



# **Eye on Zion**

**A Quarterly Newsletter for the People of Zion Lutheran Church**

**November-December-January  
2015-2016**

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### **Pastors**

Pastor Joel Pancoast

Pastor Sonja Pancoast

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

Angie Elder

**Director of Music Ministry**

Adam Torres

**Organist/Accompanist**

Kathryn Peiffer

**Bell and Chimes Director**

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**Building, Office, and Support  
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**Ministries Coordinator**

Brooke Loftus

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## **Now and Not Yet**

*Pastor Joel Pancoast*

“Now and not yet” is shorthand for the between-the-times experience of the Christian life. On the one hand, we live in God’s kingdom “now,” already brought by Jesus Christ. On the other hand, the perfect kingdom toward which Jesus pointed has “not yet” arrived in full; it awaits his return.

As Christians, we personally experience this tension of living in the “now and not yet” of God’s kingdom. We are “now” children of God, but this is not always what we experience in our lives. We are “not yet” the people we will be, the people God intends us to be. Thankfully, the gospel “now” leads us in this tension, because God’s grace declares us whole and forgiven, and gives us absolute freedom to share that “now” with our neighbors in need.

“Now and not yet” is a perfect description of the Advent season, leading us into Christmas, and in many ways it is a perfect description of life today in the

community of faith at Zion. As the Advent season prepares us to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we live in the “now” of Jesus’ birth. Jesus was already born for you and for me and for all the world, so that we may know God’s peace and love come in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. But we don’t need to look far to see that things are not yet right with the world. So worship in Advent is all about preparing us for the “now,” even as we are surrounded by realities of the “not yet.” I hope you will use worship in this season to center your lives, not on yet one more thing to do in an already busy season, but on the one thing that will give you eyes to see God’s kingdom already present. God stooped down and took on flesh in Jesus. Jesus is the “now”; he is the kingdom come for our experiences of “not yet,” the heartache, pain, illness, evil, and all of the dark places in the world that he calls us to shine God’s kingdom light into.

*Continued on page 2.*

*Lutheran Theology of Now and Not Yet continued from page 1.*

As many of you know already, and can read further in this newsletter, “now and not yet” in some ways also describes our communal life at Zion. We are experiencing several staff transitions, and while we meet those with sadness, we also celebrate the ministry that God has given us to share in those incredible partners in the gospel. Ginger, Brooke, and Angie have provided over 40 years of combined ministry that is irreplaceable! Nonetheless, replacement strategies are underway already, so we pray for discernment as we seek God’s direction for our shared ministry. With your patience and help, God’s ministry happens now, but we are still in transition. And we pray for the transition that Ginger, Brooke, and Angie face.

Also, since the pastors returned from sabbatical in August, the dream teams have been working with long-range planning and council to bring a plan before the congregation at the annual meeting on Sunday, January 24, that reflects a

year’s worth of preparation as we have discerned God’s dream for us as a congregation. Zion is a healthy, vibrant congregation seeking to serve our community now, but we also know that God has bigger dreams for us, and we are not yet fully what God intends as we live out the gospel.

All of our experiences, whether in our homes or workplaces or in the community, or as we prepare for Christmas, or as we look at the many changes across the face of our congregational ministry, can create anxiety and fear, but we trust in God’s care and direction for us. We live “now” as God’s children, praying for the good news of Jesus Christ to sink down to the “not yet” of our lives. We are called to be patient, waiting actively and eagerly, with trust and hope for the day when all things are made new.

Not yet. But already. Hoped for. But certain. And so we say, “Come, Lord Jesus.” Amen

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## Joint ELCA Thanksgiving Worship

**Sunday, November 22, at 7:00 p.m.**

**Trinity Lutheran Church — 3333 Duffield Avenue**

As we seek to grow deeper in our relationship with our sisters and brothers in the other ELCA congregations in Loveland, we are coming together for a joint ELCA Thanksgiving worship. This year we will join with Trinity and Mustard Seed House Churches on Sunday, November 22, for a joint worship service and pie social following worship. Pastor Andy Boesenecker from Mustard Seed House Churches will be preaching, and our pastors will be participating in worship. We are inviting people to bring pies for the pie social and stay for fellowship, so that we can grow in relationship with our fellow sisters and brothers in Christ. **King of Glory Lutheran Church will host a worship on Wednesday, November 25, at 7:00 p.m. with pie following for those who are unable to attend the Sunday evening joint service.** We invite you to take time to give thanks to God for the many blessings in your life at one of these two Thanksgiving worship opportunities.

# Now and Not Yet . . . .

*Adam Torres*

Now and Not Yet.... This theme resonates with me every time I sit down to write an article for our quarterly newsletter. “A note from the Music Director.... What should I write to encapsulate what’s happening, and what’s to come?” As I reflect on this period that begins a new chapter in our Zion faith community, I am grateful for the time and talents shared of our current staff and am optimistic at the road God has paved for us moving forward.

Our Fall has been highlighted by a professional development opportunity through special guest Marco Melendez (October 2015). Marco serves as the Artistic Director of the Milwaukee Children’s Chorus and has an impressive resume of work in the sacred musical realm. The Chancel Choir was privileged and delighted to welcome him into rehearsal and performance, and I look forward to the dividends being fully reaped (“not yet”) from the “now” work recently put in. We also had the privilege to welcome special guest Michael Schreier, piano, who led the Praise Band in early October. Michael is the current Music Director at Well of Hope Lutheran Church in Castle Pines, Colorado, and is an accomplished composer and jazz pianist.

