



Eye on Zion

A Quarterly Newsletter for the People of Zion Lutheran Church

May-June-July
2019

STAFF

Pastors

Pastor Joel Pancoast
Pastor Sonja Pancoast

Intern Pastor

Courtney Steitz

Faith Formation Coordinator

Madeline Fairfax

Director of Music Ministry

Adam Torres

Assistant Director of Music

Noelle Bauman

Organist/Accompanist

Kathryn Peiffer

Bell and Chimes Director

Thomas Chen

Office Manager

Lindsey Walter

Worship Technology Coordinator

Stig Oresjo

Bookkeeper

John Sterner

Childcare

Rae Bowker

Brooke Loftus

Custodian

Ronda Buck

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Parish Nurses

Diana Abraham

Sharon Finch

Vicki Johnson

Financial Secretary

Eileen Huddle

Scott Sprain

Librarian

Janie Lichtfuss

Publications

Linda Sterner

CHURCH COUNCIL

President

Joel Brauner

Vice President

Janie Lichtfuss

Secretary

Joyce Robinson

Treasurer

Terri Sloan

Members-at-Large

Jessica Kuhns

Rich Marquardt

Elaine Nichols

Alexis Smith

Bailey Vrem (Youth)

Resurrection Hope

Pastor Joel Pancoast

While many think of Easter as a one-day event to remember and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, for the Christian church it is a fifty-day season beginning with Easter Sunday and ending with Pentecost Sunday. Fifty days! I cannot imagine sustaining our Easter celebration for fifty days! All of the special preparations for extra worship services, with guest musicians and Easter festivals and overflow seating take a lot of energy from all staff and many volunteers. This year, after Holy Week worship was over, my family hosted twenty-four family members for lunch at our house. All of that worship and family celebration is special, but if I had to do that for fifty days, or even just for the eight Sundays from Easter to Pentecost, it would break me!

Maybe that's the point of a long Easter season. Just as Easter Sunday leads us to ponder what "resurrection" means and really

looks like in our lives, the entire Easter season leads us to the question of "resurrection hope": what does life look like after the resurrection of Jesus, especially when life is difficult? Hope is grounded in the resurrection of Jesus and his promise to be present with us forever. And "forever" means not just in our most joyful celebrations, but also in both the most mundane daily activities and even in the most difficult times in our lives when God may feel absent. The long season of Easter helps us remember that after the celebration of resurrection and beyond those occasional moments of clarity in our lives where God's presence is unmistakable, hope is a lasting experience of God's present reality that sustains us.

That "resurrection hope" is why the readings for the Easter season often include portions of the book of Revelation, the last book of the

Continued on page 2.

Resurrection Hope continued from page 1.

Bible. Revelation is one of the most misunderstood books of the Bible. In relatively recent history, writers and theologians have taken apocalyptic literature scattered throughout the Bible in books like Revelation, Daniel, and 1 Thessalonians, and they have lifted small sections out to sensationalize it in ways to create scenarios for the future that lead people to live in fear. But this is not what you find when you read any of these books, especially Revelation, as one book telling one story.

The entire book of Revelation, beginning to end, is a story full of images from one author's God-inspired vision. If you were to jump to certain parts of Revelation that tell about a scarlet beast with seven heads and ten horns, or earthquakes and blackened sun and the sky splitting, or horsemen bringing violence and hardship, you have every reason to be afraid! These frightening visions are descriptions of what is wrong with the world, and if we skip directly to them we miss the images of resurrection hope interspersed throughout. Interspersed among the scary images are images of a God who holds us in spite of what frightening things may already be happening in our world, images of a God who has already conquered death and darkness in a very surprising way: with Jesus, the Lamb of God. The book of Revelation should be read together, so that we are challenged to see the reality of evil and struggle in the world, while receiving encouragement through resurrection hope.

After an incredible and joy-filled celebration of Easter, the Easter season will bring us back down to earth. But the earth is not only our home, Revelation promises that the earth is God's home. Come worship with us this Easter season to hear the promise of resurrection hope that meets you in both the mundane and in the difficult days of life.

April 28	Who is Christ? Who are We?	Revelation 1:9-2:7
May 5	Casting Down Their Crowns	Revelation 4:1-11
May 12	God's Power Unleashed	Revelation 5:1-13
May 19	Threat and Promise in Revelation	Revelation 6:1-8; 7:9-17
May 26	To Whom Do You Belong?	Revelation 17:1-6; 19:11-16
June 2	A New Creation, Indeed	Revelation 21:1-6; 22:1-5
June 9	Pentecost—The Church is God's New Creation!	

