

## "Noble Note"

What does it mean to belong to church? What does it mean to be a member of a specific congregation? What are the expectations of being a church member? What is my individual role within my own church? Does it really matter what church I belong to?

For some, membership is nothing more than an archaic practice to force people into thinking a certain way. For some, it means being connected to a group which serves you and meets your needs; and if those needs or expectations aren't met, then it's off to another group. For others, membership means accountability in helping you to reach a certain goal. For others, it means knowing who you can trust and rely on; it defines who your extended family is.

I have recently been having conversations about membership, and so I thought I'd use this article as an opportunity to extend that conversation to the rest of the Zion family. When I discuss church membership, I like to share 4 reasons why it's important and 4 commitments we hold as members of a congregation. Even though I share these in its very basic forms, I want to encourage us to deepen this conversation at another time.

### **Four Reasons to commit to church membership:**

1. *A Biblical reason:* Jesus was committed to the Church, leading us to do the same.
2. *A Cultural reason:* It's an antidote to our self-serving society and helps build character and an identity of ownership.
3. *A Practical reason:* It brings about unity and tells us who we can count on and trust.
4. *A Personal reason:* It keeps us accountable for our own spiritual growth and enables us to serve one another in unique ways.

### **Four commitments we hold as church members:**

1. *We will protect the unity of the church* by acting in love towards one another by using our words and deeds to build each other up.
2. *We will share in the responsibilities of the church* by actively participating in its worship and studies and fellowship. We will pray for its growth and well being and represent the faith with Godly living.
3. *We will serve the ministry of the church* by utilizing our God-given talents and abilities to actively participate within the various ministries of the church.
4. *We will support the ministry of the church* through the giving of finances and time so that the Gospel may continue to go out into our communities and into the rest of the world.

I am glad that you are a part of this church family! May God continue to bless you as you receive love and care through this congregation, and may God continue to bless this congregation through you. I am honored to be serving this church family with you.

So never forget: You belong here and are never alone. You matter to the rest of us and you play an important role in this family. You are an instrument of God, already fully equipped with what you need to be God's hands and feet in this place.

Here are a few Scripture references to read and reflect upon:

Acts 2:42-47  
Romans 12:1-21  
Romans 15:5-7  
1 Corinthians 12:12-31  
Ephesians 2:11-22  
Ephesians 4:1-16  
Colossians 3:1-17  
Hebrews 10:19-25  
1 Peter 2:4-10

In His Service,  
Pastor Andy Noble



# L.W.M.L.

“Serve the  
Lord with  
Gladness”

## EVENING CIRCLE:

The Evening Circle will be meeting at 7pm on Wednesday, June 4th at the home of Marilyn Mueggenberg

**MARTHA CIRCLE:**

Sandy Hunter

**CHANCEL CIRCLE:**

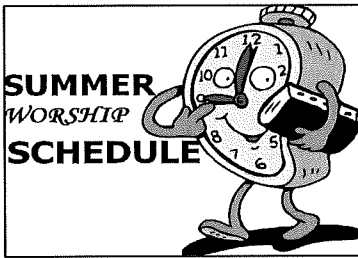
Donna Rickers & Melissa Ehlers

**PARISH CIRCLE:**

Deb Owen

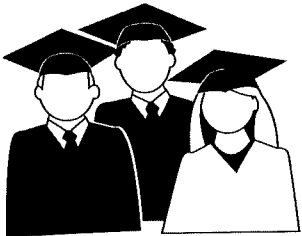


This reminder goes out endlessly, but sewing circle is **ALWAYS** in need of sheets, lightweight blankets, and **NEW** material for making quilt tops, middles and backs. A small group of ladies are the core of this worthwhile project. Quilt tops/backs are made at home and the quilts are tied at church. The VBS will be using this project again, and it anticipated that this year's group will assemble 40 or more quilts. This means that at least 120 tops, insides and backs are needed!!! The large pieces of material (especially sheets) speed up the job!



**Divine Worship: 10:00 am**

**Adult Bible Class 9:00 am**



**Scholarship Recipients**

We would like to offer our congratulations Wade Ragaller who was the recipient of the Violetta Andersen Scholarship and to Kendra Schuette, who was the recipient of the Zion Memorial Scholarship and Wade Ragaller received the Lila Thiedeman Scholarship

# V.B.S



Greetings to all students and friends of Zion. This is a reminder that V.B.S. will be held **Tuesday to Friday, June 3-6**. Our theme this year is “Epic Australian Adventure” An unforgettable Journey with Jesus. Our classes will begin with opening devotions at 8:30 am (so plan your arrival accordingly) and will end with closing devotions at 11:30 am. All children ages 4 through the 6th grade are invited and encouraged to attend.

**REMINDERS:** 1) Students are reminded that “good” clothes should **NOT** be worn as some craft projects can be kind of messy. 2) Daily offerings will be taken and given for a special mission project.

