling, and networking.*

Sunday, August 30
1:30—3:30 p.m.

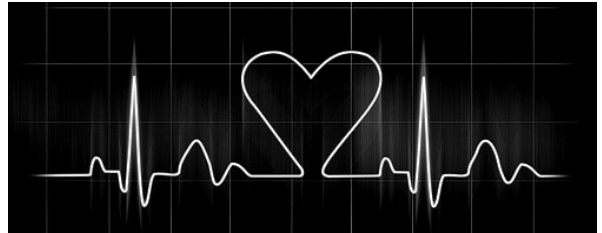
Program provided by **Emma K. Lee**
MS, MFT Inspirational Speaker and
Spiritual Director

“Go On Speaking” — Explore ways to improve
listening skills and reflect on what messages God
may wish to speak to and through us.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Ministry Center
Classrooms B & C
2650 Parish View, Mount St. Francis
Colorado Spring, Colorado

Free Will Offering

Contact KATHY LOKEN by August 20 to carpool.
kloken@comcast.net
Sign up on the bulletin board



Take a Class—Save a Life!

Vicki Johnson, Parish Nurse

CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) training is not
always on the top of our “Things to Do” list, but it is
something that is vital.

Are you prepared to save a life?

On Saturday, August 29, at 8:30 a.m., Zion’s parish
nurses are offering hands-on training in CPR and
AED (automated external defibrillator) use taught by
certified instructors. Certification cards will be issued
upon completion of this 4-hour class.

This training is being offered at the reasonable price
of \$25, with Thrivent giving financial support.

All mobility abilities can do this, no excuses!

The last day to sign up is Monday, August 17.

Sign up in the church office or contact me at
970-227-1830 or vickij55@aol.com.

Generosity Team Dates for your Calendar

Don Roney

September 20, September 27, October 4—Hear Zion members share their faith stories and why it’s
important to give back to God as we love and grow into the future together.

October 11—Consecration Sunday when during each service, we will commit to God an estimate of annual
giving followed by a “Burrito Fiesta” meal.

Zion's Newest Members joined on April 26, 2015

KAITLYN BALDRIGE

Kaitlyn came to us after spending a year in the ELCA Young Adult in Global Mission in BeitJala, Palestine. While here, she worked at Longmont United Hospital. In July she returned to Jerusalem to work as a Program Assistant Intern at the Jerusalem Campus of Lutheran World Federation. While she is overseas, we keep Kaitlyn in our prayers. She can be reached by email at baldrigek@gmail.com.

DON and KATE BARNES

Don and Kate came to Zion from Peace Lutheran in Sterling, Colorado. Don is a construction manager with Lutheran Family Services and enjoys woodworking and gardening. Kate enjoys sewing and spending time with their grandkids. They feel Zion has been open and supportive as they were brought into choir and involved in other activities. Their address is 305 West 12th Street, 80537, here in Loveland. Their telephone number is 970-580-3436. Email address is Barnes828@msn.com.

CODY, JENNIFER, ALEXANDRIA, and ELLIE MAE KALOUS

Cody and Jenny came to us from Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Fort Collins. They have

two children, Alexandria (2 ½ years) and Ellie Mae who was born on May 8, 2015. They live at 905 Cliffrose Way in Severance, CO, 80550, and have cell phones (Cody) 970-219-0057 and (Jenny) 719-650-5860. Cody grew up at Zion and they are returning to us and looking forward to other young families and good youth programs for their children. Jenny owns her own business, The Pink Moose, and Cody is an Operations Manager at Agfinity. They have felt support from Zion as they add a new daughter to their family and get to know others here.

CLAES THEODOR and FLOELLA MAE GUSTAFSON

Gus and Flo came to us from Advent Lutheran in Morgan Hill, California, and are also known as the parents of Judy Gustafson-Geiss. They reside at 1125 English Oak Court here in Loveland, and may be reached at 970-593-9436. Email address is gusnflo@mac.com. They are both retired and enjoy playing golf and spending time with grandchildren (especially their granddaughter, Beilynn, a middle-schooler here at Zion). They look forward to getting to know more people here at Zion.

Service Dream Team Update

Thanks to everyone who completed a volunteer questionnaire in May. The data is being compiled by the service dream team and will be available as a resource for those wanting information about volunteer opportunities and as a means to better recognize and honor our congregational members who serve in our community. Additionally, a booklet will be developed identifying volunteer opportunities unique to Zion. Work on these projects will extend well into the fall.

Summerfest Sunday, August 23

Come join in a time of fellowship and fun on Sunday, August 23, from 5:30 p.m.–8:00 p.m. at Winona Pool.

Bring a sack dinner, your swimsuit, and a towel. Ice cream will be provided.

ALL ages are welcome and you DO NOT have to swim!

Contact ANGIE ELDER with any questions.

Upcoming Stephen Ministry Training

Brent Anderson

Zion Lutheran will be training another class of Stephen Ministers this fall.

We have a terrific bunch of individuals committed to participate. They include: KATHY ANDERSON, DON BARNES, BOB MAJESKI, WILL REENTS, CHARLOTTE SCHMIDT, and PAM STEVENS.

As you may know, Stephen Ministers work alongside our pastors to care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are going through a difficult time, such as



divorce, grief, hospitalization, unemployment, terminal illness, relocation, chronic illness, or loneliness. If you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening, please consider becoming part of this exciting ministry—there's still room for a few more in the fall class.

If interested, please contact one of the Stephen Ministry Leaders listed below for more information.

BRENT ANDERSON
CHERYL GILLPATRICK
GINGER KLEIN
JAYE LUJAN

Naming Daughters *by Brooke Loftus*

Naming my first daughter, I worried that somehow I would give her the WRONG name. I wanted the name to have a significant meaning and be as beautiful as the newborn I held in my arms. It also had to be one her father and I could agree on. We spent days looking through lists, and marking names we liked. I would hold our daughter and call her by each name. I was surprised when names I thought fitting really weren't when compared with others. I put off the decision as long as I could, agonizing that somehow I would fail as her mother if I were to give her a name that didn't fit her personality or a name she would grow to hate. Other factors also concerned me. What would other people think of her name? How would my name choice for her reflect on me? Again, what if I gave her the wrong name? People kept asking if we had a name for our baby yet. At a week old, we finally settled on her name, Leilani Hana-Marie McKee. My mom's response will forever stick in my head, "That's such a long name for such a tiny little baby. But I suppose she will grow into it."

