

ZIONEWS

SEPTEMBER 2014

Zion Lutheran Church

1906 - 2014

An active congregation of the Montana Synod of the ECLA

A Word from Pastor Stan:

The Apostle Paul writing to the church in Rome says: "The word is near you, it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we proclaiming: That you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord" and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.....How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news." (Romans 10:8-9,15c.)

With this thought of the Apostle Paul in mind, I would like to offer this challenge to the members and friends of Zion Lutheran Church--"Each One-Bring One" What I mean is that each of us knows a person or family who does not attend church and does not appear to be interested in church and yet we are their friend or close acquaintance. I realize that this is a major undertaking that should not be done lightly or in the next day or two or even next month, but a project for the coming school year September 1st to June 30st.

To help you with this challenge I would offer the following suggestions or steps to take in this process.

*First, have some one in mind, Get a picture of that person in your mind, and begin to pray about that person when you wake up in the morning, in the middle of the day and again at night.

*Secondly visit with that person over coffee and learn some things about them, their interests, hobbies, work. And as they share who they are and what they are doing share a little of your self.

*Third, think about what the Bible, Jesus Christ, the church and your beliefs mean in your own life. A Bible class or prayer group might help in the process. Now that will take some thought and concentration. We may be doing these first three things for a month or more before we even talk about church, Jesus Christ and the Bible.

*Fourth, as you speak with your person of interest, listen in conversations for "Their 'Faith' Story"--their religious or non religious beliefs, and share a little of "Your 'Faith' Story." As you listen to their faith story, you can share a little of your faith story. We do not want to overpower them with "Christian Thought", just a little bit each time.

*Over time with the person in mind, your prayers for and about them, your personal examination of your beliefs, listen to "their faith story" and sharing "your faith story" and in time together you can share "God's Story."

If you need help, some guidance or direction, come and see me. I hope you will all accept this challenge and you will be amazed at what you learn about your self, your friend and most importantly what you both will learn about God. Blessings on your journey.

In His Service,

Pastor Stan



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Zion's Mission Statement:

***As a body of believers, created by God,
redeemed by Christ, empowered by the Spirit,
we are called to bear witness
to God's love.***

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Sheila Kennedy

Megan Kubesh

Gary Lundman

Betty Mawbey

Myrna Quale

Michelle Sickler

Tami Conrad

All Zionews items can be emailed to cami@zionlutheran.us, left in the yellow folder in the church office or in Cami's new loyalty box for Zionews items, located higher up so little fingers are not tempted to relocate items.



Stewardship Corner

Thanks to all who have participated in our "Project In-reach" during July and August. Our eager

committee of volunteers will consider extending the time for our project through September to allow more people to participate. The questions are listed again for your consideration.

What brought you to Zion and what keeps you coming back?

What would you like to see happen in our congregation (changes)?

What contributions have pastors made over the years?

What is God asking of us today?

1 Peter 4:10 "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."

**Why I Would Never Force my Kids
to go to Church
By Ruth Meyer**

My parents forced me to eat three times a day growing up. No joke. Three times. Every. Single. Day. And it wasn't always stuff I liked, either. Matter of fact, I complained a lot about what my mom made. "Ewww, gross! Sauteed zucchini? Seriously Mom, you know we hate this stuff!" So as I approached adulthood I made an important decision. Since my parents forced me to eat while I was growing up, I decided I was done with meals. Oh, here and there I'll eat out of obligation. I mean, family traditions like Thanksgiving and Christmas, yeah, I'm there. But daily eating? No way. I'm done.

Set in any other context, excuses people make for not going to church sound completely ridiculous. But set in the context of Christianity, people say these things in all seriousness while others nod sagely in somber agreement.

My son told me a few weeks into school that he didn't like the teacher. He wasn't getting excited enough about learning, and he didn't really feel connected to the other kids in his class, so I told him he never had to go back to school again. Who wants to waste their time going somewhere where they aren't being fulfilled?

