

A Noble Note on Baptism

You might have noticed that we've had an increase of babies in our church family these past few months/year. I'm rejoicing in that because with each child, God is growing His Church. So, with this happening, it might be helpful for us to revisit the importance of the gift of baptism and the blessings we receive from it.

So let me ask you: How often do you think about your baptism? When's the last time you talked about your baptism? Oftentimes, we might forget about our baptism, not because we don't think it's important, but because it happened to most of us when we were infants. And because baptism is understood as the starting point of our life in Jesus Christ, we tend to think about it as only something in the past. But your baptism was much more than just a holy initiation into the Body of Christ, the Church, it's your life source for your daily life and it's your identity!

Within Scripture, Paul and Peter both remind us that baptism isn't just a one-time deal done to us a long time ago. Yes, the physical act of baptism only needs to be done once, but we actually live out the results of our baptism every day of our lives! So, in other words, baptism is the center of the Christian life rather than just the beginning of it.

Baptism is a promise given to you by God Himself to be with you whenever you go, for the Spirit to dwell within you and work faith within you, to forgive you all of your sins, to clothe you with Jesus' holiness, and to finally grant you eternal life. Your baptism is a means by which God unites you with Jesus!

Because you are a baptized Child of God, your life is grounded in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. As Paul puts it, "*We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life (Romans 6:4)*".

You and I have the privilege of living within this blessed reality every day. When we go to God in word and prayer, confessing our sins and seeking His forgiveness, we're brought back to the effectiveness of this sacrament. At those moments, we are re-living that promise of salvation through Christ Jesus. We are to daily remind ourselves that ever since that day, God has claimed us as His own, washes us clean from our sins, and covers us with His mercy, grace, and love.

So rejoice! You are a baptized child of God! Forever loved, always cared for, and never forgotten. May that be your daily focus, the very center of your identity and daily life in Christ. May this also be your battle cry to the devil and all his minions as they try to distract you from God and His Word, that nothing in this world will be able to separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus your Lord (**Romans 8:38-39**).

In His Service,

Pastor Andrew Noble



**Ages 3 to 8th
grade**

RALLY SUNDAY:
We are ready for another exciting year here at Zion Lutheran Church's Sunday School. Classes get started on September 7th which will be our Rally Sunday. Classes will begin at 9:00 am.

L.W.M.L

**EVENING
CIRCLE:**

Will meet at 7 pm on Wednesday, September 3rd here at the church. Co-Hostess is Marilyn Mumm

L.W.M.L Sunday will be October 4th.

**PARISH
CIRCLE:**

Beth Wittrock
Cindy Brockman

**CHANCEL
CIRCLE**

Beth Wittrock
Alison Ehlers



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 large pieces of material (especially sheets) speed up the job!
The Sewing Circle meets on the 3rd Monday of every month. Help is always needed .

Harvest Supper



The Annual Turkey Supper will be held on **Saturday November 8, at the Westside Community Building.** Serving will be from 4:00-7:00 pm. Cost is \$15 each meal. All meals will include: Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green beans, Corn dinner roll, salads, and a piece of dessert (apple or Pumpkin) This will be a eat in or drive through event.

AWV STAFF SCHOLARSHIP STALEY'S CHCKEN SUPPER "DRIVE BY STYLE:

WHEN: Wednesday, 9/10/25
TIME: 5:00-7:30 pm
MENU: Staley's Chicken
Baked Potato with butter/& sour cream
Corn
Coleslaw
Dinner Roll & Ice Cream Cup

COST: Adults (ages 9 & up) \$14

LINEUP will start on Main Street at the Westside Park and continue North toward the Community Building. AWV staff and members of the senior class will collect tickets or money and deliver dinners at your car.

For advance tickets, call the AWV school at
712-663-4311

Chicken Supper



**What if we began to treat our Bibles
the way we treat our cell phones?**

What if we...

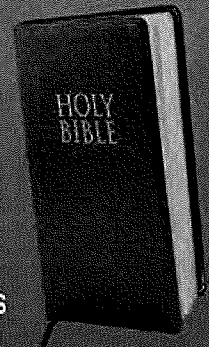
...carried it with us
everywhere?

