



B.A.S.I.C. Newsletter

Brothers and Sisters in Christ at
Zion Lutheran Church of Mondovi



June 2024

Does Church have a Home?

There's a young member of Zion who has grown accustomed to calling me "church." Children have referred to me as "God" or "Jesus" before,¹ but the designation "church" is totally new. Recently this boy asked his grandmother, "Does church have a home?" Superficially, this was his way of asking if I had a residence besides 264 E. Main St., Mondovi.

That said, I sense that our young friend's question reveals a profound understanding of the Holy Christian Church. Martin Luther wrote in his *Smalcald Articles*, "God be praised, a seven-year-old child knows what the church is: holy believers and the little sheep who hear the voice of their shepherd" (SA III, 12). Since September 2018, I have been privileged to serve Zion Lutheran Church as pastor (under-shepherd). I have been honored to represent this congregation to the community and hold each sheep of Christ in prayer.

As unique and honorific as this title "church" is to me, pastorally I need to communicate an important truth: I am not the church. Christ our Savior established local congregations to be his sovereign embassies in all the nations of the world: "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them" (Matt 18:20). It is critical to observe that the congregation is vastly larger than any one individual.² The local congregation is called to be a refuge, a home for many different people seeking grace and truth in Christ.

So that congregations may grow in faith, the Lord has promised to send servants of the Word to publicly teach God's commandments, reveal His love, and offer eternal hope through Christ's tangible sacraments. Consider Matthew 10: "Jesus called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.... These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, go to the lost sheep ... and proclaim as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' (vs. 1, 5-7). Similar instructions are given in Luke 10, where Christ says, "Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him" (vs. 5-6). Where this ministry is conducted faithfully, the fruit it yields is peace. After His

¹ Of course, I am deeply uncomfortable with those titles. I am merely a servant of the aforementioned.

² This is true of infants, adolescents, the rich, the poor, men, women, archbishops, head deacons, deaconesses, or parish pastors. See 1 Cor. 12:12-13, 18.

resurrection, Jesus said to the disciples, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you” (Jn 20:21).

Just as the Lord sends pastors to care for local congregations, he often calls them to other fields of service. St. Paul describes the time after a preacher’s departure as the true test of his ministry: “Each one’s work will become manifest... because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done” (1 Cor 3:13). This is a daunting thought for me since I know and see my many shortcomings and weaknesses.

I also am aware that Satan, our greatest enemy uses times of pastoral transition to attack Christ’s people. As Paul warned the church at Ephesus, similarly I warn you: “Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and ... speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert” (Acts 20:28-31). Despite the perils, I am deeply optimistic for Zion’s future. I am thankful for the continuity that will exist through Jane, Diane, all the congregational leaders, and Pastor Mark Benning’s vacancy service.

I know the ministry, the people, and the hearts here are built on the solid foundation which is Jesus Christ. “You are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit” (Eph 2:19-22). As you have been built on him, I would exhort you: Remember Jesus. Remember how he gives himself freely and fully to you here. Remember Christ’s church. Remember there are many people here who need your fellowship.

Zion has been and will continue to be a place of spiritual protection. This is because of your greatest treasure, namely the Word of God and your clear biblical confession that flows from it. So, return to our introductory question “Does church have a home?” I would answer in this way: Christ’s faithful flock has excellent (albeit temporary) housing at 264 E. Main St., Mondovi. But more importantly dear Zion you have an eternal home with Christ in heaven. “God’s firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: “The Lord knows those who are his”” (2 Tim 2:19).

In His Service,

Pastor Scott Johnson

Parish News

May 19th was **Melissa Linse's** last day as Sunday School Superintendent here at Zion. Pictured are Melissa leading a short service with the children as part of their Sunday School program. Thank you Melissa for your years of service bringing God to our precious children. This chapter has finished for you, but we are sure there is more to come. God's Blessings be with you.