Leilani means "heavenly flower" or "royal child" depending on the translation, and it is a popular Hawaiian name. Hawaii runs through my blood, or at least it feels like it, even though I grew up in Colorado, and spent what time I did in Hawaii mostly as a tourist. I have no family there. And yet, I couldn't shake this deep desire to manifest the islands in my life. The name also seems to fit her, thankfully, after all the anxiety we experienced attempting to come up with that one perfect name.

Nearly 10 years later, naming my second daughter was so different. Leilani was writing a story where the main character, modeled after herself, had a little sister, 8-10 years younger, named Emmalia. Leilani was

Named and Claimed –

Families at Zion have interesting and varied criteria for the naming and claiming of their children

For example –

CHARLOTTE SCHMIDT who was named after her mother, which was unusual back in those “old” days. She also has a cousin named Charlotte as well as an aunt. When she was little, Charlotte had a German nickname (Lutechen), which was German for Charlotte.

SUSAN and DAVID SAMUELS had a combination of criteria for naming. Susan was named by her mother just because she “liked the name of Susan.” When Susan and David named their children, they liked biblical names, but also liked when the names were grandparents from either side. Hence, Nathan Benjamin (from grandparents on both sides) and Luke David (from his father, David). Their daughter, Rachel, was obviously, a strong biblical choice and their youngest child, Joshua Adam, was actually named by his two older brothers.

One of our newest families, WILL and ROCILLE LINCE, have an additional twist for us in the naming and claiming information, as they are expecting their new daughter in September/October. Rocille was named after her parents (a combination of Rolando and Cecilia). When selecting names for this new baby, they started with names that they liked the sound of, and then moved on deeper into the meanings. At this time, they are “leaning” toward the name Danica. This is a name from Slavic mythology and actually means Day Star, who was the younger sister of the Sun. She would arise early each morning to open the gates to release the Sun so that he could move across the sky and then be there to close the gates after the Sun returned in the evening. Danica was also known as a Goddess and Protector. It seems this may be a lot for a little baby to live up to.

Naming Daughters continued from page 8.

convinced she had made it up all by herself. I remember reflecting on Leilani’s story and how interesting it was that she had created this family group, giving herself a younger sister. Less than 2 weeks later, when I learned that I was expecting, Leilani immediately asked, “If it’s a girl, can we name her Emmalia?” I would say, “We’ll see,” knowing full well that any name would have to wait for the “test” of does it actually match the child. Again, I scanned name sites to have alternatives, in case Leilani’s choice didn’t work with this new child, although I would find myself referring to her as Emmalia constantly despite myself. The name needs to fit the child, I would remind Leilani. The day I met Emmalia for the first time, I quietly tried out her name. I was pretty sure it fit. Nothing else seemed to. This time, as unsure as I felt about the enormous responsibility of naming a human being, her name was clear. She left the hospital officially Emmalia Jean Loftus.

Emmalia is a combination of “Emma” and “Lia.” Emma means “universal, entire, whole, complete.” Lia means “weary, bringer of good news.” It certainly fits her. She’s been talking since the moment she could breathe with small little noises and grunts. This time, instead of so much anxiety about the right name, I felt more relaxed. Her sister had given her a name. It would forever be a gift that Leilani and I had given to this new family member.

Among Members and Friends

For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, "Do not fear, I will help you."

—ISAIAH 41:13

At Rest in Our Father's House

Shirley Campbell, sister of Debby Doremus, died on May 31, and her funeral was held at Zion on June 13.

Judy Bilstad, mother of Rick and Sandy Bilstad, died on July 14, and her funeral was held at Zion on July 20.

Prayers of Thanksgiving

For the birth of EllieMae Brynn Kalous, born to Cody and Jenny Kalous on May 8.

For the birth of Quinn Douglas, born to Laura and Addison Hart and grandparents Elaine and Dave Hart on June 2.

We rejoice with Pastor Lisa Burbank, wife of Bruce Burbank, who was installed on July 12 at St. John, Massbach, Illinois; St. Paul, Hanover, Illinois; and Trinity, Derinda, Illinois.

We rejoice with Dallas Hansen who celebrated his 90th birthday on July 22.

We rejoice with Adeline Hines who celebrated her 95th birthday on July 19.

We Keep in Prayer

Irene and Milt Blehm who were both hospitalized and have moved to Fairacres.

Brooks Hart, Elaine and Dave Hart's grandson, undergoing chemo for Stage 3 Wilms.

Blanca Lujan at the death of her great-grandmother.

Don and Carolyn Fenske at the death of Don's brother, Ervin.

Georgia Buehler at the death of her father, Harold Jennings.

Elaine Devenney at the death of her son, Alan.

Walt and Carolyn Smela at the death of Walt's brother, Sydney.

Del and Naomi Milbrath at the death of Del's sister, Vi Mueller.

Pam Stevens at the death of her uncle, Armand Marchionna.

Dwayne Prazan at the death of Dwayne's father, Elden.

Debbie Joncas at the death of her sister, Diane.

Phyllis Zimmerman at the death of her sister Arlene's husband, Bob.

Special thanks to Jim Rosentreter for making the Boy Scouts and the Volunteer bulletin boards.

Congratulations to Jean and Jim Vosberg, winners of the 2014/2015 Pinochle Marathon.

Among Members and Friends

Dear Prayer Shawl Ministry Team,

Our family would like to thank you for the many shawls provided to our family at the passing of our mother, grandmother, and aunt. The shawls provided some soft comfort at our time of loss.

The Family of Ione Franzen

To Our Zion Family,

We would like to thank you for your prayers, cards, food, and memorial gifts at the passing of my mother, Ione Franzen. Thank you Pastors Sonja and Joel for all the visits, prayers, and support during Mom's final days. Zion is a wonderful church family with such caring hearts.

God Bless You,

John and Rhonda McCaughey

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, and support during my surgery and recovery. With God's healing power, I am doing well.

