



# Zion St. John

LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Being the Body of Christ*

August 2018

Pentecost

Vol. 24 No. 8



***“Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; they are always green and full of sap.”***

### **Psalm 92: 13-14**

In June, I turned 60. Thanks to those of you who sent me a card or wished me “Happy Birthday!” I know age is just a number. For some of you reading this you have larger numbers than I. But I think Satan takes every opportunity to mess with our thoughts.

Last year Caitlin and I began planning in earnest for the 2018 ELCA National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas, which was held June 27- July 1. Even as we began planning this I wondered if I should go. We had decided to drive rather than fly. We would leave on Sunday, June 24 and arrive home on Monday, July 2. I knew that less than a week after we arrived home Vacation Bible School would begin. If I went, it would be my 7<sup>th</sup> National Youth Gathering. Attending one is like running a marathon. You are up early in the morning and to bed late at night. There is very little, if any, time when you are alone. But I really enjoy going and spending time with our youth. The Mass Gatherings in the evening are very inspiring. Still I wondered if I had the stamina to get through that first long week and have anything left in the tank for another week of Vacation Bible School. I wanted to go. I had committed to go. So, there was no real decision to be made. But, I confess, that as we loaded the vans to leave that Sunday, Satan had planted doubts in my mind.

It became very clear to me early on that our youth wanted me to be on this trip. Time after time they included me in what they were doing. Some of them invited me to do a high ropes course with them when we were in the interaction center. When the line was too long to make waiting for that impractical, they invited me to play dodge ball. When I signed up to play, the attendant asked me how old I was; when I told her, she said, “Well, you won’t be the oldest to play this week,



*“For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”*

*John 6:33*

### **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.*

we had a woman play yesterday who was 61!”

As a group we had a great trip. I want to thank Caitlin and the other adults who went on the trip for their leadership. As an individual I had a great trip, largely because of the way our youth included me. To them I say **THANK YOU!** And I want to remind everyone that age is just a number. Don’t let age (or Satan) keep you on the sidelines, if you have an opportunity to do something special.

The 2021 ELCA National Youth Gathering will be in Minneapolis. Will I be going on that trip? God willing, yes!



God’s Blessings To You,  
Pastor Kim



Vacation Bible School is such a blessing. For most of my life, it has been one of my favorite experiences in the church. There is excitement, music, and fun! But the best part is the Christ centered experience that we get to share with everyone.

This year, 78 students registered and we had many, many volunteers who made the week a success. Each evening, we gathered for supper with the families of the students. After dinner, we made our way to the sanctuary for opening to sing and play and find out what we are going to learn for the day. Then the students would move in their groups to one of the stations where they would participate in crafts, games, snack, or most importantly, Bible story time. Each night,

our station directors worked hard to put together meaningful activities that would help the students understand the main point for the week, “Jesus rescues!”

The whole week was spent on gospel stories. Monday, we learned about lost things, lost coins, lost sheep, and more and connected that lost feeling to feeling lonely. On Tuesday, we learned about Mary and Martha and worry. We know that kids worry, a lot more than we ever did as kids. And learning that even people in the Bible worried, but Jesus is there, was something that was transformative. One student told me that they thought they were the only kid in the whole world who worries about things and said that they feel better knowing that they are not alone.

Wednesday was spent learning about struggle. Jesus struggled in the Garden of Gethsemane. He knew he was about to be arrested and killed, but he also knew that God was with him no matter what. On Thursday, we learned that when we do wrong, Jesus rescues. We learned about the criminal who was crucified with Jesus that asked for forgiveness. Jesus was gracious and forgave him. That one moment of asking for forgiveness was enough to ensure him everlasting life in heaven. Finally, on Friday, we learned that when we are powerless, Jesus rescues. We learned that after Jesus’ death, some of the disciples healed a man who had been unable to walk for his entire life. That man was powerless, but Jesus’ power completely changed his life. That power changes our lives as well.

This week was filled with laughter and fun, excitement and joy. We reached out to so many in our community, members and non-members. That is great evangelism! We would not have been able to carry out this ministry without the support of our congregation. Thank you all!