Our Building Loan has been paid off in full! Now we will work on paying for our freshly (being worked on) parking lot. Please take the time to pray about what your family can give for this project. A note of good news is that Zion does not need to do any work at this time for the sewer pipes through our yard and under the lot.

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.



Christian Education Committee

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

The Christian Education Committee met in the Bible study room at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Scott Johnson opened with prayer. Present were John Gehrke, Jane Reineke, Pastor Scott, Pastor Mark Benning, Melissa Linse, Elizabeth Leasum. The minutes from the April 2 meeting were read and approved. John Gehrke reported on the plans for the Sunday, May 19 Christian Education meal to be held in the fellowship hall starting at 11:30 a.m. This is a pot blessing meal, but John will purchase and grill brats and hotdogs. Pastor Scott will contact the Heck family about donating buns. Planning for an attendance of 60 people. Melissa Linse will be honored for her years of service as Sunday School Superintendent. She has requested the hymn "As the Deer." Jane Reineke presented the Summer Bible study plans—"By Faith, a study of Hebrews 11" for the adults and children from 10:30-11:30 a.m. beginning Sunday, June 2. She also is working individually with VBS volunteers and will hold a group meeting closer to June 23. The Christian Education Committee recommends David Reineke for the Sunday School Superintendent position. The next Christian Education Committee and Sunday school teachers meeting will be August 13, 2024. Pastor Scott closed with Psalm 24 verse 1 and Acts 2:17, describing fruit of the Holy Spirit by hearing the Words of Jesús and prayer. The Lord's Prayer was prayed.

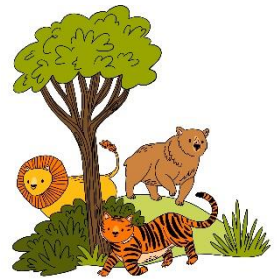
Respectfully submitted by, Elizabeth Leasum, Recording Secretary

Save the Dates: June 23-26 Evenings

For Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School – Join us this summer for "The Great Jungle Journey." We will be going on a cruise from Genesis to Revelation seeing how God works His plan of salvation for us. Sign-up sheets and registration forms are out. Registering early helps are prepare! We are looking for people who will pray for VBS, who will serve as helpers and leaders, people who will donate food, and people who will help in the kitchen.

Reserve the evenings of June 23-26 for this year's VBS. There will be a "Family Meal" each evening at 5:30 with VBS starting at 6:00 – 8:10 Sunday through Tuesday with Wednesday evening finishing with VBS Closing Service at 7:30 on Wednesday evening.



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

Midweek Morning Bible Class – “God at Work”

Our Midweek Morning Bible Class is moving this month from Tuesdays to Thursdays. After surveying the first thousand years of Christianity - “*God’s Word at Work in our World*” - 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 (led by Pastor Scott and Pastor Mark) 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.

All Family Education Hour – This summer you are invited to join us for our series entitled “By Faith” – We will spend three months (starting June 2) exploring the stories of the men and women of Hebrews 11. Each week will focus on a different Bible character or story. Adults and children will have the chance to study these characters in different ways. Vicki Howell will be leading the children using stories, crafts, and activities. Our adults, led by Pastor, 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

Zion Lutheran Ladies Society Thursday, May 9, 2024

The Thursday, May 9 meeting for the Zion Lutheran Ladies Society was held in the fellowship hall. The “Salad Supper” meeting was called to order by Ginny Gunderson, President at 4:45 p.m. in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen. The Lord’s Prayer was prayed. There were fifteen members present. The LWML Pledge was read by Brenda McKissick. Ginny Gunderson led the prayer for the prayers requested. The minutes from the April 11, 2024 meeting were read. Robin Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Bev Brion. Motion carried. Brenda McKissick presented the treasurer’s report and it will be submitted for review. Thank you cards received were shared. The next serving group to serve for a funeral is group #3. A motion was made by Juli Dobson to include the Sharing Table and special events in the serving group rotation, seconded by Mary Standaert. Motion carried. Elizabeth Leasum reported on the LWML Zone 15 Spring Rally that was held at Grace