**QUILTS:** The 5th-6th Graders will be tying quilts with anticipation of out doing the number from last year. If you have any sheets, lightweight blankets, etc, please bring them to the church as this will help with the project.

**MISSION PROJECT FOR 2025:** Our offering this year will be used for the local Food Pantries and also for the Crossroads Storks Nest and Foster Care Closet: If you child would like they can bring Non Perishable Food items for the Food Pantry or any baby items for the Stork’s nest (wipes, bibs, sleepers, onsies, kids’ pajamas, underwear, diapers and kids shampoo and soaps )

**T-SHIRTS:** Students are reminded that they can bring a T-shirt to have the VBS decal ironed on. Please make sure the child’s name and grade are marked on the shirt.

*“Jesus is the way, and the truth, and the life!”*

John 14:6

# V.B.S

## June 3-6, 2025

## 8:30-11:30 am



### **Called to Care – A Time for Action**

Right now, there is a critical need for foster families in our local communities, and the Church has a unique opportunity to respond with compassion and purpose. If you've ever felt the calling to open your home or support children in need, this is the time to explore what that could look like.

We have foster parent training classes being offered in your area this spring and summer. Whether you feel led to foster or simply want to help spread the word, your involvement can make a life-changing impact.

Together, let's be the hands and feet of love and care in our community. To begin the process of becoming a foster parent please go to [www.lsiowa.org/foster](http://www.lsiowa.org/foster) or [www.iowafostercareandadoption.org](http://www.iowafostercareandadoption.org). and follow the link to become a foster parent.

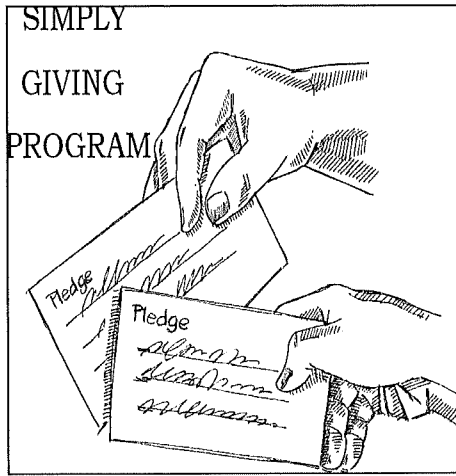
If you are interested in more information about me and Lutheran Services in Iowa:

Here is some background information about me and Lutheran Services in Iowa's role in providing foster care and adoptive services.

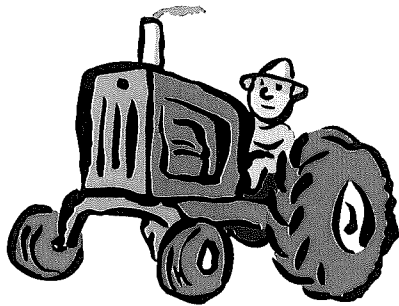
I have been a member of our Zion Lutheran Church, Arcadia since 1990 and a lifelong member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. I recognize that there is some confusion at times between Lutheran Family Services and Lutheran Services in Iowa. I want to clarify that we have absolutely no overlap in services for foster care or adoption. I have been an employee at Lutheran Services in Iowa for over 30 years working with Foster Care Services and Adoption when the state is involved through the child welfare system. We also provide services for Kinship Foster Care and Adoption Services. LSI no longer provides Private Adoption Services as Lutheran Family Services does. I promote Lutheran Family Service services and what we do for foster care and adoption through LSI and the state of Iowa, does not overlap with the LFS ministry and services. In Iowa all state foster care and adoption services are managed through a contract with the Department of Health and Human Services. Starting in 2023 there became one statewide contract to oversee foster care and adoption for the state of Iowa and Four Oaks Foster Care and Adoption handles that primary contract – subcontracting with Lutheran Services in Iowa. In Western Iowa there are no Four Oaks offices, however LSI (Lutheran Services in Iowa) has offices in Sioux City, Spencer, Storm Lake, Denison and Council Bluffs. LSI provides all foster care and adoption services for the Western Service area covering 38 counties. I am the LSI Foster Care and Adoption Program Director, and I am the Four Oaks subcontracted director to oversee the Western Iowa Foster Care and Adoption Services.

Thank you so much for taking the time to help us find individuals who would be able to positively impact children and their families as foster parents. If you or organizations in your congregation want more information about foster care and adoption, I am available to come and speak to your congregation or church organizations.

I am willing to talk with you more about our services if you have any questions. Please feel free to reach out to me at [dawn.luetje@lsiowa.org](mailto:dawn.luetje@lsiowa.org) or call me at 712-263-9341 ext 5352.



