



Zion Messenger

July 2025

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



*For you were called to freedom,
brothers and sisters
only do not use your freedom
as an opportunity for self-indulgence,
but through love become slaves to one another.
(Galatians 5:13)*

*So we are ambassadors for Christ.
(2 Corinthians 5:20a)*

As we celebrate the 4th of July, Independence Day, I am thankfully reminded of our freedoms. I am especially fond of Norman Rockwell's famous depiction of freedom, known as **The Four Freedoms**. They are a series of four oil paintings. The paintings — Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear — refer to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's January 6, 1941, Four Freedoms State of the Union address, in which he identified essential human rights that should be universally protected. This theme was incorporated into the Atlantic Charter, and became part of the Charter of the United Nations. They were reproduced in the **Saturday Evening Post** in 1943, over four consecutive weeks, alongside essays by prominent thinkers of the day.

Our country was founded on these very ambitious ideals of freedom. I don't honestly think our founding fathers knew just how ambitious they were, or that almost 250 years later we would still be trying to live up to these ideals and create a country where everyone is free to vote, free to speak, and free to worship, while being loved and honored for who they are and who they were created to be without fear. We certainly have more to do as a country to become who we started out trying to be.

As Christians, I wonder what it means to be free or independent. Christ makes us free to be his ambassadors and to be responsible and

connected to one another in love. Again, we have much work to do.

Our world is a complicated place. We see where the foreigner is not honored as God has commanded, we see where race and gender determine one's freedom and rights, and we see some of God's children being oppressed. We see where equality and freedom are not shared with different genders or religions. We witnessed the storming of the capital and the attempt to stop the peaceful transfer of power. As Christians, we see how far we have to go to live into God's vision for our country and the freedoms upon which our country was founded.

The best way to be patriotic is to be grateful for our country and everything it gives us, which is a lot! Being a citizen of this country and a follower of Christ comes with responsibility. We are called to carry on the legacy of democracy as well as the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is to love and care for all. Can we see our strengths and celebrate them, but also see our weaknesses and work for change? We can be a part of the change that continues our tradition of living up to the values of equality, liberty, and freedom by being Christ's hands, feet, and voice in this country that we love.

We are free in Christ to be who God has called us to be — his ambassadors of love, peace, and forgiveness. May we, through God's love, care for one another, especially those in need — the poor, the widows, the children, and the foreigners. And may we honor and respect each other's freedoms.

Your sister in Christ,



Corner

Let Go and Know!

To let go and know God is in control, is easier said than done, especially for people like me who like to be in control. I found this article on Pastorricks.com and I thought I would share as it is a good reminder to us all.

Every day, you have to decide who's going to be in control of your life — you or God. That choice is a battle. There are things in your life that you want to control; you want to make your own rules. But stress relief always starts with letting God be God. It always starts with saying, "God, I'm giving up control, because you can control the things that are out of control in my life."

Psalm 46:10 says, "*Let go of your concerns! Then you will know that I am God. I rule the nations. I rule the earth.*" (GW)

I don't know what you're going to face in the next week. You don't either. But I can already tell you what God wants you to do: Let go and know.

Let go of control, and know that God is in control. Let go and know! This is the first step to serenity in your life.

Whenever people face out-of-control situations, we tend to go to one of two extremes. For some people, the more out-of-control your life gets, the harder you try to control it. Others do the exact opposite and just give up! You have a pity party and invite yourself to it.

Both of those reactions to stress are foolish. They don't work. Instead of being a victim or becoming hyper-controlling, you need to pray a prayer of surrender. Why surrender? The number one reason you're under stress is because you're in conflict with God. You're trying to control things that only God can control. You can't control your spouse or your kids or your job or your future or your past or any of that stuff. The more you try, the more you're trying to play God, and that puts you in opposition to God. Not only are you going to lose that conflict, but you're also going to be tired.

Millions of people pray the Serenity Prayer, which is based on the Lord's Prayer, but most have never read the last eight lines to the prayer. It essentially says: "Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting hardship as a pathway to peace, taking as Jesus did this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with you forever in the next. Amen."

Learning to let go and know with you,
Tammy Reigle
Church Council President

*From the
Vicar*



Corinth



This month I will be sharing information about the city of Corinth. It is located on the southern peninsula of Greece and is known for the canal. The Corinth Canal, carrying ship traffic between the western Mediterranean Sea and the Aegean Sea, is about 2.5 miles east of the city. It cuts through the Isthmus of Corinth that connects the Peloponnesian peninsula to the Greek mainland, thus effectively making the former an island. The builders dug the canal through the Isthmus at sea level; no locks are employed. It is 4 miles in length and only 70 feet wide at its base, making it impassable for most modern ships. We stopped at the canal on our way to the archaeological site. One of the attractions at the Corinth Canal is bungee jumping. We were unable to partake in this adventure because it was closed due to a very rainy day.

The Apostle Paul's time in Corinth is written about in Acts 18:1-17. Paul spent some time in the city and wrote to the church in Corinth which are the books 1st and 2nd Corinthians.

