

APRIL 2024

ZION'S JOURNEY

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 1, 2024 -

Happy Fools Day: Let joy in the name of Christ resound!

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Here is a merry Easter Tune for you today set to the melody of Good Christian Friends Rejoice and Sing (words cobbled together by pastor)

Good Christian friends rejoice and sing,
now there's new life through our king,
Jesus Christ is risen now,
The tomb no longer holds us down,
Christ for one and Christ for all,
Good news does claim us one and all.
Christ did die for this. Christ was raised for this.



As we begin this Easter season, snow may be on the ground, but that cannot keep the message of Good News from springing into our hearts. By the words we say and the actions we share, the gospel story is alive and is primed to radiate out of us with joy. Christ is risen! and alleluia is a melody that cannot be contained.

Now, just as you might begin looking for the new green blades of spring popping up from the ground, I am inviting you to "eye spy" the new life that is unfolding at Zion Lutheran. Several spring activities are coming your way, such as Prayer Pause, Chords of Joy, and the Spring Rummage Sale on April 6th. Oh, and April 7th introduces us to the tradition of celebrating laughter as gratitude for all God has done. Christ is risen! Death is gone! Alleluia!

Lastly, be on the look out for your golden ticket. This ticket is an invitation to join us at a spring Hymn Sing on May 12th. What a great opportunity to add flare to your Mother's Day celebrations.

These are just a few of the good things happening at Zion Lutheran. Can you spy more with your clever eye?

Looking forward to greeting you in church and on the sidewalks of life.

Blessings,
Pastor Martin



March 2024 Council Highlights

- Council is still searching for a chair for the Welcome and Caring Committee.
- The South parking lot lights were installed on March 20.
- Properties is arranging a meeting with the digital sign company to discuss options.

Special Offering for April is Lutheran Social Services!

Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota responds to changing needs in SD communities.

We care for, support and strengthen individuals, families and communities. LSS touches the lives of South Dakotans 27,759 times each year with a variety of programs and services state-wide.

LSS is one of the largest private non-profit human service agencies in SD. LSS serves people of all ages, faiths, races and economic status with professional, confidential and affordable services.

Thank you for your donations!



LuMin Update



April is a month of not only seasonal transitions but also life on campus. As we wrap up our final month of the school year, we turn our focus to spiritual wellness and the verse "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." — Ezekiel 36:6. As students prepare for finals, pack up for summer, and plan to head home or into new careers, we will center our minds, community, and prayers on what it means to start fresh with a new heart.

Thank you for your support this school year. Although students will be departing campus the first week in May, the work in campus ministry continues through the summer. We look forward to seeing you at the Synod Assembly and Synodical WELCA Conference. If you know a young person headed to college (anywhere in the US), help us all get connected by referring them on the ELCA LuMin student referral page!

luminelca.org/refer-a-student/



Men's Fellowship Opportunity

On Wednesday, April 24th at 8:00 PM, there will be a men's meeting at Dempsey's for an opportunity for fellowship. This is intended to be extremely informal and an opportunity to get to know one another. Please feel free to invite a friend, and we will see you there!

ZION HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Bethesda Home

Ben Schroeder
Carol Knispel
Jane Fischer
Esther Ottenbacher
Joyce Mentzer

Milbank-Avantara

Marge Rhodes

Derian Lodge

LaVon Elsen

Bethesda Town Sq.

Shirley Wagemann
Viola Tetherow
Lorraine Kusler

California

Erna Schmierer

Meadowbrooke Ct

Frances Wolff

Nano Nagle

Jo Tolvstad

Mother Joseph

Lois Sollie



Grateful For You

☺ Thank you to all the various groups and people who sponsored a Lenten or Meal; a special thanks to the folks who made our first Maundy Thursday Community Meal possible. The food and fellowship were enjoyed by all who attended.

☺ Thank you to Marilyn Bender for helping hand out donuts for Drive Up Donuts.

☺ Thank you to Mike Bretsch for the snow removal in our parking lots.

☺ Thank you to LaVon Merkel who volunteers in the church office.



Noisy Offering

We will collect noisy offering during the worship service during the offering time on the second Sunday of the month. 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.

Baby Shower

There was a baby shower held on Sunday, March 10 in celebration of Eloise Mae Anderson and her family. So much fun was had by all, and Ellie will be styling for many months to come!

Thank you for joining us for a time of food and fellowship and the gifts for the Anderson family as we celebrated the newest member of the Zion family!



