



JULY\AUGUST

ZION'S JOURNEY

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

I like to think I'm pretty good at giving thanks and praise to God. Well, I'm good at it in church, anyway... as long as it happens through our responsive reading of the psalms. Maybe you recognize that in yourself, too. It's harder for us to praise God once we get back to our lives outside of the church building.

Taking praise out of the church and into our everyday lives affects the way we see God at work in the world. Praise reorients us to see God's action in our lives. It attunes us to God's very real presence with us and acknowledges that God actually cares to get involved in the world on our behalf. We can see this happening in Psalm 103 where the psalmist names ways that God intervenes in human lives, both on a tangible, physical level and on a spiritual level:

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and do not forget all his benefits—

who forgives all your iniquity,

who heals all your diseases,

who redeems your life from the Pit,

who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

who satisfies you with good as long as you live

so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

We use psalms in our worship services, and we can certainly use those same psalms as our own personal prayers of praise. But there are other ways that we can make the language of the praise psalms our language in everyday life. We are often quick to say "Congratulations!" to people when we witness blessing in their lives. But we're hesitant to say "Praise God" in the same situations. So, this week, try doing just that. If you witness a blessing in someone's life—a marriage, a new job, a graduation—try giving praise to God for that blessing. Yeah, it feels a little awkward. But we're Lutherans, so you can always fall back on those familiar words, "Thanks be to God!"

We can also help each other as a community of faith to cultivate this pattern of praise. We're all used to calling the church and adding our names or the names of people we care about to the prayer list in times of need. We lift those needs in prayer during worship, as we should. But we don't often invite you to let us know when you have something to *praise* God for.

So, we've set up a bulletin board in the fellowship hall. During the month of July, I invite you to write down the things you want to praise God for and pin your praises to the board. Add your name or keep it confidential—it's up to you. But share when and how God blesses you (or someone you love), cares for you, rescues you from danger, heals you from illness, provides something you need, delivers you, sustains you, and forgives you. We'll make room in our prayers of the people to praise God for those blessings. And I hope you will make room in your conversations with one another to say "Thanks be to God!" for those blessings, too.

In Christ's Grace + Peace,

Pastor Erin

Come & Go Communion
Thursday, July 15
12:00-1:00 pm

Come to the sanctuary anytime noon-1:00 PM, and you will be able to partake of the Lord's Supper Individually or with your family group in a brief service (about 5 minutes).

Come to receive the gifts of God for the people of God. Go, refreshed with the promise of forgiveness and God's amazing grace!



**OUR
 FREEZER IS
 STOCKED**

KNOW SOMEONE IN NEED?

Do you have family or a friend who recently became ill, experienced a death in the family, or had a baby?

Stop in to the church office to take them one of our freezer meals

Special Offerings

**July is
 Lutheran World Relief!**

Thank you for sharing your love to deliver food, medical care and hope to our most vulnerable neighbors. Your gift will be used to respond to the greatest needs in some of the world's most fragile communities. **God bless you.**

**August is
 ELCA Hunger Appeal!**

ELCA World Hunger is this church's ministry to end hunger and poverty. Please give now and you can be part of the response as we work creatively and courageously toward a just world where all are fed.

Please see the bulletin board for more information.



Thank you for your continued giving!

Zion remains active in ministry and mission, and the church's ministry will depend on your support. Checks can be mailed to the church office: Zion Lutheran Church, 1732 S Main St, Aberdeen SD 57401.



Or give online today (multiple ways) by going to zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving.

Or just scan this QR code with your smartphone and it will take you to our giving page.

ZION HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Bethesda Home

Martha Zimmerman
 Ben Schroeder
 Carol Knispel
 Jane Fischer
 Janice Peterson

Primrose Cottages

Charleen Hargens
 Frances Wolff

Mother Joseph

Lois Sollie

Bethesda Town Sq.

Meta Vetter
 Shirley Wagemann
 Viola Tetherow
 Gladys Voegele

Groton Health Care

Leon Tobin
 Marge Rhodes
 Joe & Ruth Bosmoe

Idaho

Marvin Bucholz

Minnesota

LeRoy Buechler

California

Erna Schmierer

Colorado

Ella Aipperspach



"GRATEFUL FOR YOU"

☺ A very big thank you to Judy Albl for helping Art beautify our church outside by planting the geraniums and getting the extra flowers.

☺ A special thanks to Sam Schauer for helping change the big banners in the church.

☺ Thanks to Sandra Anderson for picking up our meals at Bethlehem for our meal dine in on the Wednesdays that the meals are not cooked at Zion.

