



Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

July 2018 Newsletter

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I want to take this opportunity to share with you all a bit about our 2018 synod assembly. The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin gathered together on June 2 and 3 for a weekend of learning, fellowship, doing the yearly business of the synod and the election of a new bishop. Bishop Rick Hoyme, who has served our synod since 2013, is retiring on July 1. I, personally, am very thankful for Bishop Hoyme's leadership and care over the last 5 years and I know you will join with me in wishing him well in his retirement.

The election of a new bishop was of primary concern during the assembly. The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin uses an ecclesiastical ballot, which means that the first ballot is a nomination ballot. Any rostered clergy in the ELCA in good standing can be nominated. In the subsequent ballots we winnow that large nomination ballot down to 7 candidates, to 3, to 2 and then to 1. The candidates are questioned and allowed to speak and are required to fill out a biographical form that includes information about their vision for the future of the synod and the ELCA.

We elected as the next bishop of the Northwest Synod of Wi. Some of you may be familiar with Rev. Skow-Anderson. For the last 5 years she has served on synod staff as our synod's Director of Evangelical Mission. We are excited to welcome Laurie as our next bishop! Laurie will begin serving as bishop on July 2. She will be installed as bishop of our synod on Saturday, August 25, at 2:00 pm at Bethel Highlands, here in Hudson. You are all invited to attend this service!

Lastly, I want to take some time to talk about the theme of our synod assembly. The theme was "Growing Younger". As most of us know average age of the membership of the ELCA is growing older. Churchwide, across our country, we are not attracting young people and young families, therefore as a denomination we are growing older. The theme "Growing Younger" highlights the need for the ELCA and its churches to engage and serve younger generations.

In thinking about this theme, I was reminded of a conversation I had with one of our members a few months ago. I recently shared this conversation with our church council and with the permission of my conversation partner, I'm sharing with you all what we talked about. I hope this gives you all something to think about as we consider the mission of Mt. Zion in the future.

A few months ago, I got into a conversation with a parishioner, who is a mother with young children, about our church and why she doesn't go more often. She told me that getting her kids up and ready for church on Sundays is hard. It's a battle to wake them up, to feed them, to get them clean and dressed. There are fights and crabiness and complaining. Then when she gets her family to church and the service begins, she is spending her time keeping them under control. She is trying to keep them quiet, keep them from coloring in the hymnals, keep them from crawling under the pews. She is so busy tending them she doesn't hear the sermon, she can't sing the hymns, she can't participate in the liturgy. Sometimes she even gets nasty looks from others around her when her kids are noisy. When church is done she and her family leave, and they feel grumpy, mad at each other and crabby. No one got spiritually fed, no one was able to enjoy the Christian community.

I think a lot of young families have similar problems when worshipping. The question we need to ask ourselves is what can we do, here at Mt. Zion, that will spiritually feed and engage parents and young kids? How can we make Christ available to them in an accessible way that meets their needs?

Our synod assembly talked about this challenge. A challenge not just for us at Mt. Zion, but a challenge for all churches, across the country. What I would like to ask you to do, is to start talking to kids, teenagers, young adults and parents of young kids and ask them about their faith lives. If they are attending a church regularly; ask them what experiences are feeding them spiritually, how the community is helping facilitate their faith life and how church is encouraging them in their Christian call and mission. For those you know who are not attending a church regularly; ask them why not, ask them why churches are not meeting their needs, ask them what they are hungering for, what they need?

Bishop Hoyme asked us the question "?" This is a question for all of us as we consider the future of Mt. Zion.

Blessings, Pastor Erin Nelson

MT. ZION HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

here am i.
send me.



Join us for Mt. Zion's first HS Mini Mission Trip in the Twin Cities from July 31 – Aug. 2.

We will sleep in a Minneapolis Church, be doing 2-3 service projects in the Twin Cities each day and learning more

about our relationship with each other, our church and God.

We will be within driving distance, so if you have a work shift, sports practice or anything else, you can leave and return!

EVERYONE CAN PARTICIPATE!

