



Zion Messenger

October 2024

REJOICING, REACHING OUT, and RENEWING,
we share the joy of the gospel, through a life of faith.



**Jesus Christ is the same
yesterday, today and forever.**
(Hebrews 13:8)

So many things change in our lives on a daily basis. It is a comfort to know that God and his love for us is constant and true and that we can rely upon him in all situations. As October brings another birthday, I am comforted in knowing that with age comes wisdom (?), at least I hope it does! Columnist Regina Brett offered the following "wisdom" as she turned 70. (I still have some time to gain all her wisdom.)

GROWING OLDER:

THE 45 LESSONS LIFE TAUGHT ME

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
4. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
7. Cry with someone.
It's more healing than crying alone.
8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.
9. Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.
10. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
11. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
12. It's OK to let your children see you cry.
13. Don't compare your life to others. You've no idea what their journey is all about.
14. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
15. Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks.
16. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
17. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
18. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
19. It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else.
20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
24. The most important sex organ is the brain.
25. No one is in charge of your happiness except you.
26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words: 'In five years, will this matter?'
27. Always choose life.
28. Forgive everyone everything.
29. What other people think of you is none of your business.
30. Time heals almost everything. Give time time.
31. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
32. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch.
33. Believe in miracles.
34. God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
35. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
36. Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.
37. Your children get only one childhood. Make it memorable.
38. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
39. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
40. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
41. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
42. The best is yet to come.
43. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up, and show up.
44. Yield.
45. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift.

***Life is a gift from God.
May we open it with JOY
and use it wisely everyday.***



Corner

Counting Our Blessings

President's

Shout for joy to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise!

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

All the earth worships you and sings praises to you;
they sing praises to your name."

Come and see what God has done:

he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man. (Psalm 66: 1-5)



Psalm 66 helps remind me to "count my blessings". I feel it's easier to count the bigger blessings like life milestones, promotions, nice weather, etc. The blessings I struggle with "counting" are the blessings that are not so easily seen or felt like the millions of things I take for granted, and the things I grumble about, like cooking, laundry, and cleaning, just to name a few.

Bob & I were recently given a \$150,000 scratch off ticket as a gift for our anniversary. My immediate thought was "This is fun, BUT I am sure it is not a winning ticket, we never win!" Yes, I seriously thought this. Sad right? Instead of being hopeful and finding the joy, I chose to focus on the negative. I have recently started to learn how important my "inner conversations and subconscious thoughts" are and how they have been weighing me down spiritually, emotionally, and physically.

So, I've recently made the decision to focus on being more positively disciplined. I am trying to focus on my "inner conversations and subconscious thoughts" with the hope of slowly trying to retrain them to count all my blessings and to find and focus on the positive. Instead of complaining about cooking, being thankful that I have a family to make supper for. Instead of complaining about the laundry, to be thankful that I have clothes to wear. Instead of complaining about having to clean, to be thankful for having a home to clean. Well, you get the point. I am truly just starting this journey, but I can tell you already that on the days I try purposely to focus on the positive blessings, my outlook, happiness, and overall energy are so much better. As always, I am a work in progress and pray daily that I allow God to guide me.

As for the \$150,000 scratch off ticket...Bob & I won big time! How much you ask? I can truly tell you our prize was so much better than \$150,000 or any amount of money would have ever been. Our family is growing♥. Wade & Jenn are expecting their first child on March 2nd. March 2nd was our due date with Wade, and it's also Bob's birthday! Blessings abound!!

Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for my soul. (Psalm 66:16)

Blessed to be a blessing,
Tammy Reigle
Church Council President



From the
Vicar



CHOOSE Kindness

As you may have heard on Rally Sunday our theme for Sunday School this year is kindness. Showing kindness to others is the easiest way for us to **show God's love in this world. Showing kindness does not cost anything nor** does it take any extra effort for us to do. Showing kindness to others is what we are called to do as humans and as followers of Christ. We are reminded of this in the Apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians. In his letter to the Ephesians the Apostle Paul writes "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32) You may be wondering what this kindness that we are called to show looks like.

The kindness that we are called to show to all people is simple and does not take much effort if any at all. The kindness we are called to show does **not require us to take on other's ideas and beliefs. This kindness also does** not require us to agree completely with one another. All that this kindness requires of us to do is to make every person feel like they matter. The kindness that we are called to reflect is about treating each person with respect and dignity. The kindness that the Apostle Paul encouraged the Ephesians to show one another is the same kindness that we are called to show to every person we encounter on our pilgrimage.

Therefore, let us reflect God's love into this world by showing kindness to every person we meet, even those we do not share the same ideas and beliefs with. You will be amazed how a little kindness can help. As the great American memoirist and poet Maya Angelou once said, "Do the best you can until you know better. Then, when you know better, do better." So, let us go do better and show kindness to all.



Blessings,
Vicar Keith Powell

Kindness
MATTERS

A blue arrow pointing to the right, with a feathered tail.

Zion Congregational Council Minutes from August 20, 2024

Call to Order: Tammy Reigle called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

Present: Kay Flanagan, Pastor Carolann Hopcke, Jim Meyer, Chris Nelson, Sara Rasmussen, Tammy Reigle, Amber Salwei, Roberta Seda, Mary Kay Tisthammer, Josh Thayer.

Excused: Vicar Keith Powell

Equipping Time: Roberta Seda led equipping time about friends and friendships.

Approve Meeting Minutes: Sara Rasmussen made a motion to approve the minutes of June 25, 2024. Mary Kay Tisthammer seconded. Motion carried.

Report of Officers

President: Tammy Reigle – The executive committee met with sexton, Tonya Hunt, about certain things that weren't getting done. They went over the list of things that needed to be completed on a weekly, monthly and yearly basis. The job description and a new list of these expectations were given to Tonya. She was reminded that the Sunday School classrooms need to be deep cleaned, which includes the floors being waxed, before Rally Day on September 8th. Since this discussion, she has dusted and moved furniture when vacuuming. A meeting will be set for the end of November to review her performance after this additional 3-month probationary period.

