



# Eye on Zion

A Quarterly Newsletter for the People of Zion Lutheran Church

February-March-April  
2017

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Pastor Sonja Pancoast

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Adam Torres

### **Assistant Director of Music**

Noelle Bauman

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## Reformation: Then · Now · Always

*Pastor Joel Pancoast*

2017 marks a significant time in the life of the church. It was 500 years ago, in 1517, that Martin Luther posted 95 Theses (or reasons) to the castle church door in Wittenberg, Germany. These reasons explained where he thought that the church he loved so dearly had wandered from its purpose as the body of Christ in the world. It was that simple action that changed the church forever. As heirs of the Reformation, it is easy to take that heritage for granted.

Consider these gifts of the Reformation. The Reformation...

...made God's Word, the Bible, available to all people for the first time! Many of us have multiple Bibles in our homes, and don't realize what a blessing that is to have God's Word so readily available.

...freed grace from its chains of having to earn God's love, and declared that Jesus has already done it, and given that love to all as a free gift.

...made us aware of the promise of

Scripture that there is nothing we can do to make ourselves worthy of God's love, but we can respond to God's love with amazing words and actions for those around us.

We can go on forever about the gifts of the Reformation, but we have all year.

Honestly, I sometime shy away from emphasizing the Reformation too much in worship. Everyone at Zion does not know or appreciate the roots and gifts of the Reformation, so it seems like an "inside joke" to many people. Or worse, it sounds like triumphalism, a celebration that we are better than other churches, we have it right. But this year provides an opportunity to set aside those concerns and celebrate the gift of the Reformation, not because we have it better or even right, but because these gifts are often overlooked, misunderstood, or taken for granted. This year, all throughout the year, on this quincentennial (500-year

*Continued on page 2.*

*Reformation: Then • Now • Always continued from page 1.*

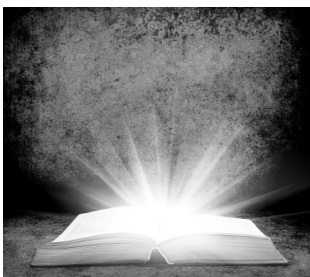
anniversary) of the Reformation, we will have numerous opportunities to learn about the Reformation, and what it means to belong to a church that is a direct heir of that movement. We will look at and celebrate history not for interesting information, but to understand the gifts of what it means to be the body of Christ today, to appreciate the unique voice centered on God's Word, and to encourage us to make that voice known in the world.

The ways we will celebrate the Reformation are still unfolding, and you will hear more in time. For now, know that we will focus on the gifts of Reformation in worship as we hear God's Word and it breaks open our hearts. Our theme for midweek Lenten conversations and services will focus on Reformation. We will have opportunities to watch the movie "Luther," filmed in 2003 and starring Joseph Fiennes, and "Luther and the Reformation," a Rick Steves film that explores both the roots and the continued journey of the gospel in the Lutheran Christian church. In the fall, we will gather for a celebration of the Reformation through music. Maybe we will have another opportunity to have Luther Fest like we did 4 years ago. If you have an idea, a question, or something you want to study, please share it with the church office, and we will see if we can make our quincentennial a meaningful celebration for all!

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## Stories to Transform

### The Parables of Luke is our focus for Sunday Worship during Lent March 5—April 2



Jesus often told stories to help people understand deeper meanings. Many times these stories pointed people to deeper truths in their lives and in their world. Throughout the Lenten season, we will explore the stories and parables that Jesus told in the Gospel of Luke and how they transformed and reformed the lives of the first hearers and reform and transform our lives as well.

March 5	Good Samaritan	Luke 10:25-37
March 12	Tower of Siloam and the Parable of the Fig Tree	Luke 13:1-9, 31-35
March 19	Prodigal Son	Luke 15:11-32
March 26	Rich Man and Lazarus	Luke 16:19-31
April 2	Zacchaeus	Luke 18:31-34, 19:1-10

# Music Ministry

*Adam Torres*

*Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through Music.*

—MARTIN LUTHER

What a wonderful year for the Lutheran Church, the quincentennial anniversary of Martin Luther's posting of the 95 Theses. I am excited to announce that the music ministry will be hosting a special music concert in honor of this milestone in the Lutheran (and, more generally, protestant) tradition. Details will be unveiled at a later date, but I hope this concert will be a joyful celebration of the music ministry at Zion.

As we look into the season of Lent, there are additional special music offerings on the horizon. During Lent, we will offer midweek Lenten soup suppers, discussion, and Holden Evening Prayer services on Wednesdays. We are blessed to have volunteers from the choir and beyond lead in these services. If you are interested in being a part of this musical leadership, please send an e-mail to [music@zionloveland.com](mailto:music@zionloveland.com).

The music ministry continues to work week in, and week out. Between the bell choir, children's music ministry, chancel choir, and praise band, worship at Zion continues to be enhanced through music; thank you to the many volunteers who offer their time and services to this important ministry.

There will be a few upcoming opportunities to hear guest artists as well—the Lutheran Men of Song will be offering their voices on February 26 at the 8:15 a.m. traditional service. It is always a treat to hear this men's choir during worship at Zion. In the upcoming weeks, Zion will also feature the gifts and talents of Lydia Hynson, cello, and Carrie Hansen, piano. The children's music ministry will return to worship on March 5 at the 8:15 a.m. service.

Thank you for your support and prayers as we continue to move forward in 2017, offering our talents and our voices in music.

## Children's Music Ministry

*Noelle Bauman*

As we embark on a new year, the children's music ministry opens its doors to new children, new ideas, new curriculum, and new volunteers—all of which are building the foundation for a sustaining Lutheran music program at Zion. With this being the quincentennial celebration of the Reformation, it is a wonderful time to think on why we are working toward a sustained desire for worship contribution. A few things come to mind surrounding internalization. In music education, internalizing the beat is the foundation for further rhythmic learning. By internalizing the words and the traditional melodies common in our worship, incubation is started in a child's mind. We hide God's word in our hearts with verse memorization just as we sing words with inherent melodies, of which their meanings are just waiting for insight. Without attainable words, music, or concepts, our efforts to equip children with this knowledge would be for not.

*Continued on page 6.*

# Re+formation: Then • Now • Always

## Lenten Themes

### Ash Wednesday—Wednesday, March 1

Ash Wednesday is the first day of the season of Lent. Named for the practice of marking the foreheads of worshipers with ashes, it is a time to reflect on our humanity and the fragility of life (“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”) but also on the promise of eternal and abundant life through God in Jesus.

12:00 p.m.—Shared Worship with Loveland ELCA Congregations at Zion

7:00 p.m.—Evening Ash Wednesday Worship

**Lenten midweek gatherings are a BIG DEAL at Zion**, and we hope that each of you will consider taking advantage of this opportunity. As part of our Reformation celebration, we are going to be making a slight change to our “usual” midweek schedule. Instead of breaking into small groups after dinner, the pastors will teach the topic related to the Reformation, inviting conversation about what it means for Christians today. Though it seems ages ago, some may remember that in 2011 we had similar large group conversations around Holy Communion and its meaning. These were well received, and though it’s been 6 years, we thought this celebration of the Reformation would be a wonderful opportunity for us to learn and grow together.

