



Eye on Zion

Quarterly Newsletter for the People of Zion Lutheran Church

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Intern Pastor

Andrea Kragerud

Faith Formation Coordinator Pastor Courtney Steitz

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Assistant Director of Music

Noelle Bauman-Stucky

Bell and Chimes Director

Thomas Chen

Accompanist/Collaborative Artist

Ryan Marvel Office Manager

Lindsey Walter

Worship Technology Coordinator

Stig Oresjo

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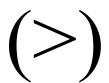
Greater Than

Pastor Sonja Pancoast

In our world today, we can often feel overwhelmed by the many forces at work all around us. Examples include the ever-present coronavirus and the daily implications it has for our lives. We wonder when this will end. As summer continues, we sense that natural disasters are on the rise fires in the west, scorching heat, flash flooding, to name a few. We can be led to despair at the state of our lives and of our world.

As we look to scripture, we find that there is one who is greater than all these things. The God of heaven and earth whose love, grace, and mercy are revealed to us in Christ Jesus. Throughout the fall we will dive into the book of Hebrews and discover again this one who is Greater Than as we focus on the book of Hebrews in our Sunday worship.

The book of Hebrews compares and contrasts Jesus to key historical people and events from the Old Testament. Through these comparisons, we see His superiority. He is greater than angels, the Torah, Moses, the



Promised Land, priests, Melchizedek, sacrifices, and the covenant. Jesus is God's Word, the hope for a new creation, our eternal priest, and the perfect sacrifice. Jesus is the ultimate revelation of God's love and mercy and worthy of our devotion.

Throughout this newsletter, we share stories and opportunities of those who have experienced this love of Christ who is greater than, including our youth who attended the servant adventure trip, those who served through Wednesday Night Live, and those who experienced the joy of Christ's love through Vacation Bible School. We also share opportunities to continue to connect with the one who is Greater Than through our worship, our study of God's word in adult classes, confirmation, and Sunday School, and through seeing the face of Christ as we serve others through opportunities such as "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday.

When we feel the weight of the world overwhelming us, we have hope because there is one who is Greater Than.

ReGathering Team Update

[These recommendations were determined on July 15, 2021. The ReGathering Team will continue to monitor the situation and guidance may change accordingly.]

As we look to the fall, we realize that our world is still in flux, and the ReGathering team will continue to monitor the situation and what is the best way to show our love and safeguard our neighbor. Below is the current guidance from the ReGathering Team, but it could change at any time.

While indoors, we will continue to require masks, unless you are fully vaccinated. When we are outside, no masks are required. In order to protect our children, we are asking everyone (vaccinated or unvaccinated) to wear a mask when they are around someone who is 12 or under, since those who are 12 or under do not have access to the vaccine.

We will begin indoor worship at 8:15 a.m. (traditional) and 10:45 a.m. (contemporary) on Sunday, September 12. We will follow the current guidance on mask usage for worship. If those who are vaccinated continue to not need to wear a mask, there will be a Safe Zone created in the sanctuary where everyone in this space will be masked. We will continue the practice of weekly communion, but will have it in our seats, until all have access to the vaccine. Online worship through Zoom will be offered for those who desire.

We will begin Sunday School for all ages and will follow the same mask protocols for children as the Thompson School District. All adults who are teaching Sunday School with children under 12 will be vaccinated and wear a mask.

We will begin having coffee in fellowship hall. We know that many are ready to begin having fellowship and coffee together, and we want to provide that opportunity. However, when we have coffee, we have to take off our masks (or at least we hope that people take off their masks to drink). Since we are asking that everyone vaccinated or unvaccinated wear a mask around children under 12, we ask that coffee remain in the fellowship hall and children will not be in this space.

The ReGathering Team will continue to monitor the situation and update our guidance on how to safely regather in order to protect the most vulnerable in our society.

Members of the ReGathering Team include:

Ronda Buck Bill Kurtz Scott Sprain Pastor Sonja Pancoast Sarah Christensen Vicki Johnson Cindy Warren Pastor Joel Pancoast

Note: Beginning September 12, worship times will shift to 8:15 a.m. (traditional) and 10:45 a.m. (contemporary) to make room in between for faith formation opportunities, including Sunday School and classes for adults.

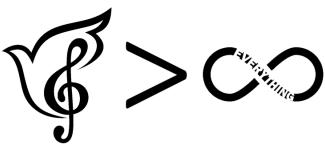
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Music Ministry

David Dunbar

The New Testament Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that Jesus is "greater than" (>) all the prophets that came before him, and that through him we can have a direct relationship with God and live in confidence, love, and hope in the face of all things. And what better way can we proclaim and celebrate that good news but through music, right?!

I am SO excited for fall to come and to begin working with the chancel choir in earnest! In preparation for the choir's first Sunday, which will be September 12, we will begin rehearsals a few weeks prior to that. As the new director of music at Zion, and the chancel choir director, I want to extend an invitation not only to all current members of the choir, but also to anyone



and everyone who enjoys music and fellowship: Come and join the choir at our first rehearsal! There is no audition, and even if you don't read a lick of music, there is a place for you in the music ministry of the church, so please come! Here are the details on our first gathering:

Wednesday, August 25—6:00 p.m.—In the sanctuary at Zion

We will sing and laugh for about an hour, after which, at 7:00 p.m. the praise band (which is also open for anyone to join) will meet and continue the musical joyfulness.

May God bless you and keep you always, and I hope to see you in August!

Greater Than Bible Memory Verse

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

-Hebrews 11:1

Monthly Worship Themes

September 5-October 24—Greater Than

October 31—Reformation Sunday

Celebrating Zion's Confirmands at the 10:30 a.m. service as they affirm their faith.

November 7—All Saints Sunday, remembering those saints who have died in faith. We will light a candle and remember members of Zion who have died since All Saints 2020. Additionally, if you would like to have a photo of your own loved one(s), please be sure to send a digital copy to office@zionloveland.com or bring a physical copy of the photo to the office by October 24.

Children's Music Ministry

Noelle Bauman-Stucky

I am forever grateful for the interactions with youth and children connected to Zion this last year. We were able to enjoy a few gatherings, and also got to sing and dance this summer at our combined Vacation Bible School (see pictures). This year is a time to reconnect with children and families and

see where and how our children's music ministry (CMM) can aid in regathering and moving toward a new normal.