Vice President: Mary Kay Tisthammer – no report.

Treasurer: Nancy Ahlers – *Altar flower expenses seemed high. (*This is due to the flower money being received in December 2023, but the flower bill not being received or paid until January 2024.) VBS expenses are high because the bills have yet to be sent to the other churches. Dankert interest will be moved to the ADA fund quarterly. Roberta Seda made a motion to accept the June 2024 & July 2024 Treasurer's reports. Amber Salwei seconded. Motion carried.

Staff Reports

Senior Pastor: Rev. Carolann Hopcke – She attended the Women in Ministry Conference in Sioux Falls, SD. It was a great conference; the preacher was excellent! Pastor also attended her first Synod Council meeting in Kearney.

New Members: Adam & Lauren Briese (Henry, Shay & Daphne) September 15, 2024
Jessica & Tyler Reestman (Kolter) September 22, 2024
Alex & Ellie Wolf (Baby Boy) October 27, 2024

Vacation: September 23-30. Vicar Keith is preaching; Communion Supply Pastor is Rev. Donna Durette (Pastor Elizabeth Goehring's mother).

Donations: We received a donation of Beanie Babies, stuffed animals, etc. from the family of Mary Lou Nore. These will be used for prizes for Bingo at the nursing home. We also received a donation of \$5,000 from the estate of Mary Lou Nore.

Boxes of fabric were donated to the quilters by the Edward's family.

Bruland's gave us money in memory of Bev Bruland Rieck; the family would like to put it in the scholarship fund, with preference for a nursing student, if possible.

Intern Pastor: Vicar Keith Powell – He is on vacation. We have heard many good things about his time at the Nursing Home.

High School Youth Coordinator: Dorothy Grosch – They had a meeting with youth and parents on July 24th. Everyone was asked to consider the following categories: Worship, Service, Learning, Fun, and Fundraising. Everyone was asked to offer possible ideas for each category. These ideas were considered as the Luther League Calendar was created for the fall. This was done at the kick-off bonfire on July 31st. Luther League will have a bake sale on Rally Day, September 8th. They will trick-or-treat for the food pantry on the Wednesday before Halloween. They have offered to help folks decorate their homes for Christmas and will offer babysitting for people who need time away from the kids to go shopping for Christmas.

Standing Committee Reports

Evangelism – Family Fun night was fun, but not well attended due to too many things planned for the same weekend. The giveaway baskets were very nice; there was a Back-to-School basket, Candy basket, Ice Cream basket, Lottery Ticket basket, Pizza Night basket, and Taco Night basket. The movie shown was *SING*.

New member bags are being created and will contain church mugs and pens, and a

Cont'd on page 5

family bible. The committee is also trying to come up with new ideas to add to the bags. Pastor has applied for a Thrivent card to help cover the cost of these new items. Their next meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 1st at 7pm.

Faith & Fellowship – Bowling was planned for the 28th. The date was changed to July 21st at the last minute, so only nine people were able to attend. An axe throwing event for all ages has been planned at the NEST for October 20th from 3:30pm-5:30pm. The cost will be \$10 to throw the axes. The committee will provide supper for those who participate. Their next meeting is Sunday, Oct. 13th after church.

Mission Endowment – Treasurer Mike Webster gave a report on the different accounts.

Theresa Rengler Fund was automatically renewed at a lower percent. The committee voted to recommend to the church council that the first half of the Rengler earnings be donated to the Wrenley Frey family. Chris Nelson made a motion to approve the recommendation and donate the money (\$777.00) to the Wrenley Frey family. Roberta Seda seconded. Motion carried.

The committee has reached out to all of Zion's Jr's and Sr.'s in college and encouraged them to apply for our scholarships. Next Mission Endowment Meeting: Tuesday, October 29th at 5:30pm.

Parish Education – We are still looking for two Sunday School teachers. There continues to be a focus for each class: Pre-K & K: The Lords' Prayer; Grades 1&2: Apostles' Creed; Grade 3: Books of the Bible; Grades 4&5: the Fruits of the Spirit; and Grade 6: the Ten Commandments. On Rally Day there will be life-sized letters of K, N, D. The kids will stand where the "I" should be. Pictures will be taken and then posted in the space for letter I. Their next meeting is August 27th at 7pm.

Property & Maintenance – There are two new chairs in the conference room. The chairs are comfortable. There have been a few bat sightings. The bat man & Jon Porter have plans to do additional work on the roof to prevent the bats, but they are waiting for cooler weather. An external CD drive has been ordered for use at VBS and Family Fun Nights. We need to find a good place for an exhaust fan to address the ventilation issue in the kitchen; it needs to be turned off and on when the stoves are in use. The main doors on the west side were not closing all the way and M&O Doors adjusted the doors and fixed the problem.

Women of the ELCA – Treasurer Mary Staub gave her quarterly report. The special needs fund was closed due to inactivity; the fund is no longer used.

Worship – The outdoor service, locker mirrors, and backpack blessings were planned for August. The committee also talked about Christmas Eve worship; they are thinking about having services at 3:30pm, 5:30pm and 11:00pm. The committee put together a Time & Talent sheet insert for the bulletin on Rally Day, September 8th.

Task Force Reports

Handicap Accessibility Project – We received a generous donation for the phase I project. The new total due to the building fund is \$23,949.93. We still haven't heard back from the elevator people. Pastor calls quite frequently to ask for an update so we can reapply for the elevator grant. Money was also donated toward the Phase III bathroom remodel.

Love Signs Presentation/Proposal – this will be put on the annual meeting agenda.

