

MAY 2025

ZION'S JOURNEY

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

From the Pastor's Pen
2025.05.01

Alleluia! He is Risen!

Those words remain a sweet sound to the ear one week, two weeks, one year, two years or a thousand years from now. Those words proclaim a truth. Christ was raised, and death does not have the final say!

In confirmation and in first communion we discussed the profoundness of this reality. Christ is the perfect lamb that marks our very lives, so death passes over us. We are free to live new lives, away from and out of oppressive states. This is certainly good news.

As we enter the month of May, we take this good news with us. The resurrection day may be over, but the celebration continues. In the life of the church, we honor Easter for fifty days. Jesus' resurrected being taught and guided the disciples for an additional forty days before his ascension. Not sure what to do, the disciples go into hiding for another 10 days; and on the fiftieth day from resurrection, God once again connected with the disciples. This time, instead of appearing in the flesh, the Spirit/Advocate arrives.

This time in this life of the church is a profound witness of hope and grace in a world that can be blanketed with cruelty and despair. Resurrection radiance is ours not just for one day but for many days, for a lifetime. Thanks be to God.

To celebrate this good new upon our lives, you are invited to claim your discipleship identity and jump in with Easter joy supporting our special discipleship/stewardship focuses for this month.

Love Offerings: Compassion from the Heart, Change for the World

May's Theme: Living Easter

Church Ministry Team Focus: Worship Life

Special & Noisy Offerings: Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota

Missional Outreach & Social Concerns Event: Adopt-a-Grad

Special Activities: Chords of Joy free concert event on May 4

Graduate recognition on May 11

What a Mess! VBS May 26-28

Blessings on the season before you. May the love of the Father surround you; may the grace of the Son be in you; may the calling of the Spirit propel you, empowering you to be Resurrection Radiance. In Jesus' name. Amen.



Happenings at Zion



Lenten Donations

Throughout the season of Lent, our focus was on Living as Light. One of the many ways to live as light in the world is to support others as they find shelter under the love of God. Missional Life set up collection stations for food items to benefit the Salvation Army and all who use their services. These items will be blessed during worship on April 27 before being donated the following week. Thank you to all who supported their ministry!

Maundy Thursday Meal

On Thursday, April 16, a supper of roast, potatoes, and carrots were served ahead of the Maundy Thursday worship, which included the Rite of First Holy Communion. At 5:45 PM, elements of a traditional Passover meal were distributed to each table, and Pastor Nicole gave a history behind the seder meal and invited those sitting at the tables to partake in trying the different elements. Some of these pieces included applesauce with nuts and raisins, wine, matzah, and parsley and salt water.



PASSOVER

Chords of Joy

The second annual Chords of Joy: Hymn Sing event will be held on **Sunday, May 4 at 2:00 PM in the Zion sanctuary**. This free music event is open to the public and is a celebration concert to share the gift of music. Local musical artists will be performing and sharing their musical talents on a variety of instruments, playing everything from classical to contemporary music. Refreshments will be available during a brief intermission time.

Chords of Joy

HYMN SING

A CONCERT EVENT TO SHARE THE GIFT OF MUSIC

MAY 4, 2025 | 2:00 PM

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

1732 S MAIN ST, ABERDEEN

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH IS ON INSTAGRAM

Follow us:
@zlcaberdeensd

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

Love Offerings: Compassion from the Heart, Change for the World

Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota

Last year, LSS of SD impacted the lives of 43,375 South Dakotans through a diverse range of statewide services. As one of South Dakota's largest, most comprehensive, private nonprofit human service organizations, LSS is dedicated to serving individuals and families of all ages, faiths, races, and economic circumstances. With professional, confidential, and affordable support, LSS is a trusted partner in building stronger communities. calling us into the world – together.

There are four main focus areas of services LSS provides:

- Youth Empowerment
- Community Connection
- Family Support
- Mental & Financial Wellness

For more information on the impact of LSS in SD, please visit: www.lsssd.org/services



Strengthening Individuals,
Families & Communities

Men's Fellowship Opportunity

On **Wednesday, May 28 at 8 PM**, there will be a men's meeting at The Circus 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!