Music Ministry

Adam Torres

I hope this article finds you well, and I especially hope this Easter season has filled you with hope through the promise of the resurrection.

It was a joy to welcome guest artists Jon Gray and Miles Lujan to join us on Easter Sunday, performing with the praise band and an antiphonal anthem with organ, choir, bell choir, and children's choir. I am especially grateful to KATHY, NOELLE, and THOMAS for their respective work and leadership within the music ministry.

Our guest artists were provided an honorarium through the Debbie Boose Memorial Fund, in honor of Debbie and her love of music in worship. I'm told Easter was one of Debbie's favorite services of the year, and it is an honor to celebrate her memory in this way.

As we look toward the summer, we enter a time of year that features a lot of opportunities for music making. Please be sure to check out our songwriting camp for children through the children's music ministry the end of May! Additionally, we are always looking for folks to lead outdoor worship in song-leading, or to offer special music (singing/instrumental) during offering in worship. If you are interested in serving through the music ministry in any of these capacities this summer, please reach out to music@zionloveland.com.

Thank you for all that you do in supporting our work within the music ministry at Zion. Be safe, be well, and I look forward to seeing you in worship.

The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss Summer Worship Series June 16–July 14

Join us for a whimsical look at how the beloved children's author, Dr. Seuss, teaches deeper biblical truths.

Each week we will explore a different Dr. Seuss book and see how it connects to a story of Jesus.

The Dr. Seuss books we will explore include

One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish
Green Eggs and Ham
There's a Wocket in my Pocket
Hop on Pop
Fox in Socks.

Join us for summer fun as we worship the Lord.

Children's Music Ministry

Noelle Bauman

As we wrap up another winter/spring season with the children's choir, I would like to express thanks to all of the people who have been involved this year. PAM STEVENS, ESTHER LUCERO, and KATHY PANCOAST have been an integral part of each week. They have made the year incredibly beautiful, and I am so thankful to have them. The children who have been involved in choir and in Sunday school throughout the year also deserve an enormous thank you. We have enjoyed a jam-packed year of programs, concerts, and worship involvement.

The upcoming months are going to bring some opportunities to hear our choir and get involved with the children's music ministry. On May 19 at 2:00 p.m., the Zion children's choir will perform a concert version of the musical "Fired Up!" by Tom Long and Allen Pote. This musical follows

the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Please join for this fun performance!

Children of all ages are welcome to join the children's music ministry summer songwriting camp. We will learn musical and textual techniques incorporated in songwriting, and the children will be able to perform their songs at the end of the week. The camp will be held May 28-31 from 9:00-11:30 a.m.. The cost is \$15/child and \$25/family. A snack is provided! Please fill out a registration form on our website.

I would like to end with an enormous voice of gratitude for all of the staff at Zion Lutheran Church. It is a joy to collaborate with ADAM TORRES and MADELINE FAIRFAX, and I am so thankful for the leadership they exhibit along with LINDSEY, PASTOR JOEL, PASTOR SONJA, COURTNEY, and STIG.

One Community One Family

In the last edition of "Eye on Zion," there was an article about the amazing ministry of One Community One Family (OCOF). This ministry is one that gives "resurrection hope" to members of our community who are experiencing homelessness. The program title bears a simple description of what it is all about: it is one community taking on an intentional relationship and responsibility to help one family get into consistent, dependable housing. The community, in this case, is a small team from Zion who will participate in a training together, then meet regularly with the assigned family experiencing homelessness to make a tangible and measurable difference one family at a time.

A small team from Zion participated in one cycle of OCOF last year, and not only did they successfully help the family they were working with get into housing, but also strong, meaningful relationships between the team and the family were formed that have lasted beyond when the family moved into housing and graduated from the OCOF program.

We are still looking for one or two people to join the OCOF ministry, so that we can schedule a training and give hope to a family in need. If you are interested in participating in the next training to decide if serving on this team is right for you, contact PASTOR JOEL or the Zion office.