Thank you for your continued giving!

Zion is active in ministry and mission, and the church's ministry depends 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.



Freezer Meals

If you know of anyone in need of a meal, please stop in to the church office during the week.

We will assist you in getting meals from the freezer to give to someone who is in need!



Rides Available

Sunday Van Rides Available!

Our van ride service is available on Sunday mornings for the 9:00 AM worship service. If you would like a ride to worship, please call the church office at 225-6755 and talk to Donna.

Happenings at Zion

Adopt-a-Grad Care Packs

Our five adoptees are almost done with their first year of college! To help them gear up for their finals this spring, we'll once again put together care packages to send their way. We will be collecting items from April 2nd through April 18th. We ask that all items be to the church by noon on Thursday, April 18th, as we will be assembling the care packages at 6:30pm that evening.

Suggested items for care packages include, but are not limited to: gum, Chapstick, small pre-packaged snack items (granola bars, fruit snacks, etc.), home-made baked goods, gift cards (fast food, coffee shops, etc.), highlighters, pens, pencils, post-it notes, etc.

Thank you for your support!



Prayer Pause:

**Gathering to pray for the church, our community, and the world
Each Wednesday at 12:15 and 6:05 PM beginning April 10**

How to participate: If you have the opportunity, please join the pastor in the sanctuary to pray and lean into listening for God's love. There will be a variety of experiences available to enrich your practice. If you are busy at work or at play, set an alarm clock, take time to sit and breath from your location knowing your are not praying alone.

Why do this: Just as ideas in a sentence need intentional pauses to help shape meaning, we too need intentional pauses to help shape and support our lives. For us the pause is a gift to create space for prayer, centering ourselves on God giving God authority to help us navigate what comes next. As we pause together we will be affirmed we are not praying alone no matter our location.



Have a prayer to be prayed? Have a conversation with Pastor or slide her a note. Call the office or send an email. Pastor is committed to ensuring your concerns are heard in prayer and will be handled with confidentiality.

Together let us unite in prayer for our neighbors and all that we wish to lift up to God.

Bandage Rolling

The Education committee is organizing a learning and service activity on Sunday, April 7 following worship. Enjoy the men's monthly pancake breakfast, and then join us in the back of the fellowship hall to hear about the healing promises made during baptism, and help live these promises as we take care of our brothers and sisters in need! All rolled bandages will be donated to Lutheran World Relief and sent overseas to our brothers and sisters in need.



Faith and Family

Zion Scholarships

Zion will once again award two \$350 scholarships for the upcoming academic year. See the application for full instructions. Printed applications are now available in the fellowship hall. Completed applications should be returned to the church no later than April 19, 2024 at 12:00 PM or emailed to Pastoral Assistant Sandra at: Sandra.Anderson@nvc.net

You can also find the application on our website at: zionlutheranaberdeen.org/signupcentral

ZION
2024-2025
SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATIONS



Prayer Pillow Milestone

All children born in 2020 and their parents are invited to join Pastoral Assistant Sandra for a Prayer Pillow Faith Milestone event on Sunday, April 14th. We will present Prayer Pillows to our 3- and 4-year-olds at the 9:00 service; then, these children and their parents are invited to a special event at 10:15 AM that day in the Playground area at the back of the sanctuary. We'll have a lot of fun learning about prayer together!

If your child did not receive a prayer pillow previously and would like to join in this milestone, please reach out to Sandra. We would love to include you!

Youth Rummage Sale

There will be a free will rummage sale held at Zion on Saturday, April 6th from 8 AM—12 PM. All proceeds benefit the Zion youth. Caramel rolls will be available for purchase on the morning of the event.

If you would like to bring items to donate to the rummage sale, you can start bringing items on April 2nd and leave them on the tables in the back of the fellowship hall. Please no electronics or adult clothing. As you begin your spring cleaning, keep us in mind!

YOUTH
RUMMAGE
SALE



Plant Sales

The Sunday School youth will be selling garden starters on Sundays, April 21st and 28th during the fellowship time in the Narthex. They will be selling plants for a free will donation. Donations will benefit Zion Sunday School programming.

Faith and Family



First Sundays

Join us for a time of fellowship, service, faith, and fun! Come as you are and join in when you can!

First Sundays on April 7 will be at 10:30 AM in conjunction with the bandage rolling service project following worship.

Come hear about the healing promises made during baptism, and help live these promises as we take care of our brothers and sisters in need!