As best and as safe as possible, CMM will be back and running with new ideas and schedules. This fall we will have two opportunities for kids to be a part of music at Zion. The first will be a six-week unit using instruments, music, and vocalizing to create music. Kids grades 1-8 will

Song and dance were enjoyed as part of the music program at Vacation Bible School.





be grouped to learn instruments and songs to then share with our community. The second opportunity will be a Christmas program for Sunday School children and any other children and youth interested.

Our rehearsal days are changing! Last October we had a great time with the Orff instruments and all of the kids involved. This fall we will trend toward the same rehearsal schedule, but change the evening to Wednesday nights.

Watch for a registration email in mid-August.

Please email <u>CMM@zionloveland.com</u> with any questions.

Here are the dates for our first music opportunity:

•	September 1	5:00-6:00 p.m
•	September 8	5:00-6:00 p.m.
•	September 15	5:00-6:00 p.m
•	September 22	5:00-6:00 p.m
•	September 29	5:00-6:00 p.m
•	October 6	5:00-6:00 p.m

- SATURDAY, October 9 9:00-11:00 a.m.
- In worship SUNDAY, October 10 (time is TBD, but most likely during the second service).

Looking for volunteer opportunities? Send me an email and we will discuss the options.

Our volunteer team is always a great group to hang out with!

Nourish

Joel Brauner

Nourish is growing, and I want to invite everyone to participate. The purpose of Nourish is to strengthen our relationship with God, build lasting friendships with each other, and create lasting impact in our community through caring. We meet on the second Saturday of each month at Zion. All ages are invited.

One goal for Nourish is to blend "everyday" activities with "church" activities. We begin the evening with sharing a meal together and time to socialize and build friendships. The evening then moves into a small group discussion topic. These have ranged from spiritual practices like fasting, to pop culture connections like *Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark*. After this, we share highs or lows and care for each other and community through prayer.

There is a separate program for kids during Nourish. However, this doesn't mean that Nourish is only for families! All ages are invited and encouraged to participate. We have a separate kids' program because sometimes what we need, as parents and the spiritual leaders in our homes, is adult conversation. But this doesn't go for just parents. Each one of us has been placed in a unique community of work, friends, or neighborhoods. Nourish has been created to give us energy to care for others in each of our unique communities.

Nourish was also created as a place where everyone can gather to share ideas and experiences and know that their input is valued. The goal is not to come to a consensus or "correct" answer. We recognize that life is nuanced and varied. Everyone who joins us brings a unique perspective that provides value to our community. Nourish will be a place where regular church-goers, the de-churched, and the un-churched can gather as one to build each other up.

If you're in any way interested in Nourish, I would encourage you to join us on Saturday, September 11, at 5:30 p.m. Our September topic will be "What is Nourish?" as we take time to discuss our purpose as a community. This will be a great chance for those who are curious, because we will take extra time to introduce our program and purpose. If you have any questions, please reach out to Joel Brauner at 719-640-8190 or joeldbrauner@gmail.com or reach out to Pastor Courtney.

Be a Leader
Join a Committee

Leadership Development

Amy Brauner

Our church is at its best when members of our congregation serve shoulder to shoulder with our staff. A great way to demonstrate this is by serving on a committee.

The Leadership
Development Committee
will be asking for selfnominations from Sunday,
August 22, to Sunday,
September 19. Keep a
lookout in the Sunday
bulletin and Friday e-on
Zion emails for what
leadership and committee
positions are needed.

Please prayerfully discern where God is asking you to use your gifts to help our congregation and community.

Meet Zion's Intern Pastor 2021-2022

Andrea Kragerud



Andrea Kragerud is Zion's intern pastor for 2021-2022.

Hello, people of Zion! I am excited to finally be able to introduce myself as your intern pastor! It has been a whirlwind of transition for me this past spring into summer. A journey indeed to get to here, to this place. I feel blessed for this opportunity and

to the experiences this next part of the journey will offer with all of you.

I am a Luther Seminary Master of Divinity

(M.Div.) Word and Sacrament student feeling called into congregational ministry. With this transition, I bring with me many years of higher education experience working on the Residence Life/ Student Affairs side of education. I have recently left my position at the University of Colorado Boulder where I served in a variety of



Andrea stands next to a landmark at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

student support roles for the past 19 years. After many nudges over the years, and saying 'not yet,'

in 2017 I formally began the candidacy process through the Rocky Mountain Synod. Working full-time, going to school full-time, while also having the intentional time for family has been quite the balancing act these past four years.

I am a Midwest, Iowa farm girl at heart, but have found myself loving living in Colorado with my husband Ryan and daughter Anna. Ryan and I

moved out here from Minnesota and Iowa in 2002 for job opportunities and a change of scenery the week after our wedding. It was our threeyear plan...and yet here we still are! Longmont has been a wonderful place to call home. Anna keeps us busy with all of her activities and will be a sophomore at Longmont High School this fall.



The Kragerud family consists of Ryan, Anna, Andrea, and Rangely, a 3½-year-old fun mix of golden retriever, rottweiler, and boarder collie with an amazing rescue story.

It is also

important to know that when I say I have to 'go do chores,' it is literal. My daughter raises pigs for 4-H and competes in the Colorado Junior Swine Association (CJSA) jackpot series throughout the summer, at the Boulder County Fair, Colorado State Fair, and nationally at other stock shows. Raising pigs was a passion of mine growing up and is so much fun to see Anna loving

Meet Zion's Intern Pastor 2021-2022 continued from page 6.

it now. Animal Sciences is certainly in her future. Ryan works for the St. Vrain Valley School District in the Planning Department as a Planner and Geographic Information System (GIS) specialist. He is also known as Mr. Bike Night to many in Longmont for his creation and leading of the Wednesday night cruiser bike rides through Old Town.

Now that my course work is finished, I am looking forward to discovering what 'free





Following in her mother's footsteps, Anna raises pigs for 4-H and competes in the Colorado Junior Swine Association.

time' might look like! If I'm not in the pig pen, you can probably find me baking (cupcakes are my thing), doing creative projects of all sorts around the house, paddle boarding, hanging out at a favorite coffee shop, or cruising around on my bike with family and friends.