Vyve Contract – no updates at this time.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 6pm (Equipping Time = Josh Thayer)

Adjournment: Josh Thayer made a motion to adjourn at 7:10pm. Amber Salwei seconded. Motion carried. We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Kathryn Flanagan



**Next Meeting:
Sunday,
October 6th
at
10:15am**

Faith + SHARING =
EVANGELISM

**The Evangelism Committee will meet on Tuesday,
October 1st at 7pm.
All are welcome!**

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Mark Jeratowski, Aiden Tisthammer, Caitlin Winter
- 2 Lincoln Hanaway, Layne Hudson
- 3 Tate Porter
- 4 **Colin Koeppen***, Logan Kurtenbach,
- 5 Trina Hellbusch
- 6 LeAnn Lindgren, Ava Nelson, Sever Paulson, Brad Thorberg
- 7 Martie Anderson, Audra Groth, Chris Levander
- 10 Baylor Neidhardt
- 11 Castyn Nelson
- 12 Bob Bruland, Kevin Kruse, Dennis Weltruski, Ryan Weltruski
- 13 Kim Young
- 14 Deanna Kruse, **LaVonne Mills***, Kendyl Paulson, Kolton Rasmussen
- 15 Tom Mangus, Marcia Seier, Kent Tisthammer
- 16 Barb Tisthammer
- 17 Amy Allgood
- 19 Louetta Kennedy
- 20 Nikki Heidemann, Camden Moser, Loren Pearson
- 21 Carolann Hopcke, Avery Petersen, Mavis Skillstad
- 22 Tana Dozler, **John Williams***
- 23 Cindy Edwards
- 24 Rich Heidemann
- 25 **Cynthia Kraus***
- 26 Anna Cleveland
- 27 Blake Trombley
- 28 Kathryn Kohtz, Blake Levander, Bentley Stuhr
- 30 **Paxtyn O'Connor, Stacey Slaymaker,**
- 31 Carmen Eucker, Corbin Rasmussen

*Denotes 80+ years young.



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Branden & Jaclynn Roberg
- 2 Shalei & Travis Merten
- 3 Haydn & Katie Rugg
- 6 Amber & Matthew Salwei
- 8 **Larry & Marilyn Ransen***
Harold & Lois Thewke*
- 11 Nicole & Tony Levander
- 17 **Pam & Steve Wright***
- 23 **Bub & Pat Francis***
- 25 Bryan & Christal Skillstad
- 26 Jim & Patti Meyer
- 28 Diane & Norm Brugger
- 29 Alida & Tony Kurtenbach
- 30 Dave & Lisa Skillstad

* Denotes 50+ years of marriage

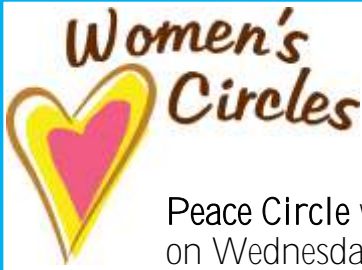


TABLE GRACE

Birthdays Grace
(Spoken)

God made the sun
and God made the tree,
God made the mountains
and God made me.

I thank you, O God,
for the sun and the tree,
for making the mountains
and for making me!



October 2024

Peace Circle will meet at Zion on Wednesday, October 16th at 9am. *Mary Levander* will be the leader.

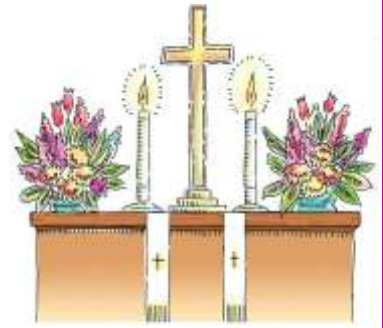
Grace Circle will meet at 2pm on Wednesday, October 16th at Zion. For more information, please speak with Doris Warner.

2024 Flower Committee

October
Vicki Rother

November
Jolene Roberg

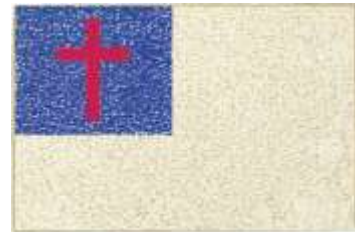
December
Christmas Poinsettias/Tammy Reigle



NewsLetter DEADLINE

The November Messenger deadline is Sunday, October 20th!

✝ Christian Symbol ✝



Christian Flag

Dating to the early 20th century, the Christian flag represents all of **Christianity, though it's been used primarily in the Americas and Africa. The red Latin cross symbolizes Jesus' blood shed on Calvary to grant us eternal life. The blue background represents Christ's faithfulness even unto death, as well as our baptism into Christ. The white field signifies Jesus' purity, nonviolence and surrender to God's will, plus the peace we gain by surrendering ourselves to Christ.**

2024 Schedule



Altar Guild

October:
Nancy & Mike Jeratowski*
Vicki Rother
Sara Rasmussen

November:
Katie Rugg*
Nicole Levander
Amy Olnes

PUZZLE



SAVED BY GRACE

Leaders of the early church discussed whether newly converted Gentiles must keep the Law of Moses. How did Peter answer?

Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks below to complete Acts 15:11, NIV.

NO/WEGBEKLIBEVGEITIYS
 TUHRCOUJGHRTHOEGPRAH
 CEIOFXOUKRLHORCDJSESP
 USGTHWATYWEOARBESPAVLED
 RJUCSTQASHTHBEIFAROE



_____." Acts 15:11, NIV



Make this craft as a helpful reminder of Jesus' free gift of grace.



What you need:

- Small cardboard box
- Small stones
- Tape
- Wrapping paper and bow
- Permanent marker

What you do:

1. Fill the box with small stones to weigh it down. Tape the box securely closed.
 2. Wrap the box and add a bow on top.
 3. With marker, write a capital letter on each side of the box and the bottom to spell GRACE.
 4. Use this as a decoration or paperweight, or give as a gift.
 5. Explain GRACE to someone.
- For help, use Ephesians 2:8-9 and the acrostic **God's Riches At Christ's Expense**.