July 31 – Aug. 2

Students graduating from HS 2018 – 2022

Cost is \$85



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN US!

Vacation Bible School will be held at

Mt. Zion July 9 – 13

PreK – K 9:00 am – 11:00 am

Grade 1-6 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Registration Forms can be found at the Information Center

**Book
Club**

JULY BOOK

"The Great Alone"

By Kristin Hannah

Tuesday, July 9

6:00 pm Hudson Bagel

PRAYER REQUESTS

One of the privileges of being a part of the body of Christ is the opportunity to share in the joy and the sorrow of others. If you have a special prayer request or would like to place someone on the prayer chain, please call the church office at (715) 386-5409 or the Prayer Chain Leader: Joyce Johnson, and we will make sure to add that person to our prayer list.

If you would like to join the prayer chain – please email the church office at secretary@mtzionhudson.com and let us know if you would prefer to be called or emailed with the prayer concerns.



MT. ZION BLOOD DRIVES FOR THE RED CROSS

We had our 2nd of 5 blood drive for 2018 on May 21! I would like to thank the following people for making this Blood Drive Possible!

Flyer Promotions: Katie Jones & Lola Scott

Set-up Crew:

Robin Arneson, Kendra Margl, Bill Peterson

Event Workers:

Kendra Margl, Andrea Goetz, Dana Okerlund, Earl Weber, Robin Arneson & Nora Flavin

Clean-Up Crew:

Robin Arneson, Nora Flavin & MaryKay Mahler

Food Donations: Robin Arneson, Dana Okerlund & Linda Yde

Without your help, these events wouldn't be possible! We had our BEST Blood Drive to date – 27 Units were collected with the potential of saving 72 lives! We had 6 Members of Mt. Zion donate blood at the May event!

If you would like to help with the next Drive (Friday, Aug. 10) let Anna know in the office. We are always looking for people to join and providing this service to the community!

FUN FACT: Did you know that a single donation saves up to three lives?!

Please consider donating blood as the need is ever increasing.



Thank you so much for the blanket. I plan on bringing it with me to college. I remember when I made them for the seniors when I was younger and glad it came full circle.

Thank you, Sierra Keyes

SUNDAY SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Join us in the Sanctuary on Sundays right after the Sunday morning service for a short time of Bible study and prayer.

We will be having 15-minute Lectio Divina prayer studies on the Fruits of the Spirit each Sunday starting June 10 and ending August 19.

Sundays June 10 – August 10
10:00 am in the Sanctuary



BEER & BIBLE

Join us Sunday's July 15 – Aug. 12 for a casual, weekly Bible Study. We will meet at 7:00 pm (place TBT) for a discussion style study, conversation and fun!

Our first night will be July 15 – Watch bulletins and emails for more details

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY IN JULY

NO Bible Study

July 4 or 11

9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

July 18 and 25



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The Church office is open
Tuesday – Thursday

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

*Anna will be out of the office July 10 and 26

Dear Friends of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

I am humbled and grateful for this opportunity to serve as your bishop. For the last 4.5 years I've served as the Director of Evangelical Mission/Assistant to Bishop Rick Hoyme and before that for 28 years, I was a parish pastor in Windom, Slayton, St. Cloud and Pelican Rapids, MN. I am excited and hopeful about the future! The Holy Spirit is moving and working among us in new and exciting ways challenging us to go deeper in our faith and moving us outside our comfort zone. Paying attention to where the Spirit is calling us and learning to GO and DO in Jesus' name is an important part of my work as Bishop. I encourage the people of our synod to not only GO to Church but to BE the church in the world.



A little bit about me: My husband Randy and I both graduated from Luther Seminary in 1986. He is the pastor of Christ Lutheran in Menomonie. We have three adult children. Andrew (30) is married to Kristina. They live in Appleton and are expecting our

first grandchild July 18. Matthew (27) is engaged to Emily Ewen. They are getting married August 18. Anna (24) graduated from St. Kates and works in Occupational Therapy. I love to garden and help things grow. I enjoy cooking and entertaining family and friends. When I have time, I like to bike, canoe or kayak.