Rhonda McCaughey

Thank You Letters to Zion

- May 13, 2015—From Loveland Habitat for Humanity for a donation of \$1,626.
- May 27, 2015—From Loveland Habitat for Humanity for a donation of \$2,282.26.
- June 8, 2015—From Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp 50th Anniversary Special Appeal for a gift of \$529.42.
- June 22, 2015—From Loveland's Community Kitchen for Zion's continued support.
- July 7, 2015—From Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp for a gift of \$525.
- July 14, 2015—From Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at the University of Northern Colorado for a donation of \$125.

New Address for Mary Jane Clark

Heritage Club, Brookdale Greenwood Village
6450 South Boston Street
Greenwood Village, CO 80111



New Apartment Number for Evelyn Haber

805 Compassion Drive
Apartment 106
Windsor, CO 80550



Thank you, Pastor Joncas, for your enlightening and inspirational leadership and wisdom during Wednesday morning Bible study while Pastors Pancoast were on sabbatical. You challenged us to study with purpose, reflection, and intensity as we compared different biblical translations and scripture passages related to the day's study plus other materials you'd found relevant. So, too, we appreciated your humor.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Group

Sky Ranch Summer Camp

THANK YOU, Zion, for your generosity and support of the youth attending Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp. Zion was able to offer over \$2,500 in scholarships allowing every child who wanted to attend camp able to experience Christ on the mountaintop! THANK YOU!



**Confirmation Intensive Camp at Sky Ranch
June 21—26**



**Round-Up and Homesteader Camp at Sky Ranch
August 2—7**

Our building has been well-taken care of this summer, and I especially want to thank those who have done some of the “hard stuff.”

Ginger Klein

DON FENSKE, MARTY SCHULTZ, and JIM VOSBERG have been persistent in attacking the weeds and mowing along the boundaries of the parking lot.

MARTY and CAROLYN SCHULTZ and RONDA BUCK spent lots of time at the beginning of the summer to see that our barrels were full of the smiling faces of the pansies to greet us as we came to worship.

MIKE and TERI SLOAN spent time power-washing the exterior of the building to remove the ever-present bugs and webs that are always attracted here.

VIRGINIA HORST and HER FAMILY are ever-vigilant about the planting and maintenance of the areas around the water feature in memory of Bob.

Another thing you may not be aware of is that KEVIN HORST and HIS FAMILY continue to provide the mowing, spraying, and maintenance of the sprinkler system as a part of their memorial of Bob.

This is done year after year and we come to take it for granted, but we want to thank these families for their stewardship of our property.

From My Perspective

Named and Claimed

Emma Blundell, Youth

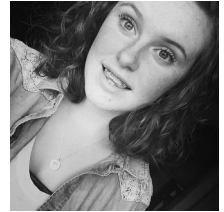
As Christians, our Baptism is the symbol of our new life with Christ. We are named as Children of God and claimed as Christians. Then as we grow up and receive our First Communion we are named again, as older, more mature, and free-thinking Christians. We feel a closer connection to Jesus as we take the Meal in remembrance of Him, yet again claimed by Jesus. We are claimed every time we take communion. We are claimed because we are remembering all God and Jesus sacrificed and how Jesus loved us so much he died for our sins. Then another couple of years pass, and we begin Confirmation. We learn about what it means to be named as a Christian. We dive deeper into subjects, and come up with our own ideas about being a Christian. Then as we get confirmed, we are claimed as official members of the church. We are named again as Children of God. We are claimed as Christians. Our Confirmation is an affirmation of our Baptism. It reminds us of the simplicity of being a loved child of God, but the Confirmation brings us into a new life under Christ and members of the church.

But this is where there becomes a gray area for me. If we are named and claimed through Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation, then what about the people that don't claim themselves as Christians. I have always been taught that God loves everyone: no matter if you are a Christian or not, sinner, or non-believer. God claims everyone as a loved child of God. Although not everyone knows of his loving,

graceful, and merciful presence, He still loves you more than you can imagine. He claims and names everyone. He doesn't love anyone more than anyone else. God has no favorites. Being a Christians doesn't mean God loves you more. Just because you have been

Baptized or Confirmed doesn't mean God only loves those who are. His love is abundant and shows no boundaries. We claim God, and God claims us.

This July, the Zion high-school youth, adult sponsors, and I traveled to Detroit for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. On behalf of everyone from Zion who went to Detroit, we would like to thank everyone who made it possible for us to go and experience God's love on a whole new level—along with 30,000 of our Lutheran best friends. We listened to and experienced so many wonderful speakers. One of my favorites was Pastor Steve Jerbi. He preached about claiming Jesus. He said, "We claim Jesus because there is power in the name Jesus." Jesus claims us, and we claim



Emma Blundell

We claim God and God claims us.

Continued on page 14.

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."

Named and Claimed by Emma Blundell continued from page 13.

him. While in Detroit, not everyone in the city was a Christian. We took over the city, caused traffic jams, and added 30,000+ people to their city for a week. Everyone we met and talked to were so kind. I saw God in the people of Detroit. He claimed each and every one of them, even if they didn't know about God's love for them. God's compassion shown brightly through each person. They thanked us for everything we were doing for their city.

God claims us and we are named as beloved children of God, no matter where we have been and what we have done. In return, we claim Jesus and name him as the Messiah, Savior, Redeemer, and our friend each and every day. They will love us and have faith in us through eternity.

Scholarship Recipients

We congratulate the 2015-2016 scholarship recipients of the Zion Endowment Scholarship Fund.

Therp Scholarship:

JOEL SCHREINER, Colorado State University —\$1,000

Petersen Scholarship:

LAURA DIMMITT, University of Northern Colorado—\$3,000

JOEL SCHREINER, Colorado State University—\$1,000

**Bella Notte
is changing
seasons!**

bella
notte

Mark your
calendars.

Sunday, November 8

Join the youth of Zion for a beautiful
night of food and fellowship.



**A giant
EVEREST
size
"Thank You"
to all the
volunteers
who made
this year's
Vacation
Bible School
a huge
success!**

Faith Formation Milestones

Angie Elder

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 23

All children and adults returning to school this fall are encouraged to bring their backpacks for a special blessing during either worship service. All students, educators, and school workers will receive a blessing as they begin the new school year, trusting in the promise that no matter where we are, we are “named and claimed” as God’s children.