Welcoming Zion's Newest Members

JON AND JENNA COLEMAN, ASCHER, HIATT, JONAH, AND TAYTEM

Jon and Jenna moved here from Nashville, Tennessee. They relocated to be closer to Rich and Martha Marquardt, Jenna's parents, and the kids have enjoyed being spoiled by their grandparents. Jon is a pilot and Jenna is a social worker. Jenna enjoys teaching Sunday school at Zion, and Jon is looking forward to sharing his musical gifts at Zion. They both enjoy being outdoors with their children.

VALERIE DAY AND MADOLYNN CONNORS

Valerie and Madolynn have lived in the Denver area since 1998. Prior to that they lived in Nebraska. Valerie is a revenue supervisor. Valerie and Madolynn both enjoy how Zion has welcomed them; they both love the atmosphere at Zion. Earlier this year, Madolynn was baptized. Valerie enjoys reading and being outside with Madolynn.

JEWEL CLAYTOR

Jewel moved with her husband to Colorado from Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1978. She has enjoyed being welcomed by Zion and appreciates the friendly environment. Her son, Steve, recently moved to Colorado, and both have been coming to Zion with Theresa McCarthy.

STEVE CLAYTOR

Steve recently moved back to Loveland from Pennsylvania. He is a supply chain manager and work allowed him to relocate back "home." Steve enjoys golfing, traveling, and spending time with family. Theresa McCarthy brought him and his mother, Jewel, to Zion. Zion feels like family, and Zion continues to provide support with the loss of his father.

STEVE AND STEPHANIE COURTS

Steve and Stephanie relocated here from Minnesota about 15 months ago. They both enjoy being outdoors. They visited several churches and like the community outreach that Zion participates in. They both look forward to sharing their gifts by serving in worship.

NICK AND TANA WACHOLZ, ZANE

Originally from Minnesota, Nick and Tana moved to Loveland three years ago for Nick's work. They enjoy Colorado for the outdoors. They like that Zion feels like a family of all ages, enjoy the contemporary music at the late service, and look forward to growing in faith as they become more a part of the Zion community

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

—ROMANS 15:7

Intern Project

Intern Pastor Courtney Steitz

Over the past several months, I have been working with a team of volunteers from Trinity, King of Glory, and Zion to begin an off-site ministry as part of my intern project. For many of you, this is not a new concept. When Pastor Joel and Pastor Sonja were on sabbatical a few years ago, one of their goals was to explore the possibility of an off-site ministry.

When my internship began at Zion, Pastor Joel asked if I would be interested in creating and implementing an off-site ministry as an internship project. As someone with many friends outside the church, thinking about ways of engaging people in spiritual conversation in meaningful and different ways is exciting to me. Also, I am very aware of a predominant Christian voice in our culture that presents a very different picture of God and Christianity than our own Lutheran emphasis on the grace, love, and acceptance of God. This project provides an opportunity to engage with those in our Loveland community who might have heard a Christian vision and voice different from our own. So, I was really excited about the many opportunities made possible by this off-site ministry project.

Over the past several months, I have been meeting and brainstorming with members of this volunteer team, as well as meeting with members of the Loveland community and business owners to figure out how this project might work and what would make it successful. We have also visited a similar ministry in Denver to get a feel for the structure and efficacy of their project.

We are hoping that in the coming weeks, we will have our off-site ministry kickoff. Our current

plan includes meeting weekly in a brewery or coffee shop, spending time together in a community outreach project, having nonjudgmental, curious conversation about spiritual topics, and sharing our highs and lows with one another. Our hope is that this would create a welcoming space for people who identify as “spiritual but not religious” or those who for whatever reason do not feel comfortable in a traditional church setting.

This project is more than just checking off an internship requirement. It is an exciting opportunity to think creatively about new and different ways to engage members of our Loveland community. Many people in our Loveland community will simply not enter a church to worship—either because they were not raised in a church or they have had a bad experience and do not want to go back. This project offers our churches an opportunity to think creatively about warmly welcoming all people, creating safe and comfortable spaces for the Holy Spirit to work, and extending the grace and love of God outside of our church walls. I’m excited to see how the Holy Spirit will work in this project.

We are looking for a few people from each of the congregations that are interested in helping this project get going. If you are interested in open, mutual dialog about faith and spirituality and creating a welcoming group for people that may often feel excluded or overlooked, we would love for you to prayerfully consider being a part of this outreach. We are hoping to begin by the end of May/beginning of June and will do a trial run through August. We are asking people to commit to three out of every four weeks through August. If this is something you might be interested in, please let me know!

