



SEPTEMBER 2021

# ZION'S JOURNEY

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

A lot has happened since June. We voted to begin our Organ Restoration capital campaign on June 6, and Pastor Erin resigned June 29 for a new call in Nebraska, leaving us on July 31. I want to give a huge THANK YOU to our staff Donna, Sandra, Sonya, Sue, Stephanie, Art, and Jami - you have all been instrumental to keeping things on track ever so flawlessly through the change and the stress. Zion appreciates you!

Thank you to our worship assistants and all of our volunteers! We would not be able to provide worship, communion, sound, and Power Point without volunteers. We need a few to join the rotation for our fall worship services, so if interested, please let us know!

For August and September Sunday worship, I used a list the Synod provides to find 'Pulpit Supply' for all of the Sundays. There sure aren't many in our region, and unfortunately, due to busy summer schedules, many people were already scheduled elsewhere. Through the many calls I made, we were able to cover all of the Sundays through September, with two coming from three hours away. I will begin working on October, but I am hoping I will not need to continue to piece months together for very long.

Our council is made up of Zion members with a wide range of experience- from first-timers who were invited to join and never would have considered serving because they weren't asked, to others who have experience on council at one time or another during their tenure at Zion. I was not a member at Zion when Pastor Erin was called, and I also was not here for the last capital campaign; I am very appreciative and thankful for the council members AND those of you who have reached out to give me advice, tell me questions I should ask, or just do a quick check in. It is crucial that if you have something to say or add to our conversations that you reach out to a council member to share. There will be no judgement or argument, and we do not do anonymity; parking lot conversations must be a thing of the past. YOUR VOICE is so very important—please know that. The Executive Committee's phone numbers are listed in the bulletin; please reach out.

*As a congregation we need to look at the whole picture—where are we at, and where do we want to go?  
How long are we able to sustain without growth of our congregation?*

*How do we agree on a vision, and what has to give? How can we work on our communication with one another?*

The Synod provided a ministry profile of a potential interim pastoral candidate; his name is Mark Galbraith, and he currently resides in California. He has 30 years of ministry with 13 of those being an intentional interim around the country. His expertise fit in line with the questions above, and I had an initial phone meeting with him on Friday, Aug. 13. For the first time in a month, I did not feel worried about the path we are on. The Executive Committee read the profile and discussed my meeting with him on Sunday, Aug. 15 after worship. We had Pastor Mark meet with the council on Tuesday, Aug. 17 via Zoom. We spent the next couple days discussing via email, and Ed contacted the Synod with more questions. After a motion and second were made, I asked for a vote on Sunday, Aug. 22. We had a quorum - 12 yes and 1 no vote- so the Executive Committee will proceed with negotiating a one-year contract with Pastor Mark, with the Synod's help. If he agrees and joins us, and if Zion or Pastor Mark decide it is not working, either party can cancel the contract with a 30 day notice.

Please join us for Fall Kickoff on Sunday, Sept. 12th. We will have Common Grounds (informal forum) during fellowship after the first worship service, where your questions and open conversation are very much welcome. I am hoping we have a wonderful turn out for all of the day's activities, and look forward to everyone coming together for some fun! It has been too long, and I have certainly missed gathering together!

Jena German ~ Zion Council President

### July 2021 Council Highlights

- In-person visits and communion have begun again for our homebound and nursing home residents.
- Juneteenth has been added as a paid holiday for Zion staff.
- Common grounds will take place on the first Sunday of the month. For August, it will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> and for September, it will take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> (since the first Sunday is a holiday weekend).
- The Executive Committee will meet with the Synod on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> to talk about the pastoral transition. This information will be shared with the congregation at the Common Grounds forum.