### Lenten Midweek Gatherings—Wednesdays, March 8-April 5

Lent is a season of 40 days (not counting Sundays) before Easter. It is traditionally a season of preparation and renewed focus on faith in God’s saving activity, with themes of repentance, self-examination, and reflection. In order to help in that focus and preparation, Christians often choose certain practices, such as fasting from and/or feasting on something as a reminder of God, prayer, service, or giving something extra to those in need.

5:00-5:45 p.m.—Dinner available (Soup’s on! Come anytime while dinner is served!)

*If you would like to provide a soup, bread, or dessert, sign up at church or call the church office.*

5:45-6:45 p.m.—Re+Formation: Then • Now • Always Teach-in

6:45 p.m.—Holden Evening Prayer with Faith Sharing

*If you would like to share a story of your faith, talk with one of the pastors, who will share the theme or focus with you and help you shape your talk.*

7:15 p.m.—Confirmation Mentoring

### Re+formation Weekly Themes

Reformation is our great heritage. Come each week to explore some of the most important principles of the Reformation and how they apply to our faith and lives today.

March 8	Weathering the Storm (Reformation Roots)
March 15	God Does It All...Yes, All! (Grace and Justification)
March 22	God's Living Word (Word of God)
March 29	I'll Do It My Way (The Bound Will)
April 5	Down and Out (Vocation)

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# Holy Week

Though many are not accustomed to participating in worship this much, the impact of the whole story of Jesus' death and resurrection, and the days leading up to it, will be deeper and more powerful if you walk through each of these holy days.

## **Palm Sunday—April 9**

8:15 a.m.—Traditional Worship

10:45 a.m.—Contemporary Worship

Join us for Palm Sunday breakfast in between worship services, hosted by the youth of Zion!

## **Maundy Thursday—April 13**

“Maundy” comes from the Latin word “mandatum,” meaning commandment. On this day, we focus on the “new commandment” of love given by Jesus. If our lives are led by the commandment to “love one another,” all other commandments will follow.

12:00 p.m.—Shared Worship with Loveland ELCA Congregations at King of Glory

7:00 p.m.—Evening Maundy Thursday Worship with Celebration of First Communion

## **Good Friday—April 14**

We call this day good, even though its focus is on the death of Jesus, because it is by his death that the world has life.

12:00 p.m.—Shared Worship with Loveland ELCA Congregations at Trinity

7:00 p.m.—Evening Good Friday Worship

## **Easter Vigil—April 15**

The Great Vigil of Easter is among the most ancient of Christian worship rituals. At Zion, we have re-formed the Great Vigil to say the same thing, but in ways that tell the story today. It is a service of growing light, as we move from the darkness of Good Friday toward the celebration of the Resurrection. As we keep vigil (wait with watchfulness), we tell the old stories of Scripture, stories that gave glimpses of resurrection even before Jesus' own resurrection.

6:30 p.m.—Easter Vigil with Storytelling and Skits

## **Easter Sunday—April 16**

6:30 a.m.—Sunrise Service

8:15 a.m.—Contemporary Worship

10:45 a.m.—Traditional Worship

## **Animated Life: Faith Practices Bible Study**

**Thursdays, February 2, 9, 16, and 23**

**6:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Coffee Tree—210 East 4th Street, Loveland**

This is a Bible study and fellowship opportunity for young adults, parents of young families, and single adults without kids to form community and grow together across the ELCA congregations in Loveland (Zion, King of Glory, Trinity, and Mustard Seed).

Study is one way that God reforms our hearts and our minds. It was through Martin Luther's study of God's Word that the Reformation was birthed. We as modern day reformers continue to be transformed by God's Word.

**The study will focus on how the Christian life is "animated" by God's Spirit.**

Lent is often a season when Christians make intentional time to reflect on God's

Word and promise to them, and this study is a

perfect opportunity for that. The study will focus on how the Christian life is "animated" by God's Spirit and the community through faith practices that are central to our faith. Each gathering will include a short video featuring a leading voice in the Christian faith, as well as both personal reflection and group conversation around how to use the faith practice effectively.

Join us at Coffee Tree in downtown Loveland, and if you have kids, someone will be at Coffee Tree to watch them while you participate in Bible study and conversation.

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### *Children's Music Ministry continued from page 3.*

At the end of 2016, the Sunday school children and Zion youth learned songs with quotes directly from scripture for the Christmas program. They told an impressive amount of the Christmas story through play and song for the congregation. After our Sunday program rehearsals ended, we were able to start up our regular openings. Here, the children are learning songs that will stay with them for years and years to come. Songs of scripture, encouragement, and tradition are being sung every Sunday morning.

As the Zion children's choir grows, we will begin to sing more independently of the chancel choir. The children will be given the chance to be leaders of worship in March, April, and May. With a new curriculum, we are training the choir to build upon their musical knowledge so they are able to understand the literary and musical meanings of the songs. The number of choir volunteers has allowed for us to meet the children where they are at, so they truly learn and apply skills to their music worship. This opens the doors for many discoveries of our rich musical history.

Bless these children whom we equip with skills to have lives filled with curiosity, discovery, and creativity.

# 500 Years

*Tyne Klammer, Youth*

2017. The 500th anniversary of the Reformation. So, what makes this year any more special than any other year? Well, this year is a time to reflect on all that the Christian church has accomplished, and all that has changed. When Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the door of the Catholic church, little did he know that he would start an entire revolution. Actually, he was just fed up with the ways of the Catholic church. This “accident” has become a big part of a lot of people’s lives, including mine. This development of a relationship with God and fellow followers of God binds people together, and has become so powerful that it drives humans to make a difference.

With the Reformation, a church was created called the Protestant church. This church, also known as the Lutheran church is basically what started a spark, developing into a burning fire within many souls. This inner fire and passion comes from being a child of God, and I am proud to say I am a loved child of God. This gift given by God has helped me to “reform” who I am, into a person of my church and community.

People are changing constantly. The experiences, people, and gifts in our lives shape who we are, and Zion has helped me become the young woman I am today. Through being part of something bigger than myself, and something so supportive, has helped me grow in my faith and as a person. Little did I know that when I was seven and just starting to go to this church that it would have such a big impact on my life. And, I’m sure that the same can be said for many others in the church.

I’ve asked myself this question many times, but I want to know how this circle of individuals can

have such a huge impact on the people around them. Why is the church so important, and how can it have such an influence? Well, this concept all started in the Reformation, and this was a time that the concept of God and Heaven was being abused in a way that the meaning of the church was not in the shape that God would want it to be. There was a way to buy yourself to heaven, and Jesus was not the head of the church; the pope and the money surrounding the church were. If you think about how our church functions now, things have changed greatly for sure. But how did we get here?