Grace and peace,  
Caitlin





YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION



Saying Goodbye in Jerusalem

I left my host community about two weeks ago. Leaving was hard. Over the past year in Palestine, I have made lasting friendships and gained a new community that has shown me God’s love. My time, since leaving my host family and community, has been a rollercoaster. I’m happy that I will be reunited with my friends and family in the United States, but I also have feelings of grief associated with saying goodbye to the people who have given me so much during the time with them.

I am currently traveling around Europe visiting friends and family of mine. Many of the people that I am visiting are former international staff members that I became friends with while I worked at Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry in northern Minnesota. Seeing so many old friends has made me realize how fortunate I am to have had such a transformative experience with the YAGM program. The relationships that I have made throughout my YAGM year (and throughout my life) matter.

Before I return the United States, I am going to visit a close friend of mine in Romania (whose family graciously welcomed me into their home for Christmas in 2016) and relatives of mine in Germany (who have welcomed me into their home, as if I’m a son returning from a long trip), and I will be a groomsman in the wedding of another dear friend in London. Despite the grief that I feel about saying goodbye to my host community, I know that the love and laughs that I shared with my host community were genuine. My current trip has made me excited for the next time that I am able to see my gracious hosts again.

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, August 16, 4-6 pm**



## MARY’S PLACE TRIP



There is a donation box in the narthex for the annual confirmation trip to Mary’s Place in Minneapolis. Coloring and sticker books, crayons, nerf balls, stickers, and socks of all sizes are needed. The trip is scheduled for August 10-12. Please have items here by August 8.

## NEW MEMBERS

Our newest members are Nick and Sara J and their children, Hunter W, Libby and Colson J. Welcome to ZSJ!



## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Here's a look at our finances as of June 30, 2018.

<b>Budgeted Income</b>	<b>\$109,064</b>
<b>Offerings Received</b>	<b>\$ 90,069</b>
<b>Current Deficit</b>	<b>\$ 18,995</b>
<b>Expenses Year to Date</b>	<b>\$102,474</b>
<b>Checking Account</b>	<b>\$ 8,184</b>



This past month our deficit grew by over \$5,000. Because we are doing a good job of controlling expenses and because we discovered that we had nearly \$2,000 in savings that we should have transferred into checking, our checking account balance dropped by only \$101. This next month we will need to purchase Sunday School and confirmation curriculum. Please help us get through summer with a positive balance in our checking account! Thank you for your faithful giving.

## ADDRESS INFORMATION



Have you changed your mailing or email address lately?? Maybe you have dropped a land line? Is so, please send a quick email to Diane in the office, [secretary@zionstjohn.org](mailto:secretary@zionstjohn.org), and let her know! Thank you!!!!

## RIVERSIDE GOLF CLASSIC

It's time to sign up for the fifteenth annual Riverside Fall Golf Classic! This year's event will be held at Ames Golf & Country Club on September 14th. Check in will begin at 9:30 AM, with play beginning at 10:30 AM. You will be able to enjoy lunch while you play. Registrations are due by August 18. The registration fee of \$100

per person includes lunch, golf, cart, and prizes.

Join us for a great day of golf with friends that will be helping Riverside build for the future. Lunch will be provided as you play, with ice cream sundaes after the round. As always, there will be awards and prizes at the conclusion of the day.

Please contact Pastor Kim if you are interested in playing!



## RIVERSIDE QUILT AUCTION

The Riverside Quilt Auction is Saturday, August 4, 2018, 8:30 am-3 pm! The schedule for the day is:

8:30	<a href="#">Riverside 5K</a>
9:30	Riverside Pool open
10:00	Quilt Preview in a/c chapel
10:00	Silent Auction bidding
10:30	Brief outdoor worship
11:30	Lunch (free will offering)
1:00	Quilt Auction in a/c chapel



Anyone interested in attending may contact Maxine H, 892-4810.