In Acts 18, Paul continues his missionary journey and arrives in Corinth, where he meets Aquila and Priscilla, Jewish tentmakers who had recently come from Italy due to Emperor Claudius expelling Jews from the city of Rome. Paul stays and works with Aquila and Priscilla, preaching every Sabbath in the synagogue.

When hostility from the Jewish community grew, Paul turned his focus to the Gentiles. Paul began ministering in the house of Titius Justus, a Gentile worshiper of God, located next door to the synagogue. Crispus, the synagogue leader, and his household believed in Christ and were baptized, along with many other Corinthians.

Paul received a vision from the Lord, encouraging him to keep preaching and not be afraid, as God had many people in the city. He stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, teaching the word of God.

Eventually, the Jews brought Paul before Gallio, the Roman proconsul, accusing him of persuading people to worship God unlawfully. Gallio dismissed the case because he saw it as a matter of Jewish law, not Roman law. Afterward, the crowd beat Sosthenes, the synagogue leader, but Gallio showed no concern. Paul stayed in Corinth for awhile longer and then left for Syria.

While in Corinth we visited the Archaeological Museum of Ancient Corinth. The Archaeological site contains multiple temples to ancient Greek and Roman gods. The Temple of Apollo, one of the most significant monuments of Ancient Corinth, was built in approximately 540 B.C. Apollo was the Olympian god of music, light, prophecy, healing, and archery in Greek mythology. Above the archaeological site is the temple for Aphrodite, the goddess of love. A castle from the time of the crusades now stands where the temple of Aphrodite once stood. Another temple located in Corinth was the temple for Asclepius, the demigod of healing and medicine. At this archaeological site they have uncovered many castings of different body parts. It is believed that people would make casts of the body parts that needed healing and offer the cast of the body part to the demigod Asclepius. The archaeological site of Corinth was a wonderful site to visit; it contained a lot of neat artifacts. I just wish it hadn't rained the whole time we were there. *(Pictures on page 19)*

Blessings, Vicar Keith Powell

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Tammy Reigle.

Present: Pastor Carolann Hopcke, Jim Meyer, Chris Nelson, Vicar Keith Powell, Sara Rasmussen, Tammy Reigle, Roberta Seda

Excused: Kay Flanagan, Amanda Reinhart, Josh Thayer, Mary Kay Tisthammer

Equipping Time: Chris Nelson led us in equipping time using Proverbs 22:6 (*Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray.*) He talked about how faith is something that's caught more than taught. Chris thanked all those involved with the youth of our church because he thinks Zion does a good job with the faith formation of our children and youth.

Approve Minutes: Roberta Seda made a motion to approve the minutes of April 22, 2025. Jim Meyer seconded. Motion carried.

Report of Officers

President: Tammy Reigle – No report.

Vice President: Mary Kay Tisthammer – No report.

Treasurer: Nancy Ahlers. Zion's Women of the ELCA disbanded and disbursed their monies. They gave \$5,000 to the Bathroom Fund. Sara Rasmussen made a motion to accept the April Treasurer's Report. Jim Meyer seconded. Motion carried.

Staff Reports

Senior Pastor: Rev. Carolann Hopcke – It's been a busy month so far. Boone Central Schools did an emergency evacuation drill to our building on May 15th. All went smoothly – the Elementary students went to SS classrooms, Middle School students went to the basement, and High School students went to the sanctuary. The third funeral for the month will be for Greg Packard on Thursday morning. Pastor volunteered the council for coffee hour on June 29th.

Intern Pastor: Vicar Keith Powell – Classes ended last week, but he had to redo a paper today. Next week we will complete his official internship paperwork. It will be an 18 month internship that is expected to begin in June 2025 through December 2026.

High School Youth Coordinator: Dorothy Grosch – Graduate Sunday went well with seven graduates participating.

Committee Reports:

Evangelism: May Day cookies were well received. Growth & Grace sent a thank you note. Another Family Fun Night is planned for Sunday, August 10th at 6:30pm. Movie suggestions are welcome!

Faith and Fellowship: The committee doesn't meet until next month, but they have planned an outing to Harrah's casino and racetrack in Columbus for June 22nd.

Parish Education:

The Lego Bible-Reading Challenge: Anyone who did any of the challenge will receive a Lego lollipop and bookmark. Each student will also be entered into the drawing for the grand prize.

VBS: Plans are well underway with over 170 students registered thus far. Chances are being sold to possibly win the VBS T-shirt quilt donated by Kay Flanagan. Tickets are available at all local churches. The winner will be drawn at the closing program on Friday, June 13th.

Property & Maintenance:

Bell Tower: Tommy Heesacker plans to devote the week of May 27th to our Bell Tower repairs.

Parsonage Fence: The fence has been replaced at a cost of \$5,184. Pastor offered to pay \$3,000 of this bill out of her housing allowance.

The Lift: The annual preventative maintenance and safety check was completed.

Sanctuary Lights: Some of the bulbs are out in the sanctuary lights.

Pulpit Light: Pastor asked if a light could be added to the pulpit, possibly something like a piano or organ light?

Outdoor Kitchen Door: The serving group had trouble locking this door after the last funeral.

