



Eye on Zion

A Quarterly Newsletter for the People of Zion Lutheran Church

May-June-July
2018

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Embracing Our Identity

Pastor Joel Pancoast

We identify ourselves in a lot of different ways: a parent, spouse, son or daughter, sibling, friend. We may identify ourselves by a career or a hobby—and of course, most personally, by a given name. Every organization, whether it's a school, place of business, or church also is identified in different ways.

How do you identify your church? Broadly speaking, the church is the body of Christ. Martin Luther called the church a “mouth house,” because it is the primary location where the Word of God is spoken and sends people of faith into the world. The church is a gathering of people to be filled by the Word and Sacrament, promises of God, as strengthening and sustaining for life.

More specifically, every church has its own unique identity. What would you describe as Zion's unique identity? What makes the community of Zion Lutheran Church in Loveland, Colorado, unique? What do you love about Zion? What drives you crazy about Zion?

We all have answers to these questions, but to get you thinking about how special this community is, we want to share what a few others from Zion have written about what they love about Zion throughout this newsletter [pages 2, 5, 6, and 15] as together we embrace our identity.

These questions are not new questions. Almost ten years ago, Pastor Joel and Pastor Sonja started their ministry as pastors at Zion, and they asked members and friends of Zion to participate in small groups to share some of their answers to these questions, and more. One of the results of sifting through many conversations and stories was that as a community we identified Zion's identity and character with the following words:

Relational
Caring
Cross+generational
(ministry with children and youth are important)
Serving
Education.

Continued on page 2.

Embracing Our Identity continued from page 1.

For the next year or so, the council and pastors are inviting the members and friends of Zion to embrace these characteristics of this particular church community. We will start by exploring each of those words and what they mean to us, why they are important, and how they are lived out in this community. We will celebrate that God has brought this community together to be the body of Christ in a unique way, grounded in the Word of God. Since this is our communal identity, we need the input of everyone to truly understand what exactly these words mean to us as a whole.

Please join the pastors and council for dinner and conversation as we embrace our identity together, on Sunday, April 29, 5:00 to 7:30 p.m., at Zion in fellowship hall.

Our hope is that as we learn the unique gifts of this community, we will live into it more fully, and we will be able to share the gifts of this particular identity with others.

Why I love Zion Lutheran Church

Florence Doksansky

When my husband Alan and I moved from Rhode Island to Loveland, Colorado, we knew no one but Pastors Joel and Sonja (our daughter married her brother) and had met Cindy Kurtz who became our realtor. Almost immediately I felt the warmth and friendliness of Zion. So many people included us and made us comfortable that it's impossible to list them all. Know that you are treasured and have become true friends.

And while being at ease in a Christian community was important, there were and continue to be many more reasons why I personally have become committed to Zion.

Finally retired, I was able to join a Bible study for the first time, and I realized that Zion was committed in many ways to religious education.

Beyond the borders of Zion, its dedication to service to the community is exemplary, and service is one of the most important aspects of a Christian life to me. In the future, it is my goal (once I have trained my new puppy) to expand my love of helping others through dog therapy work to include working at Monroe Elementary School.

When I became a member of the church council three years ago, my respect for the pastors and staff of Zion increased as I became more aware of the amount of dedicated work they put into Zion to make it the model church that it is. The huge number of volunteers who do remarkable things to support the work of our church is truly amazing. I am continually impressed with all that we do to serve the Lord, and am honored to be a member of this special congregation.

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Music Ministry

Adam Torres

Greetings! With summer around the corner, I am blown away at 2018's quick pace! Between a cantata in collaboration with Trinity Lutheran Church, Easter festivities with special arrangements for brass, midweek offerings of Holden Evening Prayer during Lent, and our regular worship service offerings of our chancel choir, praise band, children's choir, and bell choir, Zion continues to be enriched by our network of volunteer and professional musicians sharing their time and talents in worship week in and week out.

As we prepare for our summer schedule, I would like for you to take a moment to reflect on God's call to serve in our community. If you might be interested in leading worship through song, I would encourage you to offer your voices in songleading for our outdoor worship services. To schedule a time for this, please contact music@zionloveland.com.

Further, I would encourage you to consider being

an active part of our music ministry in the fall and beyond. There are any number of ways to get involved: volunteering with our children's choir, singing as a member of the chancel choir, aiding the music ministry through our sound team, offering occasional special music, being a part of the praise band, or serving as a member of the handbell choir. Please know you are always welcome, and we will find a place for you in our ministry.

Music is an essential component of Christian worship in the Lutheran tradition. Through music, worship is enhanced, and we are able to connect with our community and beyond in intangible ways. Through our music, we welcome all into our sanctuary, to join our voices as one and proclaim the glory of God. Thank you for your support of the music ministry, and for helping us engage our community and beyond, welcoming all into the grace of God, and proclaiming His word through song.

Cantata Appreciation

Adam Torres

On Sunday, March 25, 2018, Zion's chancel choir, in collaboration with the choir of Trinity Lutheran Church, presented two performances of Theodore Dubois' *Les Sept Paroles du Christ* (The Seven Last Words of Christ), alongside a chamber orchestra of strings, flute, clarinet, harp, and organ. The Seven Last Words is a dramatic work from the late 19th century that focuses on the last expressions spoken by Christ during his crucifixion and death. It was a truly beautiful worship service to begin Holy Week 2018.

I am incredibly grateful for the countless hours of rehearsal and preparation from each member of the chancel choir, and for the Zion community at large in your support of the music ministry to present a project of this magnitude. We are truly blessed at Zion for the opportunity to collaborate with professional musicians and our ELCA brethren at Trinity. I look forward to sharing Zion's next big project with you, and sharing our continued mission together, expressing the glory and love of God through music.

Children's Music Ministry

Noelle Bauman

As the school year comes to a close, I cannot help but reflect on this time just one year ago. I was ending my first year teaching at Colorado Early Colleges and rounding up the children's choir at Zion. As similar as my life is described, this year feels completely different, in large due to Zion Lutheran Church. Here I have observed and contributed to a community that volunteers, builds, and reaches far from the walls that rumble from our activities throughout the week.



With tambourines, drums, and xylophone, Zion's children's choir offers up a joyful sound with their music directed by Noelle.

