

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ!
July 2025

Pray For Our 2025 Confirmands



Trinity Rodriguez, Andrew Meyer, Pastor Busch, Roxann Svider, Christopher Svider, Jorge Gomez

ZLYF Update

Tristian Rodriguez



Indoor rock climbing - May 31, 2025

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Don Hays

Plans are taking shape for our summer Vacation Bible School, scheduled for the week of July 14-18. We will have a morning program, 9:00 AM to noon. Our program is free (we will take up daily offerings for a mission project) and is open to children ages 2 (potty trained) through the 5th grade. We do request that parents of preschoolers not enrolled in Zion Preschool attend with their children so they aren't in a totally strange environment with no one they know.

Please pre-register your child as early as possible to cut down on first day confusion and help us determine how much material we need to order. Registration forms are available in the church office, or on Sunday mornings after worship at the information table in the church narthex.

Thank you to all the prayer warriors out there! We have had a great response to our request for help, and as of this writing the only staffing positions not filled include someone to be in charge of snacks and someone to be in charge of registration and sign in/out of students.

Your prayer support is greatly appreciated! If you can help out in any way, especially with snacks and registration, please call or text me at (760) 881-1925, or email at haydk@outlook.com.



Linda Bowers

Community Service Board has been delivering our monthly collections to the Rescue Mission for many, many years. They will be closing their doors August 1st.

The Homeless Shelter has changed their focus and will be serving only young adults and will no longer be accepting our donations.

We can no longer accept donations.

Does anyone has any ideas about who we can help?

Thank you for your loving support of these charities through all the years.

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*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 79 begins June 30 with Mark 19
Week 80 begins July 7 with Luke 9
Week 81 begins July 14 with Luke 17
Week 82 begins July 21 with John 4
Week 83 begins July 28 with John 15
(For more information contact Lani Sanders.)



Sunday Fellowship

Coffee Fellowship

Lani Sanders

It is great to gather after church for coffee and conversation with our church family. Bob Bowers started the Coffee Bar when we moved into our current sanctuary. He took care of it up until his passing in April. Charlene Perry has made sure it has continued, but we need someone to take over. Please prayerfully consider serving Zion in this way.

We're still asking 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.

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Sunday School is on summer break through August 10. Your teachers are wishing each of you a very blessed summer.

Check out the **inspirational books available** in the meeting room. The book table is a take a book, borrow a book, or donate book table. Check it out!

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.



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Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. – Philippians 4:4-8

Once again this July we celebrate the founding of our nation, and the blessings God has bestowed upon us. With thanksgiving and praise we acknowledge our God. This year, though, there is trouble and confusion swirling all around us. Riots, wars, delusions and distress all seem to be out of control. So many voices with so little wisdom. As we witness all this chaos and evil we could easily fall prey to the siren song of hopelessness and fear. Paul's words in Philippians 4, though, call us to continue our journey here with hope, confidence and peace.

Paul begins by reminding us to 'Rejoice' in all circumstances. God is still God and he is still in control. Yes, the chaos and evil of the Fall rears its malevolent head but we know who's ultimately in charge. Indeed, as the Psalmist writes: *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. ... Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.* (Psalm 46:1-3,10)

Paul then continues: *Let your gentleness be evident to all for the Lord is near.* What we know in our heart should influence how we live. The world around us needs to 'know' the gentleness, grace, mercy and compassion of our God. It is our privilege to reflect this goodness of God to those around us thus inviting them to know what we know.

Paul, though, also realizes the harsh reality of the world in which we live. Paul's words are not 'pie in the sky' platitudes; rather his encouragement acknowledges 'the real world' and calls upon us to turn to God in such times. Paul writes: *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.* God would have us to turn to him (Cf. Hebrews 10:22) and to talk to him about our fears and struggles. As we do this, Paul shares the promise of God saying: *And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Finally, Paul encourages us to step away from the noise and to shift our focus (and our actions) to the good things of God. Paul writes: *Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.*

Troubled times, but God is still God. Indeed, as the Psalmist writes: *The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations. Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD.* (Psalm 33:10-12; Cf. Psalm 33:20-22)

Blessed Fourth of July
Pastor Busch

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LORD, hear our prayers

Lani Sanders

Please remember...

