

AUGUST 2024

# ZION'S JOURNEY

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Siblings in Christ,

June and July were a whirlwind of preparation ahead of the ELCA Youth Gathering that was held in mid-July in New Orleans. The theme of the Gathering was "Created to Be" and is based off of Psalm 139:14:

"I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made" -Psalm 139:14

Each day had a theme that we dwelled on:

Created to Be Brave: You Are Not Alone.

Created to Be Authentic: You Are Seen.

Created to Be Free: You Are Loved.

Created to Be Disruptive: You Are Called.

Created to Be Disciples: You Are Sent.

During the day, we had the opportunity to explore the city and learn about the culture and history of the people. We ate delicious creole food from local restaurants and participated in structured events like our Synod worship with over 1,800 youth from North Dakota and South Dakota; Interactive Learning with various ministry partners; and our Accompaniment activity, where we learned about the struggles the youth of New Orleans face on a daily basis.

In the evening, we gathered with the 16,000+ other participants in the Smoothie King Center and sang together, prayed together, danced together, and learned together from the incredible speakers that told us of their lives, their struggles, and the presence of God with them through it all.

To say we had an incredible time is an understatement. We will forever be changed by this experience, with many memories that we will cherish. There are a couple of key ideas we heard from our speakers that resonated with us that were powerful reminders, and we want you to remember them, too:

*"God doesn't want our bland conformity. God loves our unique personalities! And God's image shines through the you that is truly you. And it is that you that God set free." -Drew Tucker*

*"God sees you. Not because of what you have or what you don't have. Not because of your sobriety. Not because of your mental health. God sees you. Not because of your grades. Not because of your goodness. Not because of what you produce. God sees you." -Emily Harkins*

Most importantly: You are a beloved Child of God, just as you are. You were created to be exactly who you are, and you are enough.

Blessings,

Pastoral Assistant Sandra

### July 2024 Council Highlights

Council decided at their July meeting that they will no longer be publishing "Council Highlights" in the newsletter.

Instead, the full council minutes will be printed and available in the narthex the week following the meeting when the previous month's minutes are approved.

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH IS ON INSTAGRAM

Follow us:  
@zlcaberdeensd

TAG US IN YOUR PICTURES FROM WORSHIP, CHURCH EVENTS, AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### Men's Fellowship Opportunity

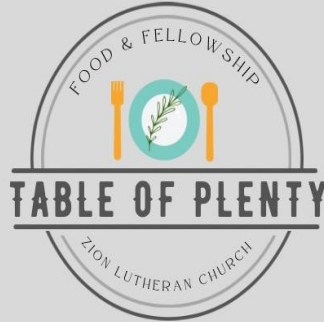
On Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM, there will be a men's meeting at Dempsey's for an opportunity for fellowship. This is intended to be extremely informal and an opportunity to get to know one another. Please feel free to invite a friend, and we will see you there!



### Table of Plenty

The next Table of Plenty meal will be on **Monday, August 26 from 5:30-7:00 PM** in the Zion fellowship hall.

We continue to need financial sponsorship from the remainder of the year's meals. If you know of any group, business, or individuals wishing to sponsor a meal, please have them contact the church office.



### 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.

You can give online today (multiple ways) by going to [zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving](http://zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving)

You can also scan this QR code with your smartphone, and it will take you to our giving page.



## ZION HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

### Bethesda Home

Carol Knispel  
Jane Fischer  
Esther Ottenbacher  
Joyce Mentzer  
Shirley Wagemann

### Milbank-Avantara

Marge Rhodes

### Bethesda Town Sq.

Shirley Wagemann  
Viola Tetherow  
Lorraine Kusler  
Elsie Geffre

### Derian Lodge

LaVon Elsen

### California

Erna Schmierer

### Meadowbrooke Ct

Frances Wolff

### Nano Nagle

Jo Tolvstad

### Mother Joseph

Lois Sollie

### Special Offering for August is ELCA Hunger Appeal

For 50 years we have joined together as Lutherans to address the root causes of hunger and poverty around the world through ELCA World Hunger. Part of our church's long tradition of meeting human needs, ELCA World Hunger testifies to our hope for and commitment to God's promise of a time when we will hunger and thirst no more. In 2024 we will commemorate the 50th anniversary of this ministry. We have made great strides, but once again we face a startling increase in global hunger. As we reflect on our last 50 years of ministry together, we know God calls us to respond to the needs of the world now more than ever.

Join us and be part of the story of our next 50 years together — boldly and faithfully pursuing God's promise of a just world where all are fed.