Answers are on page 14

Bible Quiz

When Jesus asks a Samaritan woman for a drink, at which site related to the ancient Israelites is he resting?

- A. the edge of the Jordan River
- B. beside the Red Sea
- C. Jacob's well
- D. the Pool of Bethesda





Luther League

LUTHER LEAGUE

for all youth in grades 9-12.

Join us on

Wednesday Nights!

Dinner begins at 6pm

Please mark your calendars and invite your friends! Everyone is welcome at any and all of our Luther League events!

Blessings,
Dorothy Grosch



Care Packages for our College Students

We will be filling care packages for all of our college students on **Wednesday, October 9th!**

Thanks to everyone who donated items for the boxes. We really appreciate you!

Food Collection for our local Food Pantry!



On Wednesday, October 30th, the Luther League will be Trick-or-Treating for the Food Pantry (7pm).

If you would like to donate, simply let Dorothy know so we can add your home to our Trick-or-Treating stops.

Luther League Meals

Want to help provide meals for Luther League meetings on Wednesday nights? Go to signup genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c44acac28a1f58-luther> to volunteer! Thanks!



Omaha Worship & Pumpkin Patch Sunday, October 6th

We will leave early from the church to attend worship in Omaha, followed by

lunch, and then a trip to the Pumpkin Patch.

We will need drivers! Please let Dorothy know (402-741-0624) if you are able to join us!

WORSHIP

THANK YOU!

Thanks to all of you, the Luther League Bake Sale was a great success! We raised over \$500!

We so appreciate your support of the Luther League! You all are AWESOME!!

THANK YOU!



Boone County

Food Pantry



1108 W. State St.
Albion, NE 68620

Open EVERY Thursday
2-4pm

Ongoing Needs:

Canned Soup	Crackers
Canned Fruit	Toilet Paper
Shampoo	Bar Soap
Conditioner	Toothpaste
Hand Sanitizers	Paper Products
Miscellaneous Personal Hygiene Products	

Donations may be brought to the Pantry on Thursdays between 2-4pm.

For more information, call Nancee Krohn (402) 741-1184 or Lynn Bygland (402) 920-3552



Worship Committee

NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday, October 1st
at 5:30pm



Mission Quilters
will meet
at 1:30pm
on Fridays,
October 11th &
October 25th.

All are welcome to join us!



Mobile Food Pantry — Saturday, October 5th!

This month's Mobile Food Pantry will be held on Saturday, October 5th at 9:00 am at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Due to the Covid-19 virus, this will again be set up as a drive-through only. All patrons will need to enter the fairgrounds from the 11th and Fairview entrance. Vehicles will be taken in order of arrival in a designated line. The first vehicle to arrive is asked to follow the road into the fairgrounds and stop and park directly in front of the cones that will be set out. All other vehicles entering that are there for the mobile pantry need to follow in line and wait until you have been asked to do otherwise.

If anyone is coming to volunteer their time, please park in the west parking lot next to the Casey Building. If you are willing and are able to volunteer, please arrive around 8:15 am.

If any volunteers or patrons have any symptoms of illness, please refrain from coming to the mobile pantry this month but feel free to ask someone else to pick up for you.

The Food Bank of the Heartland will provide pre-packaged boxes, along with some other produce and food products. Each patron will be required to take what is already packed in each box.

A specific number of vehicles at a time will be sent down to the distribution area. All people attending must remain in their vehicles unless asked to get out. All cars in the distribution area must remain parked until all of those vehicles are told to move. This is a big change as to how things are generally done so we ask for your patience and cooperation as the volunteers are doing their best.

Everyone is reminded that there is always the possibility that the mobile pantry could be cancelled or postponed due to the current events. Coordinators will do their best to update the information in the newspaper or through the Boone County **Nebraska Sheriff's Facebook page.**





World Communion Sunday

World Communion Sunday, **October 6th**, is a very special day. Christians around the world will join together at the Lord's table to partake of the sacrament. What a great day that will be!

Consider what an amazing table the Lord's table is! In a sense it stretches around the whole earth. Catholic Christians, Orthodox Christians, Reformed Christians, Lutheran Christians, Baptist Christians, Anglican Christians, Methodist Christians, Evangelical Christians, and Christians who worship in churches bearing names we may never have heard of, will gather in their place of worship and do what Christ asked his friends to do: Remember him!

Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of me." Then he broke the bread as a reminder of his sacrificed body and lifted up the cup holding the wine representing his blood. This sacrament is a vivid symbol of Christ's sacrifice and loving concern for each of us.

Remember, also, as we gather as Christ's family around His table of grace that we are brothers and sisters in Christ which includes Christians around the whole world.

*"In Christ there is no east or west;
In him no south or north;
But one great fellowship of love;
Throughout the whole wide earth."*

Thank you, Lord.



**Coffee
and
CONVERSATION**

**October 3rd
9:30am at the
Dotted Daisy**

The Faith & Fellowship Committee is inviting everyone for Coffee & Conversation at the Dotted Daisy on the first Thursday of each month at 9:30am. We hope to see you on October 3rd!

*Please join us &
invite friends!*



**Zion
Church
Council
WILL MEET
on**

**Tuesday,
OCTOBER 15th at 6pm**



CONFIRMATION



Class Schedule:
Wednesdays,
October 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

Dinner is served at 5:30pm
Class begins at 6pm until 7:30pm

For more information,
please speak with Pastor Carolann.



Prayer Chain & Prayer Concerns

If you would like to add someone to the prayer chain, please call Sharon Waters (402-741-2358) or the church office and they will start the chain.

If you'd like to add someone to our Sunday prayers, please call the church office (402-395-2043).