...turned back to get it if
we forgot it?

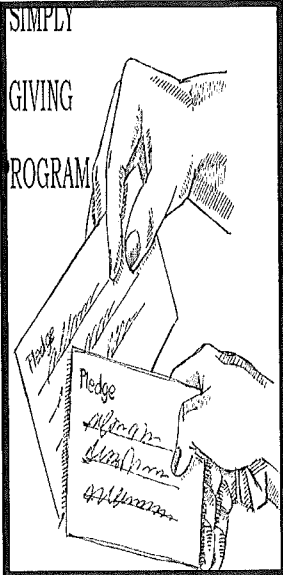
...checked it for messages
throughout the day?

...used it in case of an
emergency?

...spent an hour or more using
it each day?



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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 church's 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 275 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.

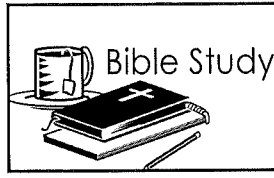
Also, if you like, you can sign up for Simply Giving and designate it for the Building Fund

FROM A FAMILY WHO USES THE "SIMPLY GIVING PROGRAM"

"Simply Giving" is simply easy! If you are hesitant about starting the "Simply Giving" program...don't be! Just decide how much you normally give to church each week (or month) and have it transferred from **your** banking account to the **church's** account. It is shown on your bank statement and you decide when you want to give each month. It frees your mind as you go to church in that you have given your share and don't have to write a check or look for money each time you go to church. You are REALLY putting the **Lord's** work **first**. You will still have the envelopes and can give more throughout the year. If you are gone the church still receives your contribution. Give it some thought. The more who participate gives the church board the financial support in a more orderly fashion as they will know how much to anticipate each month.

Below is a list of accounts that we have here at Zion. They include

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| GENERAL FUND: | pays all the bills |
| MEMORIAL FUND: | money donated to the church in memory of someone to Purchase memorial items or projects |
| REPAIR FUND: | money that is designated for repairs or updates on the church or church property |
| ENDOWMENT FUND: | can be used for a variety of worthwhile missions, charitable projects, and evangelism outreach activities. This CAN NOT be used for operating expenses such as salaries, insurance, etc. |



ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Our Adult Bible Class is held on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. The Bible narratives are going to be the same lessons so that youth and adults can speak this faith to each other outside of classes. Catechesis is a lifelong process beginning at infant baptism until entering into eternal glory. Come and join us!

Youth Gathering



Iowa District West Jr. High Youth Gathering

The IDW Jr High Youth Gathering (grades 6-8th) will be held Saturday-Sunday, October 18-19 at the Sheraton Hotel in Des Moines. Registration forms and \$87.50 are due to Deb by September 7th. The cost is \$175 per person. The church will cover 1/2 of the cost.

ENDOWMENT PROJECT SUGGESTIONS

Once again the council is asking the congregation for suggestions on how to spend the money made available from the endowment fund. The endowment fund was started approximately 34 years ago when the Mildred Kasperson estate gave Zion approximately \$100,000 in cash and 160 acres of farmland. At that time it was decided to only spend the interest generated from that cash, and the farm rental income, and to never invade the principle of those funds. **The spending of those funds is not to be used for normal budgeted items.** Over the years this has been a wonderful blessing to our congregation and the council wants all our members to know that anyone may donate to the endowment fund and any time. This year we will have approximately \$78,000 in unrestricted and \$1,500 in restricted (mission projects) to spend from the endowment fund. Your input is welcomed and encouraged!

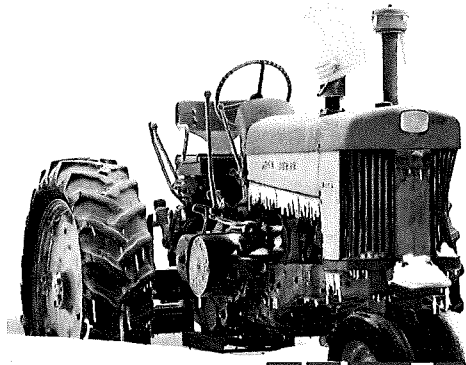
SUGGESTION

AMOUNT REQUESTED

NAME _____

(not required, but helpful in case the Council has questions)

Please return to church office by Sunday, September 28, 2025



ECCLESIASTES 3:1. NIV

THERE IS A
TIME
FOR EVERYTHING,
and a
SEASON
FOR EVERY
ACTIVITY
UNDER THE

HEAVENS.

