

ZION PROCLAIMER

July 2025

A Noble Note: A Daily Delight

As much as I'd like to deny it, but like most other people my prayer and devotional life seems to be on a constant incline and decline. Along with trying to eat healthy and workout, building a devotional habit can be hard to build up and keep going. What I find interesting though is that nowhere within Scripture (as far as I can recall) are we once commanded to "read" our Bibles. At least, not in those exact words. Instead, we are commanded to "hear", "reflect," "meditate," "consume," "rejoice" and "delight" in God's Word. The book of Psalms begins with this promise: *Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, or sits in the seat of the scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. (Psalm 1:1-3)*

I find myself in a constant struggle to continue this way of life in God's Word. I want to meditate on it day and night. I want to hear it and rejoice in it. I want to believe, pray, and use God's Words faithfully in every aspect of my life. And I want to do this not because I think it'll make me a better person or win God's favor towards me, but because I know that it's God's will for my life and that it's the best nourishment I need!

From Scripture we know that God's Words are the "words of eternal life" (John 6:68), and that faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ (Romans 10:17). We also learn that the Lord's Words is our treasure (Psalm 19:10), our joy (Psalm 119:111), our light and salvation (Psalm 119:105), and it gives us wisdom (Psalm 119:98) and peace (Psalm 119:165) and the list is endless!

The Lord's Word also informs our prayers. When we pray, we're not just pulling words out of our heads, but rather, we're drawing from God's own words to us in Scripture. His Words are what forms our prayers and devotional life. His Words are what shape our hearts, minds, and souls and every part of what we are and who we are.

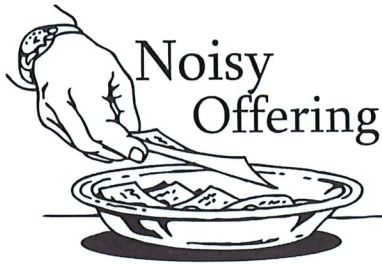
For example, when we pray, we're keeping the Second Commandment because it's then that we're using the Lord's name in a good and pleasing way. And when we meditate and rejoice in God's Word, we're keeping the Third Commandment because it's our calling to gladly hear God's Word and praise Him. This is what makes our days holy.

My journey in my devotional life, like yours, will never end. And that doesn't overwhelm me because I know I'm not on this journey alone. Not only do I have my family and my brothers and sisters in Christ (that's you!), but most of all, I have "the Word made flesh" Himself next to me, every step of the way. It only starts with Jesus. It only continues in Jesus. And it will only come to glory in Jesus. To Him be all glory, delight, and praise!

So let's use this time of year to strengthen our walk with Christ. Let's use this extra time within these summer months and take every opportunity we can to hear, read, learn, and take to heart God's beautiful and life-giving Word!

*In His service,
Pastor Noble*

L.W.M.L.



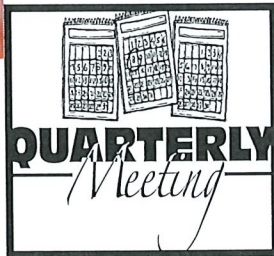
“Serve the Lord with Gladness”

- MARTHA CIRCLE:
Marilyn Mumm
- CHANCEL CIRCLE:
LaJean Shiney & Diane Witt
- PARISH CIRCLE:
Marilyn Mumm & Deb Owen

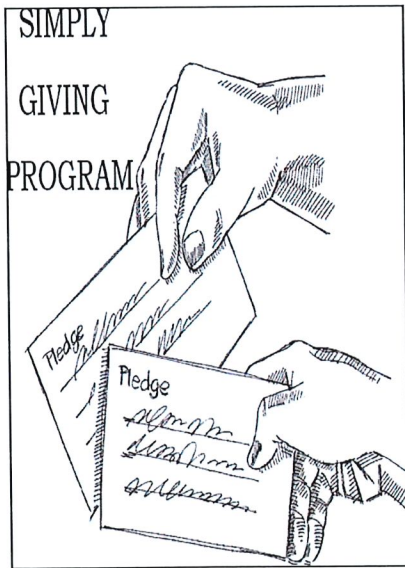
On Sunday, July 13th the Evening Circle will be having their Noisy Offering.



Please join us after worship for refreshments as Pastor Andy is excited to visit with our members after the service. If you (or your family) would be **interested in providing refreshments on a Sunday, please see the calendar by the office or contact Deb.** (Doesn't have to be anything fancy) coffee is already here and available.



