

Eye on ZionA Quarterly Newsletter for the People of Zion Lutheran Church

STAFF

Pastor Joel Pancoast
Pastor Sonja Pancoast
Faith Formation Coordinator
Madeline Fairfax

Director of Music Ministry Open

Assistant Director of Music Noelle Bauman-Stucky Organist/Accompanist Open

Bell and Chimes Director Thomas Chen Office Manager

Office Manager Lindsey Walter

Worship Technology Coordinator

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KB Benstock Rae Bowker Brooke Loftus

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What Can't Wait ? OR What Can't Wait.

When preparing the theme for this newsletter, LINDA STERNER, our producer and editor extraordinaire, asked if the title should be a question or a statement. I mistakenly thought the theme was a statement, saying "What Can't Wait." What Linda's question has forced me to realize is that it is both a question and a statement.

"What Can't Wait" is our theme for the Advent and Christmas season this year. The season of Advent begs the question, "What Can't Wait?" During the season, there is a sense of urgency for Christians. What do we do while we wait for our Creator to take on flesh and enter the world? What do we do while we wait for our Savior to return to make all things right and new? Advent is a season of waiting, but idle waiting is probably not what God wants for us. So, in preparation for the coming Messiah, we wonder together—what things can't wait? What demands our immediate attention and focus? What requires our work and preparation? What is it that God can't wait for? Is it our praise, forgiveness, and proclamation? Is it

the end of suffering, isolation, and fear? This Advent, our theme "What Can't Wait?" (with a question mark) will invite us to imagine, prioritize, and prepare, just as God invites us into the same activities as we wait for the coming of our Savior once again. As we wait, what can't?

While the theme is a question, it is also a statement. Better yet, it is a bold proclamation! If you look at



the "What Can't Wait" logo you will see the Star of Bethlehem visually cutting through the question, as if it is making an exclamation mark. The Bethlehem star, that guided people to the birth of Jesus, is an exclamation! "What Can't Wait!" is also our theme! What can't wait is God incarnate, Jesus, born as a baby, and born through the Spirit in our hearts each and every day. This can't wait, even if we wanted it to! Even if we said,

Continued on page 2.

What Can't Wait? OR What Can't Wait! continued from page 1.

"I'm kind of busy. Let me finish up here and I'll get with you tomorrow," God won't wait. When God's Spirit moves, there is no waiting. God is alive now, and moving us to bring God's kingdom among us here!

I love seeing each quarterly "Eye on Zion" newsletter come together because they are like summary statements of *What Can't Wait* in the mission that God has called us to share in together. As you read through these pages, celebrate with the community of faith of "What Can't Wait." Wait and see where and how God is alive and moving us to bring God's kingdom. But don't wait long. Join us! It's *What Can't Wait!*

Joyfully Waiting, Pastor Joel

Community Thanksgiving Worship

Trinity Lutheran Church - 3333 Duffield Avenue

Sunday, November 24, at 6:00 p.m.

Please notice the change of date from the previous few years. Instead of a "Thanksgiving Eve" worship, we will join together with those from King of Glory, Trinity, Zion, and the broader community on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. This will give us an opportunity to begin the week together giving thanks together, and for those who travel for Thanksgiving, we don't want you to miss the fun that is a competitive pie auction!

Thanksgiving Pie Auction – Immediately After Thanksgiving Worship

Calling all bakers! Bring a pie to share or a pie to auction. As we eat pie and fellowship together, we have fun auctioning pies to take home. The pastor of the congregation with the lowest bids gets a pie in the face. Last year, Pastor Chris Davis of Trinity got the pie in the face in his own home congregation! Let's make it happen again! Regardless of which pastor "loses," Habitat for Humanity will win, as all money raised will go directly to them for the Faith Build house. Last year, we collectively raised over \$1,600 for Habitat for Humanity.

Blue Christmas Worship on the Longest Night

King of Glory Lutheran Church 2919 Wilson Avenue

Saturday, December 21, at 7:00 p.m.

Many times people find themselves feeling blue during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season. Those who have suffered the loss of loved ones, broken relationships, or job loss struggle. Even the shortening of daylight can lead people to feel more blue than usual. Seeing others flutter about with holiday cheer and lights and other decorations may make the darkness for some feel even stronger. We join together for Blue Christmas worship to acknowledge the sadness that is present in our lives and give thanks for the light of Christ that brings light and hope in the midst of our darkness.

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Christmas Eve Worship

Tuesday, December 24

We celebrate "What Can't Wait!"—the birth of Jesus as our Savior—on Christmas Eve with three distinct worship services.

- 4:00 p.m.—Contemporary Worship (special music led by the Praise Band) with a Special Focus for Children
- 6:00 p.m.—Traditional Worship (special music led by the Chancel Choir and Bell Choir)
- 10:30 p.m.—Eventide Worship (special music provided by Joshua Schairer)

All worship services will have Holy Communion and Candlelight Litany.

Nursery care is available at the 4:00 and 6:00 services.

Grieving through the Holidays

How to Handle Your Grief During the Holiday Season or Support Someone You Love

Saturday, November 16 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at King of Glory

Led by Pastor Sonja Pancoast

Often times, the holidays are a difficult time when we have lost loved ones. This can be because our loved ones have died or because we are estranged from them.

If you are grieving or know of someone who is grieving and want to know how to support them, we invite you to join us on Saturday, November 16, at 9:30 a.m. at King of Glory. Pastor Sonja will be leading a conversation and sharing helpful resources as part of our Stephen Ministry Program that we have together with King of Glory.

Everyone is invited to come and hear how to support others or find support.

