

MAY 2024

# ZION'S JOURNEY

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Happy Hospitality,

The Easter Season is a tremendous gift to all of us as we hear the profound message of God's power to restore God's creation to God's self through his son, Jesus Christ. The gift does not stop there, however, as we are welcomed to share that good news in the form of happy hospitality. Never heard of happy hospitality before? Join me on a journey to learn more.

In Luke chapter 10 Jesus says,

*After this the Lord appointed seventy<sup>[a]</sup> others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. <sup>2</sup> He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. <sup>3</sup> Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. <sup>4</sup> Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. <sup>5</sup> Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" <sup>6</sup> And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. <sup>8</sup> Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; <sup>9</sup> cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>10</sup> But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> "Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near."*

In the passage, peace is a gift to be handed to another; It is radiant energy to be shared between people, and it sets the tone of hospitality between strangers, as they gather around food, and drink, and the language of the Good News. If peace is extended and the other person does not wish to receive it, that is OK. They don't have to take it, and the giver does not need to feel guilty about it.

What freedom this is as it helps us shape our practices of hospitality. What freedom it is as it takes the pressure off and we can focus on being happy and joyful in the presence of our neighbors, rather than worried about possible rejection? This happy hospitality empowered the disciples to eat, drink, and share the Good News across continents. This happy hospitality I am most grateful for.

So, as we turn toward Pentecost, on May 19<sup>th</sup> let us remember that we too are infused with the Holy Spirit to be as bold as those first disciples, offering happy hospitality to all we greet. On this day we will welcome our newest members and celebrate the season of the spirit dwelling in peace together.

As we turn toward our first Chords of Joy: Hymn Sing May 12<sup>th</sup>, let us remember happy hospitality as we invite others to join us on a special day of celebrating.

As we turn toward summer vacations and holidays, let us remember happy hospitality as we travel on vacations and to athletic events, gathered with friends and family alike.

Happy hospitality—t is the beautiful gift of Christ's peace that we share between us.

Blessings to you this day and in the month to come. May you be filled with much peace extending happy hospitality to all you meet.

Your Servant in Christ.  
Pastor Martin

FROM THE PASTOR'S

DESK



## April 2024 Council Highlights

- \* The ongoing digital sign project has been put on hold and tabled for future discussion.
- \* A \$3,000 gift was given and will be allocated to various church ministries as per the donors' wishes.
- \* A basement makeover plan was proposed and approved. This makeover will allow the space to be utilized for various ministries and outreach.
- \* There was discussion and ongoing research regarding the current parking lot problem in the north lot.

## Last Day of Sunday School

The last day of Sunday School will be on Sunday, May 5 at 10:15 AM. The children will sing during worship. Thanks for another great year!

## **Special Offering for May is Salvation Army!**

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an **evangelical part of the universal Christian Church.**

Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God.

Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

**Thank you for your donations!**



**DOING THE MOST GOOD**

## Table of Plenty

The next Table of Plenty meal will be on **Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:00 PM** in the Zion fellowship hall.

**\*\*Note the date change due to Memorial Day\*\***

If you know of anyone wishing to sponsor a meal, please have them contact the church office.



## Plant Sales

On Sundays April 21 and 28, Sunday School youth sold flower plant starters in the narthex.

All proceeds from their sale benefitted Sunday School programming and projects. Thank you to all who participated in their fundraiser!



## Men's Fellowship Opportunity

On Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> 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

### Meadowbrooke Ct

Frances Wolff

### Mother Joseph

Lois Sollie

### Milbank-Avantara

Marge Rhodes

### Bethesda Town Sq.

Shirley Wagemann  
Viola Tetherow  
Lorraine Kusler

### Nano Nagle

Jo Tolvstad

### Derian Lodge

LaVon Elsen

### California

Erna Schmierer



## Grateful For You

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

☺ Thank you to Loren & April Nehlich for cleaning the toys and straightening up in the Nursery.

☺ Thank you to Carmel Heyd for so graciously finding the Sunday morning coffee host volunteers each month.

☺ Thank you to those who supported the Chords of Joy event by decorating the church with alleluias.

### Care Packs

On Thursday, April 18, Mission and Outreach action team members and congregational volunteers met to pack care packs for current Zion college freshmen. Many treats and study supplies were collected and then mailed to the students ahead of their spring finals week. Thank you to those who donated items!



### Baptism

On Sunday, April 7, we welcomed Eloise Mae Anderson into the family of God through the waters of Holy Baptism.

Eloise was baptized at the 9:00 service by Pastor Mike Jacobson.