The children's choir will wrap up their second year this May. Each semester has grown, and kids are returning! With some veterans and the accumulation of known songs, I thought it was time to teach the singers that we can bring joy to an even greater community by sharing our gifts of music. In early May, the children's choir will perform at Brookdale Senior Living. I am excited to give the kids the opportunity to make connections with the residents at Brookdale.

With the implementation of a few aspects from

Faith Five, the children's choir has grown to be a family. They are making new friendships with students from other schools, and being given the opportunity to share in the joys and sorrows of each person. We are not just teaching music, we are showing the kids how to form a thriving community through understanding and caring. What better examples of these priorities than our church community. I am thrilled to have amazing volunteers who exhibit the character grown at

Zion. The kids are so lucky to have these special people teaching and caring for them.

There are many reasons to be excited about this summer, one being a week of Mini Music Camp! Kids who attend can look forward to songs, skits, crafts, and instruments. The week will be geared toward students in elementary and middle school (completed grades one through seven), but high school ages are encouraged to volunteer.

The Mini Music Camp will be June 11-15, 9:00 a.m. to noon with a snack served around 10:00 a.m. Cost is \$15 per child or \$25 per family.

I am looking forward to another year of growing the community and making connections through Zion Lutheran, and I am so excited to see where we will all be a year from now. Thank you for your commitment to music and its use in our worship together.

Every melody shared makes Zion a special place.

Zion—My Home Away from Home

Bailey Vrem, Youth

Zion is easily my home away from home. The environment is friendly and welcoming, and always open to new members. I feel like I have the chance to build a healthy, strong relationship with every person in the church. Each person has touched my life in a different way.

I don't think that I can describe how much I love Zion; it goes beyond just words. Sermons at church find a way into my heart. Some honestly weave themselves inside of me, and I have never once not enjoyed a sermon.

I am incredibly fortunate to be a part of such a welcoming church. We do so much good work for the community, and in my eyes we are all true people of God. Family is a big thing for me, and I feel Zion hits that home. I am loved by every one of my brothers and sisters, and we are all there to support one another in our faith journeys. Whether we are just beginning that journey, or already are well on our way, it doesn't matter. Everyone has a place at the table, and we are all children of God no matter the race, age, or ethnicity. God accepts all, as Zion does too.

Zion is about relationships

Autumn Vrem, Youth

When people ask me what I love most about Zion, the first things that come to mind are the many opportunities and great experiences we get at such a young age along with the many friendships I have made. I have gotten the chance to make many close relationships and get closer to the people within the church.

Everyone at Zion is open hearted and willing to listen and each and every person has touched my faith in many ways inside and outside of church.

Zion accepts everyone.

Another great thing is that there are always people there to support you whether it's about your faith or you just need help. From the minute I step into worship—from the sermons to the music—I feel like I connect to all of them, and they each help me grow more and more in my faith journey. The sermons and music get me really thinking and allow me to explore more about my faith.

I am very grateful to be a part of such a comforting church. As an 8th grader I feel like I have so many opportunities to make a difference in our church and in our community such as helping out in worship and going on retreats; all of these experiences make me a better person. All of that is thanks to Zion's loving and outstanding environment that allows me to grow while still having fun with it.

I have gotten the chance to make many close relationships and get closer to the people within the church.

What I Love About Zion

Amy Black

When Pastor Joel asked me to write “What I Love About Zion” for this newsletter, the first thing that popped into my head was the people! The congregation of Zion has been part of my family for the majority of my life. I have been a member of Zion since 1975 when my parents decided it was the right church for our family to attend. Even though I was gone for about 10 years in California, I always felt a connection to Zion because of the relationships formed in my adolescence. When Todd and I moved back to Colorado in 2000, there was no other church we considered attending. We wanted our children to be around the same loving people that had such an impact on my upbringing. To this day, some of my closest friendships have been formed in this community. I love that I have strong relationships with members of all ages. It is fun to see people at church that I have known since childhood and for them to now know Todd, Ellie, and Ryan. Having new families join over the years is wonderful and refreshing. I love that Zion is such a welcoming congregation. I openly discuss various aspects of life at Zion with other friends. Because of such conversations, some of those friends are now members here as well! Although there are many things I love about Zion, the people and community are top of the list.

Why I Love Zion

Elaine Nichols

When my husband died it was devastating and the grief was overwhelming. You need both comfort and understanding, and my Zion family gave me both starting with the Experiencing Grief booklet series. Zion has also given me many opportunities to volunteer and be a part of this wonderful congregation. Thank You Zion!!!!

We are blessed as members of Zion

Eileen Huddle

We were looking for a new church home and had visited Zion throughout the years finding the people welcoming and the Pastor’s messages inspiring. For me especially, I was excited about joining the choir which has always been my passion. We have found wonderful friends here at Zion and many ways to enrich our faith through worship, participating in Bible studies and being actively involved in the many ways of assisting in Sunday morning worship. We love the way Zion is a very caring community of believers and comes to the aid of those in need just as our Lord commands. We are blessed as members of Zion.

Embracing Wisdom and Wonder: Your Generosity Making a Difference

This year our stewardship emphasis is *Embracing Wisdom and Wonder*. For this emphasis, Zion's leadership has targeted three ministry areas on which to focus our growth: Faith Formation, Ministry Excellence, and Outreach—areas that embody who Zion is and who Zion wants to become.

We are a congregation who serves and reaches out into our community and wants to grow in its outreach. Our focus is cross+generational, where all ages are important to us and we value education. The emphasis on faith formation helps us to grow in these two areas. With a focus on ministry excellence, we embrace all areas of our identity as we use and share our resources of staff and building to help us grow in service, education, relationships, caring, and cross+generational connections.

Faith Formation

In this first quarter of the year, your generous giving supported the faith formation programming to send 16 middle school and high school youth and their sponsors to the Rocky Mountain Synod Youth Gathering in Colorado Springs. While there, they connected with over 400 other Lutheran youth from our area and together grew in faith.

Ministry Excellence

Your generous giving also supports ministry excellence and our staff who put together amazing programming for our congregation and those beyond our walls. We were excited in March to present a Passion Sunday cantata at the 10:45 a.m. worship at which our choir and the choir from Trinity Lutheran Church combined with a number of other amazing musicians and singers to perform Theodore Dubois' "The Seven Last Words of Christ" which truly gave the glory to God.

