

## Vocation, Vocation, Vocation

This word is as essential to the graduate as "location" is to the realtor. The recent graduations have produced kids leaving high school to figure out what they want to be—will they attend more school, join the services, take a gap year, or find a job? The college and tech schools have prepared graduates for careers and further schooling in their chosen fields. During these formative years, the education, the people we meet, and the experiences we have in life shape and groom us for our vocations.

Martin Luther thought about vocation from a different angle. Luther made it clear that there is a distinction between our Christian vocation and office. Our office is what we do in our careers, jobs, and homes. Our vocation, which undergirds our office and all we do, is to witness Christ to others. All the baptized share something in common. It is the moment in our lives where we are claimed as children of God charged to proclaim the faith – Jesus Christ crucified and resurrected. It is not school or life that shapes our vocation but Christ himself.

Our individual jobs and daily activities in the world identify and use the gifts we have been given, and our common vocation is to serve God through them. Doctors heal, social workers share resources, psychiatrists listen, farmers produce food, teachers educate, parents nurture, leaders equip - you get the idea. What gifts has God given you, and how will you use them in your vocation to serve God and others?

Alone, we cannot do these things. Only Christ in us gives us a pattern for living out our vocation as the baptized. God sends us to serve, care for, and help each other and all creation. And when we err, God picks us up, dusts us off, forgives us, and sends us out “wet” again. God equips us with gifts and passions to serve and a community of fellow believers to share Christ’s risen life with the world.

Our office will change as we age, grow, learn, and have experiences and encounters in life. Our vocation, however, remains the same in all we do – living out our baptism. Congratulations to all the graduates! Peace and wisdom to those who are discerning change and the next steps. As you search for your office or live it daily, remember your vocation, vocation, vocation.

Blessings, children of God,  
Pastor Elizabeth Martin

## **Lay Preachers & Assisting Ministers**

During our time last summer before Pastor Elizabeth came to Zion, we had ordained pastors fill in and David Schumann and Doug Shiloh also filled in. Both David and Doug have recently taken a preaching course from our synod. When pastor is gone on Thursdays the worship will usually be to sing Holden Evening Prayer and have a lay preacher if they are available. When pastor is gone on Sundays we will have an ordained supply pastor fill in. Pastor Elizabeth will also look for other opportunities for our lay preachers to practice their craft.

In addition, Brenda Shiloh is taking a preaching class in her synod Diakonia studies. Part of the class requirement is that she preach her sermon to the congregation. She will give the sermon on Thursday, June 13th. David will lead worship and preach on Thursday, May 30th and Dawn Calkins will play in Pastor and Dan's absence. Doug will guest preach on Sunday, June 16th (pastor will lead worship and preside).

We now have four people who are serving as Assisting Ministers in Sunday worship: Kevin Ekberg, Brenda & Doug Shiloh, and David Schumann. Take a look at what they do (chanting is not a requirement) and see if you would like to be trained and added to this ministry. It is great to have more and more involved in worship. Please pray for, support, and encourage those who are willing to use their gifts in our worship life.

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## **Faith Milestone**

Eight young people participated in a Holy Communion class and received their First Communion with their families on Sunday, April 28th. We rejoice with Lillian Armstrong, Max Beever, Ian & Jace Cordray, Stella Foley, Mason Guarino, Savannah Hensley, and Max Pinkston on this milestone along their faith journey. Pastor Elizabeth, Cheryl Sturges, and Kris Beever led the classes, and Heather Wick made communion bread with the kids. Please congratulate and encourage these children and their families.





### **Community Meal**

Loaded baked potatoes once again proved to be very popular at the May Community Meal. With nine available toppings and plenty of potatoes, many of the 91 guests came back for seconds and even thirds. More and more families are coming for dinner after visiting the Baby Bank so chicken nuggets were made available for the young children who might not enjoy a baked potato as much as their parents. It was a busy night, and thank you to these volunteers who made this meal go off without a

hitch: Dawn, Donna, Jean, Judy, Kathy, Larry, Linda, Marge, Marilee, Michelle, Nancy, Sharon, Tammy, Terry, Wanda and Wayne. Also, special thanks to Costco, as a generous grant from them provided most of the food for this meal.