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Holy Week Celebrations

Thank you to everyone who supported the Palm Sunday Breakfast Youth Fundraiser. We raised \$1,735 and reached our fundraising goal for the year. We are grateful!



Three children received First Communion on Maundy Thursday—
EMMALIA, MODESTO, and ELI.

We gathered around the Light of Christ to share Old Testament stories during the Easter Vigil. Many thanks to the following adults and youth for participating: ADELAIDE BAUER, ALIZA BAUER, ANNALIESE BACHMAN, ELI BRAUNER, RYLEE DIMMITT, BLAKE HIRCHERT, JOEY KLAMMER, GORDON KUHN, JOSIAH KUHN, JESSICA KUHN, AMY MOORE, SHYLA MOORE, HANNAH PANCOAST, SOPHIA PANCOAST, PAYTON PEACH, ALEX PRAZAN, GARRETT PRAZAN, KELLY TEESDALE, NICK WEIMER, and KATE WEIMER.

Holy Week was a busy time for Faith Formation!



Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Register now!

Labor Day Weekend Retreat at Sky Ranch!

Friday, August 30—Monday, September 2

Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp

Reserve your spot now for a fun and relaxing holiday weekend! Complete a form on the Faith Formation bulletin board and return it to MADELINE by Sunday, June 16, with a \$25 deposit (cash or checks made out to Zion). Remaining balance due at arrival to Sky Ranch.

Tent and RV sites, cabins, and lodge rooms are available for reservations for one, two, or three nights. Weekend events include a potluck dinner, worship, campfires, yard games, hiking, stargazing, and more!



**Saturday May 11 at 11:00 a.m.
at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp**

Join with Sky Ranch staff and other guests to dedicate the new 32-bed retreat center/summer staff housing building!

Guests are welcome to arrive early for coffee and fellowship. Light lunch to follow the dedication. To register, call the Sky Ranch office at 970-493-5258.



L2F2 All Ages Spring Tea

**Saturday, May 18, 10:00-noon
at King of Glory Lutheran Church**

All are welcome to this spring tea and brunch!



Bring a friend, a child or grandchild, a date, a favorite stuffed animal, or a doll!

We will join together for brunch, tea, live music, and fellowship.

This event is free and brunch is provided. Bring your favorite tea cup if you have one!

Blessing of the Grads

**8:15 and 10:45 worship on
Sunday May 19**

**CLASS OF
2019**

We will celebrate this milestone in worship as we surround our high school, college, and other graduates with support and prayer.

If you are aware of anyone who is graduating this year, please fill out their information on the blue connection sheet or let MADELINE know.

L2F2 Memorial Day Young Adult Gathering

Monday, May 27

All young adults are invited to gather for dinner on Memorial Day at 6:30 p.m. at Pourhouse in Loveland.

Please RSVP to MADELINE by May 20 at 419-270-6233. Dinner will be paid for by Zion.

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

L2F2 Vacation Bible School 2019

Renew: The Green VBS

Monday, June 3—Friday, June 7

9:00 a.m.—noon each day at King of Glory Lutheran Church

Registration open for children age 3—completed 5th grade

Cost: \$10 per child, max. \$20 per family

Register online for participants and volunteers at:

<https://vbspro.events/p/zionkog2019>

Interested in volunteering? Register at the link above!

Crew leaders, station leaders, and decorating help needed! Youth and adults welcome.

Published by Augsburg Fortress, Renew helps kids dig deep into the parable of the sower, as they explore how to care for creation. Rotating between three stations daily, preschoolers through fifth graders will learn more about how God is at work in themselves, their community, and the world.

We will use fun music from Group Publishing to open and close each morning.

New this year, all kids will have the opportunity to explore King of Glory's community garden!



L2F2 Summerfest Pool Party at Winona Pool

Sunday, June 9, from 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Bring a picnic dinner, a towel, and wear your swimsuit for a fun night at Winona Pool with friends from Zion and King of Glory!

Swim, play yard games, and go down the water slide to celebrate summer!

This is an all-ages event and friends are welcome!



Sky Ranch BBQ and Bluegrass

Sunday, June 2

4:00-7:00 p.m.

**Spirit of Joy Lutheran
Church, Fort Collins**

All are welcome to this annual fundraiser event, benefitting Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp.

Meet the summer staff and enjoy a barbeque dinner and local bluegrass music on the lawn at Spirit of Joy. Meal tickets for purchase at the event: \$15 per person, \$50 per family.



Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Sierra's Race

5K Walk/Run for Meningitis Awareness

Saturday, June 15

at Foundations Church, Loveland

Register under "Laura's Team" to join the Zion and Friends group and keep the tradition of being awarded Largest Team!

Adults register online at www.sierrasrace.com.

Kids 10 and Under:
registration through Zion is free.

Youth 11-18: register through Zion for only \$15, with support from the Laura Loken Memorial Fund.

For children and youth, complete the paper form on the Faith Formation board and return it to MADELINE by May 23.

Kids and youth who register a friend will be entered in a gift card raffle!



DR. KARLA F. LOKEN DO is a former Loveland resident and 1991 graduate of Thompson Valley High School. She attended College at Augustana Lutheran in Rock



Island, Illinois, and Medical School in Des Moines, Iowa. She returned home to practice OBGYN in 2006 and in 2012 was recruited to be faculty of an OBGYN residency and Di Vinci Robotic surgical instructor in Indianapolis, Indiana. In 2018, she transitioned to a career in Medical Pharmacy safety.

In addition to busy professional lives, she and her husband Martin have three boys, twins age 16 and a 13 year old.

Dr. Loken lost her older sibling Laura to Meningitis B in 1988. Dr. Loken is currently on the board of the Indiana Vaccine Coalition and a keynote speaker for vaccine advocacy. She has been interviewed on NPR, Fox News, and has testified in the Senate on the importance of meningitis vaccines. Her family has appeared in a commercial education platform for physicians. Currently she is part of a BIG 10 campus campaign to bring awareness to major colleges about the vaccines available and the risk of meningitis.

She is coming "full circle" to share with us at Sierra's race the story of loss and advocacy so others may be aware and vaccinated against this deadly disease.

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

L2F2 High School Summer Service Trip

Lame Deer, Montana

July 6-13

Eleven high school youth from Zion and King of Glory will be traveling to the Northern Cheyenne Reservation for a community-based week of service. They will partake in various home repair projects throughout the week, as well as Bible study and large group sessions.

We need prayer partners for each of the youth participating! Adult mentors will meet with youth before and after the trip, as well as pray for them during their time away. If you'd like to serve as a Prayer Partner this summer, let MADELINE know.

We will have a commissioning/sending for the youth at both worship services on June 30. CECE ALLEN, EMMA DUBOVOS, ROSE GRINDLE, JOEY KLAMMER, TYNE KLAMMER, LEILANI MCKEE, SOPHIA PANCOAST, FISCHER PEACH, OLIVIA TATE, AUTUMN VREM, BAILEY VREM, and adult leaders BROOKE LOFTUS, BOB MAJESKI, PASTOR JOEL PANCOAST, and MADELINE FAIRFAX will be participating.

PRAYER PARTNERS

Sky Ranch Summer 2019—Join us at camp!

We already have 20 children and youth registered for Sky Ranch this summer! Zion kids will participate in Round-Up, Homesteader, Confirmation Intensive, and Staff-in-Training programs throughout June and July.

Camp registration is made possible thanks to Sky Ranch Support from the Faith Formation budget, and additional camperships funded by Zion members for families with financial need.

We're so excited for our

young people to explore creation, help lead worship, and learn about the summer theme: Shine!

There's still time to register if you or a child you know would like to participate in a week at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp. Please contact MADELINE for details at 419-270-6233



Among Members and Friends

At Rest in Our Father's House

We pray for the family and friends of **Shirley Fulton** whose funeral was on April 16, 2019, at Zion.

For Those Who Mourn

We keep in prayer:

Stig and Gunnel Oresjo, whose dear friend in Sweden, Anders, died from pancreatic cancer. Prayers for Stig and Gunnel as they travel for the funeral.

Ken and Ruth Vick, at the death of Ken's brother David.

Dick and Carol Ward, at the death of Dick's brother Frank.

Angie Elder, at the death of her uncle Dan.

Carol and Royce Schultz at the death of Carol's brother Randall.

Family and friends of Jim Rosentreter, who died February 10.

Prayers of Thanksgiving

We are thankful for the return home of **Jerry Colton**, grandson of Harriet Colton, as he has been in Afghanistan on his sixth tour.

Joyous Celebrations

We rejoice with:

Thomas and Elizabeth Chen on the birth of their son **Landon Paul Chen**, born on March 11. Thomas is Zion's bell choir director.

Brice Carstens and Anna Finnman who were married on March 7.