I am looking forward to being immersed into the day to day of congregational life and this community of faith—both inside and outside of its walls. I ask for your continued prayers for all of us in this transition and know I am continuing to pray for all of you as well. I look forward to beginning to meet you on Sunday, August 1. It's going to be a great year.

Intern Pastor Introduction by Pastor Joel

We are delighted to welcome Intern Pastor Andrea Kragerud on August 1. Her internship will be a full 12 months with us, and is an opportunity for her to develop her vocation as a pastor and grow in various gifts of ministry. Internship in the church provides leadership experience under the supervision of a pastor. You might think of it like a residency in the medical field or student teaching in the education field. During her internship, Andrea will practice and engage in the full range of ministry as a pastor, including key leadership areas of administration and leadership, preaching and teaching, stewardship and evangelism, conflict resolution, and more. A beautiful thing about this opportunity is that while it provides a constructive learning experience for her, it also provides energy and learning for Zion. We all get to share in the role with Andrea as both teachers and learners!

Serving as an internship site can be costly for a congregation. However, since Andrea and her family already live in Longmont, the expense is

nearly cut in half. Fortunately, Zion already has nearly half of the expense in a fund dedicated for internship. For 2022, we have multiple sources to draw from, including interest gained from a Thrivent account that holds a portion of our ministry funds or the Endowment fund. We are financially well positioned for this internship, thanks to the generosity of many people in the congregation who see the value of internship, for Zion, the greater church, and for individuals who are called to serve the church as rostered leaders (pastors and deacons). We are grateful once again for this incredible opportunity. When you see Andrea in worship or around Zion, please welcome her as a pastor and learner with us.

Andrea's intern committee are Erin Bachman, Joel Brauner, Afton Farasyn, Beilynn Geiss, Roy Geiss, Debbie Joncas, Carol Schultz, and Nita Starr. This team of people will give support and feedback to Andrea, as well as be a piece in the evaluation process for her internship. If you have questions or feedback, please speak with them or with Pastor Joel.

Faith Formation

Pastor Courtney Steitz

Sunday School Fall Schedule

Sunday School Kickoff

On August 22, at 9:45 a.m., in the fellowship hall, join us for games and registration for the upcoming year of Sunday School. Learn more about the different Sunday School options for all age groups!

Bible Olympics

On August 29, at 9:45 a.m., keep the fun of the Olympics going! Join us for games and activities about the Bible for all ages!

Labor Day Service

On September 5, at 9:45 a.m., in the fellowship hall, help with service projects in honor of Labor Day.

Beginning of Sunday School Rotations

Beginning September 12, at **9:30 a.m.**, students will gather for the start of regular weekly Sunday School.

High School and Middle School

Beginning September 12 and continuing the first Sunday of every month, we will be having a joint worship party with King of Glory. Meet at Zion at 9:30 a.m. to drive over to King of Glory for food, fun, and fellowship. Then we will come back to Zion and sit together for the second worship service.

There will be other Sunday School opportunities at Zion the remaining Sundays of the month.

Confirmation Kickoff and Coyote Howl Retreat

At Zion, we celebrate all of the students who are entering into and participating in confirmation. Confirmation or affirmation of baptism is an important step in the faith life and development of our students. They are given opportunities to engage with other ELCA confirmation students from Loveland and learn about the Bible, the Small Catechism, and Lutheran theology.

This year, Confirmation Kickoff will be on August 15 at Zion at 12:15 p.m.

We will welcome incoming students into confirmation during the services that Sunday. This is a reminder that confirmation is not something these students participate in on their own. As a community of faith, we are invited to journey alongside these young people as they continue to grow in their understanding of what it means to be a baptized and loved child of God

This year our confirmation students will also be participating in Coyote Howl up at Sky Ranch on September 24-26. This will be a fun time to grow together as a group and spend some beautiful time up in the mountains. If you are participating in confirmation, please put this date on your calendar!



Faith Formation

Pastor Courtney Steitz

Man Cave

If you are a middle school boy and interested in connecting with other middle school boys to learn about faith and play games, join us for Man Cave! Man Cave meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Trinity. The fourth Tuesday is a chance to connect with the middle school girls from Girl Talk and play games together. If you are interested in participating, contact Pastor Courtney (pastorcourtney@zionloveland.com) for more information.

Girl Talk

(written by Beilynn Geiss)

Girl Talk is a mentoring program where high school girls mentor middle school girls every Tuesday night. There is a new topic each week that varies from relationships to positive body image. We often do fun projects like making vision boards and friendship bracelets as well as participating in service projects. Girl Talk offers community and a safe space to talk. I have been in Girl Talk as both a middle schooler and a high school leader, and I have loved Girl Talk. It has been amazing to create friendships with the girls, and I always look forward to Tuesday night.

Girl Talk meets every Tuesday from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at King of Glory, except the 4th Tuesday of the month when they have a joint game night with Man Cave. If you are a middle school girl or know a middle school girl who would like to participate, contact Pastor Courtney (pastorcourtney@zionloveland.com).

Kids in Christ

For the past several months, members of the congregation have been leading Kids in Christ. This is a wonderful opportunity for our kids and the young at heart in our congregation to hear from many different voices and perspectives on faith. It has also been a great experience for our leaders. Steve Courts shares some of his experience being a Kids in Christ leader:

I was honored to conduct the children's sermon on the last Sunday in June. The pastors were dedicating bikes that day and so it gave me an idea about doing something with bikes. I looked at the notes Pastor Sonja gave me (which were really quite helpful) and came up with a way to tie bikes into the scripture in a way I thought kids might understand. I had done some children services before at a church in Kentucky, so I had a little experience to fall back on. Unfortunately, I didn't get any children to come up as there really weren't any kids at either service, so my approach changed slightly. I thought it went well (at least that's what Stephanie told me) even if I didn't speak directly with kids. The process to create the Kids in Christ lesson took about 3 hours total, including a couple of practice runs. One side-benefit to delivering the Kids in Christ message was that it got me to think about how Christ works with us...even through bikes! As a result, I think I got more out of it than anyone else!!!