We've never forced our daughter to stay off the road when playing. We don't want to restrict her imagination. We allow her the freedom to make her own choices in life.

Okay, Ruth. Come on. That one was just ridiculous. No loving parent would ever say that. That's a safety issue- a matter of life and death. Exactly. And that's just my point.

Church isn't a place you go to get pumped up about life. It isn't entertainment like a movie or concert. It is literally a life and death matter. Eternal life. Just as a loving parent wouldn't allow their child to wander in the road or to quit school, a loving Christian parent also does not give the option to their children about going to church, learning Bible stories at home, and praying together. Do your kids always jump for joy when they hear you say, "Time to get up! Let's get ready for church!" No. They won't. Do they get excited for school every morning? Hardly. But you still make them go. Why? Because you are the parent and you know what's best. Even when they complain, you serve them healthful meals and limit their junk food intake. You set boundaries for their own safety when playing outside. You insist they go to school because you're looking at the long term picture. And you are right to do those things. How much more so are you responsible for doing all you can to secure their eternal well being?

Yes, kids can be brought up in a loving Christian home and still turn away later. That's on them. But you, parents, have a task of the utmost importance. God has placed these precious children into your homes for such a brief while. You have them with you for perhaps 1/5 of their lives. Set a strong foundation while they are under your roof. Take them to church. Make sure they understand that they are sinners and that Jesus is their Savior. They are never too young to learn this. My one-and-a-half year old sees a cross and excitedly shouts,

"Jesus!" Don't use the excuse that "they wouldn't understand this." Try them. I don't understand it all myself, but I still believe. And you'd better believe that the Holy Spirit works in their hearts effectively. My children sometime amaze me with the insights they pick up during devotions or Bible readings. The strength of their faith often humbles me. Once when I was having a terrible day, my oldest asked, "Can I pray with you?" He was nine at the time. He knows there is power in prayer. He perceives that sometimes there's nothing he can say that will make it better, so he'll just go straight to the One who does have that power. Do my own kids complain about church? Yes. Do they tell me it's boring? Sometimes, yes. They say the same things about school. But church and school are different environments for a reason. School is centered around learning and thus has its own schedule and structure. Church is a hospital for sinners. That would be all of us, mind you. You, me, the drug dealer a few streets away- all of us are sinners in need of a Savior. So what do we do at church? We confess our sins. Why do we do this at the start? To "wipe our feet" before entering God's house, so to speak. Then we are assured of forgiveness. We hear God's Word. We sing hymns proclaiming what Christ has done for us. We hear sermons where our pastors preach Christ. We don't go to church to hear what we have to do to gain heaven. No, Christ did it all. 100%. We can't do one thing to merit salvation for ourselves. That's why we hear sermons about Jesus and not about us. We take the body and blood of Jesus in Holy Communion for the strength of our souls. And we depart refreshed to serve God by serving our families, friends, and neighbors in Christian love.

So parents, don't give in to outside pressures telling you not to force your kids to go to church. Don't give in to *them*, either, when they complain about it. Because at some point an amazing thing happens- that kid who complains about church grows up and takes his or her own kids to church every Sunday. Going back to my opening analogy, believe it or not, there came a point in my own life where I realized I actually *liked* sauteed zucchini (although I never would have admitted that to my mother). Keep at it, parents. Just as we need three meals a day for physical strength and nourishment, so do we need regular worship to refresh and strengthen our souls. Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to go make breakfast. Posted in *Current Events, Encouragement, Family Life, Society, Witness* March 24, 2014

My kids used to ask me why we go to church all the time, this my friends, is why. I could not have said it better myself. And for those of you who wonder if they still ask, yes they do on occasion, but they often answer their own question . . . I could share many stories with you but here is just one.

My children are very comfortable in God's house, maybe sometimes a little much so. They miss it when we are not there on Sunday mornings. Often when we are gone or have sick kids in the house, my kids will . . . actually and truly . . . have their own church service at home, complete with music, scripture, prayer and yes, communion, without my lead or interference. Do you think I have made the right decision in "forcing" my children to go to church? To be continued. Feel free to visit with me anytime, I am here for you.