In the busy times we are currently in, handling the finances of our congregation is requiring more and more work. In an effort to save our financial people time we ask that you consider an old idea, that of the Simply Giving Program. To refresh your memory, Simply Giving is a program where once a week, once a month, or twice a month, your offering is automatically deducted from your checking account and automatically deposited into the churches account. All you will need to do is once a week (or whatever you choose) is to record the amount in your check register. That is all there is to it. The amount is set by you and doesn't change unless you request it to be changed or discontinued. Special services like Advent, Lent, Christmas, etc are **NOT** automatically deducted and we would encourage you to use your offering envelopes for those services just like in the past. For each person our Financial Secretary has to handle 52 envelopes and bookkeeping entries per year, and when you multiply that by approximately 250 envelope numbers, that is a significant amount of work that could be avoided by using the Simply Giving Program. An additional bonus would be that our giving throughout the year would be more consistent. We prayerfully ask that you consider making this small change that would be of big help. To learn more about this program, please contact the church office



### HARVEST ACCOUNT

As in the past several years many members of Zion have offered their thanks to the Lord at harvest (or anytime) by presenting a part of their harvest to the Lord. If you would like to offer a gift to the Lord you can do so by letting the Arcadia Elevator know how many bushels of corn or beans you would like to give and that it is for Zion's Harvest Account



### DADDY'S HANDS

I remember daddy's hands folded silently in prayer  
 And reaching' out to hold me, when I had a nightmare  
 You could read quite a story in the callous' and lines  
 Years of work and worry had left their mark behind I remember daddy's hands how they held my mama tight  
 And patted my back for something done right  
 There are things that I'd forgotten that I loved about the man  
 But I'll always remember the love in daddy's hands . Daddy's hands were soft and kind when I was cryin'  
 Daddy's hands were hard as steel when I'd done wrong  
 Daddy's hands weren't always gentle but I've come to understand  
 There was always love in daddy's hands. I remember daddy's hands workin' 'til they bled  
 Sacrificed unselfishly just to keep us all fed  
 If I could do things over, I'd live my life again  
 And never take for granted the love in daddy's hands

By Holly Dunn

## **'Well, kiddo, it's you and me!'**

T.J., a boy with developmental delays, is featured in *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Children With Special Needs*. T.J. and his father, who'd long yearned for a son, settled into a routine of daily outings.

Stacey, one of T.J.'s sisters, was moved when she realized how much their father loved that together time. One day, as their dad made T.J. laugh, "T.J. stopped and reached up to softly touch our father's face," Stacey writes. "My dad looked down at him and said ... 'Well, kiddo, it looks like it's you and me for the rest of my life.' There wasn't a sense of sadness or burden in my father's voice, only acceptance and unconditional love."

Our Father God says the same to each of us: "Well, kiddo, it's you and me forever!" No matter our weaknesses, our differences or even our tendencies to avoid time with him, God speaks with complete acceptance and love. He loves being with us — just as we are — and rejoices to be our Father forever.

### **A father's love**

In all that you do, a dad's love plays a part.

There's always a place for him deep in your heart.

And each year that passes, you're even more glad,

More grateful and proud just to call him your dad!

—Author unknown

This age-old refrain of young travelers is followed by a second question: "How much longer?" How similar those queries are to the psalmist's oft-repeated cry, "How long, O Lord, how long?"

(Psalm 6:3b, NIV).

Patience is an uncommon virtue these days. We're anxious to get where we're going or to get what we want. But think how much we miss while wishing we were elsewhere! In our rush to reach a destination, we fail to grasp lessons that can be learned only along the way.

What blessings might you be overlooking in the here-and-now and the right-where-you-are?

—Kari Myers

### **What is a Christian family?**

**A CHRISTIAN FAMILY** is one in which parents so live the Christian life, and practice the presence of God that children come to accept God as the greatest reality of life.

**A CHRISTIAN FAMILY** is one in which each member is accepted and respected as a person having sacred worth.

**A CHRISTIAN FAMILY** is one that accepts the responsibility of worship and instruction to the end of developing the spiritual life of each person.

**A CHRISTIAN FAMILY** is one that manifests a faith in God, observes daily prayer and grace at meals.

**A CHRISTIAN FAMILY** is one that is committed to behavior in keeping with Christian ideals for family relations, community life, and national and world citizenship.

June 15, 2025

FATHER'S  
DAY

# A WORD COLLAGE FOR Dad

Create this artwork to express your love and appreciation for your dad or another special man this Father's Day.

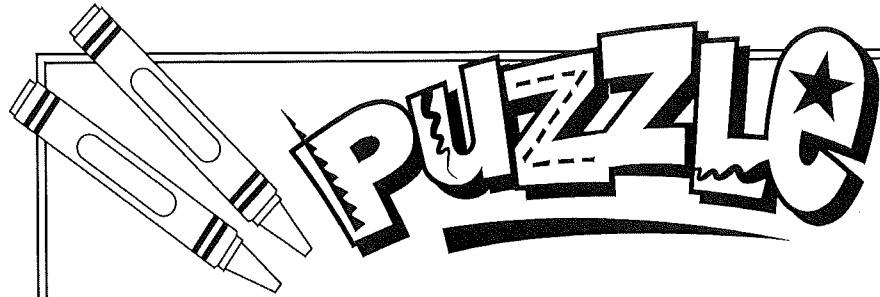


### What you need:

- A white painting canvas, foam-core board or poster board
- Letter stickers (or foam letters and glue)

### What you do:

1. Using the letters, spell out words that describe your dad's character (loving, honest, godly, etc.) and/or his titles (protector, provider, mentor, etc.).
2. Arrange words in a crossword style, both horizontally and vertically.
3. When you have a design you like, stick the words onto the blank canvas or board.
4. Present the gift to your dad or another special man on Father's Day. He'll enjoy this reminder of your love and appreciation.