### Special Offering for September

#### **SAFE HARBOR**

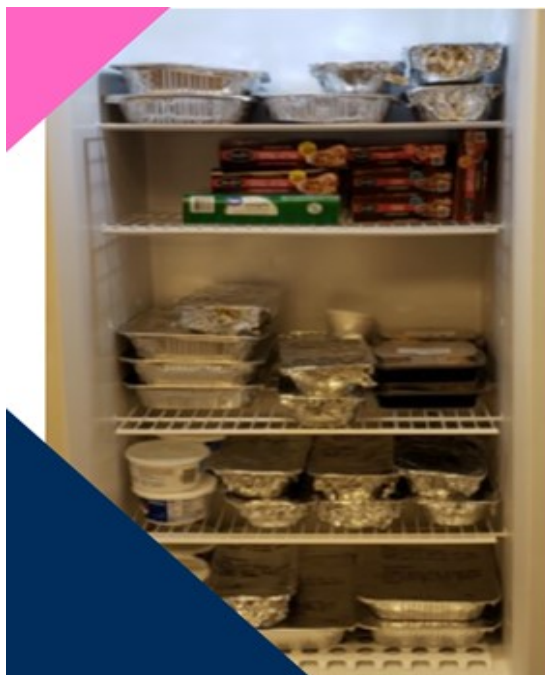
Safe Harbor serves women, men and children by providing shelter and resources for making positive life choices. We serve northeastern South Dakota including Brown, Campbell, Day, Edmunds, Marshall, McPherson and Potter counties.

Our mission is to empower individuals in abusive situations by providing advocacy and support services; to educate and motivate the community to be proactive in eliminating abuse. To fulfill our mission we offer the following:

- Confidentiality
- Safety & Comfort
- Non-judgement support
- Advocacy
- Community Education

We are a non profit organization that is funded through grants and donations.

Please see the bulletin board for more information.



## **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

### **Thank you for your continued giving!**

Zion is 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](https://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**

Frances Wolff

### **Mother Joseph**

Lois Sollie  
Charleen Hargens

### **Bethesda Town Sq.**

Meta Vetter  
Shirley Wagemann  
Viola Tetherow  
Gladys Voegelé

### **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 big thank you to Judy Albl for watering the outside plants while Art enjoyed some time off.

☺ Thanks to all who donated items for the youth rummage sale.

☺ Thank you to Zion's Executive Committee for all their hard work in the absence of a pastor.

☺ Thank you to the Organ Committee for all your time and energy in organizing fundraisers for the organ restoration.

☺ Thanks to all who had a hand in organizing and all who attended the farewell for Pastor Erin & family.

☺ Thanks to all volunteers who help with worship.

☺ Thanks to all of our committee chairs for all they do in ministry here at Zion.

### Pastor Erin's Farewell Potluck

On Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, members gathered for worship and a potluck to bid farewell and Godspeed to Pastor Erin and her family. During the 8:30 service, Sharon Paranto and Saundra Anderson led a thanksgiving prayer for Erin and presented her with a pastor's survival kit with helpful tools she can use as she begins her next call. Later that morning, a potluck was held to say thank you and to present her and Kasia with gifts to help them remember their time at Zion.



*Thank you, Zion congregation and staff, for the wonderful send-off you gave for me and Kasia last month! Thank you for your thoughtful gifts, cards, notes, and words of love and support. As I begin my new call, I hold all of you in my heart and am giving thanks to God for our time together.*

*God's blessings, Pastor Erin*

## Noah's Park Preschool

### Hello from Noah's Park!!

Hello from Noah's Park!! I am getting ready for another awesome year in preschool! I had my first preschool pop-in last week where new and returning students could pop-in and see the classroom and drop off supplies. I had a great turn out, even during fair week!! I have one more pop-in event before preschool officially starts in September. I was able to watch the Back to School workshop via Zoom last week from NSU and was super impressed with the speaker. She had some great motivational tips for the start of the year! I have our campground dramatic play all set up and even found a new little battery operated "firepit" so they can roast marshmallows; I think it will be a big hit! Our new train table arrived today—its supposed to set up in under a minute so we'll see how that works!! I can't wait to let you know how the start of our year goes—stay tuned!

~Jami







### JOIN THE COUNCIL FOR COMMON GROUNDS

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 next Common Grounds will be **Sunday, September 12th at 9:45** in the fellowship hall.

Bring your coffee and snacks, and spend some time with your leaders!

### Sunday Van Rides Available!

Our van ride service is 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**

### August 2021 Council Highlights

- The council met over Zoom with Rev. Renee Splichal Larson from the SD Synod. They discussed the process of contracting an interim pastor, along with the full call process for calling the next full-time pastor at Zion.
- The Youth Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 8 am—12 pm.
- Fall Kickoff Sunday will be on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. This day includes:
  - \* Traditional and contemporary worship services (both with a backpack blessing)
  - \* First day of Sunday School at 9:40 am
  - \* Common Grounds with the Council at 9:45 am
  - \* Drawing for the Organ Restoration quilt
  - \* Picnic in the north parking lot at noon
  - \* Freezer meal prep at noon
- The Organ Committee will be doing the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship Hour, beginning in September.
- There are currently numerous radio broadcast sponsorship openings.

