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Join Us in Worship

Fall Worship Hours Start
September 11

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship
10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship

On the 3rd 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 8/16

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

August 14	Summerfest
August 17	Monroe Title 1 Night; Colorado Care Forum
August 18	Ready Monroe Classrooms
August 21	Blessing of the Backpacks; GoodHealthwill First Aid Kits
August 28	Rally Day; Ministry Fair; L2F2 Staff Installation
September 1	Back to School Sack Suppers at Monroe
September 6	Paint Monroe Playground; Girl Talk Begins
September 10	Bowling with Cary and Joe
September 11	Fall Worship Schedule; Faith Formation Classes Begin; Entry into Sunday School; Confirmation Kickoff
September 12	Woman to Woman
September 15	Zion Book Groups
September 16	Pozole Dinner; Game Night
September 18	Bridge Ministries Planning Meeting
September 25	First Bibles and Entry into Confirmation
October 7-9	Middle School Urban Plunge
October 10	Woman to Woman
October 13	Parent Teacher Conference Dinners for Monroe Teachers
October 20	Zion Book Groups
October 22	Fall Festival
October 30	Affirmation of Baptism
November 12	Christmas Bazaar
November 12-13	Zion Women's Retreat



Eye on Zion

A Quarterly Newsletter for the People of Zion Lutheran Church

August-September-October
2016

STAFF

Pastors
Pastor Joel Pancoast
Pastor Sonja Pancoast
Faith Formation Coordinator
Cary Mathis
Director of Music Ministry
Adam Torres
Assistant Director of Music
Open
Organist/Accompanist
Kathryn Peiffer
Bell and Chimes Director
Thomas Chen
Office Manager
Lindsey Bowling
Worship Technology Coordinator
Open
Bookkeeper
Jessica Nutting
Childcare
Sarah Bauer
Rae Bowker
Custodian
Ronda Buck

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Parish Nurses
Diana Abraham
Sharon Finch
Vicki Johnson
Financial Secretary
Eileen Huddle
Scott Sprain
Publications
Linda Sterner

CHURCH COUNCIL

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Joel Brauner
Vice President
Nita Starr
Secretary
Ruth Sprain
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John Sterner
Members-at-Large
Florence Doksansky
Preston Green (Youth)
Don Harris
Stig Oresjo
Glenn Schreiner

Becoming God's People

Pastor Joel Pancoast

In the beginning, God brought forth an amazing, beautiful creation...and you were part of it. Unfortunately, it did not take long before sin took over and humanity became curved in on itself, focused on its own desires and temptations, forgetting its source and creator. Since then, the entire story of sin and salvation in the Bible is about God's continued attempt to reach into our hearts and our lives to redeem us, to draw us back to God and to each other as God's people.

The first reality is that we are created by God, so we already are God's people. However, you don't have to look far to realize that this vision falls short of the reality we live today.

This fall our worship will focus on the biblical story of "Becoming God's People." It's a story with specific characters and situations, and yet it's the same story of God's activity in our own lives.

God promises and Abraham believes. Tested by many

alternative stories that seem to say otherwise, how can we have a faith like Abraham's, as God's people?

Joseph had many dreams that led to family conflict, and ultimately his own hardships in slavery. Yet in the end, Joseph was able to see the difference between human activity and God's activity, leading him to forgiveness. Even today, God works for good, for our becoming people of forgiveness.

Many, many years later, God's people were in the depths of despair, living under oppression in slavery to Pharaoh, and God continued forming God's people, freed by the blood of the Passover lamb and unleavened bread. Today that same activity of deliverance leads us toward becoming God's people, freed by the body and blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. The freedom we live is a sign of the reality of becoming God's people, even though there are still many things that hold us in bondage.

The freedom God's people live in is not always perfect. Even though

Continued on page 2.

Becoming God's People continued from page 1.

God's people were freed from slavery, they were surrounded by temptation. In the wilderness, it was all too easy to wonder where God was, why God did not free them from life in the wilderness. The people questioned why God would want them to live with any hardship, and so they created their own god who would give them different answers, a god symbolized by a golden calf, made out of their most prized possessions and wealth. But God continued to be present with them, even granting forgiveness when the people lost all trust. Today, we are still *becoming* God's people because we are still focused on our own desires and we still have many temptations that draw us away from the reality that God's people are invited to live into. Again and again, God enters our lives, inviting us to trust in God alone.

This story of "Becoming God's People" is our story. We are human, with all our sins and limitations. Even the church, an expression of Christ's body, is made up of humans and is therefore broken and with its limitations. Yet it is the way God chooses to gather God's people, to be centered on the Word and to be in relationship with others. This is what I hope you will find in this community, in all we do and say as a community who practices becoming God's people. I invite you to read this issue of the "Eye on Zion" in this light, and perhaps to find ways to practice becoming God's people together.

Blessings to you and to our community, "Becoming God's People!"

Becoming God's People—Worship for this Fall

September 11	Created	Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-17; 3:1-8
September 18	Believing	Genesis 15:1-6
September 25	Forgiving	Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-34; 50:15-21
October 2	Freed	Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8
October 9	Trusting	Exodus 32:1-14

We begin our fall worship times on September 11, with the following schedule:

8:15 a.m.	Traditional Worship*
9:40 a.m.	Faith Formation for all ages
10:45 a.m.	Contemporary Worship*

**On the third Sunday of each month, we switch the worship style times, with contemporary worship at 8:15 and traditional worship at 10:45. We invite you to either continue with your preferred worship time to appreciate another style of music in worship, or follow your preferred style in order to worship with those you may not see on a regular basis.*

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Zion Evening Book Group Selections for 2016/17 continued from page 30.

JANUARY—**All the King's Men** by Robert Penn Warren. 656 pages.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, this classic book is generally regarded as the finest novel ever written on American politics. It describes the career of Willie Stark, a back-country lawyer whose idealism is overcome by his lust for power. It is based on Huey Long's career, a governor and senator from Louisiana in the 20s and 30s. Some say there are parallels to Donald Trump; Huey Long was a populist, but he stood with the working-man, sharecroppers, and Negroes. A challenging novel to read, but it is really a political crime mystery story with big ideas. And one of the few American novels of the 20th century that has a "Christian theme."

We meet on Thursday, January 19, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Charlotte Schmidt, 2306 Firstview Drive, Loveland, 80538.

We will select books for Spring at the November gathering. The books **Where the Wind Leads** and **Code Name Verity** are leading possibilities.



From the **BOOK WORM**

As you can see, I have a smile on my face but, actually, I am very sad.

I have been working very hard in Zion's library but, after all

this time and all this work, I have had **only one person** come into the library and check out books.

So—smile back on my face—let me tell you more about the wonderful library at Zion.

1. First of all, we have "featured" books on a special shelf just as you come in. These feature a variety of subjects and stories. Come see what is featured now.

2. Secondly, Zion has two book clubs that have chosen the books they will read this coming year, beginning in September. I have made sure there is a copy of each of these books, again on the shelf straight ahead as you come into the library.

3. Third, all the books are arranged by subject; such as, Fiction, Biography, Grief, Parenting, Commentaries, and so forth. This should make it easy for you to find what you want. Any questions, ask your librarian JANIE LICHTFUSS.

I see all the wonderful books available and all I want to do is read, read, read! I think you will feel the same if you come in and peruse the shelves in the Zion library, that is YOUR library.

So, promise that I'll see YOU soon.

BOOK WORM

Zion Evening Book Group Selections for 2016/2017

Scott Sprain

SEPTEMBER—**All the Light We Cannot See** by Anthony Doerr. 531 pages.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, from the highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning Anthony Doerr, the beautiful, stunningly ambitious instant New York Times bestseller about a blind French girl and a orphan German boy who serves in Nazi army. Their paths collide in occupied France as both love radio and try to survive during the devastation of World War II. Beyond another story inside Nazi Germany and Occupied France, the conflict deals with eternal, universal values, and views of why things happen in the universe.