Outreach

Finally, your generous giving goes toward outreach and has resulted in the growth of our programming with Monroe. You can see in other articles in this newsletter all the amazing ways this ministry is growing, but this could not have taken place without your generous support. Because of the increased giving to Monroe, we can do new and creative programming.

Thank you for your generosity and giving to Zion's mission and ministry. Your generosity allows us to make a difference and embrace fully our desired identity.

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp Encountering Christ on the Mountaintops

Youth of all ages have the opportunity to experience God in a new way this summer. We already have 30 kids registered for camp! Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity. Let Madeline know if you would like to register.

- High School Youth—Youth Go! 2-Week Leadership Training Program—June 10-22.
- Middle School Youth—Confirmation Intensive Program Exploring the Early Church—June 17-22.
- 1st through 3rd Grade Children—Round Up Program—July 22-27.
- 3rd through 5th Grade Children—Homesteaders Program—July 22-27.



Sky Ranch campers experience God in the mountaintop setting.

Please pray for safe faith-filled experiences for our youth and the staff who will care for them during their time at camp.

Rent-A-Youth Fundraiser

Saturday, May 12

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Zion youth are available to be hired out for any at-home work projects you may have! We have young, strong, enthusiastic workers and adult support who are able to help you tackle the spring projects on your list!

If you'd like to request assistance for a work project, in return for a donation, please contact Madeline at faithformation@zionloveland.com

ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas



Zion and King of Glory will send 13 youth and 4 adults to Houston for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering from June 26 to July 1. We pray for safe travels and a Christ-filled experience for the entire group! Youth will engage in community life and worship with 30,000+ other ELCA Lutherans. Other opportunities include an

immersive service-learning day as well as a day for gathering with other members of the Rocky Mountain Synod for worship and Bible study. This trip would not be possible without the support of generous donors at Zion, through our regular budget, individual donors, and fundraiser support. Thank you! We can't wait to share about all that we take home with us from Houston!

There will be a special sending/commissioning during worship on Sunday June 24 at 10:15 a.m. worship.

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Graduation Milestone

Sunday, May 20

8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Worship

We will celebrate this special milestone for graduates at any level on Sunday May 20 at both worship services. As a community, we surround our grads in prayer during what can be, for many, a time of transition and discernment.

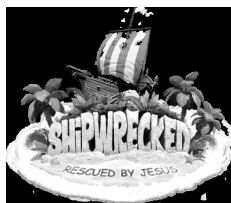
If you are a 2018 graduate or know of one, please contact Madeline at 419 270 6233 or faithformation@zionloveland.com so that we can acknowledge your achievement in worship and publications.

L2F2 Vacation Bible School

June 4-8

9:00 a.m. to noon

All children age 3 through 5th grade are invited to experience life on a tropical island as we explore the theme, *Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus*. Crews will dig deep into daily Bible themes through interactive games, art, snack, and Bible story sessions. Preschool will be its own self-contained unit with age-appropriate activities and fun learning opportunities!



If you would like to volunteer to make Vacation Bible School possible, or if you would like to register a child to participate, visit this link: <https://vbspro.events/p/zionkogvbs2018>

Paper registration is available at Zion. Cost is \$15 per child or \$25 per family.

Summer Faith Formation

Sunday mornings 9:30-10:00 a.m.

June 3 through August 19

Throughout the summer we will offer all ages faith formation between our worship services. Activities will include on-site service projects, prayer practices, outside games, and more! We will spend time together digging deeper into our weekly themes in a flexible, hands-on, cross-generational format. Check out the faith formation bulletin board for more details as summer approaches! We are looking for individuals or families to “host” each of the 12 weeks of summer faith formation. Sign up on the table near the bulletin board, or see Madeline for more details!

Young Adult Events

Young Adult Summer Get-Together

Memorial Day—Monday, May 28

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Pourhouse, 124 East 4th Street, Loveland

Memorial Day weekend is the traditional start of summer. Start your summer off right with other young adults from Zion.

All young adults are invited to Pourhouse at 7:00 p.m. for good food and good conversation. Young adults at all life stages are welcome!

We look forward to connecting, no matter what life looks like for you post-high school and beyond!

Dinner will be provided by Zion.

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Thank You to Faith Formation Teachers and Leaders

We appreciate the gifts of each of the people who volunteer to teach Sunday school and lead classes during the faith formation hour. In addition to Pastor Sonja and Pastor Joel, the following people have served during the 2017-2018 school year as teachers or shepherds, many of them on a monthly, if not weekly basis! Thank you for your continued commitment to our congregational value of education. Extra thanks to CINDY VOSBERG for organizing and purchasing Sunday school supplies.

SCOTT SPRAIN

RONDA BUCK

MEGAN HART

JANIE LICHTFUSS

ANN WATSON

JACKIE FULKROD

GENE ELDER

KRISTI PEACH

SUE TATAJE

BRENDON PEACH

CHRIS MAYES

AMY BLACK

BLAKE FISCHER

DAWN ARZUOLAITIS

LISA TEESDALE

CHRISSY WOLFE

ALEXIS SMITH

JUDY GUSTAFSON

ALISON STONE

ADRIANA LUJAN

ROY GEISS

LYNSEY WEIMER

CHERYL GILLPATRICK

LAURA DIMMITT

Sky Ranch Labor Day Weekend Retreat

August 31-September 3, 2018

Celebrate an amazing weekend in the mountains with friends and family from Zion and King of Glory!

Bring your tent or camper, or stay in a cabin or lodge room for the weekend. Programming for all ages will take place throughout the weekend—art projects, hikes, fishing, campfires, and more! Laugh, relax, and leave refreshed!

Reservations are available for 1, 2, or 3 nights and prices are as follows: tent site—\$25 per night, campsite with electric—\$35 per night, cabin for up to 10 people—\$45 per night, and lodge room for up to 4 people—\$55 per night. Please note that sites are FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE this year, as there are a limited number of RV spots available. Madeline will record registration forms in the order they are submitted.

Reserve your spot by filling out a registration form and returning it with a \$25 deposit check (made out to Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp) to Madeline. **All reservations must be made by June 17!**

Registration forms are on the faith formation bulletin board. Contact Madeline for any questions at faithformation@zionloveland.com or 419 270 6233.