### Zion Choir

Zion Choir will begin rehearsals on Sunday, September 19th at 9:40 AM. We will gather in the balcony.

If you like to sing, please join us!



### **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





# Faith and Family



## Progressive Suppers

Our first progressive supper of the year kicked off on Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup> with bowling before heading to congregational members' houses for supper and dessert. Pictured above are Kyra Spitzer, Faith Spitzer, Zoe Kempf, Danika, Ella Kempf, Cadynce German, and Pastoral Assistant Sandra.

The progressive for September will be on **Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**. 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. We have a special treat this month—our dinner and dessert will be at the VanderWeysts while we watch an outdoor movie!

THANK YOU to those who have already opened their homes to our youth! Progressive suppers are held on the last Sunday of the month, and we are always in need of hosts for either appetizers, dinner, or dessert. If you would be interested or would like some more information, please contact Sandra at the church office (225-6755).

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## Youth Room Update



At the end of June, the wall between the current youth room and the north-most Sunday School room was (mostly) removed! Rod Wiedrich did the construction work, and middle school youth volunteers assisted with the hauling of debris and cleanup. At the end of August, middle school and high school families got together to paint the newly expanded space to get it ready for the upcoming school year. We can't wait to get new furniture and put all of the finishing touches in the room!

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## ELCA Youth Gathering Informational Meeting



An informational meeting will be held on **Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>** at **12:00 PM** (following the conclusion of worship) in the Fellowship Hall. Pastoral Assistant Sandra will discuss the trip and the cost of attendance. The event is open to youth in grades 8-12 THIS SCHOOL YEAR. This is the last informational meeting that will be held before registration, so be sure to attend if you are interested in attending!

If you are planning on attending the Gathering, please let Sandra know by **Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>**.

# Faith and Family

## Middle School and High School Youth Groups



Join Pastoral Assistant Sandra for a time of fellowship, service, faith, and fun!

*Middle School:* first and third Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the youth room

*High School:* first and third Sundays at 12:00 p.m. in the youth room

**THIS SCHEDULE WILL START IN OCTOBER.**

We ended the summer youth group time with a joint middle school and high school scavenger hunt at Storybook Land! The groups split up into teams and were given Bible verses and clues that led them to different areas of the park. We also enjoyed some fellowship time together at Twist Cone!



## Church on the Street



On August 14<sup>th</sup>, four of Zion's congregation worshipped with Church on the Street in Sioux Falls. The volunteers set up for the event, put together bulletins, served communion, and cleaned up after. As a congregation, we were able to donate enough supplies for 60 street snack bags to help in their outreach ministry, and we also were able to make clothing donations to their Laundry with Love program. As a youth program, we donated 200 waters and cookies to serve at the meal following worship.



Thank you for your support of this vital synod ministry!



## Noisy Offering

We will begin collecting noisy offering during the worship service during the offering time on the second Sunday of the month, starting in September. Don't forget your coins!

A bucket will remain at the back of the sanctuary on the offering table for you to use to donate noisy (or quiet) offering on the other Sundays of the month.



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

### Staff

Saundra Anderson.....Pastoral Assistant  
 Donna Steckler.....Business Manager  
 Sonya Kempf.....Director of Music  
 Sue Gates.....Assistant Director of Music  
 Stephanie Hawkinson .....Praise 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.

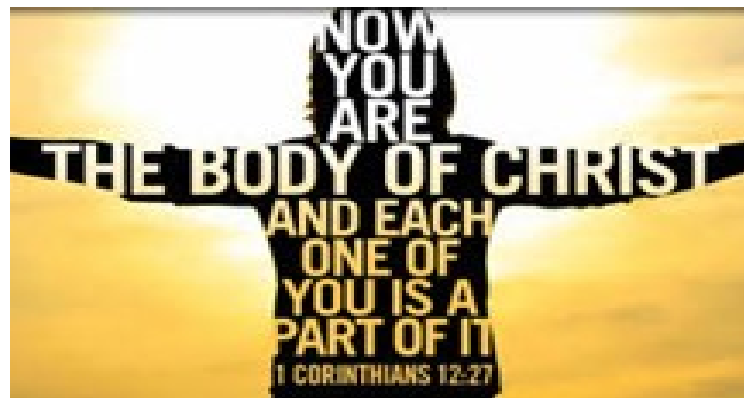
### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