We meet on Thursday, September 15, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jaci Engel and Wes Melander, 4110 Bonnell Drive, Loveland, 80537.

OCTOBER—**Deep Down Dark: The Untold Stories of 33 Men Buried in a Chilean Mine, and the Miracle That Set Them Free** by Héctor Tobar. 320 pages.

When the San José mine collapsed outside of Copiapó, Chile, in August 2010, it trapped 33 miners beneath thousands of feet of rock for a record-breaking 69 days. The entire world watched what transpired above-ground during the grueling and protracted rescue, but the saga of the miners' experiences below the Earth's surface—and the lives that led them there—has never been heard until now. The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Héctor Tobar received exclusive access to the miners and their tales. These 33 men came to think of the mine, a cavern inflicting constant and thundering aural torment, as a kind of coffin, and as a church

where they sought redemption through prayer. Even while still buried, they all agreed that if by some miracle any of them escaped alive, they would share their story only collectively.

We meet on Thursday, October 20, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Michelle Christensen, 1331 West Mountain Avenue, Fort Collins, 80521.

NOVEMBER—**Mariano's Crossing** by David Jessup. 390 pages.

Winner of the Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers Contest, Mariano's Crossing will transport readers to the early days of settlement in the Colorado Rockies. Mariano Medina, former mountain man and friend to the likes of Kit Carson, has changed with the times and made a place for himself as a successful businessman with a trading post on the Big Thompson River. With his Indian wife, Takansy, and his children, he strives for the same recognition and respect from his neighbors that he'd earned among the mountain men. But the influx of new settlers instead brings bigotry and resentment. As his business interests expand, Medina pins his hopes on his daughter Lena, an accomplished horsewoman whom he's determined to turn into a "lady" as part of his desire for acceptance and admiration along the Big Thompson. But his wife has other ideas. She wants Lena to pursue her skills with horses, her "spirit path." This is a novel of family dynamics and community prejudices set against the larger backdrop of the taming of the West.

We meet on Thursday, November 17, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Florence Doksansky, 3695 Leopard Street, Loveland, 80537.

WE DO NOT MEET IN DECEMBER.

Continued on page 31.

Music Ministry

Adam Torres

As I get older, I am amazed at how quickly time passes by. This summer is no exception to the brisk-paced nature of life, and it is astounding that we are already in preparations for the fall.

The music ministries continue to thrive, even in a lighter summer load. As with every summer, the chancel choir and bell choir members have more time to attend and serve in worship through other ministries, and the praise band also leads worship on a less frequent basis. However, this allows many individuals the opportunity to offer their talents and gifts as vocalists and instrumentalists. I am grateful for the many individuals who will have shared offering solos and duets, and for those who have participated in worship as a song leader. I am also grateful for our continued journeys with KATHY PEIFFER, who is a steady presence as a skillful pianist and organist.

This summer, the praise band met in fellowship to wish a happiest of retirements from the band to JAKE JACOBSON, who has been playing guitar at Zion for decades. Jake will continue to play on an occasional basis outside of Zion; if you've never heard his cowboy songs, treat yourself to the opportunity sometime in the next year!

Zion is also extremely grateful for the shared talents from LINDA ANDERSON and JULIE WILSON, who have contributed their skills as keyboardists, percussionists, and singers for years and years. As Linda and Julie continue their faith journey, I wanted to express my sincerest gratitude for the opportunity to make music with both of them during my tenure at Zion, and I look forward to the opportunity to possibly work with them in the future! For the time being, the band will continue with ERIN BACHMAN, DESIREE BOYCE, EMILY CASSELL, PHIL FREED, PAUL JONCAS, NITA STARR, and DAVE WOLFE.

I am looking forward to the return of the chancel choir and bell choir this fall, and I am especially anxious for the inaugural year for our children's music ministry, which will add a wonderful musical variety and present new opportunities for our youth to serve in worship through music. [See article on page 14.] This fall will begin a new chapter for the music ministries, and I hope you will be with us as we explore these new horizons.

As always, thank you for your prayers, your time within the ministry, and your support of the music ministries.

Milwaukee Children's Choir In Appreciation

It is with most sincere gratitude that I offer my appreciation and thanks for the countless number of families and individuals who offered their time, homes, and talents to create a great experience for the Milwaukee Children's Choir (MCC). It is no small feat to provide meals and host families for approximately 50 individuals, and for two nights, no less! Seeing so many of you supporting MCC with a great concert attendance helped provide a meaningful performance stop for these talented young musical artists.

With all of the tremendously positive feedback received from both the Zion community and from the Milwaukee Children's Choir, I eagerly anticipate future opportunities to present musical groups of this caliber. The MCC concert was filled with a potpourri of musical styles, which means there was something for everyone! Thank you, thank you, thank you, for your continued support of the music ministries at Zion, and for all that you do .

Introducing L2F2 Loveland Lutheran Faith Formation

Since last fall, representatives from both King of Glory and Zion have been dreaming about the possibility of strengthening one another in our faith formation ministries for all generations. A plan was presented to council, and subsequently to the congregation entailing what this partnership might look like. We received great feedback from both of these presentations, and were able to make some modifications to the plan.

What has come out of these conversations is a new ministry called L2F2 (Loveland Lutheran Faith Formation). Many faith formation opportunities are often planned by each individual congregation, without a thought that we are spending valuable resources of time and money to replicate the same or similar ministries. To that end, L2F2 will pool the resources of both congregations to plan some of those events together.

Both King of Glory and Zion have new faith formation staff who are starting their ministry at

the same time. CARY MATHIS has been called to serve L2F2 and Zion, and JOE JEDRZEJEWSKI has been called to serve L2F2 and King of Glory. Each will spend plenty of time in ministry serving the congregations to which they have been called, but they will also participate with the pastors and other members of each congregation to plan shared ministry for all ages. Watch for details as that planning and dreaming come together.

Until then, please plan to welcome Cary and Joe to this ministry on Sunday, August 28. We will have an installation and blessing for their ministry during both worship services, and we will have an opportunity to get to know both of them better with conversation and activities at a potluck picnic after worship.

We are blessed by such a unique opportunity for ministry, and look forward to ministry with both Cary and Joe.

Meet Joe Jedrzejewski

King of Glory Faith Formation Coordinator



My name is Joseph Jedrzejewski, and I am the new Faith Formation Cross-Generational Minister over at King of Glory Lutheran! I am honored to have the opportunity to work with both of our congregations together to help form faith in the hearts and minds of all of our members. I, along with several of our young people, am excited to see what the future holds for our shared ministry

together! If you want to get to know me more, please introduce yourself to me on August 28 at our joint installation at both services, or email me at joe@aplace2grow.org.

Excited to get to know you all!

**Meet and Greet
Cary and Joe
The L2F2 Staff
Sunday, August 28
Potluck Picnic
following Worship**

News from Lutheran Campus Ministry

This is the season to welcome back students to our campus communities!

Please help us reach out to new college 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 your students to be a part of Lutheran Campus Ministry. You can also easily connect your student with any Lutheran Campus Ministry in the country by going to www.elcacampusministry.org.



You don't know any students, but you love to cook? Meals are needed for our communities on Sunday nights. For more information, contact Pastor Deb Abbott at lcm.unco@gmail.com at Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at the University of Northern Colorado or Pastor Paul Judson at pastor@lcmcsu.org at Lutheran Campus Ministry at Colorado State University. Thank you!