Walking stick in hand, the boys are off for a Sky Ranch adventure.

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Bridge Ministry Summer Events

Progressive Dinner

Friday, May 18

Hop around Loveland, enjoying delicious food and great company!

- Appetizers at King of Glory 5:00-5:45 p.m.
- Dinner at Zion 6:00-6:45 p.m.
- Dessert at North Lake Park Shelter #2 at 7:00 p.m.

An Afternoon at the Movies

Sunday, June 10

King of Glory at noon

Bring a potluck lunch and then relax for a fun movie!

Film will be chosen at our May event and advertised several weeks prior.

Intergenerational Faith Formation Events

Ramsay-Shockey Open Space Hike, near Carter Lake

Monday, June 18—9:00 a.m. to noon

Meet at Zion at 8:30 a.m. to carpool

We will hike the Shoshone Trail, about 2.5 miles, for beautiful open views. Plan to carpool as the entrance fee is \$7 per vehicle. Bring snacks and water, wear good hiking or walking shoes, sunscreen, and a sack lunch to enjoy together at the end of the hike. Contact DEBORAH PRICE for information at dhprice@naturedeb.com or 635-0411.

Astronomy

Friday, July 20—7:30-9:30 p.m. (backup weather date is Saturday, July 21)

Meet at King of Glory

Enjoy some fun and educational activities that will help you understand the constellations and all the movement up in the sky! Then we'll go outside and observe stars, planets, the moon, and other celestial objects with laser pointers and telescopes. Contact DEBORAH PRICE for information at dhprice@naturedeb.com or 635-0411.

Devil's Backbone Hike, west on Highway 34

Monday, July 30—9:00 a.m. to noon

Meet at Zion at 8:30 a.m. to carpool

We will hike about 3 miles on the trails along this beautiful ridge. Bring snacks and water, wear good hiking or walking shoes, sunscreen, and a sack lunch to enjoy together at the end of the hike. Contact DEBORAH PRICE for information at dhprice@naturedeb.com or 635-0411.

Continued on page 12.

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Intergenerational Faith Formation Events continued from page 11.

L2F2 Summerfest Pool Party

Sunday, August 12

5:30-8:00 p.m.

Winona Pool, 1615 4th Street, Loveland



Celebrate summer with friends and family at Summerfest. All are invited for a night of fun at the Winona pool. The admission fee is covered by Zion and King of Glory. Bring your own dinner and enjoy swimming, fellowship, games, and more! Friends are always welcome!

Please do not bring glass containers, as they are not allowed in the pool area.

All Church Picnic

Sunday, July 15—Noon at Mehaffey Park

Join Zion and King of Glory members at the pavilion at Mehaffey Park! Bring a dish to share and your own lawn chair! Games and entertainment provided. Enjoy some good old-fashioned picnic fun!



An abundance of food and fellowship were enjoyed at the 2017 all church picnic.

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Confirmation Retreat—Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith

Thirteen middle school youth from Zion and King of Glory had the opportunity to experience worship at Congregation Har Shalom (reformed Judaism), The Masjid at Colorado Muslim Society (Islam), Holy Transfiguration of Christ Cathedral (Orthodox Christianity), and Denver Buddhist Temple (Buddhism). During the weekend, they had questions answered by many different faith leaders. We were so thankful for the hospitality extended to our group in every place we visited. Youth learned how to celebrate their own faith, while honoring the beliefs and rituals of others.



The confirmation and middle school youth learned about other faith backgrounds. They experienced Jewish Shabbat on Friday night and Muslim prayer and Christian Orthodox vespers on Saturday.

The youth participating in the confirmation retreat were (kneeling left to right) Joey, Sophia, Payton, Layne, Kelly, (standing left to right) Fischer, Jonny, Ryan, Ori, Bailey, Autumn, and Emma.

New Ventures at Monroe

Pastor Sonja Pancoast

Our programming at Monroe continues to expand. Just when it seems that we cannot do more, God's Spirit moves and suddenly we have more ideas and new energy to do things to support the children, teachers, and families at Monroe.

This spring we kicked off three new initiatives. The first one was to sponsor a soccer program for third and fourth grade boys at Monroe. Initially, we tried to have four soccer teams start in the fall but that was too many. So we stepped back and started with just one team. We have 15 boys participating with a coach who is a parent at Monroe. Zion financially supported 9 of the 15 boys on the team to make this dream a reality.



The boys practice ball handling strategies.



The boys are enthusiastic for soccer.

The coach commented, "They are honestly having so much fun, and I see it giving them a very positive feeling about school as well. I hope we can keep the momentum moving into next year."

In April we began to offer short-term, after-school clubs. Volunteers stepped up to share their talents in three areas: weaving, loom weaving, and hand sewing. Each of these three clubs met between two and four times during April. The kids who came had a great time, and we will continue to explore how people at Zion can share their gifts with children at Monroe.



Attentively, young girls learn the skills for sewing by hand.

Finally, we partnered with Habitat ReStore to help provide clothing to children who are in need. When teachers or school administrators identify that a child needs clothing, they contact the ReStore who determines what inventory they have in stock suitable for the child. When the ReStore does not have the items, we purchase new items for that child. So far, the primary request has been for new underwear for the kids. We have also had a couple requests for unique sizes of clothing.

We are excited for all the ways our partnership with Monroe continues to expand and look forward to where God is leading us in the future.

Thank You to our Monroe Volunteers

As we approach the end of the school year, we want to offer a special thank you to all the volunteers who help in the classroom or around Monroe each week. Through their weekly volunteering, they are able to build relationships with the kids and let them know how much we care. We have people who help out one-on-one in the classroom, others who work in small groups, others who play games on the playground during lunch recess, and still others who shelve books in the library.

You can share your gifts in many ways at Monroe.

A special thank you to our weekly volunteers:

KATE BARNES
GENE ELDER
CHERYL GILLPATRICK
LINDA JUERGENSEN
ADRIANA LUJAN
CORI MORRILL
PASTOR SONJA PANCOAST
WILL AND KATHY REENTS
BARB ROMAN
MEG SCHREIBER
RUTH SPRAIN
JOHN AND LINDA STERNER
HELEN WEIDELMAN.

