



# Zion St. John

LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Being the Body of Christ*

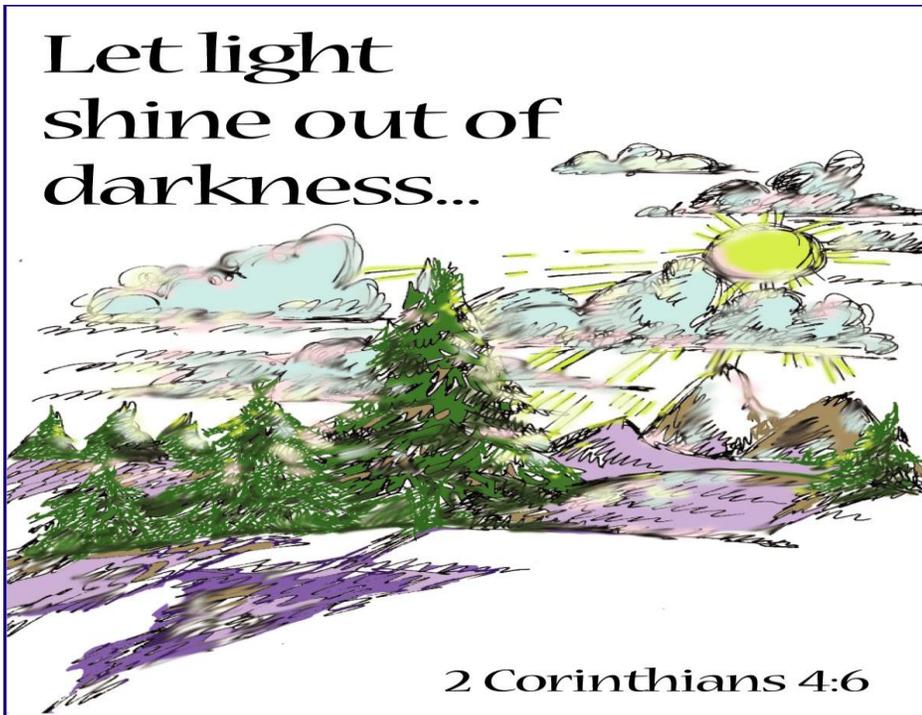
June 2018

Pentecost

Vol. 24 No. 6



***“Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days I will pour out my spirit.” Joel 2:28-29***



## **OUR VISION STATEMENT**

*At Zion St. John Lutheran Church, we are committed to being the body of Christ until He returns. Led by the Holy Spirit and gathered around God’s Word and Sacraments, we join in worship, fellowship, learning, spiritual nurture, outreach, and service, as we grow in faith and invite others to experience Christ’s presence.*

What is a YAGM? It is a Young Adult in Global Mission. This is a ministry of the ELCA. As Pastor Mark Anderson describes it, “Think of this as the Lutheran Peace Corps”. A YAGM is a young adult who typically takes a year off from college or takes a year after completing their studies to serve as a missionary.

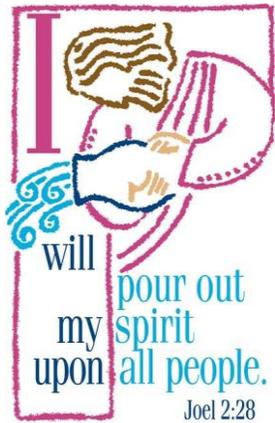
Last year our congregation was at the point where we needed to select a new missionary to support. I went to a workshop at Synod assembly about how our Synod is sponsoring YAGM’s that are sent to Hungary, which is one of our companion synods. This looked like a good fit for us.

When I brought this up to the church council, Cindy H said that her nephew, Lars Anderson, would be serving as a YAGM in the Holy Land. So we decided to sponsor Lars. He has been very faithful in sending communications to us (See his article on pages 3-4). Several weeks ago, Lar’s mother, Rachelle A (Steve H’s sister) visited our congregation and thanked us for supporting her son. She had recently returned from visiting him and had a wonderful experience. Recently, tensions have been high where he serves. Rachelle assured us that Lars is safe. Please keep Lars and the people he serves in your prayers.