In the spirit of the “now,” I would like to officially welcome Dave Wolfe as the newest member of the Praise Band family; Dave is a talented musician who has been playing both

drums and guitar during worship with us for some time.

In the realm of “not yet (but very soon),” I welcome you to join with us in our Fall Cantata: “The Way: A Life of Thanksgiving.” Both services will be modeled the same in structure, but each will be tailored to the respective Traditional and Contemporary experiences that are a part of our aesthetics of worship. While each service’s music will be different, I am excited for the end product of each, and I look forward to seeing you all in worship on November 8. [For more information about the cantata, go to page 5 of this newsletter.]

We have a number of other musicians offering their talents with Zion. As part of the Cantata (traditional worship), the Colorado State University Graduate String Quartet will be joining us. Joshua Schairer will be bringing a woodwind quartet to really create a meaningful eventide service on Christmas Eve. The Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, and Praise Band will continue to serve as leaders in worship.

As you can imagine, in preparation for our cantata, gratitude and thanksgiving for the many gifts given to us has been a resonant point within me for some time. It is in this spirit that I continue to give thanks for the music ministry at Zion and for the support of the community at large.

# **Advent and Christmas Worship**

*Pastor Sonja Pancoast*

## **Advent: Preparing for Jesus**

## **Christmas: Christ is Born**

Advent begins a new year in the life of the church. We begin by preparing for Christ. We prepare for Christ to come again at Christmas as a child born in the manger, and we prepare as we look toward that day when Christ will come again. Our Advent worship will focus on how we prepare for Jesus to come.

### **November 29—Digging Out (2 Kings 22:1-10, 14-20, 23:1-3)**

As we dig out the boxes of decorations from storage, we hear the stories of King Josiah cleaning out the back rooms of the temple and discovering a scroll of the law of the Lord. The law had gathered dust in the attic as well as in the hearts of the people. So King Josiah and the people recommit to following the ways to the Lord.

Join us at 9:40 a.m. between worship for our Advent Festival as we make a modern day Advent wreath with devotions and scripture as the center piece. As we prepare for this Advent season, we would like each individual and household to have scripture at the center of their preparations. All ages are invited for the Advent Festival.

### **December 6—Decorating (Isaiah 40:1-11)**

As we begin our decorating, we hear a stark contrast between the majesty of God and the frailty of humanity. We know that on the outside we make everything look good, but on the inside many times our lives are broken and in need of God's comfort and healing.

### **December 13—Departures and Arrivals (Ezra 1:1-4, 3:1-4, 10-13)**

As the people return back from the exile to their homeland and begin to rebuild their homes, their lives, and the temple, they are filled with joy and weeping all at the same time. In this season we often find our desire to return home is met with many unfulfilled expectations. Our true home is in the Lord.

### **December 20 – Devotion (Luke 1:5-13, 57-80)**

As we prepare for the birth of Jesus, we hear the story of the birth of John the Baptist who prepares the way for Jesus. John's father, Zechariah, was in the temple when he learned that he would have a son and that son would be the one to prepare the way for the Savior. In this season, we center our lives in devotion to the one God who sends his Son, Jesus, for us.

At the 10:45 a.m. worship service, our Sunday School children and youth will share the good news of the season with us in worship.

*Continued on page 5.*

*Advent and Christmas Worship continued from page 4.*

## **December 24—Christmas Eve—Delight (Luke 2:1-20)**

Jesus is born! Come and celebrate the birth of the newborn Jesus. Come and celebrate that God is born into our world for you and for me. Celebrate and delight in the joy of the season.

4:00 p.m.—Contemporary Family Worship  
with special music by the Praise Band

6:00 p.m.—Traditional Worship  
with special music by the Chancel  
Choir and Bell Choir

10:30 p.m.—Eventide Worship  
with special music by Joshua Schairer

## **December 27—Lessons and Carols**

We continue to celebrate the joy of the season as we sing songs of praise to the newborn king.

## **The Way: A Life of Thanksgiving Zion's Fall Cantata November 8, 2015**

On November 8, 2015, Zion will be celebrating "The Way: A Life of Thanksgiving," with an emphasis of praise and worship through music.

At the 8:15 a.m. service, the Chancel Choir will lead worship, with special musical guests (including the Graduate String Quartet from Colorado State University), and with music from the Zion Bell Choir. Join us for a worship service of psalms and writings that reflect a life of thanksgiving.

At the 10:45 a.m. service, the Praise Band will help lead worship offering musical reflections on a life of thanksgiving in a contemporary idiom. We hope that you will join us for these services at the fruition of the hard work the music ministry has put in this fall.

## **Gracias!**

Thank you to RHONDA MCCAUGHY, DON RONEY, and CRAIG WILSON for all their hard work and dedication in hosting an amazing Generosity Fiesta. Everyone had a wonderful time, and it certainly was a celebration. We also give thanks for the many generous givers at Zion who continue to share their blessings for God's mission in this place.

## **Celebrating the ordination of Women in the ELCA**

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the ordination of women in the ELCA. Such an anniversary provides an opportunity to lift up and celebrate the many gifts and talents rostered women have brought and continue to bring to the ELCA.



# Staff Transitions

## *A Letter to the Congregation*



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October 25, 2015

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At Zion, we have been blessed with wonderful staff who have many gifts, skills, and callings. However, Zion is facing transition so that several of our staff can pursue other callings. Some of this may come as a complete surprise to you, as it has for us, while others perhaps are more expected.