Woman to Woman

Desiree Boyce

Starting September: Second Monday of each month—6:30 p.m.

Since it is an election year, I invited past members to vote for the book that would interest them most from a list of suggestions with a vote deadline of July 27, 2016.

And the winner is . . .

Words are powerful! They can build up or tear down. They can encourage or discourage. If you desire to learn to control your tongue and use your words to lift up those around you, please consider joining Woman to Woman. We'll be reading **The Power of a Woman's Words** by Sharon Jaynes. Jaynes is an international speaker and author who understands that our words can positively influence our friends, husbands, children, and others who want to draw nearer to God.

Woman to Woman is a woman-focused, informal Bible study group that meets the second Monday

of the month in the homes of its members. We enjoy food and fellowship together typically until about 9:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Our first meeting for the season is September 12, 2016. We'll begin at 6:30 p.m. with dessert and light appetizer followed by a discussion of select chapters.

You can pick up your book and companion workbook under "Zion" at the front desk of Barnes and Noble at Centerra.

If you have any questions, please call DESIREE BOYCE at 970-227-9227 or email her at drbt2006@msn.com.

We look forward to sharing in fellowship and fun with returning and new members.

Zion Afternoon Book Group Selections for 2016/2017

Ginger Klein

The Zion afternoon book group meets the third Thursday of each month, September through May, at 1:30 p.m. at Zion. Anyone interested is invited to join this group of avid readers. The books selected for the 2016/2017 season are as follows.

- September 15 **All the Light We Cannot See** by Anthony Doerr.
- October 20 **Deep Down Dark: The Untold Stories of 33 Men Buried in A Chilean Mine, and the Miracle that Set Them Free** by Hector Tobar.
- November 17 **Mariano's Crossing** by David Jessup.
- December 15 **Sarah's Key** by Tatiana DeRosnay.
- January 19 **Red Badge of Courage** by Stephen Crane.
- February 16 **Family Tree** by Barbara Delinsky.
- March 16 **Look at You Now** by Liz Pryor.
- April 20 **Tomboy Bride: A Woman's Personal Account of Life in Mining Camps of the West** by Harriett Fish Backus.
- May 18 **The Horse Boy** by Rupert Issacson.

ZQT (Zion Quilt Ti-ers)

Thank you for the donations of fabric and blankets that made possible the 55 quilts we finished from September to May and donated to Lutheran World Relief.

Please keep us in mind as you come across fabric for quilt tops, or blankets we might use as quilt linings. These donations may be left in the church office.

Our quilts are used in so many places for warmth, simple tents, floor coverings, or a wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back.

Come and join us to tie the layers together the third Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at Zion. Call us with any questions.

SUSAN OSBORN 970-685-8520

ARLENE RONEY 970-667-8220

BEVERLY WEISS 970-669-9571

Adult Faith Formation

Janie Lichtfuss will lead a 5-week class titled "The Mission of Jesus," starting September 11.

In this new study, Ray Vander Laan takes us on a journey to Israel to explore what it means to be a kingdom of priests in a prodigal world by discovering the mission that God gave his people many centuries ago and how that impacts us today.

The cost is \$10.

Meet Cary Mathis

Zion Faith Formation Coordinator



Hello, my name is Cary, and I started at Zion in July 2016. I have been doing Faith Formation/Christian Education/Children,

Youth, and Family Ministry for over 18 years. I was delighted to have the opportunity for the July 2016 youth mission trip to be my first official start of ministry at Zion! This was my 24th mission trip and the only one where I did not have to be in charge, but instead was able to focus on the youth and getting to know them better! What a joy!

I have taken youth to four continents on mission trips, twice to the Holy Land, and look forward to hitting at least two more continents in the next 25 years of ministry. Just can't see having a mission trip to Antarctica.

I received my bachelor's degree in 1996 at Greenville College, Greenville, Illinois, a Christian liberal arts college of the Methodist tradition. My degree was in pastoral ministry, which included many classes in Old Testament, New Testament, and the Apocrypha. My other classes included Koine Greek (New Testament Greek), exegesis, Christian education, homiletics

(preaching), theology, church history, counseling, psychology, and philosophy, along with the basic courses.

In the summer of 1996, I started at Asbury Theological Seminary. I was there until winter of 1997. I found myself bored as the classes were so similar to my undergraduate classes, but then I was 23 and my classmates were in their 40s—the age I am now.

I have taken additional theological studies at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota; St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad, Indiana; and Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado.

In 2008, I received my master's degree in education from the University of Colorado. I also received my professional teaching license. I taught for a short time in Denver public schools, but soon found myself back serving in the church.

I love to travel, hike, bike, and dance, especially ballroom dancing. I plan to get married in the summer of 2017 to my fiancée Janelle Kahler of San Diego, California. She will be moving to Loveland. I will be a proud stepfather to three young adult women.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

—1 JOHN 4:7-11

L2F2 Events

Summerfest Winona Pool Sunday, August 14 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Join your friends from Zion. Meet new friends from King of Glory. Come to Winona pool on Sunday, August 14, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. as we celebrate the end of summer with a splash. Invite your friends for the fun. Everyone is invited to bring a picnic dinner and enjoy fellowship together. Bring your swimsuit or watch others swim. Fun is had by all. We will provide the fixings for ice cream sundaes for everyone.

Game Night King of Glory Friday, September 16 5:30 p.m.

Come together for fun, food, and fellowship. We will have a potluck supper and play games throughout the evening. The young and the old and all those in between come for the fun. Bring your favorite dish to share and a favorite game and grow in fellowship with one another.

Fall Festival Home of Dennis and Jean Kuehl Saturday, October 22

(Rain date is October 29)

3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The Kuehls raise Belgian horses, have a beautiful property off Highway 66, and have invited us to join together in a Fall Festival at their place. We will have a chili supper together with everyone bringing sides to share, such as corn bread, fresh veggies, crackers, or dessert. The chili will be provided. Activities offered include hayrides, carving pumpkins, and enjoyable walks along the Highland Ditch. We will have a sign-up sheet as the time gets closer to help us plan accordingly.

Seventh Annual Christmas Bazaar

In the spirit of our faith formation partnership, King of Glory welcomes Zion to partner and contribute to the seventh annual Christmas bazaar, held November 12, 2016, at King of Glory.

The bazaar features donated items for sale, including woven handiwork, baked goods, needle crafts, other handmade crafts, quilts, holiday wall hangings, woodworking items, wreaths, baby necessities, knitted goods, and sewn items.

Last year, the bazaar raised over \$10,000 all of which was donated to the House of Neighborly Services.

Anyone interested to participate in this the annual bazaar should contact: Judi Krebs at 970-292-8446 or Jeannie Raabe at 970-685-4200.

Urban Plunge for Middle School Youth October 7—9

As we seek to grow as people of God we want to learn more about others and the struggles that they face. L2F2 middle school youth are invited to spend some intensive time growing in relationship with each other and learning more about what life is like for those who are homeless or near homeless in Denver.

We will participate in an Urban Plunge

Continued on page 7.

A Grand Opening

Loveland/Berthoud Salvation Army

Many people are in such difficult places in life they struggle to know what it means to be God's people. They may spend all of their waking hours simply trying to survive. A new ministry in Loveland promises to provide hope and comfort for some of Loveland's most struggling population. For many years, since the Salvation Army did not have a service center or an office, they have funded other ministries within Loveland to do their work. This year, the Salvation Army has seen a great enough need in our community to open a service center, located just south of King's Court Motel at 800 North

Lincoln. The presence of the Salvation Army Service Center is bittersweet. While it means that Loveland is growing to a point where homelessness is becoming a bigger problem, it also means there is more help. PASTOR JOEL has been able to have many conversations with the Salvation Army, and especially Olga Duvall, to strengthen the work between the Loveland Police chaplains, Salvation Army, and local congregations, and is excited about the growing partnerships. Please pray for this ministry, and if you are curious, drop by the Salvation Army building any time for a tour.