Lar’s year will be up in August and he will return home. He is planning to visit our congregation and share some of his experiences with us. He also has graciously offered to guide a group of our high school youth on a trip to the Boundary waters in Minnesota in the summer of 2019, if there is sufficient interest on their part. Lars is also planning to enter seminary and study to become a pastor.

Our current plan is to sponsor another YAGM next year.

Unless we have another personal connection to one of these young adults, we will likely sponsor someone who will be serving in Hungary. If you know of a young adult who would be interested in serving as a Young Adult in Global Ministry, please have them contact me.



God's Blessings To You,  
Pastor Kim



*"I give you a new commandment, that you should love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."*

John 13:34

I spend a lot of time on social media. Sometimes, I use it to communicate with families about things going on here at church, sometimes I use it to keep up with friends from college or high school, other times I use it to communicate with colleagues and get ideas for new programming here at Zion St. John. There's a lot of really great things about social media!

However, I have seen a change over the last few years. People these days often use social media to say things that they would never ordinarily say out loud or to a person's face. I have seen people tweet, email or "comment" terrible things to each other, and often, it's about things that don't even really matter. I see this especially when people discuss matters of politics that are close to the hearts of everyone. People with differing opinions are called names instead of having a real conversation about the topic. This kind of negative conversation is

often modeled by adults, and young people are catching on, and behaving in the same manner.

Social media is a powerful tool. It can be used for immense good and even for sharing the word of God. For every negative thing that we see on social media, wouldn't it be nice if we saw an uplifting story, a scripture verse, or a word of encouragement? Perhaps, we could even learn to share more positivity in our every day lives, not just on social media.

Jesus calls us to love each other. We see it all over the Gospels. We are to treat everyone we meet with love, whether it be in person or on social media.

Grace and Peace,  
Caitlin



It's very warm here and it's only getting warmer (I apologize to my readers in the United States that have had recent snowstorms). I feel as if I've been totally incorporated into community life. Hospitality is a huge part of Arab culture.

On April 21st, the Lutheran Schools had their Spring Educational Day. This event has students from the four Lutheran Schools compete against each other in various academic competitions. Additionally, I was asked to be one of the judges for the All-Lutheran School Spelling Bee. Students from 8th, 9th, and 10th grade competed against each other to determine the best spellers in each grade.

The annual Valentine's dance was held on February 17th. When I arrived at the dance, I was greeted with many familiar sights and sounds. Loud music was playing. Young people were dancing in a variety of ways, while others sat on the sidelines because they were too shy (or "too cool") to join their peers. There was a great spread of

food and drink available for both the students and staff members (I had my share of sfiha, a favorite food of mine). It was very reminiscent of my school dances at Duluth East High School (Go Greyhounds)!

My first nine months here have been the most transformative period of my life. I'm excited to see where God leads me in my last two months as I continue to grow in God's love and live in community with my brothers and sisters in the Holy Land

Peace, Lars



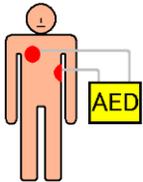
## MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

ZSJ is the host site for the Mobile Food Pantry in Franklin County. This mobile pantry is through the Food Bank of Iowa and will be held the 3rd Thursday of every month. Hours will be from 4-6 pm. Set up time is from 3-4 pm and we always welcome volunteers! For more information, please contact the church office @ 641-892-4010 or [secretary@zionstjohn.org](mailto:secretary@zionstjohn.org). We are still working on a more permanent solution and would welcome any suggestions!

**Next date is**  
**Thursday, June 21, 4-6 pm**



## AUTOMATIC ELECTRONIC DEFIBRILLATOR



At the March Council meeting, one of the items that was discussed was the need for us to have an Automatic Electronic Defibrillator. These devices have saved the lives of many people whose hearts have stopped beating.

