



Zion St. John

LUTHERAN CHURCH

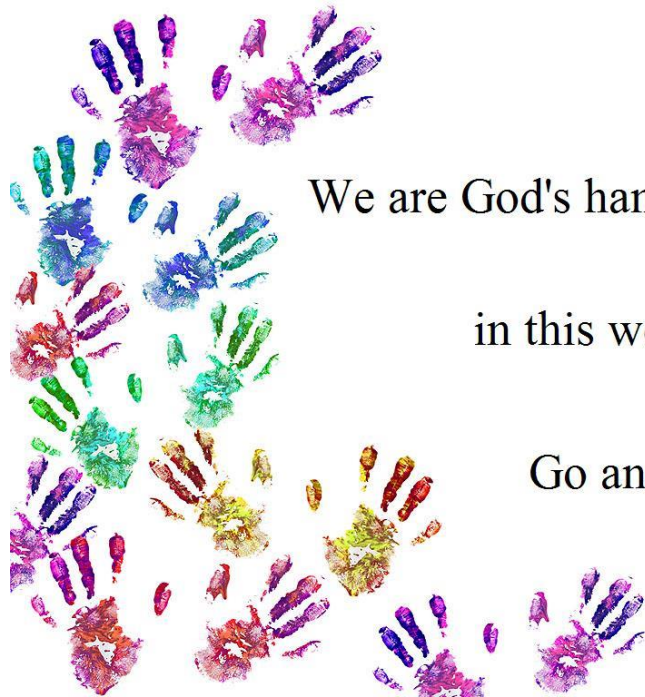
Being the Body of Christ

September 2018 Pentecost Vol. 24 No. 9



“When Jesus saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”

Matthew 9:36



We are God's hands

in this world!

Go and Serve!!!

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.

The last two days of July, my wife Diane and I went on a two day trip to Minneapolis that was sponsored by the Northeastern Iowa Women of the ELCA. During our time there we visited three service organizations, two of which are part of our greater Lutheran ministry in the world.

Our first stop was at the Lutheran World Relief Warehouse in St. Paul. There we were able to see quilts baled and prepared for shipment. If you've ever seen a cardboard bailer, the machine was very similar, but on a smaller scale. The warehouse employs three people who prepare items for shipment and pack the containers which are placed on ocean going vessels and shipped to where they are most needed. The warehouse manager reminded us that these quilts and kits are shipped all over the world.

Next, we visited Global Health Ministries which is also a Lutheran ministry. Here medical items are gathered, repackaged and sent to 13 different countries in Africa where the Lutheran Church has infrastructure in place to assure that the items will be used as intended. At this year's WELCA Synod Gathering in June, many cases of bandages were collected and we had the pleasure of delivering many of them to this vital ministry. The staff at GHM was very enthusiastic and reminded us that every time a volunteer touches an item they are sending their handprints around the world!

We were blessed to participate in a service project. Hospitals regularly donate used hospital and surgical gowns. These had to be inspected to make sure that they were in good condition with no blood or other stains on them. A hotel had also donated bed sheets and these also had to be inspected, sorted and refolded. The table I was assigned

to had the task of inspecting and refolding fitted sheets. I've never been very good at folding those, but a woman there taught me a wonderful method of doing so.

Our final stop was at Mary's Place. We were there on a Tuesday rather than on a weekend which is when I normally visit. I had prayed to God that I would be able to finally meet the founder, Mary Jo Copeland. That prayer was answered! Mary came in and met with the women and prayed with them. She gave us all cards and newsletters and then I had my picture taken with her. Such a wonderful blessing and a wonderful way to end a great trip!



God's blessings
to you,
Pastor Kim



This past month was a tough one for me and my family. Truly, it's been a tough month for the entire community of Sheffield. In early August, my brother Matt died. Thanks to this wonderful congregation and community we belong to, we had a beautiful day remembering and celebrating Matt's life. What a blessing it was to be surrounded by the love and compassion that you all extended to us. Just days after Matt's death, Landon Tollefson, a four year old from Sheffield, died from complications of a bone marrow transplant. And again, this community came together to support and love the Tollefson family. Two tragic deaths, so close together.