Lutheran Church, Augusta on April 27. Mother's Day gifts will be given May 12 and 15. The LWML NWD Convention will be held June 13-15 in Appleton, WI. There will be no Ladies Society meetings in June and July. The next monthly meeting will be August 8. The Quilters have made a fleece blanket for Zion's High School graduate. With Pastor Scott Johnson accepting a call, the Ladies discussed the June 9 meal plan and gift for his last Sunday serving as Pastor at Zion. The plans will be shared by the Ladies and church council. The prayer for women's organizations on page 307 of the LSB was prayed, the LWML hymn sung. Motion to adjourn was made at 5:30 p.m. The salad supper served.

Respectfully submitted by, Elizabeth Leasum, Recording Secretary

Special Voter's Meeting Sunday, April 28, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Daniel Heike, President at 10:49 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Scott Johnson opened by informing the assembly that due to recent donations, the Building Loan was paid in full. Praise and Prayer followed. There were 42 voting members in attendance. Daniel Heike gave a brief update of the Parking Lot Replacement issue and why the Special Voter's Meeting was called. A regular quarterly Voter's Meeting had been planned for May 12, 2024; but the blacktop company, Monarch, informed Daniel that they would like to start the process the next week. The proposal is for them to grind the existing Parking Lot and designate trouble spots to be addressed separately. They would grate, repave, and stripe the lot. The quoted price would include doing elevations and grades to get proper drainage on the lot. 2 -1 ½" layers of blacktop would be applied.

Dan Nowaskey, Trustee, presented to the Council, in April, a proposal to replace the original water & sewer lines before the Parking Lot is paved. There are plans to redo highway 10 in front of the church in a few years. We would then be prepared to connect to the City of Mondovi's new pipes. It was also discussed that sidewalks need to be replaced and redone on the west side of the Parking Lot before it is paved. The Council proposed that from the old office door, running along the Parking Lot, and connecting with the front sidewalk to the church steps would be safer, allow more parking spots, and not have people walking in snowbanks during winter.

Discussion followed: were there other bids looked at-yes, but Monarch came in lower; would drainage be considered between Fellowship Hall and Library-yes, it would be looked at; electrical should be put in for sign before paving-yes: how long will the lot be unusable-bid stated they would level

and seal lot for temporary use; could we reseal and stripe -Parking Lot too broke up for that to be an option; What is bid from Monarch-\$68,000; what would other cost be-a quote was received of about \$12,000 for water & sewer work.

With no further questions, there was a motion by Jim Dobson to move forward with the Parking Lot being redone and seconded by Ray Waldbillig. Motion carried by voice vote.

A second motion was made to update the water & sewer lines and do the proposed sidewalk work by John Gehrke and seconded by June Deutscher. Motion carried by voice vote.

Daniel Heike informed the assembly that we currently have about \$26,000 already set aside for the Parking Lot. Daniel and Lisa Heike will set up a matching fund for up to \$25,000 toward the project.

There will still be a Quarterly Voter's Meeting on Sunday May 12, at 10:45 a.m.

Motion to adjourn was made at 11:18 a.m. Pastor closed having everyone singing the Doxology and then showing a short video on Our Father in Heaven.

Quarterly Voter's Assembly Annual Meeting Sunday, May 12, 2024

The Zion Lutheran Church Quarterly Voter's Assembly meeting was called to order by Dan Heike, President at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Pastor Scott Johnson opened in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen. and prayer. There were 31 members present.

Recording Secretary's Report- The minutes from the February 4, 2024 Quarterly Voter's Assembly and the minutes from the April 28, 2024 Special Voter's meetings were presented. Ginny Gunderson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ed Gunderson. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report- Dan Heike reported that Deborah Deutscher was not feeling well so there would not be a financial report from her, but he did report that the building loan was paid off.