Thanks for helping us help them.



## Grateful for You

☺ Thanks so Loren Nehlich & Art for fixing the broken water lines to the bushes.

☺ Thanks to the family of Myron & Beth Walth for the Bible in the Narthex.

☺ Thanks to an anonymous member of Zion for the donation of the beautiful doily on the chair in the Narthex.

☺ Thanks to Carmel Heyd for purchasing the beautiful book stand that holds the bible.

☺ Thanks to anyone who helped with Vacation Bible School in any way.



### Noisy Offering

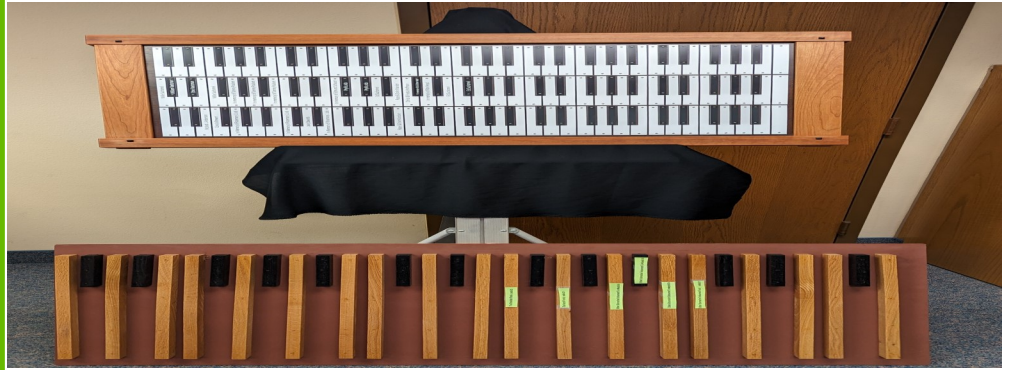
We will collect noisy offering during the worship service during the offering time on the second Sunday of the month. Don't forget your coins!

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.

## 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.

**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.**



## Thrivent Action Team Grants



Are you a Thrivent member? You can organize a Thrivent Action Team to help Zion! Action Teams are small groups (including at least one Thrivent member) organized for service projects or fundraisers. Thrivent provides a \$250 debit card as seed money for supplies

and other project needs. Learn more at [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com) or contact Pastoral Assistant Sandra for ideas on how your Action Team can help support our ministries here at Zion and beyond.

## Organ Restoration Fund

Cash on Hand - 136,870.87  
Unpaid pledges - 19,270.03  
Interest - 5,388.45

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**Total project funds-**  
**161,529.35**



Pipe Organ



## 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.

# Faith and Family

## Prayer Pause

Prayer Pause is held weekly on Wednesdays at 12:15 PM on Facebook. We will gather virtually to pray for the church, our community, and the world. 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!



## Summer Faith Explorers

We had such an incredible time making memories at Summer Faith Explorers! We spent four weeks learning about the three different parts of the Apostles' Creed and "spying" God in the community. Each session started with a meal, a story, the Creed with actions, and then moved into different stations focused on learning through crafts, prayers, and games. Kids sang familiar songs and learned a few new ones, too! Thank you to all who helped make these evenings possible!



# Faith and Family



## 2025 Summer Mission Trip

Plans are in the works for an intergenerational summer mission trip to Milwaukee in June of 2025. To hear preliminary details, plan to attend the info meeting on **Sunday, August 18 at 10:15 AM** in Classrooms A&B. This trip will be for ages 13 (completed 7<sup>th</sup> grade in Spring of 2025) and older. If you can't be at the meeting but would like more information, please visit with Pastoral Assistant Sandra. The registration deadline for the trip is the end of September.

## Summer Youth Group

Join us for a time of fellowship, service, faith, and fun! **Our last date of the summer will be Thursday, August 8 at 1:00 PM.** Open to middle and high youth—friends welcome! Van rides are also available to and from the events.



We had a great time at Wild Water West on July 11, which was part of our Summer Youth Group series!

## Blessing of the Backpacks

We will be holding our annual Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, August 25 during the 9:00 AM worship service. This blessing is for anyone in school or who work in the education field in any role (teachers, administrators, maintenance, custodians, educational aides, cooks, bus drivers, etc.). We encourage all to bring your bag with you as we prepare for the beginning of a new school year!



FOR ALL GOING TO SCHOOL OR WHO  
WORK IN THE EDUCATION FIELD  
**BLESSING OF THE  
BACKPACKS**  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

Be sure to bring your backpack/laptop bag/briefcase with you!