You are making a difference in the lives of children and supporting the teachers and staff at Monroe.

Thank you!

What do we love about Zion?

John and Linda Sterner

At the core of our love for Zion are the pastors. From the get-go, Pastor Joel and Pastor Sonja won us over from the other Loveland ELCA churches we visited upon our arrival to Loveland in 2011. On our second Sunday as visitors, Pastor Joel called us by name—and this was before the era of wearing name tags. Within only a few days, Pastor Sonja telephoned inviting us to meet with her to learn more about Zion. On that initial meeting, she spent nearly two hours in conversation with us. Key among our questions was whether Zion offered a pastor-led Bible study. Yes, they did. At that, we were hooked on Zion.

We came to know that Zion is indeed multigenerational and for many members, the generations are within their particular families—like Zion dynasties, yet the overwhelming impression was that this was a welcoming congregation. Again, it was Pastor Joel who secured for us the feeling of not only being welcome but being active participants. In the new member classes, as we tackled the question of spiritual gifts, Pastor Joel learned of our respective backgrounds in finance and publications and subsequently invited us to serve where we could put those gifts to work. Do you know how rewarding it is to be asked to serve where you actually believe you can contribute? Our respective work as treasurer and bookkeeper and as newsletter editor have been the perfect match to our talents and have allowed us to feel part of the Zion faith family.

As for the 7:30 a.m. Wednesday morning pastor-led Bible study class, we have become siblings of a more intimate family—a valued relationship. But, the most valued relationship is a greater one that is nurtured by the pastors not only in their knowledge and insight into studying Scripture on Wednesdays but in the inspirational and motivational sermons we hear on Sundays—and that is a relationship with God. Zion enables that for us. That is the Zion identity we embrace. God's Work. Our Hands.

Among Members and Friends

At Rest in Our Father's House

We keep in prayer:

*Family and friends of long-time Zion member
Vaughnette Klein who died on February 26,
2018, and whose funeral was March 2 at Zion.*

*Family and friends of long-time Zion member
Dick Albers who died on March 30, 2018, and
whose funeral was April 6 at Zion.*

Prayers of Thanksgiving

*We give thanks for the safe return of **Adam
Torres**, husband of Tiggy Torres, who arrived
home safely after serving in Kuwait.*

*We give thanks for the safe return of **Natalie
Colton**, granddaughter of Harriet Colton, who
arrived home safely after serving in Kuwait.*

*We give thanks for the birth of **Ryann Murphy** to
Christine and Kyle Murphy on April 3.*

First Communion

*We rejoice with the following who received their
First Communion on Maundy Thursday, March
29, 2018.*

***Annaliese Bachman** (received April 8)*

Alex Torres

Kate Weimer

Nick Weimer

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

Special Thanks from Zion to:

*GUS GUSTAFSON and JIM VOSBERG for all the tasks they have tackled over the last few months to help
our church function.*

PAM STEVENS for all her hard work and help with projection and worship.

JACK ALLEN, STIG ORESJO, and PAUL TUNGESVICK for maintaining the new spotlights in the sanctuary.

Among Members and Friends

Dear Zion Friends,

Please accept my sincere appreciation for all the prayers, cards, and telephone calls in recent months. Special thanks to Pastor Sonja for all her visits. I am on the road to full recovery and am settled in my new residence. Thanks again to my dear Zion friends.

Evelyn Haber

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, brought food, and all of the prayers during my stay at North Shore Rehab. You truly touched my heart and I feel blessed.

Shirley Campbell

To Lindsey and All of Zion Lutheran,

Please accept this donation [\$100] from the Silver Lake HOA [Homeowners Association] in appreciation for your hospitality in 2017. The church has been our home for meetings these many years. We appreciate everything you all have done to make us feel comfortable and welcome in that time.

*Sincerely,
SLHOA President*

Zion Lutheran Parishioners,

KidsPak is so grateful for your support. With your donation, we can create and deliver 257 food bags for Thompson School District students. We appreciate your efforts to fight hunger in Loveland.

*Bless you
KidsPak*

Thank You from Monroe Teachers

Teachers from Monroe thank Zion for the meals provided on parent/teacher conference day.

Thank you for providing us with yummy warm soup and the delicious desserts! We are so blessed.—Ms. Fodness

Thank you!—Ms. C.

Thank you so much for the yummy dinners! You're the BEST.—Alexa

Thank you!—Stacey Burtis

Thank you!—Ada

Thank you for the delicious soup and wonderful desserts.—Ms. Millard

Thank you so much! You make us feel so cared about.—Stephanie

Thank you very much for the fabulous treats.—Ms. Van Loan

Thank you. It was delicious!—Jessica Milden

Thanks so much for your thoughtfulness!—Patty

The food was just right! Thank you!—Mary S.

It was so yummy! Thank you so much.—Amanda

Thank you for the amazing meal. It was so delicious.—Gloria

Thank You Letters to Zion

- January 17, 2018—From House of Neighborly Service for a contribution of \$252.
- February 16, 2018—From Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp for a gift of \$525.

Zion's Nita Starr named Thompson district's elementary teacher of the year



Nita Starr

From Nita, "I am very happy to be teaching fourth grade at Ivy Stockwell. I have been a teacher for 29 years, teaching all the grades—first through eighth—except fifth grade. Fourth graders are awesome! I love their curiosity and willingness to try new things."

As reported in the Loveland Reporter-Harold on March 2, 2018, "In all, 112 educators were nominated by coworkers, parents, students and members of the

community for the five award categories: staff members, elementary teachers, secondary teachers, principals, and educator of the year."

Congratulations, Nita!

ZQT Schedule (Zion Quilt Ti-ers)

Susan Osborn

ZQT will gather and tie quilts through May and begin again in September.

Please join us at Zion on the third Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m.

Bike Month 2018

go to
www.cityofloveland.org
for the
Bike Month Calendar of Events

Bike to Church / Blessing of the Bikes and their Riders—Sunday, June 24

Summer is a great time to be outside and embrace our identities as part of God's creation. In conjunction with the City of Loveland Bike to Work Day, we want to bless bikes and their riders; pray for safety; and give thanks for the ability to exercise and enjoy the world around us on wheels.