***"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus
for you."*** (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)



**Sunday, October 27th
HAYRIDE AT 5:30PM!**

All children in grades 2 through 5 AND their families (this month) are invited to join us for a hayride through town with a potluck & S'mores to follow in the church parking lot!

Please check out the Facebook page for Zion Alive updates.

Please speak with Kim Young (402-843-8562) for more information.

Hope to see you on **October 27th!**



THANK YOU!

Many thanks for the generosity of our congregation! The goal of 50 school kits and 25 personal care kits will be fulfilled due to the many supplies that were donated.

We also give thanks to Lisa Skillstad for making the beautiful bags that will hold the school supplies. There will be fifty children who will be so excited to get these school bags!

*Again, thank you so much!
Cheryl Sherburne
Kit Coordinator*

**Beer, Supper
& Bible Study**
6pm on Thursday,
October 17th



**at the
Gateway Terrace
Community Room**

Everyone is invited to the Gateway Terrace Community Room (11th St) for a casual evening of faith, food, and fellowship.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with Pastor Carolann (267-374-7762).

Please mark your calendars & join us!

Forever Ours
Child Loss Grief Support Group



**2nd Mondays
October 14th
7pm**

Zion's Youth Room



Forever Ours is a support group for parents who have lost children of any age.

For additional information, contact Pastor Carolann Hopcke at Zion Lutheran Church (402-395-2043) or Arielle Lindt at AseraCare Hospice (402-745-1602).

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF OFFERING OCTOBER 13, 2024



Making LWR Mission Quilts provides an opportunity for Lutherans in the U.S. to answer God's call to love and serve our neighbors in need. To those that receive them, they are tangible symbols of God's love and compassion. A continued generous response from congregations in Nebraska will ensure that LWR is able to respond to the increasing needs overseas.

Each year LWR spends nearly \$1.9 million to operate its Quilt and Kit Ministry. Those funds, combined with the generosity of quilters and kit-makers throughout the United States, enable LWR to distribute more than \$18 million worth of quilts and kits annually.



Below is the approximate cost to deliver Quilts & Kits:

Mission Quilt	\$2.80
School Kit	\$2.85
Personal Care Kit	\$1.50

\$100 would help send: 10 quilts or 20 school kits or 10 health kits. For a little more than the spare change you might have in your pocket, you can help with the cost of shipping.

The kits and quilts are an all-congregation event as the fabric and supplies are donated by all of you. Please place your monetary gift in the envelope you will find in this Messenger and bring to worship on October 15th.

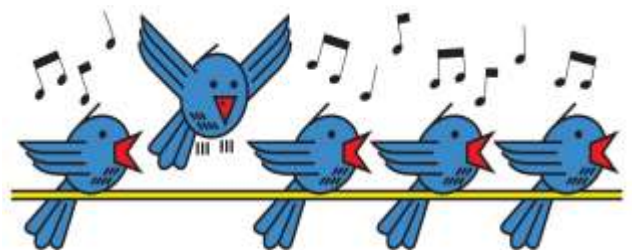
***Volunteer help would be greatly appreciated to help with boxing the quilts after the worship service. Thank you!**

Thank you for your donations!! If there are any questions, please contact Cheryl Sherburne (402-395-2051 or 402-741-0538)



2024 Fellowship Coffee Serving Schedule

October: Worship Committee,
Bells & Choir
November: Parish Education Committee
December: Women of Zion



Worship Song Leaders

OCTOBER

- 6 Jacque & Tom Dickey
- 13 Kay Flanagan
- 20 Volunteer Needed!**
- 27 Madison Gompert



Did you know you can find our signup sheets online?

All our signups are digital through the signup genius website. Simply google signup genius – find a signup. Enter office@zionalbion.com in the creator search bar to find us.

There are signups for greeters, ushers, acolytes, reader, communion assistants, audio/video, and power point volunteers! Signups for hosting either Confirmation or Luther League meals are available as well!

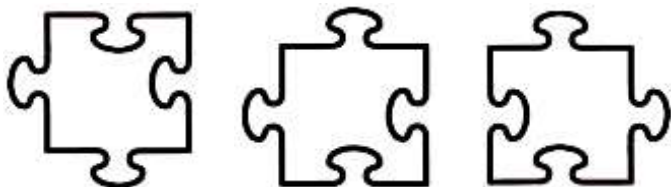
This is a really easy and convenient way to volunteer for the dates and ways you would like to help! If you need any assistance, please contact the church office. Thanks!!



Puzzle Answers

Bible Quiz Answer: C (See John 4:6)

Answer: “No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.”
(Acts 15:11, NIV)



All Saints' Day is a time to remember all the saints who have faithfully lived and died with the Lord.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

All Saints' Day will be celebrated during worship on Sunday, Nov. 3, 2024.



All Saints' Day provides a time for the faithful to remember, reflect on and thank God for their loved ones who have died. We will light candles and ring a chime as we name the saints. Please give the name of your saints to Pastor Carolann.

This year, we are again inviting you to bring in pictures of your loved ones who have died. We will be placing the pictures throughout the sanctuary so that we will truly be surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. Please put a sticky note on the back of each picture with your name, so that we may return the pictures to the right people.

If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Carolann.



“... and to the Republic for witches dance ...”



Let's keep in touch with
our **College Students!**
Feel free to send a card, note
or token of love...