Madolynn Parker Connors who was baptized on March 24.

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

Dear Zion Church Family,

Thank you very much for the boppy and covers. We look forward to using them with Landon. We can't wait to introduce him to you soon!

Love,
Thomas and Elizabeth Chen

Among Members and Friends

Zion's Janice Ehlers spackled, installed air vent covers, painted trim, and cleaned paint brushes in support of the ELCA Habitat for Humanity Work Day on March 16.



Intern Pastor Courtney Steitz's Last Day at Zion

It is hard to believe that the end of Courtney's internship is approaching.

Zion has had an incredible experience learning with her, and hearing her proclaim good news in her preaching, teaching, and living with us in community.

Courtney's last day of internship is Sunday, August 11.

Watch for future announcements about an opportunity to celebrate her ministry.

Thank You Letters to Zion

- January 9, 2019—From Community Kitchen for a donation of \$230.
- January 25, 2019—From KidsPak for a donation of \$900.
- February 27, 2019—From Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp for a gift of \$550.
- February 28, 2019—From Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry for a donation of \$150.
- March 4, 2019—From Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for a gift of \$1,000. [This was a portion of the positive balance (surplus) at the close of 2018.]
- March 4, 2019—From Northern Colorado Laundry Truck for a gift of \$1,500.
- March 26, 2019—From Loveland Habitat for Humanity for a gift of \$774.
- April 8, 2019—From KidsPak for a donation of \$385.14.

Kathy Pancoast Advances Zion's Prayer Shawl Ministry at Good Sam in Loveland

Recipients of prayer shawls from KATHY PANCOAST include a woman suffering crushed vertebrae, a man with a heart stint and Parkinson's, a daughter who has an eating disorder, a father of a new baby, and another with mobility issues.

He writes, *The prayer shawl is keeping me wrapped in peace knowing God is and has been with me all the way. Thank God and people like you that made that happen. Thanks to all of the people that worked on the shawl. Many blessings to you.*

Support Zion's Scout Troop 314
 Drive a Dirty Car to Worship
 BUT a Clean Car Home!
 Carwash at Zion
 Sunday, May 19
 [Rain Date is June 2]

Stephen Ministers Bringing Hope

New Stephen Ministers Commissioned on March 3

On Sunday, March 3, JAMI JUERGENSEN, LINDA JUERGENSEN, DON RONEY, and BONNIE SCHOWALTER were commissioned as Stephen Ministers. Another member, Carol Keeling, completed most of the training but moved two weeks before the end of the training.

Stephen Ministers provide one-on-one Christian caregiving to people who are in need of support and someone to listen to them. They receive 50 hours of training to becoming a Stephen Minister. Our most recent class started back in September and met each week through February to complete their 50 hours.

We were blessed to have a wonderful team of Stephen Leaders, including DON BARNES, LAURA DIMMITT, GINGER KLEIN, and BARB ROMAN, dedicating themselves to training our latest class. Our Stephen Ministry program provides support and brings hope to people who are struggling. We give thanks for their ministry.

If you find yourself in need of a compassionate listening presence, talk to PASTOR SONJA about having a Stephen Minister. They can bring new life in difficult circumstances.



Newly commissioned Stephen Ministers Don Roney, Bonnie Schowalter, Linda Juergensen, and Jami Juergensen are pictured with Stephen Leaders Don Barnes, Laura Dimmitt, and Barb Roman. Missing is Stephen Leader Ginger Klein.

BOOK STUDIES COMING SOON

Book study leader, JANIE LICHTFUSS, is planning two upcoming book studies, each five-weeks long, both by Ray Vander Laan: **A Clash of Kingdoms** and **Cultures in Conflict**.

In **A Clash of Kingdoms**, discover how Paul communicated the Good News of Christ to Philippi, a Roman colony that worshipped false gods. As Christians, we're called to proclaim God's name in all the earth but how do we do that in the midst of false gospels?

In **Cultures in Conflict**, learn from Paul as he presents his beliefs to the most powerful court in Athens and settles among the Greco-Romans of Corinth, who valued wealth and class, worship of multiple gods, and decadent pleasure seeking above all else. Discover how to live in your own Athens or Corinth—a dechristianized Western world.

If you are interested to explore these topics, stay tuned for information on when these studies will be offered. The dates yet need to be determined.