Excerpts from the Reporter Herald article by Shelley Widhalm, Reporter-Herald Staff Writer posted 5/14/2016 06:10:58 PM MDT. http://www.reporterherald.com/news/ci_29893431/salvation-army-to-hold-grand-opening.

The nonprofit opened the downtown Loveland office March 1 to accommodate a change from a service extension unit run entirely by volunteers to a staffed service center. Staff and volunteers at the service center provide direct services to the Loveland and Berthoud communities, or the area served by Thompson School District, and the office is open 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

The Salvation Army provides a variety of emergency and homelessness prevention services, including rental, utilities and prescription assistance, bus passes and emergency food, pet food, and hygiene items. The majority of requests so far have been for emergency rent assistance with the average at \$300.

"One of the biggest needs we see in Loveland and Larimer County is the need for housing and housing assistance," said Olga Duvall, service center coordinator of the Salvation Army's Loveland office.

The agency, staffed by one employee and 10 regular weekly volunteers, doesn't have any income qualifications but requires those seeking assistance to live in the Thompson School District boundaries.

"I would like people in the community to see it as a friendly, welcoming place where you can get help," Duvall said.



Olga Duvall is the service center coordinator of the new office for the Loveland/Berthoud Salvation Army.

Health Care

The Healing of Colorado: A Community Forum about Amendment 69 (ColoradoCare)

August 17—7:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
1005 Stover Street, Loveland

On August 17 at 7:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church (FUMC), 1005 Stover Street, is a community forum sponsored by the Church and Society Committee at FUMC and the League of Women Voters Health Care Committee. Noted speaker T.R. Reid, a retired foreign correspondent for the



Author T.R. Reid is a noted speaker and retired foreign correspondent for the Washington Post.

Washington Post, will be presenting information about Amendment 69 which will achieve universal health care in Colorado.

T.R. Reid is noted for his book, *The Healing of America* and his PBS Frontline Documentary, *Sick Around the World*. We encourage you to read his book or watch this documentary online.

This forum aims to enlighten people of faith with information about ColoradoCare, Amendment 69, and help them discern the best way to achieve affordable, accessible, and accountable health care in the State of Colorado.

We will be voting on Amendment 69 this coming November. Check out ColoradoCare.org for more information.

What are Stephen Ministers?

Stephen Ministers are laypersons trained to provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care. They have a compassionate heart for those who are hurting and they're equipped with caring ministry skills by their congregation's Stephen Leaders. A Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person regularly to listen, care, pray, encourage, and offer emotional and spiritual support. Stephen Ministers provide care to individuals facing difficult times in life—grief, cancer, divorce, financial difficulties, hospitalization, chronic illness, job loss, disability, loneliness, a spiritual crisis, or other life struggles.

Zion has had a standing presence in Stephen Ministry since the early 1990s. You'd be surprised how many in the congregation have trained to be a Stephen Minister since that time. There is a cadre of active Stephen Ministers currently. Our most recent class was commissioned in February, and our next class will begin next year. In the meantime, we will continue meeting on the third Wednesday of each month for our supervision sessions and potluck. We intend to schedule continuing education sessions—some of which may be expanded and offered for church-wide attendance.

If you want to find out more about Stephen Ministry, please ask any of our Stephen Leaders or Pastor Sonja for information. We will be recruiting for a new class early next year and encourage you to explore your heart to consider becoming a Stephen Minister.

Zion's Stephen Leaders are BRENT ANDERSON, CHERYL GILLPATRICK, GINGER KLEIN, and JAY LUJAN.

stephen
MINISTRY.

L2F2 Events

Bowling and Hanging with Cary and Joe Saturday, September 10

Let's welcome Cary and Joe to L2F2 with a bowling blast! All middle school and high school youth from Zion and King of Glory are invited to bowling and pizza at The Summit with Cary and Joe. We will meet at King of Glory at 6:30 p.m. and carpool to The Summit together.

We will also be installing Cary and Joe at King of Glory at the 5:30 p.m. worship service that evening. So come for worship and stay for the fun.

Parents and adults are also invited to come and spend time in the adult-only lanes while the youth are hanging with Cary and Joe. We will bowl from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at The Summit. L2F2 will cover the cost for all who want to go bowling. Make sure that you sign up, so we have enough bowling lanes and food for everyone.

Urban Plunge continued from page 6.

coordinated by DenUM (Denver Urban Matters) on October 7—9.

On the Urban Plunge we will hear what life is like on the streets from a formerly homeless man, learn what it means to live off food stamps, and how to serve others in need.

We will leave Friday late afternoon and return on Sunday around noon.

Come and learn and grow.

Bridge Ministries Planning Meeting King of Glory Sunday, September 18—12:00 Noon

Len Koch, Ministry Coordinator

King of Glory offers a new ministry for people who are 55+ called Bridge Ministries, the purpose of which is to ensure that the growing senior population of its members is kept engaged in the activities of the church community and educated on how to navigate the future and how to find resources to enrich their lives whether they are partnered or single and regardless of their living situations.



The format of this ministry is a monthly continuing education class held on Sunday afternoons beginning with a light lunch followed with a presentation by resources from within the congregation or the local community. Each class is intended to last 1 hour, including the lunch. The 2015/2016 schedule included smart phone applications, staying safe at home, writing as a legacy, funeral planning, and medical directives and associated legal issues.

As we join together for L2F2, we at King of Glory would like to partner with interested members of Zion to be a part of our Bridge Ministries, to come together once a month for food, learning, and conversation.

The classes are scheduled from fall through April. In 2016/2017, we plan to discuss how to use digital technology to stay connected and extend our discussion on writing and leaving a legacy in photos and letters. but beyond that, we don't have a schedule of topics. For that, we would like to join together for a combined planning meeting. Please join us on Sunday, September 18, at noon at King of Glory in the fellowship room. We are excited about our new ministry partnership and look forward to what we can do together.

Among Members and Friends

At Rest in Our Father's House

Prayers for family and friends of long-time Zion member, **Marvin Hoffman**, who died on July 8, 2016, and whose funeral was on July 13 at Zion. We keep in prayers his daughter, Vicki, and son, Rich.

Joyous Celebrations of the Gift of Baptism

We rejoice with Christine and Kyle Murphy at the baptism of their son, **Samuel Murphy**, on May 29, 2016.

We rejoice with Erik and Val Dahlen at the baptism of their daughter, **Brielle Dahlen**, on June 26, 2016.

Joyous Celebration of Marriage

God bless the marriage of **Emilee Mai** and **Kellian LaMonda** who were married on June 5, 2016. Kellian serves in the Air Force and has been transferred to Japan. Emilee and Kellian will move to Japan at the end of August. Blessings to Emilee and Kellian in their new life together.