After working at Zion in many different roles since 1981, Ginger Klein has decided it is time to retire. Her decision is based on some personal needs and health concerns. Ginger is clearly the longest standing member of staff at Zion, and we are grateful that she has stayed with us. Aside from her regular responsibilities of volunteer coordination, leadership development, office management, and building scheduling, Ginger has maintained stability for us as the “institutional memory.” We are grateful for her steadfastness, her knowledge of so many of you and so much of the history of the congregation, and her focus on care.

Additionally, Brooke Loftus has chosen to pursue a dream that she has had to run a daycare business in her home. She has taken time to pray about and discern this direction, and wants to focus on this dream in order to be present for her children and to work closely with other children. We are grateful for Brooke’s amazing knowledge and skills in technology. She joined the staff in 2011, just as we were making several transitions with technology and communications (projection in worship, weekly email communications, online calendaring, etc.), and blessed us with a seamless transition in those areas. It is difficult to remember what life was like before Brooke shared her expertise with us.

Perhaps the greatest surprise for all of us is that Angie Elder is resigning from the Zion staff. As indicated in her letter of resignation, she and her family have prayerfully considered this transition for her from a member of the Zion staff to being able to participate in other ways as a member, disciple, and parent. She has brought incredible life and joy, dedication, organization, and passion to the children, youth, and family ministries at Zion. Being a member of the congregation for 10 years before joining the staff, she jumped right in to the ever-growing vision for this ministry, and there are no words that can express both our gratitude and sadness for this transition. However, as easily as she transitioned into this

ministry, we are sure that she will also be able to transition into serving with us all as a congregation again, as the point of this ministry is not for one person to do it all, but to empower others to be God's hands and feet. Parents, please talk with your children to help them understand both why Angie needs to make this transition in order to focus on her family and that she will still be present in the congregation.

The personnel committee is working with the council to determine a timeline to fill these positions. In the latest phase of planning, we have determined that Zion's needs in the office are better suited with one full-time office manager, rather than two separate but part-time positions as we have had in the past. That office manager position is now posted, and we hope to have it filled as soon as possible. Please check the website or call the office for details.

Also, we have already begun a process for determining how to fill the children, youth, and family ministries position. Currently, we are exploring possibilities with the other ELCA congregations in Loveland. Whether or not anything comes of those conversations, we hope to begin a search process soon. We promise to keep you updated as information comes available, and we ask your patience.

It is not easy to share this kind of news. This much transition in staffing can create quite a bit of anxiety and grieving. We mourn our loss as a congregation, the need to say good-bye, and the reality of missing beloved staff. At the same time, we are in a very unique situation in that all three of these beloved staff members are choosing to remain active members of this congregation. This is their faith home, and you are their faith family.

The pastoral and council leadership at Zion ask your prayers as we seek God's guidance with you for Zion's staffing patterns to provide the most effective mission and ministry possible. In this time of transition, please look for opportunities to participate in bringing life into each of these ministries, whether by serving on a visioning or search team, providing constructive feedback, or praying for these ministries. These are ministries through which God speaks to each of us and the community around us. Until then, please join us in celebrating the amazing ministry that Ginger, Brooke, and Angie have each shared with us.

Grace and Peace to you,

Pastor Joel Pancoast

Cindy Kurtz, Council President

**Join us to celebrate the amazing ministry of our staff as they transition into new ventures.**

**We will celebrate Angie's ministry on Sunday, November 22.**

**Angie's final day will be November 29.**

**We will celebrate Ginger's ministry on Sunday, November 29.**

**Ginger's final day will be December 1.**

# Ministry at Monroe—Now and Not Yet

## Growing into the Future

*Pastor Sonja Pancoast*

This year has gotten off to a great start with our partnership with Monroe Elementary. This is our third year partnering with Monroe, and we continue to see this partnership grow and flourish. For the “now,” there are already so many ways that we have found to partner and support this ministry. The “not yet” is that there is still so much need and many more ways God will lead us to care for these families in our community who attend Monroe. Who knows what God has in store for us?

We are fortunate to have so many dedicated people from Zion who share their time, talents, and resources to help this ministry become a reality. ANGIE ELDER has done a wonderful job helping to build this partnership since its inception almost 3 years ago. Thank you to Angie for all her hard work and dedication in making this dream become a reality. As we move forward, PASTOR SONJA has taken the lead on coordinating this amazing ministry.

We have already been quite busy this year at Monroe, and there are many people to thank. We cannot begin to list all the names of those who have helped. It is fun to see all that is already going on at Monroe.

This year we had a new project of painting each child’s hand print or finger print onto canvas and then backing the canvas with foam. The foam-backed handprint paintings will hang in the cafeteria at Monroe to help reduce the noise.

Thank you to ERIN BACHMAN, CATHY GLASER, and ELAINE NICHOLS who helped get all the hand prints painted onto the canvas. Thank you to CATHY GLASER and JESSICA KUHN for finishing the canvas with foam backing.

This is our third year with putting together sack dinners for Back-to-School night. A wonderful group put together sack dinners at Zion, and then another large group helped hand out these dinners to the families. So many people contributed to this event, I cannot begin to name everyone, but SHIRLEY CAMPBELL, DON and CAROLYN FENSKE, DAVE HART, TRUDIE and MARVIN HUTH, DON and RESA MAI, ELAINE NICHOLS, ROSEMARY NIELSON, DEBORAH PRICE, and JOHN and LINDA STERNER were among them, each wearing their “God’s Work. Our Hands.” shirts. This is a large undertaking and truly the families are very appreciative.