I look forward to getting to know you and your congregations. You are all invited to attend the official installation of the bishop worship service on August 25, 2018 2:00 p.m. at Bethel Highlands, Hudson, WI. I hope to see you there.

Bishop-elect Laurie Skow-Anderson



NOW IS THE TIME TO SIGN UP FOR:

Mt. Zion Adult and Family Dinner Groups

Three options. Choose the option that works for you.

Sinners' Dinners (Potlucks in homes)

- 6-8 adults are put in a group, choosing a time that works for all.
- People take turns hosting.
- Hosts provide the main meal, beverages, and sometimes bread/potatoes.
- Other group members bring a dish to share: appetizer, dessert, or salad.
- Keep it simple.

Disciple Dining--eating out

- 4-6 adults are grouped together.
- Members take turns choosing a restaurant for a monthly meal.
- Each participant pays for his/her own meal.

Family Dinner Group (Since 2017!)

(For families with children of any age)

- Monthly or every other month
- Get together at members' homes or at church.
- Share a meal--everyone brings something to share. OR
Each family could bring their own picnic lunch.
- Do whatever works for your group--make it simple--just get together!

For more information or to sign up for any of the above groups, please contact Judy Meincke. Call the church office at (715) 386-5409 for contact information

In August we will have sign-up sheets at church. Please sign up on or before September 1, 2018.



During the month of July Mt. Zion will be collecting items for Grace Place in New Richmond. Items collected will be donated on July 30 with the Monthly Evening Meal.

We are looking for the following items:

- Bath Towels
- **New** Pillows
- Personal Hygiene Products
- Diapers *all sizes especially 4-6
- Baby Wipes
- **NEW** socks & underwear (All Sizes & Ages)



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

2018 Halos Memorial Run/Walk
Family Fun Day
Saturday, AUGUST 4, 2018
Lakefront Park, downtown Hudson



Are you part of a group looking to volunteer?

Kids need volunteer hours?

Maybe your entire family or group of friends are looking for a volunteer opportunity?

Look no further!

THERE ARE EVEN SOME PERKS TO VOLUNTEERING!

•Free T-Shirt •Free Meal

•Entry into a gift card drawing every 1/2 an hour, the day of the event

Please see flyer at the information center for more information or send them a message via Facebook to let them know you are interested in volunteering

Facebook: Halos of the St. Croix Valley

2018 SUMMER RETREAT

Women of the ELCA

St. Croix Valley Conference

2018 Summer Retreat

Thursday, July 19, 2018 Bethany Lutheran Church

415 Bridge Avenue, Star Prairie

Registration from 8:15—8:45am

Cost \$5 at the door Carpooling will be available.

Please check with Katie Jones if you need a ride.



BAKE OFF WINNERS –

1st Place - Robin Arneson

SALTED CARAMEL COOKIE DOUGH BILLIONAIRE BARS

THE CRUST:

- 9×13 baking pan
- 1-1lb. roll of Pillsbury Sugar Cookie Dough

THE CARAMEL LAYER:

- 1(14 oz.) bag of caramels
- ½ cup heavy cream

THE COOKIE DOUGH LAYER:

- ¾ cup (1 – ½ sticks) butter, softened to room temp.
- ⅔ cup brown sugar
- 2 tbs. heavy cream
- 1 ½ tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 cup flour
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ¾ cup mini semisweet chocolate chips

THE CHOCOLATE TOP LAYER:

- 1-½ cups regular semisweet chocolate chips
- ¼ cup creamy peanut butter
- A sprinkle of Sea Salt

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Grease a 9×13" baking dish with spray and line with parchment.

Press the Cookie Dough evenly down into the pan... Bake it according to the package directions, let it cool & set aside.

While the Cookie crust is baking, combine the caramels and cream in a medium saucepan over low heat. Let melt, stirring occasionally until smooth, about 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, prepare the cookie dough layer. Into a large bowl add the softened butter, brown sugar, flour, salt, cream and vanilla. Mix until it's combined, fluffy and light in color. Stir in the mini chocolate chips.