The cost for an AED would range between \$1,500 & \$2,000. Currently we have \$1,770 in Memorial Funds and donations. If you

would like to contribute please write AED in the memo line of your check.

## CONSTANCE CLAUSEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Connie, who was a very faithful member of this congregation, passed away on March 16, 2018. To honor her memory, her husband David, has established a scholarship fund. Two awards of \$250 each will be awarded to graduating seniors who are members of Zion St. John Lutheran Church. To be considered, an application needs to be submitted.

On Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> the first of these scholarships were awarded. This year's recipients were Collin M and Sarah R. These scholarships were presented at the Graduation Reception following worship. We thank the family of Connie C for their generosity. If you would like to contribute to this scholarship fund, please contact a member of the Memorial / Legacy Committee.



## NE IA SYNOD ASSEMBLY

The 2018 Synod Assembly will gather at Wartburg College, Waverly, June 8-10, for business surrounded by word and sacrament, with the theme, "Celebrating Renewal: Philip Melancthon — Education."

Please pray for our voting members, Cindy H, Diane W, Pastor Kim and Sarah R.

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Here's a look at our finances as of April 30, 2018:

<b>Budgeted Income</b>	<b>\$72,724</b>
<b>Offerings Received</b>	<b>\$63,440</b>
<b>Current Deficit</b>	<b>\$ 9,284</b>
<b>Expenses Year to Date</b>	<b>\$71,217</b>
<b>Checking Account</b>	<b>\$10,043</b>



The good news this month is that our budget deficit grew by less than \$1,000. Our checking account balance dropped by over \$6,500, a significant reason for this drop was that we paid out monies collected from our Lenten special offerings. Please remember that even though many families are going on vacation, our expenses at church continue. If you will be out of town, please consider placing your offering in the mail or dropping it off at church. Thank you for your faithful giving.

## WELCA GATHERING

The NE IA WELCA will be gathering on Saturday, June 16 @ Wartburg College, in Waverly. The theme of the day is "Blessed are the weary..." There are numerous interest sessions throughout the day including the worship team from Bremwood, foster parenting, mandelas, the Bishop, disaster preparedness, Native American traditions, financial planning and keynote speaker Pastor Kevin Dooley who is a ventriloquist. The day will also include morning worship with communion, shopping and a delicious lunch with lots of fellowship. There is more information on the narthex bulletin board or on line @ [www.neiasynod.org/women-of-the-elca/](http://www.neiasynod.org/women-of-the-elca/)

Blessed are the weary...



**Call to Order** by President Doug D, May 13, 2018 @ 10:30 am. Present were Doug D, Jim B, Brigid C, Vickie B, Scott C, Tony R, Tracy D, Pastor Kim. Devotions led by Pastor

### Pastor's Report

- Baptisms Scheduled: May 20, 2018 Kelix John W, son of Jake & Kimberly W
- Baptisms Performed: May 5, 2018 Colton & Libby, children of Nick & Sara J
- Weddings Scheduled: August 31, 2018 Alli L & fiancée at Shakopee, Minnesota
- October 6, 2018 Cassidy K & Brady R at ZSJ
- October 20, 2018 Tyler Greimann & Emily at ZSJ
- Funerals Performed: April 12, 2018 Arlene V at Retz Funeral Home
- Other Activities
  1. 1 communion visit, 1 counseling, 5 member visits
  2. Worked on setting up Constance Clausen Scholarship.
  3. Worked on resolving issues with Aramark.
  4. Exploring options for a permanent Food Pantry in Sheffield.

### Items to Consider

- AED fund balance stands at \$1,532.17. Our goal is \$2,000.00.
- Discussed possibility of having a portable air conditioning unit in the Education Wing.
- Church Clean up day we found we have two ballasts out in light fixtures in the Fellowship Hall. Will work to get these fixed.
- Synod Assembly will be June 8-10 at Wartburg College. Pastor usually there on Sunday but his niece is getting married that Saturday, so he will lead worship that day.
- Pastor will be on the National Youth Gathering June 24 – July 2. He is working on pulpit supply.