Entry into Sunday School

Sunday, September 13

Join us in worship as we bless the children who will begin preschool Sunday school this year. These children were claimed by God as his children in their baptisms and they will continue to grow and learn about what it means to be a child of God through the faith formation programs at Zion.

First Bibles

Sunday September 27

As we continue to live out our lives as named and claimed children of God, Zion presents Bibles to those students entering 3rd grade and those entering the confirmation program. There will be an informational class for 3rd grade students and their parents (or another caring adult) on Sunday, September 20, from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. with lunch provided. Please

RSVP to Angie if you will be attending. Bibles will be presented to the students during both services on Sunday, September 27.

Confirmation Kick-Off

Sunday September 13

12:00 Noon — 2:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Students entering grades 6th through 8th and their parents are invited to the confirmation kick-off event. Lunch will be provided and the confirmation program will be explained in detail for the coming year. Can’t wait to see you!

Affirmation of Baptism

Sunday, October 25

10:45 a.m. Worship

The community of Zion celebrates with three students who will be confirmed on Reformation Sunday, October 25. These students have been studying for the past 3 years and are ready to affirm their baptism as they continue to grow as “named and claimed” children of God. **They will be presenting their faith statements in worship on Sunday, October 18.** We congratulate the following on this important and blessed milestone in their faith journeys.

ASHER MEYER
RACHEL SAMUELS
DANNY TURNER



Faith Formation 2015—2016

Angie Elder

We at Zion are all “named and claimed” as children of God, and every time a child is baptized at Zion, we as a community make promises to support and pray for that child in its new life in Christ. If you are interested in helping the children of Zion grow in their faith through the faith formation programs at Zion, please contact ANGIE ELDER. There are many ways to be involved!

Rally Day — Sunday, August 30, between Services

Zion will kick off the 2015-2016 Faith Formation year with Rally Day on Sunday, August 30, between services. Faith Formation (formerly known as Sunday School) is an amazing opportunity for **ALL AGES** to study God’s word and carry it into our daily lives at home, school, work, and play. Be sure to stop by the Rally Day table. All ages (preschool through high school) need to register.

Faith Formation classes will begin on Sunday, September 13, at 9:40 a.m.

Preschool

Our youngest learners will be following a narrative lectionary-based curriculum and will continue to meet in the Thompson Valley Preschool building for arts and crafts, Bible stories, and fellowship led by MISS MEG.

Kindergarten—5th Grade

On the first Sunday of the month, students AND parents, grandparents, or faith parents will meet together in the fellowship hall to learn the month’s Bible story through the FAITH5. The remaining three Sundays of the month will follow the rotation-style format utilizing movies, arts and crafts, drama, games, science, and cooking to teach the monthly Bible story.

Middle School (6th through 8th Grade)

Zion’s middle-school students will meet weekly and follow a curriculum that will allow them to study the entire Bible this year. In addition, confirmation classes will be held twice a month (after worship) with this year’s focus being “The Bible.”

High School (9th through 12th Grade)

Zion’s high-school students will meet weekly to participate in conversations and activities that will help them to live out their calling as “named and claimed” children of God. This will be done in a variety of ways through videos, small group discussions, and interactive activities.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

—DEUTERONOMY 6:5-7

ELCA National Youth Gathering

July 14—19, 2015

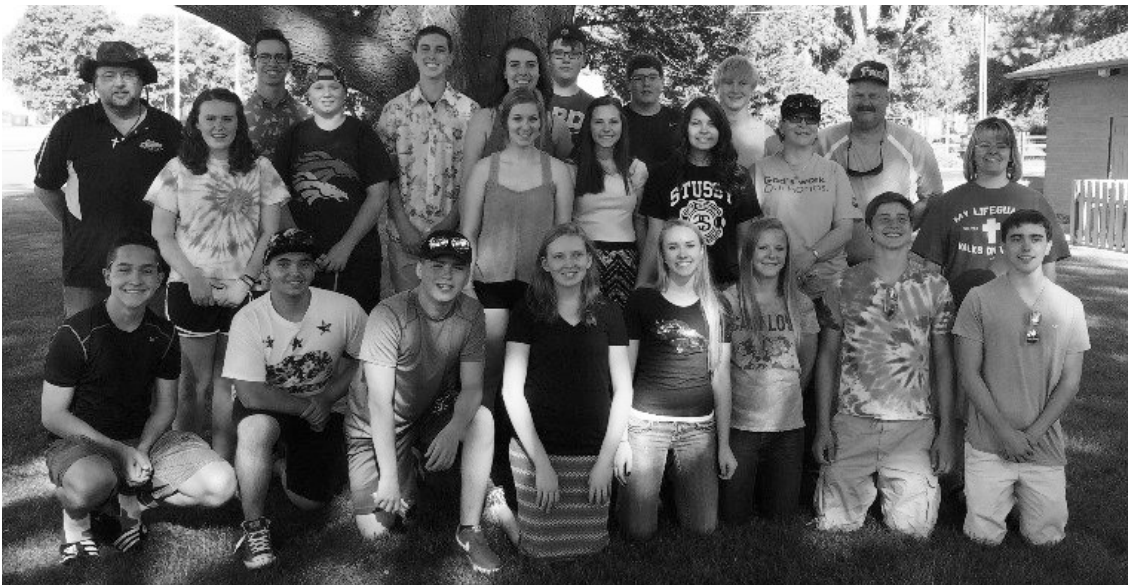
The 2015 ELCA National Youth Gathering, a unique community by size (30,000+ people) and scope, exists to accompany young people in their faith journey, to claim their baptismal identity, and articulate their faith in Jesus Christ.



Nineteen youth and four adults from Zion traveled to Detroit, Michigan, to participate in the 2015 ELCA National Youth Gathering. We participated in three themed days:

1. Proclaim Story—a day spent with other youth and adults from our synod learning together how we are each a special and unique part of God's story.
2. Proclaim Community—a fun and exciting day engaging in each other's stories with fellowship and interactive learning experiences.
3. Proclaim Justice—a day of service living boldly in the face of injustice, crisis, and suffering in Detroit.

THANK YOU to Zion for your financial support and prayers that made our participation in this event possible. We couldn't have done it without you! We share some of our pictures and stories here.



