



B.A.S.I.C. Newsletter

Brothers and Sisters in Christ at
Zion Lutheran Church of Mondovi



July 2024

From Your Vacancy Pastor

I have been asked to serve as your Vacancy Pastor at Zion Lutheran Church, now that Pastor Scott Johnson has accepted our Lord's call to serve in another place. We are very thankful for his years of ministry here and we know that our Lord will continue to bless him and work through him there, and us here, as we step forward into the future. It is my prayer and desire to serve you now during this time of transition, along with your other church leaders and workers, as our Lord Jesus leads us all.

Many of you at Zion already know me, but for those who don't please allow me to introduce myself to you a little bit. After graduating from Seminary in 1982, I served two churches in Montana, then at Spokane Washington, and finally at Tomah WI until retiring from 37 years of full-time ministry in 2019. Emily and I then moved to Mondovi, where we have adult children and grandchildren active here at Zion, and we've enjoyed being in this church family for the last five years.

Transitions can be unsettling, because we don't know all the details of what the future holds for us. But we do know Who holds our future, and us, in His hands: our wise and loving heavenly Father who sent us His dear Son Jesus to be our Lord and Savior. He continues to send His Holy Spirit to guide us, and sends Pastors to shepherd His flock. Your church leaders and Call Committee have begun taking the first steps to seek and select your next Pastor (see their reports in this Newsletter). Your input, and your prayers, will play an important part in this process.

In the meantime, do stay actively involved at Zion in worship and in fellowship with one another. And please keep me in your prayers, as you will be in mine.

Psalm 27:14 reminds us that in all of our concerns and uncertainties we should "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" And God will bless us!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Mark Benning

Pre-Call Meeting **June 11th, 2024**

There was a good turnout for the Pre-Call meeting on Tuesday June 11th. A handout was distributed to attendees. It served as an agenda as well as detailing the call process. Pastor Lueck, Northwest District President, opened the meeting with a prayer then introduced Pastor Wessel, from Augusta, as our Circuit Visitor. Pastor Wessel will be Zion's contact for assistance or questions about calling a pastor. President Lueck reviewed the LCMS teachings regarding the Call process and reminded members that much prayer is needed as God works through prayer.

There are several steps in the Call Process starting with establishing a **Call Committee**. The call committee was created earlier this month.

A **congregational self-study** presents the opportunity for many to participate as well as assisting the Elders determine salary guidelines. The results of the study are shared with the congregation in an Open Forum Meeting.

Nominations may be made by members of the congregation, staff, and President Lueck. Nomination forms are available in the church office.

The self-study will be reviewed and discussed at an **Open Forum meeting**, open to the congregation. The meeting is for teaching, questions, input from members, openness and to develop confidence in the process. Pastor Luck recommended choosing and submitting the top 5 or 6 pastoral expectations. This will help him choose the best candidates.

President Lueck will **gather information** on the names submitted and **prepare a call list**.

The **congregation refines the call list** per the congregation's constitution. The circuit visitor helps the committee as needed.

Pastor Lueck discussed **pre-call interviews**. This isn't a common practice in the LCMS. A decision about interviews needs to be made by the call committee/congregation and the pastor being called. Some pastors will not accept an invitation to interview.

Publicity is very important through the entire call process. **Prayer** is critical.

The call committee will give their recommendations to the congregation. This is to be shared in a manner the congregation deems will reach the most members.

A **call meeting** is scheduled. The call decision is made at a voter's meeting. It is never delegated to a smaller body. The circuit visitor presides over the call (voter's) meeting. The call committee will present each candidate's qualifications to the congregation. The attendees at the voters also set the terms of the call such as salary, benefits, etc. (Zion's constitution states a majority vote only by the voter's meeting to make a call.)

Other nominations and call meetings are scheduled as needed.

Respectively submitted by: John R. Schultz

Parish News

Sunday School – It's already time to start thinking about this fall and Sunday School. We are looking forward to a great year as we learn from God's Word. As we start preparing for this important ministry to our youth, we are looking for a few adults who love kids and would like to share the Good News of Jesus with them. If you are interested in helping in this area of our church ministry, please let the office know.

Parking Lot Project Pledge for Matching Funds Sheets can be found in the Resource Center. Thank you for your prayerful offering toward the Parking Lot Project enhancing our church.

Zion Lutheran Church of Mondovi Photo Directory

The directories have arrived. They show our beautiful church and wonderful members. Please be sure to pick yours up at the church office. There is 1 for each Zion family. Thank you for adding to our church pictorial directory.