The Quarterly Voter's Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 13th at 11 am Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend



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 200 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



“An Unforgettable Journey with Jesus”

Epic Australian Adventure (CPH) was the theme of the 2025 Vacation Bible School at Zion Lutheran Church in Arcadia. The goals for the annual program are to fulfill the reaching, teaching and discipling mission; to involve members to grow as Christians; to provide Christian education for our church’s children; and to encourage children to bring their friends to learn about Jesus. It was held Tuesday to Friday, June 3-6, 2025.

Students who were 3 years old (preschool) by the first day of VBS through the sixth grade were enrolled.

A total of 96 youngsters were involved throughout the week. The Bible theme for the week was



***“Jesus is the way, and the truth,
and the life!”
John 14:6***

The sessions ran from 8:30 to 11:30 each day with opening and closing devotions in the church led by Pastor Andy Noble and music instruction by Maddie Owen

“Our offering collected this year went towards our mission project of New Opportunities Food Pantry, Carroll Area Stork’s Nest & Lutheran Services of Iowa, Foster Closet. Since we collected \$600 each organization was given \$200 along with food items that were brought in and items for the closet and Stork’s nest.

***“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.
(Proverbs 22:6)***

Deb Owen assisted with the secretarial needs and newly confirmed teens, other church members and their friends assisted in all areas of need. Shawna & Chad Wittrock provided the craft project ideas. The 5th-6th graders also did an outstanding job of tying **over 40** quilts this year. Since 1993, VBS students have tied over **1,000 quilts**. The ladies prepare all the materials for the quilts and the students tie them using the two frames that keep all the helpers hopping. There are **many, many** helpers who volunteer each day both with the crafts and the snacks.

It is truly appreciated how everyone comes forth each year for the week of Vacation Bible School. Thanks to all who helped the week of VBS whether it be in the kitchen, teacher, helper, crafts or games, it is a fun week and hopefully, memories are created that will last a lifetime.