BACK ROW (L TO R): GREG SHAIRER, ADAM MAI, PRESTON GREEN, EMILEE MAI, JACOB NORTON, RYAN PRAZAN, MICHAEL TEESDALE, BOB MAJESKI.

MIDDLE ROW (L TO R): EMMA BLUNDELL, JONNY NORTON, HANNAH TATE, EMILEE CHRISTENSEN, LIZA ARZUOLAITIS, JENNIFER BARELA, ANGIE ELDER.

FRONT ROW (L TO R): ZEPHANIAH BARELA, ALEC REENTS, BRANDON LOWE, LILY PATRICK, KAYCEE BUCK, DANAE BURSETH, SCOTT TEESDALE, TYLER GREEN.



“The thing I will remember most about this trip are the faces of the homeless people I saw. They saw us and they were inspired to see that 30,000 kids were there to help them and their city. Another thing that changed me was a guy named Mike John (pictured with me). What seemed to be another old drunken homeless man, came up to me and my friend and spoke words I will never forget. I also met a homeless man named Benny who would walk all over town and dance. I will remember them forever.”

—SCOTT TEESDALE (pictured on the left)



“Something cool that happened this week was when 5 of the 9 girls cut their hair for the Children With Hair Loss Foundation. It was cool because everyone was so supportive of each other.”

- LILY PATRICK (pictured on the far right)

“I, as a teenage girl, am very focused on my appearance and self-image. I feel that this draws me away from focusing on God’s path for me. My hair is the biggest source of my vanity. I decided this week to donate my hair to those who don’t have that gift. I’m so proud to have put aside my ‘image’ and put others first.”

- HANNAH TATE

NOTE: At the youth gathering, 650 people donated at least 8 inches of their hair to the Children With Hair Loss Foundation!



*“If you want to
go fast,
go alone.
If you want to
go further,
go together!”*

—ANONYMOUS

“A few things stick out for me about this trip: the 30,000+ people meeting together at Ford Field with all the speakers, comradery of the group, and experiencing Detroit. The quote I will remember is that ‘God does not see us as the same, but each of us is unique, beautiful, and special in his eyes.’ ”

—BOB MAJESKI (pictured on the right)



“I think it was really cool that a bunch of us guys got stuck in an elevator together and even though some of us fight a lot, we came together and even did devotions as a group—without any adults.”

—TYLER GREEN



“I will always remember the compassion, kindness, charitable and polite attitudes everyone (citizens and youth) had in Detroit—also the energy and positive attitudes everyone upheld.”

—EMMA BLUNDELL



607 pints or 78.8 gallons of blood were donated to the Red Cross throughout the week by Gathering participants, including: ALEC REENTS, ADAM MAI, TYLER GREEN, ANGIE ELDER and EMILEE CHRISTENSEN! The youth were all FIRST TIME DONORS! Way to go!

**Our service project was cleaning up vacant lots of debris
and redefining the curb space and sidewalks.**





***"The thing I'll remember is our service project. This has changed my life by making me realize how lucky I am to be me and have a roof over my head and good parents."**—ALEC REENTS*

***Making new friends:**
EMILEE and CHANIYAH*



Serving Our Community Opportunities at Monroe

John Sterner and Angie Elder

Last year the members of Zion, through the Cottage Group meetings, identified serving our community as a top priority. A Service Dream Team was formed and identified expanding our support to our community neighbor, Monroe Elementary, as our first initiative in this area. Members of the team met with the staff at Monroe in May to discuss areas where we could provide help and we have just received a letter from Monroe with a long list of areas where they think members of Zion could assist them in this coming school year.

As we live as “named and claimed” children of God, we are called to serve all people following the example of Jesus. We have been blessed with a wonderful relationship with the faculty, staff, students, and families of Monroe. Please prayerfully consider how God may be calling you to serve in this outreach ministry. For more information or to volunteer, talk to ANGIE ELDER.

Here is Monroe’s list and hopefully every member of Zion can find an item that fits their talents.

Zion Outreach Opportunities at Monroe

- August 13 Zion volunteers to join the Student Achievement Committee (SAC) 5:00-6:00 p.m. and monthly throughout the school year.
- August 14 Assist teachers prepare materials for the start of the school year (afternoon times).
- August 19 Zion volunteers help serve root beer floats during a Title I meeting 6:00-7:30 p.m. (or come if you want to learn more about Title I).
- August 20 Create canvas art backed with egg foam (baffles) to reduce the noise level in the cafeteria 11:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Each grade level (13 total) would paint a canvas approximately 11x14 inches in size. Also looking for Zion to provide the canvas, if possible.
- August 21 Zion volunteers to be part of a “fun activities” day 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The 2.5 hours would be similar to a Fun and Fitness Day or Field Day with indoor and outdoor activities.
- September 3 Zion to assemble (that afternoon) and distribute 250 sack suppers 5:00-6:00 p.m. for Monroe’s Back-to-School night.
- October 23 Zion to provide dinner for Monroe teachers during parent/teacher conferences. Suggested dinner would be a potato or soup bar.
- March 3 Zion to provide dinner for Monroe teachers during parent/teacher conferences. Suggested dinner would be a potato or soup bar.
- May Zion volunteers attend and assist Monroe Field Day.

Continued on page 23.

An Unforgettable Experience

Chloe K. Allen

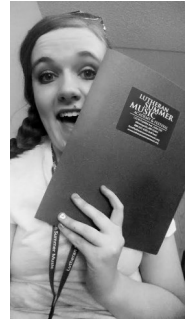
My month-long Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) experience was an unforgettable one. From the late-night sleepovers to the amazing opportunities for directing in front of large ensembles, it not only helped me develop as a musician but also as a person. It helped me to realize limits and be able to better understand who I truly am. But I think the most interesting thing that I discovered was the sense of community that developed in just 4 short weeks.

The way that every person stood up for one another and lifted each other up through every trial big or small was second to none. In the beginning, it was hard to imagine living with all of these people whom I did not know for an entire month. But now looking back I realize that one of the hardest challenges is going to be learning to live WITHOUT these people in my life. Sure the original goal that I had for myself

before attending LSM was to better myself as a musician, but I gained so much more than that. I gained communication skills, empathy for others, compassion, the ability to laugh at any situation, (including myself at times), and the self-confidence in my abilities as a musician and a person. I learned that it's okay to have an "off" day where things may not be going the way you planned and you may have to adjust your schedule on the spot. So, yes, overall my LSM experience helped me to grow as a musician but also to realize my strengths and weaknesses in order to grow and improve.

