

What's Different About This Newsletter?

We have come to count on Darlene Hulteen for our newsletter. She recently suffered a broken arm and will have surgery soon.

Our Sincere Thanks to Dilene Spielman for her work and Darlene's this month.



From Pastor John

What Slump?

I have been told that the "summer slump" begins soon. Wouldn't it be great if Zion did not experience any slump of any kind this summer? Isn't it possible that we could have a beautiful, sunny, warm summer and an *increase* in Sunday morning worship attendance?

To some an increase in Sunday worship attendance during the summer would seem miraculous.

In fact this would not be surprising at all. Christian people have always thought that the Holy Spirit of God is at work every day. Here are several other reasons that we need not have a "summer slump."

Reason to attend #1 – God is in the miracle business year-round.

An increase in Sunday morning attendance would mean that no one would "take the summer off" from church. It would mean that I would see people at church who I know to be at home on Sunday, who choose not to miss worship simply because it's summertime.

Reason to attend #2 – Zion is fully air-conditioned and comfortable even on Sunday morning.

If this were not true some would not be able to come. Is air-conditioning enough of a reason to come to worship? Probably not.

Some have lake homes and can't be here. Some take vacations. Some leave town to visit family. It must be said that there are many good reasons not to be at Zion in the summer. But,

Reason to attend #3 – Your need to worship is constant.

Your need for forgiveness is constant. Whether you attend at Zion or somewhere else, do go to among the people of God. And,

Reason to attend #4 – Commandment #3. But,

"I can worship just as well on the 9th green, or on the dock, or even enjoying the day sitting on the porch." But do you?

There must be any number of good reasons. The best one is this: in church God is at work through Word and Sacrament as nowhere else.

Pastor John Golv

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP IS MORE THAN MONEY

Yes it is.

One accurate description is: “Stewardship is everything I do after I say I believe.” That single phrase includes all of life in Christian stewardship.

If Christian stewardship is more than money, it is also not less than money. What we do with what we have been entrusted with by God is always a matter of faith.

During the summer what usually happens is a drop in offerings to the church. There may well be a miracle this summer (see my article in this issue). If attendance increases, we will have even more reasons to praise God. If attendance does not increase this summer, offerings may not increase, and the church may be in crisis for no other reason than money.

Yes, I am asking you to support your church financially during the summer.

If you have pledged, *thank you*. Even if you have pledged, please consider signing up for Simply Giving.

There are two ways to sign up for Simply Giving; on paper or online. The paper form is available at church. Go to Zion’s website (www.Ziontrf.org) to sign up online.



Zion Lutheran Church Parish Planning Council Minutes April 19, 2011

The Parish Planning Council was called to order by President Connie Hamre at 7:00 P.M. In attendance: Pastor John, Pastor Ale, President Hamre, Marijo Nabben, Ginny Armstrong, Chris Ueland, Lyle Paulson, Deb Holtan, Amber Holtan, Bonnie Yost, Tim Numedahl, Sarah Harper, Deb Howe, Kristi Rood, Bev Rupprecht from Silver Creek and Karen Thygeson.

Roll call answered with our middle name. Devotions were led by Connie Hamre. Next month devotions will be given by Marijo Nabben.

Marijo Nabben moved to accept the secretary’s minutes as printed, seconded and carried. Bonnie Yost moved to accept the treasurer’s report as printed and discussed; seconded and carried. Quarterly report was reviewed and discussed.

Properties Board: Lyle Paulson reports they are considering the placement of tempered glass in place of the railing upstairs.

Evangelism/Lay Ministry: Deb Holtan reported the foundation of a grief support group at Zion. After discussion it was decided to hold the meetings the second Tuesday of each month.

Public Relations Board: Deb Howe reported May 3rd and 4th are the last two dates for taking pictures for our new church book. Research continues to make our website more informational and current.

Worship Board: Kristi Rood reported they are looking for members to serve on this committee.