OWL's Trip

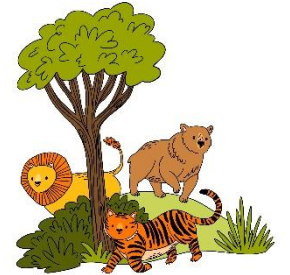
Keep July 1st open for the OWL's trip to an Independence Day Concert by The Eau Claire Municipal Band in Owen Park, Eau Claire. They are meeting in Zion's parking lot at 5:30, going to Dooleys Pub for supper at 6:00 with concert at 7:30. John Gehrke will be performing at this concert.

Midweek Morning Bible Class – “God at Work”

Our Midweek Morning Bible Class is now on Thursdays. We will now take a closer look at how God is at work in our lives and in our world through us today. What is my purpose in life? How can I know what I am supposed to do with my life? Exploring the book “God at Work” by Gene Veith we will learn more about our Christian “vocation” or “callings” in life, whether we’re employed or retired, and how God is working through them. This interactive class is open to anyone and will meet every Thursday morning at 10:00 am at the outdoor Pavilion on the west side of Mondovi’s Mirror Lake.

Vacation Bible School

Thank you so much to all who were part of this year’s VBS “The Great Jungle Journey.” The kids had a great time learning about the 7C’s of History – creation, corruption, catastrophe, confusion, Christ, cross, and consummation. They learned about God’s plan and His love for the whole world! Thank you to everyone who prayed, donated, volunteered, and shared their skills with us. It was truly a blessed time and we look forward to next year!



**GOD MADE THE WILD ANIMALS OF
THE EARTH OF EVERY KIND.**
GENESIS 1:25, NRSV

OUR *Faith* FAMILY



Family Education Hour – In July we continue our summer “By Faith” series based on Hebrews 11. This Bible Study opportunity takes place after the Sunday morning church service. This month we will look at the lives of Joseph, Moses, Joshua & Gideon. Vicki Howell will be leading the children using stories, crafts, and activities. Our adults, led by Pastor Mark, will look how “by faith” God used His people in His plan. “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” Hebrews 11:1 Schedule for study of Hebrews 11 in July is listed on the next page.

FAMILY & FRIENDS ALL WELCOME

- **7/7 Sunday Education Hour** – Today’s lesson in our “By Faith” series will focus on Joseph. We will see how God used Joseph’s life to preserve and protect His people. Next week we will see how God used Moses to lead His people to the promised land. There will be age-appropriate stories, crafts, and activities for all. Come join us!
- **7/14 Sunday Education Hour** – In today’s “By Faith” Sunday morning series we look at Moses and his life as he is used by God. Next week we will look at the story of Joshua and the city of Jericho. We will see God’s mercy and grace throughout Joshua’s life. There will be age-appropriate stories, crafts, and activities for all. Come join us!
- **7/21 Sunday Education Hour** – “By Faith” during today’s education time we will focus on the account of Joshua and the city of Jericho. Next week we will study Gideon. We will see how God used the weakest to deliver His people. There will be age-appropriate stories, crafts, and activities for all. Come join us!
- **7/28 Sunday Education Hour** – In today’s “By Faith” Sunday morning education hour we will take a closer look at Gideon and how God used this self-proclaimed weak man to fulfill His purposes. Next week we will focus on Samson and see how his weakness was turned to strength and how he was used in God’s story. There will be age-appropriate stories, crafts, and activities for all. Come join us!

**Christian Education Committee and Sunday School Teachers
next meeting will be August 13, 2024**

Zion Lutheran Ladies Society will meet on August 8, 2024.



Jacquelyn Lahn, Ladies Society President at St Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church and President of our Zone 15 was elected to serve as Recording Secretary for the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League North Wisconsin District at the LWML NWD Convention held in Appleton, WI June 13-15, 2024. The convention goal was Shining God’s light by serving with gladness. Serve the Lord with gladness! Psalm 100:2. Ginny Gunderson & Emily

Benning were in attendance.

Council Minutes

Thursday, June 13, 2024

The Council Meeting was called to order by Andy Heike, Vice-President, at 6:07pm in the Bible study room. Pastor Mark Benning opened with a devotional from Acts and a prayer. Pastor Mark had to leave early. Present were Andy Heike, Joe Osenga, Galen Aase, Deborah Deutscher.