To Zion Lutheran Church,

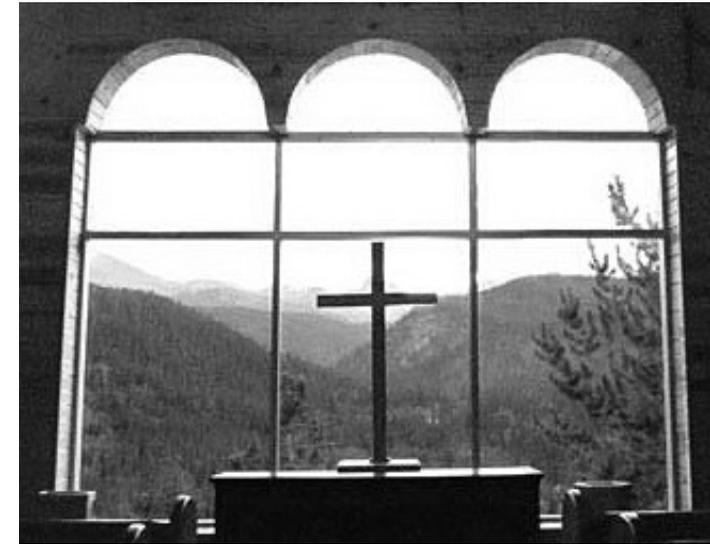
We want to thank everyone who cared for our family as we said goody-bye to our mother, Pat Buck. Thank you to all of her friends who came to her service and to Pastor Sonja. It made me smile to know she had so many "pew buddies." We would like to offer a memorial gift of \$230 to Zion to be used specifically for camp scholarships, to help families send their children to Sky Ranch. I grew up at Zion and spent many happy summers at Sky Ranch. It will make mom smile in heaven to know that she helped another child experience that.

With gratitude,

Kathryn Strong, Michael Buck, and Christopher Buck

We Keep in Prayer

Zion offers up prayers for those in need—for members, for friends, for community, and for the world.



ZION WOMEN'S RETREAT NOVEMBER 12-13, 2016

"FULLNESS OF JOY"

by

EMMA K. LEE, MFT

You show me the path of life.

In your presence there is fullness of joy;

—PSALM 16:11

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 retreat will begin on Saturday morning and conclude on Sunday afternoon. If you would like to go up on Friday evening, an extra night option will be available. Registration will begin in early September so start making plans to attend now. *Scholarships will be available.*

For more information, contact one of the following:

VALERIE BOYCE primroseplace@msn.com
VICKI JOHNSON vickij55@aol.com
KATHY LOKEN kloken@comcast.net

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 companionship has been documented. The Spiritual Director may help a person become more aware of God's presence in



Emma K. Lee

everyday life, discern one's purpose in the world, and respond to God with integrity.



Sky Ranch bids a fond farewell to long-time program directors Andy Sprain and Kathryn Seyfarth



In true Lutheran style, we write to announce news that is BOTH sad AND exciting: 2016 will mark the final summer of service for both Sky Ranch Program Directors, Kathryn Seyfarth and Andy Sprain. Their leaving our staff is the sad part because we all know how much they have invested both professionally and personally in moving Sky Ranch to the place that it is today. We will miss them deeply. Our excitement is for Andy and Kathryn as they leave to pursue new opportunities.

For Kathryn, this marks the end of seven summers at Sky Ranch. This includes three summers serving on seasonal staff as the Art and Nature Education Specialist (2009), the Elementary School Coordinator (2011), and the Onsite Director (2012), and then four summers (2013-2016) as our year round Program Director. Most recently Kathryn has overseen our elementary and middle school onsite, traveling day camp, and high school leadership programs, as well as our congregational outreach efforts

For Andy, this marks the end of 12 summers at Sky Ranch. This includes three summers serving on seasonal staff as a counselor (2003), offsite guide (2006), and Community Director (2007), and nine summers serving on year round staff in both Program Director and Associate Director capacities. Most recently, Andy has overseen our high school rendezvous, backpacking, and service programs, as well as our marketing efforts

Together, Kathryn and Andy have been instrumental in Sky Ranch's recent programmatic success, including an almost 50% increase in campers since 2013. They have helped recruit, train, and mentor hundreds of staff and have welcomed and provided hospitality to thousands of campers and guests. As Sky Ranch enters a new chapter of programmatic leadership and vision, we give thanks for the passion and dedication that Andy and Kathryn have provided and the vibrant, Spirit-filled ministry they have helped to lead.

Reprinted from Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp email to Pastor Joel Pancoast July 31, 2016.

Among Members and Friends

Thank You Letters to Zion

- March 16, 2016—From Wartburg Theological Seminary for the gift of a beautiful banner for Bruce Burbank.
- April 18, 2016—From Loveland's Community Kitchen for a donation of \$375.
- April 26, 2016—From Food Bank for Larimer County for a gift of \$569.01.
- May 26, 2016—From Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp for a gift of \$525.
- June 1, 2016—From Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at the University of Northern Colorado for a donation of \$125.
- June 17, 2016—From Global Health Ministries for the gift of \$14,930.10 for the new well at the hospital in Ejeda, Madagascar.
- June 23, 2016—From Wartburg Theological Seminary for the gift of \$228 in honor of Bruce Burbank's Ordination.
- July 11, 2016—From House of Neighborly Service for the contribution of 431 pounds of food and toiletries and \$1,543.
- July 14, 2016—From Loveland's Community Kitchen for a donation of \$1,027.

Thank you, thank you to our Zion family, for all of the prayers, cards, calls, and treats for Mel when he was so sick. He's much improved and getting better every day. We praise God for His love shown through you.

Mel and Mary Jo Haack

Bruce Burbank and the banner from Zion on the occasion of his graduation from seminary.



Dear Layne [Elder] and Sophia [Pancoast], Thank you for the wonderful Pentecost Potato Soup Mix! I will enjoy it with my family and I LOVE potato soup! Thanks too for all your enthusiasm and support for so much that the church is doing to share the love of Christ. I sure enjoyed meeting you both and visiting Zion!

*In Christ,
Pastor Doug [Cox]*

Dear Pastors Sonja and Joel, Thank you for the incredible gift to Global Health Ministries for benefiting Ejeda Hospital! As you know, the amount of donations you collected should pay for a new well and also offer more to strengthen this hospital's ministry. I will send you a more formal note when the final amount is settled. Meanwhile, I also want to thank you for inviting me to join you in Loveland. A mission motivated congregation like Zion is an inspiration! Thank you!

*Together in Christ,
Pastor Doug Cox*

Among Members and Friends



Zion's Cathy Glaser tries to steady a stack of pencil boxes while setting up for the Thompson Education Foundation school supply drive.

Backpacks to fill

Thank you for your donation of \$2,000 in support of the Help Kids Succeed Fund. Thank you for Zion Lutheran's generous support of HKS.

Kim Akeley-Charron
Executive Director
Thompson Education Foundation

Volunteers kicked off the effort Tuesday, July 26, by unpacking the supplies and others stuffed them into backpacks on July 27 and 28. These supplies will fill 1,700 backpacks for students in need in schools throughout the Thompson School District.

“Moses and I-Am” — a play by Kathleen Hopkins selected to be performed in Denver

Some of you know the amazing talents Zion member KATHLEEN HOPKINS has as a playwright. She wrote the script for the Easter Vigil last Spring, as performed by the confirmation youth. In July, Kathleen was honored by having one of her plays, titled “Moses and I-Am,” selected to be performed at Vintage Theatre in Denver for a night called “Bible Stories!”

Sunday, Aug. 7
7:00 p.m.
Vintage Theatre

One Night Stand Theater presents
Bible Stories!
From the sacred to the silly to the satirical, join us for our Sunday-Night Sunday School as we present plays and stories about heroes, villains, and colorful characters from the Good Book.
Sunday, Aug. 7, 2016
7:00pm at Vintage Theatre
1468 Dayton St., Aurora - 1/2 block south of Colfax in Old Downtown Aurora
Tickets \$10.00
INFO & RESERVATIONS: 303-725-4959
or tickets@OneNightStandTheater.org

Newsletter Kudos Great Job !!!

I so appreciate receiving your newsletter. Of course, it's wonderful to know what is keeping our kids busy, but more importantly I so appreciate your format (wish it were monthly). EYE ON ZION is excellent, not only for making known your mission, but giving details about the programs of that mission and where anyone can plug in to help or get more information.