☺ A very big thanks to the Organ Committee for all of their work in getting the renovation bid and hosting the forums before the congregational vote.

☺ Thanks to Millie Suchomel for serving and cleaning up after the Wednesday meals.

☺ Thanks to all who had a hand in organizing the farewell for Pastor Tim and Nancy.

Congratulations to our eight confirmation students! Quintin affirmed his baptism at the May 16th service, and the other students affirmed their baptisms on June 6th. God bless you on this important faith milestone!



Back row (L to R): Faith Spitzer, Jenna Otterstetter, Liz Schauer, Masyn Schutter

Front row (L to R): Grace Schwan, Courtney Bjorgaard, Kasia Heidelberg, Pastor Erin



Fischbach family (L to R): Abigail, Shelley, Quintin, Brian, Caitlyn

Noah's Park Preschool

Hello from Noah's Park!!

Hello from Noah's Park! We hope you are enjoying the sunshine and staying cool in the hot weather!! After finishing another year in preschool I am using the summer to create some new activities for the upcoming school year! I am hoping to create a couple more dramatic play areas - one of which will be a smoothie/lemonade shop! I would also like to hang a lighted curtain to add a fun backdrop to the reading area. I also found some perfect plastic puzzle containers to replace our (very) worn out cardboard puzzle boxes. I am sure this is just the start of my list...

Happy Summer! ~Jami





JOIN THE COUNCIL FOR COMMON GROUNDS

The Zion council leadership was just about to start a monthly forum when Covid hit and derailed so many of our plans. Well, it's time to bring it back! Throughout the coming year, members of the Zion council will hold a monthly open forum called "**Common Grounds**" to encourage discussion of recent council items and how the congregation is carrying out our vision for mission. Our first Common Grounds will be **Sunday, August 1 at 9:45** in the fellowship hall. Bring your coffee and snacks and spend some time with your leaders!

Sunday Van Rides Now Available!

Our van ride service is now available on Sunday mornings for the 8:30 am traditional worship service. If you would like a ride to worship, or are willing to volunteer to drive the van, please call the church office at 225-6755 and talk to Donna.



Rides Available

Council Highlights

June 2021

The Youth Committee asked the Zion Council to approve the removal of the north wall in the youth room and to match 1:1 the project costs. The council approved both requests.

The first day of VBS was held on June 1st, with 25 total attendees. Another day of VBS will be held on Tuesday, July 13th at 5:45 pm with another possible day to be held in August.

The council discussed and ultimately voted to lift all Covid restrictions and "return to normal"; masks and social distancing are still encouraged for those not vaccinated or with compromised immune systems.

Discussion was held about adding back the 10:45 am contemporary worship service on Sunday mornings starting in September while deciding to keep or let go of (for now) the Wednesday evening service. Final decisions will be made by Worship and Music committee members and council members in July.

Zion Choir

Zion's choir will be starting rehearsals on Sunday mornings in mid-September.

Updates and more information will be included in upcoming bulletins and the September newsletter.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would be willing to help with ushering, sound, or PowerPoint for either Wednesday or Sunday services, please call the church office at 225-6755



COVID RESPONSE UPDATE

In May, the Zion council decided to relax most of our Covid restrictions, and it has been so good to enjoy this new reality for the life of our congregation! It's been wonderful to see and visit with one another without masks on, to have Communion in the "normal" way again, and to be able to share in fellowship over coffee and snacks (we're just getting started with that!).

With vaccination rates continuing to rise and case levels falling to where they were in April of 2020, things look good for being able to continue returning to pre-pandemic congregational life. There will be a couple of changes that may be here to stay (livestreamed worship is one!), but those changes will be good for our church life rather than obstacles.

Here's a reminder of what the council decided at their May meeting:

- * Masks will now be optional for all indoor activities, including worship services.
- * We will not require social distancing in the whole sanctuary but will still provide a section of pews where people who choose to can space further from others.
- * Indoor fellowship time with beverages and food can resume. We'll still have a limited number of tables and chairs at each table in the fellowship hall for the time being.

At their June meeting, council decided on a few more changes:

- * We will no longer have a social distancing section of the sanctuary.
- * Funeral lunches can resume in the fellowship hall.
- * All seating capacities are lifted.

COVID-19
UPDATE

Please continue keep in mind that children under 12 cannot yet be vaccinated. Unvaccinated adults, those who are immunocompromised, and children are encouraged to continue wearing masks.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



Thank you to all who attended the special congregational meeting on June 6! At this meeting, the congregation voted by written ballot to approve all the needed organ repairs (as presented by the JF Nordlie Company), to finance the repairs of \$250,000, and to conduct a capital campaign to pay for the repairs. The criteria for the financing through Dacotah Bank are that we must have 20% up front (\$50,000) and pledges for the remainder of the project in full (\$200,000). Repairs will not begin until we have met these criteria. For the capital campaign, donors will be able to complete their pledges over a three-year period.