Martin Luther is how we got here, and being a church of the Reformation, it is our job to continue the things that Martin Luther put in place. Again, about changing individuals, Jesus has the power and strength to reform and change anyone into a wonderful, loved child of God. Through being a part of the Church of Christ, humans receive the gift of grace. Even though we sin, this vitality given by Christ helps us to truly push our faith and ourselves to our limits. And, that gives us all a purpose here on Earth.

The Reformation is the base of the Lutheran religion. It has caused so much to be accomplished, and so many people have been influenced by it. So, as forgiven, reformed children of God, we are able and driven to continue the church and all of its teachings.

Just think, the Reformation of the church has caused so much more than just the concept and religion. It has caused so many people to grow with Christ, and that is what I believe the Reformation is truly about—our growth with God and each other.

# Faith Formation

*Cary Mathis*

As with all events with Zion, we do not want cost to be prohibitive from participation. We are blessed with a generous congregation who feel the same. If there is an event that is difficult for your family to afford, please let Cary know. It will be kept confidential.

## **Family Faith Formation Sunday School**

### **February 5, March 5, April 2**

Family Faith Formation/Sunday school is held in the fellowship hall at 9:40 a.m., one Sunday a month, and is for all ages. Here we use Faith Five to talk about highs and lows, share scripture, talk about the scripture, pray for each other, and bless one another. Come to these special Sunday school times, and be truly blessed!

## **High School Youth Group**

The high school youth group meets weekly on Sundays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Please check bulletins, L2F2 bulletin board, and emails/texts for updated information.

NOTE: No high school youth group on February 5—Superbowl Sunday!

## **In the Planning Stage**

King of Glory and Zion and the faith formation committee are working together to plan upcoming events for all-age families, young families, and young adults. Please check upcoming bulletins for details!

## **Calendar of Events**

### **Middle and High School Youth**

#### February

- February 12, 5:00 p.m.—High school mission trip meeting at Zion followed by high school youth group activity.
- February 17-18—Middle school lock-in at King of Glory. See page 9 of this newsletter for details.
- February 19—Devotions at Zion with Cary Mathis!
- February 26—Movie night at a high school youth's house. Details to follow!

#### March

- March 3-5—High school winter retreat at Glenwood Springs Sunlight Mountain Resort. See page 9 of this newsletter for details.
- March 12—Devotions at Zion.
- March 19—King of Glory game night.
- March 26—Progressive dinner.

#### April

- April 2—Youth BBQ at a youth's house.
- April 9—Service Project (to be determined).
- April 16—No high school youth group. Happy Easter!
- April 23—Laser tag and Pizza Ranch! \$20.
- April 28-30—Confirmation retreat at Sky Ranch. More details in the coming months.
- April 30—Devotions with a pastor.



*Faith Formation continued from page 8.*

**Middle School Youth Lock-in  
February 17-18  
6:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m.  
King of Glory**

Calling all middle schoolers!

Come and have fun with Joe and Cary at an all-night lock-in at King of Glory! Plenty of food, games, group-building activities will keep this night fun. Plus a candlelight worship service.

Cost: A snack to share and appropriate DVD movie to share.

**High School Youth  
Winter Retreat  
March 3-5  
Sunlight Mountain Resort  
Glenwood Springs, Colorado**

The cost is all inclusive. This includes ski, snowboard, or snowshoe rentals; lift tickets; lodging; and food. We will be going to Glenwood Springs, skiing at Sunlight Mountain Resort, and taking in the hot springs pool, which is the largest outdoor pool in the world!

Cost: \$125.

**High School Mission Trip  
June 24-July 2  
Navajo Mountain, Utah**

Once again we are using the amazing Group Workcamps to serve the Native American population on the Navajo Reservation. Please see the L2F2 bulletin board for more information. A mission trip meeting will be Sunday, February 12, 5:00 p.m. at Zion.

Cost: \$500.

**Sky Ranch 2017**

Sign up online:

<http://zionloveland.com/faith-formation/sky-ranch/>

More information:

<http://skyranchcolorado.org/9-12>

**June 11-23—Sky Ranch Youth Go!  
High School Leadership Camp**

Intensive 2-week camp for high school youth. This is an amazing camp, and this training would also look very good on college applications.

**June 25-30—Sky Ranch  
Confirmation Intensive Camp**

This is a camp that the pastors and faith formation coordinators from the participating churches plan for. This incredible week of study and fun will bring us all closer together as a group, and is spiritually rich. Confirmation students are strongly encouraged to come.

**July 30-August 4—All Ages Sky  
Ranch Camps**

Early elementary, upper elementary, middle school, and high school children are all welcomed to go this week. This will be Zion's and King of Glory's official week of camp for all ages.

**September 1-4—Intergenerational  
Labor Day Weekend @ Sky Ranch**

Join in the fun at this annual campout for King of Glory and Zion when we have the opportunity to have Sky Ranch all to ourselves. Some people camp out; some stay in the lodge or dorms. Activities include hiking, star gazing, games, or you can just chill and do your own thing.

## **Zion offers four scholarship opportunities to students pursuing post-high school education**

On January 19, letters and application forms were mailed to Zion's graduating high school seniors extending to them the opportunity to apply for scholarships offered by Zion. Additionally, the scholarships are available to anyone pursuing college entering a program that qualifies for the scholarship. If you are a candidate and did not receive the application forms, they are available at Zion.

The completed forms are due back to Zion by February 19.

Of the four scholarships offered through Zion, three are made available through Zion's endowment funds and the fourth through a member-designated gift.

1. The Sprenger Scholarship is granted to students who only attend an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) college, university, or seminary. Past recipients may reapply for subsequent years, if funds are available. Though ELCA schools can be expensive, in recent years we have been able to award as much as \$4,000 or more.
2. The Therp Scholarship is one \$1,000 scholarship which is applicable to any college or university first-year student. The applicant must have a GPA between 3.0 and 3.5.
3. The Peterson Scholarship is granted to one full-time student majoring in education at any college or university. The applicants must have a cumulative GPA in the upper 50 percent of their graduating class.
4. This year, we also have a one-time scholarship of \$2,500 available for a distinguished disciple at Zion.

Award of the scholarships is determined by Zion's Scholarship Committee.

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*Faith Formation continued from page 9.*

### **Vacation Bible School King of Glory and Zion Together at Zion**

**June 5-9—9:00 a.m.-Noon**

Contact Megan Hart if you are willing to volunteer.

Middle and high school youth, we can't do this without you! Please make time to be a part of this ministry.

Sign up online:

<http://zionloveland.com/faith-formation/vacation-bible-school/>

## New Member / Discipleship Gatherings

### Introducing “Exploration” and “Connections”

At Zion we offer an opportunity each Fall and each Spring for visitors who have become active worshipers and participants in Zion’s mission to explore what it means to be a member at Zion. If you think about it, “membership” is a strange word to talk about one’s relationship to a church. You usually become a member of something when you pay your dues or fees, and as a result you receive something extra. At Zion, neither of those is true. No one pays any dues or fees, and no one gets any service as a member that they wouldn’t get otherwise.

