

ZION PROCLAIMER

April 2026

"A Noble Note"

Jesus Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Blessed Easter season to you all! One of my favorite truths to teach about Easter is that because Jesus rose from the dead, we don't need to fear death at all because we too will rise to eternal life just as He did! As St. Paul reminds us that Jesus is the "first fruits" of the resurrection of the dead (**1 Cor. 15:23**). But even before Jesus' death and resurrection He displayed His authoritative power over death during His earthly ministry.

The first time Jesus raised someone from the dead almost seemed to happen on a whim. As Jesus was entering a town, He saw a funeral procession with a widow crying loudly because she was burying her only son. And so Jesus stopped the procession and said to the woman, "Don't weep." He then went on to touch the casket of her dead son and said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." To everyone's amazement and joy, the dead man sat up and began to speak (**Luke 7:11-17**)! **Alleluia! Praise the Lord!**

The second time Jesus raised someone from the dead was with a little twelve-year-old girl whose father asked Him to help her. She was sick for a while, but as Jesus was making His way to her, she died. Even though everyone gave up hope, Jesus still entered the house, took hold of the dead girl's hand and said, "Child, arise." Her spirit returned to her and she got up at once fully alive (**Luke 8:40-56**)! **Alleluia! Praise the Lord!**

The third time Jesus raised someone from the dead seemed almost more impossible than the previous ones. Jesus hears about His friend Lazarus' sickness and coming death, but to our amazement He didn't hurry to his side. Rather, He took His time and finally arrived after Lazarus was not only dead, but already lying in his tomb for four days. We're told that when Jesus got there, He was deeply moved and even cried. Jesus demanded the tomb to be opened and said, "Lazarus, come out." And a man who was dead for four days came walking out (**John 11:1-44**)! **Alleluia! Praise the Lord!**

All of that was pointing to the real miracle Jesus would perform for us and for our salvation: His own resurrection from the grave! And the best part, Jesus doesn't keep His new, eternal life to Himself, but freely give it to you and all who call upon His name! *Jesus' victory over the devil means that our sins are forgiven and salvation is ours! Jesus' victory over the grave means that even though we die as a result of our sins, we still have eternal life with Him in the resurrection of the dead in the new heaven and earth to come!*

And thanks be to God that we have the sure and certain promise that one day Jesus will return, and when He does, He will do the same thing for you and me. Jesus will one day stand over our own graves and say, "Don't weep . . . child arise . . . come out!" and we will live again! That is our blessed hope and future!

Jesus Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

In His Service,

Pastor Noble

Zion Lutheran Church

Box 59

Arcadia, IA 51430

712-689-2441

andrewcarlnoble@gmail.com

On the 3rd Tuesday of the month Pastor Andy 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.

Doug Ehlers
Scot Muhlbauer
Randy Bruhn
Kevin Skinner
Kyle Bass
Ryan Middleton

Elders

APRIL LIST OF DUTIES

CHURCH COUNCIL

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

USHERS

Doug Schuette	Dan Wittrock
Derrick Cornelius	Paul Ehlers
Tyler Ehlers	Ty Muhlbauer
Doug Ehlers	Jeremy Ehlers

CHANCEL DUTIES

Dawn Luetje & Diane Witt

PARISH DUTIES

Dawn Luetje & Deb Owen

MARTHA CIRCLE

Linda Mumm

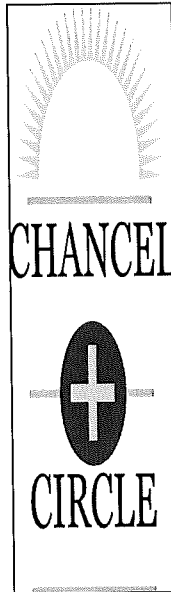




**LADIES AID &
EVENING CIRCLE**

MEETINGS

EVENING CIRCLE: The Evening Circle will meet at 2 pm on Wednesday, April 8th here at the church. Hostess is Linda Mumm