TAKING FAITH HOME

The *Taking Faith Home* sheets will now be available each week inside the front entryway of the church. You can pick up a copy if you attend Sunday worship or anytime during the week. We'll also include these with Sunday School packets that families will be receiving.



STAY CONNECTED WITH US!

Web: zionlutheranaberdeen.org
YouTube: bit.ly/ZLCYouTube
Facebook: facebook.com/ZionAberdeen
Facebook: facebook.com/zlcaberdeenyouth
Instagram: [@zlcaberdeensd](https://instagram.com/@zlcaberdeensd)

PASTOR'S CONTACT #:

Pastor Erin - 605-252-0320

Faith and Family

Vacation Bible School



- Tuesday, July 13th
- Meal starts at 5:45 pm (if you can't make the meal—no worries! Join us for the activities)
- Activities start at 6:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall
- Today's theme: Celebrating God's Creations—You!

Middle School and High School Youth Groups



Join Pastoral Assistant Sandra for a time of fellowship, service, faith, and fun! We will look at schedule changes in the fall when school resumes.

Middle School: second and fourth Wednesdays at
1:00 pm ~ (July 14, July 28, August 11)

High School: second and fourth Wednesdays at
7:00 pm ~ (July 14, July 28, August 11)

Progressive Suppers

The progressive suppers for the remainder of the summer will be on **Sunday, July 25th at 4:30 pm** and on **Sunday, August 29th at 4:30 pm**. Open to middle and high school youth. **Bring a friend!**

We will meet at Zion at 4:30 pm, and we will take the church van to our different locations. Kids will be returned for pick-up or can be dropped off at home after the event upon request.



Youth Rummage Sale

The youth will be holding their annual rummage sale fundraiser on **Saturday, August 28th from 8am-12pm**. Caramel rolls and baked goods will also be available for sale.

We will start collecting items for the rummage sale beginning the week of August 16th. Only infant and toddler-sized clothing will be accepted (newborn-5T). Please no other clothing or any electronic devices.



Rummage Sale

Zion Lutheran Church
 1732 South Main Street
 Aberdeen, SD 57401
 (605) 225-6755 zion@nvc.net
 zionlutheranaberdeem.org

Staff

Rev. Erin Heidelberger.....Pastor
 Saundra Anderson.....Pastoral Assistant
 Donna Steckler.....Office Manager
 Sonya Kempf.....Director of Music
 Sue Gates.....Assistant Director of Music
 Stephanie HawkinsonPraise Band Director
 Jami Ringgenberg.....Preschool Director/Teacher
 Art Ketterling.....Maintenance

ZION'S KEY MISSION

Rooted in faith + Growing in Spirit + Reaching out to those in need

ZION'S MOTIVATING MISSION

+ Centered in prayer, nourished through the Sacraments, empowered by God's Holy Spirit, Zion is spreading the Good News through new and innovative ministries.
 + Rooted in a strong heritage, Zion focuses on developing ministries of caring to help those in need.
 + Zion opens her doors to singles, families, special needs, young and old, churched and unchurched, welcoming all into the family of God.

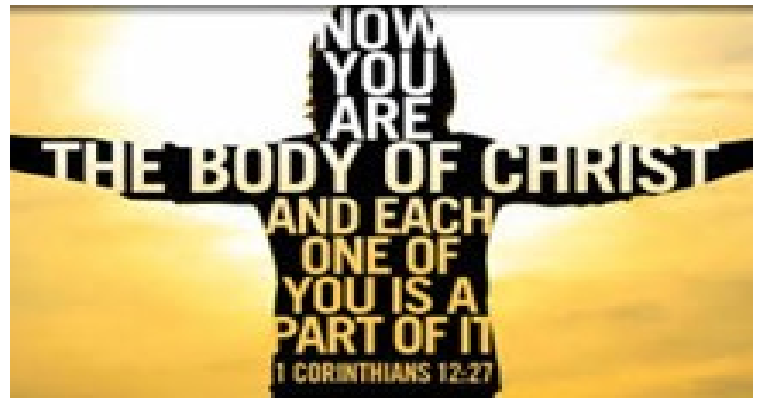
CHURCH COUNCIL

Officers / Executive Committee:

Jena GermanPresident
 Sharon Paranto.....Vice President
 Ed Suchomel.....Treasurer
 Nancy Schmidt.....Secretary

Council Representatives:

Kelly VanderWeyst.....Education
 Kathy Johnson..... Fellowship
 Rod Wiedrich.....Finance
 Shane Schauer.....Properties
 Nicole Schutter.....Social Concerns
 Mary Kost.....Stewardship
 Virginia Tobin.....Visitation
 Norma Nielsen.....Welcome & Outreach
 Kathy Heffernan.....Worship & Music
 Vacant.....Youth



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT

THROUGH MAY 31, 2021

Monthly budgeted expenses: \$31,010
 Actual April income: \$33,264
 Actual April expenses: \$33,892
 YTD budgeted expenses: \$155,050
 Actual YTD income: \$155,574
 Actual YTD expenses: \$164,822

ZION MEMORIALS

<u>In Memory of:</u>	<u>For:</u>	<u>From:</u>
Tammy Paulsen	Altar Guild	Mary Jane Kabrud
Jordan Heyd & Michelle Heyd & David Peterson	Organ	Mary Jane Kabrud
Alice Heckel	Organ	Tom\Cindy Heckel
Alice Heckel	Organ	Steven\Peggy Robbins
Alice Heckel	Organ	Lydell\Tammy Larson
Alice Heckel	Organ	Lori Klein
Alice Heckel	Organ	Rhonda Strouckel
Alice Heckel	Organ	Judy Ackerman
Alice Heckel	Organ	JoAnn Ackerman
Alice Heckel	Organ	Richard\Karen Ackerman
Alice Heckel	Organ	Bill\Debbie Menzel
Alice Heckel	Organ	Delana Bertsch
Alice Heckel	Organ	Lori Burgard
Alice Heckel	Organ	Kim Cavanaugh

Thank you for your ongoing gifts in memory of loved ones.

SPONSOR A BROADCAST - We have several openings for the summer: July 11, July 18, July 25 (half), August 1, August 8, August 15, August 22. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, please call the church office to pick your Sunday!

RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS NEEDED

Call the office at 225-6755 to sign up

\$110 for whole broadcast
 \$55 for half

Pipe Organ Renovation Project Update

On June 6, Zion members approved a renovation plan to make the much needed repairs and improvements to our pipe organ. This plan was prepared by J.F. Nordlie Company of Sioux Falls who has provided routine maintenance for many years and is well acquainted with the current condition of our instrument. Their quote for the project is \$250,000, but no work can or will begin until \$50,000, or 20% of the cost, has been raised and paid as a first installment, and we have received pledges to cover the balance. If you have questions about the scope of this project, we encourage you to watch a brief video prepared by Nordlie that fully explains what they are proposing. It can be found on Zion's webpage.

Although this is a daunting project, it provides us with the opportunity to assure a quality organ will be available for future generations to enjoy during worship, weddings, and/or celebrations of life. We've supported other high-cost projects, worked together to raise funds, and successfully completed the work. Let's come together again, embrace the organ's needs, and return it to its glory.

Of course, there will be a pledge drive, so all members can contribute whatever comfortably fits into their budget over a multi-year period. Every gift is important, no matter its size. But there will also be fundraisers of all types planned for us to enjoy food and fellowship to benefit the organ.

There are many ways to support this project other than with your dollars. Your time and talents are also vital to the project's success. Fundraising ideas have been shared and are being considered. If you have event ideas or are willing to help with an event, please contact the Organ Committee. Together we can have some fun while raising the necessary dollars to begin and ultimately complete the project.

To start the process, we will be selling rolls (caramel and cinnamon) on Sunday, July 25.

Thank you. The Organ Committee:

Zachary Anderson; 252-1229, Sue Gates; 290-1684, Nicole Kempf; 228-5218, Sonya Kempf; 228-2490, Sharon Stroschein; 228-1299, Ed Suchomel; 380-6375, Millie Suchomel; 380-6873



Church on the Street

The registration deadline to attend Church on the Street is **Saturday, July 10th**. If your middle school or high school-aged child would like to attend, please call the church office (225-6755) and let Sandra know.

We will go to Sioux Falls on Friday, attend a glow event at Skyzone Friday evening, worship with Church on the Street on Saturday, and return home by Saturday evening.