As we transition into the fall worship schedule and have more kids present in worship, we would love for you to consider helping us lead Kids in Christ! If you're interested or have questions, please contact Pastor Courtney.

Faith Formation

Pastor Courtney Steitz

High School Back to School Event

Now that we are back to school, we're excited to reconnect with high school students and welcome incoming freshmen.

On August 24, at 6:30 p.m. at King of Glory, meet with Pastor Deb and Pastor Courtney for snacks and planning! Come with ideas for games and activities as we plan some fun gatherings for the next year! If you're unable to attend, but have ideas for fun activities, let Pastor Courtney know.

Monroe Elementary School Partnership Starting Up Again This Fall

Pastor Sonja Pancoast

As we look toward the fall, we are excited about the possibility of being able to serve at Monroe again. Last year so many of us missed this wonderful partnership that we have with Monroe. We have found that often we are the ones who benefit as we serve others and see the face of Christ in our neighbor. As we prepare for the fall, we anticipate being able to again serve in a variety of ways but will have to see how the year develops.

Thank you to each one of you for helping in many and various ways in our partnership with Monroe.

Back to School Night Sack Dinners Thursday, August 26

Make the Sack Dinners 1:00-3:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Hand Out Sack Dinners 5:30–6:30 p.m. Monroe Elementary Cafeteria

At back to school night, parents and families are invited to learn more about the opportunities the school offers their students, able to start the year off on a positive note. We are making sack dinners for these parents and families so they can come right from work.

Brightening Up the School Painting Classrooms

Sunday, September 12 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

As part of "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday,

we will be painting accent walls in two classrooms to brighten up the classroom. We



will also paint the cabinets in the lounge to freshen up the space where teachers and the PTA gather. Monroe Elementary School Partnership continued from page 10.

Weekly Classroom Volunteer Starting in Late September

This is your opportunity to help out one to two hours a week in the same classroom and experience first hand the joy as you observe the amazing growth that these children have throughout the year. The love that you receive in return often outmatches their amazing learning—learning that you are supporting. We have opportunities in different grades and different days of the week. We will match your gifts and schedule with what the needs are at Monroe.

PIE Night Late September or Early October

For the PIE (Partners In Education) Night, Zion will provide pies for the parents and teachers, and the school will provide pizza pie for dinner.

Coat and Boot Drive Throughout the Month of October

We will gather coats and boots for the students at Monroe. Specific sizes and genders will be given to us based on the needs of the children at Monroe.

Parent Teacher Conference Soup Night—Wednesday, October 13

The teachers do such an amazing job at Monroe. To offer our gratitude, we feed them the evening they conduct their parent teacher conferences. We will provide soup, bread, veggies, and desserts.

Trunk or Treat Night Friday, October 22—Early Evening

Help hand out candy and other prizes to the children at Monroe. Candy and treats are provided by Zion. All you need is a car with a trunk.

God's Work. Our Hands.

On Sunday, September 12, 2021, we will join together with over 9,100 ELCA congregations across the United States for a day of service.

Here in Loveland, we will join with King of Glory and Trinity to complete service projects to make a positive difference in our community, build and deepen relationships, and share God's love.



We will have many and varied service projects across our

community, including painting at Monroe [see page 10 of this newsletter], supporting our Loveland Police Department, spreading joy through chalk art, making sack packs for the homeless, and more.

Signups for the various projects will be available in mid-August.

We have ordered God's Work. Our Hands. t-shirts for those who do not already have a shirt and would like one.



We are asking for a suggested donation of \$5.

Mark your calendars for this day of service as we join together to do God's work with our hands.

Vacation Bible School: What an amazing week!



Generation to Generation VBS

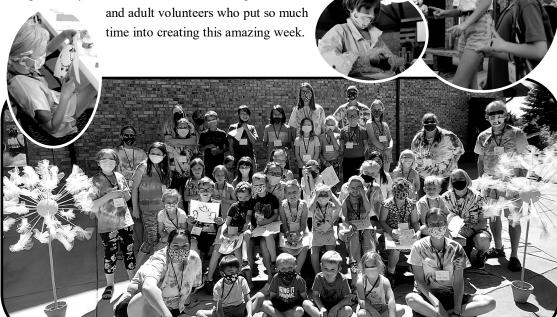
Generation to Generation Vacation Bible Sschool was held at King of Glory as part of our L2F2 partnership. We focused on how faith is passed on from generation

to generation. We learned about a different person



in the Bible each day and how their faith has been passed along to us just like seeds of a dandelion make many more dandelions. It was such a joy to be able to have Vacation Bible School this year

and see the joy, laughter, and love of the kids as they learned Bible stories, sang songs with Noelle, watched the middle school youth lead skits, did crafts such as tie dying shirts for Joseph's coat of many colors, and played games. They had so much fun that the kids didn't want to miss even one day. Huge thank-you to all the middle school, high school



Among Members and Friends

At Rest in Our Father's House

Kathleen Hopkins, who died on March 18, 2020, and whose memorial service was held at Zion on June 19, 2021.

Miriam Mohr, who died on February 13, 2021, and whose funeral was held at Zion on July 10, 2021.

Pastor Marvin Huth, who died on June 21, 2021, and whose funeral was at Zion on Sunday, June 27, 2021.

Leona Hettinger, who died on June 25, 2021, and whose funeral was led by Pastor Deb Abbot (while Pastor Sonja was on vacation) on July 7, 2021.

Baptismal Blessings

We rejoice with Alyssa and Robert Samelson at the baptism of their son, **Bradley George** on Sunday, July 18, 2021.

We rejoice with Kellian and Emilee (Mai) LaMonda at the baptism of their son **Linus Richart** on Sunday, August 1, 2021. Kellian and Emilee now reside in Albuquerque and attend St. Timothy's Lutheran Church. Zion was privileged to host the baptism as Zion has been an important part of Emilee's faith life.

Prayers of Celebration

Rick and Sandy Bilstad at the birth of their granddaughter, Rose Julius.

Kellian and Emilee (Mai) LaMonda at the birth of their son, Linus Richart LaMonda on June 2, 2021.

For the marriage of **Lucas Lias and Elaina Vick** at Ellis Wedding Ranch on May 15, 2021. Elaina is Ken and Ruth Vick's granddaughter.