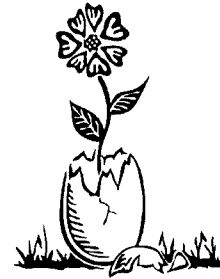


CHANCEL CIRCLE

Dawn Luetje
Diane Witt

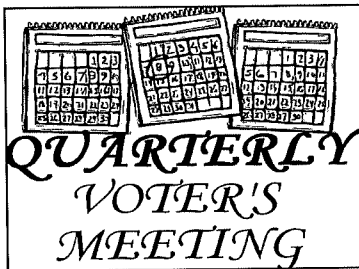
PARISH CIRCLE

Dawn Luetje
Deb Owen

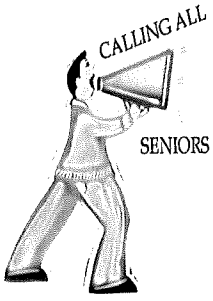


**CARROLL ZONE
LWML Spring Rally**

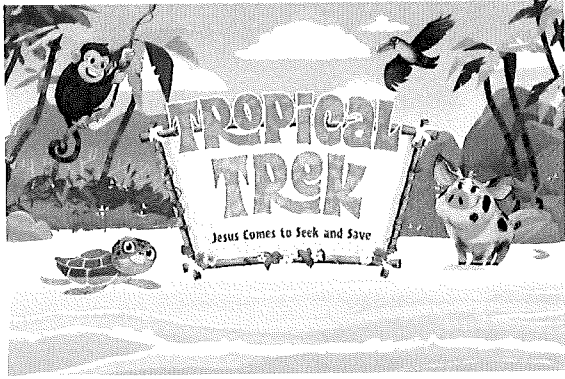
LWML Carroll Zone Spring Rally will be held on Saturday, April 18 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Coon Rapids. Registration begins at 8:30 am



The Quarterly Voter's Meeting will be held Wednesday, April 8th at 7:30 pm. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this meeting.



Just a reminder that Zion has 3 scholarships available for Zion Seniors who are going on to college. They are the Zion Memorial, the Violetta Anderson Scholarship and the Lila Thiedeman Scholarship. The Lila Thiedman is for a student going to ISU. Applications and information for the scholarships are available from the church office and need to be returned by Sunday, April 26th.



Register at <https://vbsmate.com/zionarcadia>

Plans are currently underway for our 2026 Vacation Bible School "Classes are open for children 4 years old (MUST be 4 by September 5th and will be attending preschool this fall)

We ask that ALL persons interested in attending this year, please call the church office (689-2441) to register, or go on line at <https://vbsmate.com/zionarcadia> so that we can order materials accordingly.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If you would be willing to help out with VBS this year, teaching, craft, snacks, etc, please contact the church office or sign up using the vbsmate.com website.

Please watch for more details as time gets closer to V.B.S.

V. B. S.

June 8-11, 2026

8:30-11:30



We are in need of teachers for our Vacation Bible School this year. VBS will be held Monday-Thursday June 8-11, 2026. If you would be willing to help teach or help in one of the classrooms, please contact the church office as soon as possible so that we can get materials ordered.

8:30-11:30 Am





	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 7:00 Easter Service 8:00 Breakfast	6	7	8 2:00 Evening Cir 6:30 Midweek 7:30 Voters Meet	9	10	11
12 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW	13	14	15 6:30 Midweek	16	17	18
19 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC	20	21	22 6:30 Midweek	23	24	25
26 9:00 Chr Ed 10:00 DW/HC	27	28	29 6:30 Midweek	30		

USHERS

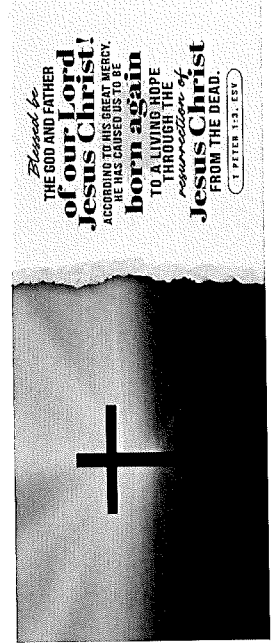
Doug Schuette Dan Wittrock
 Doug Ehlers Jeremy Ehlers
 Wade Ragaller Damon Ehlers
 Paul Ehlers

