

Sion's Vineyard



June 2018

Ushers:

Donald & Julie
Cerkowniak

Communion Assistant:

Donna Vagle

Newsletter Items:

mcpeterson@
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Prayer Requests or Announcements:

shirleys@wiktel.com

text 218-843-1067
or leave notes on
desk by computer

***Do you want your
newsletter emailed to
you? If so, please
email me and I will
put you in the
distribution list.***

Calendar Items:

Pat Isaacson

Parsonage:
218-762-5300

Church:
218-762-1691

Vacation Bible School:

The school year is wrapping up and with that comes plans for Sion's Armor of God Vacation Bible School. VBS will run June 4-7 this year from noon-3:30 each day. Kids are currently registering until May 25th. We are very lucky to have people volunteering to make lunch for the kids each day and to be leaders for us. Youth members have also been stepping up to help with music, skits, and miscellaneous activities. We have some volunteers decorating the church June 3 & 4 before VBS starts. If you have any camo/army attire or decorations or would like to help with anything, please contact Tiffany or Torey. We appreciate any assistance, including if you can only be there one or two days. It's always great to have extra help or options to call to sub in case someone can't make it one day. Thank you to everybody for your support of our kids and VBS program!

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Sion Church	Andi Olsonawski
Sandy Alper	Rob Peterson
Ben Christopherson	Neil Sandahl
Amie Dexter	Audella Stamness
Kristin Erickson	Harvey Strege
Shawn Getz (Amy Nelson's husband)	Melvin Such
Danny Goldstrand	Oren Swart
Audrey Hartje	Owen Swenson
Jake Krueger	Matt Zander
Char Langen	Class of 2018 Seniors
Velva Larter	School Shooting Victims and their families
Arlen Nordin	the family of Helen Ann Such the Armed Forces.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS WANTED:

If you have any info for the newsletter, please send to mcpeterson@wiktel.com. Our newsletter is in need of more news!!!

Youth Update and the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston

National Gathering youth and parents plan to meet on June 6th at 7pm at Grace Lutheran Church, in Hallock to finalize permission forms, contact information and itinerary at the final parent and youth Houston meeting. This is the final deadline for all paperwork related to the national gathering. Please contact Jeanna Kujava at 218-988-2347 with related questions or for information.

This is an opportunity of a lifetime and we are grateful for the support and continued prayers from our church family for this experience! It would not be possible without you! Thank you!

Here is a peek at the National Youth Gathering Travel Plans for our group; Monday, June 25th at 10am seven youth and 2 adult leaders from Sion Lutheran Church will board a Charter Bus. Youth will leave along with youth from across Kittson County and Felton, MN, from Grace Lutheran Church in Hallock.

Tuesday, June 26th travel plans will make a stop at Hot Springs National Park in Arkansas.

Wednesday, June 27th the bus will arrive in Houston with enough time to take in the Astros Baseball game at Minute Maid Park before traveling the light rail to NRG Stadium where the gathering will be held.

Thursday, June 28th-Saturday, June 30th will be filled with service learning and interactive learning, community life, Synod Day, bible study and mass gathering!

Sunday, July 1st, Closing Worship at NRG Stadium, final fun activities in Houston dependent upon weather (and energy level!!) and starting the journey home.

Monday, July 2nd, Breakfast in Kansas City, Missouri, the last miles of our way to Minnesota with a late night on the bus! Tuesday, July 3rd, return time tentatively in the early morning hours of July 3rd.

BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS, the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering Houston Literacy Campaign will be just one of the ways that our group will positively impact Houston. Through the collected efforts of 100,000 books as an offering for the Gathering is a Book Drive. The Gathering has recognized the need to lift up literacy in Houston; building a foundation of literacy starts before entering Kindergarten. Students who read at home become strong writers, critical thinkers, and more successful students than those who do not. Houston Independent School District estimates that 74% of the students in the district come from families who struggle to provide books for their children. This means the students begin each school year at a disadvantage.

Did you know?

3 in 5 Houston Children lack reading-readiness skills when entering kindergarten

1 in 4 Houston Children do not meet minimum standards at Grade 3

2 in 5 Houston Youth fail reading and writing exams required for graduation on First Administration.

1 in 5 Houston Adults are functionally illiterate.

WELCA

Sion WELCA will be going to the nursing home on Wed, June 27th at 2 PM to serve treats and play Bingo with the residents. We would welcome anyone who would like to come. They love to have visitors and see familiar faces! For our treats we are planning to save leftover Scandinavian cookies from Smorgasbord and then make rømmegrøt, and or baked rice to go with it. We will also be having Bible Study on Wed, June 13th at 10 AM. Everyone welcome. We are currently studying Mary and Joseph. And, don't forget Smorgasbord on Wed, June 20th! This event requires many hands to get all the work done. If you are interested in volunteering your help, please contact Candy Nelson or Heidi Olsonawski.

