



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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January 2022 Newsletter

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December SERVANT SCHEDULE:

	USHER	LECTOR	COMM. ASST.
Jan 2	Sharon Nordahl	Angie Maier	Angie and Kenadee
Jan 9	Foss Wilson	Karen Combs	Karen Combs & Cindy Giese
Jan 16	Bill Cowen	Lynette Sallee	Lynette Sallee & Gail Kurns
Jan 23	Aaron Aanenson	Falan Aanenson	Falan & Cameryn Aanenson
Jan 30	Emily Pietz	Lana Papp	Lana Papp & Cheyenne Aanenson



*IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FULFILL YOUR DUTY, PLEASE FIND YOUR OWN REPLACEMENT



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP, FAITH IN ACTION, OUTREACH, FELLOWSHIP, NEWS, EVENTS, CAUSES, HAPPENINGS, COMMUNITY, STEWARDSHIP, MINISTRY, CONNECTIONS & MORE!

January Social Concern is...

Farm In The Dell

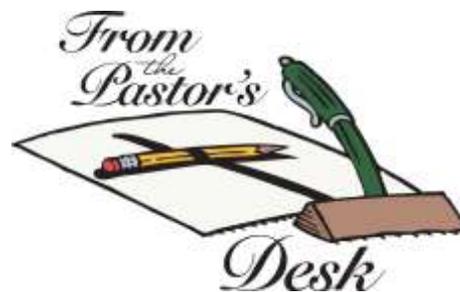
Heart of Montana Farm in the Dell is a non-profit 501c3 organization providing a life-long home in an agricultural setting for adults with developmental disabilities.

The farm will provide residential and vocational opportunities for our neighbors, our friends, and our families who are vital members in our community.

We accomplished a lot in 2020. We cleaned up the barn and surrounding areas. We fenced pasture and put up a hoop house.

If you would like to contribute this effort please mark Farm in the dell in the memo line of you check.





ZLC Members and Friends!

I'd like to share with you an excerpt from a publication entitled "The Power of Relational Action" by community organizer Edward T. Chambers. Chambers was the Executive Director of the Industrial Areas Foundation for a time, an international leadership organization that continues to train and develop public leaders within community institutions like our churches. To enact social change and meaningful public engagement, leaders learn to unite their common interests when acting for the good of others. Disagreements and strongly held beliefs are set aside as leaders discover what draws their hearts and spirits together.

Here's the excerpt:

"In many people, 'spirit' never gets developed, because [people] never connect with others in a real way. [Our system of] capitalism tells us that the self is all-important, because it wants us to be isolated consumers, each making his or her own decisions, without being accountable to one another. Our educational system teaches self-sufficiency and independence, not community and interdependence. Political leaders want us as individual voters who can be reached one at a time by means of the mass media and the Internet. The health industry treats us all as patients, that is, people who wait "patiently" in isolation to be treated by the medical system. Even organized religion, which purports to be the most communal and relational of all human endeavors, [often only] wants us to have a private, personal experience of God.

None of them are correct, of course. We cannot be successful-or even human-without other people. We can't grow or develop without the diversity offered by other viewpoints, other life experiences, other value systems...We exist because life itself is relational: It consists of ourselves, other selves and the world, all in constant relationship with one another..."

Chambers goes on to teach about the power of being curiously relational with people. He underlines methods for listening to others while asking appropriate, public questions that lead to trust-building and a sense of shared purpose. He is most known for developing the art of the "relational" or "one-to-one" meeting. A relational meeting is more than a conversation about a community's "problems". It is also never an interview. Rather, leaders are taught to discuss and draw out one another's values, passions, and visions. Subsequently, where common interests lie, effective, purposeful action ensues.

As we, Zion Lutheran Church, seek to live out our calling to love both God and neighbor in the world, we will be implementing some of the tactics mentioned in this book. Specifically, starting on January 18th, 2022, and then every 3rd Monday of each month to follow, the Evangelism Team will be leading House Meetings meant to connect our spirits as ZLC members in ways that will move us forward in ministry as a congregation. Please read the blurb about these House Meetings in the following pages and note the month or months you would like to join us. The Evangelism Team looks forward to hosting you and hearing from you soon!