Pour the caramel layer evenly over the cooled Cookie Crust.

Spread the cookie dough gently over the caramel layer, be careful not to press too hard into the caramel. You want to be sure and keep the two layers separate...

Melt 1-1/2 cups chocolate chips with 1/4 cup peanut butter either in a saucepan, or in the microwave for a few seconds...stirring until combined and smooth! Pour it over the cookie dough layer... Evenly spread the Chocolate over the top, sprinkle the salt...and let it cool completely! Refrigerate for at least one hour before serving.



2nd - Place Anna Peterson
SOPAPILLA CHEESECAKE BARS

- 2 cans (8 oz each) Pillsbury™ refrigerated crescent dinner rolls
- 2 packages (8 oz each) cream cheese, softened
- 1 ½ cups sugar (Divided)
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ½ cup butter, melted
- 1 tbsp. ground cinnamon

Heat oven to 350°F.

Unroll 1 can dough. Place in bottom of ungreased 13x9-inch (3-quart) glass baking dish.

Stretch to cover bottom of dish, firmly pressing perforations to seal.

In medium bowl, beat cream cheese and 1 cup of the sugar with electric mixer on medium speed until smooth. Beat in vanilla. Spread over dough in baking dish.

Unroll second can of dough. Carefully place on top of cream cheese layer. Pinch seams together.

Pour melted butter evenly over top. Mix remaining 1/2 cup sugar with the cinnamon, and sprinkle evenly over butter.

Bake about 30 minutes or until center is set. Cool slightly, about 20 minutes.

Refrigerate for easy cutting. Cover and refrigerate any remaining bars.



3rd Place – Mary Stanton
CARAMEL BROWNIES
“An Old Family Recipe”

Buy your favorite boxed Brownie Mix

Follow instruction on the box.

½ way through cooking, drizzled melted caramel over brownies.

When finished baking, drizzled more melted caramel on top.

Cool and Enjoy!

***Thank you to EVERYONE who made delicious baked goods for the bake off!
We look forward to seeing what members come up with for next year!
We are grateful for your support of Vacation Bible School***