L.I.F.T. is a Gift

Phyllis Zimmerman

For each L.I.F.T. (Ladies in Fellowship Together) get-together, I reserve a restaurant that has a semiprivate dining area, so we are able to enjoy visiting among ourselves. We can even sing a few fun songs such as "*The More We Get Together, The Happier We'll Be.*" Usually, we have twenty to thirty ladies attend, all so thankful for this time of fellowship together over lunch. Whether a widow, a single lady, or a lady who would enjoy being part of this group, you are invited to join us.

Here is the L.I.F.T. schedule for the remainder of 2019.

- Tuesday, May 21 Pinocchios (formerly Johnny Carino's)
- Tuesday, June 25 Mimi's Café
- Tuesday, July 23 Pizza Ranch
- Tuesday, August 27 Mimi's Café
- Monday, September 23 Ocean's Bistro
- Tuesday, October 22 Mimi's Café
- Tuesday, December 3 Golden Corral
(A Celebration of Jesus' and Friends' Birthday Party)

Thank you to all my L.I.F.T. friends for the beautiful crystal lighted angel in December and for the beautiful card with the thoughtful verse, "We each receive a 'lift' when we join in fun, joy, and spirit together."

God Blesses Us Every Day!!

Resurrection Hope—Making All Things New: Monroe Bathroom Transformation



At the end of February, the kids were out of school for two days at Monroe. When they left, their bathrooms were as they had always been with a few scratches, scuff, and a bit run down. But when they returned, their bathrooms were transformed.

A team from Zion led by SOPHIA PANCOAST designed and decorated the bathroom stalls with positive motivational sayings. Earlier in the year Sophia met with the student council at Monroe, and they chose the motivational sayings for their bathrooms. Sophia worked with MADELINE FAIRFAX to design the bathroom doors; a Thrivent Action Grant was used to purchase paint and supplies. A Zion team, including STEVE COURTS, LAYNE ELDER, MADELINE FAIRFAX, DAN JUERGENSEN, BILL McCANN, LINDA McCANN, ELLA MERRILL, and SOPHIA PANCOAST then spent two days painting the bathrooms. Some of the bathroom doors were plastic so large stickers with sayings were placed on those doors. The bathrooms with metal stalls were painted black and motivational sayings painted on them.

The kids came back to school after the break and saw that something new had sprung forth. Sayings to bring life and hope to the kids at Monroe would now greet them every time they went to the bathroom at school.

Monroe Volunteers Bring Hope

We are so blessed to have a wonderful team of people from Zion who make the commitment to help out for 1-2 hours a week with the children at Monroe. They lead small groups, work one-on-one with kids, play on the playground, and always have supportive and kind words for the students.

Truly the lives of the children at Monroe are changed by the dedication of these volunteers. They are bringing hope to these children. However, the volunteers will tell you that their lives are changed as well with the love and joy that they experience watching these kids find excitement in learning.

Thank you to all of our weekly volunteers at Monroe Elementary including GENE ELDER, LINDA HITCHCOCK, LINDA JUERGENSEN, SUSAN LINDEN, ADRIANA LUJAN, KATHY PANCOAST, WILL REENTS, KATHY REENTS, BARB ROMAN, MEG SCHREIBER, RUTH SPRAIN, LINDA STERNER, JOHN STERNER, and HELEN WEIDELMAN.

Recruiting Players —and Fans

Zion Men's Softball

It's spring and that means Zion is excited to establish the roster for its 2019 softball team.

Registration deadline is May 20.

If you are interested to be a player on our team, contact ADAM MAI at awpmai@gmail.com.

The season begins May 27.

To view the schedule, go to www.teamsideline.com/sites/loveland/schedules.

This information is for players and fans alike.

Go Team! Rah-Rah-Rah!

News from campus ministry

Pastor Deb Abbott

Campus ministry gives students the opportunity to plan, lead, and participate in worship every week. Students lead and participate in Bible studies, small groups, service projects, retreats, and community events throughout the semester. Your support raises up leaders of the church who use the gifts God has given them to be a part of God's work in the world.

Thank you for your support for our students, faculty, and staff this year! Another semester is now at an end. This is the season when Lutheran Campus Ministry supports students through the last few weeks of exams, projects, and finals with plenty of food, prayers, and love.



Here's a little homework for you! Did you know that there are now 10 Lutheran Campus Ministries in the Rocky Mountain Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America? Learn more about them by checking out www.rmselfca.org/campus-ministry.