Parish Circle

Deb Owen
 Dawn Luetje
 CHANCEL
 Dawn Luetje
 Diane Witt

ACOLYTES

4/5 Dane & Collin (Easter)
 4/12 Kyler
 4/19 Kaleb
 4/26 Brandt



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Cassie Audino Shirley Bald Matt McNelly	2 Colton & Anna Neumann	3	4 Greg Hansman
5 Brandon Koch	6	7 Kaleb Riesberg	8	9 Jeff Vetter	10 Dave Leiting Otto Vonnahme	11
12 Nick Koch	13	14 Jax Cleveland Craig Nobiling Dawn Segebart Paul & Susan Ehlers	15 Donald Vetter	16 Michael Bair Steve Mumm	17	18 Lisa McNelly Faith Neumann
19 Hillary Hagge Nicole Liechti Michael Rickers	20 Cyrus Noble Ryan & Monica Neumann	21 Rhett Petersen	22 Riah Koenck Jacob & Kim Kraus	23 Jaggar Luetje Kendra Schuette	24 Kimberly Bauman Judy Gronau Macie Schrad	25 Kylar Bruch Jeremy & Magen Fineran
26	27 Rich Hanson Beth Wittrock Ron & Bonnie Cornelius Steve & Bonnie Schmitz	28 Makayla Schrad	29 Rorie Hagge	30 Bo Ebelhare Jess Gallagher Jeff Schmitz Doug & Alison Ehlers		



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The Rev. Paul Egger

Iowa District West, LCMS

paul@iowadistrictwest.org / 515-576-7666

Synod is a Strange Word

Kyle was one of our best ball players that year. Strong at the plate. One of our best two pitchers. Great range at shortstop. A great kid from a hard-working family.

We worked on cut-off throws when balls were hit into gaps in right-center and left-center fields. Ball hit to right field, 2nd baseman goes out for the throw and shortstop covers 2nd base. Ball hit to left field, shortstop goes out for the throw and 2nd baseman covers 2nd base. Simple—well, it should have been.

In one of our early games Kyle is at shortstop. Ball is hit into right field, and a bad hop takes the ball to the fence. Kyle covers 2nd base, right? Not this time. Adrenaline pumping, Kyle is on the move from shortstop to almost beating the right fielder to the ball. Then he decides to be cut off instead. So here stands Kyle... and a few steps away stands our 2nd baseman scratching his head. No one is covering 2nd base. The right fielder stands there with the ball trying to decide which cutoff man to throw to. Meanwhile, runners are circling the bases. We finally got the ball into the pitcher. Time out. "Kyle..." A nice discussion follows.



"Synod" is a strange word. It means "walking together." Jesus walked together with His twelve disciples during His earthly ministry. Easter afternoon Jesus walked together with the two men on the road to Emmaus. Today Jesus walks together with us as we walk together with each other. As we "synod."

Walking together, we agree to love and care for each other in certain ways. Together we agree to be normed by a constitution and bylaws. We are in this together and for each other and cared for by God Himself. We are "same team." Formed by God's holy Word and leaning on our Confessions, we agree on objectives. From our constitution, our first team objective reads: The Synod... shall... conserve and promote the UNITY of the true faith (Eph. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 1:10)... and provide a UNITED DEFENSE against schism, sectarianism (Rom. 16:17), and heresy. Schism includes any who would talk unity but then do their own thing that disrupts unity. Sectarianism draws others into cliques that disrupt unity. Heresy means "other teaching"—something that distracts or leads away from God's Old Testament and New Testament words with Jesus Christ as the Cornerstone. And soon the enemy is circling the bases and our team stands holding the ball not knowing what to do.

"Synod" is a strange word—and it is a wonderful word. As Jesus walks together with us, we walk together with each other. Walking together strengthens congregations to bring Jesus

and His gifts to others. Walking together helps us to recruit and train pastors and other church workers. Walking together helps us compassionately meet needs of the hurting. Walking together helps us establish Lutheran schools and universities and seminaries. Walking together aids our congregations in developing and receiving resources to unify us in the one true faith. Walking together helps us worship in uniform ways so that we can easily engage during Divine Service in any of our congregations. Walking together provides needed supervision and counsel and care for church workers, which leads to protection and freedom for all God's children whom He gathers into congregations.