We also added a new project of making dinner for the teachers when they have parent/teacher conferences. The teachers cannot go home when they have conferences in the evening, so we provided a soup and salad dinner for them. Thank you to MARLOW BREWER, MARY JO HAACK, ELAINE NICHOLS, MEG SCHREIBER, JOHN and LINDA STERNER, CONNIE WAHLERS, and CHRISSY WOLFE for providing such wonderful food. Thank you to ROSEMARY NIELSON for helping clean everything up.

*Ministry at Monroe—Now and Not Yet—Growing into the Future continued from page 8.*

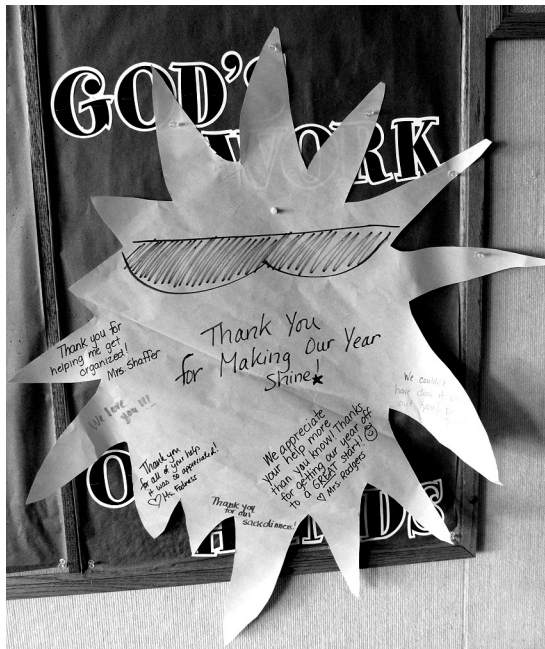
We are currently finishing up our coat drive for Monroe and again have had a great response to the request for many coats. We needed 55 coats this year and we are well on our way to having this many and more. We ended up not needing to do a hat, mitten, boot, and scarf drive this year because they still have so many from Zion's generosity last year.

This year we also have begun to help out with projects in the copy room. Our church office volunteers share of their time to help cut papers or cut out items that have been laminated. It seems like such a small thing, but is such a large help to the teachers and staff at Monroe.

Finally, thank you to our dedicated volunteers who go to Monroe on a weekly basis to help out in the classroom—CHERYL GILLPATRICK, PASTOR SONJA, MEG SCHREIBER, and JOHN and LINDA STERNER.

As we look forward to the future, we will provide Thanksgiving baskets for the families at Monroe and continue to find new ways to partner and support the parents, teachers, families, and most importantly the children at Monroe and in our neighborhood.

Thank you to everyone for your support of this amazing ministry. Please continue to pray where God is leading and guiding us as we care for those in our community.



**A sunburst thank-you from some of the Monroe teachers is displayed on the Youth and Family bulletin board. Messages include "Thank you for Making Our Year Shine!" and "We love you!!!!"**

## **NOTICE TO EVERYONE WHO SUBMITTED A VOLUNTEER QUESTIONNAIRE LAST MAY:**

First, thank you to everyone who completed a volunteer questionnaire and submitted it to the church office. The data has been compiled and ultimately will be published in a booklet next summer. Many of the questionnaires, however, were missing information that we feel is valuable to ensure the best possible resource. Those questionnaires are being returned to their owners to be resubmitted with the missing information provided. Please check your narthex mail box. The completed questionnaires can be resubmitted directly to LINDA STERNER or placed in the volunteer questionnaire box in the church office. We appreciate everyone's participation and patience throughout this process. In addition, we invite anyone who did not complete a questionnaire last May, to do so now. We would like to have all questionnaires submitted by year-end.

## Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

*Angie Elder*



Thanksgiving  
Food Baskets

### Zion Youth Do God's Work at Thanksgiving

As we seek to be Jesus' hands and feet in our world today, the middle and high school youth

will be assembling Thanksgiving baskets for the families of Monroe Elementary School and Thompson Valley Preschool.

The youth are collecting donations on Sunday, November 1, through Sunday, November 15.

Please take a tag from the table in the fellowship hall and return the item to the church.

Thank you for your generosity, providing for those in need at a special time when many are enjoying an abundance in contrast to those in need.



*Come join in the fun  
as we celebrate the  
coming  
of the Christ  
NOW and NOT YET!*

### **Advent Festival Sunday, November 29 9:40—10:30 a.m. Zion Fellowship Hall**

*All ages are invited to attend!*

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### **2015 Zion Christmas Program "UnFrozen" Sunday, December 20 10:45 a.m.**

The Christmas story began once upon a time.  
We don't want to forget the power of that story.

- How that baby born in a manger is our Prince of Peace.
- How King Jesus established a kingdom that will never end.
- How he restores the frozen hearts of people and gives them new life.



# Rocky Mountain Synod Youth Gatherings

*Angie Elder*



The youth gatherings of the Rocky Mountain Synod are great opportunities for the youth of Zion to gather with other youth and adults from our synod that includes Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, and El Paso, Texas.

**High School Gathering**  
**November 20—22**  
**Denver Marriott West**  
**Denver, Colorado**

Attending these gatherings, our youth share in times of large-group activities, small-group discussions, music, fun, and fellowship throughout the weekend.