For more information about Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at University of Northern Colorado, visit www.lcemgreeley.org and for Lutheran Campus Ministry at Colorado State University, visit www.lcmcsu.org.

“Splashing Into Summer” at Thompson Valley Preschool

An Exciting Exploration Summer Program for children ages 3½ to 6 years old

**Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Bring a sack lunch.**

We offer three weeks with a different topic each week.

June 10-13	Under the Sea
June 17-20	Fairy Tale Adventures
June 24-27	Fun on the Farm

Every Wednesday is a special “Theme” day.

Every Thursday is “Special Event” day.

You can sign up for all three weeks or pick and choose what works with your summer plans.

\$60.00 per week.

Your child must be 3½ and potty trained by June 1.

For more information, please contact:
Thompson Valley Preschool
803 East 16th Street
Loveland, CO 80538

970-667-6552



SKY RANCH BY THE NUMBERS

- Increase in camper participation since the last ELCA Youth Gathering in 2015 is 21%.
- Of 635 residential summer camp participants, Sky Ranch welcomed:
 - ⇒ 133 elementary schoolers
 - ⇒ 208 middle schoolers
 - ⇒ 254 high schoolers
 - ⇒ 50 adults.
- Sky Ranch served a record number 1,459 retreat guests.

Dear Pastors,

It is a pleasure to have you with us as partners in ministry. For 56 years, Sky Ranch has been a place set apart for faith exploration, growth, and fellowship for people of all ages. Today is no different; Sky Ranch is an integral part of the faith life of youth and adults throughout the Rocky Mountain Synod. So, in 2019, make it part of your congregation's work to engage Sky Ranch so we can serve you!

*In Christ,
Brad Abbott
Executive Director*

*Sky Ranch 2018 Annual Report
www.skyranchcolorado.org*

Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp
“Facilitating an Encounter with Christ on the Mountaintops”

King Soopers Rewards

Still “free” money for Zion but new procedures when shopping at King Soopers

Zion no longer receives reward monies from purchases on gift cards as in the past. Instead, just use your King Soopers card or your telephone number, which they call your “alternative ID.” If you are familiar with website registration, you will find the new procedures easy to use. If you want assistance, see SCOTT SPRAIN between services on Sunday or LINDSEY in the church office during the week.

You only have to register your card or telephone number online, one time. Each person in your family with a card must register each card.

After you enroll, Zion will receive automatic rewards from your every grocery or gas purchase.

Here are the procedures to enroll.

1. Visit the King Soopers website at www.kingsoopers.com or just google King Soopers.
2. On the Home page, find the Savings & Rewards drop menu.
3. Click on King Soopers Community Rewards.
4. Click on the blue Enroll Now.
5. Click on Create an Account (If you already have a digital account with King Soopers, skip to step 7.)
6. You will need an email address, password, your name, and your SooperCard number (on the back) or your telephone number (alternate id).
7. Select your organization: Zion Lutheran or use code RJ303. **BEWARE:** there are several “Zion Lutherans,” find Zion in Loveland.

Zion uses this money for ELCA World Hunger and other hunger programs.

Zion began the rewards program in the fall of 2010. Through March of 2019, we have received \$41,897.41, half of which or \$20,948 has been sent to World Hunger.

While we call it “free” money, it means lots of folks have made the effort to load money on gift cards for many years. Kudos to all of you who have participated in this program and will continue to support the program following the new procedures.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Zion Lutheran Church
815 East 16th Street
Loveland, CO 80538

Phone: 970-667-1836
Fax: 970-667-1468
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

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 5/19

**NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
Loveland, CO
80538
PERMIT NO 4**

Change of Service Requested

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

May 11	Sky Ranch Dedication of New Retreat Center
May 18	L2F2 Spring Tea
May 19	Blessing of the Graduates
May 20	Men's Softball Registration Deadline
May 21	L.I.F.T.
May 23	Sierra's Race Registration Deadline
May 27	Young Adult Gathering
May 28-31	Children's Songwriting Camp
June 2	Sky Ranch BBQ and Bluegrass
June 3-7	Vacation Bible School
June 9	Summerfest Pool Party
June 15	Sierra's Race
June 16	Labor Day Retreat Registration Deadline
June 25	L.I.F.T.
June 30	Commissioning of Youth for Summer Service Trip
July 6-13	L2F2 High School Summer Service Trip
July 23	L.I.F.T.
August 30-September 2	Labor Day Weekend Retreat at Sky Ranch