Board of Trustees- Dan Heike reported on the parking lot project. Before Monarch completes the blacktop an electrical line will be laid to the parking lot sign and a "soft spot" repaired in the parking lot. No replacement of the water and sewer line is needed.

Youth Committee- Melissa Linse reported that the youth are planning a thrift and bake sale fundraiser on the first weekend in June. Items and baked goods can be donated by May 30.

No other reports. Motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting continued with Pastor Scott Johnson giving his last report to the voter's as he has accepted the call from Fargo. The hymn, Christ the Eternal Lord #829 LSB verses 1-3 were sung. He has 3 chambers in his heart - the members when he came, the members who joined while he was here, the members that will join in the future. He wants us to remember our friendship with the Lord, our worship of the Lord and what the Lord offers us at His table. His last Sunday serving as Pastor at Zion will be June 9. On June 2 he has planned a new member welcome for Lindsay Larson and Collin Weltzen. He will come back on September 14 to officiate at Collin Weltzen and Casey Denk's wedding. He has been in contact with Pastor Lueck, District President and a day for meeting for an informal call meeting has been set for June 11. Rev Jonathan Wessel, Augusta is the Circuit Visitor. Mike and Bonnie Issacson will take over MACA. Pastor Scott wants the congregation to note future events - the 75th Building Anniversary (1950-2025) and the 125th Congregational Anniversary (1902/1903-2028). He had technology recommendations for the website, livestream, computer, and lobby audio/head worn mic/balcony mics. Pastor Mark Benning has accepted the vacancy Pastor position while Zion is in the call process. Pastor Mark Benning, DCE Jane Reineke and Deaconess Sunny Lewiston have worked with the confirmation students. A member is needed to work with the confirmation photo book on the fellowship wall. Members to call if there are questions about the German Valley Cemetery are John Heck, Diane Ashwell or Matt Mohn. Pastor Scott closed with prayer and Benediction.

Respectfully submitted by, Elizabeth Leasum, Recording Secretary
These minutes unapproved, to be approved at the next Quarterly Voter's Assembly.

Council Minutes Thursday, May 9, 2024

The Thursday, May 9, 2024 Zion Lutheran Church council meeting was called to order by Dan Heike, President in the Bible study room at 6:00 p.m. Dan Heike read the prayer to open a church council meeting on page 307 of the LSB. Present were Galen Aase, Oscar Howell, Dan Heike, Deborah Deutscher, Elizabeth Leasum, Andy Heike, Joe Osenga, Ed Gunderson, Dan Nowaskey, Pastor Scott Johnson.

Recording Secretary's Report- The minutes from the April 11, 2024 meeting were presented. Deborah Deutscher made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Galen Aase. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report- Deborah Deutscher reported on the church finances. Andy Heike made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Joe Osenga. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report- Pastor Scott reported that with his acceptance of the call from Fargo he has "three chambers in his heart for Zion- the members of Zion when he came 5 1/2 years ago, the newly joined members and future members." His last Sunday serving as Pastor at Zion will be June 9. He has informed Pastor Lueck, District President. Pastor Lueck plans to be at Zion on June 11 for a pre-call meeting. Our Circuit Pastor is now Rev Jonathan Wessel at Grace Lutheran Church, Augusta. Zion members will need to form a call committee. Pastor Mark Benning will help "short term not long term" as vacancy Pastor. He and the Elders will meet to determine the vacancy Pastor duties.

Board of Trustees- Dan Nowaskey and Dan Heike reported on the parking lot project. The plumbing to the street is good and does not need to be replaced.

Elder's Report- Joe Osenga reported that when they met they discussed Pastor's call, the SHP bed build, the First Responders service, Confirmation and set the elder serving schedule. Books have been purchased for the library.

Evangelism Committee- Galen Aase reported that the committee is planning to have more space at the fair by purchasing two booths.

Youth Committee- Joe Osenga reported that the Youth are planning a thrift sale fundraiser for Saturday, June 1 and Sunday, June 2. Donated items for the fundraiser are welcome.