Though it may sound cliché, I have realized how little time we truly have here in this place with these people. And I wonder if I am

taking it all for granted.

As I prepared for worship for August 26th, the gospel spoke to me in a way that could only mean God is present. In John 6:56-69, Jesus starts telling his disciples that he is the bread of life, and that if they want to be saved they need to eat his body and drink his blood. Not realizing that this was in fact not cannibalism, lots of the people who had been with Jesus became fed up and left. But his original twelve stayed, trusting that Jesus had a reason for what he was saying. Jesus said, "Don't you want to leave too?" But Simon Peter says to them in words that we hear in the Gospel acclamation, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." Two sentences. Twelve words. And yet, there is so much meaning.

Eternal life. Yes, it comes to us after our death. But it means so much more than that. We can live a life eternal with God right now. Each and every day, we can choose to live with the knowledge and joy that we do not have to fear death. That frees us to live without worry, without dwelling on mistakes of the past, without dread for tomorrow. We are free to be in the here and now, loving our friends and our families, our brothers and sisters in Christ. God has given us this gift of eternal life for right now.!

Grace and Peace,
Caitlin



For many years, Maxine Harvey and Merna Schroeder have been helping behind the scenes with the assembly of the monthly church newsletter. They have decided that they would like to "retire" from this exciting task and let others share in the joy! Their tireless help has been greatly appreciated by the office staff!! Thank you Merna and Maxine!

Also thanks to Isaac Truex and Hayden Shreckengost for filling school kits for LWR!



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. We are still working on a more permanent solution and would welcome any suggestions!

Next date is
Thursday, September 20, 4-6 pm



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The Mobile Food Pantry that ZSJ has been hosting for two years will become a permanent pantry starting on October 4. We have secured monthly funding and storage for the food. We also have a name: We will become the West Fork Food Pantry. The Pantry will be open the first Thursday of each month, 10 am –noon and then the third Thursday of each month, 3:30-5:30 pm. We will be serving all of Franklin County and the West Fork School District. Thank you to our wonderful ecumenical volunteers and those who have donated money, food and space to fill a great need in our community!



OFFICE CLOSED
MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 3



MCDERMOTT RETIREMENT

Dave & Jan McDermott drove into Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp in March 1997, praying God would help them do His work at His camp. They wondered what God had in store for them and their family. God has shown His glory through the McDermott's ministry to Riverside in mighty ways and now it's time to celebrate their 20 years of service!

A note from Dave & Jan...*"Our prayer throughout our time at Riverside has been, 'Help us to love others the way you love!' We pray you have felt loved when you have come to the camp."*

There will be an open house at the Riverside Dining Hall from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm, with a program at 3:00 pm on Saturday, September 1. No RSVP is required. We hope to see lots of friends, campers, families, supporters, and past staff to help us celebrate what God has done the last two decades through the McDermotts! Please plan on joining us for this joyous occasion as we celebrate all God has done through his servants.



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Here's a look at our finances as of July 31, 2018.

Budgeted Income	\$127,267
Offerings Received	\$105,752
Current Deficit	\$ 21,515
Expenses Year to Date	\$116,113
Checking Acct. Balance	\$ 9,702



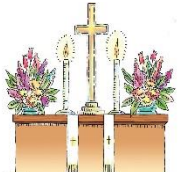
We will have lots of expenses this next month as we purchase curriculum for our educational ministries. Please help us close the gap between income and expenses. Thank you for your faithful giving.

WORSHIP LIVE STREAM



You are invited to a "Come & Go" bridal shower in the honor of Cassidy Kingery!

Starting in August, the Sunday worship services are being live streamed on YouTube. This has happened through a memorial gift from the family of Norman O and the diligent work of Scott C. If you every want to peek in while you are away, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SbEkAo2L9U> or go to the church website and click on the Sunday worship time on the home page and join us in worship, no matter where you are! Thank you to Scott and Norman's family for making this possible!!!



Worship Changes

WORSHIP CHANGES

Due to Pastor Kim's vacation plans, there will be a change in the worship schedule for September. Holy Communion will be served on Sunday, September 9, instead of September 2. Special thanks to Caitlin Retz for leading worship on September 2.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Special congratulations to Lauren Trewin for being selected as the Franklin County Fair Queen in July of this year! As the Franklin County representative, she also had the honor of competing at the Iowa State Fair as well!