#### **Officers / Executive Committee:**

Jena German .....President  
 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 JULY 31, 2021**

Monthly budgeted expenses: \$33,000.00

Actual July income: \$31,261.72

\*Includes \$7,400 from Fund 2 to cover shortage

Actual July expenses: \$31,011.32

YTD budgeted expenses: \$231,000.00

Actual YTD income: \$213,992.40

Actual YTD expenses: \$226,755.54

### **ZION MEMORIALS**

#### **In Memory of:**

Tammy Paulsen  
 Gene Reich  
 Gene Reich  
 Gerald Guy  
 Gerald Guy

#### **For:**

Sunday School  
 General  
 General  
 General  
 Trust Fund

#### **From:**

Gary/Wanda Morehouse  
 Donna Holte  
 Bruce/Jan Johnson  
 Janet Reich  
 Gladys Melcher



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

### **SPONSOR A BROADCAST**

We have several openings for the remainder of the year: September 19 & 26; October 3, 17 (half), 24, 31; November 7 & 28; all of December. 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



# Faith and Family



## Confirmation Meeting and Acolyte Training

Training for acolytes (7th & 8th grades) will be held between services on Sundays, **September 19 and 26 at 9:45 a.m.** We will start in the Youth Room and move to the sanctuary. 7th and 8th graders and their parents should plan to attend ONE of these training sessions (the same information will be provided at both meetings).

**We will also be discussing this year's confirmation requirements at the beginning of this time together, so please plan to attend!**



## Blessing of the Backpacks

A backpack blessing will take place during **both** worship services on **Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>** during the kids' time. Children of all ages, along with teachers and anyone working in our school systems, are encouraged to come forward for a blessing, as well. Don't forget to bring your backpacks with you!

## VBS

We held two different sessions of summer VBS, focusing on the theme, "Celebrating God's Creation". Kids got to play games, sing songs, and make crafts retelling the creation story and reminding them that they are one of God's most celebrated creations.



## **TAKING FAITH HOME**

The *Taking Faith Home* sheets will now be available each week on a table in the Narthex.

You can pick up a copy if you attend Sunday worship or anytime during the week.



## **STAY CONNECTED WITH US!**

Web: [zionlutheranaberdeen.org](http://zionlutheranaberdeen.org)

YouTube: [bit.ly/ZLCYouTube](https://bit.ly/ZLCYouTube)

Facebook: [facebook.com/ZionAberdeen](https://facebook.com/ZionAberdeen)

Facebook: [facebook.com/zlcaberdeenyouth](https://facebook.com/zlcaberdeenyouth)

Instagram: [@zlcaberdeensd](https://www.instagram.com/zlcaberdeensd)

**CHURCH PHONE**  
225-6755

# Happenings at Zion

## Book Club

Zion's book club met on August 10<sup>th</sup> at Minvera's to discuss *The Speed of Light*. Joining them was the author of the book, our own Elissa Grossell Dickey. They had a lovely discussion and look forward to reading her next book set to release in the spring!

If you'd like to join the Zion book club, they meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 11:30 AM at Minerva's. For more information, you can contact Sharon Paranto or Virginia Tobin.



## Freezer Meal Prep

It's Freezer Meal prep time once again at Zion, and the Social Concerns Committee needs your help. Head out to the table in the narthex and pick up an ingredient card or two, go shopping for the ingredients, and bring them back to Zion by **Friday, September 10!**

If you would like to help make the meals to fill the freezer, please join the committee on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at noon in the kitchen. We always welcome new volunteers 😊 Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

## School Supply Drive

School supplies can break and run dry come mid-year. The Social Concerns Committee will be collecting new school supplies to donate to areas schools this winter in order to restock students' supplies as needed. Feel free to place new items (notebooks, folders, pens, pencils, crayons, glue sticks, scissors, etc.) into the tote in the narthex throughout the fall. Thank you for your help with this ministry!