Old Business- Dan Heike reported that an "in house directory" is being planned. Pictures can be brought to the office.

New Business- The council approved the request from the ADRC to use the fellowship hall for a Medicare Open Enrollment meeting Tuesday, September 10 from 1-3 p.m for Buffalo and Pepin counties. The First Sunday Loose Offering Donation for May was \$53.00. Ed Gunderson made a motion to send the \$53.00 plus \$47.00 to total \$100.00 to Main Street Living, seconded by Elizabeth Leasum. Motion carried. An AO (authorized owner) needs to be appointed for the credit card as Pastor Scott is taking a call. Andy Heike made a motion for Deborah Deutscher to be the AO, seconded by Dan Nowaskey. Motion carried. The council also discussed a credit card for Zion's DCE. Ed Gunderson made a motion for a VISA card for Jane Reineke, seconded by Oscar Howell. Motion carried. The council then discussed the June 9 meal for Pastor Scott, Becky, Eli, Dan, Zeke, JJ, Micah and Miriam Johnson. Deborah Deutscher made

a motion for the council to cover the cost of the meal, seconded by Joe Osenga. Motion carried. Plans and work for the meal will be shared by the Ladies Society and church council.

Motion to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Pastor Scott closed with Ascension Day, both bitter and sweet, a reading from Mark chapter 16 verses 14, 19-20 and prayer. The Lord's Prayer was prayed.

Respectfully submitted by, Elizabeth Leasum, Recording Secretary

These minutes unapproved, to be approved at the next council meeting.

Evangelism Committee Meeting Notes May 14, 2024

- Mondovi Fair 2024 - August 1-4. We will get 2 booths this year.
 - Themes: Journey through the Jungle
 - Start to check prizes and giveaways
 - Use Thrivent card for additional needed game prizes and giveaways.
 - Some giveaways currently on-hand:
 - Large print Bible
 - T-shirts
 - Zion baseball caps
 - Coffee mug

Next meeting June 4, 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 up pop-choir might be the perfect thing for you. Our June date is Sunday, June 9. We will meet at 8:00 Sunday morning to practice. Our song isn't too complicated, and you can sing melody if you'd like. It will be a chance to join together and celebrate through music. In July we are scheduled to sing on the 7th and the 28th. Our August date is the 18th. If you have any questions, please contact Jane Reineke.



June Birthdays

3-Mark Meier
3-Adeline Sessions
4-June Deutscher
4-Eli Johnson
4-Ethan Lueloff
5-Matt Erickson
5-Keegan Hill
5-Duane Hollister
5-Brian Nichols
5-Kendra Nick
5-Gary Skoug
6-Nicholas Heike
7-Braxton Weber
9-Colin Cooke
9-Tina Goss
9-Paulene Johnson
9-Nate Lisowski
9-Margaret Meier Jones
9-Teresa Sessions
10-Brinley Bechel
11-Kyla Taylor
13-Ella Fluekiger
13-Cindy Sessions
13-Rebecca Teigen
14-Taya Brion
14-Isabella Mohn
16-Connor Taylor
17-William Ickstadt
17-Terry McGee
19-Alexianna Nelson
20-John Gehrke
20-Sara Hill
20-Gene Schultz
20-Izzie Winberg
21-Kelly Bauer
21-Jayda Moore
21-Hailey Reinhardt
22-Clay Dziekan
22-Cody Dziekan
22-Noah Erickson
22-Shelley Dziekan
23-Betty Riemann
23-Alexancer Stuber

23-Maxwell Stuber
25-John Schultz
26-Laura McDonough
26-Becca Osenga
26-Chad Reinhardt
28-Brady Dhenke
28-Loris Wrobel
30-Tyler Glanzman
30-Owen Reinhardt