## A FATHER'S LOVE

Psalm 103:13 (NIV) describes what God the Father feels toward us:  
 "As a father has \_\_\_\_\_ on his children, so the LORD has \_\_\_\_\_ on those who fear him."

Directions: Match the biblical children to their father, using the clues by the father's name. Then write the corresponding letter on the line to complete the Bible verse above.

- |                             |                         |   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| • Shem, Ham and Japheth = M | • Rachel and Leah = S   | • Cain, Abel and Seth = O   |
| • Solomon = O               | • Isaac and Ishmael = P | • Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin, Dan, Gad, |
| • Jonathan = I              | • John the Baptist = N  | • Jacob and Esau = A  |
| • Jesus = C                 |                         | Naphtali, Asher and Dinah = S   |

- |                   |  |          |
|-------------------|--|----------|
| <b>God:</b>       | "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."   | <u>C</u> |
| <b>Adam:</b>      | God gave him another son because his older killed the younger.   | _____    |
| <b>Noah:</b>      | His sons were blessed and told to multiply and replenish the earth.  | _____    |
| <b>Abraham:</b>   | God promised he would be a father of many nations. The Jews and Arabs descended from these two sons.               | _____    |
| <b>Isaac:</b>     | His older son sold his birthright, and his younger son tricked Isaac and received the blessings for the firstborn. | _____    |
| <b>Laban:</b>     | He had two daughters; the older was tender-eyed and the younger very beautiful. Both married Jacob.                | _____    |
| <b>Jacob:</b>     | Two wives and two handmaids gave him 12 sons and a daughter.   | _____    |
| <b>Saul:</b>      | His son was David's best friend.   | _____    |
| <b>David:</b>     | He had many children, but one was known for his wisdom, for having many wives and for building God's temple.       | _____    |
| <b>Zechariah:</b> | His son, a cousin to Jesus, was born to be a messenger of repentance.  | _____    |

Answers: compassion



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## *PRESIDENT'S PAGE*

The Rev. Dr. Steven Turner

Iowa District West, LCMS

[steve@iowadistrictwest.org](mailto:steve@iowadistrictwest.org) / 515-576-7666

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Dear friends in Christ,

By the time you read this article, there will soon be a new district president in Iowa District West. I will be retired both as president and as pastor. As I reflect on the past decade, my heart is filled with gratitude and love for each of you. Serving as your district president has been one of the greatest honors of my life, and it is with mixed emotions that I retire.

Over the past ten years, we have journeyed together through significant moments of joy and sorrow, growth and challenge. I have witnessed your unwavering faith, your compassion for one another, and your dedication to our shared mission. These experiences have profoundly shaped me, and I am forever grateful for the trust and support you have shown me.

I am proud of the milestones we have achieved together. From expanding outreach to our immigrant communities, to nurturing partnerships between congregations and with our pastors and professional church workers. I believe we have made significant strides in living out our faith. Our district continues to be a beacon in our Synod of Christ-centered worship and amazing support of the mission of God.

As I step down from my role, I am confident that the foundation on which we built will continue to flourish. I encourage you to embrace the future with the same passion and dedication that has brought us this far. Remember that our strength lies not in us, but in the mercy and grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

As I reflect on my 10 years as district president and 40 years of ministry, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible journey it has been. I am thankful for the pastors, professional church workers and congregational leaders of Iowa District West. A special word of thanks to the Circuit Visitors who always came alongside me in difficult situations. To congregational elders, who have shown themselves to be men of God. I express my deepest appreciation to the staff of Iowa District West who have worked tirelessly alongside me. Your support and collaboration have been invaluable, and I am grateful for the friendships we have made. As I have said in the past, I believe the IDW staff is the best in the LCMS!

I want to acknowledge and thank the person who has been my unwavering support and constant companion throughout this journey—my wife, Darlene.

From the very beginning, Darlene has stood by my side, offering her love, wisdom, and encouragement. Her faith and dedication have been a source of strength for me, especially during

challenging times. She has shared in the joys and sorrows, the triumphs and trials, always with a heart full of grace and compassion.

She has been a true partner in every sense. I am deeply grateful for her patience, her understanding, and her unwavering support of my ministry. You will never know the sacrifices she has made both personally and professionally so I could serve. I could not have asked for a better partner on this journey. She has been my rock, my confidant, and my greatest blessing. I am eternally grateful for her and look forward to the many more years we will share together.