Progressive Supper and Escape Room

On Sunday, April 28, meet at Zion @ 4:15 PM. We will then be traveling up Main Street to Unravel to see if we can find the hidden treasure in their Midst Adventure escape room! After, we will be traveling to the VanderWeysts for supper. This event is open to middle and high school youth (grades 6-12)—bring a friend!

To be sure we have enough room in the escape room, please let Sandra know by Friday, April 26 if you plan to attend. Van rides are available!

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FROM MARCH DUE TO SNOW



Summer Camp Registration

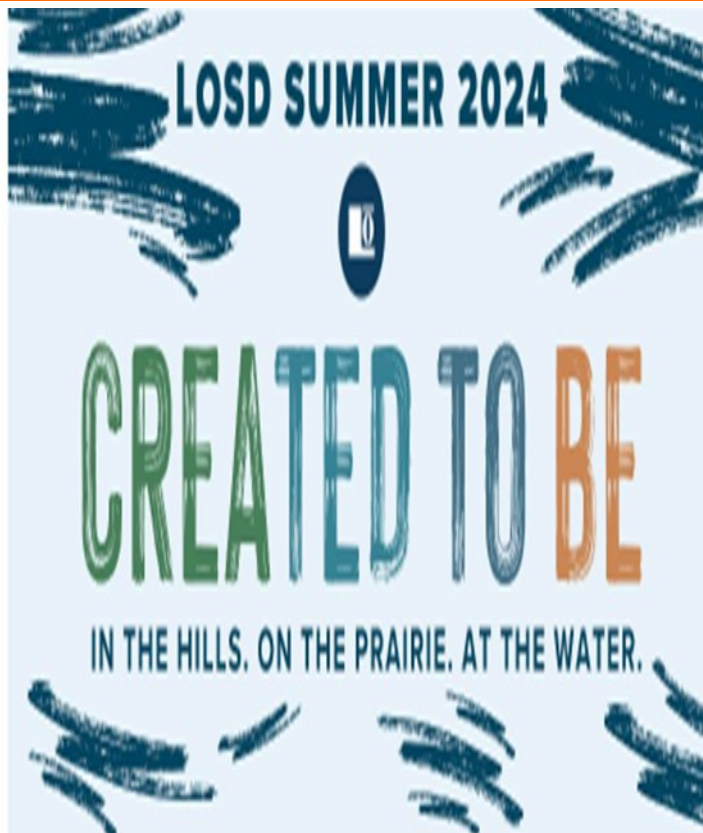
If you have a 1st grade student or older, it's time to start thinking about summer options for camp! Lutheran Outdoors in South Dakota offers three different locations with options to suit whatever interests you have!

If you are interested in applying for camp, please speak with Sandra as soon as possible so we can get you registered and discuss fundraising options. There are some camperships available, as well!

If we have enough kids interested, we will attend the Explorers Camps at NeSoDak in August as a Zion group. If your 1st-5th grade child (as of Fall 2024) is interested in going together, please reach out to Pastoral Assistant Sandra.

1-2-3 Camp	August 9-11
2-3 Junior Explorers	August 4-6
3-5 Explorers	August 6-9

Prices will go up on April 15th.



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

Staff

Reverend Nicole Martin..... Pastor
 Saundra Anderson.....Pastoral Assistant
 Donna Steckler.....Business Manager
 Sonya Kempf.....Director of Music
 Sue Gates.....Assistant Director of Music
 Stephanie HawkinsonPraise Band Director
 Art Ketterling.....Maintenance Coordinator

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.

Executive Committee:

Ed Suchomel.....President
 Chastity Madsen.....Vice-President
 Joel Albrecht Treasurer
 April Nehlich.....Secretary

Council Representatives:

Jessica Moser.....Faith Formation
 Ryan BretschFinance & Stewardship
 Nicole Schutter.....Mission & Outreach
Welcome & Caring
 Kathy Heffernan.....Worship & Music



ZION MEMORIALS

<u>In Memory of:</u>	<u>For:</u>	<u>From:</u>
Jordan Heyd	Organ Fund	Karl\Sonya Kempf
Linda Raetzman Steele	Organ Fund	Larry\Sharon Stroschein
Linda Raetzman Steele	Organ Fund	Gladys Melcher
LaVina Meier	Radio broadcast	LaVern Albrecht

in loving memory



You are Invited!