- ...**Aurora Martinez**, one of our preschool teachers, recovering from gallbladder surgery...
- ...**Marty Hershman**, recovering from pneumonia...
- ...**Herminia** (mother of Diana Santini), experiencing leg pain and weakness...
- ...**M'Less Tripple**, undergoing radiation...
- ...**Janet** (sister of Ernie Bockhorn), recovering from massive heart attack...
- ...**Rich Shibley** (father of Noel Duffy), recovering at an acute rehab facility in Pomona...
- ...**Anthony Delgado** (Kevin and Marlene's grandson), deployed on the aircraft carrier Nimitz, heading to the Middle East...
- ...**Lisa Portiss** recovering from hospital stay...
- ...**Walter**, son of John and Joann Asta, re-hospitalized in the ICU in Kingman, Arizona...
- ...**John Asta**, hospitalized at St. Mary's.....
- ...**Bob Dunnerman**, on hospice and suffering with heart problems...

We ask for the Lord's comfort and peace for the family and friends of **Hildi Seymore** at her passing...

We ask for the Lord's comfort and peace for the family and friends of **Norman Garritt** (son of former member Alberta Gray) at his passing...



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Preschool News

Rosemarie Carrizozo

Greetings from our preschool here at Zion Lutheran School!

Last month we had a promotion for our students who are leaving to attend TK and kindergarten. Some will attend here at our school and others are going off to other schools. We want to congratulate them and pronounce blessings over them as they move on in their learning journey.

This month we are continuing to enjoy summer here at school. We will be attending the Vacation Bible School here at Zion July 14-18th. We have water days planned all month and our activities and crafts go along with our themes of the month: Fourth of July and beach theme! We also continue to read Bible stories and go over our scripture of the month.

We are preparing our little ones for elementary school as we continue to learn and grow here at Zion! We look forward to the upcoming school year.

Blessings from our preschool.



**The mission of Zion
Lutheran Church**

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Zion Family Adventures with Flat Jesus



Flat Jesus at Coconut Grove Kauai, Hawaii with Tom & Sharon Ernst



Flat Jesus at Mount Rushmore with the Coxes

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Flat Jesus in the Netherlands (Azznse Schans)



In front of one of the first Lutheran Churches 1544 in Wertheim with the Knapps



Lake Arrowhead with Rodríguez



North Shore Campground San Bernardino with Rodríguez

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Parents are the primary shapers of faith and life in their children... ~ Ben Freudenburg

“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). *Matthew 1:23*

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. *Matthew 28:20*

Flat Jesus arrived at Zion in a TO GO box during the COVID pandemic shutdown. His introduction read, “FLAT JESUS reminds us that Jesus is with us always wherever we go and whatever we do. The idea is to take Flat Jesus with you and take pictures then share them with us. As you go out into the world this summer, bring the *Light of the World* with you. Share Jesus wherever you go”!

Since the summer of 2020, we’ve seen Jesus at church, watching church during the shutdown, shopping, at work, playing, reading, on planes, in cars, on boats, kayaking, at resorts, on cruises, at baptisms, at Farmer’s Markets, at museums, at restaurants, at the beach, at the river, in the hospital, at baseball games, at the races, camping, Petal Pushing, at the theater, and at concerts.

He’s been with us in Maryland, New York, Hawaii, Alaska, Florida, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Texas, Minnesota, Montana, South Dakota, Arizona, Illinois, Maine, and New Jersey.

He’s gone with us to Portugal, Mexico, Canada, Nova Scotia, Australia, Great Britain, Ireland, Argentina, Antarctica, Jamaica, and Costa Rica, the Netherlands.

As part of the family of God at Zion, I am so blessed sharing in your everyday—and not-so-everyday—adventures with Jesus.

I am also personally encouraged every time I see a new picture! I am reminded again that Jesus is with me in every part of my life—at home doing regular everyday stuff, as well as when I travel to wherever I go.

Please keep sharing your life in Jesus with us—send pictures (please)!!