Our next Community Meal will be held on Wednesday, June 5th, which is a week earlier than our normal second Wednesday of the month schedule. A sign-up sheet for volunteers is on the bulletin board. Please use it, as it is very helpful to know that we will have enough help.

John Enright

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### **Pioneer Luncheon**

Hello Zion Pioneers,

Please know that we will be taking the summer months off as usual. Pioneer potluck lunches will begin again starting in September. And also I would like to thank all the many hands (and minds) that have helped me over the past several months. I would not be able to continue without all of your help.

Patti Lee



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### **Worship in the Park**

Dear Zion Family,

On Sunday, June 23, we will be worshipping God in the Pavilion at Spencer Park. The service will begin at 10:00, and coffee and baked goods will be enjoyed at 9:30. We will have a meal after the service. Pulled pork, pulled chicken, buns, and bottled water will be provided; everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. Please bring your own plates, table service, and a lawn chair if you'd like. It was 59 (51 wind chill) degrees last June, so this year we are hoping for sunshine, a nice breeze, and not too many cicadas.

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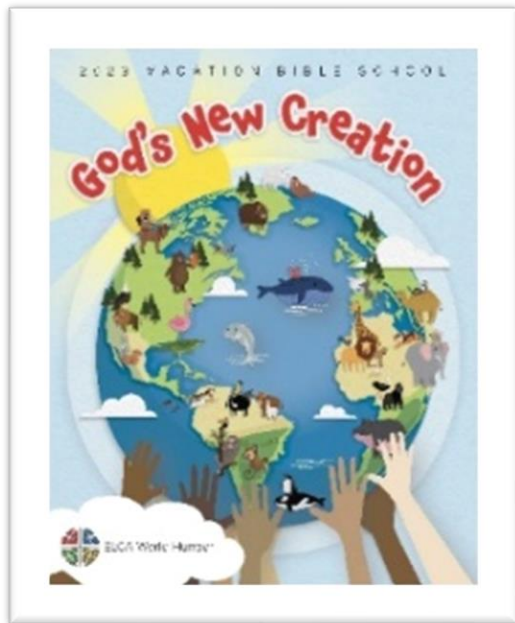


## Sunday School News



Let Your Life's Light be a Window to Christ

### Vacation Bible School



Our theme for VBS is *God's New Creation*. VBS will be June 17 – 21 from 9:00 to 11:30am for ages 3 to 12. There will be snacks, skits, lessons, crafts, games and singing!!! Pre-registration will start June 1<sup>st</sup>, or you can register on the first day. Please call the church office if you want to register in advance. We are looking for volunteers, some of the areas we need are group leaders, snacks, storytelling, opening (including taking pictures), and registration. You can volunteer for one day or every day. Everyone's help is appreciated! Confirmation kids, this is a great way to get service hours! If you are interested or have questions contact the church office or Pat Castro

### Sunday School Update

Sunday School is done for the year. The last day we planted the Pollinator beds and had cake and Capri Sun Drinks. Thank you to all the people who helped this year and a big thanks to Heather Wick for teaching the younger kids, her support and ideas for new things to do and ways to improve Sunday School. Sunday School will start again in September. See you then!!

**Come join us for our next Christian Nurturing Meeting June 3 at 5:30pm. We will be meeting at Coach's Corner, 622 South State Street. Come join us, everyone is welcome.**

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### Zion Lutheran Scholarships

**Applications are due May 28, 2024**, to Jean Twyning or to the church office. Recipients will be announced in July. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity as we support you in your future endeavors.

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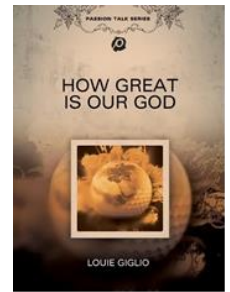
### Food Truck

The next Food Truck will be on June 29<sup>th</sup> from 10am-11:30am. Volunteers are needed starting at 9am to bag the food. Please let Mandy or Gary know if you are able to help.