Cami White, Youth and Family Ministry Director

Church Council

**Zion Lutheran Church Council Minutes
August 11, 2014**

Members present: Bill Miller, Sheila Kennedy, Michelle Sickler, Betty Mawbey, Sheryl Stansbury, Pastor Hoobing

Meeting called to order by Bill Miller

Devotions were led by Pastor Hoobing from Romans 10: 8-15.

Minutes were corrected to show estimate for windows and siding is \$114,500 rather than \$104,500 and approved (Betty Mawbey/Sheila Kennedy).

Treasurer's report was discussed and will be approved in September.

Pastor Hoobing reported on his activities for the month. He gave the council information about the call process that is ongoing with the suggestion that we use this interim period to assess what we have done and where we need to go.

We also need to update our website.

Sheryl Stansbury will call our previous web designer to see if she will do the update.

Someone is needed to keep the website current.

Committees:

Property/Management: Window replacement schedule is on track. Rick Schwartz reported that a representative from the window company will be in town on Wednesday to finalize the measurements and the order. He has ordered one case of metal siding material to replace the current beige siding on the parking lot side to see how it looks. The window project will be paid by taking \$62,000 from savings and borrowing the rest from the Endowment fund.

Social Ministry: No report

Youth/Education: Rally day and the beginning of Sunday School is September 7. Cami White has contacted the teachers and a meeting will be held before the start of Sunday School. If you are interested in teaching, please contact Cami. Backpack Sunday is August 24.

Youth Family picnic will kick-off the fall youth program with information for parents and youth on schedules and events following worship on August 24.

Relay for Life has been rescheduled for September 6. Ten youth members have signed up so far. Team members and donations are welcome. A fundraiser was held August 14 at Albertsons.

Evangelism/Stewardship: One to One interviews continue. Please call Don Idso to take part. Council members can return their information to Don Idso.

Worship: No report

Old Business:

Updating of activities pamphlet is needed. The pamphlet is used to explain the variety of groups and jobs that are part of the church. This is helpful for new members and for the call committee as they work.

New Business:

Survey Forms: There are survey forms for members to fill out and return to Cammy Sue in the church office. This is needed to keep information current and will be computerized for ease of access.

God's Work, Our Hands was scheduled for September 7 but will be moved to October because of schedule conflicts. This is an opportunity to do a service project for the church or community. Last year groups raked leaves, painted, cleaned the furniture room, and did repairs among other activities. If you have an idea for a project or would like to be involved, please call the church or speak to any council member. We will have more information coming out.

Meeting adjourned with prayer.

Submitted by
Sheryl Stansbury
Secretary

Upcoming Events:

September 3: Relay for Life team meeting

Sunday School Teacher Orientation

September 7: Rally Day / start of Sunday School

September 9: Church council meeting

Education Committee meeting

September 10: Confirmation for 7th graders

September 28: Zion Youth, "Dinner and A Show"

August Memorials
(7-26 thru 8-26)

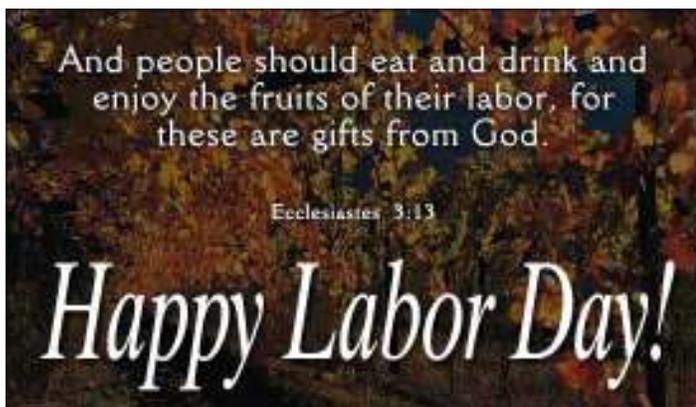
In Memory of **Lorin Flesjer**
from Family and Friends for Window Fund