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Linz, Austria with Rob & Wendy Waiwood



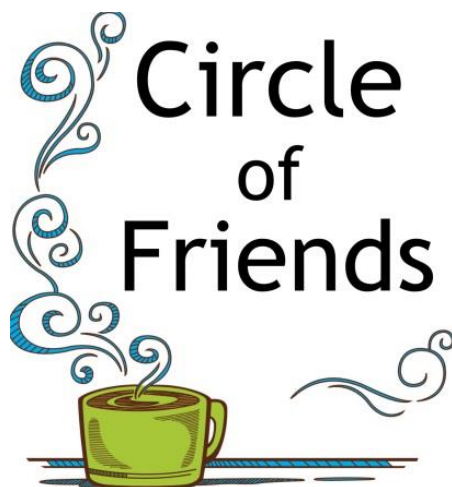
Church of Santa Maria in Passau, Germany
with Rob & Wendy Waiwood



Bruegel's Painting 'The Tower of Babel' in Vienna, Austria with Rob & Wendy Waiwood

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Circles of Friends

Close small group faith families forming friendships to support and encourage faith in each other's lives.

Lani Sanders

Do you have a small group of close friends you know you can count on for support and encouragement when you need it? Do they support and encourage you in your faith?

Circles of Friends are small groups who get together regularly (they decide how often) at the times that work best for the people in their group. They share food (dinner, breakfast, dessert, whatever the group decides), and share their lives (they may just talk about life). They may meet in their homes or at restaurants; it's up to their group and what works best for them. The result is a special group of friends of faith who make a difference in each other's lives.

Sign up (assign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the narthex) to join a *Circle of Friends* group now!



God is Greater than the Highs and Lows

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A Call to Prayer in the Face of War

Pastor Nader Hanna

Dear friends and partners,

We are bombarded with alarming headlines — ballistic missiles, drone strikes, B-2 bombers deployed. The images and language of war fill our news feeds once again as tensions between Israel and Iran intensify, with the potential for greater U.S. involvement and a wider regional conflict.

But in the midst of it all, we must not forget that we, the people of God, hold the most powerful weapon of all — peaceful, believing prayer.

“The weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.” — 2 Corinthians 10:4

At King of the Nations Ministries, prayer is not only one of our core values — it is central to our mission. We believe prayer fuels awakening in the Church, success in world missions, transformation in nations, and healing in broken lands.

As tensions rise in the Middle East, we invite you to join us in praying not from a place of fear or side taking, but from the heart of Christ — the Prince of Peace. from the heart of God “who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” (1Tim 2:4). Let us pray with compassion, conviction, and confidence that our God hears and answers.

We Turn to the God of peace:

- For the preservation of human life on both sides of the conflict — civilians, soldiers, and all caught in the crossfire.
- For peace and de-escalation, that leaders would seek wisdom, and that further destruction and loss would be prevented.
- For protection over homes, livelihoods, and communities — especially the most vulnerable: the elderly, the displaced, and children.
- That the conflict would not expand into a larger regional war or spiral into wider international crisis.
- For healing, comfort, and presence of God over those who are grieving, wounded, displaced, or living in fear.
- For a divine stirring of hearts — that in the midst of darkness and despair, many would encounter Jesus, the only true hope and source of eternal peace.
- That God would turn the evil of war into opportunities for the Gospel, tearing down barriers and opening doors among peoples previously unreached or closed to the message of salvation.

A Prayer You Can Join Us in Praying:

Lord of Hosts, Prince of Peace,

We lift up the people of the Middle East into Your hands.

Stretch out Your arm to preserve life, to de-escalate violence, and to restrain evil.

Comfort the mourning, protect the innocent, and heal the brokenhearted.

We pray for leaders — give them wisdom, humility, and restraint.

We pray for families — bring shelter, food, and hope.

Most of all, we ask You to reveal Your Son Jesus, the true and everlasting peace.

Turn the devastation of war into the breakthrough of salvation.

May this be a time of awakening — in Israel, Iran, the region, and the world.

And Lord, start with us — stir Your Church to stand in the gap with faith and intercession.

In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

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Dear friend, in these uncertain times, your prayers matter. They are not small or ineffective. They are powerful through God — shaping history, shifting atmospheres, and bringing the light of Christ into dark places.

Let us continue to stand as a people of prayer — for the Middle East, for our own nation, and for the advance of the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

With hope and faith,

Pastor Nader Hanna
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Glad Tidings is a monthly publication. Suitable articles are welcome, and will be printed as space permits. Articles are subject to editing for clarity and length. The deadline is the 20th of each month.



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but in everything,
by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God.
And the peace of God,
which transcends all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds
in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:6-7