Worship: All the special services from Lent through Confirmation went well! Pastor informed us that the Weeder/Mosier Wedding has been moved to inside and will happen at St. Michael's.

Task Force Reports:

Handicap Accessibility Project:

There is no news yet on the Leon and Lorna Krab Kraft Memorial Grant for which we applied. Tammy Reigle suggested forming a Fundraising Task Force for the Elevator & Sprinkler System projects. This group would possibly generate some creative fundraising ideas and create a Progress Chart for the congregation to be updated regularly and on display in the narthex. The total cost for these two projects is \$233,000 + \$252,000 = \$485,000*. *This total includes an additional 10% as a contingency plan. Tammy Reigle will ask Mary Kay Tisthammer to possibly chair this task force.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, June 24, 2025**, at 6:00pm. **Kay Flanagan** is responsible for the equipping time.

Adjournment: Roberta Seda made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05pm. Jim Meyer seconded. Motion carried. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Carolann Hopcke
Secretary Pro-tem



Puzzle Answers

Bible Quiz Answer: C (see Luke 16:19-31)
Puzzle Answers: ant, slugard, wise, commander, ruler, summer, food, harvest; Go to the ant, you slugard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.



BIRTHDAYS

- 7/1 Terry Merten, Lisa Skillstad,
*Sharon Waters**
- 7/3 Joseph Brugger, Matthew Brugger,
Sheena Krohn, Kurt Kruse
- 7/4 Shayla Nelson
- 7/5 Lyndsay Tisthammer
- 7/6 Mike Jeratowski
- 7/7 Jerene Kruse, Patti Meyer,
Mary Thorberg
- 7/8 Dorothy Grosch, Kelby Rasmussen
- 7/9 Cody Mangus, Rellah Neidhardt,
Bryan Skillstad
- 7/10 Olivia Lindgren
- 7/11 Kurtis Harrison
- 7/12 Nancee Krohn
- 7/13 Travis Merten, Tyler Reestman
- 7/14 Deloris McMillan
- 7/15 Cori Zoubek
- 7/16 Diane Brugger, Barb Howser,
Spencer Leetch
- 7/17 Lizzie Esch
- 7/18 Hank Hudson, Cooper Leetch
- 7/19 Nancy Jeratowski
- 7/20 Tara Leetch, Ryan Neidhardt
- 7/21 Tucker Stuhr
- 7/22 Halsey Rugg
- 7/23 Jerry Pollock, Benjamin Tisthammer
- 7/24 Karen Andersen, Ellen Frey,
Tony Levander
- 7/25 Kimberly Coakes, Karlie Tisthammer,
Keiley Tisthammer
- 7/26 Mason Majerus
- 7/27 Sara Rasmussen, Mike Seda, Dan Staub
- 7/29 Jace Thayer
- 7/30 Henry Briese, Bailey Choat
- 7/31 Jim McMillan



**Denotes 80+ years young*



ANNIVERSARIES

- 7/3 Connie & Duane Rieck
- 7/5 Nancy & Steve Paulson
- 7/12 Gerry & Jenny Schmitz
- 7/14 *Carmen & Vivian Eucker**
- 7/16 Jeff & LeAnn Lindgren
- 7/17 *John & Kathy Williams**
- 7/18 Becky & Blake Trombley
- 7/22 Jon & Stacy Petersen
- 7/23 Adam & Lauren Briese
- 7/26 Cheryl & Rod Sherburne
- 7/28 *Connie & Rolan Bentjen**
- 7/29 Mikki & Tom Mangus
Amy & Jason Olnes
- 7/30 Dana & Sarah Cox

**Denotes 50+ years of marriage*



We are not perfect and
sadly, neither is our
database. If you know
of folks whose names
are missing from the
birthday or anniversary
lists, please let us know. We really would
like to include everyone. Thanks!

Don't see
your name?



Boone County



Food Pantry

1108 W. State Street
Albion, NE 68620

Open EVERY Thursday
2-4pm

Ongoing Needs:

Canned Soup	Crackers
Canned Fruit	Toilet Paper
Cereal	Bar Soap
Kleenex	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,
August 5th
meet at 5:30pm**



Worship Song Leaders

JULY

6	Jacquie & Tom Dickey
13	Boone County Fair
20	Kay Flanagan
27	<i>Volunteer Needed!</i>

Summer Giving



As summer continues and we think about vacations and time away from our normal routine, please know that while you may be away this summer, Zion Lutheran Church will be here awaiting your return. We kindly ask that during this time, you please remember to make your regular financial contributions to our church. Our bills do not take a vacation and we need your financial support, especially during the summer months.

We need to remember that God gives us the gift of summer to enjoy and that what we do with it is a way of giving gifts back to God. If you can't be at our church, please make an effort to attend church wherever you are; it's a great way to experience the love of God in a new way!

Have a wonderful and safe summer
and remember to Thank God
for His many Blessings to us.



Christ in Our Home

The July, August & September 2025
Christ in Our Home devotional,
including large print, are available
in the tract rack by the west door.



PUZZLE



TINY TEAMWORK

The focused teamwork of ants is astounding! How can we learn from them?