MEN'S
FELLOWSHIP

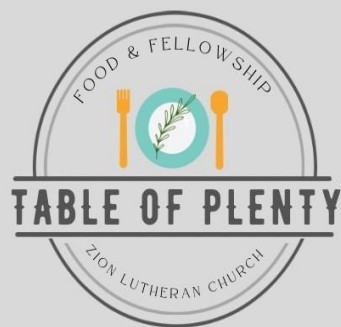


Table of Plenty

The next Table of Plenty meal will be **Monday, May 19 from 5:30-7:00 PM** in the Zion fellowship hall. Make plans to join us for delicious food and fellowship!

****Please note the date change due to the Memorial Day holiday.****

If you know of anyone wishing to sponsor a meal for 2025, please have them contact the church office.

Sheets Needed

Zion's quilters are looking for sheets of any size to help finish their current projects. If you have any sheets to donate, please bring them to 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 also give online today (multiple ways) by going to zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving

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



ZION HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Bethesda Home

Norman Denning
Carol Knispel
Esther Ottenbacher
Shirley Wagemann
Joyce Mentzer

Bethesda Town Sq.

Viola Tetherow
Lorraine Kusler
Elsie Geffre

California

Erna Schmierer

Nano Nagle

Jo Tolvstad

Meadowbrooke Ct

Frances Wolff

Derian Lodge

LaVon Elsen



Grateful for You

- ☺ Thank you to Lenny Tietz for refinishing the window sills in the kitchen.
- ☺ Thank you to Loren Nehlich for recaulking around the sinks and counters in the kitchen.
- ☺ Thank you to Pastor Nicole and Mike German for preparing a delicious Maundy Thursday meal.

Did You Know?

Did you know the Zion Youth collect cans to recycle? In the south parking lot up next to the building is an old trailer. If you collect aluminum cans to be recycled, please consider leaving them here to support our youth programming!

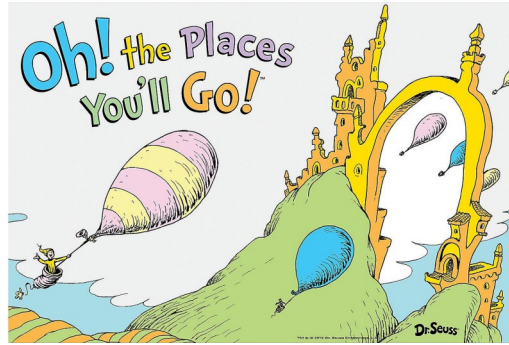


Noisy Offering

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.

Coming Up in May



Graduate Gifts

We will be gifting our graduates a copy of "Oh the Places You'll Go", complete with Bible verses and messages on Sunday, May 11. These books will be available for congregation members to sign and leave well-wishes for our graduates on Sunday mornings April 27 and May 4 in the narthex.

Envelope Wall Fundraiser

The mission trip participants are almost on their way to Milwaukee! Help them finalize their fundraising by participating in the envelope wall fundraiser! Throughout the month of May, stop at the board in the narthex and pick an envelope off the wall to help offset an expense. Scattered throughout the envelopes are also cards for ingredients you can donate for meals the group will prepare while on the trip. Monetary donations in the envelopes can be left in the church office. Please return all food donations by Sunday, June 1. Thank you for your support!



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 or contact Ministry Coordinator Sandra for ideas on how your Action Team can help support our ministries here at Zion and beyond.

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.

Faith and Family

First Holy Communion Milestone

On Wednesday, April 16, class and communion bread baking was held for those taking part in the Holy Communion milestone and their families. Participants 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 April 17. Avalon Jondahl, Duke Jondahl, Adalyn Moser, Olivia Moser, Kenny Nash, Cason Refsland, Ella VanderWeyst, and Emma VanderWeyst received Holy Communion for the first time, surrounded by family and their baptismal sponsors; they then served communion to their siblings in Christ. Congratulations on this faith milestone!



What a Mess VBS

Plans are in the works for Summer 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! The theme of our sessions is "What a Mess!". There will also be messy take-home kits for families to use for the summer! **Summer kickoff dates are May 26-28 beginning at 5:30 PM.** Registration forms are available in the office throughout the month, on our website, and on the Band App (you can print and bring with you to the first session).

VBS is open to all youth in grades preK-5.

Last Day of School Youth Event

There will be a youth event on the last day of school—**Tuesday, May 20 from 12:00-2:00 PM.** Join us for a fun time of fellowship; lunch will be served! Open to middle and high school youth—bring a friend! Van rides are available; talk with Sandra.