On Sunday, June 24, ride or bring your bike to worship. We will bless bikes of all kinds—bicycles and motorbikes—as part of our worship service!

Bike to Work Day—Wednesday, June 27

On Wednesday, June 27, the City of Loveland sponsors a citywide Bike to Work Day. If you want to ride that day, you can find the location of all the Bike to Work Day breakfast stations on the City of Loveland website.

If you don't want to ride, consider helping to sponsor a station with all three ELCA Lutheran churches of Loveland (King of Glory, Trinity, and Zion). Our station will be at the southeast corner of Taft and 29th Street. We will hand out breakfast goodies to those who are biking to work that day to encourage them to care for the bodies God has given them. Come and visit the Bike to Work station or help hand out food and visit those who come to our station.

From the City of Loveland website, you can see that there are many bike-related activities throughout the month of June.

Gratitude for Zion's Great Gift Away

Valerie Boyce

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with great joy and thanksgiving that we offer our appreciation and gratitude for the generous donation from the Great Gift Away Program. We especially thank the Zion Endowment Committee for choosing us for this gift. This generous gift is truly a blessing for our residents of Heritage Haus and Primrose Place Assisted Living Residences. The funds will allow us to provide much needed personal items such as coats, shoes, and hygiene products to our residents who are most in need of assistance. It will also enable our residents to attend many activities in the community that can enhance their quality of life.

Thank you to all of you who have so generously donated to the Great Gift Away Program which makes these types of gifts possible.

Sincerely,

Valerie A. Boyce, Steven Bernhardt, and Casey and Megan Hart

About Great Gift Away

Great Gift Away is an opportunity through Zion's endowment fund to both share God's abundance and invest for future opportunities. In anticipation of a birthday, you may have received letters from the endowment committee giving thanks for this milestone in your life, and inviting you to give thanks to God for each year of your life by contributing \$1 (plus or minus) to the Great Gift Away ministry for each year being celebrated.

Each year, the endowment committee is blessed to invest half of these contributions in the endowment fund, ensuring that we can embrace a healthy, long-term, mission-oriented identity for many years to come. Of the other half of funds contributed each year, it is the goal of the endowment committee to invest in ministries within both the congregation and the broader community. In previous years, we have supported agencies such as Alternatives to Violence, Habitat for Humanity, Project Self-Sufficiency, WFC Prison Ministry, Boy Scout Troop 314, and it has helped purchase items within Zion's ministry like a digital projector, a vacuum cleaner, and art supplies.

At the end of 2017 and the beginning of 2018, we asked for congregational feedback on how we could bless our community by sharing these funds, and the response was overwhelming! The endowment committee has never had more ministries to choose from, and it proved a difficult choice indeed. After much discussion and deliberation, the choice was made to support local agencies this year that have not been awarded by Great Gift Away. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to give \$900 to KidsPak, \$450 to Primrose Place, and \$450 to Heritage Haus. KidsPak is a weekend hunger relief program for children in the Thompson School District and Berthoud. They currently serve 39 schools of all age and academic levels, and serve approximately 580 packs of food each week. Primrose Place and Heritage Haus are group homes for adults, and a number of their residents were in need of shoes, coats, and other clothing. Thank you for the sharing of your generosity through Great Gift Away. Through your gifts, we are able to share with others and more deeply embrace our identity as a caring community of faith.

Holy Land Trip 2019

Pastors Joel and Sonja Pancoast

The Christian identity is rooted in the stories of the Bible. Since these are real stories, that happened to real people and in real places, one of the best ways for these stories to come to life is to go to the source. When our girls were reading the Laura Ingalls Wilder books, we took a trip to see some of the places she wrote about in her beloved “Little House on the Prairie” books. In Walnut Grove, Minnesota, we waded in Plum Creek and remembered her stories of playing in that same creek. When we camped in the slough in De Smet, South Dakota, we had images of Laura and Almanzo riding in the wagon together as they fell in love.

Some of you know that we both had the opportunity to travel to the Holy Land in January 2018, and our experience was much the same. As we saw places where Jesus was born, where he walked and taught, and where he died, the stories from the Scriptures came to life in ways we never imagined them.

In the last issue of the “Eye on Zion” newsletter, we wrote that the response people had to our trip and how we wrote about it compelled us to change our Lenten midweek emphasis to share some of this experience, even though we had already written a different Lenten series before we had left on this journey. Throughout Lent, we continued to receive a positive response. Because so many people shared a strong desire to be able to personally see the sites that we shared through pictures and stories, we have arranged an opportunity for a pilgrimage June 23 to July 3, 2019.

We will have a professional guide from Good Shepherd Travel, and Pastor Sonja or Pastor Joel will serve as the spiritual guide through the stories and Scriptures while we are there. If you are interested, you can pick up a brochure at the church with all the details, or you can visit the pilgrimage link at <https://store.tourtheholylands.com/collections/all/products/10-life-changing-days-in-the-holy-land-from-denver-co-june-23-july-03-2019-pastor-joel-and-sonja-pancoast> (that link will also be available on Zion’s website and Facebook page). The total cost is \$3,390, which includes airfare from Denver, all meals and hotel rooms, tour buses, and much more! A deposit of \$300 per person is required to make a reservation. An additional payment of \$750 per person is due by September 23, 2018, with the final balance due March 23, 2019. The cost for any reservations after September 23 will increase, so make a reservation now! And, this is not limited to Zion, so feel free to invite a friend to come along.

If you are interested but have questions, get in touch with one of the pastors. We will also have two different opportunities for you to ask questions and learn more about this trip. We will have an early interest gathering for anyone who has any interest on Sunday, May 20, at 9:40 a.m. At this time we will



Continued on page 21.

Holy Land Trip 2019 continued from page 20.

walk through the trip details and answer any questions you may need answered in order to make a decision, and we will start a preliminary list of travelers. Then, on Saturday, August 25, and Sunday, August 26, our friend Elias Nawawieh, who grew up in Bethlehem and is one of the owners of Good Shepherd Travel, will be with us to share more details, answer even more detailed questions, and be a gift of presence to us at Zion from the Holy Land.

This is the proposed itinerary for the 10-day trip.