**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 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  
 Andrea Morehouse.....Welcome & Caring  
 Kathy Heffernan.....Worship & Music



**LARGE PRINT PORTALS OF PRAYER & CHRIST IN OUR HOME**


The devotionals can be found in the media rack in the Narthex.

The cost for the large print is \$5.00 and the cost of the regular size devotional is \$3.00.

Please put money in the correct collection box on the side of the rack. Thanks.

**ZION MEMORIALS**

<u>In Memory of:</u>	<u>For:</u>	<u>From:</u>
Michael Luitjens	Organ	Gary\Wanda Morehouse
Gertrude McBurney	Organ	Gladys Melcher
Mike Luitjens	General	Lonnie\Judy Anderson
Milbert Mehlhoff	Altar Guild	Wilma Zimmerman
Milbert Mehlhoff	Organ	Carmel Heyd
Michael Luitjens	Organ	Carmel Heyd
Vi Karst	General	Bonnie Locken



**RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS NEEDED**

Call the office at 225-6755 to sign up

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\$110 for whole broadcast  
\$55 for half

**Radio Broadcast Sponsorships**

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

*Upcoming dates:*

- September 15, 22, 29 (half)
- October 27
- November 10, 17, 24
- All of December



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

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT**

**THROUGH July 30, 2024**

Monthly budgeted expenses: \$30,000.00  
 Actual July Income: \$18,471.00  
 Actual July Expenses: \$27,527.00

**THANK YOU!**

# Happenings at Zion

On July 7, the Zion Quilters displayed some of the beautiful, homemade quilts they have been hard at work making. These quilts were blessed at the end of worship, along with the hands that made them, and were then donated to our local chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Thank you for sharing your talents to meet a need in our community!



The Zion Quilters receiving a blessing during worship. Pictured (L to R): Norma Miller, Elaine Schumacher, Lois Chapin, Ruth Cordingly, and Glenn Denning

## Fireside Faith

The next Fireside Faith will be on Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the south parking lot. There will be food, games, fellowship, and fun! If the weather does not cooperate, the event will be moved indoors.



## Freezer Meal Drive

AUGUST 4-18

SPONSORED BY THE MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

## Freezer Meal Food Drive

The Mission and Outreach Committee is looking for donations for the freezer meal ministry. Please consider bringing a donation of a frozen meal (homemade or store bought) or a gift card to purchase meals from August 4-18; this will allow us to provide meals until the next prep day can be held. Meals can be brought to the church office during the week or placed directly in the freezer on Sunday mornings. Gift cards or monetary donations can also be dropped off in the office during the week or in the offering plate on Sundays.

# Worship Schedule

## S U M M E R 2 0 2 4

9:00 AM      Worship service with Holy Communion  
(livestreamed and live radio broadcast)

10:10 AM     Fellowship time

### 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 follows 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 Andrea Morehouse, Welcome and Outreach chair, or Pastor Nicole 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](mailto:zion@nvc.net).



**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**



**Mark your calendars and make plans to join us** on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. The committee will be contacting you to ask for donations or how you can help.

There will also be a quilt raffle with a beautiful quilt donated by Gene & Marilyn Bender.

### In the Works

- Plans for fall faith formation are well underway! Fall Kickoff Sunday will be on Sunday, September 8. There will be confirmation meetings on Sunday, September 22 for youth in grades 6-7-8 and Sunday, September 29 for 9th grade students. Letters will be sent home this month with all the details.
- Donna will be out of office from August 1-5.
- Sandra will out of office from August 1-6.

# IN THE WORKS



## ELCA Youth Gathering

In July, Cadynce German and Pastoral Assistant Sandra attended the ELCA Youth Gathering that was held in New Orleans. They shared their experience during worship on July 28 and again at the stockholder meal that was held later that evening. Below are a few snippets of the week. **Thank you** to all who supported their trip through donations and prayers—trips like these wouldn't be possible without you!



Top left: the Good Shepherd/Zion group at the beach

Top middle: a stop at the St. Louis Arch

Top right: Sandra and Cadynce after Synod worship

Middle left: Mass gathering of 16,000+ attendees

Middle right: Accompaniment Day

Bottom: all of the attendees from the Aberdeen area churches

## Confirmation Service Project

At the end of June, members of the 2024 Confirmation class joined together at the Salvation Army and packed lunches for their Snack Pack program. Over the course of their time there, they packed over 400 lunches to be served to youth at various parks throughout Aberdeen.