What can't wait? Generosity can't wait. Embrace Generosity Sunday, November 10



Generosity transforms our lives in ways that are beyond our comprehension. Over the last month, our congregation has embraced generosity as we have been studying together the devotional Generosity: Moving Toward the Life that is Truly Life by Gordon MacDonald. Through our study we have been transformed. We have heard stories of how those who embraced generosity have had their lives transformed, and we have been invited into this same life that is truly life. In worship we have heard stories of how your generosity and giving to Zion's mission and ministry has transformed the lives of those here at Zion and those in our community. Generosity transforms us from the inside out, and it transforms the lives of those around us. What can't wait? Generosity can't wait.

On Sunday, November 10, we invite you to embrace generosity. On this day, we invite each person to make a pledge to giving to Zion's mission and ministry for 2020. By making a commitment to "unleash the generosity" in your own life, you will help Zion's ministry move ahead in the profound ways that God is calling us. Your generosity provides the fuel that strengthens, encourages, and equips the disciples gathered at Zion as they live out ministries of care, compassion, serving others, and sharing the Good News of Jesus through word and deed.

Generosity changes lives—your life and others.

We hope you will join us for this opportunity to grow in generosity on Sunday, November 10.

What can't wait? Generosity can't wait.

Music Ministry Search

n September 8, Zion said "farewell and godspeed" to ADAM TORRES, our director of music and worship ministries over the last seven years. Adam was married on September 1, and his life is leading him further south of Denver than would be reasonable for him to continue at Zion. We have grown to love Adam for his dedication, his youthfulness, and his incredible gifts for music. St. Augustine, a bishop from the 3rd and 4th centuries, is credited for saying, "Those who sing, pray twice." Adam's leadership taught us to pray twice and to engage fully in worship by joining our voices together, whether we are in the congregation, choir, or band.

With KATHY PEIFFER'S resignation as Zion's organist/ accompanist, we were already in a search process to fill her role. Kathy played for worship for ten years in her current tenure, and several years in an earlier tenure, but with her retirement from public school teaching at the end of last school year, she was looking for different opportunities in church music. We are grateful for her consistent presence and leadership with us for so many years and have already missed her dearly.



Carol Ward presents Adam with a gift on behalf of the chancel choir.

On behalf of the congregation, we also gave him all of the service dishes from his wedding registry (acknowledging his service to Zion).

Having two resignations so close can create much anxiety in the Zion community and in worship, so we are especially thankful to NOELLE BAUMAN-STUCKY, Zion's assistant director for music and worship and the children's music director. Noelle has stepped into the role as interim director to make sure we have musicians to lead worship until we have a new director chosen.

Noelle has also led the search process. Along with Erin Bachman, Maddie Elder,

CINDY KURTZ, JANIE LICHTFUSS (Personnel Committee Chair), TOM ROBINSON, RUTH SPRAIN, and PASTOR JOEL, Noelle has scheduled eight initial interviews, and the committee hopes to invite two or three of those candidates to lead the band and choir in rehearsal and receive feedback from them. Our hope is to have the staff positions filled and named before Advent, whether by one, two, or three personnel.

The search team has been

Continued on page 5.

Music Ministry Search continued from page 4.

impressed at the number of qualified candidate applications we have received and are hopeful for what God has in mind for us. Our process has asked candidates to apply for any or all of the responsibilities of ministry director, choir director, band leader, and organist/collaborative artist.

This kind of waiting takes work and can lead to a lot of anxiety, but it also gives Zion as a community an opportunity to rise above that to focus on the things that can't wait. What can't wait?

- Our gratitude to Adam Torres and Kathy Peiffer for their dedication and gifts to music and worship at Zion.
- Our persistent prayers for the search team and the candidates for the ministry positions.
- A renewed focus of our worship on God regardless of who is leading our worship.
- An excitement for the future God has laid out for the next era of leadership in music and worship.

These things can't wait, because they are about God's work in our community!

In the meantime, this time of transition is a perfect time to consider participating more fully in the church's musical contributions to worship. Participation in the choir or band requires only a heart for offering music for God. If you like to sing or play an instrument, consider joining the chancel choir, band, or bell choir. If you love working with children, consider helping with the children's choir. The rewards of participating in any of Zion's musical opportunities are great. Consider just a few comments made from choir members when asked what they enjoy about being in the Zion chancel choir:

Being a part of the choir at church has always been a big part of my worship life. Not only has it been a special part of worship, but the friendship of the choir members over the years means a lot as we always support each other through the happy and sad times of our lives. I am so grateful for being in a choir as it is a wonderful blessing.

—EILEEN HUDDLE

I have loved being in Zion's choir since I went to my first rehearsal in September 1977, a month after we moved to Loveland. We visited Zion for a Sunday service, and I was asked by a choir member to come to a rehearsal. Being part of a choir and enjoying music my whole life, I accepted readily, and have been in choir ever since.

We've been through many directors and accompanists, but I've always enjoyed the music, singing, and close relationships I've acquired through choir! Through the years, we've not only sung in worship services, but have performed many cantatas at and with other churches, gone Christmas caroling, partied together, and developed wonderful relationships.

I love our rehearsals, and what a great feeling it is to sing in church, and have the congregation enjoy our voices.

But we do need new members, especially the younger population. A lot of us have been in choir together for numerous years and would love some new, younger blood. I know that there are a lot of good voices in the congregation, and I challenge all to give choir a try. I know that you'd truly love it!!—LINDA JUERGENSEN

If you are concerned about the amount of time being in choir may take but want to play an instrument or sing, let a pastor or Noelle know, and we can help you fit in as a special music offering for worship.

Music Ministry

Noelle Bauman-Stucky

Zion's music ministry has some exciting happenings the next few months. Not only will we have a new worship director, chancel choir director, praise band leader, and organist/collaborative pianist, but we will also be hosting and partnering with hosts to provide many musical experiences. As we look to the coming months, I am so grateful for the culture that has been developed at Zion, and I am so happy to be bringing voices, young and experienced, to share their gifts.

Mark your calendars for the following events!