Your Sister-Servant
Pr. Stacey

Growing in Faith

Zion Lutheran Church has many ways to grow in faith all while getting to know the people in our church family. Weekly worship services take place on Sundays at 9:30 am. For even more ways to make connections & grow in faith take look at what's happening at Zion every week!

- **ZLCW Circle Bible Studies:**
 - Hosanna Circle** – Bible study meetings the 2nd Thursday of the month at 4 pm in the Fireside room. Contact person: Lynette Sallee 406-535-5236
 - Rachel Circle** – Bible study meetings the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room. Contact person: Debby Shobe 406-535-5864
 - Ruth Circle** – Bible study meeting the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1:30 pm in the Fireside Room. Contact person: Kathy Trask 406-535-5601
- **Women's Podcast group**— The Podcast group meets the second Tuesday of the month. They will meet at 6:30pm during the odd months and 12:00pm during the even. Check the calendar for where they will be meeting next.
- **Men over Lunch**—Join this lively men's group each Wednesday at 12:00 pm for good food and good company! Men Over Lunch meet at the Elks
- **B.L.A.S.T.** – Stands for Believe, Learn, and Seek Truth. 2nd -6th grade kids meet Wednesdays after school at 3:30 – 5:00pm
- **Confirmation Classes** – 7th & 8th grade kids meet at 3:45 pm on Wednesdays in classes designed to teach bible lessons in preparation for the Affirmation of Baptism.
- **Youth Group** – High Schoolers meet from 6:30- 8:00pm on Wednesdays with dinner provided.

Have you found our worship services online?

The easiest way to find our online worship videos is to go to our website: www.zionlewistownelca.com

On the front page of the website are two icons:

 will take you directly to our YouTube channel where you can watch at the same time as an in-church service. Previous services are also available here. Check out Playlists to find funerals and Children's Time videos.

 will take you directly to the Zion Facebook page. Click on the More tab and scroll down to Videos to find some of our past worship videos.

On our website you can also point to the Worship tab and a drop-down menu will show Video Worship Services. These videos are from previous services along with access to a bulletin for each service.



Believe Learn and Seek Truth

B.L.A.S.T.

Highland Park kids should find a buddy and walk to Church

Lewis and Clark kids will meet their driver in the parking lot as usual.

-Falan 😊

Upcoming Lessons

- January 5 - Jesus the Word
- January 12 - Jesus' Baptism
- January 16 - Wedding at Cana
- January 23 - Jesus goes to Nazareth

Zion Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting

February 6th after worship



SINGING WITH THE LUTHERANS

by Garrison Keillor

I have made fun of Lutherans for years - who wouldn't, if you lived in Minnesota? But I have also sung with Lutherans and that is one of the main joys of life, along with hot baths and fresh sweet corn.

We make fun of Lutherans for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like they do.

If you ask an audience in New York City, a relatively Lutheranless place, to sing along on the chorus of 'Michael Row the Boat Ashore', they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their under-wear. But if you do this among Lutherans they'll smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! And down the road!

Lutherans are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony. It's a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage. It's natural for Lutherans to sing in harmony. We're too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment.

I once sang the bass line of Children of the Heavenly Father in a room with about three thousand Lutherans in it; and when we finished, we all had tears in our eyes, partly from the promise that God will not forsake us, partly from the proximity of all those lovely voices. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other.

I do believe this: These Lutherans are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you're dying, they'll comfort you. If you're lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you're hungry, they'll give you tuna salad!