Directions: Answer the clues. Then write the words in order below to complete Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV.

This 6-legged arthropod can carry 20 times its own weight. _____

A sleepy, sloth-like and slow-moving person. _____

Having deep understanding and sound judgment. _____

A person in charge of military troops. _____

A person in authority. _____

The season when daylight hours are longest. _____

A substance you eat for nutrition. _____

When farmers reap the rewards of hard work. _____



Go to the _____, you _____;

consider its ways and be _____!

It has no _____, no overseer or _____,

yet it stores its provisions in _____

and gathers its _____ at _____.



Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV

SHOO fly!



Make this candle to keep
uninvited insects from your
outdoor summer meals.

What you need:

- Lime
- 10-20 whole cloves
- Birthday candle
- 4 toothpicks
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Have an adult slice the lime in half. Cut off the rounded end of one half so it can stand without rolling.
2. Insert 10 cloves into the cut sides of each half.
3. Stand the bottom half on a plate. Insert the candle in the center.
4. Insert the 4 toothpicks in the cut side of the bottom half. Then place the other half atop the toothpicks.
5. Before dinner, have an adult light the candle that's between the two lime halves. The flame's heat will warm the lime and create a smell that insects don't like.
6. Supervise the flame. Blow it out when it reaches the bottom lime.



Bible Quiz

In a parable of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, someone named Lazarus features prominently while other characters go unnamed. Who is Lazarus in this story?

- A friend Jesus raised from the dead
- A rich man dressed in fine linen
- A poor beggar at the rich man's gate
- The brother of the poor man
- An angel who carried the poor man to heaven



**Puzzle Answers
are on page 5**





We are looking for Sunday School Teachers! If you are willing and able to teach, please contact Stacy Petersen (402-920-3425). If you can't commit to the whole year, but would be willing to help, we also need substitute teachers! Thanks for your prayerful consideration of this important role.



Mobile Food Pantry

There will be NO Mobile Food Pantry on the first Saturday of this month, July 5th, due to the holiday. It will resume on Saturday, August 2nd.



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

All are welcome to join us!



All of Zion's SignUp sheets can be found online!

All of Zion's signups are digital through the SignUpGenius website. Simply Google SignUpGenius—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 PowerPoint volunteers! Signups for hosting Luther League and confirmation class meals are also available.

This is an 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!



9-4

© 2008 by Koons, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycomic.com

"If God is way up there in Heaven, shouldn't I pray a lot louder?"

Table Grace:

Thank, Thank, Thank You, God
(Tune: Row, Row, Row Your Boat)

Thank, thank, thank you God,
thank you now we pray.

You have given
all we need
to live through
every day.



Beer, Supper & Bible Study Thursday, July 17th 6pm at the Gateway Terrace Community Room



We will not be meeting in June
due to confirmation Camp.

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

Please Join us!



JULY

6	Sarah Liss
13	County Fair Worship
20	Sarah Liss
27	Sarah Liss

Faith + SHARING = EVANGELISM

The Evangelism Committee will
meet on Monday,
July 7th at 7:00pm.
All are welcome!



Prayer Chain & Prayer Concerns

If you'd like to add someone
to the prayer chain, please
call Sharon Waters (402-741-
2358) or the church office (402-35-2043)
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)*



9-3
©2018 D. Keene, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com

**"Dinner in the yard is just eating
outside. For a REAL PICNIC you hafta
get in the car and go someplace."**

PEOPLE SPOTS

Patti Meyer



Patricia Linn Mumm was born on Thursday, July 7, 1960, at the Saunders County Hospital in Wahoo, Nebraska, to Marvin and Alice Mumm. Patti was welcomed home to the family farm outside of Yutan, Nebraska, by her older brother Phil. Phil and Patti later welcomed home their younger sister Paula.

Patti attended Yutan Public Schools from kindergarten through graduation with the class of 1978. Following graduation she continued her education at the College of Nursing through University Nebraska Medical Center in Lincoln, Nebraska. In 1980, Patti graduated with an associate degree in nursing. Two years later she received her Bachelor of Nursing degree in 1982.

Patti enjoyed growing up on the family farm with her siblings. Her first “job” was on the farm walking beans in the summer, which was her least favorite job. Her first paying job was serving as a babysitter. She also worked as a nurse’s aid at Saunders County Hospital.

After achieving her Bachelor of Nursing degree, Patti moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado, where she worked in the emergency department at Memorial Hospital. She states that this had been her favorite job thus far. Patti currently works as a registered nurse at Boone County Health Center in the surgery department.

While attending a friend’s wedding, she was introduced to Jim Meyer, who swept her off her feet and they have been inseparable ever since. Patti and Jim were married on October 26, 1991. They have three wonderful sons, Jacob, Jackson, and Joel, who they simply love and adore. In her free time Patti enjoys gardening, reading, and spending time with her family. She is also an avid Husker fan and enjoys watching the Nebraska Cornhuskers play volleyball, football, and baseball. Patti enjoys camping, and has also enjoyed water sports, such as water skiing. Her favorite vacation has been on the houseboat on Lake Powell in Utah.