Sunday, December 1, 1:00 p.m. Children's Choir Concert

The Zion children's choir meets every Tuesday afternoon to make crafts, learn about music and God in their small groups, and lift their voices with one another. On December 1 at 1:00 p.m., the children will present the songs they have been learning during these meetings. Please join the choir and their families as we celebrate together.

Friday, December 6, 7:00 pm Sunday, December 8, 2:30 pm Gian Carlo Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*

Loveland Opera Theatre and Zion Lutheran Church chancel choir will be presenting *Amahl and the Night Visitors* on December 6 and December 8. We are incredibly excited to partner with Loveland Opera on this project and are pleased to present the message of Christ's birth in a unique musical fashion. Look forward to a preview of this production at our 8:15 a.m. worship service on December 1.

Sunday School and Children's Choir Christmas Program Sunday, December 15, 10:45 a.m.

The Sunday School children and the children's choir will be presenting a Christmas Program on

December 15 at the second service. The children will present the story of Christ's birth through speaking, singing, and playing instruments. If your child would like to be involved, they can begin attending Sunday School in November to learn the songs, and plan to be at the required rehearsal on Saturday, December 14, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. There are speaking and singing roles for youth. Please contact

Noelle@zionloveland.com if you are in middle school or high school and would like to be involved.

Wednesday, January 29, 2020, 7:00 pm Watoto Children's Choir King of Glory Lutheran Church

It is with great excitement that I announce we will be partnering with King of Glory to host the Watoto Children's Choir. The tour is titled "We Will Go!" and I hope we all will go and support this amazing organization. Because Zion may be undergoing construction at this time, Jane Andrews at King of Glory has agreed to host the performance. Zion's congregation can aid in our efforts by attending the performance. If you feel blessed enough to do so, we will be asking for host families for the children. Please consider this opportunity.

I am grateful for our community and look forward to serving you all with these experiences.

Housing can't wait!

On October 20, ESTHER LUCERO shared in worship about the work of One Community One Family (OCOF), an organization that partners homeless families, individuals, and youth (ages 18-24) with a small group (4-6 people) of volunteers trained to walk with the family and mentor them to get them into housing. She spoke of the incredible ways that OCOF partners with families and welcomes them. The program has been so important to Esther that she now serves on the board of directors and is Zion's team lead.

Since March 2017, nine families have graduated from the program and are now housed, totaling eleven adults and twenty kids. Of three youth assisted, one graduated and is housed, one is actively still in the program and is not yet housed, and one moved out of state. In addition to the mentoring program, OCOF has a Rapid Re-Housing program (temporary rental assistance coupled with case management), assisted by grants from the State of Colorado and the City of Loveland. In that program, twenty families, nine individuals, and one youth have been assisted.

For families, individuals, and youth experiencing homelessness, housing can't wait! Zion is in their second OCOF mentoring team, but is starting to look forward to putting together a third team. If you are interested in serving in this way or have questions about OCOF, let Pastor Joel know.

Hello! My name is MADDIE ELDER, and I am honored to be a youth representative on the search committee for the music director position at Zion. We had many qualified applicants, and it was an interesting process to read the resumes and decide who we wanted to interview. In the interview process, it was very interesting to hear what the applicants have done in their careers and what their dreams are for the future of the music ministry at Zion. I believe we have many things to look forward to!! I know I am anxiously awaiting some consistency for our choir and band, and the music program in general, but I know God will lead our team to the right person in His timing!! Thank you so much for the continued support and prayers in this process.

What Can't Wait? Caring for Our Community Can't Wait! Monroe Outreach

Pastor Sonja Pancoast

As we move into this holiday season, we are in the midst of a number of opportunities to support our neighbors in our community. For Halloween, we had a Trunk or Treat night in which we handed out goodies to the families at Monroe. For the winter months, we collected boots, coats, gloves, and hats throughout the month of October. In November, we will be collecting items for 30 Thanksgiving baskets, which will be distributed to families at Monroe and Thompson Valley Preschool. Tags with items that we need will be available at church. Also in November we will be collecting items for holiday gifts for the children at Monroe. Once we have the list of needs, we will put them on the Giving Tree at Zion.

It is so amazing to see the generosity of the people of Zion as we open our hearts to share with those in need in our community.

Loveland Lutheran Faith Formation L2F2 Update and Installation of Pastor Deb Abbott

Madeline Fairfax

L2F2 is the shared Faith Formation ministry between Zion and King of Glory Lutheran Churches. While these two congregations have their own worship services, staff, and community cultures, it is exciting that we continue to partner together in many other areas.

L2F2 ministries include High School Youth, Vacation Bible School, Senior Adult Ministry, Women's Retreat, and lots of seasonal all-ages events. This year we added joint Confirmation classes as an L2F2 ministry. These shared events and ministries allow both churches to share staff and resources to have a larger impact in the greater Loveland community. As this partnership continues to grow, we would love for you to share your ideas of other ways we can partner with King of Glory.

PASTOR DEB ABBOTT was called to King of Glory to serve part-time as the Associate Pastor—Faith Formation in August. Pastor Deb and I work closely to plan and support L2F2 ministries. Pastor Deb will be installed at Zion in worship on Sunday, November 17, as we recognize that she serves the community at Zion as well.



Pastor Deb Abbott Associate Pastor Faith Formation King of Glory Lutheran Church

Pastor Deb Abbott was born and raised in Fresno, California. She is a graduate of Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, and Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, California. Between college and seminary, she spent a year in the Lutheran Volunteer Corps in Washington, D.C. Since Pastor Deb's ordination

in 2006, she has served congregations in Billings and Kalispell, Montana, and was the Campus Pastor for Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado, for the last seven years.

Pastor Deb lives in Fort Collins with her husband Brad Abbott, who is the Executive Director of Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp.

Zion's 2019 Confirmands

At Zion, Confirmation ministry consists of parent and youth classes, retreats, Confirmation camp at Sky Ranch, students serving in worship, middle school Sunday School, and worship notes.