Day 1—Departure from USA

Day 2—Arrival, Tiberius on the Sea of Galilee

Day 3—Nazareth, Cana, Mount Tabor

Day 4—Golan Heights, Caesarea Philippi, Sea of Galilee (site of the multiplication of the fishes and the loaves and The Mount of Beatitudes)

Day 5—Megiddo, Mount Carmel, Caesarea Maritima

Day 6—Dead Sea, Wadi Qelt wilderness, Jericho, Jordan River

Day 7—Shepherd's Field, Bethlehem, Lutheran Evangelical School in Beit Sahour

Day 8—Mount of Olives/Mount Zion, Augusta Victoria Lutheran Hospital, Garden of Gethsemane, Holocaust Museum

Day 9—Old city of Jerusalem, Western Wall, Pools of Bethesda, Via Dolorosa, Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Garden Tomb

Day 10—Departure

It is a journey of a lifetime, one that will invite you to embrace your identity more deeply as a Christian. As a sign at a church in Bethlehem stated: "If you enter here as a tourist, you would exit as a pilgrim. If you enter here as a pilgrim, you would exit as a holier one."



Summer Worship Schedule

June 3 through September 2

8:15 a.m. Outdoor Worship on the Zion lawn

9:30 a.m. Faith Formation and Education

10:15 a.m. Indoor Worship

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays are Traditional Worship.

2nd and 4th Sundays are Contemporary.

Summer Worship Themes

June 3 through July 1—Embracing Our Identity

This summer we are excited to embrace our congregational identity together in worship. As the body of Christ made up of unique people in a unique place, Zion has a character that is unique from other churches.

For the first five weeks of the summer, we will explore that character in our worship, hearing God's Word speak to who we are as the body of Christ. Each week we will explore a different aspect of Zion's character including relational, caring, cross+generational, service, and education. We will dive into Scripture to engage God's Word and how God's Word speaks to the uniqueness of the community of God gathered at Zion.

July 8 through September 2—Growing in the Fruits of the Spirit

In baptism we are given a unique identity as a child of God and filled with God's Spirit. God's Spirit fills us, gives us fruits of the Spirit, and nurtures our lives.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

—GALATIANS 5:22-23A

Each week in worship we will explore one of these gifts of the Spirit and how the Spirit fills and transforms us.

Come And Learn About Stephen Ministry

On Saturday, July 14, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., Stephen Leaders DON BARNES, CHERYL GILLPATRICK, GINGER KLEIN, and BARB ROMAN will hold an informational meeting about the Stephen Ministry training class to be held this fall.

A high level of commitment is required in order to be a Stephen Minister and an integral part of the Stephen Ministry team. This commitment includes:

- A 24-month commitment of service to the program
- Attendance at and participation in the 50-hour training program
- Study of the training materials
- Service as a Stephen Minister for about 18 months following the completion of the training program
- Participation in once-monthly supervision meetings for about 18 months following the completion of the training program.

The Stephen Ministry training class and the materials we use are part of the Stephen Series designed by Stephen Ministries St. Louis. It is a standardized system, and we follow it to a T. The class structure includes:

- Fifty hours of training during the months of September through February that is broken down into 2-hour-long classes in the evening (with breaks scheduled during the holidays) and an overnight retreat.
- The Stephen Ministry training manuals are the primary reading material used during the class.

In order to master the skills required for the caregiver (Stephen Minister) /care receiver relationship, we cover these topics in class:

- Feelings: Yours, Mine, and Ours
- The Art of Listening
- Distinctively Christian Caring
- Assertiveness: Relating Gently and Firmly
- Maintaining Boundaries in Caregiving
- Confidentiality
- Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief
- Caring for People before, during, and after Hospitalization.



During the informational meeting two Stephen Ministers will share their experiences about what it means to be a Stephen Minister. We'll also show an inspirational video about the rewards of participating in Stephen Ministry.

Come and learn about Stephen Ministry with us!



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

ELCA Conference of Bishops issues statement of support

ITASCA (MARCH 6, 2018)—The ELCA Conference of Bishops has approved the following statement of support for the March for Our Lives on March 24.

STATEMENT IN SOLIDARITY WITH OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Our children and youth are like a young Jeremiah prophesying to the people: *“For I know the plans I have for you, “declares the Lord,” plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”* (Jeremiah 29:11).

Recently, the students, faculty, and staff at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., experienced tragedy. Seventeen people—students and teachers—were killed by a 19-year-old shooter. In response, students have invited their teachers, families and allies around the nation to join with them for a March for Our Lives on March 24, 2018, in Washington, D.C.; calling our country into a deeper conversation about school safety and Second Amendment rights and responsibilities.

We recognize this incident is the latest in a long list of tragic shootings in our country and young people have been calling for protest and change for many years. Some of those young voices have been ignored or silenced because of racial and economic injustice. We cannot let that reality keep us from acting now.

Adopted in 1994, the ELCA social message on “Community Violence” remains sadly relevant today. The message speaks about the causes of violence as complex and pervasive, and of how violence breeds violence. In proclaiming the forgiveness and love of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the church addresses the root of violence while being committed to social actions that respond directly to violence and the people it affects.

From the social message: *In the face of violence, God’s resolve for peace in human communities is unshakable. Deliberate acts to harm or kill innocent people violate God’s intention for human community. God’s commandment is “You shall not murder” (Ex. 20:13). In proclaiming God’s law, we declare that all people are accountable before God and the community to honor and respect the life God has given. Christians, as salt of the earth (Mt. 5:13) and light of the world (Mt. 5:14), are called to respond to violent crime in the restorative ways taught by Jesus (Mt. 5:38-39) and shown by his actions (Jn. 8:3-11). We are empowered to take up the challenge to prevent violence and to attack the complex causes that make violence so pervasive.*

According to Lutheran theology, society is to be ruled by the civil use of the Law. Government is responsible under God for the protection of its citizens and the maintenance of justice and public order. As citizens in a democracy, we have the responsibility to join with others to hold government accountable for protecting society and ensuring justice for all, and to seek changes in policies and practices toward these ends.

That social message was amplified by a social statement, “For Peace in God’s World” (1995), which,

Continued on page 25.