**Call to Order** by Doug D at 10:30 am, July 8, 2018; Pastor led devotions; present were Brigid C, Lisa P, Cindy H, Jim B, Vicki B, Doug D, Scott C, Tony R, Pastor Kim

## Pastor's Report

#### Weddings Scheduled:

August 31, 2018 Alli L & Jake D, Shakopee, Minnesota

October 6, 2018 Cassidy K and Brady R, ZSJ

October 20, 2018 Tyler G and Emily, ZSJ

#### Inurnments Performed:

June 21, 2018 Barbara VD, Burr Oak, Iowa

#### Other Activities:

1. Worked with several families who are moving or contemplating moving.
2. Began a one-year term as President of the Sheffield's Lions Club.
3. Exploring options for a permanent food pantry in Sheffield.
4. Focused on securing funding for the ELCA National Youth Gathering and helping Caitlin with final preparations for this trip.

#### Items to Consider

1. Aramark sent us a bill for their services. Pastor will continue to work on this.
2. Our latest Visa bill shows that we received a credit for \$344.74. The entire amount of the fraudulent charge that was made online at Best Buy. We have received a new credit card and it worked on Houston trip.
3. We received the bill for the cement work from Adams Construction. The total amount is \$13,695.00. The estimate was for \$12,130.00. The added expense was for 4 loads of gravel at \$360.00 per load and tile work on the north end at \$120.00.
4. We were notified that we received a partial grant for an AED. Pastor met with Nancy R and ordered the Zoll unit and a cabinet to store the unit. The retail price of the unit was \$1,995.00 - \$724.17 in grant money + \$274.89 for the cabinet and shipping for a grand total of \$1,545.72. It may take up to two months for delivery.
5. Pastor did some more research on the temperature and water alert system from Church Mutual. There is no charge for this and the monitoring is free for the first two years. He is still searching for the fees after two years, but recommends that we do this and discontinue after two years if too expensive.

6. Pastor Rhea E who serves ELCA congregations in Rockwell and Thornton is retiring effective August 1. She has requested that Pastor Bob S, who serves the ELCA Congregation in Rockford, and Pastor be available for pastoral emergencies and funerals until an interim pastor is in place.

7. Pastor would like to order a new Franklin Planner binder since the old one is falling apart. Cost is around \$100.00. Usually charged to continuing ed or office supplies. Continuing Ed has been fully spent and office supplies may go over by years' end.

8. Pastor will be gone July 30-31 (Monday – Tuesday) to drive for a trip that the Synod Women's Organization is taking to Minneapolis to visit Mary's Place and the Lutheran World Relief Distribution Center.

9. Pastor has vacation scheduled August 20-26 and will be unavailable that week.

#### Connecting ZSJ with the Larger Church:

1. Pastor serves on the Outside Council of The Church of the Damascus Road.
2. Pastor serves on the Synod SAFE Committee.
3. Darwin M and Diane W serve on the Synod Council.
4. Diane W serves as synodical president of the Women of the ELCA.

**Correspondence** – Thank you notes from Franklin Co. Alcoholism Service Center, Church of the Damascus Road, Riverside, ELCA Church, and LSI.

**Secretary's Report** – Scott, motion to accept; Jim, second; passed.

**Treasurer's Report** - reviewed

#### Committee Reports

**Parish Education** – VBS this week.

**Property Management** – Discussed the downspout and drain tile on the west side of the building. Will continue to work on clearing it.

**Stewardship** – nothing till fall

**Technology**– Equipment for live streaming was delivered this past week. Scott will continue to work on this.

**Worship & Evangelism**– Need volunteers for August

**Youth & Family** – Working on the 9<sup>th</sup> grade Mary's Place trip Aug 10-12th

### Old Business

- ◆ NYG success! – Will finalize the budget over the next couple weeks.
- ◆ Sanctuary flooring decision – Need 50% of the cost of the flooring up front and the rest of the payment upon completion. Gift of \$500 given toward the floor. Lisa, motion to choose the highest voted floor choice; Scott, second; passed.
- ◆ Mobile food pantry
- ◆ AED purchase
- ◆ Sunday Service on YouTube
- ◆ Mid-year giving reports – are in boxes for church members.

### New Business

- ◆ Diane shared how she is scanning the old pictures and trading them out to put the original pictures in the fire safes. Also storing all the old records.