We're proud of our most recent Confirmands and the commitment they have made to affirm their faith. Each youth chose a ministry project to serve Zion or the greater community and a Bible verse to guide them along their faith journey.

We welcome them fully into the Zion community and look forward to the ways they will continue to share their gifts in the world.

Continued on page 9.

Zion's 2019 Confirmands continued from page 8.

Ryan Black

Volunteering at Larimer County Food Bank No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.—1 CORINTHIANS 10:13

Layne Elder

Monroe Playground Project

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

—Philippians 4:13

Johann Klammer

Volunteering regularly to run the sound system in worship *Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.*—Psalm 46:10

Sophia Pancoast

Organizing and painting inspirational quotes on bathroom stalls at Monroe Elementary

For by grace you have been saved through faith,

and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast.—Ephesians 2: 8-9

Garrett Prazan

Mentoring younger youth

Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

—PSALM 62:8

Jonathan Tataje

Volunteering at Larimer County Food Bank
Even though I walk through the darkest valley; I
fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your
staff—they comfort me.—PSALM 23:4

Kelly Teesdale

Serving people experiencing homelessness in Loveland He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there, and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.'"—MATTHEW 17:20



Reformation Sunday was also Confirmation Sunday at Zion. Pictured with Pastor Sonja, Pastor Joel, and Faith Formation Coordinator Madeline Fairfax are our confirmands.

FRONT ROW LEFT TO RIGHT: Jonny Tataje, Layne Elder, Sophia Pancoast, and Johann Klammer;
BACK ROW LEFT TO RIGHT: Garrett Prazan, Ryan Black, and Kelly Teesdale.
Congratulations Confirmands!

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Thanksgiving Baskets Thank You



Zion youth assembled Thanksgiving dinner baskets for Monroe and Thompson Valley Preschool families.

Thank you to everyone who has donated items to make Thanksgiving dinner baskets again this year. Donation items are due back to Zion by November 10. Your contributions will provide the ingredients for 30 Thanksgiving dinners for families of students at Monroe Elementary and Thompson Valley Preschool. Preschool through high school youth will assemble these baskets together on Sunday morning, November 17, during the Sunday School hour from 9:40 to 10:30 a.m. Afterward, everyone will gather in fellowship hall to make their own gratitude jars.

Advent Workshop

Sunday, December 1

9:40-10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Everyone is invited to create an Advent calendar to help you mark the time until Christmas and spend time in prayer and devotion as a family. Pick up a kid-friendly devotional and then make your own salt dough spiral wreath. This wreath can be used as a centerpiece for meals, Faith 5, or other daily devotions. This event is free, and all materials are provided, but please register in advance so we are sure to have enough supplies. RSVP by emailing Madeline at faithformation@zionloveland.com or indicating on the Connection Sheet in worship by Sunday, November 24.



All are invited to make their own salt dough spiral wreath at the Advent workshop.

High School Christmas Cookie Party

Sunday, December 8

3:00-5:00 p.m. at the Wolfe Home, 832 Black Maple Drive, Loveland

Join together with high school youth from Zion and King of Glory to celebrate Christmas! Bring cookies to share. We will also bake cookies together to deliver to first responders. We'll take a break for yummy appetizers!

RSVP to Madeline by Sunday, December 1, if you plan to attend. Thanks to the Wolfe family for hosting!

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

Middle School Christmas Party at Loveland Laser Tag

Sunday, December 15

2:00-4:00 p.m.

All middle school or Confirmation youth are invited to gather for Christmas fellowship at Loveland Laser Tag. We will meet at LLT after Confirmation class on Sunday, December 15.

This is a free event, but you must RSVP with Madeline at 419 270 6233 by Sunday, December 8.

Martin Luther King Jr Day

Especially for middle school and high school youth (since we will be in town this year and not away at the synod youth gathering), there will be opportunities to participate in activities and programming in Loveland on Monday, January 20, 2020. Save the date and stay tuned for more details in early January!

High School Winter Retreat

Friday, February 28-Sunday, March 1, 2020

Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp and Monarch Mountain

All high school youth and friends are invited to register now for the annual ski retreat. We will carpool to Rainbow Trail after school on Friday, then ski on Saturday at Monarch Mountain. We'll return to RTLC for dinner and group activities, before returning to Loveland on Sunday afternoon. The cost for this retreat is \$150 which includes ski/snowboard rental, lift ticket, lodging, meals, and transportation. Please contact Madeline for questions or to register. The deadline is December 1, 2019.



Zion high school youth enjoy a retreat of skiing and snowboarding at Monarch Mountain.

Faith Formation

Madeline Fairfax

What Can't Wait? Sky Ranch Advent Retreat!

Zion families and friends are invited to register for the Sky Ranch Advent Retreat. The retreat will take

place Friday, December 6, through Sunday, December 8, at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp.

While Advent is a season in the church that calls for waiting in contemplative anticipation, the Christmas season in our society is anything but quiet and reflective. As we dig deeper into our Advent theme of "What Can't Wait" during the month of December, this retreat is the perfect event to put our theology into action. Present shopping, dinner parties, and decorating can wait. Intentional time away as a family, worshiping together, and preparing hearts and minds for Jesus—that can't wait!

Register by November 15 if you plan to attend.



The registration link is available at: https://www.skyranchcolorado.org/programmed-retreats

Cost is \$50/person or maximum \$250/family. Transportation to and from Sky Ranch is on your own.

Planting Seeds to Grow into Who God Designed You to Be

Twenty-nine women from Zion and King of Glory attended the three-day L2F2 women's retreat held at the YMCA of the Rockies, October 18-20. The featured speaker was Lisa Worley from Pearls of Promise Ministries who has been in full-time ministry since 2003. While attending Texas Lutheran College, she was a roommate of Zion's Deborah Price.



The beauty of Estes provided the appropriate setting for a spiritual retreat.