Feed My Starving Children - Grand Forks MobilePack

FMSC was another successful event this year. 1910 boxes, which equal 412,560 meals, were packed at this event! This will feed 1130 children for an entire year. This year's meals packed were sent to Nicaragua and Jamaica, with a couple also going to Dominican Republic. People who packed were also encouraged to bring an item for a local food pantry. These donations amounted to 1232 pounds of food donated locally on top of the meals packed. Thank you to everybody who attended! I know this was a difficult weekend with so much else going on this year. The organizers of the Grand Forks MobilePack are also reaching out to see if there is interest in another MobilePack event in 2019. This is not a commitment to go, as the date has not been decided yet, but just a rough idea of whether enough funding and volunteers are available to schedule. Please let Torey know if you are interested in learning more about a 2019 FMSC MobilePack.

NOTES FROM KATHY

Today, I would like to share some of the ideas from Katie Maxwell's book; *Bedside Manners, A Practical Guide to Visiting the Ill*. We have all wondered from time to time what to say to those who are experiencing grief in their lives. Most of the time we say whatever come into our minds and realize as soon as we say it, it was the wrong thing! Katie Maxwell offers some Be-Attitudes for us as we visit those who need to have someone near them.

Be-Attitude to remember during visits: being prepared, learning how to be present, open, sensitive, and importantly "still" that is, and learning to listen. All of us can develop our skills in this area to help those who are hurting.

Be-Prepared. Use these moments to shut out the rest of the world. Center on your purpose for visiting. Pray! Pray before you visit. Pray with and for the person while you are there. Pray when you leave, that some measure of peace will come to them.

Be-Present. You need to be 100 percent there for that person. That person is your most important concern, just for this moment. Be there with your complete concentration and attention.

Be-Open. Meet people where they are and in whatever mood you find them. Do not judge them by your words or body language. They need to feel safe to share with you.

Be-Still. Listen, don't look for answers. Most people don't expect you to fix anything. They just need someone they can trust with their inner most thoughts to listen while they work it out for themselves.

Be-Sensitive. Try to pick up on the underlying theme of their words. Ask open-ended questions.

Be-Human. Admit you don't have all the answers.

Be-Silent. You don't have to fill in all of the silences with meaningless chatter. Learn to be comfortable with these special silent moments. Just be there.

These are just a few suggestions from Katie Maxwell's book. We will explore these ideas and others on the evening on June 6th at 7:00 pm at Zion Lutheran in Lake Bronson.

See you Sunday, Kathy

Ushers: Donald & Julie Cerkowniak
Comm Asst: Donna Vagle

June 2018

Church Phone: 218-762-1691
Parsonage: 218-762-5300

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 MOW: Lois, Danny & Judy	2
3 9:30AM Worship Reader: Ken Peterson Coffee: P	4 12-3:30PM Bible School	5 12-3:30PM Bible School	6 12-3:30PM Bible School 7PM Grieving Session 7PM Youth Gathering Mtg	7 12-3:30PM Bible School 2PM WELCA @ LB	8 7:30AM- 1PM Blood Drive	9 10am- NOON Bridal Shower for Vada Westerberg @ Zion in LB
10 9:30AM Worship Reader: Tiffany Sjostrand Coffee: S	11	12	13 10AM Esther/Elizabeth Circle 5:30PM Council	14 Youth Group Car Wash	15	16
17 9:30AM Worship @ LB	18	19 NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE	20 4:30PM Smorgasbord	21	22	23
24 9:30AM Worship Reader: Crystal Peterson Coffee: TUVWXYZ	25	26	27	28	29	30

Sion Lutheran Church Summer 2018 Lawn Care Sign-up for the Church

THE FCCLA NATIONAL ADVANCERS WILL MOW THE YARD ALL SUMMER LONG!
\$25.00 PER WEEK

Cheyenne, Emily, Emma and Montana need money for their trip!
WE WOULD LOVE FOR THEM TO MOW THE CHURCH YARD THIS SUMMER!



Please sign up to pay \$25 per week for this!!!
(YOU CAN COMPLETE THE GOOGLE DOC THAT WAS SHARED OR LET MENDY KNOW)

May 20-31: (Graduation party scheduled for May 25)	Mendy Coffield
June 1-15:	Mendy Coffield
June 16-30: (Smorgasbord / Heritage Days scheduled for June 22-24)	Joe & Heidi Olsonawski
July 1-15:	Tracy Coffield
July 16-31:	Todd Nelson
August 1-15:	Pat Isaacson
August 16-31:	
Sept. 1-15:	
Sept. 16-30:	

*MidSummers
Smorgasbord*

*Lancaster Sion Lutheran
Church*

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

Serving begins 4:30 PM

Adults - \$13.00
12 and Under - \$6.00

*Come and Enjoy all the Traditional
Scandinavian Dishes*

IT'S SMORGASBORD TIME AGAIN!