***“Oh Come, let us sing to the Lord:
Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of
our salvation!”***

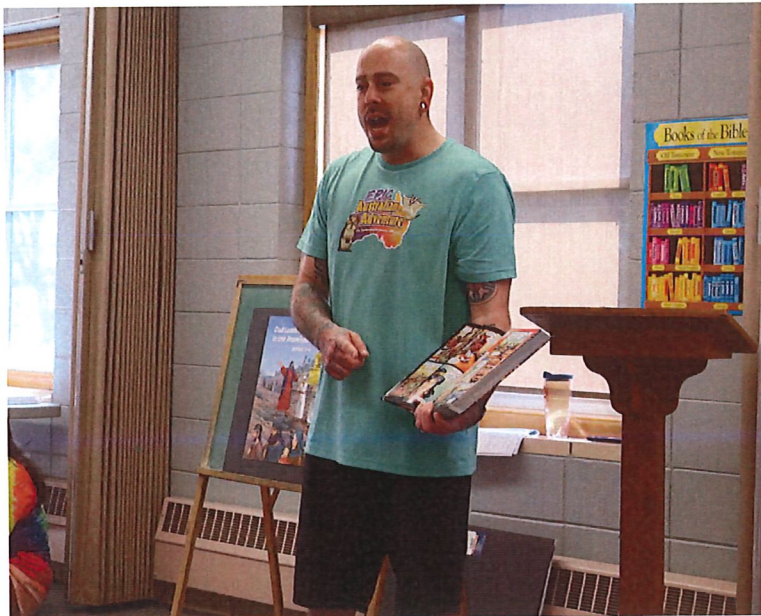
Tying quilts & Crafts



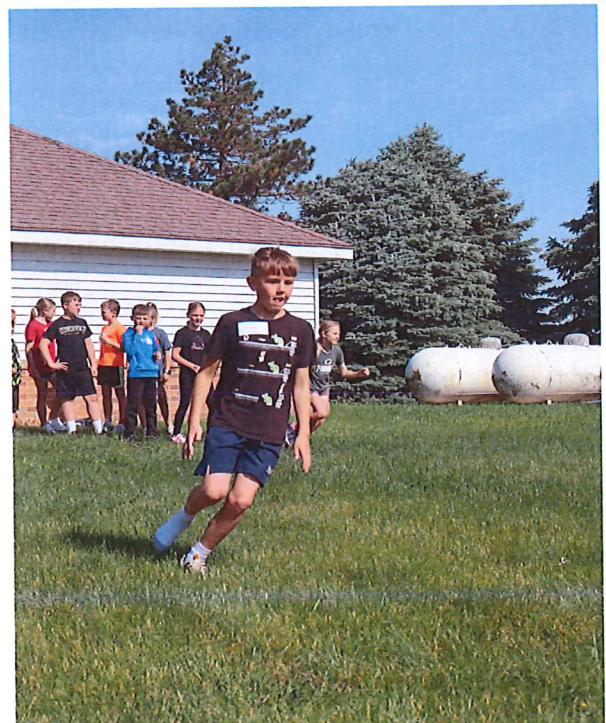
Music



Bible Challenge & Story Telling



Games & Snacks





**“Jesus is the way, and the truth,
and the life!”
John 14:6**



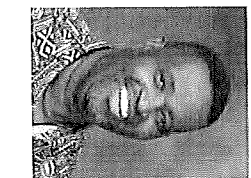
On a Mission
to Support
Christ's Mission!

July 2025

409 Kenyon Road, Suite B — Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501
515-576-7666 Fax 515-576-2323 www.idwlcms.org
Contact email: sue@iowadistrictwest.org

PREPARING FOR THE FALL

As the vibrant colors of summer fade and the crisp air of fall approaches, it's time to gear up for the upcoming ministry season. Here are some essential steps to ensure you're ready to make a meaningful impact.



1. **Reflect and recharge:** Reflect on the past season. What worked well? What could be improved? Use this period to recharge spiritually and emotionally. Consider taking a retreat or setting aside dedicated time for prayer and meditation.

2. **Plan and Set Goals:** Outline your ministry goals for the fall. Whether it's launching new programs, deepening community engagement, or enhancing children's and family activities, having clear objectives will guide your efforts. Collaborate with your volunteer team to ensure everyone is aligned and motivated.

3. **Engage and Communicate:** Reach out to your congregation and community. Share your ideas and upcoming plans through newsletters, social media, and personal interactions to stay connected and engaged. Effective communication fosters anticipation and involvement.

4. **Equip and Train:** Ensure your team is well-equipped and trained. Host workshops and training sessions and provide resources that empower them to serve effectively. A prepared team is crucial to a flourishing ministry.

5. **Fall brings new opportunities and challenges.** Be open to new ideas and adaptable in your approach. Flexibility enables you to respond dynamically to your community's changing needs.

These steps will help you lead your ministry with purpose this fall.

Rev. Dr. B. Keith Haney, Assistant to the President
keith@iowadistrictwest.org

IOWA LUTHERAN SCHOOL TUITION ORGANIZATION (ILSTO)

A GREAT DEAL: For 2025, those who donate to ILSTO will receive a 75% state tax credit. Consult a tax advisor to see how this program can benefit you. Wouldn't it be great to help a student attend a Lutheran school instead of paying taxes? By reaching our goal, ILSTO would be able to assist more students attending Iowa Lutheran Schools: increase enrollment, provide ministry with the community, and share the Gospel with more children and their families. Now that's something to think about. Call Dewey Torkelson at 712-260-2991 for more information.

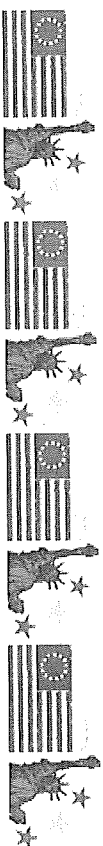
We are also keeping abreast of the possible Federal Tax credit that is in a bill waiting to be passed. In the current form, this would be a 100% Federal tax credit and would work similar to ILSTO. Watch for updates.

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

See detailed brochure in The Messenger.



Calendar of Events

July 4...Independence Day, District Office Closed
August 7...IDE & IDW Principals Conference, Gloria Dei, Urbandale
August 8...Early Childhood Conference, Gloria Dei, Urbandale
August 14...District Board of Directors, District Office, Fort Dodge
August 26...New Pastor & Vicar Orientations, District Office, Fort Dodge
September 22-23...District Pastors Conference, Fort Dodge

For more information on Iowa District West activities,
view *The Messenger* at www.idwlcms.org/publications.php

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The Rev. Paul Egger

Iowa District West, LCMS

paul@iowadistrictwest.org / 515-576-7666

Dear Sons and Daughters of our Heavenly Father, Siblings of Jesus the Christ, may God bless your day!