“Synod” is a strange and wonderful word. We thank God for His guidance in gathering us together into this Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. May He keep us faithful to His Word and loyal to each other as we walk together.

As angels sing,
Pastor Paul Egger

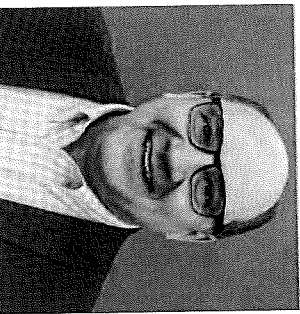


On a Mission to Support Christ's Mission!

April 2026

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

Bringing Your Christian Estate Plan Into Alignment



"I took my car to one place for an oil change, another for the brakes, and still another for a tune up. Yet my car just doesn't seem to be running right, and no one is offering to step in to help me."

That same scenario might be true about your Christian estate plan. You might be tempted to focus on one thing at a time, a will here, an insurance policy there, a conversation with the financial planner periodically and then the annual tax preparation. But do we think about how all those things are linked together? We need to, in order to have a comprehensive plan.

In a busy world, focused on quick productivity, we often miss the opportunity to weave the conversations of all our advisors together. In addition, inviting your pastor into these conversations, and your family, can bring a fullness otherwise missed. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help facilitate conversations in your circle of important people.

Contact Leon Schoenfeld, IDW LCMS Foundation Gift Planner by phone at (712) 830-7481 or e-mail at leon@iowadistrictwest.org.

Leon Schoenfeld, Iowa District West LCMS Foundation Gift Planner



Need help planning for retirement?

Concordia Plans is hosting a **pre-retirement workshop** for workers in Iowa on Monday, May 18, from 9 am – 12:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church in Le Mars. Workers enrolled in the Concordia Retirement Plan pension, especially those age 50 or older who are thinking about retirement, are encouraged to attend. Spouses are also welcome to attend. Topics covered include basic retirement finances, sources of retirement income, health care in retirement, tools and resources, and more.

2026 Iowa March For Life

All members of IDW congregations are invited to participate in the **Iowa March for Life** on Saturday, June 20. The day begins at Trinity Lutheran Church in Des Moines (3223 University Ave.) with a Matins Prayer Service at 9:00 a.m., followed by worship at 10:00 a.m. A lunch will be served at 11:00 a.m. After lunch, participants will travel to the Iowa State Capitol for the March, beginning at noon. All are encouraged to come, pray, worship, and walk together as witnesses for life.



The LCMS Youth Ministry Office in partnership with IDW Youth Services committee is hosting a **YouthLead Workshop** at Hidden Acres in Dayton, Iowa April 24-April 26. This event is not for entire youth

groups, but rather for students who have shown leadership and want to grow in their leadership skills. Cost of \$130 covers two nights of lodging and all meals. The event will begin on Friday evening with arrival at 6pm and the program start at 7pm. The weekend will end on Sunday morning at 11:45. Register online at <https://iowadistrictwestcms.regfox.com/iowa-district-west-youthlead>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 29...Palm Sunday
- April 5...Easter Sunday
- April 24-26...YouthLead Workshop—Hidden Acres, Dayton
- May 4-5...Spring Pastors Conference, Trinity, Algona



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



Update

Register Now!

Visit campokoboji.org to register for youth and family camps.

CAMP OKOBOJI 2026

Discipleship Programs

May 29-31	Kid's Kamp
June 4-7	Joy Camp 1
June 14-18	Cub Week 1
June 28-July 3	July 4 th Family Retreat
July 5-11	Jr High Week
July 9-12	Joy Camp 2
July 12-18	Cub Week 2
July 19-25	Youth Week
July 26-31	Family Retreat #1
August 2-7	Family Retreat #2

Other Events

January 23-25...Family Ice Fishing Retreat
 May 1-2...Spring Volunteer Work Weekend
 June 10-13...Iowa West District LWML Convention
 June 20...Camp Okoboji Auxiliary Quilt Auction
 June 21-27...Minneboji Lutheran Camp
 May 24-September 6...Sunday Worship
 1st Sundays of the Month (May-October)...Brunch
 October 9-10...Fall Volunteer Work Weekend

For more information and to register, visit campokoboji.org



Summer Staff Needed!