We receive several newsletters from other churches, and it is so frustrating to wade through the “filler” and inspiration, stuff I can find anywhere online or in my devotions, before I find out what is really happening or what I need to do.

So here's your flowers, balloons, cake-n-ice cream, and praises for a job well done!!! Of course, special thanks for your loving care of my kids when I can't be there. It is such a comfort to know how God cares for us and keeps us connected.

With love,
Mom Kathy Pancoast
[Pastor Joel's mother]

Boy Scout Troop 314 Summer 2016 Update Chip Leadbetter

Troop 314 is wrapping up a busy summer of exciting events! We have been to so many places, seen so many faces, and had experiences that will last a lifetime!

The biggest news is our first Eagle Scout since becoming Troop 314! Collin Miller completed all the necessary requirements and performed his eagle project, just making the deadline of his 18th birthday and was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout! This is a huge accomplishment for any young man, and Collin did it while also playing football, AP academic classes and an advanced research project with radio telescopes. Congratulations Collin!



Our hectic summer began with Memorial Day, where we joined several other troops in town at 4:30 a.m. to help the Elks Lodge raise all the flags at the Loveland Cemetery to honor our military members lost. On Flag Day, we assisted the Elks Lodge to retire over 100 distressed American Flags and honor our military members.

We sent four of our scouts to attend the National Youth Leadership Training event this year. **Huge thanks to Zion Lutheran for sponsoring two of the attendees to this training course.** NYLT is a nationally recognized premier leadership training program where the attendees spend a week operating as a patrol to complete a rigorous training course, learn advanced leadership skills and gain tight friendships along the way. All four returned to us significantly matured and capable from only a single week!

The troop journeyed to Buffalo Bill summer camp in Wyoming, near Yellowstone, where we spent a week earning merit badges, hiking, shooting, swimming, boating, and learning new things. We were able to spend a whole day in Yellowstone seeing sights like mud pots, geysers, falls, buffalo, elk, and more. We returned dirtier, thinner, and tired, but with wide grins and great memories.



Once again this year, we parked cars for the 4th of July fireworks celebrations around Lake Loveland. As our biggest fundraiser of the year, nearly the whole troop participated to cover three different lots all day and into the evening. We parked over 400 cars that day and were able to take a break and watch the brilliant colors in the sky.



We sent a group of our more experienced scouts to a high adventure trip at Philmont Scout Ranch, near Cimarron New Mexico. There they trekked over 75 miles in 8 days, crossing two mountains, while carrying everything they needed on their backs, including all the food. Blisters were almost as common as the beautiful vistas.

Aside from these highlights, the boys participated in a multitude of other activities as a troop and individual patrols. Rock climbing, fishing, hiking Devil's Backbone to Fort Collins and back, visiting community leaders, community service projects, and many more. We are always looking for young men seeking a challenge and opportunity to have fun while gaining skills and learning leadership. If you know one who might be interested, send them our way!



The Cheyenne people put on a pow-wow just for us, at the same circle where their ancestors celebrated their victory at Little Bighorn.



The L2F2 (Loveland Lutheran Faith Formation) group together for evening Bible study.

GIRL TALK

High School Girls Mentoring Middle School Girls Tuesday Evenings from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Zion Begins September 6

Middle school is an amazing time as a girl's independence and identity develop. This time is also often a great challenge as well because of so many changes physically, socially, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually.

Throughout our entire lives, we seek to grow as a child of God and become who God has created us to be. Middle school and high school are critical times to become God's children and claim this identity as a foundation of who we are and whose we are.

In the book **The Drama Years**, Haley Kilpatrick discusses how three things help middle school girls to navigate these waters. The first is having an activity outside of school to create relationships and passion. The second is finding a way to serve others and share the gifts God has given. The third thing is having a high school mentor who has already navigated these waters. To that end, Haley developed the nonprofit organization, Girl Talk.

Girl Talk helps high school girls mentor middle school girls to deal with the triumphs and trials of the early teenage years. The mission of Girl Talk is to help young teenagers build self-esteem, develop leadership skills, and recognize the value of community service. High school girls are able to experience leadership and make a difference in

the lives of others as they mentor middle school girls. You can learn more about this organization at www.mygirltalk.org.



At Zion, we know the power of mentoring through our confirmation mentors and are excited to be able to be starting this program to help our high school girls grow in leadership and our middle school girls

find support as they grow into the beautiful children of God that they are created to be.

All middle school girls are invited to participate. You do not have to be a member of Zion or King of Glory. Any middle school girl can benefit from this amazing program.

Any high school girl is invited to become a Girl Talk leader. Simply speak with PASTOR SONJA or RACHEL SAMUELS to learn more.

The mission of Girl Talk is to help young teenagers build self-esteem, develop leadership skills, and recognize the value of community service.

Faith Formation Milestones

Pastor Sonja Pancoast

Throughout our lives, we are becoming God’s people. We begin our faith journey with the milestone of baptism and then along the way we have a variety of milestones to mark our journey. We celebrate these milestones in the coming months.

**Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday, August 21
8:15 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.**

Join us in worship as we begin the school year blessing students, teachers, and administrators as part of our worship service. God has given us the gift of education and learning. As we start the school year, we commit ourselves to using our God-given gifts and becoming the children of God that we are created to be. Come for a prayer and blessing to start the school year off on the right foot.

**Entry into Sunday School
Sunday, September 11
8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.**

As our infants grow into preschoolers, we want to mark their entry into a more formal faith education in our Sunday school program. All children 3 years old will celebrate the Entry into Sunday school milestone on Sunday, September 11. These children we claimed as children of God in their baptism and mark this milestone as they continue to grow in their faith as they become a part of God’s people.

**First Bibles and Entry into Confirmation Milestone
Sunday, September 25**

God’s story forms our story. When a child is baptized, they receive a children’s Bible to hear God’s word at their level. As children begin to read, we place in their hands the Holy Scriptures so that they can read God’s Word for

themselves. Third graders will receive their First Bibles on Sunday, September 25, in both worship services. Parents and children are invited to attend the First Bibles Milestone preparation class on Sunday, September 18, at noon until 2:00 p.m. We will have lunch together and then learn more about God’s word and how we can read scripture together as a family and teach our children how to read scripture on their own.

We also will be presenting our incoming confirmation students with a Lutheran Study Bible. As they begin this new phase of their faith journey, our middle school youth begin to ask more complex questions. We want to be able to provide the resources at their fingertips so they can grow as a child of God and become more deeply connected to God’s people from biblical times to the present.

**Confirmation Kickoff
Sunday, September 11
Noon—2:00 p.m.**

All middle school youth and their parents are invited to the confirmation kickoff. Confirmation is a period of deepening instruction in the faith as our children grow into youth whose faith is becoming their own. They are moving toward affirming that they want to continue to be part of the people of God who are grounded in the self-giving love of Jesus Christ. We will gather for lunch as we hear about plans for the coming year.

Continued on page 13.



Maurice Limberhand, member of the Northern Cheyenne Nation.



Time for play and bonding after a long work day. Michael Teesdale and Bob Majeski arm wrestling, and Emilee Christensen cheering them on.



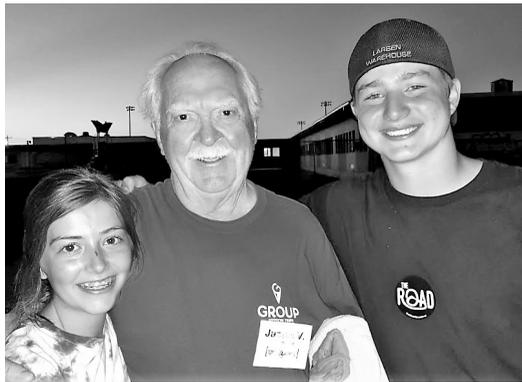
Prayer time and togetherness.