The Recording Secretary's report had been emailed to all council members. Motion by Deborah Deutscher and seconded by Galen Aase to accept the minutes. Motion carried. Financial Secretary/Treasurer's report was presented and reviewed. Motion by Galen Aase and seconded by Joe Osenga to accept report. Motion carried. Elder's report was presented by Joe Osenga. They met and looked at Pastor Bennings duties and compensation. No definite decision had been reached. The elder's schedule for worship was set up. Joe Osenga reported on the LYF thrift sale, bake sale, and car detailing. \$3,000 was raised. The next day the group for Lutherhaven camp was leaving. Deborah Deutscher made a motion to pay for the "First Time To Camp" children (Izzy Mohn, Ellie Osenga, and Issaiah Hill) from Kids for Camp and Memorial Special Funds. Seconded by Galen Aase. Motion carried. Evangelism report by Galen Aase was given. The fair booth this year will be double the size. Plans are progressing well. The Evangelism committee members gave a gift to the Johnson Family of a wooden plaque with their family tree (there were additional leaves for any future family members). Trustees were not present; but the fencing project has been decided as previously discussed. Motion by Deborah Deutscher and seconded by Galen Aase to approve funding for the project. Motion Carried.

A motion to adjourn at 6:50 was made and everyone prayed Our Lord's Prayer. Minutes by Deborah Deutscher

LYF

Zion youth and parents would like to "Thank" all of the members of our church and community who helped support our recent fundraiser for the Zion LYF. Through item donations, rummage sale, bake sale purchases and car detailing, we were able to raise nearly \$3000 for our upcoming youth trips. We couldn't have done it without you!

As this the newsletter is being completed, the following are on a servant event at Camp Shoshone in Idaho: Gabe & Ben Linse, Ethan Lueloff, Ellie Osenga, Izzy Mohn, A.J. Loscheider & Issaiah Hill. Chaperones: Dan & Melissa Linse, Mike Lueloff and Amanda Osenga.

Alexis Loewenhagen is at Camp Luther in Three Lakes, WI this week.

Evangelism Committee Meeting Notes June 4, 2024

Mondovi Fair 2024 update:

- August 1-4. We will get 2 booths this year.
- Themes: Journey through the Jungle
- Some giveaways currently on-hand:
 - Regular and large print Bible
 - Magnets
 - Story Books
 - Pocket Fish
- Additional items to order:
 - Ref Magnets
 - Jar Opener
 - Pocket Cross
- Game Prizes
 - T-shirts
 - Zion baseball caps
 - Bracelets
 - Cross Necklace

Next meeting June 25, 2024, at 6:00pm



summer
music
schedule

ZION CHOIR NOTES



Summer “Pop-up” Choir – Do you love singing, but can’t commit to weekly rehearsals? Summer pop up-choir might be the perfect thing for you. We will be singing two times in July – the 7th and 28th. This is a great chance to join together and worship through music. If you would like copies of the music or if you have any questions, please contact Jane Reineke.

July Birthdays

1-Carissa Lisowski
2-Bart Sessions
4-Judy Heck
4-Marge Linse
5-Cooky Dekan
7-Jeanne Anderson
5-Duane Hollister
8-Addie Winberg
9-Ryan Taylor
11-Christina Miller
12-Remi Kuhl
13-Jacob Hollister
13-Carol Nardi
14-Debra Hill
16-Kari Cheek
16-John Heck
16-Allison Hoffman
16-Marvin Stay
16-Collin Weltien
17-Dave Reineke
19-Todd Holstein
20-Bill Sessions Sr
20-Elizabeth Sievert
21-Christopher Hayden
22-Dale Ableidinger
22-Justin Olson
23-Wendi Ashwell
24-Beverly Vollmer
25-Ron Amundson
26-Mitch Anderson
26-John Loomis
28-Kevin Bauer
28-Rene Laehn
28-Chris Reinhardt
28-Arabella Wittig
29-Jessica Donatell
29-Matthew Ebner
29-Jennifer Filippetti
29-Autumn Gavin
30-Kathy Ickstadt
31-Jennifer Gorssell
31-Dylan Vollmer

July Anniversaries

1-David & Marge Linse
10-Matthew & Emily Ebner
12-Dan & Lisa Heike
14-Dan & Melissa Linse
19-Oscar & Vicky Howell
21-Dedri & Jerry Johnson
21-Rebecca & Cory Teigen
24-Jeannie & Dale Gums
25-William & Kathy Ickstadt