A couple decades ago, our district convention elected President Sieveking to serve her congregations and pastors. Ten years ago, our convention elected President Turner to serve. On June 9, our convention elected me to serve you for the next three years. May God bless us together as He loves us in Jesus!

Within minutes of the election, two gentlemen handed me business cards. Our wonderful LWML district president invited me to participate in the LWML convention in June of next year. Other agencies and committees shared invitations and expectations. Praise God for His many servants whom He sets into our midst that more and more may know Jesus.

President Turner asked me to lead the convention Memorial service. Our convention theme was "One Generation Commends Your Works to Another." Here is a bit of the sermon:

What has God given us to pass to next generations?

First, God has given us Jesus --- Who saves us: Satan crusher -- sin absorber.
Lamb, Light, Door, Shepherd, Resurrection, Vine. God has given us Jesus --- Who saves us.

Second, God has given us dynamite-powerful words that make dead live and deaf hear and blind see. Words of and from Jesus the Word made flesh.
God gives us WORDS that cleave darkness and create light.
WORDS that bespeak us righteous, bright with God's own holiness.
GOD'S WORD is our great heritage - and shall be ours forever!
To spread its light from age to age - shall be our chief endeavor.
From one generation to the next.

"One Generation Commends Your Works to Another." Yes, dear Jesus, so shall it be.
Employ us for Your holy tasks. Today, for the next three years, and into days of eternity.

As angels sing,

Pastor Paul Egger, President

IOWA DISTRICT WEST JR YOUTH GATHERING

Not Just Water

REGENERATION
in poured to own WASHING
TITUS 3:5
justified
his by RIGHTEOUSNESS
MERCY
and his Holy Spirit
RENEWAL
He saved us.

Registration
Opens
August 15

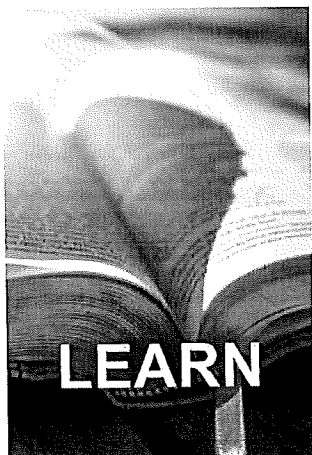
NOT because of WORKS Done
by US in RIGHTEOUSNESS
but according to HIS own MERCY by washing regeneration and RENEWAL
of Holy Spirit whom he poured on US richly through Jesus Christ our Savior
so that being Justified by HIS GRACE we might become heirs according to
of ETERNAL LIFE HOPE