Prayers of Comfort and Healing

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

Phyllis Zimmerman thanks our Pastors and Zion Family for all the prayers for her sister Marian in Iowa during the last two years of her failing health. Marian passed away on June 22 after being a blessing and inspiration to so many people all her life!!

Marian's Celebration of Life was on June 26 in loving memory of her 66th wedding anniversary when all four of the sisters were together!

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.—John 3:16

The Heavens are more beautiful knowing we all have loved ones there! Thank you to our Zion family of friends for your caring thoughts and cards. God Bless All Our Families Everyday!! With Love, Phyllis

Among Members and Friends

Dear Members of Zion,

I would like to thank Pastor Sonja and all for your prayers, phone calls, and cards at the death of my sister, Gloria. Your thoughtfulness was such a comfort to us. God's blessings to you all.

Doris Fabrizius and Family

Dear Friends at Zion,

Thank you so much to all of you for your cards, care, and concern following the death of our father, Marvin Huth, and for coming to his service. All your words, thoughts, and prayers were so comforting to us.

Also, thanks to those of you who sent him cards and wishes for his 95th birthday—he was very happy to be able to celebrate his birthday in his final few weeks here on earth and make a final trip to Texas (our home state).

He was so at home at Zion and cared deeply for all his friends here. Thank you for the care you showed to both our parents after their move to Loveland a number of years ago. You are indeed very special to all of us.

> Deborah and Paul Price, and Karen and Paul Bradshaw and Families

Dear Zion Staff and Community,

Thank you so much for the generous gifts on my last Sunday at Zion. The photo book is beautiful, and I will cherish it! I'm looking forward to some relaxing spa/salon time—that was so thoughtful! And the hiking carrier for Cal will be perfect for our adventures this summer!

Madeline Fairfax

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

The Loveland Be Ready Fair Committee would like to thank Zion for use of its parking lot for our drive-through fair on April 24 and also use of tables and chairs. The church is a prime spot with easy access and helped make the fair a success. Although attendance was down from previous years, we were able to provide families with school readiness information, take-and-make activities, books, community resource and preschool information, as well as breakfast burritos and snacks! We appreciate your support.

Sincerely, Loveland Be Ready Fair Committee

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your generous support to HNS [House of Neighborly Service]! We cannot thank you enough for your heart for our community and those we serve. We truly pray that God richly blesses your congregation!

You are an impacting church, Cherri Houle

Thank You Letters to Zion

• June 10, 2021—From ELCA World Hunger for a gift of \$1,500.

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

-WINSTON CHURCHILL

Zion's Prayer Shawl Ministry Comforts Those It Serves

From one whose husband was ill and underwent a pacemaker procedure— Kathy,

Thank you so much for leading the Bible study group. I enjoyed the class very much.

I gave the white and turquoise one to Jane Locke and she was very appreciative. I really like the pink shawl you gave me and it will remind me to keep an active prayer life.

> Always. Joyce Harger

From one whose mother died-

Thank you, Kathy, for the prayer shawl and the love from the hands that made it. I appreciate being thought of in such a special way.

Terri Valenta

From one who underwent surgery-

Kathy, I just wanted to let you know how much the prayer shawl meant. Yesterday I was in surgery at two different locations. I took my shawl with me and got a lot of comfort and warmth from having it with me. God is good and so are you!

Dawn Arzuolaitis

Of course, the Kathy to whom this gratitude was extended is Zion's own Kathy Pancoast. Kudos, Kathy!

Sierra's Race 2021

There were over 500 participants in the virtual race this year, and \$43,000 was raised to use toward free vaccinations.

Over the past 14 years, Sierra's Race has raised over \$720,000 and ultimately has been able to provide 6,922 free vaccinations. This translates into 6,922 families that are protected from the heartbreaking loss of a loved one taken from them. So while the race has been a fun, healthy, and competitive vehicle to accomplish these goals, the purpose has always been to raise awareness and provide free vaccinations to anyone and everyone. This is why every sponsorship, donor, and registration is very important.

If anyone would like to receive their free Meningitis ACWY or MenB vaccination, please contact Lisa Krizman at 970-310-9103, or email her at Shelisak@aol.com

Thank you for your participation! Lynn and Kathy Loken



Kudos to Laura's Team that once again won the award for the largest team.

Monroe Teachers Appreciate Being Appreciated

From Monroe Principal Kathy Sather-

Your gift of love was such an unexpected surprise that just made my day and my teachers' too! Your commitment to making a difference is seen so clearly. I can't thank you enough!

From Monroe Teacher Jennifer Fodness-

Thank you and all of the Zion congregation for all you do for Monroe staff, parents, and students!! We all loved our mugs. We are so blessed.

From Monroe Teacher Mary Shaffer—

Duar Zion Lutheran Church,

I want to thank all of you for the recent yirrs you sent to us about ourselves, our here at Monitoe during students and our abilitie Teacher Appreciation Week Thank you for always Your note inside the mug was so thoughtful as was the gift lard to starbucks. It has been a year we will

never forget nor one we care to repeat! 6 We have learned so much; standing by us! Appreciatively,

Mary Shaffer Kindergarten monroe Elem.

From the Many Other Monroe Teachers





Zion congratulates Pastor Barber as he celebrates 50 years of ordained ministry.

Pastor David Barber Celebrates 50 Years of Ordination

On June 20, 2021, we celebrated 50 years of ordained ministry for Pastor David Barber. On June 20, 1971, Pastor Barber was ordained in Ladysmith, Wisconsin, and he served at Zion from 1980 to 1997. We were excited to celebrate with Pastor Barber in worship and give thanks for his many years of service to God's Word, and we have been blessed that Pastor David and Karen have recently returned to Loveland!

Bible School Thanks from a Great-Grandmother

Thank you and God's blessings to all those involved with making Bible School so meaningful in June!!

My three great-grandchildren in Loveland really enjoyed their first experience of going to Bible School, and I'm sure they will look forward to more new experiences in these kinds of activities!!

With Love and Thanks!!

Phyllis Zimmerman

Sunday Morning Volunteering Opportunities

As we start to reopen the building and worship, many of the tasks that the staff have been managing are now about to again be done by volunteers. For worship, we will begin having ushers, readers, greeters, altar guild, and more. We will have worship sign-ups starting in mid-August and will begin a regular rotation of volunteers starting in September, coordinated by Debbie Joncas and our office staff.

