

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024



Vacation Bible School **July 22-26** **Jonah and the Whale**

Norma Gomez

Please join us for a week full of fun activities for children TK – 6th grade at our 2024 Vacation Bible School (VBS). We will learn and review the story of *Jonah and the Whale* with exciting Bible lessons, sing-alongs and entertaining worksheets. There will also be lots of crafts to make and plenty of games to enjoy. Snacks will be provided daily for all participants and our wonderful volunteers. So, mark your calendars and join our Lutheran team on Monday, July 22nd through Friday, July 26th from 9 am to 12 pm in our Fellowship Hall.

As an added bonus, we will have a BBQ on Friday, July 26th after the conclusion of the VBS for all participants, volunteers and family members. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of our co-directors: Jerri Sue (760) 900-8509, Norma (562) 640-0899, Ashley (760) 885-5651 or call the office (760) 245-9725.

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!
July 2024



Lani Sanders

We are building a brand new website! Be sure to check it out when it comes online in mid-July!



VBS Needs

Vacation Bible School is in need of volunteers! If you are available, please prayerfully consider offering you services. Contact Jerri Sue (760) 900-8509, Norma (562) 640-0899, Ashley (760) 885-5651 or call the office (760) 245-9725.

If you would like to help by donating supplies, please consult the list in the narthex.

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!
July 2024

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. John 20:31



Read the Bible in 2 years

Today's Light

Lani Sanders

Week 27 begins July 1 with 2 Samuel 1
Week 28 begins July 8 with 2 Samuel 11
Week 29 begins July 15 with 2 Samuel 23
Week 30 begins July 22 with 1 Kings 9
Week 31 begins July 29 with 1 Kings 19

(For more information contact Lani Sanders.)



Sunday Fellowship

Coffee Fellowship

Charlene Perry

It is great to gather after church for coffee and conversation with our church family. We're looking for families to host our Coffee Time on the first Sunday of each month. Families would help setup (coffee would be prepared), provide a simple treat, and clean up afterwards. Here is a simple way to serve here at Zion. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. Thank you in advance for your willingness to serve.

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024



Community Sharing

Linda Bowers

The Community Services Board will be collecting **baby formula, baby food and diapers** during the month of **July**.

Please remember outdated items cannot be accepted.

The Homeless Shelter needs diapers and baby wipes. Donations of these items will be delivered there.

Thank you!



Glad Tidings Sponsors

Lani Sanders

The Glad Tidings is published every month by Liturgical Publications Inc. The ads on the last page of the Tidings are designed to cover LPI's costs (paper, ink, printing, shipping, etc.).

We are in great need of sponsors, as you see on the last page of the Tidings. Your assistance in finding sponsors (advertisers) is urgently needed for the continued publication of this newsletter.



Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024



Blest and Invited

God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth, and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and even reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. – Acts 17:24-27

This Fourth of July we celebrate our nation's 248th birthday. As we look back, we see both good times and bad but through it all we see the gracious hand of God in our midst. This land is truly blessed. The beauty and bounty of the land is evident for all to see. (Cf. Romans 1:220-23) Paul, speaking to the Achaeans, highlights these blessings as well as God's purpose in sending them.

Paul begins by saying that the blessings of the Lord are not 'rewards' for our good behavior nor are they a response to our acts of worship (v 24-25). Rather the blessings of God are reflections of his gracious and good heart. This is who God is. David, in Psalm 8, rightly concludes: 'When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, humanity that you care for them?' (Psalm 8:3-4) God is good and we are the recipients of his goodness. (Cf. Psalm 100:1-5)

The basic question that comes to my mind is 'Why?' Why does God do this? Why is he so good? Why does he put up with our forgetful pride and arrogant fallenness? Paul answers this question saying: 'God [does] this so that they would seek him and even reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.' God's goodness is an invitation. An invitation to trust him. An invitation to know him as he is. (Cf. Revelation 21:3-4; Revelation 22:3-4) In God's acts of providence, he is inviting us to trust him for an even greater thing, our reconciliation through Christ Jesus. (Cf. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21) The desire of God's heart is that we would turn to him, see him for he is, and to trust his promises.

We live in a land that is truly blest by God. As we celebrate these blessings may our hearts be drawn not to the worship of the blessing but the one who sends the blessing.

Pastor Busch

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!
July 2024



Blessing of the Backpacks

Mark your calendar on Sunday, August 11, for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks. All students, school teachers, and school administrators are invited to bring your backpacks/school satchels to church that morning!



for all those traveling...

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024

We've collected a special offering on the fifth Sunday to help support Iantha and Joel Scheiwe, missionaries to Hong Kong, for many years. Iantha writes a monthly newsletter for their supporters, and sends it along with a personal letter. The following is from June.

News from Hong Kong

Iantha Scheiwe

Dear Friends in Christ,

What a beautiful and full spring it has been for our family!

Taran was confirmed on May 26th. It was a joy to hear him share with the community here about God at work in his life. Jamie graduated from high school on May 31st. Eliada received an award for Employee of the Quarter from her employer, and continues to study towards her university graduation in St. Louis next year.