Finally, and most importantly, I thank my Savior, Jesus Christ. I am filled with gratitude for His grace and mercy. We hear talk today about a “gold standard” in pastoral ministry. But honestly, I am much more like tin. And yet, God has chosen to use me, despite my weaknesses and imperfections. 1 Corinthians 1:25-30 reminds us that God’s strength is made perfect in our weakness. God called the foolish to shame the wise, and the weak to shame the strong.

Thank You, Jesus, for using me, a *tinman*, to carry out Your will. I am deeply thankful for the ways You have equipped me for this ministry. The Holy Spirit has empowered me, Your Word has enlightened me, and Your grace has sustained me. I am honored to be a part of Your divine plan.

Though I am leaving my position as district president, I am looking forward to seeing how God will be using Iowa District West. May God bless each of you abundantly and guide you in all your endeavors.

With heartfelt gratitude and blessings—Always in Grace,

Pastor Steve Turner



On a Mission  
to Support  
Christ's Mission!

June 2025

409 Kenyon Road, Suite B — Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501  
515-576-7666 Fax 515-576-2323 [www.idw/icms.org](http://www.idw/icms.org)  
Contact email: [sue@iowadistrictwest.org](mailto:sue@iowadistrictwest.org)

Dear Friends in Christ,



As I prepare to embark on a new chapter in my life, I wanted to take a moment to express my thanks for the wonderful years we have shared together. It has been my honor to serve as your District President. You have been faithful *Partners in the Gospel* and a joy to work with. Your prayers, fellowship, and faith have been a constant source of strength and inspiration.

Starting next month, I will be spending more time at our cabin in Minnesota and at our townhouse in Des Moines. This time will be devoted to loving my dear wife Darlene, hopefully cleaning a lot of fish and doting on our four wonderful grandchildren. These moments with family are precious, and I am looking forward to creating many cherished memories with them.

While I will be stepping back from my regular duties, my commitment to sharing the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ remains unwavering. In one year, (I need to give the new district president time to settle in) I will be ready and willing to return to the pulpit and preach for your congregations once again. Until then, I will keep you all in my prayers.

Thank you for the love and kindness you have shown me. I am blessed to be part of such a wonderful synod of congregations, pastors, and professional church workers. I look forward to reconnecting with you all soon.

Always in Grace,  
Pastor Steve Turner

**IOWA LUTHERAN SCHOOL TUITION ORGANIZATION (ILSTO)**

Please Help ILSTO be fully funded for 2025.  
For the 2025 tax year, the legislature has allocated \$20,000,000 for Tuition Tax Credits for the STO program across the state of Iowa so ILSTO will have \$892,362 in tax credits to distribute to donors and has set a goal to raise \$1,189,816. We are currently at 5% of our goal. We need your help to raise this money. Current tax laws have changed, so please consult your tax preparer for the impact on your tax situation. Contact Dewey Torkelson for more information at 712-260-2991.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT CAMP OKOBOJI**

JOY CAMP is a four-day-camp for individuals with special needs. We hold two sessions each summer at Camp Okoboji. This year's dates are: Session One June 5-8 & Session Two July 10-13. We currently have our nursing duties covered, but welcome other volunteers to assist our campers during their weekend with us. If you think JOY Camp might be a fit for you, but you are uncertain about committing to the full weekend, come visit for a day or an afternoon to get a hands-on idea of what we do. If interested, please "private message" our Facebook page for additional information: [facebook.com/joy.camp.507](https://www.facebook.com/joy.camp.507) or email Dawn Ludwig at [star\\_trek\\_fan@live.com](mailto:star_trek_fan@live.com) Thank you!

**THE LUTHERAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION** has a wide variety of resources available to share the Gospel with Asian immigrants in languages like Chinese (Simplified and Traditional), Vietnamese, and Hmong (Blue and White). From the *Book of Concord* and the *Small Catechism* to children's Bible storybooks, these resources are FREE for our LCMS congregations. Visit [LHFmissions.org](http://LHFmissions.org) to see what LHF can send you!

**PASTORS WIVES RETREAT**

"Radiant & Restored" (Ephesians 5:8-9)  
Friday, October 10—Sunday, October 12  
Speaker—Renee Gibbs  
Camp Okoboji—Bethel Retreat Center  
Cost \$75  
More information will be shared soon.