In Memory of **Lorin Flesjer and Charlotte Korb**
from Gary & Maureen Lundman for
Undesignated

Thank you to **Sheila Kennedy and Bonita Jenkins**
from Anonymous for Loaves & Fishes

In Memory of **Louise Cross, Martha Kelly, Ervin Lovaas, Jerry Trangmoe, Gail Knudsen**
from Carl & JoAnn Roe for Undesignated

In Memory of **Margaret Barbara Chrest**
from Karl & Madeline Overlie for the Dining
Room Fund



<u>August Statistics</u>	<u>Att'd</u>	<u>Com</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Aug 2 Sat	8	8	115.00**
Aug 3 Mako	11	11	410.00**
Aug 3 Sun	86	81	4,880.00
Aug 9 Sat	9	9	235.00**
Aug 10 Mako	12	12	380.00**
Aug 10 Sun	68	58	2,230.00
Aug 16 Sat	21	21	255.00**
Aug 17 Mako	19	19	505.00**
Aug 17 Sun	95	86	7,771.00
Aug 23 Sat	10	10	80.00**
Aug 24 Mako	12	12	245.00**
Aug 24 Sun	84	68	2,286.00
Total	435	395	\$17,167.00

Aug 30 & 31 can be seen in the next month Zionews
(*Evening & Mako offering included in Sunday Total amount)

FOR THE RECORD:

July 2014 Treasurer 's Report

Income	
Furniture Room	45.00
Misc Income	10.00
Rent Income	100.00
Tithes/Offerings	12,258.00
Total Income	\$12,413.00
Expense	
Advertising and Promotions	403.61
Benevolence (ELCA)	1,566.88
Dues and Subscriptions	447.00
Evangelism and Special Events	815.13
Insurance Expense	
General Liability Insurance	765.92
Total Insurance Expense	765.92
Janitorial Expense	116.64
Landscaping Expenses	1,754.05
MDU	344.45
Mileage Reimbursement	506.30
Ministry Expenses	14.93
Miscellaneous Expense	3,500.50
Office Supplies	1,207.77
Pastors Housing	450.00
Payroll Expenses	6,300.00
Postage and Delivery	47.32
Pulpit Supply	400.00
Repairs and Maintenance	151.47
Sunday School	95.94
Telephone/Internet Expense	118.54
Wage Tax	1,617.75
Water	93.42
Youth Group Expenses	581.92
Total Expense	\$21,299.54
Net Ordinary Income	-8,886.54
Net Income	\$-8,886.54

7/31/14 Statement Balance	\$20,192.77
7/31/14 Savings Balance	\$108,403.05

Pastoral Acts for August

Funerals - 0
Baptisms - 0
Weddings - 0
Private Communion - 8
Other Communion - 22
(includes - Grandview, Heritage, EMVH and GMC Nursing Home)



It soon will be time for Sunday School to begin. **Rally Sunday is set for September 7th at 9:00 am.** Parents are invited to attend with their children to meet the teaching staff.

This year we are excited to offer a new format for our Sunday School morning. Teachers are needed for the upcoming Sunday School year. **Please consider spending some time with the youth of our congregation.** Planning will be less time consuming with the new format. Please let Cami White know if you would be interested in teaching this fall.

7th Grade Confirmation will begin in September 10th from 2 - 3:30. This fall the seventh grade or first year confirmands will be taking a survey of the Old Testament period. We will be looking at creation, the patriarchs, Moses and the exodus, Kings and prophets and Babylonian exile and post exile period, Our class work will include puzzles, charts, and songs to help us in our journey. In addition to class time, I will expect 8 sermon outlines and attendance in Sunday School. If you have any questions or concerns or want more information. You can reach me: Interim Pastor Stan Hoobing at either the church 377-3369 or at my residence 377-6368 or my cell [1-208--501-3152](tel:1-208-501-3152).