Faith and Family

CONGRATULATIONS!

**CLASS
OF 2025**

Graduates will be recognized
during 9:00 AM worship on:
Sunday, May 11th

Graduate Recognition

We will be recognizing the class of 2025 during worship on Sunday, May 11. 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!

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

Adopt-a-Grad Sponsors

As our high school graduates prepare to set out on their next chapter—whether heading to college, joining the workforce, or exploring other post-secondary paths—we invite you to become a part of their journey.

We're looking for congregation members to "adopt" a graduate and serve as a source of encouragement and care over the coming year. From a distance, you will be able to connect through simple gestures like notes, small care packages, texts, or prayers. Your support can be a steady reminder that their church family is cheering them on.

If you're willing to walk alongside one of our grads during this exciting transition, please contact the church office. Let's show our young adults how deeply they are loved!

 **Adopt-a-Grad**

Summer Youth Conference

We have an exciting opportunity to share with the middle and high school youth! A group of ELCA youth directors and pastors are organizing a summer youth conference on **Saturday, August 2 from 10 AM—4 PM** at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church here in Aberdeen. The event will feature Dr. Michael Chan, a keynote speaker from the ELCA Youth Gathering, along with breakout sessions full of faith and fun, worship, and music provided by Tangled Blue. Food will be provided, and the cost is **free!**

If you are interested in attending this event, please connect with MC Sandra by Monday, June 9.

**MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL
SUMMER
YOUTH**
Conference

Featuring.

DR. MICHAEL CHAN, KEYNOTE FROM
THE ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

MUSIC FROM **TANGLED BLUE**

2 AUG
SATURDAY
10 - 04
AM PM

GOOD SHEPHERD
ABERDEEN, SD

Worship Schedule

9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion
(livestream 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 are 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, Missional Life 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.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**



Birthday Celebration

Happy birthday to Delores Anderson, who celebrated her 90th birthday on Wednesday, April 9! Cake was served during fellowship time on Sunday the 13th in her honor.

**DRIVE UP
DONUTS**

FRIDAY, MAY 16

7:30-8:00 AM

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
SOUTH PARKING LOT

Drive Up Donuts

On the third Friday in May, donuts and a devotion will be available for pickup at Zion. Simply enter the south parking lot, 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. **We will hold a special Drive Up Donuts event on the Friday before the last day of school—Friday, May 16 from 7:30-8 AM before breaking for the summer. This event is open to all.**

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

Staff

Reverend Nicole Martin..... Pastor
 Saundra Anderson.....MC: Worship & Faith Life
 Mike German.....MC: Missional Life
 Sonya Kempf.....Director of Music
 Sue Gates.....Accompanist & Music Support
 Stephanie Hawkinson.....Praise Band Director
 Art Ketterling.....Maintenance Coordinator
 Deb Larson.....Bookkeeper

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:

Marje Kaiser.....President
 Kirsten Nash.....Vice-President
 Vicki Carlson.....Treasurer
 Stacy Geffre.....Secretary

Council Representatives:

Jessica Moser.....Faith Formation
 VACANT.....Finance & Stewardship
 Andrea Morehouse.....Missional Life
 April Nehlich.....Properties
 Kathy Heffernan.....Worship Life
 Carmel Heyd.....Member-at-large

Radio Broadcast Sponsorships

We have several openings in the months ahead! If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, please call the church office to pick your Sunday.

Upcoming dates:

May 11, 18 June 1, 15, 29 July 13

RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS NEEDED

Call the office at 225-6755 to sign up

\$110 for whole broadcast
 \$55 for half



ZION MEMORIALS

Memorial gifts are a meaningful way to honor friends and loved ones who have passed. If you would like to make a donation to one of our ministries in their memory, please contact the church office.

<u>In Memory of:</u>	<u>For:</u>	<u>From:</u>
Lois Sollie	Altar Guild	Wilma Zimmerman
Lois Sollie	Trust Fund	Gladys Melcher
Darlene Heupel	Trust Fund	Gladys Melcher
Kathleen Samuelson	Trust Fund	Gladys Melcher

In Loving Memory

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

THANK YOU!



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT

THROUGH March 31, 2025

Budgeted March Expenses:	\$30,000.00
Actual March Income:	\$28,099.81
Actual March Expenses:	<u>\$27,156.75</u>
Total:	\$943.06