There will be a 90th birthday celebration and open house for Marva Zelmer on **Sunday, April 21st from 1-3 PM** @ the Bi-Centennial Community Room, 1212 S Lawson Street.

If you cannot join us, but would like to send greetings to Marva, you can send cards to:
 1212 S Lawson St. Apt. A-5
 Aberdeen, SD 57401



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT

THROUGH March 28, 2024

Monthly budgeted expenses: \$30,000.00
 Actual March. Income: \$26,764.28
 Actual March Expenses: \$30,117.00

THANK YOU!

Worship Schedule

9:00 AM Worship with live radio broadcast, Holy Communion, and livestream
10:00 AM Fellowship time
10:10 AM Sunday School

Worship Schedule

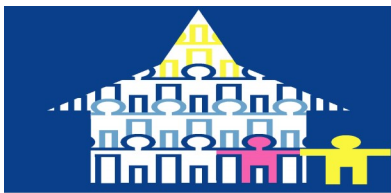
We currently have one service available on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. with Holy Communion being served each week. Each service features a kids' time and is broadcast live on the radio on KSDN 930 AM and 102.1 FM. A time of fellowship and Sunday School follow worship, starting at 10:10 a.m.

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

Welcoming New Members

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

Let Pastor Nicole or Pastoral Assistant Sandra know of your interest! We'd love to know if you're thinking about becoming a member. You can also contact the church at 225-6755 or by email: zion@nvc.net



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

Drive Up Donuts

On the last Wednesday of the month, donuts and a devotion will be available for pickup at Zion and Good Shepherd Lutheran churches. Simply enter the south parking lot at either church, drive up to the table, and a helper will hand you donuts and a devotion that you can enjoy on your way to school or work. [This event is open to all.](#)

The next Drive Up Donuts event will be held on **Wednesday, April 24 from 7:30-8:00 AM.**



Radio Broadcast Sponsorships

We have several openings for this new year! If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, please call the church office to pick your Sunday!

Upcoming dates:

- April 21
- June 30
- July 14
- July 28



RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS NEEDED

Call the office at
225-6755 to sign up

—————
\$110 for whole broadcast
\$55 for half



Confirmation

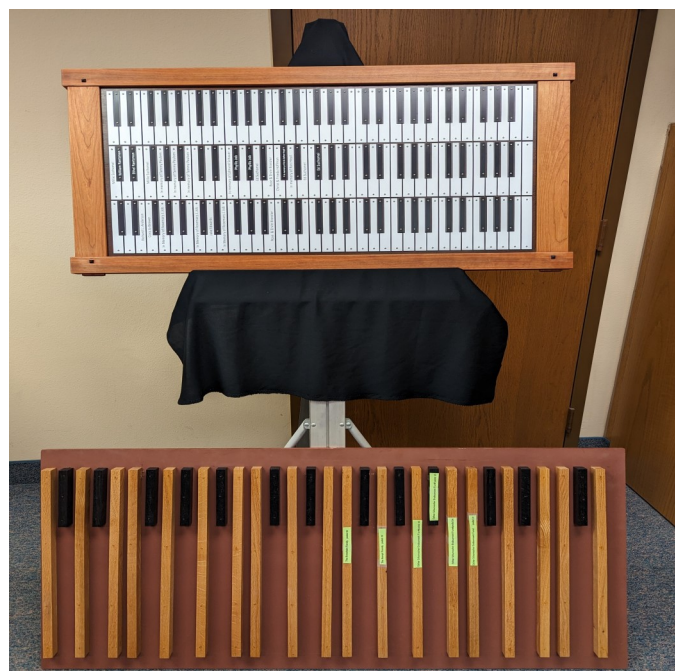
Confirmation Corner

- The last 7th and 8th grade confirmation class will be on Wednesday, April 10 at 6:00 PM with Pastor Nicole.
- 9th grade students and their parents are invited to meet together on Sunday, April 28th at 11:00 AM to discuss confirmation details ahead of the summer.

Organ Key Sales

The Organ Committee is proud to display our "The Key to our Restoration" display. Each key can be purchased for \$50 or a pedal for \$250. This display will eventually hang at the bottom of the stairs leading to the choir loft, but for the time being will be on display for people to see and purchase keys. These keys can be in memory of, in honor of, or even with a recent graduate's name. Please consider purchasing a key to help us get to our goal.