ELCA Conference of Bishops issues statement of support continued from page 24.

as part of its adoption, offered concrete implementation actions, including: *To call upon the members and leaders of this church to support our youth in their struggle to define their identity and vocation as present and future peacemakers....*

The Conference of Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in solidarity with our children and youth, and in response to our common baptismal vocation—living among God’s faithful people, hearing the word of God and sharing in the Lord’s Supper, proclaiming the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, serving all people following the example of Jesus, and striving for justice and peace in all the earth—offer our support, partnership and prayers for the March for Our Lives, its satellite city events, and our children and youth who are leading us forward as peacemakers.

[Sixty-four members gave their names in public and personal support of the statement, including The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop ELCA, and The Rev. Jim Gonia, Bishop ELCA Rocky Mountain Synod. A complete list of all is available at the website.]

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

ELCA presiding bishop, other church leaders support Jerusalem churches

CHICAGO (MARCH 14, 2018)—Addressing recent efforts in Jerusalem to confiscate church lands and tax church properties, the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), along with leaders from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Armenian Church of America and The Episcopal Church, have sent a letter of support to the heads of churches at the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.

In addition to Eaton, the letter was signed by His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, archbishop of Galveston-Houston and the president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; His Eminence Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, ecumenical director and legate, Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern); and the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, presiding bishop and primate, The Episcopal Church.

The letter expresses “fervent solidarity with you, your churches and the entire Christian community in the Holy Land as you face repeated challenges to the Status Quo that ensures a Christian presence in this most holy of places.”

The four church leaders also sent a letter to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat expressing concern about the recent proposals and tax plans.

The letter states, “If enacted, these measures would have the effect of creating a situation that jeopardizes the very survival of the Christian community in the Holy Land.”

The letters to the heads of churches of the Holy Sepulchre and to the Israeli prime minister and the Jerusalem mayor are available at the ELCA website referenced below.

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Why Does Campus Ministry Matter

Pastor Deb Abbott

University of Northern Colorado student Sarah Krohn shared in a recent sermon, “I became a part of a community at campus ministry. Without it, and the love of Christ that I have witnessed through my fellow members of campus ministry, I don’t think that my faith would be what it is today. I have witnessed the love of the Lord and felt his presence during our Sunday night dinners and worship, in the middle of our weekly Bible study, when offering service to the community through service projects, and during the uplifting weekend retreats every semester to both Sky Ranch and Rainbow Trail.”



Thank you for your support for campus ministry and our students, faculty and staff! For more information about Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at University of Northern Colorado visit www.lecmgreeley.org and for Lutheran Campus Ministry at Colorado State University visit www.lcmcsu.org.

Sierra's Race Against Meningitis—Saturday, June 16

Foundations Church, 1380 Denver Ave. Loveland, CO 80537

8:00 a.m.—Free Vaccination Clinic begins

8:00 a.m.—5K Run/Walk

9:00 a.m.—Kids Fun Run

9:30 a.m.—Awards Ceremony

Zion will participate in Sierra's Race as Laura's Team in the fight against meningitis. Sierra's Race is a 5K run, with a Fun Run for kids 10 and under, that helps to raise funds for the meningitis vaccine and raise awareness for the vaccine which prevents many forms of meningitis. Meningitis hits close to home in our community, and this race is a great opportunity to come together to raise awareness and support each other!

The Loken family has generously offered to sponsor all children age 10 and under who want to enter the Fun Run, and will cover half of the registration fee for youth age 11-18 as part of the Laura Loken Memorial. Additional thanks to Sarah Vrem for her help with registration!

Registration forms are available at Zion. If registered through Zion, costs are as follows:

Ages 10 and under Kids Fun Run—~~\$10 registration~~ FREE with support from Laura Loken Memorial

Ages 11-18 Youth 5K Run/Walk—~~\$30 registration~~ \$15 with support from Laura Loken Memorial

Return completed forms and payment to Madeline by May 20.

Checks can be made out to Zion with Sierra's Race in the memo line.

Bookworm here, with a news flash for everyone



As so often happens, our library will have duplicate copies of books. While this is nice, our library is really not large enough to have multiple copies of books.

This provides me with the opportunity to have a “freebie table.” By Sunday, April 22, there will be a table on the main floor, right below the library that will contain all kinds of books—ALL FREE!

Come by and see if any interest you. If they do, you are welcome to take them.

I think it is always fun to have books to read at home. And remember, you are always welcome to come see me in Zion’s library. If you have questions, please see JANIE LICHTFUSS, my helper in the library.

HAPPY READING!

Lenten Soup Cookbooks

The long-awaited cookbooks filled with recipes for the soups served during Lent will be available on May 6 in fellowship hall. If you are pondering a Mother’s Day gift, this is perfect. The cookbooks are offered on a donation basis.



Zion’s 2017 Laura’s Team is all smiles for their participation in the race against meningitis.

Kudos to the Loveland post office who advised Zion that by deleting “Change Service Requested” from the address label area of the newsletter, we would save \$100 per year.

If you have a change of address or no longer care to receive the newsletter, please notify the church office.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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Email: info@zionloveland.com
Web: www.zionloveland.com
Facebook: Zion Lutheran Church-Loveland

Join Us in Worship

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship

10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship

On the 3rd Sunday of each month,
the two worship styles switch.

Summer schedule starts June 3.
8:15 a.m. outside on the lawn
10:15 a.m. in the sanctuary

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**

Issue 4/18

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

April 29	Embrace our Identity Dinner and Conversation
May 18	Bridge Ministry Progressive Dinner
May 20	Graduation Milestone Holy Land Trip 2019 Interest Gathering
May 28	Young Adult Summer Get-Together
June 3	Summer Worship and Faith Formation Schedule Begins
June 4-8	Vacation Bible School
June 10	Bridge Ministry Afternoon at the Movies
June 10-22	Youth Go! Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp
June 11-15	Mini Music Camp for Children
June 16	Sierra's Race Against Meningitis
June 17	Deadline to Reserve for Sky Ranch Labor Day Weekend
June 17-22	Confirmation Intensive Program at Sky Ranch
June 18	Ramsay-Shockey Open Space Hike
June 24	Blessing of the Bikes and Their Riders
June 26-July 1	ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston
June 27	Bike to Work Day
July 14	Informational Meeting about Stephen Ministry Training
July 20	Astronomy Outing
July 22-27	Round Up Program at Sky Ranch Homesteaders Program at Sky Ranch
July 30	Devil's Backbone Hike