Thank you for your financial and moral support throughout this journey.

"Music can change the world because it can change people." —BONO



Zion Outreach Opportunities at Monroe continued from page 22.

Other Outreach Opportunities at Monroe

- Adopt families to help counsel them with life skills. The Monroe principal would provide information about the families to Zion.
- Help in the copy room.
- Help with lunch duties and on the playground.
- Conduct after-school clubs, for example, cooking, board games, sports, art, running. The clubs could be held at Monroe or at Zion.
- Save box tops.
- Participate in Monroe Family Nights/Showcases.

Seasonal Opportunities, as in years past, will include:

October	Coat Drive. Monroe will provide the sizes and gender of coats needed.
November	Food Baskets for 25 families.
December	Mittens/Caps/Scarves/Boot drive.



**GOD'S
WORK.
OUR
HANDS.**

Saturday, September 19

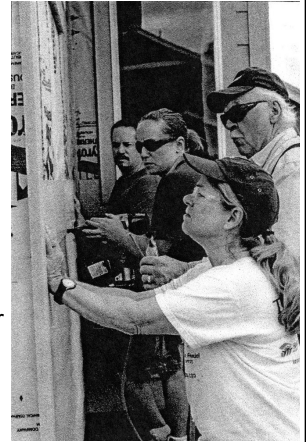
Zion volunteers will be participating with other Loveland ELCA church volunteers in a local initiative "Paint Our Town" on Saturday, September 19. The mission of Paint Our Town is to change lives, one house at a time. Local service clubs, churches, businesses, and volunteers give of their time, treasure, and talent to benefit needy homeowners in the Loveland community by painting the exterior of their houses. Since 2012, thirty houses have been painted without cost to the homeowners. All of the financial, material, and manpower resources for Paint Our Town are donated. The goal for 2015 is to paint 15 houses on Saturday, September 19. You must be 15 years old to participate and sign-ups will begin soon.

NOTE: We are working on a service component for children under the age of 15 to be held that day. Watch the bulletin for more details!

Calling All Volunteers

"We're Loveland Habitat for Humanity and we work with volunteers to build decent, affordable housing in Loveland. We plan to build 8 homes this year but need volunteers to make it happen. Are you interested?"

- It's easy and a great way to give back to our community.
- Meet new friends and learn valuable skills.
- Make a difference in the lives of deserving families.
- Provide a nurturing and better future for their children.
- Volunteer as often as you like.



To volunteer for construction, call Kristy at 970-669-9769. Or talk to either Zion's JIM VOSBERG who is a dedicated Habitat volunteer or BILL MCCANN, Zion's Thrivent Builds champion.



Habitat for Humanity is a registered trademark of Habitat for Humanity International, Inc., Americus, GA 31709.

The Zion Quilt Ti-ers resume in September

Susan Osborn

After their summer break, the quilt ti-ers will resume tying in September. And they need your donations of cotton fabric that they cut into 21-inch squares and sew into quilt tops, new or lightly used blankets or mattress pads for the warm quilt middles, and sheets for the quilt backing. They also welcome new ti-ers to join them at Zion the third Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. for about 2 hours.

News from Lutheran Campus Ministry

Pastor Deb Abbott

Did you know that you can also easily connect students you know with any Lutheran Campus Ministry in the country? Just go to www.elcacampusministry.org. This month (August) we will be welcoming back students to our campus communities in Fort Collins and Greeley!



Pastor Deb Abbott

Please help us reach out to new students attending Colorado State University (CSU), Front Range, University of Northern Colorado (UNC), or Aims by sending their names and contact information to us so that we can invite them to be a part of Lutheran Campus Ministry.

For Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at UNC, contact Pastor Deb Abbott at lcm.unco@gmail.com. For Lutheran Campus Ministry at CSU, contact Interim Pastor Chad Adamik at pastor@lcmcsu.org.

Eleven fall gatherings throughout the Rocky Mountain Synod invite your participation

This year's Missional Gatherings in each conference will help us explore our theme for the year, "Many Voices, One Song." The church is made of many voices, and each voice is as distinctive as the person or the community that sings it. The wonder of the project is how the voices all come together to make one song.

But really, the voices don't make the song; the song invites the voices to take up the project of making God's music. That is because the song is God's—God's love song for this world loved so deeply and always unfolding in Jesus' good news. We come together this fall to listen for the song and join our voices to the "Gospel music" God is making in the world.

The gathering for the North Colorado conference, to which Zion belongs, will be Sunday, September 27, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Fort Morgan. If you are interested in attending, talk with one of the pastors.



Sunday Stitchers

**Two Sundays a Month
9:40 a.m. — 10:30 a.m.**

A new small group is available on Sunday mornings. The Sunday Stitchers are coming together around crochet and other crafts and God's Word two Sunday mornings each month. This fall they will focus on the creation story of Genesis 1 and discuss God's creation and our creative abilities. For those who desire, you can create the fall project which is a corner-to-corner blanket or if you prefer you can create smaller squares which will be put together in larger blankets and given away.

The group will meet September 13 and 27; October 18 and 25; and November 8 and 22.

You don't need to know how to crochet. Come and learn. All are welcome. For more information, please contact AMY BRAUNER at amy.brauner@gmail.com.

We are Church: Better Together

Jessica Kuhns

Jacob and I first want to say thank you to Zion for the opportunity to represent our congregation in the 2015 Rocky Mountain Synod (RMS)

Assembly in Salt Lake City. After many years of attending youth gatherings I have a hard time remembering to call it an assembly and not a gathering as it truly was a gathering of friends new and old.

The theme this year is “We are Church: Better Together!” We found the words of Bishop Eaton, the keynote speaker, inspiring. She speaks with intelligence, wit, humor, and compassion. Her message of *Better Together* encouraged us that when Christians work together we find that we have more in common than we have differences, that our differences are what make us unique and are to be celebrated and embraced while our common work of serving God brings us together. She emphasized that the specific theology that makes us Lutheran is beautiful and is a thing to be celebrated. While we hold strongly to our identity as Lutherans we can also work with our fellow Christians with whom we have much in common, especially the call to share the love of Christ with the world through acts of service. Catholics, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Methodists, and even Mormons were represented at the assembly and spoke to this same message.

