

BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY 2020

Mt. Zion has been graced with many exceptional volunteers who share their time, their talent, their love, and their knowledge with our youth. We are grateful to Mt. Zion for their support of all our educational programs. 2020 brought many challenges to our congregation. Christian Education has had to be creative in how we provided our activities to our members. With our faith and trust in God, we continue to face our obstacles and generate opportunities for our church and our community.

Sunday School: *Christian education for 3 yr. old thru middle school.*

Superintendent: *Angie Adams*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all Sunday School classes were provided through Zoom. We thank Angie Adams for all her hard work and dedication to bring God's word to our youth.

Christmas Program

The Christmas program was sent out as an iMovie with the talent of many volunteers.

Mt. Zion Grant Committee: *Post High School educational scholarships.*

The committee working towards 2020 scholarships includes: Anna Peterson, Ed Dombrock and Holly O'Connell. See the Youth Grant Report for the award(s) given for 2020. The scholarships are funded separately from Christian Education.

Confirmation: *4th grade through senior high bible studies.*

Using zoom, Pastor Carolyn led the 6-8 grade and 4-5 grade sessions, each with five weeks of instruction on Wednesday evenings this fall. 6-8 grade students studied the Lord's Prayer. The 4-5 grade students studied the church seasons and the order of worship. Every Confirmation student is paired with an adult mentor in the congregation to, along with the students' families, support their learning and growing in faith. These intergenerational relationships are enjoyed by both the students and mentors. Confirmation of the 2020 ninth grade class was included in the October 25th digital church service.

Kids Club: *Elementary after school Christian program*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Kids Club did not meet from March to June. It was decided that it would be in the best interest to not have Kids Club as the risk was too great. Amanda Stojan, the former director, continued to reach out to the attendees.

Muffin Bunch: *High school times yet to be determined.*

This group continues to be in transition again this year. We offered zoom meetings starting in November. In December, we sponsored a holiday zoom event for 6th graders through high school. About a dozen youth attended to decorate Christmas ornaments and chat. We will continue to offer zoom meets through the end of the school year. Mike Veldhuis has graciously volunteered to lead.

Bible Study: *Adult bible education and Christian sharing*

When able, the bible study group met at Church and then transitioned to using zoom.

Milestone Ministries: *recognition of our youth's milestones during a Sunday service.*

Mt. Zion recognizes milestones in our youth's lives from birth to graduation. Robin Arneson and

volunteers distributed the milestones at church or delivered them to the young person's home. The leaders are Robin Arneson and Anna Peterson.

Summer Vacation Bible School: *a week of summer Christian education 3 yr. old through middle school.*
Due to COVID-19, VBS did not meet this summer. We offered online activities and a fun opportunity to come to church and have a picture taken with "flat" Jesus.

Change for Change: *Youth collect change during worship offering*

Due to COVID-19, we did not collect in church. We sent home offering boxes so young people could still provide stewardship to our congregation.

Youth Deacons

Sam Johnson and Danny Brown were Mt. Zion's youth deacons during 2020. They attended monthly council meetings.

Youth activities birth - 18 yr. old

Due to COVID-19, youth activities were digital. We continue to brainstorm on how to provide more opportunities in this challenging time.

If you have questions regarding any of the happenings listed above or would like to get more involved, please let us know.

We thank all the amazing volunteers who continue their support and talents to our activities.

*"For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth."
Psalm 71:5*

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Dreier and Kara Erickson/Hoier