FARM BIDS

Sealed bids for renting the church farm are now being accepted. The bids need to be received in the church office by Sunday, October 26th. At 11 am.

- ◆ All bids should include an amount per acre times 160 acres
- ◆ The lease will begin March 2026 and end March 2028
- ◆ The total yearly payment shall be due in one payment on March 1st of each year
- ◆ The church will make sure lime is up to date, and current soil test will be available
- ◆ Stalk baling will NOT be allowed
- ◆ The Church Council reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, for any reason
- ◆ If you have questions, contact Dale Lent, Rick Vetter or one of our Trustees.



On a Mission
to Support

Christ's Mission!

September 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

What Do Missionaries Do?



They tell people about Jesus! He lived, and died, and rose again for the salvation of the world. We go to people who are worried about the future, and we show them that God loves them so much that He gave His own Son to die for them. We bring them the blessed assurance that "He who spared not His own Son, but gave Him up for us all will certainly also, along with Him, graciously give us all things" (Rom. 8:32).

We go to folks who are troubled by their many sins, and we bring them the Good News of pardon and forgiveness — that the blood of Jesus washes away all of their guilt and all of their shame, that even though their sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow (Isaiah 1:18). For they have been cleansed from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:8-9).

We go to those whose lives are filled with pain and sorrow, and we give them the certain hope that our Lord will never leave them or forsake them (Deut. 31:6). Jesus is with them always, even to the very end of the world (Matt. 28:20). And after this earthly life is over, there is for us, a life without tears — a new life with Jesus that will never end.

This is the Good News that missionaries share with those around them. And we are ALL missionaries, because missionaries are not only those who "cross" the sea, but those who see the Cross! And that includes you and me.

Pastor Steve Schulz
Mission Central
Mapleton, Iowa

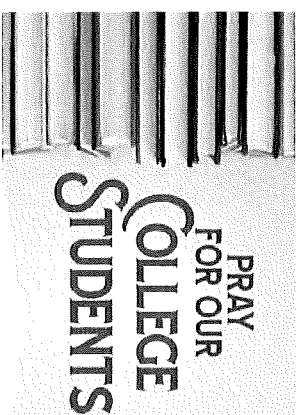
IOWA LUTHERAN SCHOOL TUITION ORGANIZATION (ILSTO)

ILSTO: For this school year, 2025-2026 almost \$300,000 in tuition assistance from 2024 donations was awarded for the first semester to Lutheran students in Iowa through the Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization. Another \$200,000 will be awarded to new students in the second round of ILSTO funding before the start of the school year. We would like to increase this amount for 2025-2026, but we cannot without your help. Donations are currently at 5% of our 2025 goal. Now is the time to contribute for the next school year so we can continue this great program. For further information, please contact Dewey Torkelson at 712-260-2991. You may also download a donor form at www.iowalutheransio.com

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.



Campus Ministry
Connect your college students to a Lutheran campus ministry. Students are encouraged to register with www.lutheranstudentfellowship.org to connect with Lutheran peers and to stay connected to

Calendar of Events

September 1...Labor Day, District Office closed
September 22-23...District Pastors Conference, Fort Dodge
September 23...Stewardship Training Workshop, District Office, Fort Dodge

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





Update

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Sept. 7: OMELET BRUNCH: 9:30 AM TO 1:00 PM
- Sept. 10-12: OUTDOOR EDUCATION SESSION 1
- Sept. 17-19: OUTDOOR EDUCATION SESSION 2
- Sept. 24-26: OUTDOOR EDUCATION SESSION 3
- Oct. 5: OMELET BRUNCH: 9:30 AM TO 1:00 PM
- Oct. 10-11: FALL VOLUNTEER WORK WEEKEND