Christian Education/Youth Board: Amber Holtan reported Sunday School remains busy. VSB will be June

5-9,2011 and the theme will be "Experience the Water Of Life". There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday. May 8th will be the last Sunday of Sunday School prior to summer break. Sunday School children will be singing at the church service on Mother's Day.

Youth Director: Sarah Harper stated confirmation retreat went well. 164 students participated in the Post Prom Party and Sarah was thanked for her hard work making this activity a huge success. 5th graders and their families will be enjoying the Seder Meal prior to their first communion at the service following the meal on Thursday evening. The youth will be participating in the Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday. May 7th is the rummage sale at Zion. May 15th will be Graduation Sunday for Zion's graduates.

Fellowship Board: Bonnie Yost reported their had been a pot luck to welcome our new members.

Pastor Ale recommended adding van drivers to the Sharing Servants work list. He also reminded us of the upcoming Synod Assembly on May 14-15, 2011.

Pastor John: The joint service with Silver Creek will be on June 12th. He continues to encourage us to consider Simply Giving. He discussed a new Stewardship activity coming this Fall. Ginny Armstrong moved to have one Sunday Service from Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day Weekend; seconded and carried.

Discussion was held regarding help for our organist. Discussion was also held regarding the reading of the announcements during our church service.

Ginny Armstrong moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 P.M. followed by the Lord's Prayer. Next Parish Council Meeting will be May 17, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.

Karen Thygeson, Secretary



President's Message

We have a lot of things going on in our church this month.

We start with Confirmation on May 1st. This is a special time of our children becoming of age, in our church. This when they are granted full membership, with all the rights and responsibilities that that entails. We are blessed with an usually large class this year. Congratulations to all those young men and women.

On May 7th, the youth are having a rummage sale. They welcome donations, and this is a great way of cleaning out those closets, at least at my house. Please come out and support them. They will have a bake sale, too.

On May 8th is our last Sunday School, fall, for the youth. It is both a fun time, and a sad time. Fun, because it signals the summer and a chance at vacations, and carefree days of childhood, those beautiful memories of youth. Fun, because it will give them a chance to attend a bible camp. Sad, because we will miss their activities, and especially the children's glorious music, that make our church services so special.

Also, on May 8th, we have Mother's day. What can I say about Mothers? They are just the greatest! This is such a wonderful way to show them what they mean to us, and to thank them for all they do for us.

On May 15th, we honor the seniors that are graduating from high school. We are giving them each a blanket as part of the program. Please see Sarah, if you would like to be a part of making one of these blankets.

On May 30, we have Memorial Day. A weekend set aside to honor people, who are serving in the military, or who have served their country.

Due to lower attendance during the summer months, starting that Sunday (May 29th) through Sunday September 4th, the Parish Planning Council has decided to have only the 8:30 service. Service will continue to be broadcasted on both the television and the radio.

Courage in Christ,
Connie Hamre
President

SHARING SERVANTS

We the Parish fellowship are starting to work the new booklets and our board will be calling everyone to find new leaders for the up coming next 2 years.

Please consider becoming a leader in the month that you and your family have chosen. It takes a few phone calls and our members are more than willing to help, and I think it is a great way to get to know all the members, plus getting involved and sharing our talents when they are needed. It does take a little but the efforts are so rewarding. So I ask again PLEASE consider becoming a Sharing Servants Leader. If you need any help our board is just a phone call away.

Thank You
Bonnie Yost

Chairman Parish Fellowship

Syttende Mai Dinner, May 18 – Everyone is invited to our annual “Syttende Mai” dinner on May 18th (Wednesday). The meatball dinner with a wide assortment of traditional Scandinavian foods will be served 5-7 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door; \$9.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children under 12.

--- Zion WELCA women

Reminder: helpers are needed to make lefse on May 16, 9 a.m. and to make meatballs on May 17, 9 a.m.