The big summer event for Sion is soon. The Smorgasbord is set for Wednesday, June 20 from 4:30-7:30 pm. The work and donation slips will be out very soon. If you do not receive one, please let Heidi Olsonawski know. If you cannot work at the times designated or donate the item on your slip, please let Shirley Swenson (762-6677) or Peggy Wilebski (762-7251) know as soon as possible. If you are willing to work or donate and have not been assigned, please let them know that also. This is a large event for our church and many people from the area and out of the area enjoy it. It takes a lot of workers to get this done and we appreciate all the help you can give. The set up for the dining room is at 5:00 pm on Tuesday the 19th and cleanup after the supper is also a big job. All are welcome to help. Come and join the fellowship of working together.

Sion Lutheran Church 2018 Survey

1) Select from the list below those reasons that best match your reasons for coming to church. You may select more than one.

The worship style My friends are here The denominational ties
 The church's reputation The outreach program Youth program

2) How satisfied are you with the following aspects of the following? Children's program (0 to 6th grade)

Very Satisfied Satisfied Dissatisfied

Comments:

3) Youth programs

Very Satisfied Satisfied Dissatisfied

Comments:

4) Adult programs

Very Satisfied Satisfied Dissatisfied

Comments:

5) I would like to see more

Bible Studies Young Moms Activities Senior Fellowship
 Game nights Other: _____

6) Has your involvement in the congregation increased, decreased, or remained about the same in the last year and half?

Increased Remained the same Decreased

7) If your participation has INCREASED, which of the following are reasons for that? (check all that apply):

more time available better health because of children
 stronger faith more positive attitude toward church
 accepted office or other new responsibility in the church

8) If your participation has DECREASED, which of the following are reasons for that (check all that apply):

less time available health problems because of children
 decreased faith given up office or other responsibility in the church
 more negative attitude toward church no ordained minister

9) I have a strong sense of belonging to this congregation

strongly agree agree disagree strongly disagree

10) Being at this church has made a difference in my spiritual life

strongly agree agree disagree strongly disagree

11) Our church's identity, as it is, is one with which I feel comfortable

strongly agree agree disagree strongly disagree

Sion Lutheran Church 2018 Survey

Church Leadership

Periodically it is beneficial to take a step back and look at how we are doing as a church and obtain feedback from the congregation on how we might improve the ministry of the church. Even when we are overall satisfied with the health and direction of the church there are still areas that we can improve. The purpose of this questionnaire is to provide you an opportunity to give us feedback both in what we are doing well and what areas we can improve upon. Please place a number beside each statement that reflects your assessment of the issue:

- 1 = Excellent (We are doing exceptional in this area)
- 2 = Adequate (We are average, nothing exceptional, but no real concerns)
- 3 = Needs Attention (We have some concern in this area)
- 4 = Needs Immediate Attention (We are greatly concerned about this area)

The Church Council

- ___ The council is providing spiritual leadership to the church.
- ___ The council listens to my concerns.
- ___ The council communicates effectively the issues confronting the church.
- ___ Important decisions that are made are communicated to the congregation for opportunity for discussion and input.
- ___ Disagreements and conflicts within the church are handled appropriately.

Evaluating the Ministry of the Church

The Fellowship of the Church

- ___ The church is friendly.
- ___ The church is a place I would invite my friends.
- ___ I feel a part of the congregation.
- ___ The church provides opportunities for fellowship.
- ___ I feel accepted in the congregation.
- ___ The congregation includes everyone in the fellowship.
- ___ People help each other during difficulties.
- ___ There is a strong sense of unity within our church.
- ___ When I come to this church, I feel I am a part of a large family.

The Outreach of the Church:

- ___ People in the community know who and where we are.
- ___ This is a church I would invite my friends.
- ___ We do what we reasonably can to minister to the needs of people in the community.
- ___ We are doing all we can reasonably do to evangelize our community.
- ___ New people would feel comfortable in our church and feel welcome.
- ___ Our church is involved with the community.

The Worship of the Church:

- The overall worship service meets my expectations.
- The music enhances my worship.
- The setting of the worship (lighting, seating, temperature, etc) is comfortable and enhances my worship.
- We have a good balance in the styles of worship (i.e. contemporary, traditional, hymns, chorus, etc).
- The length of the service is appropriate.
- The worship service would be attractive to young families.
- I am confident in sharing the gospel with someone.
- I have a clear understanding of what our church stands for and believes in.

Please answer the following questions:

What is the one area that our congregation does best? _____

For your personal growth, what is the one area that you would like to see strengthened?

If you could change one thing in our church, what would it be? _____

What is one thing our church could do to improve our outreach into the community?

Do you have any gifts you can share with the Congregation???

Thank you!!!

Sion Lutheran Church
PO Box 278
Lancaster, MN 56735



We are on the Web:
www.sionlutheran.com



Sion's Mission together: To GROW in faith by....
God's Rich Opportunities with Sion
Quilting Meals Youth
Serving the Community

**G
R
O
W**

Word Sacraments Service
God Reaching Our Word!