## Cookbooks for Sale

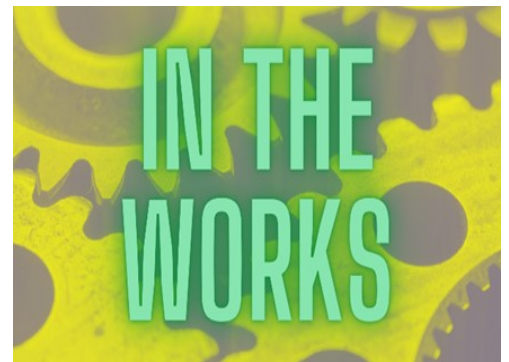
The Zion cookbooks have arrived! Cost for a cookbook is \$20, and all proceeds benefit Zion Youth programming. You can purchase your copies from the table in the Narthex on Sunday mornings or from the church office during the week.

## PANCAKE BREAKFASTS

The Men's group is planning on starting up their monthly pancake breakfasts in October. Pancakes, French toast, and sausage is served on the first Sunday of the month between services.

## GERMANFEST

The Organ Restoration committee is working on plans for Germanfest towards the end of October. Stay tuned for more information in the October newsletter and bulletins as details are finalized!





# Worship Schedule

8:30 AM	Traditional worship with radio broadcast
9:30 AM	Fellowship hour
9:40 AM	Sunday School
10:45 AM	Contemporary worship

Beginning on September 12, we will return to two services on Sunday morning. Traditional worship will be held in the sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. and can be heard on the radio on KSDN 930 AM and 102.1 FM.

Praise Band-led contemporary worship will be at 10:45 a.m. Both services will feature a kids' time during the service, along with a supervised playground area during the sermon so both kids and parents can enjoy and engage in God's message in different ways.

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.



**Join us for a day filled with faith, fellowship, and fun!**

- 8:30 AM - Traditional Worship with a Backpack Blessing
- 9:40 AM - First day of Sunday School
- 9:45 AM - Common Grounds in the Fellowship Hall
- 10:45 AM - Contemporary Worship with a Backpack Blessing
- 11:45 AM - Organ Restoration Quilt Raffle drawing
- 12:00 PM - Picnic in the North parking lot
- 12:00 PM - Freezer meal prep in the kitchen

The picnic meal provided will include hamburgers and hotdogs, chips, beans, watermelon, and dessert. We invite everyone to enjoy this time of fellowship!

## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF UPDATE!

Our LWR efforts are coming to a close. This will be our last drive due to high cost of shipping and delivery. We will continue making quilts, health kits and give donations to our local community and schools.

We will still take donations of sheets, hand soap & school supplies to be used for local charity and quilt making.

We are also in need of some volunteers to help load up our LWR truck items. Date will be sometime early October (TBA).

Contact Donna in the church office or Norma Miller at 380-2599 or 605-439-3124. Thank you to all who have donated and helped for our efforts!





## Organ Restoration Update

The Organ Restoration committee has been working hard to get this process started. Hopefully you have received the pledge letter in regards to our capital campaign. We are working to collect pledges for the full amount of \$250,000 and need \$50,000 in hand to secure the loan.

Our committee has already had our first fundraiser selling caramel and cinnamon rolls (see pictures below), raising almost \$600. We will have our second fundraiser August 28<sup>th</sup>. In addition to those two fundraisers, we are also raffling a quilt for \$5 a ticket or 5 tickets for \$20. We will draw for and announce the winner on September 12<sup>th</sup> at the church picnic.

We still have quite a bit of work ahead of us, and we pray that you and your family can contribute financially or with some volunteer opportunities coming up. Pledge cards would be appreciated by 10/3/21; you can mail, put into the offering plate, or drop off in the office.

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: 380-6373



Get your tickets for this Terry Redlin quilt being raffled off on Sept. 12th!



LET  
YOUR  
LIGHT  
SHINE

## NORTHERN PLAINS FALL GATHERING

All women are invited to join the Northern Plains Fall Gathering at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Faulkton, SD on Saturday, September 18th. The theme of the day is "Let Your Light Shine". The day will include keynote speaker Pastoral Assistant Sandra Anderson from Zion Lutheran Church in Aberdeen, a silent auction, a business meeting, and lunch. Registration is \$12 and begins at 8:30 am. Please RSVP to Linda Demery (605-380-9753) by Friday, September 10. The Love Offering will go to Kedish House in Ellendale; we also ask that you bring canned goods for the Food Pantry or bars of soap for the Lutheran World Relief kits. For more information, please contact Kathy Heffernan here at Zion or Linda Demery at the number listed above.