Some went for a hike in their free time.



Donations to Monroe were blessed during worship.



The women are all smiles in this group photo.

Family
Fellowship
Friendship

Faith
Fabulous!









Mobile Laundry Truck Coming to Loveland Clean Clothes Can't Wait!

In the Spring of 2019, the Zion council committed \$1,500 from Local Benevolence funds to start a mobile laundry truck for Loveland and Fort Collins. The time has finally arrived for us to celebrate our contribution and participation in such an important ministry to our community.

What is a mobile laundry truck? It's a vehicle containing eight washers and nine dryers (because it takes more time to dry clothes than wash them), completely self-contained and mobile. Mobile laundry trucks are serving low-income and homeless residents in cities around the country (Denver, Seattle, and New York), and now we have one

serving Fort Collins and Loveland!

Why a mobile laundry truck? We tend to take clean clothes for granted. Having clean clothes restores dignity and boosts self-esteem as homeless and low-income people seek to improve



In this side view of the mobile laundry truck, if you look really closely, on the side of the truck just behind the people you will see Zion's logo.



The laundry truck houses stackable washers and dryers.

their lives. Imagine how difficult life is for low-income individuals and families who may work numerous minimum wage jobs just to survive. In addition to working, parents are dropping off and picking up children from school, taking them to activities, helping with homework, and endlessly pursuing decent housing and adequate meals. There is not much time or money left for a trip to the

laundromat. For adults, having clean clothes makes it easier to apply for and keep employment. And the gift of clean clothes can help improve school performance for students as they gain confidence in their appearance. Each year, a staggering 1,400 students experience homelessness in Larimer County as identified by the Poudre and Thompson school districts.

Where will the laundry truck park? The mobile laundry truck will be in Fort Collins three days a week and Loveland two days a week. Working with the City of Loveland, the coordinators for the mobile laundry truck identified the Loveland Public Library as one location, because of its accessibility for people experiencing homelessness and extreme poverty. Working with Thompson School District and Zion Lutheran Church, the second location is going to be either in the Zion parking lot or at Monroe Elementary School. This happened because of Zion's relationship with Monroe! Monroe is identified as a Title 1 school, meaning it has a large concentration of low-income students who receive supplemental funds to assist in meeting student's educational goals.

The mobile laundry truck is set to begin its mission in early November. If you are interested in volunteering, stay tuned for further details. We are hoping there might be an opportunity to offer our time while the truck is parked here at Zion or Monroe.

Thank you, Susan Osborn!

Madeline Fairfax

Susan Osborn uses her creative arts gifts to make ministry at Zion happen!

Each year, Susan creates embroidered gifts for children entering Sunday School for their milestone in worship. Last year, she created felt Communion kits for children to use during worship to accompany a Communion board book in their busy bags.



Pictured are the embroidered gift and the felt Communion kit made by Susan for Zion's children.

On Confirmation Sunday, our freshmen wear stoles that they have decorated to represent their faith journeys. These stoles are made by Susan each year.



Susan Osborn

Susan often donates craft and fabric materials for Sunday School use and other project supplies.

This year, the children's sermon on Christmas Eve will be inspired by a book Susan read and shared with me.

We are so grateful for the many ways Susan shares her gifts with Zion, oftentimes behind the scenes!

Monroe teachers are grateful for the soup suppers

Thank you for always taking care of us all through the year. We are so blessed.—Ms Fodness

Thank you for the delicious treats.—Ms. W

Delicious as always—(no name)

Thank you. Super delicious.—Mrs. Tina

Thank you, thank you, thank you as the soups were so delicious as always.—Gloria

Thank you so much; we truly appreciate it.—Mrs. W.

The soup was fabulous. Thank you so much!—Wendy

A special thank you

We thank

Tom and Corrine Carrigan From KidsPak

ESTHER LUCERO

KEVIN AND LORA PATRICK

CECE McGEE-ALLEN

for sharing as part of our stewardship mission moments.

Among Members and Friends

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Pam and George Stevens at the birth of their first grandchild, Madeline.

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

Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

—PSALM 71:3

Zion Lutheran,

Thank you for all the prayers and support that I received during my illness. I appreciated the texts and the visits. I am in remission, and I am recovering at home. Thank you for all the blessings.

Jennifer Schlagel

Dear Zion,

Phyllis Zimmerman and her family thank our Zion family of friends for all the thoughts, prayers, visits, and cards during her illness and recovery. We especially thank the pastors, prayer chain, choir, prayer shawl ministry, and L.I.F.T. You are all a real blessing to us! God has blessed Phyllis with strength and healing during this unexpected illness.

A special thank you to L.I.F.T. (Ladies In Fellowship Together). We've had a great year of lifting each other's spirits up. It was especially uplifting and exciting for Phyllis to hear them all sing "The More We Get Together The Happier We'll Be" right before she went into surgery. We have had 25-40 ladies at our luncheons this year!

GOD BLESS YOU ALL FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON! Love, Phyllis

L.I.F.T. REMINDER

We do not meet in November but will meet for lunch December 3, 2019, at Golden Corral at 11:30 a.m. for Jesus and Friends birthday party.

Further information will follow later for the year 2020.

If you have any questions, please call Phyllis at 970-667-3861.

Among Members and Friends

Dear Zion Lutheran Church pastors, staff, and members,

On behalf of the board and staff at Thompson Valley Preschool, I would like to congratulate the church on its exciting new project, "Building Community by Sharing God's Light." While the expansion will be a large undertaking, it is well needed and will serve Zion Lutheran's and the community's needs with a beautiful remodel. We wish you the best.

Sincerely,
Gail Yant. Executive Director

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

—1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your generous food donation of
352 pounds!! That is a significant amount of food
and toiletries and a huge blessing indeed. Your
support and partnership with HNS (House of
Neighborly Service) makes a difference in the lives
of those we serve. Thanks again.