May WELCA meeting date changed – the May meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11 (instead of the 10th), due to another event at church. A reminder that this is our 9 a.m. breakfast meeting with program by Dorcas, hostess – Sarah, hospitality – Esther, and visitation – Anna. Board meeting will follow the general session.

WELCA Summer Meetings

June – guests for supper at Redeemer Lutheran (watch bulletin for date)

July 12 – Zion hosts noon luncheon & Bible study, with Redeemer, Trinity, Black River and Silver Creek churches as guests.

August 16 – guests for 9:30 brunch at Trinity Lutheran

EVERYONE Can Contribute to Lutheran World Relief Quilts and Kits

Many of us enjoyed seeing the display of colorful quilts draped over our pew backs last month. They are the result of many hours of work completed by a handful of ladies who sew and tie them twice a month. Contributions of fabric and thread are always welcome – or perhaps you would like to join this friendly bunch. They meet on the first and third Tuesday morning of every month.

In addition to the quilts, a variety of kits are assembled and shipped off to mission areas around the world. The types of kits and items required for each is listed below. Note that there are some changes from previous years. Please consider donating some of the necessary items:

Baby Care Kits: lightweight cotton t-shirts, long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet), receiving blankets (medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square), cloth diapers (or sewn from old T-shirts – pattern available), jackets, sweaters or sweatshirts with a hood, baby caps, socks, hand towels, bath-size bars of gentle soap, diaper pins or large safety pins..

Personal Care Kits: bath towel, bath-size soap in original wrapping, adult-size toothbrushes, sturdy combs, nail clippers.

School Kits: 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other, pencil sharpeners, blunt scissors, unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; ballpoint pens, boxes of 16 or 24 crayons, erasers approximately 2 1/2" long, and sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks). Patterns for this new style of backpack are available from Glenice Johnson, 681-4472 or your circle leader.

Fabric Kits: 2 1/4 yards of 60" wide fabric, or 3 yards of 44" wide fabric, or 4 yards of 36" wide fabric; Two spools of matching general purpose thread, 250-300 yards each.

Donated items can be left in the designated box in the sewing supply room at the west end of the Fellowship Hall. This might be a fun project for your family, your Sunday school class or Youth Group. Wouldn't it be great for Zion to send off 100 kits this year?

Glenice Johnson, Co-President, Zion WELCA

CONFIRMATION

Our 9th graders who will be confirmed

Sunday, May 1 include: Daniel Alemayehu, Hunter Blowers, Hannah Fladeland, Austin Hjelle, Ryan Houske, Samantha Langlie, Brandi Malwitz, Guthrey Mathieu, Maci Mundell, Blair Panek, Seth Rupprecht, Landon Sanders, Grace Thompson, Hailee Ueland, and Erin Wayne.

Please keep them in your prayers as they make this big step in their faith journey.

NEW MEMBERS, APRIL 10, 2011

Darrin Momerak, Sadie Larson and Keziah

Sadie comes to us from Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Newfolden. Keziah is going to be 3 years old now in July.

Both Darrin and Sadie work at Sanford Medical Center. They like camping, movie nights, and little Keziah loves Dora, walks with her riding in the wagon and playing with their dog Hunter!

Cole Scheef and Jenna Puttonen

Jenna is involved with the Inter-Country Community Council, Head Start and is a Pre-School teacher. She likes spending time with family and friends, being outside and watching movies and sports.

Cole works for Ames Construction. He likes to hunt snowmobile, go four-wheeling and playing with his dog, Boomer!

LEISURE FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday , May 4th, 2:00 PM. Pastor Moyer and Florence in charge of the program.

Wednesday, June 1st, 2:00 PM. Pastor Ben Carlsen and his wife, Pia, will be our guests telling how they train dogs to be "helper" dogs.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
From Memorial Day Weekend through
Labor Day Weekend
Sunday, May 29—Sunday, September 4, 2011
8:30 AM at Zion (no second service)
10:00 AM at Silver Creek