OCTOBER 18-19, 2025
SHERATON HOTEL, WEST DES MOINES

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
PASTOR
KENDALL MEYER

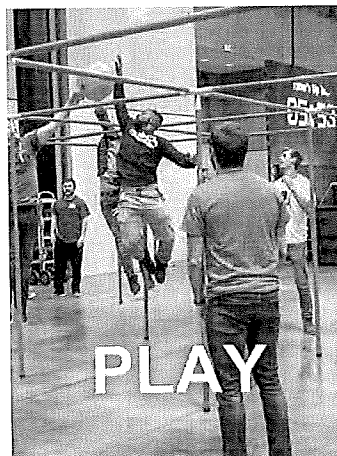
MUSIC BY GLORIA DEI
YOUTH BAND



LEARN



CONNECT



PLAY

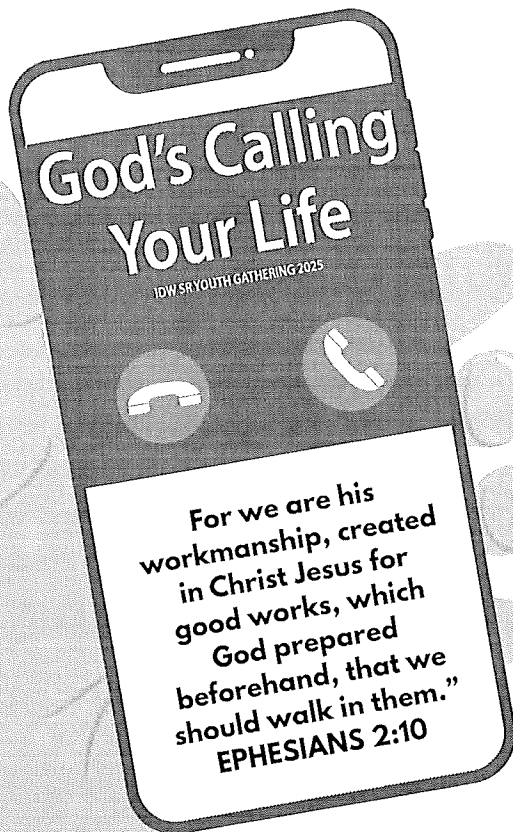


SERVE

IDW SENIOR YOUTH GATHERING

SAVE THE DATE - NOVEMBER 21-23, 2025

Cost: \$250



**Main Presenter
Pastor Drew Oswald**



**Emcee
Director of Youth Ministry
Laura Nelson**

BIBLE STUDY

MASS EVENTS

SERVANT PROJECT

GLORIA DEI YOUTH BAND

NIGHT LIFE ACTIVITIES

Registration opens August 15

**HOLIDAY INN DES MOINES - AIRPORT
6111 Fleur Dr, Des Moines, IA 50321**





Update

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- June 22-26: CUB WEEK 1
June 29-July 4: 4TH OF JULY FAMILY RETREAT
July 6: OMELET BRUNCH - 9:30 AM TO 1:00 PM
July 6-12: JUNIOR HIGH WEEK
July 10-13: J.O.Y. CAMP 2
July 13-19: CUB WEEK II

Help Wanted: Camp Okobojo 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@campokobojo.org.

REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN AT CAMP OKOBOJI! Registration information is available online at campokobojo.org. Have your youth join us for Junior High Week, Cub Weeks, or Youth Week, as well as our Family Retreats.

Thank You!

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

- I can't thank enough the volunteers who helped us with the IDW Convention – we can't do it without you. Thank you!

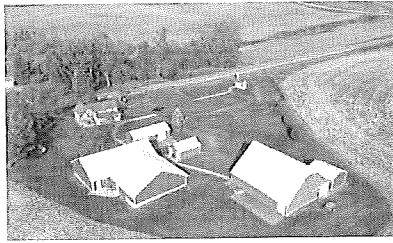
Summer Chaplain Schedule

Join us for worship - 9 am

- 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



We had so much fun hosting our 2025 Kids' Kamp! Twenty children, with moms, dads, aunts, grandmas, and grandpas played, made t-shirts and water bottle rockets, and grew in our faith in Jesus. It was a great time! Kids' Kamp is for children finishing grades K-2 to come for a weekend with a special adult. Join us next year!



**MISSION
CENTRAL**
LCMS Mission Advancement
40718 County Highway E-16
Mapleton, Iowa 51034



Missionaries Gary Thies & Rev. Steve Schulz
Mission Development Counselors

Gary.Thies@lcms.org (712) 251-1264
Steve.Schulz@lcms.org (712) 882-1029

July 2025



What a very special blessing it was to host Ben, Rebecca, and little Viktor Helge on May 9, 2025, to tell of their truly amazing work in the Czech Republic. Doors are really "opening" in this country! They are even allowing our missionaries to go into the public schools to tell the students about Jesus. It was a visit we won't ever forget.

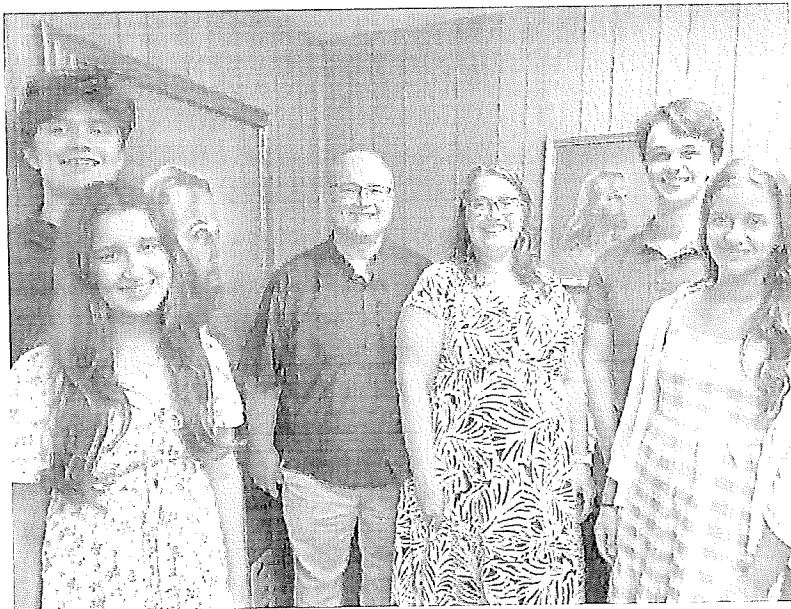
On May 20, 2025, we had the joy of hosting Rev. Arthur and Deaconess Eva Rickman and their seven missionary children serving in Panama. We had visitors from Hebron, Nebraska and Sioux City, Iowa join us to hear their exciting presentation. Please remember to keep the Rickman Family in your personal prayers.