We like to think of membership at Zion as a new commitment to discipleship. Disciples follow Jesus, and at Zion we invite people to “join” the mission and ministry of Zion as members and disciples when they are ready to make a new commitment that is a response to God’s love in our specific context and community. People “join” the mission and ministry of Zion when they are ready to explore contributing their time, talent, and treasure in a new way. This Spring, we introduce “Exploration” and “Connections.”

**New Member Exploration Conversation—Sunday, March 26, at 9:40 a.m.**  
**New Member Connections Dinner—Sunday, April 2, at 5:00 p.m.**

Anyone interested in considering membership at Zion, or wanting to know more, should participate in the “**Exploration**” conversation on March 26 to receive information for “next steps” toward membership. If you are unable to make this date, please see one of the pastors to set up another time for conversation.

After this exploration conversation, everyone who wants to join is invited to the “**Connections**” dinner on Sunday, April 2. During the dinner, we will focus on connecting with relationships and ministry areas that may nurture each person’s growth as a disciple and participation in mission and ministry.

If you are already a member, we would love your help. If you are interested in helping with the dinner, or as a dinner host, please let us know so we can help connect new members to people and ministry.

If you have joined Zion in the last year or two, we especially want to invite and welcome you to the “Connections” dinner. Since this is a reformed way of inviting and engaging new members, we invite you to join us to look for ways to maintain and build upon your connections. Please let us know if you are interested!

## First Communion Class

At Zion we do not have a special age for first communion but instead when the pastors and parents jointly determine that the child is ready, the child begins First Communion classes.

Parents and guardians are invited to come to either session of the parent discernment class on Sunday, February 26, to learn more of what to look for to determine if your child is ready for communion.

We will have First Communion classes for two Sundays, March 19 and 26, and children will receive their First Communion on Maundy

Thursday during worship as we celebrate the night that Jesus celebrated the first Lord's Supper.

If you think your child or grandchild is ready to receive First Communion, come to the discernment class or talk with the pastors.

Parent Discernment Class—  
Sunday, February 26, at 9:40 a.m. or noon.

First Communion Classes—  
Sundays, March 19 and 26, from noon to 3:00 p.m.

Children Receive First Communion—  
Maundy Thursday, April 13, at 7:00 p.m.

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## Homeless Care Kits

*Olivia Tate, Youth*

Hello sisters and brothers in Christ,

I am Olivia Tate, a freshman youth at Zion Lutheran Church. I have always been a dedicated member of the Loveland and Zion communities, and I am now implementing my confirmation service project. I have decided to assemble homeless care kits because I am trying to raise awareness of the increasing homeless population within Loveland.

As a congregation, this will be a good opportunity to put our faith into action. The congregation will be assembling a portion of the bags during both worship services. The bags that are assembled will be gathered at the altar, where one of the pastors will bless the bags. After the second service, the confirmation kids, along with anyone else who would like to help, will assemble the remaining bags.

Our goal is to assemble 100 homeless care kits, which will be available for anyone to take to pass out to the homeless they encounter.

Stay tuned for more details, which will be available in Sunday bulletins, when the schedule for this service project is determined.

## 2017 Synod Assembly



**May 5-7, 2017**

**Antlers Hotel  
Colorado Springs, CO**

Dear Friends in Christ,

**Re•formation: Then. Now. Always.** is the theme for this year's Assembly. Synod Assemblies offer all of us an opportunity to discover and celebrate the breadth of what we do together as the Rocky Mountain Synod. Living into our new mission statement, we will spend time learning how congregations and ministries are living out our call **to proclaim and embody God's unconditional love for the sake of the world.**

2017 marks a significant time in the life of the church—a time that only comes around once every 500 years! In light of the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, we will be putting aside “business as usual” in order to spend time together in conversation, Bible study, worship, and community. I invite you to defer resolutions and memorials for this year and join me in dialogue and study around the gifts we claim as this part of the body of Christ we call the ELCA. Our time together will be framed around claiming four gifts: our theology, our legacy, our ecclesiology, and our practice.

It is our hope that our assembly voting members represent the full breadth of our synod. We encourage you to encourage new leaders to participate in our life together, especially our youth and young adult members. Childcare and translation services will be provided as needed to support those who may not otherwise be able to attend.

Come to Colorado Springs and let the Re•formation begin!

Bishop Jim Gonia

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For assembly information, go to [rmselca.org/assembly](http://rmselca.org/assembly).

- Registration will open February 1.
- Registration deadline is March 24.
- Hotel reservation deadline is April 4.

*eConnection Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA, January 20, 2017.*

Zion's 2017 Synod Assembly Voting Members are ERIN BACHMAN and RICH MARQUARDT.
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## Among Members and Friends

### At Rest in Our Father's House

*We keep in prayer:*

Family and friends of **Milt Blehm** who died on December 13, 2016, and whose funeral was on December 20 at Zion. We especially keep in prayer his wife Irene.

Family and friends of **Elmer Bonnell** who died on December 30, 2016, and whose funeral was on January 6, 2017, at Zion. We especially keep in prayer his wife Elaine, his daughter Julie (Don) Ward and her children Ryan and Kate.

Family of **Hertha Kuehl** who died on December 31, 2016, and whose funeral was on January 9, 2017, at Zion. Hertha was the oldest member of Zion at 104 years old.

Family of **Alla Mae Guill** who died on December 23, 2016, and whose funeral was February 4, 2017, at Zion. Alla Mae is the mother of Flo Gustafson, grandmother of Judy Gustafson, and great-grandmother of Beilynn Geiss.

**David Loges** at the unexpected death of his younger brother, Gordon.

**Lora, Kevin, Natalie, and Lily Patrick** at the death of Lora's mother, Gloria Bongers.

**Valerie Boyce** and the staff and residents of Primrose Place at the death of their fellow resident and friend, Jayson Graffis.

**Bob Majeski** at the death of his sister, Ceil.

**Mary Drain** at the death of her brother, Albert.

### Joyous Celebrations of the Gift of Baptism

We rejoice with **Brooke and Kaylie Knobloch** who were baptized on Sunday, December 18, 2016. Brooke and Kaylie are the teenage children of Brian and Tammy Knobloch and grandchildren of Cliff and Ann Knobloch.

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

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Dear Members of Zion,

Because of your generosity, Sky Ranch is the light in the darkness for many each year. The need for safe places like Sky Ranch has never been greater. At Sky Ranch, campers are immersed in a theological language of hope, grace, inclusion, reconciliation, and compassion. Our mission is happening because of your support! Thanks for your support and partnership in ministry!