- Pastor will be gone Friday, June 22-23 to attend a Leader Dog training event in Chicago.
- Pastor has vacation scheduled August 20-26. He will have pastoral and pulpit coverage.

#### Connecting ZSJ with The Larger Church

- Service on the Outside Council of The Church of the Damascus Road
- Service on the Synod SAFE Committee
- Pastor has been asked by our Synod to be the At Large Board Member for a ministry of Catholic Charities that deals with Drug Court and Prisons There would be four meetings per year at the Dubuque Diocese Office
- Darwin M and Diane W serve on the Synod Council
- Diane Wills serves as Synodical President of the Women of the ELCA
- Diane and Pastor received Certificates of Appreciation from the International President of the Lions Club for our work with Leader Dogs for the Blind. This is the fourth highest award a Lion can receive

**Correspondence-** None

**Minutes-**Motion to approve Vickie; second, Scott; passed

**Treasurer's Report** - reviewed

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Parish Education**

- Flowers
- preparing for VBS

##### **Property Management**

- sidewalk proposal passed, Jim talked to Lance about things that came up at the congregational meeting, Lance will work around VBS, anticipating to start in July
- Payton Plagge will take care of cemetery mowing
- Tony talked to a company about tuck pointing, ice and water issues

**Stewardship-**Will meet this fall

##### **Technology**

- Scott is working on live feed of our service to the care center; Want to have on big screen at Sheffield Care Center, possibly thru YouTube

#### **Worship & Evangelism-**met and have schedule for the year **Youth & Family**

- getting ready for trip to National Youth Gathering, renting 2 vans to drive

#### **Old Business**

- Ceiling issues in the sacristy
- Accordion door leading into the sanctuary
- carpeting under the piano-Pastor called store in Dumont, waiting to hear
- Concrete work approval
- Facebook Live to Care Center

#### **New Business**

- AED purchase dollars and where to purchase-Tracy talked to Erran M-suggested Zoll
- South sidewalk & tree roots-Jim will talk to Lance about notching out tree root and filling in with concrete
- Handmade wooden cross-about 5 ft high and 3 ½ across, Pastor has a name and contact information, put on memorial list
- Pastor's 10-year anniversary will be April 2019. He will get 1 additional week of vacation, including a Sunday, starting June 1 2018. Motion to approve, Scott; Jim, second; passed.

**Motion to adjourn at 11:27 by Scott, second Brigid.**

Respectfully submitted by  
Tracy D

*Women of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America*

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice-President Judy S called the meeting to order on Sunday, May 13, 2018, at 10:15 a.m. Those present were: Judy S, Marlene S, Diane W, Arliss G, Helga B and Maxine H. Judy

gave a brief devotion and the statement of purpose was read.

**MINUTES:** April 15 minutes were approved as written.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Thank you from LWR, for quilt shipping money, was read. We also received an updated totals list from In-gathering on April 14.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Diane reported a checking balance of \$1,283.76 and savings balance of \$1,455.58 of which \$626.72 are designated funds. Report placed on file. Bakeless Bake Sale donations as of April 30, are \$335.00

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### Mission Action

- \* Arliss reported that the quilting group is on hiatus until September.
- \* Collections for Bremwood continue.
- \* Maxine reported that 9 quilts were delivered to the homeless shelters in Mason City. She also reported that the graduation quilts are ready.

#### Mission & Growth

- \* Co-chair Marlene reported she is still thinking of possible ideas, perhaps something at Block 10.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- \* Graduation preparations are nearly complete. The cake has been ordered, and Alice has already picked up napkins, plates, cups, mints and nuts. Diane will take care of ordering the flowers for centerpieces.
- \* Dorcas circle is working on rolled bandages and Rebekah Circle will be collecting bars of soap for In-Kind offerings for SWO Gathering on June 16.