The assembly voted on three resolutions, and all three passed. The first was Addressing Mental Health and Wellness, which created a task force to increase awareness of mental health needs in our church and communities. The second was

Making US Aid to the State of Israel Contingent on Halting Settlement Construction. This resolution produced the most debate, but in the end the prevailing argument against this measure was that the church should not be involved in politics. This argument was not strong because the ELCA and even our own synod is highly involved in political advocacy, speaking on behalf of those whose voice is marginalized. The RMS alone employs two full-time advocates. It was encouraging to hear how our church advocates for others; this is different from political lobbying because our advocates do not seek to better the position of our church but to help others. The third resolution followed this exact theme: Called to Set the Captives Free: A Call to Increased Awareness and Action to Confront the Practice of Human Trafficking, which also created a task force to raise awareness for human trafficking. The hope is with awareness, future action can be taken.

Along with listening to engaging speakers and meeting with friends and making new friends, different groups from the assembly had the opportunity to take tours of Mormon sites. We went on the cemetery tour, which was truly fascinating and encouraging to see how inclusive the Mormon cemetery is with space for different faith groups, including two separate Jewish cemeteries and several paupers fields, one of which holds a notorious local Joseph Slade who built Virginia Dale.

Continued on page 27.

New Adult Bible Studies for Fall

Janie Lichtfuss

WHAT IS YOUR MISSION? Do you know?

Ray Vander Laan will transform your understanding of God and His challenge to us as believers. God gave an assignment to His people thousands of years ago: Bring “lost sheep” back into the love and safety of His kingdom. It is still our task today. In this 13th volume of **That the World May Know**, you will glimpse the urgency and rewards of welcoming the strangers and prodigals the Lord longs to embrace.

Join the class that meets each Sunday at 9:40 a.m. and discover the mission that can give your life—and the lives of those around you—greater meaning that you even imagined.

The class is 5 weeks long and will begin September 13. Cost: \$10.00.

THE REST OF THE STORY

This study takes a closer look at “familiar” passages to see what they meant to those who first heard them. Then, we can see what they mean for us and reveal to us.

This study would begin October 18 and end on December 20. Cost will be about \$15.00. The class would meet each Sunday at 9:40 a.m.

[NOTE: This study is now in the planning stages. Stay tuned for details as they develop.]

Sky Ranch New Shower House Dedication

Yes, the shower house is now completed! This event has been years in the making as the old shower house was built as a temporary solution over 30 years ago. The shower house is the most-utilized building on site and we rejoice as it is replaced, preparing Sky Ranch for the next generation of ministry! We would like to invite you to the dedication of the new shower house.

Saturday, August 29

2:00 p.m.

A light lunch buffet will be served starting at noon.

Please RSVP by August 17. Call the Sky Ranch Camp office at 970-493-5258.

We are Church: Better Together continued from page 26.

Thank you again Zion for sending us to Salt Lake for an inspiring weekend with Lutherans. Even our Southwest flight felt chartered as there were so many Lutheran camp shirts and baggage tags aboard. The good news for everyone is that next year’s assembly will be in Northern Colorado, and I encourage everyone to participate as much as possible for we truly are Church: Better Together!

Zion Book Group: New Books, New Meeting Time

Scott Sprain

Inviting all readers: Zion Book Group gathers 8 months each year to discuss a wide variety of books—fiction and nonfiction—selected by group members. Anyone can join one or several or all of the monthly discussions.

Because of an increase in participation and need for a daytime gathering, we are trying something new, beginning this fall. There will be two sessions—one new discussion in the afternoon and one discussion in the evening as in past years. Readers can attend either gathering any month, depending on preferences and commitments. The new daytime session will meet at 1:30 p.m. at Zion. Therefore, we now have room for more readers to join us.

Zion Book Group Selections for 2015/16

September—**Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End** by Atul Gawande, 2014, 304 pages.

Best-selling author, Atul Gawande, tackles the hardest challenge of his profession: how medicine cannot only improve life but also the process of its ending. As a practicing surgeon, he addresses his profession's ultimate limitation, arguing that quality of life is the desired goal for patients and families, offering examples of freer, more socially fulfilling models for assisting the infirm and dependent elderly, and exploring the varieties of hospice care.

DAYTIME—1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at Zion.

EVENING—We meet on Thursday, September 17, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jaci Engel and Wes Melander, 4110 Bonnell Drive, Loveland, 80537.

October—**The Baker's Daughter** by Sarah McCoy, 2012, 304 pages.

This novel features Elsie Schmidt who has been protected from the worst of the terror and desperation overtaking her country in 1945 by a high-ranking Nazi who wishes to marry her. Sixty years later, in El Paso, Texas, Reba Adams is trying to file a feel-good Christmas piece for the local magazine, and she sits down with the owner of Elsie's German Bakery and encounters a story that changes the lives of both women.

DAYTIME—1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at Zion.

EVENING—We meet on Thursday, October 15, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Ruth and Scott Sprain, 5260 Crabapple Court, Loveland, 80538.

November —**Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey: the Lost Legacy of Highclere Castle** by the Countess of Carnarvon, 2011, 301 pages.

Highclere Castle is the setting for Julian Fellowes's Emmy Award-winning *Downton Abbey* and the life of one of its most famous real-life inhabitants, Lady Almina. Drawing on a rich

Zion Book Group: New Books, New Meeting Time continued from page 28

store of materials from the archives—including diaries, letters, and photographs—the current Lady Carnarvon of Highclere has told the story of Lady Almina, the daughter of a wealthy industrialist, Alfred de Rothschild, who married his daughter off at a young age, allowing her dowry to preserve the Earl of Carnarvon’s ancestral home.

DAYTIME—1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at Zion.

EVENING—We meet on Thursday, November 19, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Florence Doksansky, 3695 Leopard Street, Loveland, 80537.

[We do not meet in December.]

January—**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** by Betty Smith, 1943, 528 pages.

This beloved American classic tells a young girl’s coming-of-age story at the turn of the 20th century. At times overwhelming, sublime, heartbreaking, and uplifting, the daily experiences of the unforgettable Francie Nolan are raw with honesty and tenderly threaded with family connectedness—in a work of literary art that brilliantly captures a unique time and place as well as incredibly rich moments of universal experience.