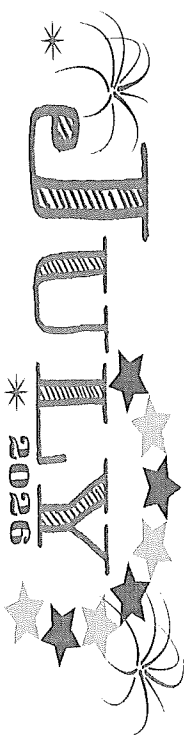


May 24, 2025, was a VERY special day for us at Mission Central. We had the privilege of hearing from Rev. David Baker and his family who have served on the mission field in Asia for 24 years bringing the message of God's love in Christ to this area of the world that is in total darkness. We also had visitors from Iowa and Nebraska who came for a tour to see WHY we send and support missionaries all around the world.

May 29, 2025, was a VERY active day at Mission Central. We were honored to have Deaconess Heidi Bishop, from the country of Guatemala, give a report on her work in Latin America. The Wellman family from Waco, Nebraska heard Heidi's report and "sent" her to the mission field with their prayers.



Rev. James and Angie Sharp, our newest missionaries in Puerto Rico, joined us for our Ascension Day service on May 29, 2025! Pastor Sharp was our guest speaker. He shared with us news about the new congregation they will be planting in San Juan. The parking lot was filled with vehicles, and the barn was filled with worshipers. The Lord certainly blessed this special day!



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 9:00 Bible Class 10:00 DW | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 9:00 Bible Class 10:00 DW/HC 11:00 Council Meeting | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 9:00 Bible Class 10:00 DW/HC | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:00 Bible Class 10:00 DW/HC | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

USHERS

Keith Vetter
 Kim Brockman
 Gene Thiedeman

Rick Vetter
 Jeff Luefje

Parish Circle

Marilyn Mumm
 Deb Owen
 Chancel Circle
 Diane Witt
 LaJean Shiny



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| | | 1 Matthew McNelly Mark & Diane Schurke Denny & Dianne Vetter | 2 Ashley Eggers Levi Lenz | 3 Scott Linde | 4 Corey Erps | 5 Dawn Luejje Gary & Jame Vetter |
| 6 Tyler Ehlers Ann Peterson | 7 Andrea Gronau Betty Klink | 8 Devon Ehlers Carolyn Sander | 9 Steve Koch Joel & Clarae Mumm | 10 Maren Myers Nolan Schmitz | 11 Connie Bradshaw Blakely Bruch | 12 Brooklyn Brockman Darin & Donna Schurke |
| 13 Sophia Koch Dianne Vetter | 14 Ross & Michelle Schuette | 15 | 16 Chase Eggers Ellie Eggers Dan Witrock | 17 | 18 Jay Luejje Randy Stoelk Mason Stork Rick Vetter | 19 |
| 20 Brad Maasen | 21 | 22 Steve Leiting | 23 Justin & Holly Hunter | 24 Kathy Kraus | 25 Mark & Donna Rickers | 26 Andrew Myers |
| 27 Lane Kraus Caden Travis Denny Vetter | 28 Joe Ewoldt Dawn Melton | 29 Doug Gronau | 30 Lola Ehlers | 31 Kyle Bass | | |

Zion Lutheran Church

Box 59

Arcadia, IA 51430

712-689-2441

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

CHURCH COUNCIL

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



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Arcadia, IA 51430
Rev Andy Noble
zionluth@westianet.net
712-689-2441

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Arcadia, IA 51430
Standard Mail

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Friends who care | |
| Divine Worship | 10:00 am |



JULY