## **Think of the Earth as a golf ball.....**

Come join us for an out of this world presentation of God's First Miracle. We will meet on June 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am. The movie is 41 minutes long and there will be a discussion after. Bring your own lunch and beverage. Dessert will be provided. Your life is a miracle and the creator of the universe knows each of us by name. God is big enough to breathe out stars, yet intricate enough to fashion together the trillions of cells that make up every facet of who we are. Come see the universe and your place in it.



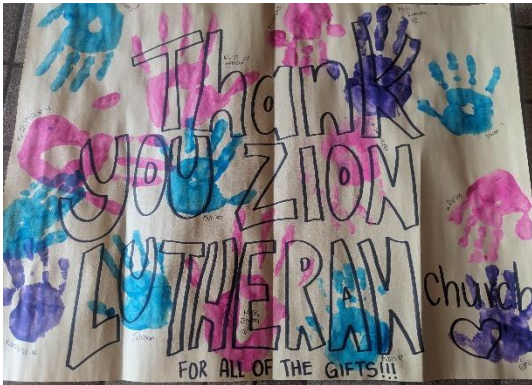
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## **Thank you!**

Dear Zion friends,

Thank you so much for your prayers and concerns since my dramatic fall at church. At the time I fell, I thought I had just injured my shoulder. As it turned out, later in the week I ended up at OSF emergency where I found out I had a compression fracture of my L1 vertebrae, so I am now doing Physical Therapy and slowly, but surely getting better. Bill has been my lifesaver – cook, driver, and help with everything you can imagine. So again thanks so much to everyone for the prayers – they do help.

Diane Vorndran



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## **First Step**

Zion collected items that the First Step kids could choose to give their special person on Mother's Day.

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## **Prayer Requests**

Ron Nelson, Vicky Harley, Bill Batterton, Wally Brown, Bob Kantner, Diane Vorndran, Guy and Pat Landmeier, Pat Melton, Kathy Bender, John Olson, Frances Palmer, Kevin Ekberg, Bob Brockway, Felix Ring, Juan Castro Jr, Harold Heeren, Olivia Rubeck, Michelle Marks, Todd and Lois Graves, Marilyn Urban, Stephanie Skelnik, Terry and Joanne Miller, Debbie DeWitt, Paula Crone, Helen Huftalin, Kendal Schmidt, Linda Johnson, Brenda Veit Shiloh, Marcia Ellingburg, Vera Sandberg, Dwaine Smith, Jim Johnson, Keira Kozlowski, The People of Ukraine, ALC Resurrection Church of India, Trinity Lutheran Church in Harvard

In Service to our Nation:

John Kozlowski, Justin Kozlowski, Rob Zediker



# Happy Birthday from your Zion Family!



|                  |                     |                      |                            |                      |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1-Bob Brunschon  | 8-Justin Kozlowski  | 13-Burton Sandberg   | 18-Pastor Elizabeth Martin | 23-Sam Larson        |
| 2-Kari Schmidt   | 8-John Kozlowski    | 13-James Heron       | 18-Jared Wick              | 23-Lois Bender       |
| 3-Mandy Minson   | 8-Maya Ernest       | 14-Doug Shiloh       | 18-Melissa Bahena          | 23-Wes Jacobson      |
| 4-Andy Mallegni  | 9-Chloe Balabuszko  | 16-Brianna Brunschon | 19-Evan Wick               | 25-Cathy Jacobson    |
| 4-Jeff Rednour   | 9-Gretchen Mallegni | 16-Valerie Kotajarvi | 20-Kendal Schmidt          | 29-Linda Kozlowski   |
| 7-Charles Foster | 12-Brittany Bender  | 17-Olivia Bahena     | 22-Katelyn Bishop          | 29-Pauline Reininger |

## From the Treasurer:

### General Fund

|         |                   |                     |         |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|
| 04/2024 | Beginning Balance | \$ 18,807.85        | 04/2024 |
|         | Total Income      | \$ 12,194.01        |         |
|         | Total Expense     | <u>\$ 14,824.20</u> |         |
|         | Balance           | \$ 16,177.66        |         |

### Building Fund

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$13,570.56        |
| Total Income      | \$ 2,472.00        |
| Total Expense     | <u>\$ 1,951.26</u> |
| Balance           | \$ 14,091.30       |