Church on the Street Donations

As part of the youth's service trip to worship with Church on the Street, they are collecting items desperately needed for this ministry and their work with the homeless population in Sioux Falls. Please bring any of the following donations listed below to the Giving Table in the Narthex from **July 19th—August 6th**:

- Men's black undershirts sizes L—2XL
- Women's stretchy bras sizes M—3XL
- Applesauce pouches
- Individual portions of peanuts
- Fruit snacks
- Meat sticks
- Individual-sized bags of chips/crackers/veggie straws/animal crackers
(PLEASE NOTHING CHOCOLATE)



Worship Schedule

<p><u>SUNDAY MORNINGS</u></p> <p>8:30 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY; RADIO BROADCAST ON KSDN 930 AM AND 102.1 FM</p>	<p><u>WEDNESDAY EVENINGS</u></p> <p>6:15 PM PRAISE BAND-LED CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP; KIDS TIME DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE, ALONG WITH A SUPERVISED PRAYGROUND AREA DURING THE SERMON</p>
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ALL SERVICES WILL BE LIVESTREAMED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE



DINE IN DINNERS

Available before Wednesday evening services, starting at 5:15 pm

MADE BY THE ZION WOMEN

Currently, we have worship opportunities available on Sundays and Wednesdays. Traditional worship will be held in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am and can be heard on the radio on KSDN 930 AM and 102.1 FM. Praise Band-led contemporary worship will be on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 pm. This service will feature a kids' time during the service, along with a supervised prayground area during the sermon.

****REMINDER** Meals are being served before Wednesday evening worship, starting at 5:15 pm. Fellowship coffee hour is resuming following the conclusion of the 8:30 AM worship service every Sunday morning in the Fellowship Hall.**

All services will be livestreamed on our Facebook page and website. Recordings of the broadcasts will also be available after to be viewed at any time on our Facebook page or our YouTube channel.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

BARS OF SOAP NEEDED FOR LWR

Our women's group is in need of bars of soap that are gentle on skin for making Lutheran World Relief baby and personal care kits. These kits are packed and then distributed globally to help our neighbors in need. All donations can be left in the LWR tub on the table in the Narthex. We are also in need of nail clippers. Thanks for your donations to this ministry!



WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Are you interested in becoming a member of our faith family? Or do you know someone who is? Or are you wondering what it means to be a member of Zion?

Let Pastor Erin know of your interest! We'd love to know if you're thinking about becoming a member. You can reach Pastor Erin at the church at 225-6755 or by email at: pastorerin@nvc.net



SYNOD CONNECTIONS



2021 South Dakota Synod Assembly

The Thirty-Third South Dakota Synod Assembly convened virtually under the theme of “Journeying Together in Christ with our Neighbors in Solidarity” on June 4-5, 2021. This was the first South Dakota Synod Assembly to be held in a virtual meeting setting and the first time the synod assembly has gathered since 2019. The 2020 Synod Assembly was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Synod Assembly is the highest legislative body of the South Dakota Synod that is composed of both lay members and rostered ministers.

Over the course of two days, voting members took action on many items presented before the assembly:

Elected Dennis Thompson (Calvary, Rapid City) to a four-year term as vice president.

Re-Elected Rev. Jonathan Vehar (Peace, Sioux Falls) to a four-year term as secretary.

Elected Terry Johnson (Gloria Dei, Sioux Falls) to a four-year term as treasurer.

Adopted a resolution to elect South Dakota Synod Council Members.

Adopted a resolution for 2022 Compensation and Guidelines for Rostered Ministers and Lay Staff.

Adopted a resolution on Expanding Health Coverage to the Poor in South Dakota.

Adopted a resolution to elect 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly Voting Members.

Adopted a resolution to support ELCA World Hunger Efforts.

Adopted a resolution for the South Dakota Synod leadership to model a land acknowledgment and invite other South Dakota ministries to do the same.

Adopted a resolution recognizing the leadership of Dr. Carla Borchardt.

Adopted a resolution to adopt certain amendments to the constitution of the South Dakota Synod.

Adopted a resolution to ratify the election of Synod Council Members elected by the Synod Council.

Approved the 2022 Mission Plan.

Passed a unanimous ballot for certain committee and board elections.

In addition to the business presented before the assembly, members heard keynote presentations by Willette Capers under the theme of “Won't you be my Neighbor: Embracing Difference While Creating Belonging.” Willette Capers serves Augustana University as the Assistant Dean of Students for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Rev. Amy Reumann, ELCA Senior Director for Witnessing in Society, presented the State of the ELCA and brought greetings from the Presiding Bishop, Rev. Elizabeth Eaton. Bishop Constanze Hagmaier, along with her associates, Rev. Renee Splichal Larson and Rev. Jonathan Steiner, also gave addresses to the assembly.

Final resolutions with amendments and minutes of the synod assembly will be posted online when made available.