**Middle School Gathering**  
**January 15—17, 2016**  
**Hotel Elegante**  
**Colorado Springs, Colorado**

Please pray for the youth of Zion as they participate in these gatherings, learning and growing in their faith.

## Zion Youth “Live” Homeless

The confirmation students from Zion spent an evening learning about hunger in our world and community and fasting for 15 hours. They also spent the night in cardboard boxes OUTSIDE to simulate what it might feel like to be homeless. Their time together concluded with making 30 “homeless care kits” so every student could take two kits to distribute to homeless people in the Loveland community. The students walked away from this experience feeling very thankful and blessed by what they have!



## Family Weekend at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp

Friends and families gathered for a weekend of service, faith, and fellowship over Labor Day weekend at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp. It was a beautiful weekend to experience Christ on the mountaintop!



## Zion Builds a New Roof for the Nurse's Cabin at Sky Ranch

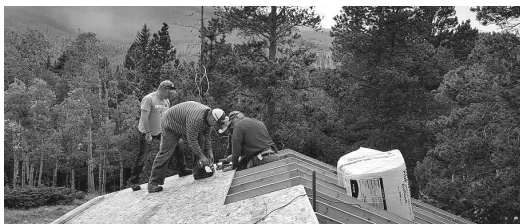


A huge thank you to JEFF SCHWARTZ for coordinating the construction of a new roof for the nurse's cabin at Sky Ranch. This cabin has been part of Zion's "Leave a Trace" commitment to Sky Ranch, which means that we have adopted that cabin to care for it, maintain it, and make upgrades to keep the nurses and their "patients" comfortable throughout the summer months. Over the years, we have made many upgrades, but this year we finally took on the challenge to replace a roof that was in very poor condition.



This project started almost 2 years ago, with plans drawn up and trusses ordered by VICKI JOHNSON and JIM VOSBERG. But it never could have been completed without Jeff's leadership to get many crews working throughout the Labor Day weekend and many individual workdays following. In addition to Jeff's perseverance and leadership, thanks to the following who raised a new roof for the Sky Ranch health center:

RON CHRISTENSEN	MADELYNN SCHWARTZ
GENE ELDER	RYAN SCHWARTZ
PHIL FREED	SYDNEY SCHWARTZ
FLO GUSTAFSON	JIM VOSBERG
GUS GUSTAFSON	SHANE WEIMER
CASEY HART	CRAIG WILSON
JACOB KUHN	DAVE WOLFE
JESSICA KUHN	PASTOR JOEL



Though the roof is complete, the nurse's cabin is still Zion's project to "leave a trace" at Sky Ranch. Work projects that remain include siding portions, expanding the deck, painting, and constructing a knee wall around the base of the building. If you are interested in helping with the nurse's cabin next season after the snow has melted, please let us know.

## Among Members and Friends

### Joyous Celebrations of the Gift of Baptism

*We rejoice with Jenny and Cody Kalous at the baptism of their daughter, **EllieMae Brynn** who was baptized on August 16.*

*We rejoice with Corey and Ashleigh Bruns at the baptism of their son, **Dean Kevin**. We were blessed to have Corey's brother, Pastor Joshua Bruns, preside at the baptism of his nephew on August 16.*

### Congratulations

*We rejoice with Will and Rocille Lince at the birth of their daughter, **Danica** on September 6.*

*We rejoice with Hope and Eric Klaas at the birth of their daughter, **Vivienne Charlene** on September 15.*

*We rejoice with **Asher Meyer, Rachel Samuels,** and **Danny Turner** who Affirmed their Faith and were Confirmed on Reformation Sunday, October 25.*

### Prayer Concerns

***Brooks Hart**, 3-year-old grandson of Dave and Elaine Hart who continues chemotherapy treatment until the end of the year.*

***Dave Hart**, as he continues to recover from bypass surgery.*

***Charmie Steine** who is in rehab at Berthoud Living Center to heal from a broken hip.*

***Ken Gillpatrick** who is now recovering at home from injuries from a car accident.*

***Doris Fabrizius** who continues to recover from surgery on her back.*

### Joyous Celebration of Marriage

*We rejoice with **Brittney Freed** and **Jerry Wadsworth** on their marriage on October 8.*

### At Rest in Our Father's House

*Prayer of sympathy for the family of **Helen Schroeder**. Helen was the mother of Lanette Willie and a long-time worshiper at Zion. Her funeral service was held back in Iowa, and Pastor Joel led a memorial service at Hillcrest here in Loveland on September 28.*

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*Members of the Endowment Committee,  
Thank you very much for the bestowment of both the Therp and Petersen Scholarships! The total \$2,000 helps greatly with the cost of college and will take the edge off of the cost in the end.  
Thank you again very much.*

*Joel Schreiner*

*Zion Lutheran,  
Thank you for your generous support of ELCA World Hunger. Your leadership in this work of our church makes a difference for families and communities in need. Blessings to you as you continue to live out God's call to love our neighbor.*

*Robin Brow  
Congregational Support  
ELCA World Hunger*

*Dear Friends and Family,  
I want to thank you all for the support you gave me at my recent surgery. Thank you to Pastor Sonja for her visits and prayers. For all of the visits, flowers, food, and cards, a sincere thank you. God bless you.*