### General Fund Reserve Savings (new Account)

|            |                   |              |
|------------|-------------------|--------------|
| April/2024 | Beginning Balance | \$100,582.78 |
|            | Income (interest) | 65.87        |
|            | Expenses          | <u>0.00</u>  |
|            | Balance           | \$100,648.65 |

### Staff

Rev. Elizabeth Martin  
Intentional Interim Pastor

Mandy Minson  
Administrative Assistant

Ken Anderson  
Council President

Dan Albrecht  
Choir Director

Pat Castro  
Sunday School Director

Diane Vorndran  
Financial Secretary

Sharon Yunto  
Treasurer

### Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:00am  
Thursdays at 7:00pm

Find Worship Videos at  
[www.zionbelvidere.com](http://www.zionbelvidere.com)

OR

On Facebook at  
[ZionBelvidere+](https://www.facebook.com/ZionBelvidere+)

### Council Members

#### Term Through January 2025

Ken Anderson  
Jody Archer  
Rodney Brandmire  
Dawn Calkins  
Doug Shiloh  
Gary Yunto

#### Term Through January 2026

Gretel Baird  
Melody Johnson  
David Schumann

#### Term Through January 2027

Kris Enright  
Michelle Ernest  
Kelly Kotajarvi

## Texts for the Month of June

### June 2

Deuteronomy 5:12-15  
2 Corinthians 4:5-12  
Mark 2:23-3:6

### June 9

Genesis 3:8-15  
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1  
Mark 3:20-35

### June 16

Ezekiel 17:22-24  
2 Corinthians 5:6-17  
Mark 4:26-34

### June 23

Job 38:1-11  
2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
Mark 4:35-41

### June 30

Lamentations 3:22-33  
2 Corinthians 8:4-15  
Mark 5:21-43

## June 2024

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue  | Wed  | Thu  | Fri   | Sat   |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| OFFICE HOURS<br>Monday-Thursday<br>9am-1pm<br>Closed Fridays   |                            |  |  |  |   | 1<br>WOZ Roscoe<br>Auto Attraction<br>10am-3pm                            |
| 2<br>Sunday Worship 9am  | 3<br>Worship & Music 5pm<br><br>Christian Nurturing<br>Meeting 5:30pm @<br>Coach's Corner<br><br>Shiloh 6pm | 4  | 5<br>Sewing/Quilting 9am<br>Bible Study 9:30am<br><br>Baby Bank 4pm-6pm<br>Community Meal<br>5pm-6pm | 6<br><br>7:00 pm – Worship   | 7<br><br>Office Closed                        | 8   |
| 9<br>Sunday Worship 9am  | 10<br>Witness 6pm   | 11<br>Council Reports Due<br>Scholarship Meeting<br>9:30am-10:30am | 12<br>Sewing/Quilting 9am<br>Bible Study 9:30am  | 13<br><br>7:00 pm – Worship<br>Holden Sundae                                   | 14<br><br>Office Closed<br><br>Synod Assembly | 15<br><br>Synod Assembly  |
| 16<br>Sunday Worship 9am   | 17<br><br>VBS 9am-11:30am   | 18<br><br>VBS 9am-11:30am  | 19<br><br>VBS 9am-11:30am<br><br>Directory Photos<br>3pm-7pm<br><br>Council Meeting 7:00pm           | 20<br><br>VBS 9am-11:30am<br>7:00 pm – Worship                                 | 21<br><br>VBS 9am-11:30am                     | 22  |
| 23<br>Coffee/Cookies 9:30am<br><br>Worship in the Park<br>10am<br><br>Pot Luck Luncheon<br>After Service | 24<br>Tidings Articles Due  | 25<br>How Great is Our God<br>Video & Lunch<br>11:30am             | 26<br>Sewing/Quilting 9am<br>Bible Study 9:30am  | 27<br>Directory Photos<br>3pm-7pm<br><br>Barnabas 6pm<br><br>7:00 pm – Worship | 28<br><br>Office Closed                       | 29<br>Photo Directory<br>8:30am-10:30am<br><br>Food Truck<br>10am-11:30am |
| 30<br>Sunday Worship 9am<br><br>Photo Directory<br>10:20am-12pm  |   |  |  |  |   |   |

