

Zion Lutheran Church  
700 North Second Avenue  
Stratford, WI 54484  
Phone: 715-687-4110  
Fax: 715-687-3541  
Email: secretary@zionlc.co

We're on the Web  
[www.zionlc.com](http://www.zionlc.com)

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Stratford, WI  
Permit No. 6

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Zion's Good News

SEPTEMBER  
2008

## CONFIRMATION KICK-OFF

Wednesday, September 3rd

6:30 p.m. 8 & 9th graders

7:00 p.m. 7th graders

7:30 p.m. 10th graders

8:00 p.m. Mentors



## RALLY SUNDAY

Sunday, September 7th

9:00 a.m. Worship - Blessing

of the Backpacks and

Sunday School Staff

Installation

Fellowship follows worship with games,  
refreshments, and lots of fun.

(More on Page 3.)

Please wear red/white/blue that day to help us celebrate.



## NEW WORSHIP TIMES BEGIN

Sunday, September 14th

8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Sunday School and Fellowship at 9:00 a.m.



# Summer Rests

I think I've heard this comment a dozen times in the past week: "Where has the summer gone?" I must admit, I have the same feeling. Having just finished a week of vacation, when I left my watch at home, went camping and let the sun and the passing of the day direct my time, I feel refreshed for ministry. Long walks in the woods and lazy mornings reading and sipping coffee were welcome changes that honored the rhythm of rest and work.

Now, back in my office, I feel a sense of excitement as the fall season approaches. Sunday School, confirmation, Bible studies, and committees are busy preparing for another year of learning and fellowship together.

This summer our preaching series centered around "Growing: Wide, Deep, and Up," as Matthew's gospel and Paul's letter to the Romans helped us focus on hospitality, discipleship, and evangelism. After the growth of the last few months, as the eyes of our hearts were opened and the Holy Spirit called us to faith, the upcoming Sundays will serve to strengthen those convictions.

In September, we will be looking at the theme "Believing is Seeing." Our perception of God's character and involvement impacts how we live our lives and how we interact with one another. Our beliefs about God, ourselves, and one another either constrict healthy relationships or create open space for life and genuine community. Believing the gods of greed, scarcity, and indifference is seeing one another and community as something to fear, reject, and destroy. Believing in the God of love and abundance is seeing one another and community as essential partners in the restorative movement of God in our world.

So, yes, the summer is almost gone, but because of the attitude of discipleship, we can go to our tasks knowing that God dwells with us, strengthening and encouraging us. The yoke is easier and the burden lighter because it is for Christ that we are at work. It is Christ's love that energizes our work.

This month of September, take time to reflect on your image of discipleship. Think about your image and picture it in your mind as you go to your prayers and to your work.

Pastor Sue



## "Let the Games Begin"

The Parish Education Team and the Sunday School Staff invite you to a morning of:

- Olympic games
- Olympic crafts
- Olympic fellowship



When: Rally Sunday, September 7th  
after the 9:00 a.m. Worship.

Where: The Family Center

Pictures will be taken of the medal winners.

Please wear Red/White/Blue.



Regular Sunday school classes begin on September 14th. Classes start with 3 year olds (as of Sept. 1) up to grade 6. There is also a Not-So-Young class (for toddlers ages 18 months up to age 3). All parents should have received the parent's newsletter, the snack schedule, the Sunday school calendar and the Baptismal Journeys. Please keep this information for future reference. You may also go to our web site ([www.zionlc.com](http://www.zionlc.com)) for all this information. If you did not receive this information, please call the church office.

## Sermon Series for September

**September 7** [17 Pentecost] Text: Matthew 18:15-20; Romans 13:8-14

Title: ***“Love’s Vision”***

Theme: Believing in Jesus’ pathway to resolving conflicts is seeing endless possibilities for reconciliation.

**September 14** [18 Pentecost] Text: Genesis 50:15-21; Matthew 18:21-35

Title: ***“Mirror of Forgiveness”***

Theme: Believing in forgiveness is seeing opportunities to forgive.

**September 21** [19 Pentecost] Text: John 3:10-4:11; Matthew 20:1-16

Title: ***“Depth Perception”***

Theme: Believing in God’s abundant grace and generosity is seeing enough for all.

September 28 [20 Pentecost] Text: Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-13

Title: ***“A Picture of Humility”***

Theme: Believing in humility is seeing that which really matters.



**“God provides** every blessing in abundance. So that by always having enough of everything you may **share abundantly** in every good work.”  
2 Corinthians 9:8

### How your 2008 General Giving Makes a Difference:

- Regular budget dollars support outreach ministries: Synod Benevolence helps start new congregations, provides disaster relief, and supports mission work around the world.
- Phones are answered, newsletters/bulletins are produced, and the business end of ministry that makes it all possible is supported.
- Newspaper ads, and special mailings, and Zion’s web page help invite our community into a life of faith.
- Baptismal journey classes help students and parents grow deep in their understanding and experience of the faith.
- Youth and Family activities such as lock-ins, confirmation retreats, and The J Team encourage the faith life of youth and children.
- Ten extended hours given to the Parish Associate helps balance pay and work load.
- 106 Sunday School children and 72 Vacation Bible School students hear about God’s love for their lives!
- Zion’s Praise Choir and the Sunday School choirs enhance our weekly worship.
- Our pipe organ is tuned and maintained on an annual basis.
- Adult Bible studies are offered throughout the year at various times and locations.
- The building and rental property upkeep and improvements continue to be done.