In Christ,  
Brad Abbott, Executive Director

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## Among Members and Friends

*Dear Zion Lutheran Church,*

*On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff at Thompson Valley Preschool, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of Thanksgiving baskets for our families. The families were very grateful and appreciative of the extra help this holiday season.*

*Sincerely,*

*Gail Yant, Executive Director*

*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you so much for sponsoring a student/family on our giving tree. Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated. We are so lucky to live in such a great community that truly cares about our students and families.*

*Monroe Elementary School Staff*

*Bob and I were speechless on Wednesday; it was a great surprise! The generosity, kind words, and blessings meant so much to us. We love our church family so much. Thank you to everyone for the gift card.*

*Love,*

*Bob and Teresa Majeski*

*Thank you Pastor Joel and Pastor Sonja and our Zion church family for all the prayers, cards, and sympathy shown us after the loss of our dear sister and aunt Vi Deines. A special thanks to Pastor Joel for a beautiful memorial service.*

*Eleanor and Nanci Stahlecker*

*Hello Friends,*

*Please accept this donation from the Silver Lake Homeowners Association in appreciation of the hospitality you have always extended to us. Our board and homeowners alike, have made themselves at home in your home many times in 2016. Thank you! A special thanks to Lindsey who manages the calendar and Pastor Joel who helped us so much at the dinner meeting on November 20, 2016.*

*Best Regards,*

*Ruth McDonald, President SLHOA*

*Many thanks for all the kindness and support given during the illness and passing of Milt Blehm. To Pastor Sonja for her many comforting words and time through the many years of his struggling health. To all the help in the kitchen and for all the prayers and messages of comfort to our family.*

*Irene Blehm and Family*

*Pastor and Church Community,*

*KidsPak greatly appreciates your generous donation. We will create 127 food bags for hungry students in the Thompson School District. Together, we are working to end childhood hunger in Loveland.*

*God Bless,*

*Tom Carrigan, Chair, Rotary Club*

### **KidsPak Mid-Year Report Highlights**

- KidsPak will provide weekend food over 33 weeks at 41 sites within Thompson schools.
- Through December 21, KidsPak created and delivered 7,864 bags—a 16% increase over the previous school year.
- KidsPak is on track to provide over 18,200 bags this year, an all-time record.
- KidsPak has increased the food budget from \$59,700 to \$65,700. Support from the Loveland community continues to put KidsPak on a solid financial footing.

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### **Thank You Letters to Zion**

- December 27, 2016—From Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at University of Northern Colorado for a donation of \$125.
- December 28, 2016—From House of Neighborly Service for a contribution of \$353.75.

*I am going to send an angel in front of you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared.*

—Exodus 23: 20

*It is with mixed feelings that we leave the congregation of Zion Lutheran Church. We relish the fact of joining our offspring, who have ended up within 10 miles of each other in Orange County, California, after we raised them both in the greater Seattle, Washington, area. But, you can't beat being near two grandkids who are just at the exciting times of their lives at ages 4 and 6. On the other hand, we have to leave our family at Zion, but we are certain God will place us in the midst of another welcoming church community.*

*We have been blessed being members of Zion over the past 7+ years. We will remember our days with you with fond memories—worship services, men's breakfasts, IHN, kids church, Stephen ministry, TGIF, Monroe school opportunities, and a host of other activities. We have always viewed each of our 13 moves throughout our 49 years of marriage as an opportunity to become more of a family—a blend within our immediate family and our church family. It has been a great ride, and we will always cherish the relationships we have made. Thank you for including us in your lives.*

*Brent and Kathy Anderson*

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## **A Special Thank You**

*Lindsey Bowling*

I would like to say a special thank you to STIG ORESJO, PAUL TUNGESVICK, and JIM VOSBERG for their time and commitment tackling the “lightning” project. What a crew with the experience of two retired engineers, Paul and Stig, and Jim who is a jack-of-all-trades with a vast knowledge of everything!

Paul and Stig spent endless hours testing and implementing old and new equipment and a significant amount of time analyzing the most efficient, cost-effective, and productive way to approach the project as a whole. Jim was always there to add a shelf, drill a hole, and help construct anything we needed to accommodate the new equipment plus apply his experience to the electrical part of the project.

To Jim, Paul, and Stig: Zion is thankful for your commitment and service to make our church a better place!

## **Zion's BILL MARKHAM Inducted into the Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame**

*As reported in the November 6, 2016,  
issue of “The Fence Post”*

“We are proud to add four more outstanding individuals to the Farm Credit Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame; the applicant pool continues to be deep and very competitive,” said Ed Cordes, Chairman of the Colorado FFA Foundation in a news release.

The four inductees will be officially added at the Hall of Fame Banquet on February 22. The four who will be honored are Charlie Bartlett, Bill Markham, Dale McCall and Bill Webster.

HONOREE BILL MARKHAM, Berthoud

Markham was a big part of the revitalization of ag education for Thompson Valley School District. He has worked on a number of initiatives to help with the agricultural education—not just for schools—but for the general public as well.

Markham is most recognized for his high-quality Coors barley, along with cattle, sugar beets, and corn. Markham's work has made him a big ambassador for the agriculture community.

*“Celebrating Our Rural Lifestyle”  
is the slogan for The Fence Post, a  
weekly publication distributed  
throughout western Colorado.*

[www.thefencepost.com](http://www.thefencepost.com)



## **Christmas Gratitude Monroe Elementary Gracias, Muchas Gracias!**

*“Por Todos Los regalos que nos dieron nos hicieron mux Felices. Q Dios los bendiga Y los llene de muchas bendiciones, Fructifique su trabajo, Para Seguir haciendo Felices a muchos niños.”*

[Thank you so much for the gifts you gave us. All the gifts we received made us very happy. May God bless you and may you continue to make many children happy.]

*Thank you for bringing presents to me. Thank you for everything you gave me.*

*Gift Stocking #35a*

*“Gracias, Muchas Gracias Por los regalos que nos Dieron. Me hicieron Mux Feliz. Dios Los bendiga, Los Colme de muchas bendiciones.”*

[Thank you. Many thanks for the gifts you gave us. They made me happy. God bless you.]

*Thank you for my presents that you gave me. You brought lots of joy for us. I love my presents.*

*Gift Stocking #35b*

[Editor accepts responsibility for any inaccuracies in the translation.]

## **EMMA TURNER is the first Marie Curie Scholar**

From the office of Patricia Saavedra, Admissions Advisor  
Enrollment Services for College of Saint Mary, Omaha, Nebraska

*It is my pleasure to announce that we have selected Emma Turner to be our first Marie Curie Scholar. We are planning a surprise presentation for her on Wednesday, November 9, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. at her high school, Loveland High School. Following the presentation, we will have Emma sign her letter of intent for College of Saint Mary's swimming team.*

*Here is a bit about the Marie Curie Program. We only select five every year. Because of our price change this year, this will cover the full cost of tuition:*



*College of Saint Mary's prestigious Marie Curie Scholars Program, funded in part by the National Science Foundation, provides*

*significant financial support and resources for academically talented young women who study science or math. Marie Curie Scholars may receive up to \$20,000 annually for 4 years in gift aid—and participants also receive free tutoring, have opportunities for undergraduate research, may participate in National Institute of Health and NASA research fellowships, and attend and present at national conferences.*

*Pastor Joel,*

*Thank you for attending my signing and the presentation of the scholarship. My success wouldn't be what it is without your contributions!*

*Emma Turner*

*Dear Zion Lutheran Church,*

*Life is full of opportunities to make an impact, and I feel very fortunate to have witnessed the good neighboring that has helped make our community a great place to call home. You have been great neighbors and I want to thank you for that. Good neighboring is an intentional act that demonstrates care and concern for the people around us. You've done this when you've given of your time and your money to help the people we serve—people who are homebound, many of whom live in poverty, and most of whom are elderly.*

*Elizabeth Harless, Executive Director  
Meals on Wheels of Loveland & Berthoud*

# Annual Meeting Minutes

*Nita Starr*

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. and opened with devotions.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING 2016.** Motion: To approve the 2016 Semi-Annual Meeting minutes as presented. George Stevens moved, Florence Doksansky seconded – Motion passed.