CAMP OKOBOJI FALL VOLUNTEER WEEKEND

October 10 - 11

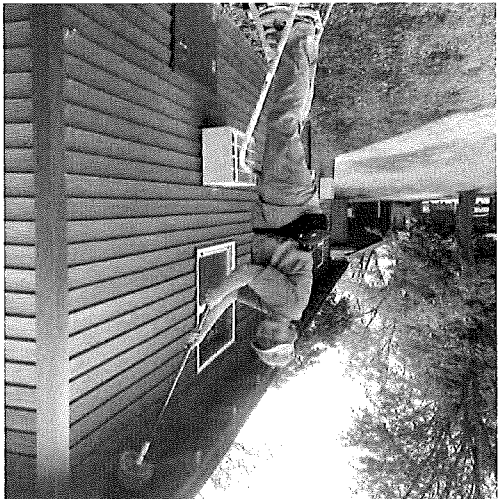
Fall Volunteer Weekend is a great way to share your time and talents while you enjoy God's Creation at Camp Okoboji. Help prepare Camp Okoboji for the upcoming winter. Room and board will be provided for volunteers. Please save the date and make plans to come and help! For room and board accommodations, please call the office at (712) 337-3325!

PERSONNEL: Our Summer Staff has started to leave us. We were greatly blessed by the Summer Staff and pray they were blessed as they served their Lord at Camp Okoboji. It's never too early to begin recruitment for next summer, please encourage youth (at least 16 years of age) and college students to consider serving with us.

Thank You!

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

- A very special THANKS to all the volunteers who serve as Youth Camp Deans, Staff and Counselors! You are greatly appreciated!



Cub Week 2 was July 13-19 and we had a wonderful time with nearly 100 children attending! The week is always a lot of fun with sports, music, Bible study, and evening activities.

September

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1

Read
Philippians 1:3-5.
Underline the word "joy" as you read through Philippians this month.

2

Read
Philippians 1:6.
Memorize this verse.

3

Read
Philippians 1:9.
Pray for discernment.

4

Read
Philippians 1:10-11.
Which word stands out to you most in this passage?

5

Read
Philippians 1:12-13.
Pray for pastors and missionaries.

6

Read
Philippians 1:21.
Thank God for His grace in this life and in the life to come.

7

Read
Philippians 1:27.
Sing "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus."

8

Read
Philippians 2:1-2.
Pray for unity in the church.

9

Read
Philippians 2:3-4.
What does it look like to be humble?

10

Read
Philippians 2:5-7.
Praise Jesus for humbling Himself for us.

11

Read
Philippians 2:8.
Go outside and draw a cross on the sidewalk with chalk.

12

Read
Philippians 2:9-11.
Kneel and say the Lord's Prayer.

13

Read
Philippians 2:13.
Pray, "God, may Your will be done in my life."

14

Read
Philippians 2:14.
Do you tend to grumble and argue easily?

15

Read
Philippians 2:15.
Sing "This Little Light of Mine"

16

Read
Philippians 3:1.
Write "Rejoice in the Lord" on a sticky note. Put it in your car.

17

Read
Philippians 3:2.
Pray for deliverance from evil and temptation.

18

Read
Philippians 3:8-9.
Summarize this passage in your own words.

19

Read
Philippians 3:13-14.
Draw a picture of this verse.

20

Read
Philippians 3:15-16.
Pray for the church to hold true to God's Word.

21

Read
Philippians 3:17.
List three people whose faith you want to imitate.

22

Read
Philippians 3:20-21.
How does this passage give you hope?

23

Read
Philippians 4:1.
Hug your loved ones and say "Stand firm in the Lord."

24

Read
Philippians 4:4.
What makes you rejoice in the Lord today?

25

Read
Philippians 4:6.
Make a family prayer list.

26

Read
Philippians 4:7.
Memorize this verse.

27

Read
Philippians 4:8.
Doodle a word cloud with the words in this verse.

28

Read
Philippians 4:11-12.
Pray for contentment.