### Fair Trade

The Zion Lutheran Church Fair Trade Team will have a new coffee to sample at Fellowship on Sunday, September 21st. “Mind, Body & Soul” will be available for purchase along with a new fall item. Come visit our Fair Trade Table and see what is new. And a hint for October: Chocolate! Thank you for supporting this ministry.

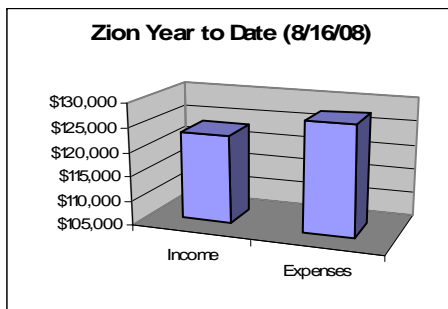
### Germanfest

Sunday, October 26th. Worship will be at 9:00 a.m. only. Meal will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Start thinking about the bake sale. More information will be coming in the October newsletter. Sign up sheets will be showing up.

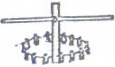
### Stewardship

As of August 16, 2008

Year to Date Income  
\$123,364.20  
Year to Date Expenses  
\$127,485.50  
\$ -4,121.30



## About your Zion Offering Envelope

		<i>Zion Lutheran Church</i> Evangelical Lutheran Church In America Stratford, Wisconsin
<b>APR 13 2008</b>		
CURRENT EXPENSES	\$	_____
DEBT REDUCTION	\$	_____
MISSIONARY	\$	_____
BUILDING FUND	\$	_____
L.S.S.	\$	_____
ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL	\$	_____
CROSSWAYS CAMPING MINISTRY	\$	_____
OTHER _____	\$	_____
TOTAL	\$	_____

**Current Expenses:** The amount here pays for the regular expenses of the church, other than the mortgage. This includes, salaries, utilities, and supplies. 12% of this goes to the ELCA for Synod and Church-wide activities.

**Debt Reduction:** This amount goes to pay our debt on the rental house. This will be paid up this month. This line will be removed in your next batch of envelopes.

**Missionary:** Steve and Bethany Friberg are our missionaries in Tanzania. Steve is a medical missionary. We, along with other congregations, support the Fribergs.

**Building Fund:** This amount goes to pay our mortgage on the building. A new three-year pledge will begin January 1.

**L.S.S.:** Each year, LSS touches the lives of over 100,000 people through a variety of compassionate social services from adoption, to counseling, to older adult services.

**ELCA World Hunger Appeal:** . ELCA World Hunger is a comprehensive and sustainable program that uses multiple strategies—[relief](#), [development](#), [education](#), and [advocacy](#)—to address the root causes of hunger and poverty.

**Crossways Camping Ministry:** This amount goes to Crossways camping ministry. Confirmation students attend Waypost which is one of the Crossway camps.

**Other \_\_\_\_\_:** This amount can be designated for any area of interest.

**Note:** If you do not enter an amount in any of the lines, the entire amount enclosed in the envelope goes to Current Expenses.



## Carpet Cleaning Day

A BIG Thank You to everyone who helped with the carpet cleaning on Sunday, August 10th. The entire church was cleaned due to their help in 6 1/2 hours. Thanks to: Mark & Sandy Andersen, Pat & Ardell Emon, Ken Strutz, Jim Greenberg, Mike Rock, Pete Leick, Norbert Lee, Dan & Donna Schrameyer.

## Thanks

Thanks for the prayers, cards, and concern upon the death of my father, Hubert Boehm.

The family of Charles & Jan Brown

## Tuesday Morning Bible Study A Study of Luther's Small Catechism for Adults

This Study presents the Lutheran heritage of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in adult format. This Study reinforces the Lutheran traditions of reverence for God's Word, faithfulness in worship, and understanding of Martin Luther's Small Catechism. With this Study, we will be challenged to move into the future with a renewed sense of mission and outreach.

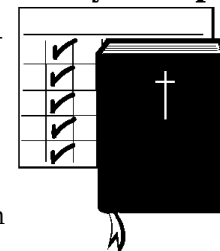
There is a participant's study book. If possible, we would like each participant to pay for his/her study book. Cost is \$7.00. Make check payable to Zion Lutheran Church and mark it Adult Study. The books are available at the church office. You may pick one up at your convenience.

This Study begins September 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. We will meet in the conference room. Please join us for this Study.