Ellie is the daughter of Zach and Sandra Anderson and sister to Everett.



### Worship Volunteer Appreciation Night

There will be a worship volunteer appreciation night on **Tuesday, May 14 beginning at 5:30 PM in the fellowship hall**. Invitations were sent; please have your response cards to the church office by May 6. If you have been assisting with worship but did not receive an invitation, please visit with Kathy Heffernan.

### 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](http://zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving)

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



### 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.

### 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

## Mother's Day Basket Raffle



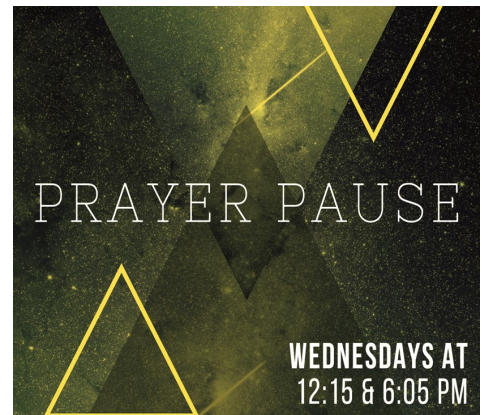
There will be a raffle for a Mother's Day basket with all proceeds benefiting youth programming.

Tickets are \$5 and will be sold through Mother's Day, with the drawing held following church.

To see the basket and purchase your ticket, please stop at the table in the narthex on Sunday mornings.

## Prayer Pause

Prayer Pause is held weekly on Wednesdays at 12:15 and 6:05 PM in the sanctuary. We will gather to pray for the church, our community, and the world. 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 breathe from your location knowing you are not praying alone. Together, let us unite in prayer for our neighbors and all that we wish to lift up to God. Make plans to join us!



## Lenten Donations



This year, the focus of the season of Lent was on generosity. Five area ministry partners were identified, and needed supplies were collected for these organizations for those who chose to make a donation as an act of generosity. Following Easter, these contributions were blessed during worship before being distributed to the Aberdeen Area Foster Closet, Safe Harbor, the Salvation Army, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, and Spurs.

Thanks to all who supported these organizations through prayers or acts of generosity!

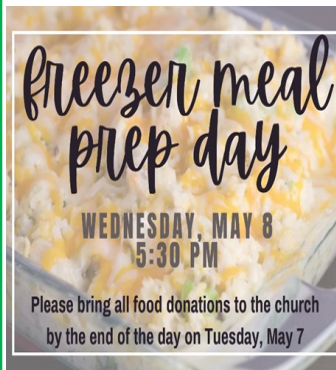
## Zion Workday

On Saturday, May 11, there will be a Zion workday to complete the landscaping and projects in the building and around the grounds beginning at 9:00 AM.

Anyone who is interested in helping, please make plans to join us. Mark your calendars!



## Freezer Meal Prep Day



Mission and Outreach will host a Freezer Meal Prep event on Wednesday, May 8 at 5:30 PM in the kitchen. Ingredient cards can be found in the narthex, and volunteers are needed to help cook that evening.

Please return all ingredients to the kitchen no later than 5:00 PM on Tuesday, May 7.

# Faith and Family



## Graduate Recognition

We will be recognizing the class of 2024 during worship on Sunday, May 12. High school seniors: letters were mailed home about this event. If you have not already been in contact with Sandra about the details, please reach out!

We also would like to include those who are graduating from upper education. If you completed a post-secondary program and would also like to be recognized and receive a blessing, please contact the church office by Thursday, May 9.

Cake will be served during the fellowship time in their honor.

## 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!

**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.**



## Summer Faith Explorers

Plans are in the works for Summer Faith Explorers (formerly called VBS)! Mark the dates on your calendar, and make plans to join us for a time where youth can explore their faith through fun and interactive stories, games, crafts, snacks, and more! **Summer dates are July 10, 17, 24, 31 beginning at 5:30 PM.** Registration forms will be sent home before the last day of Sunday School and will be available in the office throughout the summer. More details will be available next month—stay tuned!



## First Sundays

Join us for a time of fellowship, service, faith, and fun!

**First Sundays will be on May 5 at 3:00 PM in the youth room.** Open to middle and high school youth—bring a friend!

## Youth Event in the Works

A joint end of the year youth event with Good Shepherd is in the works for the week after school gets out. Final date and time are to be determined, but we are looking at the possibility of doing an Amazing Race around Aberdeen.

When details are set, families will be notified with more details.