**Calendar of Events**

June 8-10...District Convention, Camp Okoboji  
July 4...Independence Day, District Office Closed  
August 8...Early Childhood Conference, Gloria Dei, Urbandale

For more information on Iowa District West activities,  
view [The Messenger](http://The Messenger at www.idw/icms.org/publications.php) at [www.idw/icms.org/publications.php](http://www.idw/icms.org/publications.php)



# Update

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- June 5-8: J.O.Y. CAMP 1  
June 8-10: IOWA DISTRICT WEST CONVENTION  
June 14: AUXILIARY ANNUAL QUILT AUCTION  
June 15-21: MINNEBOJI CAMP

**Help Wanted:** Camp Okoboji is in great need of additional cleaning staff as well as two summer cooks! Please spread the word. Contact Kellie at (712) 337-3325 or [kellie@campokoboji.org](mailto:kellie@campokoboji.org).

**AUXILIARY ANNUAL QUILT AUCTION:** Join us Saturday, June 14 for a freewill lunch beginning at 11:00 AM, shop at the craft table, view and examine the quilts and enjoy the afternoon bidding on the quilts of your choice to support the Auxiliary as they raise funds for Camp Okoboji.

## *Thank You!*

THANKS to volunteers and groups who give so generously of their time and talents in serving Camp Okoboji.

- Many, many thanks to the volunteers who joined us for Volunteer Weekend!
- I can't thank enough the volunteers that helped us with the Wittenberg Academy Family Retreat this year – we can't do it without you, thank you!
- Special "THANKS" to the volunteers who served as delegates to the Annual Meeting!

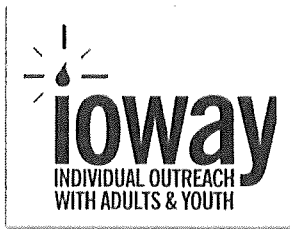


Jim Schroeder, IDW Gift Planning Counselor, received the Friend of Camp award at the Annual Meeting. Carole White, retired IDW Vice President for LCEF, also received the award.

## **Summer Chaplain Schedule**

Join us for worship - 9 am

- May 25 - Rev. Chris Nitzel - Hartley  
June 1 - Rev. Pedro Lopez - IDW  
June 8 - Rev. Mark Resner - Whittemore  
June 15 - Rev. Neil Wehmas - Ida Grove  
June 22 - Rev. Dr. B Keith Haney - IDW  
June 29 - Rev. Ezra Grabau - Sioux City  
July 6 - Rev. Charlie Adams - Omaha, NE  
July 13 - Rev. Joe Pierson - Webster City  
July 20 - Rev. Cory Kroonblawd - Sac City  
July 27 - Rev. Dennis Martens - Jefferson  
August 3 - Rev. James Travis - Sioux City  
August 10 - Rev. Bryan Stecker - Waconia, MN  
August 17 - Rev. Joshua Lowe - Hawarden  
August 24 - Rev. Glen Emery - Fairbury, NE  
August 31 - Rev. Robert Zellmer - Lawton



Julie Mann  
 IOWAY Director / Disaster Response Coordinator  
[julie@iowadistrictwest.org](mailto:julie@iowadistrictwest.org)  
 515-408-9696

When I was growing up, after school had dismissed for the summer, we had plenty of opportunities for things to do around our home and neighborhood; adventuring with friends, reading a book, biking the area, creating a melodrama or off the cuff concert, and many more fun things. Now, if your parents were creative like mine were, there was always a list of things we could do if we uttered the infamous words “I’m bored!”. They were not nearly as high ranking on the fun-o-meter; mowing the lawn, cleaning our rooms, washing windows, picking up after the dog, pulling weeds, and again, many more.

I am encouraging you to look for opportunities this summer of ways to engage in the fun of outreach through your congregation, district connections, and things happening in your community. Here are a few ideas to start you off!

- Mercy Meals of the Siouxland - All events are held at Faith Lutheran Church, 3101 Hamilton Blvd, Sioux City. Children ages 8 -11 may package meals accompanied by a supervising adult. Children and youth ages 11 and older may package alone. Children under age 8 should not be brought to packaging events. Sealing of bags will be done by an adult.



**Saturdays - June 21, July 26, August 23, 2025 - Events at 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM**

If you would like to bring a group to package meals, please contact us by phone or email: (712) 258-0808 (landline), Margee (712) 251-0366 (cell), or [mercymealsofsiouxland@gmail.com](mailto:mercymealsofsiouxland@gmail.com).

- Contact your outreach/human care/congregational life committees to see how you can help with your VBS this summer. There always seems to be a wealth of opportunities to help out to get prepped, being in person the days of (usually a big need), or for item donations to help things run smoothly and keep the budget in check.

- Does your community host a festival or parade? Gather some of your fellow congregation members (even ask those you may not know well) to put together a display table/booth/tent/float to share what's going on at your church and make connections. Even if your church has been around for 150 years, people may not know how friendly you are. Let your community know they are important to you and that Jesus loves, died and rose for all.
- Lead a small group prayer gathering in the park. There are prayer warriors among us – be bold. Ask for prayer requests from your congregation and those who may wonder what you're up to.
- Host a meal in a local park. It doesn't have to be fancy! Enjoy the bounty of the summer, especially if you plan to do it during sweetcorn season.