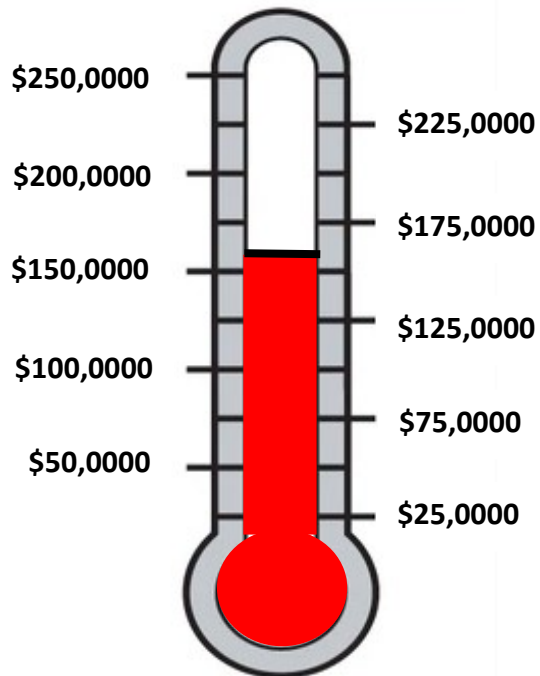
Take a minute to look at the board for updated names and fill out a sheet to get you or your loved ones name on the board.



Organ Restoration Fund

Cash on Hand - \$131,251.55
 Unpaid pledges - \$21,155.76
 Total project funds - \$152,407.31

Our Goal: \$200,000



Remaining pledge amount needed
 \$47,592.69

Hello from Zion's Cardmakers

We hope you have been enjoying the cards we have made. Thanks so much for your support in this ministry!

We are in need of more cards for the following:

- *Birthday *Sympathy *Anniversary *Wedding
- *70-80-90 & 100 years ~ (sister & brother in law)

Thanks for all of your donations to our card ministry!

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)

**Easter Season 2024 Chords of Joy:
Celebrating life and music**

This Easter season, we have many reasons to be thankful as individuals and as a congregation. We know the love of God which sustains us. We know the love of good neighbors. We know the love of family and friends. We know the shelter of sanctuary and a community we call church where we gather to be supported and support others. For all this we give thanks, recognizing these gifts as notes of joy for God's benevolence in our life. These notes of joy accumulate in our daily living, making sweet melodies of grace. Together, these notes of joy form a sweet chord between us, singing to the world the Easter Story is alive in our hearts and actions.

This is the life we celebrate each spring as flowers awake and the Easter story is shared: God is working through chords of joy, deepening our relationship with God and others. This year, as part of our celebration we will focus on the gift of music.

How often do we consider music as integral to the story of God's love? How often do we wonder about the sacred connection music builds between God and us? When we have a hard time expressing how great God is, music finds a way. Music is intimate to our faith, supporting us when life seems unbearable, guiding us to give praise, and inspiring our creativity as we craft new ways of sharing God's love.

As part of this celebration, we are breathing new life into the organ rejuvenation campaign. To date, many people have been generous contributors for this project. For this we give thanks once again. Their dedication is valued, and their commitment now allows us to turn with vigor to the end of our campaign. With some wise stewardship, we were able to negotiate, the project goals and the repair cost have been readjusted to \$200,000 (down from the growing cost of \$280,000). We currently have \$131,251.55 in a designated fund, with \$21,155.76 in pledges, for a total of \$152,407.31. It is our hope that the remaining \$47,592.69 can be received in the next 6 weeks. Can we count on you to achieve the goal supporting the organ music ministry which is vital to the telling of the Good News?

On May 12th at 3 pm, we will host a Chords of Joy: HymnSing. This event will be a celebration of life for the gift of spring and the gift of the Gospel. We hope you will bring your moms and grandmoms to make their Mother's Day exceptional with an afternoon out.
(Be on the lookout for your Golden Ticket. More details in the near future.)

So come, let's celebrate life together through the chords of Joy, God's benevolence of love upon us: mercy, forgiveness and grace. We look forward to celebrating with you.

Zion Lutheran's Organ Rejuvenation Team

To support this campaign:

- Checks designated for organ rejuvenation can be submitted with your offering during worship or submitted to the church office. You can also give online through our Vanco online giving site by scanning the QR code to the right.
- Purchase of organ keys or pedals (as a memorial, in honor of a loved one, as a graduation gift, etc.) which are still available.
- Participate in the Chords of Joy Hymn Sing on May 12th as a music sponsor.



Thank you for your generous gifts.