Many have requested coffee and fellowship time following worship. We are excited to be able to have coffee again. However, this means that we also are in need of people willing to open the building and make the coffee each week. Scott Sprain has carried this task for almost twenty years, but in retirement finds that he is spending more time with his grandchildren. We give thanks to Scott who has so graciously carried this task for many years. We hope to add a few more to the opening/coffee team. Our goal is to have 4-5 people so that each person opens once a month. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, speak to Scott or one of the pastors.

No experience is necessary! If you are considering any of these Sunday morning volunteer tasks but want to know more, contact the church office and we can give you an idea of what each volunteer opportunity requires. Also, if you commit to any of these positions, we will take the time to train you.

Thank you for sharing your gifts with Zion in many and various ways.

Wednesday Night Live! The Nappie Project and Annie and Millie's Place

The Nappie Project is helping little behinds get a little ahead by providing diapers to families through the Larimer County Food Bank. Diapers can't be purchased with food stamps and are a large household expense. Zion donated and packaged over 3,000 diapers for the Nappie Project and had a great time in the process with people from ages 1 to 86 participating.













Homeless people often find great companionship with their pets and Annie and Millie's Place helps to keep homeless people and their pets united and cared for.

We put together 45 homeless care kits for people as well as 20 care kits for dogs and 10 care kits for cats and heard from Deaconess Kristen Baltrum, the founder of Annie and Millie's place.









Only a little space left at Sky Ranch for Labor Day Weekend

September 3-6

At the time of this publication, only one trailer/camper site is left, but there is still space for those who want to tent or stay in a cabin. Register soon by picking up a registration form at Zion, get it by email from Lindsey (office@zionloveland.com) or Pastor Courtney (pastorcourtney@zionloveland.com), or download it from the Faith Formation page of our website. This year, your reservation will be complete when Sky Ranch has received your completed form along with full payment.



Come to Sky Ranch for high ropes, smores, and more.

Thompson Valley Preschool Open House

WHEN Wednesday, August 4
TIME 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

WHERE Thompson Valley Preschool

803 East 16th Street, Loveland

80538

CONTACT 970-667-6552, or admin@thompsonvalleypreschool.org

- We currently have spaces available in both the pre-kindergarten (4-5 yr old) and the preschool (3-4 yr old) sessions
- Come in and tour the school; learn about our curriculum, staff, and learning environment; and enroll your child for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Visit our website at <u>www.thompsonvalleypreschool.org</u>

This is an amazing opportunity to enjoy God's creation and see the effects of the 2020 wildfire that surrounded Sky Ranch. Short hikes, arts and crafts, campfires, yard games, camp music and worship, the incredible new high ropes course, and of course relaxed fellowship with one another in an outdoor setting are among the activities and benefits.



Faster Pastors to Run 165-mile Mountain Relay for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services September 10-11

The Faster Pastors are at it again. This is the 10th year for the Rocky Mountain Synod Faster Pastors to run relays from Idaho Springs to Snowmass, Idaho Springs to Buena Vista, and Castle Rock to Fort Collins. Last year in the middle of the pandemic, Matt Moore from Zion joined Pastor Joel and Pastor Sonja to run a virtual relay for ELCA World Hunger. Runners are kind of strange people, but this team of runners turns this strange passion into good, running every year to benefit good causes like ELCA World Hunger, malaria treatment and education, refugee care and resettlement, among many other benefits.

The Faster Pastors expect to finish in about 30 hours, running nonstop through the night, but that's nothing when you consider refugees around the world running for their lives.

This year Pastor Joel will be running and Pastor Sonja will be volunteering for the Flaming Foliage Relay from Idaho Springs to Buena Vista on September 10-11 to benefit Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS). The course covers 165 miles, 30 legs, 3 mountain passes (Guanella, Georgia, and Fremont), and 31 miles of single track trails. The Faster Pastors expect to finish in about 30 hours, running nonstop through the night, but that's nothing when you consider

refugees around the world running for their lives.

For some, this may be a controversial topic, but the facts according to the UNHCR (also known as the UN Refugee Agency) are that 82.4 million people were

forcibly displaced in 2020 as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations, or events seriously disturbing public order. Of those, 35 million are children below 18 years of age! LIRS is the largest faith-based nonprofit dedicated to serving these vulnerable populations. Informed by Lutheran faith and 80 years of experience, LIRS responds to people caught in conflict and facing persecution to develop service programs and organizations, and influence public policy for the sake of those who run from their homes to seek shelter.

If you want to support the Faster Pastors and LIRS, a special offering will be received in worship August 22, 29, and September 5. You can also follow their progress during the run on social media, from early morning September 10 to late morning September 11.



Pastor Joel and Pastor Sonja at the finish line in 2018.



The Faster Pastor Team in 2019.

Consecration Sunday

Consecration Sunday Celebration Brunch is Coming on Sunday, October 10.

This fall we will spend time together focusing on the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving through a Consecration Sunday Generosity Program. We will focus on our relationship with God and how we can grow in our spirituality and faith. We will focus on God who has given us everything and on what God is calling us to share with others.

We have much to celebrate together from the last year. God has blessed and cared for us as individuals and as a community through the many ups and downs each of us has experienced in these unprecedented times. We have been so truly blessed to see how the community of Zion has come together to care for each other and for the broader community. For our Consecration Sunday Celebration, we are excited to have our first congregational meal in our new fellowship

hall and outdoor space as we celebrate what God has already done and look forward to what God will do in the future.

In the weeks leading up to Consecration Sunday, we will have various people sharing in worship, and we will ask you to make your reservations for the Consecration Sunday brunch. The brunch will be served on Sunday, October 10, following each worship service. The brunch will be a catered meal, so we will need to know how many will be attending.

On Sunday, October 10, we will have a guest speaker in worship. We will have a time of instruction and inspiration and invite people to make their commitments for God's 2022 mission and ministry at Zion as part of their act of worship.

We thank you in advance for your enthusiastic participation in our Consecration Sunday events.