Dancing and singing together at worship.



Touring Wind Cave on our way to workcamp: Liza Arzuolaitis, Jennifer Robinson, Tyne Klammer, Olivia Tate, Emilee Christensen, Bob Majeski, Tyler Green, Danae Burseth, and Emma Blundell.



Olivia Tate, Jim Vosberg (who served on the workcamp staff as a site coach), and Scott Teesdale.



Workcamp isn't all work. Tyler Green ate 15 pudding cups, while Olivia Tate and Scott Teesdale cheered him on.



Pastor Joel's work crew, who painted, installed skirting on the bottom of the trailer home, and built a deck with stairs to be able to exit the back door.

Faith Formation Milestones continued from page 12.

Affirmation of Baptism Sunday, October 30 10:45 a.m. Worship

We celebrate with our 9th graders who are affirming their faith. They have spent intensive time learning and growing in their faith and are ready to take the next step in their faith journey by affirming their baptism and affirming that they are committed to being a part of the faith community gathered here at Zion. They will be presenting their faith statements on Sundays in

October and will be affirming their baptismal promises at the 10:45 a.m. worship on Reformation Sunday, October 30.

Youth who will be affirming their faith are:

- ELLIE BLACK
- TYNE KLAMMER
- JENNIFER ROBINSON
- OLIVIA TATE
- COLBY VREM
- TYLER WOLFE.

Sunday School Kids Buy a Cow



Zion's children celebrate that they raised over \$500 from their Sunday school offerings to buy a cow from ELCA World Hunger.

GoodHealthwill First Aid Kits Sunday, August 21 9:30 a.m.

We come together to make first aid kits for the Loveland nonprofit organization GoodHealthwill between the worship services on Sunday, August 21. Throughout July, we gathered items for the kits. The rest of the items needed for these kits will be supplied by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans as part of a Thrivent Action Grant. These kits will be given to GoodHealthwill who will distribute them to those in need in our community.

Painting the playground at Monroe elementary Tuesday, September 6

Youth and adults are invited to help paint Monroe's playground on Tuesday, September 6. The equipment was to have been replaced, but the district postponed that project for a year. The equipment is in great need of a new coat of paint to brighten up the playground and let the kids know that they matter. Children are out of school on this day because it is a work day for the teachers.

We will meet at Zion at 8:30 a.m. and head over. Lunch will be provided. Anyone who wants to help out needs to sign up in advance because we need to sign a waiver for the district.

Children's Music Ministry Update

Adam Torres

As the fall quickly approaches, I am extremely excited to share a brief update regarding the new children's music ministry program that we will be beginning this fall. The search team, as of this newsletter deadline, is in the final stages in choosing the right candidate to build our children's music ministry program (Assistant Music Director). It is my expectation that our next quarterly newsletter will highlight the biography of our newest addition to the Zion staff.

The children's music ministry is a wonderful opportunity for children to experience music in a faith-based setting, developing their curiosity and exploring their inner talents. The children's music ministry will have an opportunity to be a part of

the Sunday school programs, will offer programs during the week after school, and even have a presence during the summer. Soon, our music ministry will be blessed to integrate ensembles from the children's music ministry into the rotation, and I am confident of the joy these children will bring as they develop into lifelong worship participants through music.

If you have any questions regarding the children's music ministry process, please contact me at music@zionloveland.com for more information.

Thank you for your prayers and support during our search process. Our patience and diligence will soon be rewarded as we begin this exciting new chapter in the music ministries at Zion.

Becoming God's People—A Ministry Fair at Zion on August 28

Life is like a tapestry—Debbie Joncas

Especially church life can be referred to a tapestry with its rich colors, textures, patterns, and yarn. Wait, or am I referring to weaving? Actually both. Think of comparing the rich colors to the life of any parish—our liturgical colors. Or our textures to all the different ministries that exist in churches. And then the patterns and yarn, which hold it all together. I would say that could be all of the parishioners weaving it all together by choosing a pattern and the yarn. Ok, so that is maybe a stretch and you would probably say I have weaving on my mind, you are right! But without the colors, textures, patterns, and yarn, there would be no tapestry or church. So now you can see where I am going with all of this.

When the Pastors asked me to fill the void and handle the volunteer ministries upon Ginger's retirement, I reluctantly said yes. "I don't know that many people and their gifts." Well, you have all been very patient with me and I have learned many of your names and gifts and when you are available....thank you so much. That has been truly a gift to me.

So, I think we are ready to go one step further. On the same day as Rally Day, Sunday, August 28, all morning, we are going to have a Ministry Fair in the fellowship hall. It will be a place for each of you to learn about the ministries at Zion and if your interest really peaks, sign up for one or more! This fair will be for everyone, of all ages. We are going to encourage the children to visit all the tables and hope to have as many ministries represented that day as possible. We then will follow up with training sessions in the near future. Also training will be available for Ministry Pro, the software that we use to help schedule all the ministry volunteers.

Be open to something new, a bold color or texture, or pattern and help with the 'weaving' at Zion. You never know where it will take you!

Zion Youth in Mission at Lame Deer, Montana, July 23-30. In Their Own Words continued from page 18.

It was gratifying to give freely in doing God's work. It felt like helping a family member. I was surprised that my experience and meaning came from mentoring the youth more than the work I helped complete.

TRACY DUBOVOS

This trip was amazing because all of the locals were very open and kind.

SCOTT TEESDALE

This trip meant a lot to me because it gave me the chance to help people, make new friends, and learn more about myself.

RYAN PRAZAN

My experience this week in Lame Deer was so energizing seeing the kids working for the people and sharing the love of God.

BOB MAJESKI

First I met lots of new people. Second I got to make someone's life better.

VINCENT DUBOVOS

I met a lot of new people. I worked hard and it was fun. Spent time with our youth group.

BRANDON LOWE

These trips always change you one way or another. For me, I feel like I'm truly alive.

TYLER GREEN

This mission trip led me to meet new friends and brought me closer to the people in my youth group. It allowed me to serve a less fortunate community.

DANAE BURSETH

It's such a great honor to be on this mission trip with these youth and adults! I feel like by going on this trip, I've gained 6 month's experience in getting to know these children of God. It was truly a blessing to serve the Northern Cheyenne people with such a fantastic group of youth and adults. Thank you for the opportunity.

CARY MATHIS

And In Their Photos



The whole crew at the beginning of the trip.

Zion Youth in Mission at Lame Deer, Montana

July 23-30

In Their Own Words

Lame Deer, Montana, was my fourth mission trip and like the others, it was undeniably powerful. I approached this week with little to no expectations. I had felt like I lost God's place in my life; like the puzzle was missing a piece but God's didn't fit. The direction of my future was unclear because I didn't want to make a drop in the ocean. I want to make waves. After a week of service, God sightings, jam sessions, fist bumps, new faces and places had passed, I feel I have found God's missing piece. I understand the value of having fun while completing God's work. I appreciate who I am and my abilities. I recognize that God gives me the power to be bold. Finally, I will allow God to make waves in me and with me. I will shine God's radiant, graceful light.

—HANNAH TATE

My first mission trip was truly amazing. I made bonds that will never break and have gained so much experience with service. I got to serve such an amazing community that welcomed me into their families, which I appreciated so much. I got to serve through God and spread so much love and hope to others. I absolutely loved it.

TYNE KLAMMER

It is so great to be able to be surrounded by people with the same passion for mission work. It is so rewarding to have the chance to give back to such deserving people with God's help.

EMMA BLUNDELL

This week I met very many people who impacted my life. I also realized just how great our God is. He knows who we are and accepts us as we are. He will never give up on us.