I'll be traveling to the U.S. this week with Jamie and Taran to see family, join a family reunion in Minnesota, take Jamie to university orientation in Moorhead, visit partner congregations and families, and attend Concordia Mission Institute outside of Kansas City. Joel will stay in Hong Kong to continue serving the congregation throughout the summer weeks. He'll trade places with me in August when he will fly to the U.S. to visit his family and take Jamie for university move-in. Unfortunately, our timing commitments don't work for all of us to be in one place at one time this summer.

Please find a short update attached to this email. We are grateful for you and your care for our family and prayers for God's mission in Asia!

*Jesus is with you,
Iantha*

From their newsletter:

The picture I'm including this month is one of the senior pics of my newly graduated second child. Jamie will be heading to Minnesota State University in Moorhead in August to major in Social Work. Thank you for your prayers for Jamie during all the years we've been overseas raising this child. We are so grateful for Jamie's faith and relationship with Jesus.



Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024

Deserve (verb)

1. to merit, be qualified for, or have a claim to (reward, assistance, punishment, etc.) because of actions, qualities, or situation

My students will often make a comment about how they deserve something or someone they know deserves something. I've found that this is a very human perspective on our place in the world. And, it is also a dangerous and misleading perspective. This perspective leads humans towards self-righteousness and feeling entitled. It places barriers into relationships, most notably our relationship with God. *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Romans 6:23

We often point to John 3:16 as the Gospel in a nutshell. Romans 6:23 can also vie for that title. As sinners, each human deserves death. In fact, we encounter the consequences of death every day in the world. This is a hard thing for my students to wrap their head around. It is so contrary to narratives about rights in our modern society. However, when we take the time to meditate on this Scripture and fully grasp the deep consequences of sin, it produces an amazing gratitude and peace from the recognition of the immensity of God's gift in Jesus.



Raging Waters the beginning of June

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024



LORD, hear our prayers

Lani Sanders

Please remember...

- ...Zion School second grader **Naomi** and her family as she recovers from heart surgery...
- ...**Gary Sinclair** (son of Ruth Reynolds) , who is fighting a blood infection...
- ;;;**Andrea Suggs**, recently diagnosed with cancer...
- ...**Mark Bowers**, dealing with ongoing health issues...
- ...**Doris Hinojos**, (former member of Zion) who has been diagnosed with breast cancer...
- ...**Andrea Portue** (daughter of Marlene and Kevin Henry), recovering from a heart procedure...
- ...**Angie Knapp**, suffering foot pain...
- ...**Don Birr** in rehab following surgery...
- ...**April O'Hara**, suffering with health issues...
- ...**Matt Donner**, recovering from liver transplant surgery...
- ...**Kathy Blume**, our 5th/6th grade teacher, recovering from surgery...
- ...**Shawn Henry**, recovering from back injury...
- ...**Laurie Henry**, having ongoing health issues...
- ...**Joann Asta**, recovering from surgery...
- ...**Emily** (daughter of Beverly Rauscher) – for healing...
- ...son and daughter of **Mark McNamara** – for healing...
- ...**Marie Figueroa** (mother of Maribel Svider), at home in hospice care...
- ...**Bob Dunnerman**, on hospice and suffering with heart problems...
- ... **Lerma Bockhorn** as she continues on dialysis...
- ...**Jonah Dimas**, dealing with multiple health issues....

We ask for the Lord's comfort and peace...

- ...the family and friends of **Liv Lebow**, the 9 year old niece of Theo Gierloff, at her passing...
- ...the family and friends of **Jim Varela**, at his passing...

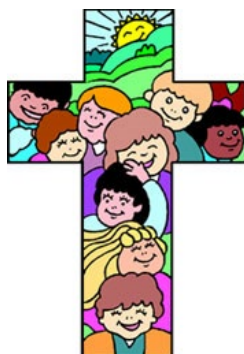
Let us offer praise and thanksgiving for...

- ...the confirmation of **Brystal Rae Nicholas**...

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024



Preschool News

Geoffrey Bottom

WOW! July is already here! This patriotic month we will be holding an ice cream social in our blue room. We will be serving patriotic sundaes with ice cream, blueberries, and strawberries along with sprinkles and whipped cream. Parents and children are invited to celebrate the festive holiday month.

We will be closed on July 4th in honor of our Independence Day.

Children will be busy creating patriotic crafts throughout the month. Water days will be held every Tuesday and Thursday each week. Our annual Teddy Bear picnic will be mid-month sometime. The date is TBD, but it will be held during our snack time at 9:00 a.m.

Eight children from our pre-K class graduated this year. Two to three will move on into our kindergarten class in the fall.

We are praying many new students will join us as we learn about Jesus together in the coming school year. Please continue to pray for our children, parents, and ministry here at Zion school.



Whenever you purchase scrip you are contributing to our school. Use it when you go shopping or dining. Scrip is on sale in the office during the week.