Patti is a lifelong Lutheran, she was baptized at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Yutan on September 14, 1960. She received her First Holy Communion in 1970 and was confirmed in 1976 at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Yutan. Patti joined Zion Lutheran Church in Albion in 1994. Since joining Zion Lutheran Church she has served in many roles. Patti has been a Sunday School and VBS teacher, VBS organizer, Luther League Leader, and a member of the Church Council, Parish Education Committee, Altar Guild, and Worship Committee. She is currently the chairperson of the Worship Committee. We are honored and blessed by Patti’s membership, and for all the ways in which she continues to serve God at Zion.

Written & submitted by
Vicar Keith Powell



Carol Joy Holling Camp,
Conference & Retreat Center

Quilt Auction

37th Annual Quilt Auction

Saturday, July 26, 2025

9am - 5pm

Join in the 37th Annual Quilt Auction at Carol Joy Holling Camp on July 26th! The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of camp. The auction and lunch will be held rain or shine. Bring your friends and families!

Tentative Schedule

9:00am	Quilts on Display
9:30am	Live Auction Starts
11:30am — 1:30pm	Lunch Served
12:00pm — 2:00pm	Pool Open
1:30pm	Silent Auction Closes
2:30pm	Specialty Items Auction Starts
3:00pm	Silent Auction items available for pick up

Auction Information

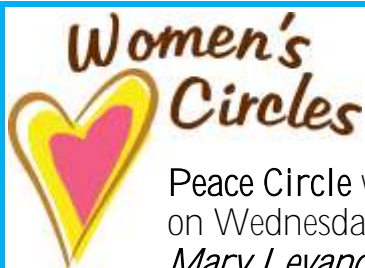
Quilts in the past have auctioned for anywhere between \$25 and \$20,000. Lance Larsen, a professional auctioneer from Cordova, NE, is volunteering his time to auction the quilts. Select quilts will be available through the Silent Auction. Bidding will open for the silent auction on Friday, July 25th at 9:00am and close on Saturday, July 26th at 1:30pm. Silent Auction items will be available for pick up after 3:00pm.

Live auction bidding will start at 9:30am. The Live Auction quilts will be displayed with numbered cards indicating the order in which they will be auctioned. Bidders can approximate when their favorite quilts will be up for auction. The cards also include information about the quilt donor and the size, type, and design of the quilt.

Quilt Donations

Quilts can be delivered to Carol Joy Holling Camp between June 1st and July 21st. They should be placed in a plastic bag with a completed copy of the donation form inside.

Although this is an outdoor event, pets are not allowed.



July 16th
2025

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

Grace Circle will meet at 2pm on July 16st at
the home of Janet Atkinson. Doris Warner
will be the leader.

All women are invited to join either circle.



Zion
Church
Council
Will MEET
on Tuesday
August 19th at 6pm.

2025 Flower Committee

July
Volunteer Needed
August
Jerene Kruse



The August
Newsletter
Deadline
is Sunday,
July 20th



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 & pick one up.



Altar
Guild

2025
July
Judy & Loren Johnson*
Amy & Pat Zaruba
August
Connie Nelson*
Laura Nelson
Gina Temme



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.



The Mission Endowment
Committee will meet on
Monday, July 28th
at 5:30pm.



The following people made donations to **Zion's Memorial Fund** in loving memory of **Barb Buckendahl**



Bonnie & Mark Wagner



Zion's Family Fun Night Sunday, August 10th at 7pm

We are looking for movie suggestions for our Family Fun Night in August. There is a sign-up sheet for suggestions or you can text Pastor (267-374-7762) or email her at pca@zionalbion.org with your ideas.

Thanks!

We are also hoping to do giveaway baskets again this year. Please let us know if you, or your committee, will be able to sponsor a basket.

Mark your calendars & join us!



The following people made donations to **Zion's Memorial Fund** in loving memory of **Dorothy Tisthammer**

Amy & Brian Luettel (Elevator Fund)

Marilee Niewohner & Linda Spiegel (Elevator Fund)

Linda Pearson (Elevator Fund)

Dorothy Tisthammer Family (Elevator Fund)

The family has requested that all undesigned gifts be put in the elevator Fund.



The following people made a donation to Zion's Memorial Fund in loving memory of **Greg Packard**

Cynthia Kraus (Elevator Fund)

SHARE JESUS WITH A FRIEND



	In person	Online
January	94	91
February	97	114
March	126	143
April	141	146
May	124	130

Year to Date:

116 In person
125 Online



Prayer Concerns this Month

Wolf Memorial Home Residents

*Jean Bittner LaVonne Mills
Muriel Young*

Good Samaritan Estates (Assisted Living)

*Bob & LaVonne Kruse
Donna Kruse Dorothy Young*

Genoa Assisted Living (Genoa)

Arletta Francis

Heritage of Bel-Air (Norfolk)

LaVonne Olnes

Mid-Nebraska Lutheran Home

Harold & Lois Thewke

Our Homebound

Judy Harder Dale Sheldon

Out of State

Elva Bartels (Texas)

Joy Haas (Colorado)

In Our Sunday Prayers

*Ron Coakes, Kay Flanagan,
Mary Pat Freeman, Wrenley Frey,
Madison Gompert & Family, Joy Haas,
Judy Merten, Alvah Ranslem,
Mark Smith, Pat Tobiason, Faith Tyson,
and the families of
Carroll Kallweit, Dave Muhle,
Greg Packard, and Christa Slater*



Our Congregation & Community

*Carol Joy Holling Quilt Auction
County Fair Participants
Evangelism Committee
Fundraising Committee*

Other Concerns

Our Military

*All those affected by war, violence & hatred
All those affected by natural disasters*

Other prayer concerns are welcome

Let's Keep in Touch!