Congratulations Lauren!

Saturday, September 15, 2018

10 am-12 pm @ ZSJ.

She is registered @ Target.



Call to Order - Doug called to order at 10:20 am, August 12, 2018; present were Brigid C, Pastor Kim, Doug D, Scott C, Jim B, Vickie B, Lisa P; Pastor led devotions.

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

Funerals Performed

- * July 13, 2018 Howard M @ ZSJ
- * July 23, 2018 Jim H @ ZSJ

Funerals Scheduled

- * August 15, 2018 10:30 a.m. Matt R @ ZSJ

Inurnments Scheduled

- * August 15, 2018 9:30 a.m. Shirley D @ Thornton Cemetery

Requests for Membership

- * Nick & Sara J, children - Hunter W, Libby and Colby J transferring from ELCA Congregations in Exira, Iowa and Stewartville, Minnesota (1 Household, 2 Confirmed, 5 Baptized)

Other Activities

- * Served as a driver for the Synod WELCA trip to Minneapolis.
- * Preached at the Sheffield Care Center in July.
- * Completed site visit for Permanent Food Pantry. Diane attended mandatory training in Des Moines.
- * Prepared/Preparing for 3 Funerals, 1 Graveside Service, 3 Weddings which include pre-marital counseling.
- * One inactive member visit.

Items to Consider

- * We are working to have the permanent Food Pantry up and running in October. Since it would be operated under our 501C3 we will need Council approval to proceed. We would need to establish a separate checking account for this ministry, which needs council approval, but the checks must come from Zion St. John. Our current needs include a refrigerator and shelving. Doug made a motion to proceed with checking account; Scott, second; passed.
- * The elevator developed an issue the week of Howard M's Funeral. Fred R was able to temporarily fix it, but it malfunctioned the following week. We called AEL to repair it. Turns out the anti-creep switch was never calibrated when it was installed. Total bill is \$989.30 which includes \$490 for travel time and \$124.80 mileage charge. Discussed sending a letter to elevator company.
- * We have had major issues with the church secretary's computer. Thanks to Doug D for his attempts to repair it. Fred R has purchased a new computer to replace the old one, which was purchased in 2011. We will probably need to buy Microsoft office. Brigid made a motion to purchase; Lisa, second; passed.
- * The AED storage unit has arrived. The unit itself has not shipped. Consensus among staff is that this should be located in the narthex.
- * Pastor will take vacation time August 20-27 and will be unavailable that week.
- * Caitlin will lead worship on Labor Day weekend so Pastor can take an additional Sunday of vacation. We will move communion to the second Sunday of September.

Connecting ZSJ with The Larger Church

- * Pastor serves on the Outside Council of The Church of the Damascus

Road.

- * Pastor serves on the Synod SAFE Committee.
- * Darwin M and Diane W serve on the Synod Council.
- * Diane W serves as synodical president of the Women of the ELCA.
- * Diane and Pastor served as drivers for the Synodical Women's Trip to Minneapolis on July 30-31. They visited the Lutheran World Relief Warehouse, the Hmong Village, Global Health Ministries and Mary's Place. For the first time, Pastor had the opportunity to meet Mary Jo Copeland, founder of Mary's Place.

Correspondence– None

Secretary's Report - Vickie, motion to accept; Lisa, second; passed

Treasurer's Report - reviewed expenses.

Committee Reports

Parish Education - No report

Property Management

- * Will be working on windows in the basement.
- * Discussed ceiling and leaks in the sanctuary.
- * Discussed heat tape vs. insulation.
- * Also discussed the trees in the front of church

Stewardship - nothing till fall

Technology

- * Had 33 views last week on the Sunday service on YouTube. Scott checked with Deerfield to make sure they knew how to set it up. There will be a link on the website. The service is on the site for two or three days before it is deleted.

Worship & Evangelism - September signup is completed.

Youth & Family - VBS was a success

Old Business

- * Sanctuary flooring ordered July 20th, it will be 6-8 weeks for it to come in.