We **urgently** need 2026 Summer Staff! We only have a few staff signed up. We know God will provide but we can't help but feel a little anxious! Please encourage youth (at least 16 years of age) and college students to consider serving with us. Those interested in serving at Camp Okoboji, or any LCMS camp in 2026 should complete a NLOMA profile. That is the first step in being considered for a summer position. Visit NLOMA.org for the profile link.

The Annual Meeting of Camp Okoboji is coming up, Saturday, April 11. We look forward to sharing Camp Okoboji with the congregations and members of Iowa District West and all our ministry partners! We encourage each congregation to be involved, send a delegate to hear from Camp, and report it back to their congregation and members.

Please remember **CAMP OKOBOJI AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES** held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. The day of the Annual Meeting, April 11, the Auxiliary hosts the Grocery Shower (to support the dining hall), the Theme Basket Auction (to support camper scholarships) and the Bake Sale (to support miscellaneous expenses).

May 1-3: VOLUNTEER WEEKEND: An opportunity to share your time and talents to assist in preparing camp for the summer. Room and board provided for volunteers! Please contact the office, (712) 337-3325, for lodging arrangements and sign up to help.

VOLUNTEERS: Recognizing and expressing our THANKS to volunteers and groups who give so generously of their time and talents in serving Camp Okoboji.

- A special thanks to all of the volunteers that help with our Annual Fund Mailings each year!

NEEDS/WANTS:

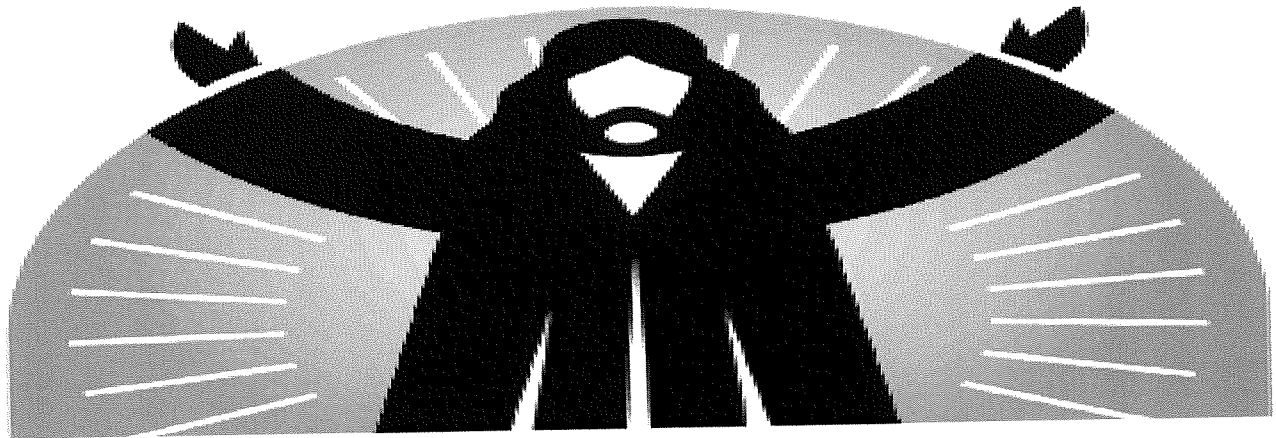
- Outdoor Rocking Chairs
- Laundry soap, bleach and hand soap
- Queen size mattress pads
- New commercial grade vacuums, coffee pots, toasters, crock pots
- Thrivent Action Team Cards (contact Kellie Jones for potential projects; 712-337-3325)
- Also, ask us about our Amazon Wish List!

Zion Lutheran Church
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Box 59
Arcadia, IA 51430
Rev. Andy Noble
712-689-2441
zionluth@westianet.net

Non Profit Organization
Arcadia, IA 51430
Standard mail

FRIENDS WHO CARE

Christian Education	9:00 am
Divine Worship	10:00 am



ALLELUIA!

He Is Risen!