# Happenings at Zion

## Holy Communion Milestone

On Wednesday, March 27, bread baking was held for those taking participating in the Holy Communion milestone, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmands, and their families. Youth and their families gathered for supper, learning about bread and the sacrament of Holy Communion, and then made Communion bread for Holy Week services. The celebration of the Rite of Holy Communion for our youth was held during the Maundy Thursday service on March 28. Hudson Bretsch and Dominic Kolb received Holy Communion for the first time, surrounded by family and their baptismal sponsors; they then served communion to their siblings in Christ, with the assistance of some middle school helpers. Congratulations on this faith milestone!



## Bandage Rolling

On Sunday, April 7, congregational volunteers rolled bandages following fellowship. In total, 82 bandages were rolled and will be given to Lutheran World Relief in support of relief efforts overseas. Thank you to all who participated in this intergenerational service opportunity, and thank you to Kathy Heffernan for organizing and doing the prep work!



## Welcome & Caring Ministry Team Meeting Monday, May 13th @ 5:30 PM

Here at Zion Lutheran, it takes many hands, great minds, and dedicated hearts to care for the community we call church. Worship team makes Sundays delightful. Properties team cares for the facility. Mission and Outreach connects with the neighbor. Faith Formation educates us. So who is left to be our cheerleaders, feed us, visit us when we are sick, support us in our grief and be the hospitality squad? These tasks fall to the good folks that make up Welcome & Caring.

What is the Welcome & Caring Team? Working closely with the Women Ministry Team, the Welcome & Caring team is the organizer of fellowship, takes lead on visitation of our homebound members, is instrumental in welcoming new members and then cares for families at times of a funeral. The gift of the Welcome & Caring team to Zion is the gift of tending to the soul of the people, for without fellowship, who will ensure the coffee is warm on a blustering day? Without visitation, who will take communion to our loved ones that can no longer leave their homes? Without hospitality, who will greet our new members with a welcoming smile or organize a funeral luncheon for our grieving families? In all of these ways, the Welcome & Caring Team is a valuable part of each of our lives, and we are asking you to join us. From baking bars and cookies, to organizing luncheons, visiting friends, and welcoming new members, there is room for you here on the Welcome & Caring Team. Come and be part of something amazing.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please have a conversation with Pastor Nicole. She will find a way to connect you to the team.



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

**Staff**

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

**ZION'S KEY MISSION**

Cultivating communities of caring and belonging as champions of the gospel

**ZION'S MOTIVATING MISSION**

+ We seek to honor relationships with God, others, and self through expressions of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.  
 + We see to cultivate these relationships by being rooted in faith, growing in spirit, reaching out to those in need; by being faithful stewards of creation, property and finances; and by valuing and empowering all individuals to be an active participant in our congregation and community.

**Executive Committee:**

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

**Council Representatives:**

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



**ZION MEMORIALS**

In Memory of:      For:      From:  
 Peggy Zimmerman      Organ      Gladys Melcher

*in loving memory*

**Van Maintenance**

We are looking for an individual who would be willing to oversee the maintenance of our two church vans. If you are interested in taking on this role as part of the Properties Committee, please visit with Ryan Bretsch or Pastor Nicole.

**Volunteers needed!**

**Treat Donations Needed**

The Mission and Outreach Committee will be putting together treat trays for the nine public schools in Aberdeen for Teacher Appreciation Week.

We are looking for donations of treats (cookies, bars, muffins, cupcakes, etc.) to share with the teachers and staff in the schools.

Please have all treat donations to the church by 10 AM on Sunday, May 5.

**Worship and Music Committee Request**

We are in need of 2 Thrivent Action Team cards to be used in preparation for our Worship Volunteer Appreciation night on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. If you are a member of Thrivent and would be willing to gift us with one of your Thrivent Action Team cards, we would greatly appreciate it.

Please let us know by May 3<sup>rd</sup> by contacting Kathy Heffernan at 605-450-8782.

**Bethesda Open House**

Join us at Bethesda Parkside Retirement Community; 1324 12th Ave. SE on Thursday, May 9 from 2-4 PM. Take advantage of this time to tour our newly remodeled apartments and get information about joining the Bethesda family. Staff will be on-site to assist with answering questions. Light refreshments will be served.

Pre-register by calling 225-7900.



**STEWARDSHIP**  
*Managing God's Gifts To Us*

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT**

**THROUGH April 29, 2024**

Monthly budgeted expenses: \$30,000.00  
 Actual March. Income: \$22,000.00  
 Actual March Expenses: \$29,007.01

**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 AM 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 10:15 AM (through May 5).