Thank you to the Thrivent Choice donor: Marge Linse



Official Acts

April

Marriage of Christina Rose & John Grotzinger April 14, 2024

Funeral of Cindy Sessions
April 19, 2024

New Members June 2, 2024

Linsey Larson
Colling Weltzien
Maximus Augustus Chopper



Gifts and Memorials

❖ *In Memory of Cindy Sessions
Building Fund/Parking Lot
Fund*

Richard & Bev Brion

❖ *In Memory of Carole Geraghty
Sunday School*
Mary Brion

❖ *In Memory of Shirley Poeschel
Parking Lot Fund*
Shirley Poeschel Family

❖ *In Honor of Scott Johnson
Parking Lot Fund*
Mary Brion
Shirley Poeschel Family
Anonymous donor

Reminder of “First Sunday Loose Offerings”

Twelve charitable organizations were approved. The name of each organization was put into a hat. Elders drew names for each month. Each month “First Sunday Loose Offerings” will be donated as follows:

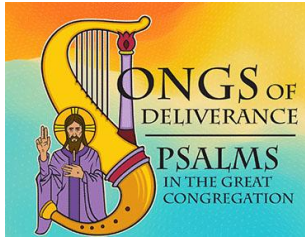
January	Apple Pregnancy Center
February	Mondovi Backpack Program
March	North Wisconsin District Church Worker Debt Relief
April	Lutheran Public Radio (LPR)
May	Main Street Living
June	Scenic Hills Youth Ranch
July	LCMS Disaster Relief Fund
August	Mondovi Area Food Pantry
September	Mondovi Area Clergy Association (MACA)
October	Rev. Michael and Irene Paul
November	Camp Luther
December	Hope Gospel Mission

LCMS Disaster Relief Fund

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Disaster Response ministry responds to immediate and long-term needs following natural and man-made disasters.

Working through LCMS districts and congregations as well as with international Lutheran churches and other partners, LCMS Disaster Response builds capacity of the church’s partners to respond to needs with Christian care.

The ministry reaches out to LCMS congregations and their communities with services that include on-site assessment, emergency relief and development grants, pastoral care for LCMS church workers and members, and other resources. Taken from LCMS webpage.



July 9-12 our DCE, Jane Reineke, will be attending the 2024 Church Music Institute in Seward, Nebraska. This conference, sponsored by LC-MS Worship, will focus on Psalms. Psalms are meant to be prayed and sung. The speakers at this conference will unfold the breadth of the whole Psalter; but together we will give it breath and sound by praying all 150 psalms over the course of the week. (That includes all of Psalm 119.) “Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end” (PS. 119:33). The institute also includes break-out sessions – Jane is registered mostly for choir sectionals with some congregational hymn singing also. This will be a great opportunity to learn from some of our best musicians and bring back ideas for our congregation and singing groups.



Over 200 members, friends, and relatives were on hand to celebrate with Pastor Scott Johnson at Zion Lutheran Church in Mondovi on Sunday, June 9th. Sunday marked the last service for Pastor Johnson who has accepted a call at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Fargo, ND. Pastor Johnson, or Pastor Scott as he’s affectionately known, has served as the Pastor at Zion for almost six years.

Pastor Johnson accompanies the choir at his Farewell Service. His son Eli (10) also a musician, played 2 piano solos during the service.



Left: Pastor giving God's blessing to the congregation, one last time June 9, 2024

During his final Wednesday evening service on June 5, 2024, Mondovi was hit with a thunderstorm. Zion creaked and cracked, then the power went out. The Service continued with the light from the Altar Candles. Communion was given by light of the Communion candles. This was a beautiful(symbolic to many) service. A grand exit service given by God. Upon walking outside we were

welcomed by a beautiful Rainbow! Interpreted by one member as "God's Promise, Zion Mondovi will be fine!"

Below Left: Pastor Scott on June 9, 2024 talking with the Sunday School children. Pictured with him are brothers Jeffrey and Maximus Chopper.

Below Right: Pastor Scott, with most of his family, watching as the boys open farewell gifts from the Ladies Society. Miriam is holding her "baby" that was given to her from the Ladies Society.



Growing in Faith

Our Monday Evening Bible Study is taking a summer break. Please watch the bulletin and this area of the Newsletter for updates for the Fall start date.

On Thursday Mornings at 10 am, a weekly summer Bible Study will be offered on “God at Work” in vocation, at the Mirror Lake Pavilion.

Men’s Group meets July 13 at 7:30 a.m. We enjoy breakfast, watch & discuss a video, and encourage one another as men of faith. This month we are working a series titled “Practicing the Way” by John Mark Comer.

Rachel Circle is a women’s Bible study that meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at 1:30 pm. Feel free to join these ladies anytime.

You are most welcome to Worship
Sunday - 9:00 a.m.
Wednesdays – 7:00 p.m.



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