



Zion Lutheran Church NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO THE ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER
Zion is a member congregation of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

JULY 2018 **5831 GRUNDY ROAD, HUDSON, IA 50643**
Pastor Mark's cell: 515-538-2200 Church & Parsonage: 988-4534 www.zionlutheranhuson.com

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I'm writing from Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp where I'm here with Cameron Seible, June Volding and 225 other confirmation aged campers and about 50 counselors and other camp staff. I love attending Bible camp! When I was a youngster the week at camp was always a highlight of summer. It still is.

As a shy boy going to camp meant getting pulled out of my timid shell: doing silly skits, extravagant motions to songs, singing around a campfire, having serious discussions about the Bible. Although, sometimes, my sister would go to camp with me, usually I went without her, which meant I could shine under my own talent. Don't get me wrong, I love my sister very much, but, when we were growing up, she was the "star" of our family and drew a very large extroverted spotlight. For 51 weeks a year I was more than happy to let her have all the attention she deserved, but my week of Bible camp let me feel like I was someone special on my own. I felt like I could do things at camp that I would never have done at home. The first time I held a girl's hand in a romantic way was at Bible camp. So much fun, so much Jesus!

Later, in my twenties, I worked three summers as a camp counselor. Each week, we would have pastors visiting at camp as they accompanied kids from their respective congregations. As much as anything, conversations with these pastors at camp was a huge influence in my decision to become a pastor myself. This, too, is part of my motivation to spend this week at camp. I have already had at least three conversations with various staff members about what it's like being a pastor. Part of my ordination vows was to encourage others to serve Christ as pastors of the church. Being here at camp is an ideal opportunity to do that. So much fun, so much Jesus!

Now, as a kind of wise, old pastor among all these energetic youngsters, I don't really do a whole lot. I go to breakfast, attend chapel worship (where I sit toward the back, sing the songs, stand and try to do the extravagant motions – except for the jumping up and down part I do okay), enjoy the skits and personal sharing time, have Bible study, eat lunch, come back to my cabin and take a nap, go to dinner, check on Cameron and June and make sure they're having a great week, have conversations with other folks, put on long pants and a jacket so the mosquitoes don't get too many bites at campfire time, call Sherrie to let her know how much fun she's missing, then to bed – much earlier than usual. I do my ongoing church work from my laptop, like this newsletter and sermon preparation. Oh, I'm also reading a book, *Walking the Bible: A Journey by Land through the Five Books of Moses* by Bruce Filer, more about that next month. So much fun, so much Jesus!

In Christ,
Pastor Mark Decker

Prayers

Each Sunday in worship, we publish a list of people who have requested prayers. To help you remember them in your regular prayer time: Dianne Bascom, Susan Decker, Gordon Gartner, Sean Love, Bill Neil, Don Schrage, Dorothy Juhl Zelle, and Eunice Neil. If you would like another name added to the list, please let Pastor know.

Hospital Visits

If you or a family member are in the hospital, please let Pastor Mark know so he can visit and pray with you during your time there.

Flowers at the Cemetery

If you have placed flowers (real or artificial) at the cemetery, please remember that they should be removed by July first.

Vacation Bible School

VBS update: What fun was had by all our young sailors this week. We learned how Jesus is our life preserver when we are lost, struggle and do wrong.

Thank you parents for bringing the children and assisting us. We served 28, 27 and then 26 people over the three nights. Many of the children experienced kick ball for the first time. What joy to watch them.

Special thanks to Ed Juhl for providing the rock for our islands. The kids adored the piles! Thanks to Cindy Appleton and Molly Volding for putting everything together!

Confirmation Camp at Riverside

Cameron Seible and June Volding attended Confirmation Camp at Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp near Story City the week of June 24-29. Pastor Mark was at camp with them for most of the week. Thank you for your prayers that they had a wonderful week of growing in faith experiences.

Sign-up to Read or Serve Fellowship Treats

There are new sign-up pages on the wall of the church entryway for those interested in taking a turn to serve as a reader or bringing fellowship treats on Sunday mornings. Please take advantage these opportunities to use your talent.

Thank You

Sherrie and I truly appreciate being able to take our vacation to Scotland again this year. We especially thank those who stepped up to lead worship while we were away: Lyle Wulf, John Neil, Noah Ruppert and Janine Knapp. Also, Pastor Thorsen for making himself available to cover any pastoral emergencies. What a blessing you all are!
Pastor Mark

Thank You Received

Dear Elaine [Brandhorst] and members of Zion Lutheran,

Thank you so much for providing cookies for May and hosting the quarterly birthday party in May

for the residents of NewAldaya.

We appreciate your commitment to support NewAldaya and its residents! This ministry truly enhances their experiences and activities!
Sincerely, Mary, Arleen, Elaine, and Rose
(NA: Resident Life & Hospitality Committee)

July Anniversaries

7 Russ & Sandy Pedersen
21 Dan & Tammy Bern
24 Pr. Mark Ordination (1988)

July Birthdays

1 Pastor Mark
7 Dylan Garbes
11 Tara Seible
21 Tammy Bergman
23 Mitch Juhl
25 Lyle Wulf
25 Dan Bern
26 Steve Wright

July Acolytes

1 Cameron Seible
8 June Volding
15 Zander Young
22 Tanner Laube
29 Cameron Seible

Ushers

July 1 Craig & Janet Dufel
July 8 Rod & Marilu Degener
July 15 Paul & Janine Knapp
July 22 Rod & Marilu Degener
July 29 Langley Jensen & Bob Petersen

Communion Servers

July 1 Ed & Gayle Juhl
July 8 Harold & Julie Sorensen
July 15 Harold & Julie Sorensen
July 22 Aaron & Tara Seible
July 29 Aaron & Tara Seible

Communion Clean-up

July 1 Donna Dufel & Janet Dufel
July 8 Donna Dufel & Janet Dufel
July 15 Karen Wulf & Angie Marsh
July 22 Karen Wulf & Angie Marsh
July 29 Eleanor Wettengel & Bev Wulf

The color of the paraments on all the Sundays of July is green for the season after Pentecost.

Our lectionary readings for the Sundays are:

July 1: 2 Samuel 1:1,17-27; Psalm 30; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

July 8: Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

July 15: Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 85:8-13; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

July 22: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 23; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 29: 2 Kings 4:42-44; Psalm 145:10-18; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

The **WEB SITE for LCMC** – Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ, is www.lcmc.net

If you have an announcement, message, quote, picture, or prayer, that you would like to share in the newsletter, contact Pastor Mark, (515-538-2200) by the 25th of the previous month.

Minutes of council meetings which will be included in the newsletters will be from 2 months earlier as they have to be approved at the next monthly meeting before they can be published.