**2016 TREASURER’S REPORT—JOHN STERNER.**

Motion: To approve the 2016 Budget as presented. Dave Samuels moved, Terri Sloan seconded – Motion passed.

Motion: Hold the surplus from 2016 in the reserve fund until the budget is reevaluated at the July Semi-Annual Meeting. Dave Samuels moved, Mike Sloan seconded – Motion passed.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT—JOEL BRAUNER.** Joel expressed appreciation for the time and talents of our congregation. Joel reviewed some accomplishments of the Dream Teams.

Service

- We have reviewed the volunteer opportunities within our church and in the broader community.
- Our congregation is supporting the staff and families at Monroe in many ways including painting their playground, volunteering in classrooms, supporting teachers with meals during all day school events, providing food for families, welcoming the PTA into our church to use our kitchen for their events.
- Expanding our music ministry by inviting Monroe students.

Discipleship Team

- Take home sheets
- Bible studies and small group meetings

Off-Site Gatherings

This group is still meeting. We are still excited about the possibilities, but the implementation timeline is unknown because of the addition of staff and finances.

**PASTORS’ REPORT – PASTOR SONJA PANCOAST AND PASTOR JOEL PANCOAST.** Pastor Joel spoke to share information.

Worship – current status and possibilities of next steps:

- Worship attendance
- Outreach
- Inclusion Committee.

Changes in staff we have had over the year.

L2F2—Loveland Lutheran Faith Formation.

Reformation 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**ELECTIONS – JOEL BRAUNER.** The slate of candidates running for office was presented. A call for other nominations was made. A nomination was made from the floor by Cindy Warren to place Janie Lichtfuss in the position of Leadership Development. No other nominations from the floor were presented. Nominations were closed.

Motion: That we accept the slate of candidates proposed on the ballot with the inclusion of Janie Lichtfuss. Howard Abraham moved, Dave Samuels seconded – Motion passed.

Election was done by acclamation. People newly elected were introduced.

Newly elected positions include:

Vice President—Nita Starr (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

Treasurer—Terri Sloan

Members-at-Large—Don Barnes, Florence

Doksansky (2<sup>nd</sup> term), and Preston Green

Endowment Committee—JD Anderson and

Kyle Knutson

*Continued on page 19.*

*Annual Meeting Minutes continued from page 18.*

Long Range Planning—Chrissy Wolfe and  
Gene Elder

Leadership Development—Janie Lichtfuss

Personnel—Cindy Vosberg

Synod Assembly Voting Members—Erin  
Bachman and Rich Marquardt

### **2017 BUDGET PROPOSAL—JOHN STERNER.**

Members were encouraged to examine the printed version of the budget. Time was taken to respond to questions from the congregation. Motion: That we accept the 2017 budget as proposed. Mike Sloan moved, Don Rooney seconded – Motion passed.

### **RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COUNCIL**

**MEMBERS—JOEL BRAUNER, PASTOR JOEL**

**PANCOAST.** Thanks and applause were given to the members of Council and other committee

members who have served in the past year(s) and are leaving that office or position. These include:

John Sterner—Treasurer

Glenn Schreiner—Council Member-at-Large

Brent Anderson—Endowment Committee

Brendon Peach—Endowment Committee

Cheryl Gillpatrick—Leadership Development

Lynn Loken—Personnel Committee

George Ligothke—Long Range Planning

Terri Sloan—Long Range Planning

Last Year's Voting Members for Synod  
Assembly—Valerie Boyce and  
Tom Robinson.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. The meeting concluded with a prayer.

Attendance: 65.

## **Stephen Ministry**

*Brent Anderson*

Stephen Ministers are laypeople 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. We meet 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. We'll let you know.

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 later this year and encourage you to explore your heart to consider joining us and becoming a Stephen Minister.

Zion's Stephen Leaders are DON BARNES, CHERYL GILLPATRICK, and GINGER KLEIN.



# Mustard Seed House Churches

*Pastor Andy Boesenecker*

## Did You Know?

Mustard Seed started a fifth house church in 2016! Our newest house church, the Midtown House Church, worships in Fort Collins. The Midtown House Church joins with the Greeley House Church, Loveland House Church, Old Town House Church, and South Harmony

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**Mustard Seed now consists of five distinct (and yet interconnected) house churches.**

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(SoHa) House Church to make up the five distinct (and yet interconnected) house church communities at Mustard Seed!

Did you know that your congregation is a congregation that helps to plant new churches? It's true! Your prayers, support, and financial generosity all help to make Mustard Seed a reality! For this, we give thanks.

Over the course of the past year, we've raised over \$5,000 for hungry children, staffed a station at Loveland Bike to Work Day, handed out free water at PRIDE, and hosted an engaging Bible study on the book of Revelation.

In 2017, we look forward to expanding our youth and family programming (The Way), continuing to engage justice issues in our community, and also furthering our work toward self-sustainability. All of this happens, in part, thanks to the support of the Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA, ELCA Churchwide, generous individuals, and local congregations.

We are grateful to be a partner in ministry alongside YOU here in Northern Colorado!

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## What Mustard Seed Means to Me

*At Mustard Seed we have found a family and a church that truly shows living the Gospel, the good news.*

*My family and I joined Mustard Seed almost a year and a half ago, and from the very get go felt a desire to jump in with both feet. After years of church seeking where we were always tentative about fully giving ourselves to a community, Mustard Seed became the community that we had a passion to invest in.*

*I am proud to have a space to help faith my young children. Mustard Seed has been that place where they feel connected, important, and that they belong. I am proud to be a part of this community and I am excited about the mission and vision that the church believes in.*

—Greg Simonds, Mustard Seed Leadership Team

## Do You Like to Cook?

Mustard Seed hosts a Dinner Church gathering once a month. It's a special worship service where/when all of our house churches gather together for worship over the course of a shared meal.

If you or someone in your congregation would be interested in helping out by providing all or part of the meal, please let Pastor Andy know! This would not only be greatly appreciated by our community, but it would also be a wonderful way for you to experience what house church worship is like.

Email Pastor Andy at  
[andy@mustardseedhousechurches.org](mailto:andy@mustardseedhousechurches.org)

Or call 904-625-7783 if you'd be willing to help with a meal.

# North Colorado Missional Gathering

## Sunday, March 5

### Trinity Lutheran, Loveland

### Time: 2:00-5:00 p.m.

As a church, it is easy to get focused on doing the same old thing, ministry as we have always done it. It can be difficult to always be looking beyond our walls to know what difference our own living out of the gospel is making on the world around us. The Lutheran church is reformed, but should always be reforming, and this reforming is much easier when we share in mission with other communities of faith.