29

Read
Philippians 4:13.
Pray for strength.

30

Read
Philippians 4:19.
What does "glory" mean?



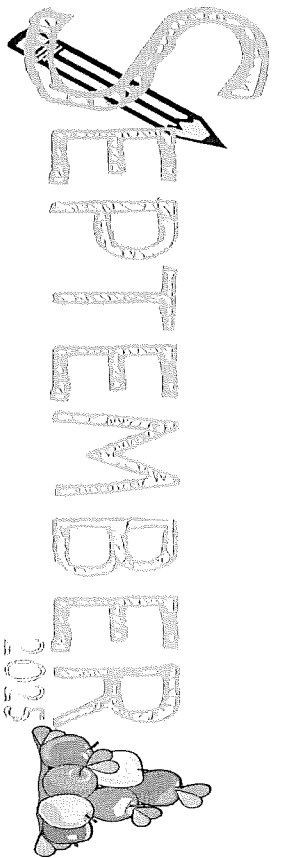
SEPTEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <i>Sandy Hunter</i>	2	3 <i>Zack Kraus Thea Schurke Roger & Beth Liechti</i>	4 <i>Ryan Ehlers</i>	5 <i>Paul & Peggy Hiners</i>	6 <i>Dalton Ehlers Jessica Hensel Jenni Middleton Lanie Muhlbauer Isabelle Vetter</i>
7 <i>Anna Noble Justin & Caity Heiman</i>	8 <i>Comner Hansman Jenna Hausman Brynn Koch Cara Rosener</i>	9	10 <i>Magen Fineran</i>	11 <i>Todd Gronau Blake Liechti Rachel Mohr Kevin & Sara Skinner</i>	12 <i>Laurie Anderson Kevin Skinner</i>	13 <i>Delby Bruhn Hunter Klink Nate & Casey Bruch</i>
14 <i>Andrew & Kelsey Lupole</i>	15	16 <i>Matt Dirks Amand Kraus</i>	17 <i>Michael Brockman Karelyn Hinners</i>	18 <i>Lisa Gallagher Tanner Hagge Linda Irbeck Nick & Jami Backhaus Nick & Cara Rosener</i>	19 <i>Heather Hansman Jami Hausman Al Hunter Clayton Vetter</i>	20
21 <i>Dale Lenz Kelsie Weier Gail & Marilyn Mumm</i>	22 <i>Baylee Travis Matt & Kelli Dirks</i>	23	24 <i>Andrew & Megan Myers</i>	25 <i>Kris Hoffman</i>	26 <i>Kalon Cleveland Gary Lenz Jace & Kelsea Hawley</i>	27 <i>Rick & Christy Hanson</i>
28 <i>Chris Ehlers Neil Liechti</i>	29 <i>Darin Schurke Willard Scott Eric Vetter</i>	30 <i>Dwight Ehlers Pastor Andy Noble</i>				

SEPTEMBER

2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 <i>7:00 Evening Circle</i>	4	5	6
7 <i>9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC 11:00 Council Meeting</i>	8	9	10 <i>3:45 Midweek</i>	11	12	13
14 <i>9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC</i>	15	16	17 <i>3:45 Midweek</i>	18	19	20
21 <i>9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC</i>	22	23	24 <i>3:45 Midweek</i>	25	26	27
28 <i>9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC</i>	29	30				

USHERS

Dale Wittrock	Gary Lenz
Kurt Branning	Kyle Lenz
Doug Gronau	Jake Wittrock
Kelly Riesberg	Ty Muhlbauer

Parish Circle

Cindy Brockman & Beth Wittrock

Chancel Circle

Beth Wittrock & Alison Ehlers

Zion Lutheran Church
118 W Tracy St
Box 59
Arcadia, Iowa 5143 Noble
Rev Andy N Ne
EMAIL: Zionluth@westianet.net
PHONE: 712-689-2441

Non Profit Organization
Arcadia, IA 51430
Standard Mail

Friends Who Care

Christian Education	9:00 am
Adult Bible Class	9:00 am.
Divine Worship	10:00 am