**Adjourn** – Brigid; motion; Lisa, second; passed

Brigid C, secretary



## Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



**Rebekah Circle**  
Monday, August 6 @ 6:00 pm  
Bible Study: Lorna M

**Dorcas Circle**  
Tuesday, August 7 @ 9 am  
Hostess: Marilyn S  
Bible Study: All

### WOMEN OF ZSJ

The women of ZSJ will meet in general meeting on Tuesday, September 4, @ 1 pm. Dorcas circle will host a light lunch and Rebekah circle will furnish the drinks and desserts. Diane Wills will present the first session of the *Gather* magazine fall Bible study entitled, "[Repentance](#)." All women of ZSJ are welcome to attend and enjoy the fellowship and Bible study!



### MUSICIANS NEEDED

Singers and handbell players are needed for the ZSJ Adult Choir and Handbell Choir. Rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, September 19th. If you have a love of music and want to share it, please contact Caitlin Retz, caitlinretz@outlook.com or (641) 494-6989 for Adult Choir and Diane Wills, wills.dianes@gmail.com or (641)425-8628, for Handbell Choir.

## 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	Sarah P	Beth J
Lorri H	Sawyer A	Finley O
Pam B	Jim H	Chuck N
Landon T	Cliff C	Lavonne C
Dick H	Christy M	Virginia C
Bev F	Kay R	Louise C
Kira N		



- ◆ The family of Howard M
- ◆ The family of Eugene S
- ◆ Our children, teachers and aides as they return to school
- ◆ Mary's Place participants, Nate H, Taylor K, Emma M, Malachi R, Kalli T, Isaac T, Alex S, Hayden S, Caitlin R, Don G, and Pastor Kim

August 29 Confirmation Parent/Student Meeting  
7th and 8th Grade @ 6 pm  
9th Grade @ 7 pm

September 4 Women of ZSJ General Meeting @ 1 pm  
September 5 Quilting resumes @ 8:30 am  
September 9 Rally Sunday, First Day of SS!  
September 12 Confirmation Kick Off!  
September 19 JAM begins @ 3:45 pm  
Confirmation Classes begin @ 5:15 pm  
Handbell Choir begins @ 6:15 pm  
Chancel Choir begins @ 7:15 pm

October 28 Confirmation Sunday  
December 9 SS Christmas Program @ 4 pm



August 1  
August 3  
  
August 4  
August 5  
August 7  
  
August 8  
August 11  
August 12  
August 17  
August 18  
August 19  
August 20  
August 21  
August 22  
August 23  
August 25  
August 27  
August 29  
August 30

Cora M  
Jennifer B, Justin M  
Angela N  
Brandy F, Payton P  
Mickee G, Teresa S  
Lon E, Jordan G  
Tenley S  
Doug H  
Alexandra C  
Drake K, Kayla R  
Brigid C, Grace S  
Hayden E  
Gemma I  
Taylor E, Gene L, Mark R, Louis S  
Ned B, Kay R, Isaac T  
Kaci Harper  
Kellen C, Louise K, Peter N  
Eric E  
Cliff C, Ron E, Kacee G, Steve H  
Nick W  
Sam C



***Rally Sunday is  
September 9 !!!***

# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Head Usher: Tom S

Ushers:

Altar Guild: Marlene S  
Pam M

Acolyte:

1 Cole M  
8 Taylor K  
22 Alex S

Crucifer:

1 Hayden S  
8 Malachi R  
22 Isaac T

Lector:

Greeters:

5 Dohlmans  
12 Nelsons  
19 Kari M  
25 Marilyn S

Acolyte:

5 Nate H  
12 Kalli T  
19 Hayden S

Crucifer:

5 Delaney C  
12 Gavin MO  
19 Taylor K

Offering Counters:

Brigid C, Jim B

Fellowship Time Servers:

5 Cindy H  
12  
19  
25

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am Worship  
10:15 am Fellowship

G Kim Wills, Pastor

[pastor@zionstjohn.org](mailto:pastor@zionstjohn.org)

641-425-9453

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

[mail@zionstjohn.org](mailto:mail@zionstjohn.org)

641-892-4010

9:00am-12:00pm, M-F