“We are church, better together.” This has been the theme and the mantra coming from the Rocky Mountain Synod office of the bishop for several years. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is made up of about 4 million members in nearly 10,000 congregations across the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Then we are divided into 9 regions, and again into 65 synods. It doesn't end there, because each synod is grouped into conferences of congregations called to work together for support and encouragement. The conference we belong to is the North Colorado Conference of the Rocky Mountain Synod. It is made up of about 18 congregations and ministries like Sky Ranch, campus ministry, Eben Ezer, and others.

If you are interested in learning about how we share in ministry across this conference, please consider coming to the missional gathering on Sunday, March 5, at Trinity Lutheran in Loveland. There will be two focuses of Leadership and Stewardship, and anyone is welcome. Call the church office, or let one of the pastors know if you are interested in attending.



**Zion's LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) celebrated "Happy Birthday Jesus and Friends" at their December 13, 2016, gathering at the Backbone Restaurant in Loveland.**

**SEATED LEFT TO RIGHT: Gwen Boswell, Pastor Sonja Pancoast, Cathy Glaser, Monica Hemberger, Marge Nelson, Elaine Devenney, Myrna Miller. STANDING LEFT TO RIGHT: Phyllis Zimmerman, Donna Gatton, Kathie Mathis, Cindy Warren, Elaine Nichols, Marlow Brewer, Kathe Nunez, Janie Lichtfuss, JD Anderson, Shirley Carlisle, Joanne Sterkel, Teresa Majeski, Charlotte Schmidt, Carol Kimble, Connie Wahlers.**

# Service Opportunities and Events for Monroe Elementary

*Pastor Sonja Pancoast*

As we talk about the Reformation and how we are always reforming and changing, I see that our partnership with Monroe Elementary continues to reform and grow, that the longer we are in relationship with one another, the more we form together. This coming Spring we have a number of ways that people can support our partnership with Monroe.

## **Dinners for the Teachers during Parent / Teacher Conferences—Thursday, March 9, 4:30-7:30 p.m.**

We will provide dinner for the 40 staff of Monroe Elementary and Early Childhood Education Center on Thursday, March 9. We need people to help provide the food, set up, and clean up.

## **Career Day—Friday, April 28, 8:00-11:30 a.m.**

Monroe is looking for people who are willing to share information with students about their career and bring in some “tools of the trade” for the kids to see. It would be about a 30-minute time slot, talking to about 20 kids. They also need people to accompany kids to and from the various presenters, since the teachers will be in their classrooms.

## **Cinco de Mayo Pozole Dinner—Friday, May 5, evening, at Zion**

The Monroe PTA and Spanish Speaking PTA are putting on a Pozole dinner to raise money for projects and programs at Monroe. The cost for the dinner is \$5 a person. Following the meal, they plan to offer a program led by the students from Monroe. Mark your calendar for a night of amazing food and getting to know better our friends at Monroe.

## **Help Out in the Classroom—Once a Week**

There are still opportunities to help out in a classroom once a week. We currently have 10 people volunteering at Monroe and they are excited to have more.

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## **A Date to Save**

**June 17, 2017**

**Sierra's Race  
Against Meningitis**



## **Zion Women's Retreat November 11-12, 2017**



We are excited to announce that we will have the women's retreat at the same location as last year, Peaceful Valley Ranch, and the cost has been held at the same price as last year (\$175 for one night; \$250 for two nights). Scholarships are available. Mark your calendars for this amazing time away to grow in faith with your sisters in Christ.

**Save the date.**

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# Thompson Valley Preschool

*Gail Yant, Executive Director*

## **Registration for 2017/2018 at Thompson Valley Preschool (TVP)**

Open Registration begins February 1.

Classes:            3-4 years old        T/TH AM and PM  
                         4-5 years old        MWF AM and PM

Open House        To learn more about our programs and tour the school, join us at our Open House on Saturday, February 4, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Learn about TVP at our website: [www.thompsonvalleypreschool.org](http://www.thompsonvalleypreschool.org).

## **Summer School at TVP**

Thompson Valley Preschool will be offering a summer program for children ages 3½-6 years old.

June 12-30, Monday through Friday, exploring fun topics each week.

More information will be available in April.

## **2017 Loveland Classic 5K / 10K / Kids Run is Saturday, April 22.**

High Plains Environmental Center. The Loveland Classic supports early childhood education in the Loveland community. For more information go to [www.lovelandclassic.com](http://www.lovelandclassic.com).



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# News from Lutheran Campus Ministry

*Pastor Deb Abbott*

Your gifts to campus ministry support opportunities for faith formation through worship, Bible study, peer ministry, service, and community building. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for campus ministry.

In February, we are looking forward to a winter retreat at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp with students and staff from Lutheran Campus Ministry CSU, CU Boulder, and UNC.

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 Pastor Paul Judson at [pastor@lcmcsu.org](mailto:pastor@lcmcsu.org).

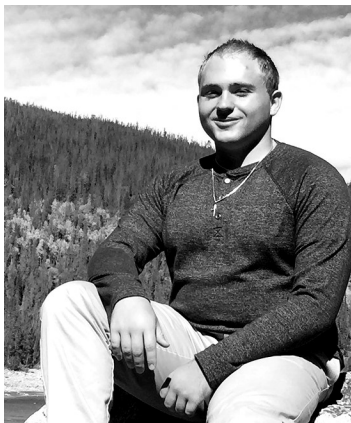
## Troop 314 Status Update—Winter 2016/2017

### *Chip Leadbetter*

The leaves are down and the crisp weather has arrived. Snow is afoot—or underfoot—and boots are getting a workout. Troop 314 has been focusing on some indoor activities. But we are still enjoying the outdoors!

We wrapped up November working on rank advancement. The older scouts were plugging away on merit badges, troop leadership, service projects, and more on their way to the rank of Eagle, all the while taking time to work with the newer and younger scouts on their tasks. A significant number of boys advanced at least one rank this Fall. Quite an accomplishment. During November, the troop attended camping weekend at Camp Pitaya where the younger scouts were run through all the basic skills involved in camp making. We joined other troops in town to participate in flag ceremonies on Veterans Day to honor our Armed Forces. Also, a large group of leaders attended a University of Scouting training event hosted by Longs Peak Council where our scouting leaders, who already give so much of their time, were able

to further their scouting and leadership skills. Closing out the month right before Thanksgiving, we celebrated the first Eagle at Zion with Colin Miller's Eagle Court of Honor.



**Colin Miller Eagle Scout**

December is normally a thinner month of activities due to the holidays and multitude of school activities. However, the troop managed to still be busy. We spent our weekly meetings working on home repair topics. The boys learned how to install and grout tile along with other home repair tasks. We went camping in Gould at North Michigan Lake to do some ice fishing. Every scout who participated managed to catch, clean, cook, and eat a fish.

Sledding, campfires, and other winter fun was had. Here are photos from that trip.