If you are headed off to college or back to college, we'd like to keep in touch with you. Please complete the form below, or simply email your school address to the church office.

We promise to send you a care package if we have your updated or current school address!

You may put this completed form in the offering plate, pastor's door, or email it to office@zionalbion.org
You may also snail mail it to
Zion Lutheran Church
319 S. 5th St.
Albion, NE 68620-1374



Student's Name

Address

email

Please let us keep in contact with you!



**Next Meeting:
Sunday,
October 12th
at
10:15am**



Next Meeting:
Tuesday,
July 1ST
At
5:30pm



2pm on July 17th at Wolf Home
Volunteers & Prizes appreciated!

We will be hosting Bingo at Wolf Home on the 3rd Thursday of each month. We need at least 2 volunteers each month. We are always happy to have donations of prizes. The residents LOVE Beanie Babies, as well as snacks and candy! Donations are collected in the marked box in the narthex.

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



✝ Christian Symbol ✝



PELICAN

In the Middle Ages, the pelican came to represent Jesus' sacrifice of his blood for the world. According to legend, a mother pelican, in times of famine, would pluck open her chest and feed her young with her own blood. An alternate myth was that she fed her dying young with her blood to revive them, losing her own life in the process. The depiction of a pelican with a drop of blood on her chest is called "the pelican in her piety."

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.



Mark Your Calendars!

**Boone County Fair
Nondenominational
Worship Service
Sunday, July 13th
10:00am
at the Boone County
Ag & Education Center.**

Following the service the Good Neighbor, Pioneer and Heritage Awards + 4-H Ambassadors will be announced!



**Tuesday, July 8th
6pm**

The Boone County Extension 4-H Music Contest will take place at Zion on Tuesday, July 8th at 6pm.

All are welcome to attend!



Can You Tie A Knot?



Zion's Sew Happy Mission

Quilters are always looking for people to help them quilt! You are welcome to join them on the 2nd & 4th Fridays to help tie & pin quilts. If you like to sew, they will welcome the help to sew quilt blocks together. The blocks and strips are already cut and put together in a bag ready to be sewn together.

For more information, contact Barb Michael (402-395-6377) or any of the other quilters.



**FLAT
SHEETS
NEEDED!**

Our quilters are in need of FLAT COTTON sheets – they need to be full size or larger and they can be any color you like. We CANNOT use microfiber sheets because they are not durable and they don't breathe as well as the cotton. These flat sheets are used for the backs of the quilters' beautiful quilts.

For more information please speak with Marcia Seier 402-395-6163. or Barb Michael (402) 395-6377



Worship on the Green & Pet Blessing

Sunday, August 10th at 9am

Bring a cup of coffee and a comfy lawn chair to praise God in the beauty of his creation! We will gather on Zion's south lawn and parking lot. Since we are outside, we are also encouraging folks to bring their pets and beloved animals to church this day for a blessing. Stuffed animals are also welcome!

FYI: If the weather is poor, we will move the service and the animals inside.



2025 Fellowship Coffee Serving Schedule

July: **Volunteers Needed!**
August: Men of Zion
September: Grace & Peace Circles

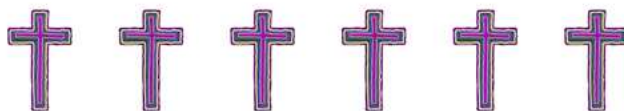


Pastor, Dorothy & Quilters,

Thank you for your wonderful gifts that you gave me for my graduation.

Next year I will be attending Mitchell Technical College majoring in heating and air conditioning.

Sincerely,
Nolan Kruse



Reusable Bags

\$5. each



\$8. each



**All money raised will benefit
the Boone County Food Pantry.
Bags are available at church.**

(Continued from page 3)



Ancient Corinth



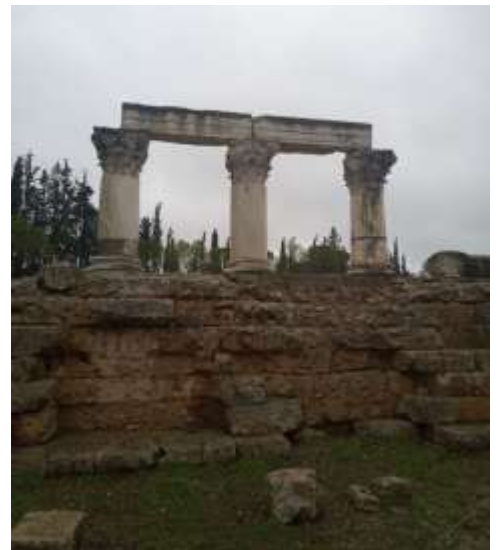
**Castle from the Crusades,
where the temple Aphrodite once stood.**



Flogging Stone



Corinth Canal



Temple of Apollo

Faith & Fellowship Committee will meet on
Sunday, July 27th
after church at 10:15am
All are welcome to join us!