Bailey Choat (4th Year UNL)
1411 Indigo Rd
Lincoln, NE 68521-5206

Dylan Choat (1st year UNL)
1710 Arbor Drive, Rm 355
Lincoln, NE 68503-2082

Halle Hanaway (1st year)
(Northeast Community College)
310 W Park St
Albion, NE 68620-1648

Thane Hardwick (1st year SDSU)
2311 S Capital St
Mitchell, SD 57301-4326

Kyra Kruse (2nd year UNK)
721 W 23rd St
Kearney, NE 68845-5079

Cade Moser (1st year UNL)
Sandoz Hall
820 N 17th St, Rm 628
Lincoln, NE 68508-1277

Camden Moser (3rd Year UNL)
1040 Y St, Rm 136-C
Lincoln, NE 68508-1189



Paige Nelson (4th Year UNL)
4945 Leighton Ave
Lincoln, NE 68504-2873

Kolton Rasmussen (1st year UNL)
3455 Holdrege St, Rm 209
Lincoln, NE 68503-1428

Ally Staub (4th Year SDSU)
929 6th Ave
Brookings, SD 57006-1200

Calvin Webster (3rd Year UNL)
1626 Old Glory Rd
Lincoln, NE 68521-1553

Elle Webster (1st year UNO)
6506 University Dr So
University Village 470
Omaha, NE 68182-1133

If we are missing your address,
please send it to
office@zionalbion.org
so we can keep in touch.



The Mission Endowment
Committee will meet on
Tuesday, October 29th
at 5:30pm.

Faith & Fellowship Committee will meet on **Sunday, October 13th after church at 10:15am**
All are welcome to join us!

 Next Meeting: **Parish Ed. Committee** Sunday, **October 13th At 11:00am**

REFORMATION
October 27, 2024
 Celebrate the Reformation on Sunday, Oct. 27th by wearing **RED** to worship!



 Nebraska Synod News
 Pastor Carolann & Vicar Keith will be attending the Synod's Fall Leadership Event in Kearney October 21-22.

AMAZING GRAYS

Do you remember the Amazing Grays?

This was a fellowship group at Zion for anyone who was or felt like an Amazing Gray! We are wondering if there is any interest in reviving this group? The purpose of the group was fun & fellowship. They traditionally met once a month for dinner, cards, a movie, etc. They either met in people's homes or met at a restaurant or venue for dinner or an activity. If you are interested, talk to Loren or Judy Johnson.

 **Communion Elements Available**

Individually packaged communion elements continue to be available for pick up in the church narthex. Take as many as you need for your household. This will let you take communion with us on Sundays as you watch Facebook live or Vyve Channel 21. If it is easier, or you are more comfortable taking communion in your seat, you may also use these elements to take communion on Sunday mornings.

If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Carolann or Amy Zaruba.

In honor of Pastor Appreciation Month, here are some ways to support our Pastor...



- ✝ Send a card or handwritten note of encouragement.
- ✝ Ask your child to draw a picture or create other artwork for Pastor.
- ✝ Take a group photo with fellow church-goers in front of the church and post it to social media inviting people to church!
- ✝ Make contributions to support our church, Sunday School, Luther League, or local food Pantry.

 Thank you, Pastor!

We're glad you're here!



*On Sunday, September 8th, we celebrated
the gift of God's grace as
Riggs Rhys Bernt
was baptized in the name of
the Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit.*

*Riggs was born on
Friday, May 3, 2024
He weighed 5lbs., 5oz.
and was 18³/₄ " long.*

Loving Parents: Joshua & Megan Bernt

Big Sister: Riah Bernt

Godparents: Lane Wagner

*Grandparents:
Mary Wagner
James Wagner
Amy & Patrick Zaruba*

*On Sunday, September 8th, we celebrated
the gift of God's grace as
Halsey Ann Rugg
was baptized in the name of
the Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit.*

*Halsey was born on
Monday, July 22, 2024
at 1:09pm. She weighed 7lbs, 14oz.
and was 20¹/₂ " long.*

*Loving Parents: Haydn & Katie Rugg
Big Brother: Hesston Rugg*

Godparents: Danielle & Mitch Koch

*Grandparents:
Deb & Mark Hickman
Brett & Dawn Rugg
Amy & Patrick Zaruba*

*Great-Grandparents:
Prudy & Sam Rugg
Janet Switzer*

*May God continue
to bless them all with His
abundant love and grace.*



RALLY DAY 2024

BE THE "I" IN KIND

BE
Kind
TO ONE
Another
EPHESIANS 4:32





Bible Sunday!

On Sunday, September 15th, we presented Bibles to the following 3rd Graders & Confirmands...

Aiden Heidemann, Tate Porter, Jace Thayer, Axton Koch,
Caleb Krohn, Benjamin Tisthammer, Carter Salwei,
Xander Wright, Pete Hudson, Emily Levander, Kelby Rasmussen

Not Present: Rellah Neidhardt, Ashlynn Paulson, Elaine Reinhart,
Lillian Reinhart, Beckett Slaymaker, Eliza Trombley,
Kallum Dorie, Ben Webster

May God's word help them in their journeys of faith.

When Should I Call the Pastor? (267-374-7762)

You are welcome to call the pastor whenever you need to. If it's an **emergency**, please do not hesitate to call, whether it's late at night, early in the morning, or even on her day off. However, if it's NOT an emergency, please respect her day off (Friday), by refraining from calling about things that can wait.

These are times when she really wants to hear from you:
(She'd rather hear two or three times, than not at all!)

- ◆ When you or someone in your family has been hospitalized.
- ◆ At the birth of a child.
- ◆ At the death of a family member, whether a member of the church or not.
- ◆ As you begin to plan a wedding.
- ◆ To arrange a baptism.
- ◆ Whenever you have a question or concern about your journey of faith.



Please Call the Church Office (402-395-2043)

- ◆ When your address, phone number, or email address changes.
- ◆ When you want to add someone to the Sunday morning prayers.
- ◆ When your committee or group has scheduled a meeting or is changing a meeting date, time, or place.
- ◆ When you have a need that the church might be able to help with.
- ◆ When you are moving.

The Sacrament of BAPTISM

On Sunday, September 15th we celebrated the gift of God's grace as **Daphne Clara Briese** was baptized in the name of the Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit.