*Continued on page 25.*



*Troop 314 Status Update—Winter 2016/2017 continued from page 24.*



The troop performed a food drive in December to benefit the House of Neighborly Service, collecting hundreds of pounds of food. We also assisted the Toys for Tots

operation to meet their obligations by providing muscle for a Saturday to receive, sort, and pack the mountains of donations.



**Troop 314 provided the “muscle” to receive, sort, and pack mountains of donations for the Toys for Tots operation.**

Once the holiday buzz had passed, Troop 314 got back to business in January. The weekly meeting theme for January was movie making, and the scouts elected to compete to create the best movie using the idea of “Scouts in Space.” Working in small groups, the scouts had to script, act, video record, and edit a short video. Several of the scouts are going forward and using this activity as

a starting place to earn the merit badge. A camping trip to Grey Rock involved over 10 miles of backpacking in the snow and some chilly tenting. We also teamed up with Troop 81 to hold a Merit Badge University for the scouts to give them an opportunity to work on some of the more difficult badges required on the way to the rank of Eagle. Many attended and many more merit badges were completed. We also attended an Eagles hockey game at The Ranch to man the chuck-a-puck fundraiser and root on the best hockey team ever!

As it is winter, the month of February will focus even more on SNOW! Our scouts will spend the weekly meetings learning about snowshoeing, team operation of Klondike sleds, going ice skating, and more. In addition, we will be joining other troops in our District at Camp Tahosa to participate in the yearly Klondike Derby where the boys will camp and compete in a variety of outdoor skill challenges. We are scheduled to attend Sunday Services at Zion on Scout Sunday, so we hope to see you there! And finally, we finish out the month with a visit from a member of the Town Council who will talk with the scouts about how the town government functions.

March is still in the planning phase, but we do know we will be working on cooking skills. You can bet that some mighty fine aromas will be around the church Tuesday evenings that month. The scoutmaster is already looking forward to judging all the good food!

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 him our way!



Proper use of the  
LuMin logo is  
defined in a  
downloadable  
styleguide.

LuMin is the new term for the Lutheran Campus Ministry Network (LCMNet) developed as part of a larger branding project that includes a new logo, website, newsletters, films, and related materials.

It is hoped that LuMin will serve as a visible and consistent identifier of the campus ministry programs of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) that will help distinguish ELCA campus ministry programs from those conducted by other Lutheran denominations.

LCMNet is the association of the ELCA campus ministry programs that seek to be inclusive faith communities celebrating God's love and grace on 240 college and university campuses throughout the country. LuMin is the term to become the common and unifying identifier of those campus ministry programs.

However, campus ministry sites are free to continue using whatever branding materials best suit their needs although the hope is they will consider incorporating the LuMin name and logo in some way as a national identifier, thus creating some continuity with other campus ministry programs in the ELCA.



<http://lumin-network.com>

## **We live in a great time of change!**

*Pastor Paul Judson*

I am the new campus pastor of the Lutheran Campus Ministry at Colorado State University, a ministry that is well known on the university campus. With my arrival I bring the new name, LuMin, that is being used by the ELCA for the campus ministry network. LuMin brings light during a substantial transitional time in many people's lives. It's a different name, but we encourage the same important work of Christ on the edge of higher education.

And speaking of change, CSU is building a new football stadium on campus. If you are going to a game in 2017, let us know; for a donation to our ministry, we will put your name on a space in our parking lot.

## **We present: LuMin.**

This word mashup of "Lutheran" and "Ministry" also evokes the "Lumen" or "Light" connotation. It sends the message of the "light in the darkness" or "guiding light" LuMin is here to portray to students and others within the academic community.

I have developed a mark that is both simple and uniquely us. We serve people from all directions and walks of life, and this brandmark is designed around the concept of a hub, intersection or highway cloverleaf. The cross seeks to portray our Christ-centered nature in a focused, yet subtle way. Rounded corners visually describe our inclusive and welcoming spirit. The colors used are inspired by our church liturgical colors. These bold tones provide a welcoming, fresh, and vibrant spirit while tipping our hat to our traditional stained glass roots.

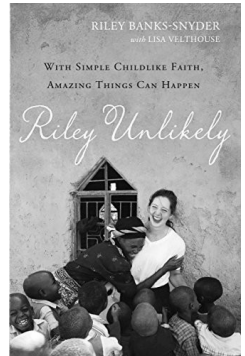


Here I am again with more news from my favorite spot, Zion's library. There are so many wonderful books in the library. You want to know the hardest part about being in the library? I want to read all the books there! Of course, I can't quite do that, but I can recommend a few that I am sure you will enjoy. HAPPY READING.

**Riley Unlikely** by Riley Banks-Snyder. This is the story of how God took a 13-year-old girl and transformed her into a 19-year-old missionary. It's the story of how He can change our lives and dramatically shift our dreams.

**Riley Unlikely** is the true inspiring story of Riley Banks-Snyder, who first traveled to Kenya at age 13 and has been back every year since. Riley Banks-Snyder wasn't like other kids. She wasn't the bravest. She wasn't the strongest. She definitely wasn't the most outgoing. But when God called, she listened, and said yes.

**Riley Unlikely** will stir you to make a difference in your own world and, perhaps, all around the globe. This definitely is a "must" read.



There are a number of books on Martin Luther. Here are three.

**Luther** by John Osborne. This is a controversial play about a passionate priest, the rebel who challenged, and changed, the spiritual world of his time. Osborn's portrait of Luther is so intimate as to be unnerving to the viewer; so passionate that it succeeds in echoing the lonely anguish of every rebel in every age. This is a very interesting read with many ideas thrown back-and-forth.

**Praying with Martin Luther** by Peer E. Bastien. The reform that Martin Luther began shook his world and, except for Christ's, his effect on the church, society, and thought is without parallel. Luther witnesses in a timeless way that the Word of God is life. This prayerful legacy of Martin Luther can nourish the soul by its spirituality of grace, forgiveness, and love. This book gives us insight into Martin Luther's experience of himself and his experience of God. This takes us into the spiritual motivations of a man who wrestled mightily with his weakness and who clung to his faith in the promise of Christ.

**What Luther Says** by Ewald Plass. Now if you really want to get into the life and thinkings of Martin Luther, this is the book to read. This is a tome but almost every subject is covered in this book.

Hope to see you soon in my favorite place!



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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Change Service Requested  
Issue 2/17

## 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**

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

February 12	Mission Trip Meeting
February 17-18	Middle School Lock-in
February 19	Scholarship Application Deadline
February 26	Lutheran Men of Song (8:15 a.m. Worship)
March 1	Ash Wednesday
March 3-5	High School Winter Retreat
March 5	Children's Choir (8:15 a.m. Worship)
March 5	North Colorado Missional Gathering
March 19 & 26	First Communion Classes
March 26	New Member Exploration Conversation
April 2	New Member Connections Dinner
April 9	Palm Sunday
April 13	Maundy Thursday; First Communion Milestone
April 14	Good Friday
April 15	Easter Vigil
April 16	Easter
April 28-30	Confirmation Retreat at Sky Ranch
May 5	Cinco de Mayo Pozole Dinner
May 5-7	Rocky Mountain Synod Assembly