HOSPITALITY TEAMS FOR JULY / AUGUST

SUNDAY, JULY 1

9:00 am – Hospitality Lead: Jim Eral

Ushers: Dana & Henry Okerlund

Greeters: John & Nora Flavin

Reader: Tara Sanders

Communion: Art Okerlund

Acolyte: Henry Nemitz

Fellowship: Deb Fristad

SUNDAY, JULY 8

9:00 am – Hospitality Lead: Karen McConville

Ushers: Earl Monson & Colin McConville

Greeters: Judi Klingsick & Richard Claybaker

Reader: Karen McConville

Communion: Norm Maser

Acolyte: David Brown

Fellowship: Andrea Dreier

SUNDAY, JULY 15

9:00 am – Hospitality Lead: Kristen Johnson

Ushers: David & Deb Miller

Greeters: Dennis & Kathy Opland

Reader: Kristen Johnson

Communion: Carol Gustafson

Acolyte: Nils Dreier

Fellowship: Mic & Einar Hanson

SUNDAY, JULY 22

9:00 am – Hospitality Lead: Jim Eral

Ushers: Jack & Noah Flattum

Greeters: Katie Jones & Lola Scott

Reader: Katie Jones

Communion: Linda Letourneau

Acolyte: Ian Flattum

Fellowship: Sandy Huppert

SUNDAY, JULY 29

9:00 am – Hospitality Lead: Andrea Dreier

Ushers: Tim & Nils Dreier

Greeters: The Yarrington Family

Reader: Brooke Dreier

Communion: Einar Hanson

Acolyte: Henry Nemitz

Fellowship: Anna Peterson

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

9:00 am – Hospitality Lead: Nicole Gelina

Ushers: John & Nora Flavin

Greeters: The Romzek Family

Reader: Linda Yde

Communion: Renee Eickstadt

Acolyte: Abigail Romzek

Fellowship: Karen McConville

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

9:00 am – Hospitality Lead: Jim & Linda Letourneau

Ushers: Kendra Margl & Joan Christopher

Greeters: Mike & Linda Yde

Reader: Christopher Gustafson

Communion: Henry Nemitz

Acolyte: Reece Sundeen

Fellowship: Carol Gustafson

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

9:00 am – Hospitality Lead: Karen McConville

Ushers: Deb & Tara Sanders

Greeters: Don & Linda Flatt

Reader: Judy Meincke

Communion: Jack Flattum

Acolyte: Noah Flattum

Fellowship: OPEN

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

9:00 am – Hospitality Lead: Kristen Johnson

Ushers: Scott & Christine Jahns

Greeters: Lisa, Ava & Avery Anderson

Reader: Paula Saunders

Communion: Avery Anderson

Acolyte: Lily Romzek

Fellowship: OPEN

This schedule is subject to change. If the times do not work for you, please see if you can find someone to switch with and let the office know of the update.

CELEBRATING MILESTONES



JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 2 - Mike Yde
July 5 - Ellie Johnson
July 7 - Jocelyn Hauble
July 8 - Haiden Matzek
July 9 - Raylynn Blue
Mason Matzek

July 10 - Jessica Egan
Nicole Sempf
July 11 - Jason Griffin
Stella Stanton
July 12 - Maggie Gustafson
Deb Miller
July 13 - David Anderson
July 14 - Maya O'Keefe
July 15 - Judi Klingsick
July 18 - Amanda Stojan
July 19 - Tim Dreier
Mark Saunders
July 20 - David McLaughlin
Jane Mlinar
July 22 - Kathy Opland
July 23 - Shelley Hallen
Erin Nelson
Lori Rayome
July 25 - Levi Lockwood
July 26 - Karen Gustafson
July 27 - Tor Okerlund
Amelia Stojan
July 28 - Christopher Matzek
Alex Meincke
July 29 - Sam Johnson
July 30 - Steven Eickstadt
Lynell Nemitz
July 31 - Tyler O'Keefe
Olive Olson
Matthew Pilarski



MARRIED IN JULY

July 1 - Larry & Diane Veenendall
July 3 - Brian & Sandra Berg
July 9 - Winter & Jennifer Jorgensen
July 13 - Mitch & Erin Nelson
July 22 - Bill & Gina Runck
July 28 - Tim & Andrea Dreier
July 31 - Walter & Nancy Weeks



BAPTIZED IN JULY

July 1 - Cameron Jahns
Parker Jahns
July 3 - Ed Dombrock
July 5 - Brian Berg
July 13 - Eileen Sempf
July 14 - Riley Ferguson
July 16 - Florence Hopp
Jon Schneewind
July 17 - Gracie Romzek
July 24 - Lori Rayome
July 27 - Michael Schletz
July 28 - Brooke Dreier
Nils Dreier
July 30 - Jamie Johnson,
Logan Lockwood
Eileen Wymer

If we have missed your special day, please contact the church office at (715) 386-5409 or email the office at: secretary@mtzionhudson.com

MT. ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church
505 13th street
Hudson, WI 54016



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS



AT 9:00 AM

Lectio Divina Fruits of the Spirit

10:15 Sunday Mornings

Beer & Bible – Sunday Evenings

July 15, 22, & 29 7:00 pm

WWW.MTZIONHUDSON.COM

Church Office (715) 386-5409

Pastor ~ Erin Nelson

pastor@mtzionhudson.com

Secretary ~ Anna Peterson

secretary@mtzionhudson.com

Milestone Coordinator ~ MaryKay Mahler

Kid's Club Coordinator ~ Amanda Stojan

Organist ~ Deb Tonsager

Jr. Choir/Tone Chime Choir ~ MaryKay Mahler

Sr. Choir Director ~ Craig Gustafson

Treasurer ~ Robin Arneson

Financial Secretary ~ Joan Christopher

Parish Nurse ~ Eileen Wymer

Council President ~ Paula Saunders

Custodian ~ Andrea Goetz