Daphne was born on Wednesday, February 7, 2024
She weighed 7lbs, 9oz.
and was 20" long.

Loving Parents: **Adam & Lauren Briese**
Big Brother: **Henry Briese**
Big Sister: **Shay Briese**

Godparents: **Anna & Riley Johnson**

Grandparents:
Joan & Tom Briese
Angie & Dale Ripa



May God continue to bless them all with His abundant love and grace.



Welcome New Members the Briese Family

Adam & Lauren Briese and their children, Henry, Shay & Daphne joined our church family on Sunday, September 15th!

We are so happy to welcome Adam back Home to Zion along with his beautiful family!

We are blessed to claim you all as our siblings in Christ!



Average Church Attendance

	In person	Online
May	163	69
June	97	64
July	83	95
August	99	133

Year to Date: 121 In person
87 Online



Cynthia Kraus

PEOPLE SPOTS

Cynthia Sue (Haas) Kraus was born October 25, 1942, to Luther and Ruby Haas. She was born in their apartment that was located where Pump and Pantry currently resides in Albion, NE. A year and one week later she welcomed her younger sister Betty Lou into the family.

Cynthia grew up in Albion attending Albion Public Schools. Cynthia and Betty would walk to school every day together. Cynthia graduated from Albion High School with the class of 1960. After graduation she attended one year of college at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. Cynthia decided to attend college at the University of North Dakota because her favorite music teacher went there to teach, and she wanted to continue to learn from him. After a year, she decided college was not for her and followed the love of her life, Frank Kraus, to California. While Frank was stationed in Long Beach, CA; Cynthia resided in Santa Monica, CA, with Albion classmates. On May 12, 1962, Cynthia and Frank were married in Santa Monica, CA, in front of a small crowd of just seven witnesses, which included the Priest. Frank was discharged from the Navy in September of 1962, and the couple moved back to Nebraska to be closer to family. It was during their drive back to Nebraska in the Colorado mountains, where Frank first fell in love with the mountains and made the comment that that would be their future destination for vacations.

Cynthia and Frank first moved to Columbus, NE, and then to Bassett, NE, before finally returning to Albion in 1965. While residing in Bassett, Cynthia and Frank welcomed their son, Trent Michael, to their family in 1963. Trent has blessed Cynthia with five grandchildren.

Prior to serving as secretary here at Zion Lutheran Church, Cynthia served the community of Albion in many roles. While in high school, she worked summers with the county court clerk. Cynthia also worked as a bookkeeper for her parents' business Albion Tire and Auto Supply and her son's business known as NAPA Auto Parts. She also worked as a server at Albion Country Club and at Casey's. Cynthia eventually returned to work at the Boone County courthouse working in the county assessor's office and in the treasurer's office during tax season. She also worked for County Clerk, Kathy Thorberg, preparing vendors each month and helping out at election times.

In her spare time Cynthia likes to spend her time knitting and crocheting and studying genealogy. She also finds joy in attending her weekly coffee group at The Dotted Daisy and visiting with others. She used to attend shows at the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln. Cynthia also used to enjoy traveling, especially with her husband Frank. Their favorite place to go was to Colorado, especially the Estes Park area. Estes Park became their favorite place to travel due to the fact Frank had never traveled by car, and he fell in love with the area. Estes Park became the place where they would spend a few days of relaxation for many of their forty years of marriage. Frank passed away the morning of December 29, 2002, after a year-long battle with cancer. Cynthia played the piano and the organ for St. Michael's Church, the Methodist Church for Sunday services and for funerals, including Zion Lutheran Church.

Cynthia was baptized on March 21, 1943, and raised in the Lutheran faith here at Zion Lutheran Church. She was confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church on March 25, 1956. Cynthia joined the Catholic church after her marriage to Frank. In 2013, she decided to return home to Zion Lutheran Church. Besides serving as one of the church secretaries, she is also a member of WELCA and Grace Circle. We are thankful for all the ways in which Cynthia has chosen to serve God at Zion. She continues to be a blessing to all of us.

Written & submitted by Vicar Keith Powell



Choir Rehearsals
 Sunday, September 29th,
 October 6th & 27th
 November 3rd
 after worship

The choir will be singing for the first time at the Veteran's Sunday Worship on November 10th.

If you are interested or would like more information, please speak with Tami Texley (402-741-2330).



Sunday, November 10th

We will be honoring all veterans with a special worship service on Sunday, November 10th followed by a free breakfast after worship in our fellowship hall. Please invite all the veterans you know to join us!



God Bless You!

Handbells

Happy Fall Everyone! It's time to get those bells ringing again at Zion! We will begin handbell practice on Wednesday, October 2nd, at 4:30 pm. We welcome members old and new, and hope you can join us.

Please call me if you have any questions.

*Jacque Dickey
 (402-741-1709)*



Sunday, November 3rd at 3pm

All Confirmation Students and Mentors are invited to go Punkin' Chunkin' on Sunday, November 3rd! We will meet at the church just before 3pm. We'll take a hayrack ride to possibly collect pumpkins & then end up at Porter's farm for some Punkin' Chunkin'!

If you have pumpkins to donate, let us know and we'll stop by and pick them up on our way!

Mark your calendars!