New Business

- * Discussed changing lights to LED. Scott has asked for a bid for all the downstairs lights.

Adjourn Scott, motion; Vickie, second; passed.

Submitted by
Brigid C

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

CALL TO ORDER: President Alice G called the meeting to order on Sunday, August 12, 2018, at 10 a.m. Those present were: Alice G, Marlene S, Diane W, Judy S, Maxine H, Helga B and Marcia E. Alice led devotions and the statement of purpose was read.

MINUTES: None since we had not met.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you notes were read from Payton K, Sarah R, Collin M, and Caleb C for graduation quilts; the Franklin County Law Enforcement Center for the teddy bear in sympathy for loss of sheriff; LSI for hygiene items donated to Bremwood; and World Day of Prayer USA for \$264 offering. Requests for financial support by Wings of Refuge and Francis Lauer were read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Diane reported a checking balance of \$1,862.41 and savings balance of \$1,455.94. Report placed on file. The proposed budget for 2019 was presented. Marlene moved to approve it for presentation at the general meeting. Motion seconded and carried. Judy moved to approve the Christmas gift list. Seconded and

carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- * Mission Action co-chair Maxine reported that 5 quilts and 1 silent auction item brought \$935 at the Riverside Bible Camp Quilt Auction August 4. Nine women attended from our church. Quilting will begin September 5.
- * Mission & Action co-chair Marlene presented an idea for an event this fall. She will proceed with plans for this.

OLD BUSINESS:

- * Advent by Candlelight on December 2 was discussed. Judy S volunteered to help with the planning and Sue R will also help.
- * The nominating committee was reminded to have a slate of officers for the September 4 general meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- * An invitation to a fall retreat at Camp EWALU was read. The women's fall retreat at Riverside is September 22-23rd.
- * Rebekah Circle entertains at the Sheffield Care Center birthday party on October 15.

Alice adjourned the meeting.

Secretary, Marcia E

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	Chuck N	Cliff C
Dick H	Christy M	Virginia C
Bev F	Kay R	Louise C
Kira N		



- ◆ The family of Jim Hanig
- ◆ The family of Matthew Retz
- ◆ The family of Landon Tollefson
- ◆ 3rd graders & their families

Rally Sunday is September 9 !!!



September 1	MaKenna O
September 3	Jaelyn H, Irelynn O, Tom S
September 4	Jacob H
September 5	Seth T
September 6	Dana N
September 7	Jacob K, Austin N
September 8	Melvin B, Dawn G
September 9	Presley S
September 10	Brandon S
September 11	Tyler K, Kalli T
September 13	Todd G, Jim H
September 14	Mia G, Nolan H, Cale M, Dacia S
September 15	Nashaun B, Tyler L
September 16	Jacob E, Nicholas E, Lindsay R
September 17	Cody H, Cindy H, Sue N
September 18	Kay E
September 19	Barb G, Troy I, Kris L
September 21	Blake O
September 23	Haley H, Glen H, Jill I, Judy S
September 25	Keanna Pe
September 26	Zach S
September 27	Julie D, Megan E
September 28	Bob C
September 29	Matthew H, Morgan M, Kara S

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Head Usher: Doug D

Altar Guild: Dacia S
Pam R

Acolyte:

2 Malachi R
9 Delaney C
16 Jake S

Crucifer:

2 Emma M
9 Kalli T
16 Trevor G

Lector: Doreen D

Greeters:

2 Bushkofskys
9 Lathams
16 Hubkas
23 Symens
30 Dacia S & family

Offering Counters:

Lisa P
Vickie B

Fellowship Time Servers:

2 Bushkofskys
9 Heubergers
16 Rothers
23 Symens
30 Dacia & Abby S

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am Worship
10:15 am Fellowship



G Kim Wills, Pastor
pastor@zionstjohn.org

641-425-9453
9:00am-3:00pm, T-F

Caitlin Retz, Director of Youth/Family Ministries
youth@zionstjohn.org

641-494-6989
9:00am-4:00pm, S-M-T-Th
9am-noon Wed.

Church Office
mail@zionstjohn.org

641-892-4010
9:00am-12:00pm, M-F