June Anniversaries

1-Michael & Rebecca Lueloff
3-Dean & Sally McGee
4-Ronald & Virgene Laehn
5-Bill & Betty Sessions
5-Ken & Kathy Blodgett
8-Nathan & Rina Ashwell
9-Gwen & Mark Browskowski
13-Ryan & Kami Taylor
13-Shirley & James Hayden
16-John & Tracy Smith
18-John & Tara Unser
19-Gary & Janice Parker
20-Ed & Virginia Gunderson
20-Justin & Janna Olson
21-Dedri Johnson & Jerry Johnson
21-Terry & Kimberly McGee
22-Jeremy & Candy Anderson
23-Robin & Randy Taylor
24-Joseph & Amanda Osenga
26-Mike & Ann Slater
29-Jim & Cooky Dekan
30-Herman & LaRae Grotzinger

**Thank you to the Thrivent Choice
donator:** Ginny Gunderson

Gifts and Memorials

❖ *In Memory of Charlotte Stamm
Library Fund*
Le Anne Loesel

Official Acts



Confirmation of Izzy Mohn and Braedon Heike on Sunday April 28.



Connor Taylor is our Graduate from Zion this year. He was recognized and gifted with this beautiful blanket from the Ladies Society at the Wednesday service on May 15.

Gifts and Memorials

- ❖ *In Memory of Cindy Sessions Building Fund*
 - Deborah Deutscher
 - Rick Sessions
 - Margaret Art, Jean & Byron Sessions
 - Ryan, Julie Vollmer & family
 - Jeff, Katie Harris & family
 - John Sheila & Emily Nelson
 - Ken & Linda Wulff
 - Marjorie Heck
 - Dean & Sally McGee
 - Dennis & Sue McGee & family
 - Corrie Laehn
 - Roland Sessions Jr
 - Dennis Sessions & family
 - Ben Sessions
 - Don & Ardella Sessions
 - Gordy & Candis Sessions
 - Bob & Lori Grossell
 - Dan & Deb Hill
 - Steve & Becky Odegard
 - Bonnie Oesau
 - Jeannie McClennan & Steve Anderson
 - Ken & Kathy Blodgett
 - Kate Ellis

 - Christine Johnson
 - Jenny Rookey
 - Dan Rookey
 - Dale & Mary Heck
 - William & Betty Sessions
 - Curtis, Lois and Scott Bloom
 - Kurtis & Donna Engen
 - Dale & Rene Laehn
 - Roland Jr & Kathleen Sessions
 - Robin & Randy Taylor

- ❖ *In Memory of Cindy Sessions Parking Lot*
 - Herman & LaRae Grotzinger
 - Kathy Kosidowski

❖ *In Memory of Charlotte Stamm*
Parking Lot
John Schultz

❖ *In Memory of Billy McGee*
Building Fund
Bill & Betty Sessions

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 |

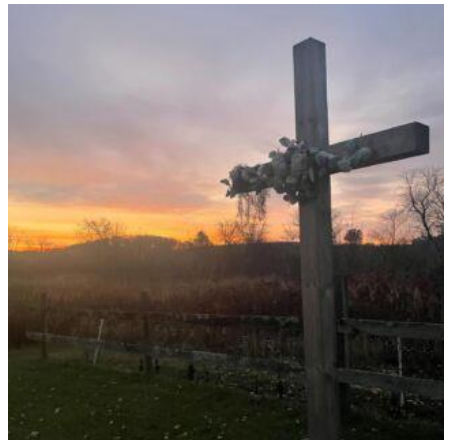
Scenic Hills Youth Ranch (SHYR)

SHYR exists to provide a positive environment where children and families are known, wanted and loved as they learn about the saving hope and life-changing love of Jesus Christ in an authentic ranch environment.

SHYR is a faith-based organization.