*Doris Fabrizius*

## Among Members and Friends

*Angie and Zion Lutheran,*

*Thanks for opening your doors and hearts to our group and for letting us stay a night in your space. Dinner and breakfast were really appreciated, along with the floor space, bathrooms, and showers. We had a great time! Thanks again for everything! It was great to get to know you and your family!*

*Blessings,  
Christ the King Youth Group  
(White Bear Lake, Minnesota)*

*Zion Family and Friends,*

*Elaine and I want to express our deepest gratitude for the many warm wishes, greetings, cards, phone calls, and visits while I am recovering from bypass surgery. As I wrap myself in my prayer shawl, it is a real comfort to know prayers are being said on my behalf from our Zion family and friends. Pastors' visits and prayers offer such an assurance everything will be o.k. I am progressing very well and will see you at worship soon. May God bless you all.*

*Love to all,  
Dave Hart*

*Dear Pastors Joel and Sonja!*

*What a surprise to receive a note of thanks from you plus a cash gift from the church for teaching the summer Bible class! I certainly did not expect to be paid for something I considered a privilege and a pleasure. Nevertheless, I humbly accept both and try to put the money to good use. Thank you and please convey my thanks also to the church. I should also mention that Trudie contributed to the Bible study in various ways, including the presentation on how the Psalms are used in the hymns and liturgy of the worship service.*

*Marvin Huth*

### Thank You Letters to Zion

- August 4, 2015—From House of Neighborly Service for a contribution of \$657.21.
- August 7, 2015—From Luther Seminary for the investment made this past year in Diana Linden-Johnson's education at Luther Seminary.



- August 18, 2015—From ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal for a gift of \$605.29 to Nepal Area Earthquake.
- August 25, 2015—From Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at University of Northern Colorado for a donation of \$125.
- August 25, 2015—From House of Neighborly Service for a contribution of 519 pounds of food and toiletries.

## ELCA Malaria Campaign—Thank You

July 6, 2015



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

October 14, 2015

Zion Lutheran Church  
815 E 16th St  
Loveland, CO 80538-4063

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

It is with great joy and deep gratitude that we write you this letter of thanks. Thank you for all of the ways you helped the ELCA Malaria Campaign reach its fundraising goal of \$15 million. You played a crucial role in the success of this campaign.

The ELCA stepped out in faith with the ELCA Malaria Campaign, and the people of Zion Lutheran Church embraced it with generosity and enthusiasm. Your creativity inspired other congregations in the ELCA, and the gifts you gave have impacted millions of lives through the malaria programs of our Lutheran sisters and brothers in Africa. Generosity from congregations was the backbone of the success of this campaign, and we are very grateful for your leadership.

As we celebrate reaching our final fundraising milestone, we rejoice with our sisters and brothers in Africa who have empowered communities with better health and the possibility of a malaria-free future. We rejoice with families whose beloved children are healthy and thriving. We also hold in prayer those who continue to struggle with the realities of poverty and disease.

Through your support of the ELCA Malaria Campaign, Zion Lutheran Church has made a contribution to the global movement against malaria, a movement that saves an estimated 700 lives every day! Your support and leadership have made a huge difference as the ELCA walks with our companions in Africa, working together to make malaria history. **Thank you!**

With gratitude,

Jessica Nipp Hacker  
ELCA Malaria Campaign

Allison Beebe  
ELCA Malaria Campaign

8765 West Higgins Road • Chicago, Illinois 60631-4101 • 773-380-2700 or 800-638-3522 • [ELCA.org](http://ELCA.org) • [LivingLutheran.com](http://LivingLutheran.com)

*Dear Joel and Sonja,*

*I was just looking at my list of congregations who have supported the ELCA Malaria Campaign, and I thought you might be interested to know that **Zion is in the top 100 of all ELCA congregations! (Number 81, to be exact—you have already given more than \$8,700!)***

*Please do extend our gratitude to Zion Lutheran Church for their **extravagant generosity** to the ELCA Malaria Campaign. I think it's something to be proud of that your church family is among the most generous congregations in the whole ELCA when it comes to malaria!*

*With gratitude,*

*Jessica Nipp Hacker  
ELCA Diaconal Minister  
Director, Donor Relations  
and Donor Stewardship  
8765 W. Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631*

## We did it!

The ELCA Malaria Campaign reached its financial goal of raising \$15 million. Thank you! Working with our Lutheran companions and partners in 13 African countries, we have brought about lasting change. You can still give to the ELCA Malaria Campaign, but now that we have reached our fundraising goal, we ask that you prayerfully consider a gift to ELCA World Hunger, through which malaria work will be carried out in the coming years.



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## Mustard Seed House Churches: Grateful and Growing

*Dear Zion Lutheran Church,*

*Thank you for your continued prayers and support of Mustard Seed House Churches! Your mission support of \$2,030 for the year 2015 has made such a difference in the life of our growing church. Thanks to mission partners like you, Mustard Seed continues to share the message of God's love throughout Northern Colorado.*



*Since January, I'm pleased to report that Mustard Seed has launched a fourth house church (in Greeley!), and that our third-annual Hops for Hunger fundraiser for childhood hunger was a huge success! We are grateful to be partners in ministry alongside you! Many thanks and continued blessings in all you do!*

*Rev. Andy*

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## Zion's Prayer Shawl Ministry Reaches Flood Victims in South Carolina

On October 10, 2015, LINDA TEGEDER, chair of Zion's prayer shawl ministry, wrote this letter to Pastor Roy Butler of Bethel Lutheran Church in Chapin, South Carolina.