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024



Vacation Bible School is Monday – Friday, July 20-26, from 9AM-noon. Invite your friends and neighbors to learn about Jonah and the Whale!

We're looking for helpers for VBS this year. If you can assist in any way, please contact Norma Gomez, Jeri Sue Gauldin, or Ashley Johnson.

We're looking for families to host our **Coffee Time** on the first Sunday of each month, by helping setup (coffee would be prepared), providing a simple treat, and cleaning up afterwards. Please consider signing up for a Sunday.

Whenever you purchase **Scrip** you are contributing to our school. Use it when you go shopping or dining. Scrip is on sale in the office during the week.



Children are blessed by the presence and love of Jesus Christ, made known to them daily at Zion Lutheran School. Our school is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church.

GIVE25 is an opportunity to support this mission. Please consider giving \$25 a month over and above your regular gift return, designated specifically for GIVE25 (the school mission and ministry). Blue cards are available in the narthex to use as reminders.

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024



Parents are the primary shapers of faith and life

in their children... ~ Ben Freudenburg

Barna and Lutheran Hour Ministries partnered on an in-depth study of faith formation in Christian households, trying to find common factors that instill, support and encourage Christian faith in the home. They found that households that participate in all the following activities are what Barna refers to as ***Spiritually Vibrant***:

- **Spiritual practices**—defined here as praying every day or two, and reading the Bible weekly, all together
- **Spiritual conversations**—defined here as talking about God and faith at least weekly, all together
- **Hospitality**—defined here as welcoming non-family guests regularly, or at least several times a month

We would expect spiritual practices (reading the Bible and praying together), and spiritual conversations (talking about God and faith together), but hospitality is a bit surprising. How can inviting others into your home instill, support and encourage Christian faith in the home? Can hospitality really affect faith in our lives and in our families?

We know we love God by loving our neighbors¹ might offer a clue. Another clue might be remembering God's many directives concerning our neighbors². God used the hospitality of his people to bless them and their neighbors with his love.

Invite family, friends, and/or neighbors to your home for a meal—or even just for dessert—with your household. Then watch for the next Loud Tables Potluck, and share how God used your hospitality in your lives!

¹(Lev. 19:18; Mark 12:30-31; Matt. 19:19)

²(Prov. 14:21, Zech. 3:10, Luke 15:6, 9, Ro. 15:2, Gal. 15:4, Ex. 2:20, Job 1:4, Jer. 35:2, Matt. 22:9, Matt. 25:35, Luke 14:12-13, Acts 10:23, Acts 16:15, 1 Cor. 10:27)



Glad Tidings

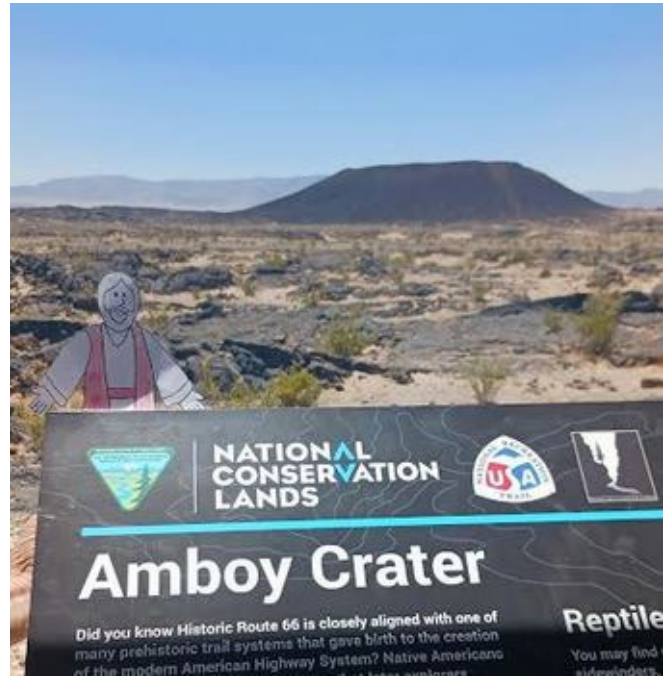
Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024

Zion Family Adventures with Flat Jesus



With the Coxes at Newport Dunes June 2024



With the Busches at Amboy Crater June 2024



With the Busches at Joshua Tree June 2024

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!

July 2024



Sharing Life in Christ
is
ZLYF

Tristina Rodriguez

MEETINGS:

Every Sunday during Sunday School

ACTIVITIES:

UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 2025 – LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA

Contributors:

Pastor Lewis Busch
Geoffrey Bottom
Linda Bowers
Norma Gomez
Don Hays
Charlene Perry
Tristina Rodriguez
Lani Sanders

Glad Tidings is a monthly publication.

Suitable articles are welcome, and will be printed as space permits. Type in plain Times New Roman 12 pt. font, save as a Word document (not Google Doc, PDF, etc.), attach to an email addressed to

fmsndrs@aol.com, subject Glad

Tidings. Articles are subject to editing for clarity and length. The deadline is the 20th of each month.