Sincerely, Cherri Houle Dear Pastor Joel,

Thank you and your congregation for the wonderful monetary donations and gifts of service that your church has made to the Community Kitchen. All that you have done as a church or through your congregants' volunteering for the Community Kitchen is sustaining our mission and allowing us to provide service to those who need meals in our community. Today, I am writing to let you know that the Community Kitchen is about to celebrate a milestone, 1000 days of continuous meal service in September. With your support, we have been open every day since December 26, 2016, and have been able to provide meals not only during the week and every weekend, but even during bad weather and holiday seasons.

Best wishes, Sandra Wright, Executive Director

Thank You Letters to Zion

- July 23, 2019—From House of Neighborly Service for a contribution of \$607.
- July 25, 2019—From KidsPak for a donation of \$669.65.
- August 20, 2019—From House of Neighborly Service for a contribution of \$300.
- September 1, 2019—From Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp for a gift of \$550.
- September 20, 2019—From House of Neighborly Service (Rope for Hope fund) for a contribution of \$1,000.

Loveland's ELCA Lutheran churches joined forces to benefit our community through God's Work. Our Hands.

This group made cards for the New Beginnings congregation at the Women's Prison in Denver.





Families hiked together at Sky Ranch over Labor Day weekend.



Elaine and Marlow put together cards that go to those serving in the military to send to their loved ones.



This group is at Community Kitchen putting together snack bags to give to clients who come for a meal and need food for later in the day.

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.





With the exception of one Sprain, dynamic duos wielded their brushes to paint up a stunning result at Monroe Elementary.





Pastor Joel went over the edge!



On October 12, Pastor Joel was among the 52 people who rappelled down the side of a parking garage in the fund-raising event that partnered Rope for Hope with Over the Edge to safely lower participants five stories down. The event raised more than \$88,000 for Loveland's House of Neighborly Service (HNS), a nonprofit that provides aid to individuals and families struggling with poverty and homelessness. As quoted in the October 13 issue of the Loveland Reporter-Harold newspaper, HNS executive director Glorie Magrum said, "Very often with the people we help, they feel like they're going over the edge or have hit rock bottom; our role is to help them to a safe landing." A thumbs-up from Pastor Joel on his safe landing and in the company of two of his biggest fans.











ELCA Habitat Build



Zion's Nita Starr enjoyed getting to use power tools, such as the power saw, on her first day at a Habitat site.

Faster Pastors Do It Again!

The Faster Pastors of Rocky Mountain Synod (ELCA) joined together for the eighth consecutive year to run for a great cause. This year, the cause was Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR), and thanks to the support of congregations and friends, the Faster Pastors raised over \$20,000! The mission of LDR is to bring "God's hope, healing, and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need." The work that LDR does can't wait, so thank you to the Zion community for raising around \$1,800 to support LDR!

Pastor Joel joined the team of twelve runners to run the 200-mile Ragnar relay race that began in Castle Rock and made their way to the Fort Collins finish line the weekend of September 13. Though it was a change from previous runs that led the team across the mountains, it was rewarding to run across congregations cheering the team on. Pastor Joel appreciated those who came to send him out from his last run, which left Good Shepherd Church in Loveland, or welcome him in at his last finish at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Fort Collins. "After 32 hours of running, sleeping, and supporting each other, having others pushing us those last few runs was an extra reward," he said.

The team had some last-minute changes, as two of the regular team members who had been training were injured, and one ended up moving out of the synod and was unable to participate. Three substitute



BACK Row: Jake Thorson (Arvada) Pastor Brad Doty (Littleton); Pastor Joel Pancoast (Loveland); Pastor Katy Emery (Longmont); Josie Brockman (Longmont).

MIDDLE Row: Barb Walter (Longmont); Pastor Wendy Kalan (LaSalle); Pastor Kim Gonia (Conifer); Pastor Will Johnson (Broomfield); Andy Steitz (Loveland).

FRONT Row: Gus Brockman (Longmont); Pastor Rick Reiten (Fort Collins).

runners joined, and of those substitutes two were forced to drop out! By race day, they had two members who were substitutes of substitutes, but they all finished, had fun doing it, and ran for a good cause.

PASTOR JOEL'S FIRST LEG Leg 8—HARD—7.2 Miles



Map of Pastor Joel's first leg of the run. running across a high point between **Castle Pines** and Highlands Ranch, with beautiful views of the Denver metro area to the right and Sedalia to the left.

Building Community by Sharing God's Light Building Update

At an August 11 special meeting of the congregation, Zion approved a building remodel and addition titled "Building Community by Sharing God's Light." The focus of the project is to



update the middle portion of our building to align it with our mission and ministry in the community. A building is more than simply bricks and mortar; it is also an expression of who we are as a community, and this project expresses a community that is free to share the extravagant and free love of God to the broader community around us.

The capital campaign for Zion's building remodel and addition is well underway. As of October 21, we have received 70 contributions and pledges totaling \$1,043,795 toward the overall goal of about \$1.4 million. If you have not made a pledge or a contribution but would like to, please contact the church office or one of the pastors.

The permitting phase of this project has challenged us to consider "what can't wait." The plan was to request permits from the City of Loveland immediately after the congregation meeting and begin building by September. Unfortunately, we have been delayed in the permitting process and are awaiting a resolution with only one city department. Though this delays our start date into the winter and less than ideal building conditions, we are confident to have a resolution soon and will work with Hoff Construction, our builder, to put together a plan

of action for the best timing of the interior remodel portion versus the exterior new addition.

The delays are less than ideal and can be frustrating. But the building can wait. What can't wait is

God's mission for our community. Did you know that more than twenty different community groups use the Zion building for their gatherings? We have philanthropy groups that provide scholarships to single mothers and other women, homeschooling groups, several different addiction and support groups, hunger and feeding programs, and the list goes on! Whether once a year or as a weekly gathering, our building is home to many different community groups that all make a positive difference in the world. That means Zion has a hand in all the good these groups do! We are a small community with a large influence!