*We are the Prayer Shawl Ministry group from Zion Lutheran Church in Loveland, CO. As we have had a flooding disaster within the last two years, we have found that a prayer shawl given to disaster victims was a link knowing that many are praying for them in their time of need. We would like to send your synod 55 shawls for you to distribute to victims as needed. If this is something you are interested in, please respond back to me at my email address (litegeder@msn.com). We know this isn't helping to rebuild, but just knowing that prayers are coming from Loveland, CO, might give a glimmer of hope to those who have lost everything. Our prayers are with you and your members of the South Carolina synod who are dealing with this disaster. [Note: We were able to send 71 prayer shawls.]*

On October 16, 2015, Pastor Butler replied.

*Wow, Linda, thank you so much for thinking of us. I am, we all are, humbled by the great things we have seen in the way of people giving of themselves to touch the lives of others during this crisis. We would love to have the prayer shawls and what a symbol of the church coming together in prayer to support others in their time of need. And I would add, prayer in my opinion is the greatest need and the first building block of recovery after this disaster. Thank you for thinking of us and offering to share in such a powerful way. I must say I have been overwhelmed by the reaching out of so many but your offer has touched me beyond description and leaves me with a holy lump in my throat. God bless you and all the good people of Zion Lutheran.*

## Zion's 2015 CPR and AED Class Graduates



## What You Should Know about Blood Pressure

### *Zion's Parish Nurses*

The National Institute of Health recently reported a study (SPRINT) that a person 50 and over can decrease their risk of cardiovascular disease by 1/3 and their risk of death from cardiovascular disease by 1/4 if they maintain a blood pressure (BP) at or below 120/80. Anyone with chronic kidney disease or diabetes (sugar disease) should maintain their BP below 130/80.

What do these numbers mean? These numbers represent the force of blood pushing against the walls of the arteries. The first number (systolic) represents this force when your heart beats. The bottom number (diastolic) is the force on the artery walls when the heart is at rest or between beats.

There are a few simple things that you can do to help lower your BP; read food labels and cut your salt (sodium) intake to 1500 milligrams or less daily, make healthy food choices and be aware of the portion sizes, get at least 30 minutes of regular activity daily (this does not need to be all at once), and

*Continued on page 19.*

*What You Should Know about Blood Pressure continued from page 18.*

take your medications as prescribed by your doctor.

Some people have “white coat syndrome.” This is when the blood pressure is elevated when it is measured in a clinical setting. This is one reason why it is important to check your BP at home and record the results. Take these with you to your next appointment. Things to do before checking your BP at home: (a) do not have any caffeine or cigarettes for 30 minutes prior, (b) use the bathroom to relieve the pressure in your bladder and kidneys, and (c) sit for 5 minutes.

Why is it important to control your blood pressure? Over time out-of-control BP can lead to many health problems. Some of the complications as a result of high BP include:

1. Heart attack also known as a MI (myocardial infarction)—when the arteries that supply blood to your heart become blocked.
2. Stroke—when you do not get enough blood to your brain.
3. Heart failure—the heart has become weakened and unable to pump sufficient blood to the body.
4. Kidney failure—the vessels in the kidneys become narrow.
5. Aneurysms—the artery walls become weak and bulge. This can lead to rupture of the artery.
6. Cognitive changes.
7. Peripheral artery disease—when the arteries to the extremities become blocked.

Have your BP checked by your parish nurses the first Sunday of each month between services.

## Paint Our Town 2015 A Success!

*Pastor Joel Pancoast*

Thank you all so much for participating in our “God’s Work. Our Hands.” day with Paint Our Town. I wish I could have been to all of the sites, but I hope you all had an opportunity to get to know each other from across the different ELCA communities (King of Glory, Mustard Seed, Trinity, and Zion). Regardless, what an amazing witness to be able to join together to share with our community God’s love that has been poured into our hearts and flows into the community through service and love. In case you didn’t already receive the email that follows from Pete Tomassi, one of the Paint Our Town coordinators, I am including it here for you.

This is the second year that we have participated in the ELCA “God’s Work. Our Hands.” day together. Last year we helped prepare the House of Neighborly Service Life Center for their grand opening to the public. Hopefully in the future we will be able to participate in more opportunities like this.

If you have any feedback on this year’s “God’s Work. Our Hands.” day, please let me know. Any feedback I receive will be shared at the regular gathering of Loveland ELCA clergy.

*Continued on page 20.*

*Paint Our Town A Success continued from page 19.*

Here are some thoughts for you to consider and reply to:

- What did you think of this year's project?
- Paint Our Town is a yearly project sponsored by all of the Loveland service clubs. Would you like to see us participate with Paint Our Town next year?
- Do you have other service opportunity ideas, or any ideas at all, through which we can gather together across the ELCA communities in Loveland to show a shared witness of God's work through our hands?
- Any other feedback....

Thanks again for your participation!

God's blessings to you.

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## **A Message from Pete Tomassi, Paint Our Town 2015 Coordinator**

Paint Our Town Volunteers,

As the Project Manager for this community-wide labor of love, thank you for helping make Paint Our Town 2015 an overwhelming success! With your help and the help of over 240 other volunteers, we painted 16 homes... and changed many lives. I estimate 1,600 volunteer hours (that's you!) and \$20,000 worth of paint, supplies, and food went into Saturday's accomplishment. You did far more than brush paint on a wall, you brought hope and joy into the life of another human being. You are generous with your time and you are kind. Please share with me any stories you have from the project as you interacted with the homeowners and fellow volunteers. This project is far more than a story of paint and houses; it's a story about people.