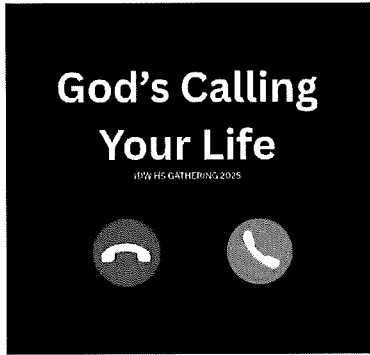
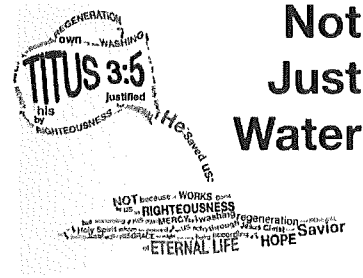
All of these ideas are about connecting with our neighbors. Do the relational pieces to lay the foundation. Surprise – you don't even have to evangelize in an overt way. Chat a bit, listen more, and the Holy Spirit will guide you and the conversations. People will want to know why you're doing what you're doing, and you simply let them know that it's out of love because God has abundantly blessed you with grace and mercy. Have a fabulous summer!

Regarding outreach, if you and/or your congregation already have summer plans rolling, I'd love to hear them! Please email me and share the fun – [Julie@IowaDistrictWest.org](mailto:Julie@IowaDistrictWest.org).



**Education Youth Family Life**  
 Rhonda J. Mohr Assistant to the President 515-573-0010  
 rhonda@iowadistrictwest.org

**Junior Youth Gathering**  
 Dean – Pastor Nick Thackery  
 Theme – “Not Just Water” (Titus 3:5)  
 October 18-19  
 Sheraton, West Des Moines  
 Cost \$175



**Senior Youth Gathering**  
 Dean – Pastor Alex Slotter  
 Theme – “God’s Calling Your Life” (Ephesians 2:10)  
 November 21-23  
 Holiday Inn at the Airport, Des Moines  
 Cost \$250

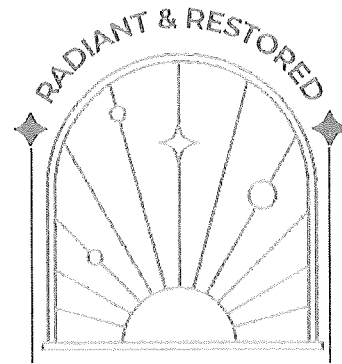
## Pastors Wives Retreat

**Friday, October 10 – Sunday, October 12**  
**Speaker – Renee Gibbs**

**Camp Okoboji-Bethel Retreat Center**

**Cost \$75 (Iowa District West encourages congregations or LWML groups to cover the cost of the retreat if their pastor’s wife would like to attend.)**

Planning Committee – Chair-Brianne Roehrig, Lindsay Letsche, Veronica Demski and IDW Assistant to the President-Rhonda Mohr. Many more details to come!



IDW PASTORS WIVES  
 RETREAT 2025

*Ephesians 5:8-9*

# JUNE

Sunday

1  
Read  
Peter 3:21.  
Pray for your baptismal sponsors and children your family sponsors.

Monday

2  
Read  
Mark 1:4.  
Who is John the Baptist?

Tuesday

3  
Read  
Ephesians 2:8-9.  
Memorize this passage.

Wednesday

4  
Read  
Acts 10:47-48.  
Pick a song of praise to sing.

Thursday

5  
Read  
Romans 6:3.  
Tell the Easter account in your own words.

Friday

6  
Read  
John 1:33.  
Who is speaking in this verse?

Saturday

7  
Read  
Matthew 3:16.  
Draw what you hear in this verse.

8  
Read  
John 14:23.  
Share your favorite Bible verse.

9  
Read  
Ephesians 4:5.  
Memorize this verse.

10  
Read  
Acts 9:18.  
Pray for someone who has left the church.

11  
Read  
Colossians 2:12.  
Flex your muscles and say, "God is powerful!"

12  
Read  
Acts 2:41-42.  
Recite 3 different prayers (the Lord's Prayer, Luther's Morning/ Evening Prayer, etc.).

13  
Read  
Ezekiel 36:25-26.  
Sprinkle water on each other's foreheads.

14  
Read  
Hebrews 10:22-23.  
Make actions for the Nicene Creed.

15  
Read  
Matthew 3:17.  
Ask an adult about your baptismal day.

16  
Read  
Acts 22:16.  
Memorize this verse.

17  
Read  
Colossians 2:9-10.  
Finish the sentence "Jesus is . . ."

18  
Read  
Mark 16:16.  
Recite the Apostles' Creed.

19  
Read  
1 Corinthians 12:27.  
Pray for your congregation.

20  
Read  
Acts 8:36-38.  
Pray for a missionary your congregation supports.

21  
Read  
1 Peter 3:18.  
Shout, "Jesus is alive!"

22  
Read  
Matthew 28:19.  
Who in your life can you invite to church?

23  
Read  
Romans 6:11.  
Memorize this verse.

24  
Read  
Acts 18:8.  
Discuss what it means to believe in Jesus.

25  
Read  
Galatians 3:25-27.  
Ask an adult about their confirmation.

26  
Read  
Titus 3:5.  
What does the word regeneration mean?

27  
Read  
1 Corinthians 12:13.  
Look at pictures of baptismal fonts at different churches.

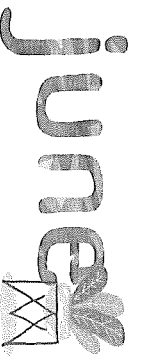
28  
Read  
Acts 2:38.  
Pray a prayer of repentance.