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?

There will be a New Member Sunday on May 19 with a meet and greet the week before. If you are interested in officially becoming part of our faith family, please contact Pastor Nicole or Sandra.



**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**

## Birthday Celebration

Happy birthday to Millie Suchomel, who celebrated her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday on Friday, April 19.

Cake was served during fellowship time on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> in her honor.



## Radio Broadcast Sponsorships

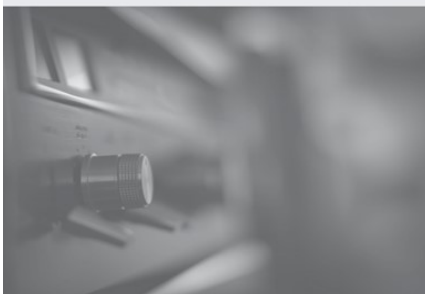
We have several openings for this new year! If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, please call the church office to pick your Sunday!

*Upcoming dates:*  
August 11  
All of September  
All of October

**RADIO BROADCAST  
SPONSORS NEEDED**

Call the office at  
225-6755 to sign up

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





### Happy Anniversary!

Jim and Norma Miller will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Friday, May 3.

If you would like to share well wishes and help their family shower them with cards, you can mail greetings to:

**The Millers**  
202 Vivian Ave  
Wetonka, SD 57481



### 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.

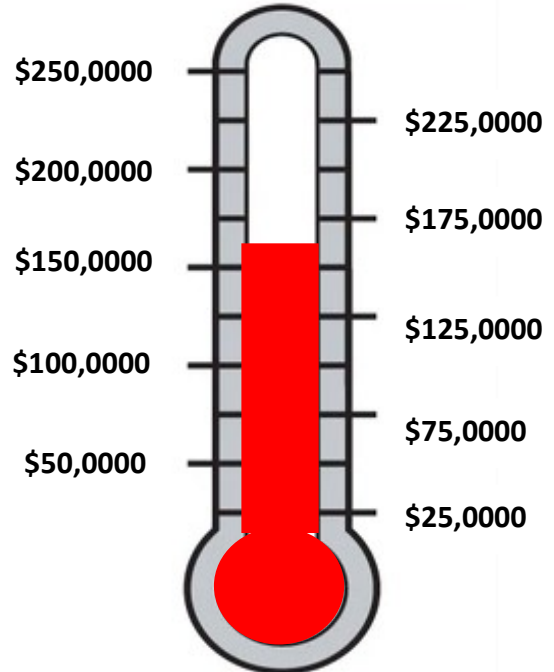
**Take a minute to look at the board for updated names and fill out a sheet to get you or your loved ones name on the board.**



### Organ Restoration Fund

Cash on Hand - \$132,571.42  
Unpaid pledges - \$20,740.89  
Total project funds - \$153,312.31

Our Goal: \$200,000



Remaining pledge amount needed  
\$46,689.69

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

## Chords of Joy: Hymn Sing

The Organ Rejuvenation music festival event Chords of Joy: Hymn Sing will be held on **Sunday, May 12 at 3:00 PM in the sanctuary**. Bring your mother or a friend for a special spring Sunday celebration focusing on the gift of the gospel through the telling of music.

There will be twelve musical pieces performed on the organ and in arrangement with other musicians; nine of the pieces are pre-selected. The final three spots are designated for song bids.

*How to get involved:*

- Come and celebrate!
- Free will donation of gracious gratitude during the event
- Help share the word within the community by hanging up posters, sharing Facebook events, word of mouth, and distributing Golden Tickets
- Song Bids (see information below)

## Song Bids

*Ever want to hear the organ play your favorite song (not just a hymn)? Now's your chance!*

During the concert, three musical pieces are designated for the song bids. The three songs with the highest bids will be played during the event. To secure one of the three performance spots with a song of your choosing, please write the name of your choice, the name of the artist (if not a hymn), and amount of your bid on a Golden Ticket. Submit your song request and funds to the Zion church office by Wednesday, May 1 at 5:00 PM. As all bids are confidential, only highest song bid amounts will be announced weekly in the announcements, on our Facebook page, and on our website.

You can submit multiple bids for multiple songs and can resubmit bids if your initial bid wasn't enough to secure a performance spot.

You may have noticed some Alleluias around the sanctuary. These are an expression of the Alleluias we hear during the Easter season in celebration of Christ's resurrection and a visual reminder of the joy we receive through the gift of music. The full arrangement will be put up in time for the Chords of Joy event.