The following list was compiled by a 20th century Lutheran who, observing other Lutherans, wrote down exactly what he saw or heard:

1. Lutherans believe in prayer, but would practically die if asked to pray out loud.
2. Lutherans like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas.
3. Lutherans believe their pastors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify them that they are there.
4. Lutherans usually follow the official liturgy and will feel it is their way of suffering for their sins.
5. Lutherans believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate.
6. Lutherans feel that applauding for their children's choirs would make the kids too proud and conceited.
7. Lutherans think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while passing the peace.
8. Lutherans drink coffee as if it were the Third Sacrament.
9. Some Lutherans still believe that an ELCA bride and an LC-MS groom make for a mixed marriage. (For those of you who are not Lutherans, ELCA is Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and LC-MS is Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, two different divisions of the same Protestant religion.. And when and where I grew up in Minnesota, intermarriage between the two was about as popular as Lutherans and Catholics marrying.)
10. Lutherans feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall.
11. Lutherans are willing to pay up to one dollar for a meal at church.
12. Lutherans think that Garrison Keillor stories are totally factual.
13. Lutherans still serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color of the season and think that peas in a tuna noodle casserole add a little too much color.
14. Lutherans believe that it is OK to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously.

And finally, you know you're a Lutheran when:

*It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service;

*You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can;

*Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee;

*The communion cabinet is open to all, but the coffee cabinet is locked up tight;

*When you watch a 'Star Wars' movie and they say, 'May the Force be with you', you respond, 'and also with you';

*And lastly, it takes 15 minutes to say, 'Good-bye'.

May you wake each day with His blessings, Sleep each night in His keeping, And always walk in His tender care.



Council has approved the use of Instant Church Directory. Using this you can have an up-to-date directory with you wherever you go.

-You will have the ability to update your information when ever needed. Members are able to upload their own family picture. We will also have the option to have a professional photographer take your photos.



-The app can be downloaded on iPhones, iPads, Android Devices and Kindle Fire.

-Members use the email address in the directory to create their own password.

-Only members who are entered in the directory can login to the website, and if the member is removed, they no longer have access.

-We will also have printed copies available for members who would like one.

How To.....

1. Download the app
-Instant directory
2. Create a Log In
3. Use your email on file at the church
4. Create password
5. Confirm in your email
6. In the app touch the
☰ to Edit My Family



From there you should be able to add a family photo and any information that you would like. If there is info that you do not want to add leave the space blank.

Security information from Instant church Directory.

Member Information Security.

Even though your data is stored with us, we at Instant Church Directory do not access your members' data, except for specific troubleshooting purposes within the directory. All data provided by members is held securely and we do not use member information such as phone numbers or emails for marketing purposes (either internally or by selling the information to other organizations.)

The Evangelism Team is currently planning an entire year of House Meeting Listening Sessions for ZLC! In the years ahead, as we plan to host events, service projects, and gatherings that are meaningful for our congregation, we want the actions of our membership to reflect what are the actual needs, hopes, cares, concerns, and interests of our congregation and larger community.

At these sessions, specific groups of members will be asked the following questions:

- What brings you the most joy in life and a greater sense of wholeness?
- What keeps you up at night and makes you the most worried every day?
- What do you enjoy about community life at ZLC? Why do you attend here?
- What could aid ZLC in terms of support and outreach to its members?
- What could aid ZLC in terms of mission and outreach to our outside community?

From there, based on our listening, we will begin to plan exciting, experimental actions, events, projects, and gatherings we hope will serve our congregation and community better with more integrity and intention.

If you fit into any of the below categories, we would like you to participate in the given monthly session. **Sessions will take place the 3rd Monday of every month from 5:45-7.** Dinner will be served at 5:45. We'll then kick things off at 6, ending promptly at 7. When a parent or parents are involved, child care will be provided. We ask that everyone RSVP to the gathering(s) of your choice so we know how much food to prepare.

Please see the list below. See you at one or more of the following sessions:

January: Young(er) Couples (50 yo or younger)
February: “Seasoned” 😊 Couples (50 yo or older)
March: Young(er) Adult Singles (50 yo or younger)
April: “Seasoned” 😊 Adult Singles (50 yo or older)
May: Divorcees
June: Widows & Widowers
July: Month Off
August: Parents (with children 0-18 yo) Childcare Provided
September: ZLC Staff and Worship Assistants
October: Church Council
November: Teens
December: 10-13 year-olds

Blessings,

Your ZLC Evangelism Team

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