KidsPak is one of those groups that use the Zion building. In August, KidsPak held its annual "Welcome Back" lunch for their regular volunteers, but as an added bonus, Congressman Joe Neguse was here to present Tom and Corinne Carrigan, the KidsPak coordinators, with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition. KidsPak becomes part of the Zion community, and we become a part of theirs when they use the building for such activities.

God's mission to our community can't wait! And we get to be part of that mission. Thanks be to God!

Sharing God's Light to Outside Communities

As we continue our capital campaign for our fellowship hall addition and kitchen and bathroom remodel, we are reminded of how many groups benefit from our church building. Our Zion family utilizes our sanctuary, fellowship hall, kitchen, and the building for church functions and worship, but did you know several outside groups also benefit from Zion's building? Below is a list of community and Zion groups that utilize our church for functions. We are truly blessed to be able to share building faith and community outreach.

12-Step Groups Lenten Soup Supper

Anniversary Celebrations Love and Logic Training

Bell Choir Loveland Opera

Bella Notte Loveland Senior Singles
Bipolar Depression Group Monroe Pozole Fundraiser

Birthday Celebrations Musical Camp

Blood Pressure Checks on Sundays Palm Sunday Breakfast

Boy Scouts Troop 314 PEO Tea

Chancel Choir Rehearsal Piano/Organ Recitals

Children's Music Ministry Quilt-tiers

Cub Scouts Troop 298 Silver Lakes HOA
Daisy Girl Scouts Stephen Ministry

Dave Ramsey Financial Training Thompson Valley High School Cooking Program

Funerals Thompson Valley Preschool

Gamma Chi Fundraiser for St. Jude Thompson Valley Preschool Graduation
Girl Talk Thompson Valley School—Bully Prevention
IHN Thompson Valley Student Council Dinner

Sarah-Ruth Bible Study Thrivent Financial
Kids Night In Vacation Bible School

KidsPak Welcome Dinner Weaving Group

Kuhn's Den Troop Zion Afternoon Book Group

Lego Robotics

Always Being Made New—The *Completed* Campaign for the ELCA

In 2014, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) kicked off its first ever campaign with a bold vision and a goal of \$198 million. At its completion this year, the ELCA has received \$250 million through cash, multiyear commitments, and planned gifts. This campaign was an opportunity for our church to set priorities for God's mission about what we believe can't wait. It focused on four priority areas: congregations, hunger and poverty, global

Zion has
contributed
many times to
the campaign
through special
appeals and
offerings.

church, and leadership. It is exciting to share the results of this campaign, because it allows us an opportunity to celebrate being a small part of something greater. Over the last five years, Zion has contributed many times to the campaign through special appeals and offerings. Our

church did this together! Here is a snapshot of what couldn't wait, by the numbers.

Congregations

As members of the ELCA, we have an important message to share, and people are ready to hear it: We are saved by God's grace and God's grace alone. Through the congregations priority, we are sharing the love of Christ far and wide by starting more congregations, discovering innovative ways to grow and renew our existing communities of faith, and expanding our ministries with people living with disabilities.

- 281 new-start congregations approved during the campaign—a record growth!
- 100 Disability Ministries grants distributed for workshops, training opportunities, education, and camps.
- 29 Renewing Congregations grants distributed in synods across the ELCA.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELCA

Hunger and Poverty

More than 820 million people—that's about 11% of people in our world today—are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. Through the hunger and poverty priority, you are making it possible for the ELCA to support sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty, from health clinics and malaria prevention to microloans, from water wells to animal husbandry, from community meals to advocacy, and much more.

- 953 ministries working to end hunger in the United States.
- 14 African countries gained access to malaria programs, including volunteer training, prevention supplies, and medication.
- 62 countries around the world—including the U.S.—implementing programs supported by ELCA World Hunger.

Global Church

We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world—together. Today, more than 200 ELCA missionaries, including Young Adults in

Continued on page 25.

Always Being Made New—The *Completed* Campaign for the ELCA continued from page 24.

Global Mission, serve in 42 countries around the world. In addition, scholarships and other educational opportunities empower international women leaders from our global companions to take on even more significant leadership roles in their home countries. And ministry grants help build up Christ's church throughout the world.

- 453 Young Adults in Global Mission serving or having served in countries around the world!
- 189 Lutheran women around the world gained access to networking opportunities and academic scholarships and training.
- 135 long-term missionaries working alongside our companions in more than 40 countries.
- 11 new global ministry evangelism projects initiated by companion churches in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America.

Leadership

The future of this church depends on its future leaders. Good, strong leadership matters in a church that is called to live and serve in a world full of complexities and ambiguities. Through the leadership priority, we are encouraging and identifying leaders who will ground us in God's love and forgiveness and send us out to do God's work in the world. By accompanying youth and young adults in their faith journeys and supporting talented, gifted students as they prepare to begin a life of ministry, we invest in the future of the ELCA.

- 1,300 seminary students received ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarships.
- 46 new or enhanced Youth and Young Adults ministries received grants to grow existing programs or start new ones.

Feed Those in Our Community and in Our World

King Soopers Donations

King Soopers has made a commitment to give back to nonprofit agencies in their communities. Zion is one of those organizations that you can give back to.

Here at Zion we have made a commitment that any of the money that we receive from the King Soopers Community Rewards Program will be given to those who are in need. Every year we have allocated half of the funds to ELCA World Hunger. The last few years we have allocated the other half of these funds to KidsPak. All money that comes to Zion through our local grocery store is being allocated to those who do not have food or are food insecure.

If you shop at King Soopers, we invite you to choose Zion as your Community Rewards Member.

Here is how you go about doing that.