Fall Office Hours at Zion

Office Open Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Fridays 9:00 a.m.- noon

Pastor Joel (full time)—all day Monday-Thursday

Pastor Courtney (3/4 time)—all day Tuesday-Thursday

Pastor Sonja (1/2 time)—afternoons Monday-Thursday

Dr. David Dunbar-Wednesday afternoons and evenings

NOTE: • Pastoral staff are not always in the building during these times but may be working off site with visits or meetings. • These times may be modified due to other working commitments in the evenings, retreats, or pastoral care emergencies. • To meet with the pastoral staff please call the office to schedule a time.

Idaho Servant Adventures

On July 16, sixteen youth and adults from Zion and King of Glory (Loveland Lutheran Faith Formation [L2F2]) embarked on a journey of service, adventure, and relationship with the God who is "greater than" all. For many years, youth and adults from our congregations have engaged in service learning and workcamps, but this year's journey was unique from any of those. We traveled to Shoshone Mountain Retreat, which is a site owned and operated by Lutherhaven, an outdoor ministry of the Lutheran church. Every day, groups were sent to the Silver Valley to serve those in need, and even though they were tired, hot, and sweaty when they returned in the afternoon, they summoned the energy to engage in camp activities like horseback riding, tubing and playing in the river, high ropes and ziplining, campfires, worship, singing, and so much more! As if that all wasn't exhausting enough, we ended the trip on the return home with a full-day rafting adventure down the Clark Fork River in Montana.



Idaho Servant Adventures participants at worship in Missoula, Montana. Back Row: Pastor Deb, Matt, Joey, Anna, Maddie, Kam, Layne, John Front Row: Angie, Alex, Macy, Hannah, Emily, Emma, Sophia, Pastor Joel.

The Silver Valley of Idaho has been known as the "Silver Capital of the World" since the late 1800s. Unfortunately, the mining that happened there led the Environmental Protection Agency to designate a 21-square-mile area of the Silver Valley a superfund site, which was further expanded to encompass almost 2,000-square-miles of the Coeur d'Alene Basin in 2002, recognizing it as among the largest, most polluted places in the nation. Until the recent influx of people buying cheap properties for vacation homes, the majority of people who lived there were those who couldn't leave—the poor and sick—whose situation continued to decline as they were exposed to pollutants and

Idaho Servant Adventures continued from page 22.

contaminants. Fortunately, our youth and adults were upstream and distanced from these sites, so they were able to serve the valley without concern to their own health.



Our group on the steps of the dining hall/lodge at Shoshone Mountain Retreat. Back Row: John, Matt, Alex, Anna, Pastor Deb Middle Row: Angie, Joey, Emma, Emily, Kam, Pastor Joel Front Row: Macy, Layne, Sophia, Hannah, Maddie.

Idaho Servant Adventures crews served individuals by helping repair and clean up their homes, collect food and supplies for the local food bank, provide Bible School programming for young children in the area, and much, much more. As our own youth defined "servant," they were there to help others without any expectation of benefit or return. But they did receive a great benefit. They grew together in relationship with each other and God as they worked hard and met Jesus in the residents they served, and they learned about what it means to be a servant.







Pictures of L2F2 youth and adults serving residents of the Idaho Silver Valley.

Here are some of the great memories shared by some of our youth and adults:

The thing that was most meaningful was spending time with and getting to know the people around me. I loved getting to know everybody who went on the trip, and I loved

Idaho Servant Adventures continued from page 23.

meeting people from the other churches there. I learned that helping matters, even if it's a little bit, it will make a difference. Service will also make you feel better. I will remember that there are so many people out in the world who need help and I will try and help them.—KAM

I always have fun traveling with a large group of people. You get to know one another on a deeper level because you are together 24 hours a day. That's the most fun for me—seeing people outside of their element and getting to eat together, pray together, work together, play together, but most importantly, laugh together. I was reminded on this trip that you don't have to do HUGE projects to make a difference; you can do small things with great love and that makes a HUGE difference. And, the most meaningful part of the trip for me was traveling and serving alongside my two daughters! One year from now, I will remember that Maddie and I survived rafting (editorial note...Maddie and Angie may not be very fond of water)!—ANGIE

The most meaningful thing during this trip was knowing we were serving and we were making an impact on the community. I was a part of the team that helped lead the food bank, and I could tell by the generosity of the community how connected they all were. It was very powerful knowing we were a part of something so big even though the community was small. The relationships I created within the other two churches at camp were also very meaningful! One of the gals I met lives in Minnesota but is an hour away from Augustana (where Maddie will be attending school this fall) so we are hoping to connect next year! And, as much as I hate water and probably will never do it again, rafting was very fun after the fact! We created some good memories and I think I was able to gain more trust within our youth group who were on my boat.—MADDIE

Helping other people was the most meaningful part of this trip. And even though tubing is a bad idea in a low river, rafting was the most fun.—MATT

What I learned is that people from all walks of life can get together and make a positive impact. The most meaningful part for me was to help Bonnie and Roger (the residents we served) with tasks that would make their lives easier and the smiles/thank-you(s) that were said (while this was not done for the recognition, the smiles gave me a warm feeling). The other meaningful part was the friendships made with Bonnie and Roger; I loved listening to them and hearing about their lives. I appreciated becoming friends with people that I did not expect to be friends with and the friendships created with my team members, who were a joy to work with and get to know. The friendships created with them will last a lifetime. The most fun part (the child in me) was the rafting, especially the 4-foot drop and being covered in water through a section of the river called Tumbleweed. It was rewarding getting a thank-you from Zachary (our guide on the rafting trip), who came up to me and thanked me for being a good rider and was impressed with my oar skills. The last fun part was seeing Matt smile; I am glad he had fun. Also the rafting trip (the parts that I will remember will be the smile with Matt, the 4-foot drop and coverage of water (through the Tumbleweed?).—John

Idaho Servant Adventures continued from page 24.



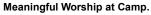








Camp activities: Kam and Hannah competing in a 3-legged race; John on the zip line platform; Layne, Emma, and Sophia horseback riding.









Joy, and maybe a little fear, rafting the Clark Fork River.



A stop en route at Jenny Lake: Emily, Macy, Hannah, Layne, Kam, Joey, Maddie, Emma, Anna, Sophia, Alex.