DAYTIME—1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at Zion.

EVENING—We meet on Thursday, January 21, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Ginger Klein, 4623 Tarragon Drive, Johnstown, 80534.

February—**Candide** by Voltaire, 1759, 112 pages.

March—**Soldier Girls** by Helen Thorpe, 2014, 416 pages.

April—**Killer Angels** by Michael Shaara, 1987, 355 pages.

May—**Remarkable Creatures** by Tracy Chevalier, 2010, 320 pages.

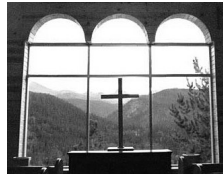
[Evening locations for February through May will be announced next January.]

Appreciation is a wonderful thing: It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well.

—VOLTAIRE

Save the Date

Women's Retreat November 13-15



Once again, Zion's women will retreat to Peaceful Valley Lodge and Guest Ranch near Lyons, Colorado, for a time of spiritual growth, relaxation, and fun. The accommodations at the ranch are hotel style with each woman having her own bed. We will carpool to Peaceful Valley late Friday afternoon in time to enjoy our evening meal together. Partial scholarships will be available.

For more information, contact one of the following.

KATHY LOKEN kloken@comcast.net
VICKI JOHNSON vickij55@aol.com
ANGIE ELDER angie@zionloveland.com

The retreat leader will be Emma K. Lee, an inspirational speaker, retreat leader, spiritual director, and marriage and family therapist.

I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly.

—JOHN 10:10



Emma K. Lee

Emma K. Lee is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who completed her undergraduate study at the University of South Dakota and received her Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from Mount Saint Mary's College in Los Angeles. Emma is licensed in both Colorado and California.

The integration of psychological and spiritual development is a special interest. Emma was on staff at a church between 1984 and 2011 in the adult education program, presenting lectures, workshops, and retreats.

Since the early centuries of Christianity, the tradition of spiritual companioning has been documented. The Spiritual Director may help a person become more aware of God's presence in everyday life, discern one's purpose in the world, and respond to God with integrity.

Ending Childhood Hunger in America

Childhood hunger has negative impact on a child's development and growth stretching all the way into adulthood.

Several of the key programs that provide nutrition for children are up for renewal in September.

Join ELCA Advocacy as this church urges Congress to renew and strengthen our nation's critical child nutrition programs.

Visit **www.ELCA.org/advocacy** today.

© Daily Bread, The Rocky Mountain Synod Hunger Network. July 2015.

An Update on Zion's Lutheran Summer Music Attendees

Gregory Schairer

CHLOE ALLEN just returned from her month-long journey to LSM and by all accounts had an AMAZING experience! The excitement of her trip exploded in her Facebook posts as well as the updates that were shared by her grandma. Please take time to check in with Chloe and find out how exciting it is to spend a month learning about music and building your faith with a gathering of musicians and leaders who are passionate about the same. It's enough to make a person forget Iowa's sweltering heat and insane humidity.

MADELYNN SCHWARTZ will be returning to CSU this fall as a sophomore and while her heavy engineering class load doesn't leave much time for classes in music she still finds time to pursue her love of music. She has been known to catch a gig or two playing the piano for Trinity Lutheran in Fort Collins during their Wednesday Taize services and they look forward to her playing again as her schedule allows.

JOSHUA SCHAIRER graduated in May from the University of Northern Colorado with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance. He will be returning to UNC as the graduate assistant to the bassoon studio while pursuing his Master's degree. He along with four other LSM alum, were invited to Atlanta to play at the Lutheran Church Worship Jubilee and Association of Lutheran Church Musicians conference. What a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and connect with the music leaders from throughout the ELCA.

Thanks again to everyone for your support of our youth's (and now young adults) attendance at LSM as well as providing opportunities for them to share their musical gifts at Zion. Your investment is priceless!

Reading Contest Winners

The two Zion Summer Reading Contests have come to a close and kids and adults had a wonderful summer of reading. You probably noticed the reading bookworm growing above the mailboxes throughout the summer. The people of Zion read over 151 books this summer! Way to go, wonderful readers!

The first reading contest was held May 31—June 28 and the winners were:

Preschool through Grade 1

1st place: ELI BRAUNER (\$20 Barnes and Noble gift card and drawstring backpack)

2nd place: EMILEE OLINGER (booklight and drawstring backpack)

Grades 2 through 5

1st place: ANNABELLE ARZUOLAITIS (\$20 Barnes and Noble gift card and drawstring backpack)

2nd place: RYLEE OLINGER (booklight and drawstring backpack)

The second reading contest was held July 5—August 2 and the winners were:

Preschool through Grade 1

1st place: ELI BRAUNER (\$20 Barnes and Noble gift card and drawstring backpack)

Grades 2 through 5

1st place: PAYTON CHAVEZ (\$20 Barnes and Noble gift card and drawstring backpack)

2nd place: ANNABELLE ARZUOLAITIS (booklight and drawstring backpack)

3rd place: PRESLEE CHAVEZ (booklight and drawstring backpack)

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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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Join Us in Worship

**Fall Worship Hours Start
September 6**

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship

10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship

On the 3rd Sunday of each month,

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 8/15

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

August 23	Blessing of the Backpacks
August 23	Summerfest
August 29	CPR and AED Training
August 29	Sky Ranch New Shower House Dedication
August 30	Rally Day
September 13	Confirmation Kick-Off; Entry into Sunday School
September 13	What's Your Mission Adult Bible Study with Janie Lichtfuss
September 13	Sunday Stitchers Small Group
September 17	Zion Book Group
September 19	God's Work. Our Hands. Paint our Town
Sept. 20, 27, Oct 4	Zion Member Faith Stories
September 27	First Bibles
September 27	North Colorado Conference Missional Gathering
October 11	Consecration Sunday / "Burrito Fiesta"
October 15	Zion Book Group
October 18	Confirmation Class Faith Statements
October 18	The Rest of the Story Adult Bible Study with Janie Lichtfuss
October 25	Confirmation / Reformation Sunday
November 8	Cantata
November 8	Bella Notte
November 13-15	Women's Retreat