Though we are not associated with any particular denomination, we do hold

tightly to the beliefs taught in the Holy Bible. We believe that there is only one God, and that He is sovereign over all. His Son, Jesus, was born of a virgin and came to the earth as a man, lived a sinless life, and took the punishment that we all deserve by dying on the cross for our sins. We believe that Jesus did not stay dead but rose from the grave on the third day and after walking and talking with his apostles for 40 days following His resurrection, He ascended back into heaven and is now sitting at the right hand of God the Father. We believe that Jesus is the only way a person can get to heaven and that by believing in Him, asking for forgiveness of our sins, we can be forgiven and live eternally with Him in heaven when our



physical body dies. We believe in the Trinity, that God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit are all persons of the ONE true God. We believe that the Holy Spirit has been sent to dwell in our hearts and that He guides us through this life.

Zion Ladies recently purchased a new Yamaha Keyboard for the Fellowship Hall. We can now sing with accompaniment anytime and most anywhere at Zion we want :) This project was in large part covered thru all



of your support with the recent Hot Beef Dinner plus some additional Memorial/Donations from people with kind hearts. So we **thank all who helped this need/ wish become a reality!** And thank you also to Pastor Scott and Bill Ickstadt for their expertise in knowing which keyboard to choose. **ENJOY!**

Ladies Society would like to give a huge *thank you* to Jeremy Anderson for making perfect dividers for the kitchen silverware drawers! They are such an improvement in keeping us organized. Great work, Jeremy 🙌

And because this was all done out of the goodness of his heart with **NO** charge, we have made a donation to our LS Donation/Memorial Fund as a thank you in his honor which we will use for any upcoming special projects.



Our Father's arms

As a young boy, J. Ellsworth Kalas had to visit the Mayo Clinic for tests. His parents, knowing their son was safe in the hospital overnight, slept at a nearby hotel. But Kalas was so lonely and scared that a nurse called his folks. Kalas, who later became a pastor, recalled what it was like to have his father arrive. "I remember his dressing me there in the darkness," he said. "Then I remember getting on a streetcar, sitting way at the back as we rode to the hotel. He held me very close to him, his long, ungainly arm wrapped around me. And the little boy who had been so frightened was now at peace."

We all face trials that can seem overwhelming. "How good, then, to draw deeply on the resources of God!" Kalas said. "In him there is a peace which is greater than the trouble. How good, indeed, to burrow into a place of security, and to feel an arm wrapping strong about us and to know that it is the arm of our heavenly Father."

Created Male and Female

As it June is designated by some to be LGBTQ+ pride month, it's absolutely critical to know what the bible teaches and how we should respond to society with grace and truth as Christians. Key biblical texts include: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them" (Gen. 1:27). And "therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." (Gen. 2:24)

A whole host of resources helping us apply these fundamental truths can be found at lcms.org/social-issues/sexuality where the following is written.



We see in Genesis that when our Triune God created mankind, it was very good. He created man and woman as two complementary beings in His image to not only be stewards of the earth, but to “be fruitful and multiply” as man and woman, just as He intended (Gen. 1:28). After the fall, God’s created design was completely infected with brokenness. While we rejoice in God’s plan of salvation, we understand that things are still not how they should be. Society’s understanding of gender, sexuality and identity, which is contrary to God’s Word, is one prevalent area where we see this brokenness. It is pressing to respond to our culture’s constantly-changing identity movement in a Godly and confessional way, speaking the truth in love.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Office of National Mission and the Created Male and Female Task Force have developed the following resources to catechize people of all ages, especially youth and children, with what Scripture teaches on the topics of sexuality and gender. These resources also treat how Christians should understand our identity in Christ, and equip Christians to confess the Biblical truths of God’s creation and redemption of humanity.



On Sunday Mornings (10:30 – 11:30 am), we are beginning a study about the Hall of Faith in Hebrews 11. Please join us beginning June 2 as we learn about these men and women who looked forward to the fullness of their citizenship in heaven.

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. This will be at the Mirror Lake Pavilion.

Men’s Group meets June 8 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.



Zion Lutheran Church
264 East Main St., Mondovi, WI 54755
(715) 926-3664, Website: zionmondovi.com,
Email: office@zionmondovi.com