Coffee and CONVERSATION July 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.
Please join us & invite friends!

VBS 2025 was a Great Success!

TRUE NORTH VBS had us Trusting Jesus in a Wild World! We were blessed with 193 students and 104 volunteers who created memories, sang songs, and made friendships that will last long after this week of VBS is done. Sincere THANKS to all the volunteers who planned, prepared, and showed up everyday to make our VBS the best it could be.



Coordinators:

Sherri Kelley
Amy Moser
Lisa Thayer
Lisa Wagner



Samantha Gragert
Gabe Grape
Clarisa Grass
Brynna Hagemann
Brielle Hagemann
Bella Hamling
Bristol Hardwick
Pastor Carolann Hopcke
Pete Hudson

Brody Kelley
Pastor Lynde Linde
Kalynn Koch
Cynthia Kraus
Annie Krohn

Avery Krohn
Brooklyn Krohn
Jacob Krohn
Kasey Krohn
Noah Krohn
Sheena Krohn

William Kuester
Adelade Kunzman
Mallory Kunzman
Maddie Kuta
Laura Larsen

Spencer Leetch
Emily Levander

Myah Lipker
Olivia Lough
Averie Luettel
Mariah McGill
Lucas Moeller

Cade Moser
Cale Moser
Camden Moser
Ashley Neesen
Shannon Nelson



Evonne Nolan
Grace Nore
Paxtyn O'Connor
Harper Olnes
West Osantowski
Whitney Paulson
Alexis Pedro
Kolby Pedro
Ashley Pelster
Jessica Pelster
Stacy Petersen
Skylar Porter
Vicar Keith Powell

Bethany Preister
Courtany Preister
Melany Preister
Camdyn Rankin
Katie Rugg
Clay Sandman
Zeke Sandman
Jude Schinstock
Cheryl Sherburne
Brayden Slaymaker
Luke Smith

Amy Starman
Brooke Stuhr
Tucker Stuhr
Angie Sup
Brittany Sup
Joel Sup
Ava Tisthammer
Teresa Tisthammer
Ben Webster
Addyson Winter
Trisha Winter
Xander Wright



Volunteers:

Aimee Jo Bailey
Marty Bailey
Kristin Baker
Amelia Baldwin
Cecilia Baldwin
Julia Baldwin
Sadie Baldwin
Connie Becker
Taylor Beierman
Deb Borchers
Kinley Bore
Ashley Bygland
Connor Christo
Katelyn Curry
Makenna Devine
Nathan Devine
Calissia Donscheski
Emersyn Dozler
Erin Eickhoff
Evan Eickhoff
Reagan Eickhoff
Luke Ericson
Kinley Fox
Brenda Frey
Drew Frey
Lucas Frey
Mya Frey
Norah Frey
Alicia Fritschle
Ella Gompert
Lauren Gompert

We appreciate each of you!

This is a long list. Please forgive us if we inadvertently missed someone. We tried our best to keep track of each volunteer, but we're not perfect.





Pastor Carolann &
Zion Lutheran Church,
Thank you for awarding



me the Zion Lutheran
Church Memorial Scholarship. I am
truly grateful & appreciate being the
recipient for this scholarship. I can't
wait to use this to further my
educational journey.

Addyson Winter

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,
Pastor Carolann Hopcke,
and the Church Board,

Thank you for choosing me as the
recipient of the Randall & Donna Kruse
Scholarship. The money will be used for
college expenses at Mitchell Technical
College where I will be majoring in
Heating and Air Conditioning.

Sincerely,
Nolan Kruse

★ Thank You! ★
★ THANK YOU! ★

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gifts
given to your synod, which
were received by the ELCA
churchwide organization in
March 2025. You contributed
to Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA World
Hunger, and Lutheran World Relief in the
amount of \$975.



*We always give thanks to God for all of you
and mention you in our prayers, constantly
remembering before our God and Father
your work of faith and labor of love and
steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.
(1 Thessalonians 1:2-3)*

Your gift is a reminder that our work of
faith and labor of love are not done alone.
We give thanks for our shared work and our
shared hope, which inspire ELCA church-
wide ministries, in partnership with congre-
gations and synods, to make God's love real
in exciting and ever-changing ways.

Your generosity is starting new faith com-
munities and sustaining existing ones, em-
powering leaders, responding to disaster with
long-term commitment, and addressing hun-
ger and poverty. Through your gifts, you
join with the whole church in loving our
neighbors and sharing the good news of Je-
sus Christ.

Thank you! May the God of all good
gifts continue to work among you.