As I visited the sites, delivered supplies, and met with your teams, I was greatly impressed by the

site organization and crew teamwork. You know how to come together and make an impact! One of the homeowners expressed to her site supervisor, through tears, the impact this project was making on her life. She was overwhelmed that a group of "strangers" would give up their Saturday to paint her house, with materials that were donated by or funded through businesses, churches, clubs, and individuals in our Loveland community. You spent the day painting homes and *Changing Lives, One House at a Time!* As you met the homeowners, you realized that you were caring for members of our community who could not paint their own homes or afford to hire someone to do what you did. **The impact of your service cannot be overstated.**

It is an honor to have served our community with you,

*Pete*

Paint Our Town 2015 in conjunction with "God's Work. Our Hands." day was Saturday, September 19. Overall we had about 30 participants from the four Loveland ELCA communities with about 17 from Zion.



## Understanding & Dismantling Racism An All-Day Workshop

*Pastor Deb Abbott*

Gather a group together and come to this workshop.

Understanding & Dismantling Racism  
November 7, 2015  
9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.  
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church  
225 South 6th Street  
LaSalle, Colorado

To register, call 970-284-5101.

Suggested donation is \$10.

### UNDERSTANDING & DISMANTLING **RACISM** THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY CHALLENGE TO WHITE AMERICA

**WHEN**  
November 7, 2015  
9am - 4pm

**WHERE**  
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran  
Church  
225 S. 6th Street, LaSalle, Colorado

**BASED ON • The Writings of Author  
Joseph Barndt: *Understanding &  
Dismantling Racism* and *Becoming  
an Anti-Racist Church***

**JOSEPH BARNDT HAS BEEN A  
PARISH PASTOR AND AN ANTI-  
RACISM TRAINER AND  
ORGANIZER FOR THIRTY YEARS,  
MUCH OF THE LATTER WORK  
BEING DONE WITH CROSSROADS  
MINISTRY, CHICAGO, WHICH HE  
DIRECTED FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS.**

#### **ALL AGES WELCOME**

#### **COST**

\$10.00 donation for materials  
and lunch

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
& REGISTRATION, CALL  
SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY  
970-284-5101. LEAVE A  
MESSAGE IF NO ANSWER,  
AND WE WILL CALL YOU  
BACK.**

#### **BOOKS BY JOSEPH BARNDT:**

*Liberating the White Ghetto*  
(1972) *Beyond Brokenness*  
(1981) *Dismantling Racism*  
(1991) *Understanding and  
Dismantling Racism* (2007)  
*Becoming an Anti-Racist  
Church* (2011)

#### **BOOKS BY JOSEPH BARNDT CAN BE ORDERED FROM:**

[www.augsburgfortress.org](http://www.augsburgfortress.org)  
[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

#### **SESSIONS INCLUDE:**

- Defining Racism
- Individual Racism
- Institutionalized Racism
- Cultural Racism
- Dismantling Racism
- And More

## SING CREATION! HYMN FESTIVAL

Sunday, November 8  
3:00 p.m.

Mountain View Presbyterian Church  
2500 North Garfield Avenue



Mountain View Presbyterian Church (MVPC) invites the community to the Sing Creation! Hymn Festival, featuring hymns of creation, sung by the congregation. The MVPC Westminster Choir and singers from other local churches and community choirs will sing an anthem by Dan Forrest, "Psalm 8: Adonai, Adonenu," directed by Tamra Keller.

Join us in singing many of the hymns of creation you know and love, such as "All Things Bright and Beautiful," "How Great Thou Art," "I Sing the Mighty Power of God," and "This is My Father's World."

The hymn festival is free and open to the public.

Direct any questions to Tamra Keller, Director, at [profstam@aol.com](mailto:profstam@aol.com).

# NEWS from Lutheran Campus Ministry

*Pastor Deb Abbott*

Thank You! As November begins and Thanksgiving approaches, our thoughts turn to all that we are thankful for in our campus ministries. Thank you for the meals you bring for our students, the financial support you send, the volunteers and leaders you share, and all your prayers.

In October we had our Fall Retreat at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp with students and staff from CU Boulder, CSU, and UNC. We are thankful for the hospitality of Sky Ranch and our time together there to reflect on vocation and faith in daily life.

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 Megan Sawyer at [megancsawyer@gmail.com](mailto:megancsawyer@gmail.com).



**Students and staff from the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colorado State University in Fort Collins, and the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley participate in a fall retreat at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp.**

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**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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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,  
the two worship styles switch.

## ***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 10/15

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

November 1-15	Donations for Thanksgiving Baskets
November 7	Understanding & Dismantling Racism Workshop
November 8	Fall Cantata at Zion
November 8	Hymn Festival at Mountain View Presbyterian
November 20-22	High School Youth Gathering—Denver
November 22	Thanksgiving Worship at Trinity
November 29	Advent Festival
December 20	Christmas Program "UnFrozen"
December 24	Christmas Eve Worship: 4:00, 6:00 , and 10:30 p.m.
December 27	Lessons and Carols
December 31	Deadline to Resubmit Volunteer Questionnaires
January 15-17, 2016	Middle School Youth Gathering—Colorado Springs
January 24, 2016	Congregational Annual Meeting