Please keep these youth in your prayers as they continue with this next step in their faith life.

Dalton Emerson	Brock Nelson
Austyn Nottestad	Dalton Oakland
Blayne Rieger	Hope White



September 10th

7th grade Confirmation, 2 - 3:30

September 14th

Jr High Youth Group, 2 - 3:30 pm
High School Youth Group, 3:30 - 5 pm

September 17th

7th grade Confirmation, 4 - 5:30

September 21st

5th and 6th grade Youth Group, 2 - 3:30 pm

September 24th

7th grade Confirmation,
4 - 5:30

September 28th

Dinner and a Show, following worship
Let's make this a great show for the church, whether you have music/dance talent or good at getting a laugh, we would love for you to share with us. If you need help coming up with an idea let Cami know and she will help you. This will also be a fundraiser for the Youth Program.



We invite you to Sunday School each Sunday morning to learn how to walk more closely with God.

Thank you for supporting Cancer research by purchasing luminaries.



Zion Lutheran Church will have a Relay for Life team this year. **The event is September 6th.** Join us for the survivor lap and team lap beginning at 7 pm.

You can register as a team member or make a donation at :

<http://main.acsevents.org/goto/zionlutheran>

We will have a short team meeting on Wednesday, September 3rd, 6 pm at the church. Please let Cami White know if you would like to be involved in any way.



Zion Lutheran
Church Women

Bible Study Circles:

Hannah/Dorcas: Tuesday, September 9th, 1:30 pm
Hostess: Evelyn Gehmert, Fellowship Room

Deborah: No information at printing time

Sarah: Thursday, September 18th, 7:00 pm
Hostess: Gail Ring, Fellowship Room

Chancel Guild September 17th at 2 pm

Lutheran World Relief Quilt Campaign



In 2013, a goal of 500,000 quilts was set, to be made and collected in 1 year as part of the WELCA 25th Anniversary Celebration. According to the September 2014 issue of "Gather" magazine 485,931 quilts were collected during the LWR Quilt Campaign. These quilts were:

Tied in faith. Sent in hope. Wrapped in love.
to help families recovering from many disasters around the world.

Zion quilters were a part of this effort and the need continues. Monday morning quilting will begin on September 8 after the summer break from 9 am to noon. Please come and help.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

"To everyone who took part in this extraordinary effort
THANK YOU. AND KEEP QUILTING!
Your gifts reach out as Christ's hands to people in need around the world."



**Dinner and A Show
sponsored by Zion Youth Programs**

Join us Sunday, September 28th for spaghetti dinner (with salad bar, garlic bread, dessert) and a variety show. You will surely be entertained by our talented youth of the church. Fun for all!

Adults \$6
School age kids \$4
5 and under Free

All proceeds benefit Zion Youth Programs



You are cordially invited
to help celebrate
Carol Peterson's
"90th Birthday
September 24th 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
at GMC Extended Care Activity Room
light supper and cake



Thank you to everyone who supported Team Zion for Relay for Life during our root beer float sales. This took place 2 days and those helping were Alex and Liz Casini, Shelbi Kaul, Carly, Amber and Michelle Sickler, Paige, Hope and Cami White. Ice cream was donated by Cross Petroleum Services.

SEPTEMBER 2014

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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ZIONEWS

SEPTEMBER 2014

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Congratulations to **Staci Weidner** for receiving the Jake Etchart Memorial Scholarship for Theater from the Etchart family and the Ft. Peck Fine Arts Council.

Congratulations to **Nathan Weidner** for receiving the Floyd & Frances Marty Memorial Scholarship for music. That scholarship was made available through Chuck Bondley in Memory of his good friend.

We want to celebrate with you. Please share your joys with us. Let us know if your children or grandchildren are graduating, new babies, weddings, and other accomplishments and we will celebrate together. Please call the office by the 20th of each month (377-3369) or email to cam@zionlutheran.us.