In Christ,
The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Congregational Generosity

Dear Friends,

We're springing into
summer as the school year
winds down here at the Oaks
Indian Mission.



As with the start of any
"normal" summer, a few kids
are preparing to go home for
summer break, while other kids and families
will stay here on campus to enjoy various
summer activities. We are gearing up for a
couple of new kids to attend Sky Ranch in
Colorado, which is generously underwritten
by a family in Denver.

These are opportunities that the support of
the Oaks provides for kids — special,
memory-making moments in their young
lives that shape their futures in such positive,
faith-filled ways. So, it is we give thanks for
your gift of \$97.50, which make all this, and
so much more, possible.

As the school year concludes and summer
arrives, the children become thrilled. Thank
you for helping them experience this joyful
excitement.

Blessed be our life together in Christ!
Grace and peace,
Dan Cooper
Executive Director



Confirmation Camp ~ June 15-20 ~ Carol Joy Holling Camp (Ranch Camp)
*Xander Wright, Ben Webster, Kallum Dorie, Pete Hudson,
 Trisha Winter, Emily Levander
 & Liz Meyer (Trinity, Newman Grove)*



**Congratulations to Tucker Stuhr who won
 the Vacation Bible School T-Shirt Quilt**

**Between all the churches,
 we sold 418 tickets
 and raised \$335 for VBS!**

**Special thanks to Kay Flanagan
 for donating the quilt
 & to Denise Cook
 & her sister, Diane Osborne,
 for making such a beautiful quilt!**



2025 Synod Assembly Recap

The Nebraska Synod, ELCA gathered for its annual assembly May 30-June 1, 2025, in Kearney. The assembly worshiped, prayed, conducted business, and imagined together. The theme of “Imagine! Imagine? Imagine...” guided the flow of the assembly, inspired by Ephesians 3:20.

With the spirit and movement of jazz music under the direction of Dr. Jon Ailabouni, the assembly began and ended with rhythm, joy, praise and improvisation. Young adult lay leader, Kate Reynolds, from Family of Christ Lutheran in Kearney preached for opening worship, and Bishop Scott Johnson preached for closing worship, connecting the dots of how as the Nebraska Synod we are one church, better together.

The assembly gathered with the Nebraska Synod’s Companion synod partners from the Northern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania with Bishop Fredrick Shoo, and from the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Argentina and Uruguay, Pastora Presidente Mariela Pereyra. Alison Richard, Program Director for Companion Engagement provided a report on behalf of the ELCA Churchwide organization and moderated a panel discussion with the bishops.

In conducting the business of the synod, the assembly reelected Gwen Edwards to serve a second term as Synod Council secretary. The assembly discerned and approved the 2026 Nebraska Synod Budget. It also adopted synod resolutions: “Working for Justice and Peace,” “Youth and Vulnerable Person Protection Policies and Safe Gathering Trainings,” and “The Meaning of ‘Israel’ in Scriptural Context.” Memorials to the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly were adopted regarding congregational constitutions and “For an End to the Occupation of Palestine and Recognition of Palestinian Statehood in the United Nations.” A resolution regarding a “Bishop Election Process Option” was not adopted.

Bishop Scott Johnson presented his annual report, naming some of the Spirit’s activity as signs of God doing a new thing. He invited the assembly to imagine and wonder what God might be inviting.

As one church, better together, we look forward to more upcoming Synod on the Road Again weekends, as well as to next year’s assembly, May 29-31, 2026, in Kearney.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to Zion’s voting members: Mary Staub, Vicar Keith Powell & Pastor Carolann Hopcke

Results of 2025 Synod Elections:

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Scott Koehn (Lincoln Area Cluster)

CANDIDACY COMMITTEE

Deacon Coco Lyons (NE Campus Ministry)

Kathy Kirby (Fremont Area Cluster)

Jeffrey Van Patten (Panhandle Cluster)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Elizabeth Goehring (Elkhorn Valley Cluster)

Virginia Underferth (Corridor Cluster)

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Deacon Rick Strong (Fremont Area Cluster)



Elevator Update

Total Cost:\$232,945*
(Custom Elevator for caskets)

Elevator T-bill Account	\$170,464.46
May Income	\$3,205.00
May Expenses	\$0.00
May Interest	\$518.12
Total	\$174,187.58

*This does NOT include the Sprinkler system estimated @ \$252,000.

We have been approved for a \$30,000 grant!



***Thanks for your support
of this very important project!***



Committee

**Sunday, July 20th
at 10:15am**

We are putting together a fundraising committee to help raise money for the rest of the ADA projects & the Sprinkler System.

If you have any ideas or want to help plan, please join us for this important committee meeting.

For more information, please speak with Mary Kay Tisthammer who has agreed to chair this committee.



**at the Summer Concert Series
Downtown
5-9pm**

We are looking for volunteers to make Snow Cones downtown for the summer concert series on Thursday nights in July. The plan is to have a jar available for freewill donations. All proceeds will benefit the elevator/ Sprinkler System Fund.

You may signup online or on the bulletin board. For more information, please speak with Pastor Carolann.

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



Zion Sunday Services
are broadcast LIVE on
Vyve 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