The process is now much simpler. You need to log in to your King Soopers account. If you have not logged on before, you can come into the office, and we will help you figure it out. Once you have logged on, go into the My Account tab. On the left-hand side you will see Community Rewards. You can allocate an organization. Zion Lutheran Church is the organization and the code is RJ303.

A percentage of all that you spend at King Soopers will go to Zion.

If you do not shop at King Soopers, then do not change your spending habits. If you do, we invite you to allocate your Community Rewards to Zion.

What Can't Wait: Witnessing Faith Communities

From Pastor Joel:

Zion has been blessed to serve God's people and witness God's love to the community for 114 years! With that comes stability. We are anchored in the center of our community. and though we may have a small footprint, we have a big impact. But there are many areas in our country, and in our region of the United States that do not have nearby congregations to serve and witness. In areas where there is rapid population growth, housing is going up quickly, but churches are not. In other areas where the population has declined or transitioned and churches have not kept up with the changes, churches are having to shut their doors permanently. In those circumstances, the ELCA sends mission developer pastors to start new ministries, and even when we don't know about them, we are part of them. As a congregation, we send 10% of our annual budget to the ELCA to support many different ministries, like ELCA World Hunger, or Lutheran Disaster Response, or in the case of this article, mission congregations.

From Bishop Gonia, ELCA
Bishop of the Rocky Mountain
Synod:



Bishop Gonia

One of our key commitments as fellow members of the ELCA Rocky Mountain Synod has to do with **Accompanying one** another into God's future. Central to this commitment is our willingness to imagine innovative ways of becoming the church the Spirit needs us to be for the life of the world. Sometimes this means launching something completely new, such as our Aurora Church Together Strategy with Homeless Neighbors. Sometimes this means retooling ourselves for renewed ministry and witness in our existing context. Either way, our driving question must be: how will our investment of efforts, energy, and resources help us more effectively proclaim and embody God's unconditional love for all people?

Mission Moment: Well of Hope, Castle Rock, Colorado

As a mission development site with a part-time pastor, Well of Hope in Castle Rock, Colorado, has had to find creative ways to do ministry with limited resources. While their space, budget, and congregation size may be small in comparison to others, their desire to love and serve their community is immense.

In order to do more with less. Well of Hope has partnered with other congregations in their area for the sake of mission and outreach. Youth from Well of Hope meet regularly with youth from two nearby Episcopal congregations for a shared Lutheran/ Episcopal youth ministry program. These same three congregations work together to offer "Ashes to Go" and a "Blessing of the Pets" annually to the greater Castle Rock community.

In August, Well of Hope worked with five different congregations from three denominations to host a "Castle Rock Area Inclusive Churches" table at the city's first PRIDE

Continued on page 27.

What Can't Wait: Witnessing Faith Communities continued from page 26.

event. Plans are also underway for an interfaith Thanksgiving service in Castle Rock. Well of Hope strongly believes in the Rocky Mountain's claim that "We are church. Better Together."

In fact, Well of Hope might not survive and definitely could not thrive without these relationships. Christ's church truly is better together and Well of Hope is a living, loving, and serving testament to that fact. The people of Well of Hope are deeply grateful for the support of their mission partner, Abiding Hope in Littleton, and for the support of their ministry partners in the Castle Rock area.

Let us pray for mission congregations of the Rocky Mountain Synod:

God of Creation and Renewal, you have called us to be your witnesses, to proclaim your love and grace for the sake of healing in our world. We pray for our Rocky Mountain mission sites, their leaders, and those they are called to serve:

- Well of Hope, Castle Pines, Colorado
- Our Savior's, Denver, Colorado
- New Beginnings, Denver Women's Prison
- Cristo Rey, Denver, Colorado
- Rejoicing Spirits, Denver, Colorado
- Cristo Rey, EL Paso, Texas
- Mount Hope, El Paso, Texas
- Camino de Vida, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- St. Matthew's, Taylorsville, Utah
- Westview, Boulder, Colorado
- Aurora Ministry Strategy for Homeless Neighbors.

What Can't Wait?

Directing Your Thrivent Choice Dollars

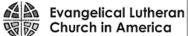
Each year people who are members of Thrivent and carry various Thrivent products such as life insurance or annuities are eligible to determine an approved nonprofit to which they can allocate their Thrivent Choice Dollars. These dollars accumulate from January 1 through December 31 each year.

This year, the Zion church council has determined that all Thrivent Choice Dollars allocated to Zion will be given to the Building Community by Sharing God's Light capital campaign. These dollars will go to the new building and renovation happening at Zion.

If you are a Thrivent member and have Thrivent Choice Dollars to allocate, we invite you to consider giving them to Zion.

If you have questions about Thrivent Choice Dollars, you can speak to your Thrivent representative or come to the church office and we will help you find the answers to those questions.

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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@zionlovel

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

Join Us in Worship

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship10:45 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 11/19

November 10

Change of Service Requested

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

Deadline to Donate Thanksgiving Basket Items

November 10	Embrace Generosity Sunday
November 15	Deadline to Register for Sky Ranch Advent Retreat
November 16	Grieving through the Holidays Conversation
November 17	Pastor Deb Abbott Installation at Zion
November 24	Community Thanksgiving Worship and Pie Auction
December 1	Deadline to Register for High School Winter Retreat
December 1	Advent Workshop
December 1	Preview Amahl and the Night Visitors
December 1	Children's Choir Concert
December 3	L.I.F.T. Jesus and Friends Birthday Party
December 6-8	Sky Ranch Advent Retreat
December 6	Amahl and the Night Visitors
December 8	Amahl and the Night Visitors
December 8	High School Christmas Cookie Party
December 14	Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Program
December 15	Sunday School and Children's Choir Christmas Program
December 15	Middle School Christmas Party
December 21	Blue Christmas Worship
December 24	Christmas Eve Worship
January 20, 2020	Martin Luther King Jr Day
January 29	Watoto Children's Choir
February 28- March 1	High School Winter Retreat