Prayer Concerns this Month

Wolf Memorial Home Residents

Liz Hunt LaVonne Mills
 Fran Obermire Ruth Pribnow
 Dorothy Tisthammer Muriel Young

Good Samaritan Estates (Assisted Living)

Bob & LaVonne Kruse
 Donna Kruse Dorothy Young

Genoa Assisted Living (Genoa)

Arletta Francis

Arbor Care Center (Fullerton)

Ron Weltruski

Primrose Retirement Community (Grand Island)

Joy Haas

Heritage of Bel-Air (Norfolk)

LaVonne Olnes

Our Homebound

Barb Buckendahl Judy Harder
 Dale Sheldon Virginia Storm

In Our Sunday Prayers

Ardy Choat, Ron Coakes, Mary Pat Freeman,
 Wrenley Frey, Owen Neesen, Dan Prothman,
 Brock Roberts, Vallie (Paulson) Roberts,
 Carroll Rolf, Nikki Rolf, Breanna Schieffer,
 Katelynn Schieffer, Mark Smith,
 Barb Tisthammer, Pat Tobiason,
 Ron Weltruski, Steve Wright
 and the family of
 Pastor Jeff Ziegler



Our Congregation

All those Harvesting
 Sew Happy Mission Quilters
 Zion Alive

All those who received Bibles in September
 The Newly Baptized:
 Daphne, Halsey, Kolter & Riggs

Other Concerns

Our Military
 Those affected by war, violence & hatred
 Those affected by natural disasters



The following people made a donation to
Zion Lutheran Church

in loving memory of
Marlee Holmes



**Eileen & Halver Wieser
 Kathleen & Larry Young**



OCTOBER

6	Tami Texley
13	Sarah Liss
20	Sarah Liss
27	Tami Texley





It's that time of year to...

- ✓ Check the operation of your smoke detectors, and change the batteries. Install additional detectors if needed.
- ✓ Inspect and ready your heating system. Empty the ashes, and clean the soot from your fireplace.
- ✓ Check the weather-stripping around doors and windows, and replace those that are worn.

... and remember to set your clocks back one hour on **November 3, 2024**

Fall Time Reminder...



Axe Throwing
Sunday, October 20th
3:30-5:30pm



\$10 per axe-throwing person
(10 years old is the minimum age to throw axes)

There are arcade & table games for children of all ages!
Supper, snacks & non-alcoholic drinks will be provided!
Please join us & bring friends!
All are welcome!

HALLOWEEN PARADE



Albion's Halloween Parade

Thursday, October 31st

at 4pm Downtown.

Zion will have a table by the bank across from Thrifty Way. Please stop by for a visit & a treat!



12-15

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Jeff and The Knebes

"Halloween came before Christmas so the goblins wouldn't scare Baby Jesus."

A WORD ABOUT HALLOWEEN

At this time of year, many Christians wonder if they should take part in Halloween activities.



The Christian history of Halloween (All Hallows' Eve) ties it to All Saints Day (the following day). It is a part of a celebration of Christ's victory over sin, death, and the devil.

Far from acknowledging Satan's power or "worshiping the devil,"

Halloween actually is a way of making fun of the devil and celebrating the truth that Christ has been victorious and evil has been defeated.

Let your kids know this.

Martin Luther once said, "The children of God enjoy playing with devils because they know they are perfectly safe."

So use Halloween for fun; put on the masks, walk with the little ones, and have a good time.





PUMPKIN PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

Pick your Pumpkin:

Heavenly God, thank you for picking me!
You did not choose me but I chose you.
 (John 15:16a)

Wash your pumpkin:

Thank you God for making me clean with the blood of your Son, Jesus.
The blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:7b)

Cut off the Top of your Pumpkin:

Lord, open my mind and fill me with your wisdom and guidance.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. (Matthew 5:6)

Scoop out the Yucky Insides:

Lord, empty me of all that keeps me from you. Remove my doubt, fear, and failings.
Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who emptied himself...
 (Philippians 2: 5, 7)

Carve the Eyes of your Pumpkin:

Lord, open my eyes to see all of the beautiful things you have made.
Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they regained their sight and followed him.
 (Matthew 20:34)



Carve the Nose of your Pumpkin:

Lord, help me to be a sweet fragrance for you and the world.
Let my prayer rise before you like incense. (Psalm 141:2a)

Carve the Mouth of your Pumpkin:

Lord, help me to always speak your words of love and kindness.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:14)

Place a candle in your Pumpkin:

Lord, help me to let your light shine within me and through me.
In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)



Christ in Our Home

The October, November & December 2024 Christ in Our Home devotional, including large print, are now available in the tract rack by the west door.



2pm on October 17th at Wolf Home
Volunteers & Prizes needed!

We will be hosting Bingo at Wolf Home on the 3rd Thursday of each month. We need at least 2 volunteers as well as prizes each month. There is a sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board. We are looking for donations of Large Print books, coloring books for adults, beanie babies, nice costume jewelry (clip on earrings), etc. Donations are being collected in the marked box in the narthex.

For more information, please speak with Pat Neidhardt (402-395-2802).



Sunday Bulletins

Sunday bulletins are available in the narthex. They are in the tract rack by the Thursday before the upcoming Sunday. Feel free to stop by and pick one up.



Bulletins

Worship
with us
from
HOME

Zion Sunday Services are broadcast LIVE on Eagle Cable Channel 21 and repeated on Wednesdays at 8am, 10:30am, 12pm, 4pm, 7pm, 8pm & 9pm and Saturdays at 8am and 12pm.

You may also join us each Sunday morning at 9am on Facebook Live!



You may worship with us live, or watch the service by clicking the link on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/zionalbion

Zion Messenger is a monthly publication of Zion Lutheran Church

319 S 5th St., Albion, NE 68620

Worship Services - Sunday 9:00am

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 4pm

Friday Office Closed

Phone 402-395-2043

Pastoral Care Concerns after hours:

Pastor Carolann Hopcke, 267-374-7762

Email: office@zionalbion.org

Website: www.zionalbion.org

Zion's Staff

Pastor Carolann Hopcke, Senior Pastor

PCA@zionalbion.org

Vicar Keith Powell, Seminarian

vicarkeith@zionalbion.org

Office Administrators

Cynthia Kraus & Cheryl Sherburne

office@zionalbion.org

High School Youth Coordinator

Dorothy Grosch

youthcoordinator@zionalbion.org

Nancy Ahlers, Treasurer

treasurer@zionalbion.org