Zion Evening Book Group Fall Selections

Scott Sprain

SEPTEMBER—Nomadland: Surviving America in the 21st Century, by Jessica Bruder, 2017. 320 pages. Nonfiction.

From the beet fields of North Dakota to the National Forest campgrounds of California to Amazon's CamperForce program in Texas, employers have discovered a new, low-cost labor pool, made up largely of transient older Americans. Finding that social security comes up short, often underwater on mortgages, these invisible casualties of the Great Recession have taken to the road by the tens of thousands in latemodel RVs, travel trailers, and vans, forming a growing community of nomads: migrant laborers who call themselves "workampers." On frequently traveled routes between seasonal jobs, Jessica Bruder meets people from all walks of life: a former professor, a McDonald's vice president, a minister, a college administrator, and a motorcycle cop, among many others—including her irrepressible protagonist, a onetime cocktail waitress, Home Depot clerk, and general contractor named Linda May.

We meet on Thursday, September 16, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Cindy Brusko, 3735 Prickly Pear Drive, Loveland, 80537.

OCTOBER—*News of the World*, by Paulette Jiles, 2016. 220 pages. Historical Fiction.

In the aftermath of the Civil War, an aging itinerant news reader agrees to transport a young captive of the Kiowa back to her people in this exquisitely rendered, morally complex, multilayered novel of historical fiction from the author of Enemy Women that explores the boundaries of family, responsibility, honor, and

trust. In the wake of the Civil War, Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd travels through northern Texas, giving live readings from newspapers to paying audiences hungry for news of the world. An elderly widower who has lived through three wars and fought in two of them, the captain enjoys his rootless, solitary existence. In Wichita Falls, he is offered a \$50 gold piece to deliver a young orphan to her relatives in San Antonio. Four years earlier, a band of Kiowa raiders killed Johanna's parents and sister; sparing the little girl, they raised her as one of their own. Recently rescued by the U.S. army, the ten-year-old has once again been torn away from the only home she knows.

We meet on Thursday, October 21, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Laurie Pascoe, 5357 Eagle Creek Drive, Timnath, 80547

NOVEMBER—*The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*, by Kim Michele Richardson, 2019. 320 pages. Historical Fiction.

The hardscrabble folks of Troublesome Creek have to scrap for everything—everything except books, that is. Thanks to Roosevelt's Kentucky Pack Horse Library Project, Troublesome's got its very own traveling librarian, Cussy Mary Carter. Cussy's not only a book woman, however, she's also the last of her kind, her skin a shade of blue unlike most anyone else. Not everyone is keen on Cussy's family or the Library Project, and a Blue is often blamed for any whiff of trouble. If Cussy wants to bring the joy of books to the hill folks, she's going to have to confront prejudice as old as the Appalachias and suspicion as deep as the holler. The book is inspired by the true blueskinned people of Kentucky and the brave and

Zion Evening Book Group Fall Selections continued from page 22. dedicated Kentucky Pack Horse library service of the 1930s.

We meet on Thursday, November 18, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Florence Doksansky, 3695 Leopard Street, Loveland, 80537.

JANUARY—A Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis, by J. D. Vance, 2018. 291 pages. Memoir.

Hillbilly Elegy is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis—that of white working-class Americans. The disintegration of this group, a process that has been slowly occurring now for more than forty years, has been reported with growing frequency and alarm, but has never before been written about as searingly from the inside. J. D. Vance tells the true story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck. The Vance family story begins hopefully in postwar America. J. D.'s grandparents were "dirt poor and in love," and moved north from Kentucky's Appalachia region to Ohio in the hopes of escaping the dreadful poverty around them. They raised a middle-class family, and eventually one of their grandchildren would graduate from Yale Law School, a conventional marker of success in achieving generational upward mobility.

We meet on Thursday, January 20, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Scott and Ruth Sprain, 5260 Crabapple Court, Loveland, 80538.

"...a mind needs books as a sword needs a whetstone, if it is to keep its edge."

—GEORGE R.R. MARTIN

Cub Scout Pack 298

We have had a fun-filled summer.



June took us out to the ballgame as we took in a shutout Colorado Rockies game.

> In July we enjoyed a sweet treat at Dairy Delite.



August is taking us on a family campout at the Ben Delatour Scout Ranch.

DAIRY

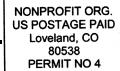
We look forward to a fall that is greater than last year! As a pack we are back to weekly den meetings that will be followed up by a fun monthly pack meeting. This fall brings us back to selling popcorn as well.

As a pack we welcome kindergarten-5th graders, and both boys and girls are welcome!

Our normal meeting time is Tuesday evenings at 6:30-7:30 p.m.

You can email pack298cub@gmail.com for more information.







Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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

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

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Instagram: zionlutheranloveland

YouTube Zion Lutheran Church Loveland

Issue 8/21

Change of Service Requested

Join Us in Worship

Fall Schedule Begins September 12.

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship In Person or Zoom

10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship

In Person or Zoom

Our Mission:

We build and nurture a welcoming faith community for all generations.

Our Vision:

All shall know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. and love each other as He loves us.

Celebrate Your Faith— Renew Your Spirit— Love One Another

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

August 15 Confirmation Kickoff August 22 Sunday School Kickoff

August 22-September 19 Self-Nominations for Committee Membership

August 24 High School Back to School Event

August 25 Chancel Choir Gathering

August 26 Back to School Sack Dinners at Monroe

August 29 Bible Olympics

September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Children's Music Ministry Rehearsals September 3-6 Labor Day Weekend at Sky Ranch

September 5 Labor Day Service Projects

September 10-11 **Faster Pastors** Nourish

September 11

September 12 Fall Worship Schedule and Sunday School Begins September 12 High School and Middle School Joint Worship Party

"God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday September 12

September 16 **Evening Book Group** September 24-26 Coyote Howl at Sky Ranch

October 6. 9 Children's Music Ministry Rehearsals

October 9 Nourish

October 13

October 10 Children's Music Ministry Performance

October 10 Consecration Sunday with Celebration Brunch

Parent Teacher Conference Soup Night at Monroe

October 21 **Evening Book Group**

October 22 Trunk or Treat Night at Monroe

October 24 Deadline to Submit Photos for All Saints Sunday