### NEW BUSINESS: NONE

Judy adjourned the meeting @ 11:00 am.

Secretary pro temp, Diane W



**Rebekah Circle**  
Monday, June 4, **6:30 pm**  
Bible Study: Marcia E

**Dorcas Circle**  
Tuesday, June 5 @ 9 am  
Hostess: Helga B  
Bible Study: Eleanor O

## PRAYER LIST

In order to keep Pastor Kim informed and our prayer list accurate, please let the church office or Pastor know if you are in the hospital or are anticipating hospitalization.

Cindy R	Sue N	Sarah P
Lorri H	Sawyer A	Finley O
Pam B	Jim H	
Landon T	Cliff C	Vicki M
Gary S	Dick H	Christy M
Bev F	Kay R	Louise C
Kira N	Chuck N	Beth J



- Synod Assembly voting members, Cindy H, Diane W, Pastor Kim and Sarah R.
- WELCA voting members Alice G and Marcia E
- NYG participants Delaney C, Lauren D, Kacee and Dawn G, Elle, Ian and John L, Emma M, Keanna P, Jacob, Sarah, Caitlin and Nancy R, Malachi R, Jordan S, Kalli T, Pastor Kim, Brandy H

June 1	Athena L
June 3	Holly C, Gary S, Mavis S, Oakley H
June 4	Norma C, Brad G
June 5	Ruth Ann B, Jake W
June 6	Carla B, Hannah M



June 9 Todd B, Landon R  
 June 10 Cassidy K, Kim O, Addison S  
 June 12 Ken B, John L, Maxine H,  
 Andy O, Jakob W, Pastor Kim  
 June 14 Lorna M  
 June 15 Jacob R  
 June 16 Michelle B, Jason R  
 June 17 Lois B  
 June 18 Maxine H, Todd H  
 June 19 Heaven H  
 June 21 Don H, Owen P  
 June 22 Kristle C, Ian L, Shane W, Sr.  
 June 23 Lori O  
 June 24 Ian C, Jessica R, Lori S  
 June 27 Alice G  
 June 28 Kari M, Morgan N,  
 June 29 Doris M, McKenna S  
 June 30 Carter N

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

**Head Usher:** Doug D

**Ushers:**

**Altar Guild:** Pam M  
 Vickie B

**Lector:**

3 Diane W  
 10 Jim B  
 11 Diane W  
 24 NYG

**Greeters:**

3 Diane W & Cinnamon  
 10 Sanders  
 17 Madsens  
 24 NYG

**Offering Counters:**

Brigid C, Doug D

**Acolyte:**

3 Ava H  
 10 Trevor G  
 17 Gavin M

**Crucifer:**

3 Jake S  
 10 Cole M  
 17 Nate H

**Fellowship Time Servers:**

3 Dohlmans  
 10 Sanders  
 17 Donuts for Dads  
 24 NYG

**Join us for VBS @ ZSJ!**

**July 9-13, 2018**

**Family Dinner @ 5:15 pm**

**Activities @ 5:45 pm**

**Celebration Worship, July 15 9 am**

**Register NOW @ [vbspro.events/p/zsjvbs](http://vbspro.events/p/zsjvbs)**



## SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am Worship  
 10:15 am Fellowship

G Kim Wills, Pastor 641-425-9453  
[pastor@zionstjohn.org](mailto:pastor@zionstjohn.org) 9:00am-3:00pm, T-F

Caitlin Retz, Director of Youth/Family Ministries 641-494-6989  
[youth@zionstjohn.org](mailto:youth@zionstjohn.org) 9:00am-4:00pm, S-M-T-Th  
 9am-noon Wed.

Church Office 641-892-4010  
[mail@zionstjohn.org](mailto:mail@zionstjohn.org) 9:00am-12:00pm, M-F