LIZA ARZUOLAITIS

This past week has shown me how fortunate and blessed I really am. I've learned to enjoy the things that make me happy while I have them. I am so grateful to have experienced such amazing things and see God's work in person.

RACHEL SAMUELS

It was so humbling to meet the little kids on the reservation. They have grown up with so little, but they are appreciative of everything that they do have. It makes me so grateful for the little things.

DAKOTAH BOWENS

My first mission trip was awesome. I made new friends and got to know my youth group better. And had lots of fun serving God.

JENNIFER ROBINSON

This mission trip was the best one I've been to. I made a lot of great relationships and the feeling I got after helping my resident was so wonderful. I felt like I had made a difference in someone's life.

EMILEE CHRISTENSEN

My mission trip was a unique experience. I had many realizations about God and my faith. I also learned how to serve God by showing love and support to the less fortunate. While learning about my faith and helping others, I made many friends and grew closer to the youth group.

OLIVIA TATE

It was cool to see how our being there brought joy to a whole community.

MICHAEL TEESDALE

Continued on page 19.

Sunday Morning Faith Formation 2016/2017

Each Sunday, we gather for worship to praise the living Lord and to have worship shape our hearts and minds as the people of God. We also offer faith formation education opportunities for children 3 years old to adults of all ages. These education opportunities help us to grow in our understanding of God's story and what it means to be and live as God's people.

Rally Day / Ministry Fair—Sunday, August 28—9:30 a.m.

As children and teachers are going back to school, we also kick off the Zion education year with a Rally Day. We will register children from age 3 through high school youth for Sunday school. In addition, we will recognize and promote the volunteer opportunities at Zion and in our community.

Sunday Morning Faith Formation Classes begin on Sunday, September 11, at 9:40 a.m.

Preschool

Children ages 3 through prekindergarten will dive deep into one story a month as they explore the story with a variety of multisensory ways, including art, games, snacks, and the Bible. The preschool children will meet in the Thompson Valley Preschool building.

Kindergarten—5th Grade

Our elementary children will dive deep into the same story as the preschool children, learning through the rotational-style format where they will hear the story through a movie, arts and crafts, drama, games, science, and cooking. The first Sunday of each new Bible study unit, we will have a family Sunday school so that everyone learns the story and can talk about it together. Students and their parents, grandparents, or faith parents will meet together in fellowship hall to learn the story and practice the home devotional FAITH5 format.

Middle School (6th—8th grade)

Middle school students will meet weekly and connect the Bible to their lives. The Sunday morning Sunday school integrates with the twice a month confirmation classes to give a strong foundation of faith as our middle school youth

grow and continue to become God's people.

High School (9th—12th grade)

Youth continue to grow as God's people. High school is a time when youth want to know more about the world around them and how their faith impacts their lives and the world. Each week the high school students will explore current events and their faith through the ELCA Blog Faith Lens which engages youth and young adults in connecting world events with Bible, faith, and everyday life.

Adults

Lutheran Forum offers discussions about ethical choices, current theological questions, biblical scholarship, and scientific studies and targeted conversations about how faith and grace shape our daily lives. This group, led by SCOTT SPRAIN, meets in one of the upper classrooms, September to May.

In addition, each Sunday morning one other adult education opportunity is offered, usually a biblical study led by JANIE LICHTFUSS or a class conducted by one of the pastors.

Growing as God's people in partnership with Monroe elementary

We are claimed in our baptism as a child of God. It takes a lifetime of growing and maturing as we continue to grow as God's people. One of the ways that we seek to live out our baptismal calling and to grow as God's people is to serve those in our neighborhood. As we serve, we are changed through our interactions with others as we grow deeper in our love of God and our love of neighbor.

This year we are excited to continue to grow in our partnership with Monroe elementary school right across the street from Zion. They serve the children in our community, and we want to assist them as they support children and families in our neighborhood. You can partner in this amazing ministry in a variety of ways. This year we are increasing our partnership to include the Early Childhood Learning Center, also located across the street from Zion. To participate, speak with PASTOR SONJA who coordinates this ministry or indicate your interest on the blue connection sheet enclosed in the Sunday bulletin or on the Serving in our Community bulletin board in fellowship hall.

Root Beer Floats on Title 1 Night Wednesday, August 17, 5:00 –6:00 p.m.

Kids will come and meet their teachers, bring (or receive) school supplies, and learn more about opportunities available at Monroe on the Title 1 night. We will serve root beer floats to the families who come that night. Monroe's PTO will provide the ice cream and root beer.

Help Get Classrooms Ready at Monroe Thursday, August 18

Come to help the teachers at Monroe get their classrooms ready for the arrival of their students. We will be helping with a variety of projects throughout the day on Thursday, August 18.

Back to School Night Sack Dinners Thursday, September 1

Families at Monroe are invited to Back to School night to learn more about how they can support their child's education through the coming year. In order to increase family participation, Zion will prepare 250 sack dinners. We will make them from noon to 3:00 p.m. at Zion and then take them

over to the school and serve them from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. We will also be serving dinners at the Early Childhood Learning Center.

Parent Teacher Conference Dinner Thursday, October 13

The teachers at Monroe do an amazing job caring for the children in their classrooms. We want to thank them and show them a little love for all that they do by providing dinner for them while they stay late for parent teacher conferences. We will also provide dinner for the Early Childhood Learning Center teachers.

School Accountability Committee Second Thursday of the Month—5:00-6:00 p.m.

The School Accountability Committee (SAC) looks for ways to make Monroe better. Each school has an SAC committee and encourages community members to be a part of this committee. This is different than the PTO which is the parents and teachers working to make the school better. SAC looks at academic data, helps decide curriculum directions for the school, and

Continued on page 17.

Growing as God's people in partnership with Monroe elementary continued from page 16.

gives input on the direction Monroe should move in the future. PASTOR SONJA currently serves on this committee and would love to have more members of Zion who are committed to making our community stronger also be part of this committee.

Boot Drive—October

We will be collecting boots for the children of Monroe throughout October. We will post a sign with the various sizes and genders of boots that are needed.

Weekly Classroom Volunteer

Many of the teachers can use an extra hand in the classroom. It may be reading one on one with a student, working with small groups while the teacher works with another small group, or working with students who need extra help in math, grading papers, shelving books in the library, or even putting up bulletin boards. We can help the amazing teachers at Monroe in many ways, and in turn enjoy the amazing experience helping out in the classroom and knowing that you are changing lives. Pastor Sonja spends 1 hour a week in a kindergarten classroom and we have a handful of other dedicated volunteers who help in various ways around the school. If you would like to commit 1 hour a week to help out at Monroe, speak with PASTOR SONJA.

Collect Box Tops and Campbell Soup Labels

A simple way that anyone can help Monroe is to collect box tops or Campbell's soup labels and place them in the donation box at Zion. Each label brings the school 10 cents. Those dimes add up quickly and make a significant impact for the school.

Monroe PTA Pozole Dinner Friday, September 16

6:00—8:00 p.m.

Zion Fellowship Hall and Parking Lot

Come and celebrate Mexican Independence Day with a pozole dinner sponsored by the Monroe PTA.

The food will be amazing: beans, rice, tamales, horchata (rice milk drink), and, of course, pozole (pork and hominy stew).

The cost for each dinner plate is \$5. Tickets will be sold in advance.

Organizers hope to add games, face painting, popcorn, and more to the festivities. Last year they had such an unexpected turnout that they had to add extra seating.

More information about how to purchase tickets will be available once the school year starts.

Mark your calendars now to come for some great food and the opportunity to get to know our neighbors.

**Pozole dinner night
is an event to
celebrate Mexican
Independence Day
and for us to grow
in relationship with
our neighbors.**