29  
Read  
John 3:5.  
Pray for the most recent person baptized at your church.

30  
Read  
Romans 6:4.  
Make up actions to go with this verse.

SUNDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1 <i>Marilyn Mueggenberg Anna Schuette Cara Schuette Steve &amp; Tammy Leiting</i>	2	3	4 <i>Lois Dirks Caroline Niehaus</i>	5 <i>Andy Leiting</i>	6	7 <i>Jeff &amp; Dawn Luetje</i>
8 <i>Adam &amp; Renee Vetter</i>	9 <i>Rachel Travis Rich &amp; Marilyn Mueggenberg</i>	10 <i>Duane Bald Sara Stinner Logan Sterk</i>	11 <i>Michel Rickers Doug &amp; Beth Hansman</i>	12 <i>Darleen Linde Doug Schuette</i>	13 <i>Julie Liechti Andrea Vonahme</i>	14 <i>Tasha Bair</i>
15 <i>Rodonna Neumann</i>	16 <i>Mary Erps Jon Vetter Larry &amp; Jean Jons</i>	17 <i>Tim Ruhland Kyle &amp; Brooke Bass Dale &amp; Beth Witrock</i>	18 <i>Adam Vetter Nick &amp; Amber Leiting</i>	19 <i>Marcus Brockman Dan &amp; Deb Witrock</i>	20 <i>Easton Prebeck Jessica Scott</i>	21 <i>Joe Petersen</i>
22 <i>Mary Brulin Dale Musfeldt</i>	23 <i>Brooks Gallagher Waylan Scott</i>	24	25 <i>Carm Thiedeman</i>	26	27	28 <i>Duane &amp; Shirley Bald Nick &amp; Danielle Schrad</i>
29 <i>Delaney Schurke Kyle Segebart</i>	30 <i>Kim Brockman Brandt Muhlbauer Ross Schuette</i>					





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 8:30-11:30 VBS	4 8:30-11:34 VBS 7:00 Evening Cir	5 8:30-11:30 VBS	6 8:30-11:30 VBS	7
8 10:00 DW 11:00 Council Meeting	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 10:00 DW/HC Father's Day	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 10:00 DW/HC	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 10:00 DW/HC	30					

**USHERS**

Dwight Ehlers      Brian Kraus  
 Jake Kraus        Curtis Ehlers  
 Dale Lenz         Devon Ehlers  
 Zack Kraus        Jacob Kraus  
 Riley Neumann    Randy Neumann

**Chancel Circle**

Melissa Ehlers  
 Linda Mummm  
**Parish Circle**  
 Deb Owen

**VBS will be held**

June 3-6, 2025  
 8:30-11:30 am

**Register @vbsmate.com/zionarcadia**  
 ages 4 by September 1  
 to 6<sup>th</sup> grade (grade currently completed)

# Zion Lutheran Church

Box 59

Arcadia, IA 51430

712-689-2441

712-210-2543

zionluth@westianet.net

On the 3rd Tuesday of the month Pastor Noble is out of the office due to Carroll Circuit Pastor's Meeting.

*The Board of Elders meets monthly at the Church. Please feel free to contact any member of the Elder Board about any aspect of our ministry here at Zion.*

**Kurt Branning** Home 658-2734 Cell 712-830-2915  
email: kjbranning@gmail.com  
**Jeff Luetje** Home 663-4591 Cell 712-830-5826  
email: luetdaje@win-4-u.net  
**Ryan Middleton:** Cell: 712-830-3396  
**Randy Bruhn:** Home 775-2692 Cell: 712-790-2491  
email: mary@randysdiesel.com  
**Doug Ehlers** Home 663-4449 Cell: 712-830-0062  
Email: daehlers@westianet.net  
**Kyle Bass** Home Cell: 712-292-8830

Elders

## CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Chris Toft  
Vice President Kevin Skinner  
Secretary Kathy Kraus  
Treasurer Mary Bruhn  
Bd Evangelism Shelley Lenz  
Bd Education Chad Wittrock  
Bd Stewardship Lajeane Shiney  
Trustees: Dwight Ehlers, Kyle Lenz  
Curtis Ehlers  
Financial Sec. Paulette Von Glan

Church  
Council