## Interactive Webcast –Monday Evening Bible Study

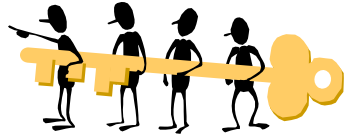
Come join us on Monday evenings, September 15 through October 13th, from 7-9 p.m. in the church conference room for a study on the "Gospel of Mark" with the instructor, Sarah Henrich, professor of new Testament. Mark's fast-paced story of Jesus begins and ends with surprising abruptness. Throughout his Gospel, Mark weaves a challenging set of narratives, sayings, and parables to bring us into the presence of a Savior both mysterious and determined.

## WEEKLY Study Group





## With The 4 Keys



**Family Service**  
 Invite a friend or an un-churched person to come and worship with you. Invite their children to stay for Sunday school.

**Family Devotions**  
 Start each day with these words from Psalm 118:24:  
*"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."*

**Caring Conversation**  
 Each week use the "Witness at Home" your child brings home from Sunday School. Use these activities to nurture and celebrate faith at home.

**Rituals & Traditions**  
 When you grant allowances, foster a healthy understanding of stewardship by dividing the amount into savings (30%), spending (60%) and church offering (10%).

<b>Building Update</b>					
Payment Date	Start Balance	Payment Amt	Interest Paid	Principal Paid	Ending Balance
5/1/08	\$866,885.90	\$6,285.19	\$4,402.40	\$ 1,882.79	\$865,003.11
6/1/08	\$865,003.11	\$6,285.19	\$4,520.11	\$ 1,765.08	\$863,238.03
7/1/08	\$863,238.03	\$6,285.19	\$4,313.48	\$ 1,971.71	\$861,266.32
7/28/08	\$861,266.32			\$ 5,000.00	\$856,266.32
8/1/08	\$856,266.32	\$6,285.19	\$4,468.11	\$ 1,817.08	\$854,449.24
Total monthly principal payments				\$ 24,019.72	
Total of extra principal payments				<u>\$ 85,000.00</u>	
Amount of principal paid 6/1/07 - 5/20/08				\$109,019.72	
MIF Checking acct balance as of 7/22				\$ 31,751.74	

## Council Minutes

Zion Lutheran Church Council met on Monday, August 18, 2008. President Marty Ferris called the meeting to order. Denise Marg led devotions and Pastor Sue led the leadership training.

During the meeting the council:

- Secretary Report M/S/C
  - Thank you to Lori Uthmeier for her years of service as an organizer.
  - Thank you from Pastor for remembering her on her anniversary.
  - Jan reported that they had great attendance at Summer Fun.
  - Committee chairs were encouraged to invite youth to serve on their committees.
  - The local fire department stated that there needs to be an annual fire alarm inspection.
- M/S/C to adjourn

Respectfully submitted by,  
 Rhonda Thompson

<b>BENEVOLENCE</b>			
	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Actual (8-16-08)</u>	
LSS	\$1,800.00	\$1,203.78	66.88%
Missionary	\$3,500.00	\$2,063.00	58.94%
Crossways	\$1,900.00	\$1,602.00	84.32%
World Hunger	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	50.00%
Mission Partners	\$ 750.00	\$ 823.00	109.73%

## Serving Schedule

Thank you to everyone who turned in their summer schedules. It was a great help in doing the schedule. If you have any requests not to be scheduled in the upcoming months, either call the church office or Grace Carpenter, 687-4348, or leave a note in her church mailbox.



## Puppet Ministry News at Zion

Come check us out. We need YOU!!  
 Informational Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 15th in the Fellowship Hall (Downstairs).  
 Bring your calendars. We will be planning for the year.

## PARISH EDUCATION

### Zion's Baptismal Journeys

3 year olds	Sept. 28	“Prayers”
4 year olds	Nov. 2	“This is My Church”
Kindergarten	Oct. 12	“Prayer Pillows”
Grade 1	March 8	“Stewardship”
	April 5	“Bible Sunday”
Grade 2	Feb. 1	“Baptism”
Grade 3	Sept. 21	“Bible Sunday”
	Jan. 11, 18	“Worship”
Grade 4	Nov. 16	“Acolyte Training”
	Feb. 8	“The Lord's Prayer”
Grade 5	March 1	“Stewardship”
Grade 6	Nov. 9	“Luther's Life”
First Communion Classes	March 15, 21, 22	Ceremony March 29th.

### Snack List

Please note this year we have added to the snack list beverages for the parents to bring. Snack/Beverage providers need to be here by 8:45 a.m. to deliver snack/beverage to the classroom by 9:00 a.m. We are also requesting the providers to stay in the snack/beverage area until 9:15 a.m. for any late student arrivals that may need snack/beverage. Cleanup kitchen is also part of the snack/beverage providers duties. Each snack provider bring enough snack for 40 students and beverage provider bring enough beverages for 80 students.

September 14	Tadd Schoenherr Family
	Dan Thompson Family
Beverage:	Les Ormand Family
September 21	Ricky Timm Family
	Patrick Wrensch Family
Beverage:	Joe Schmidt Family
September 28	Blaine Aschenbrenner Family
	Terry Hoesly Family
Beverage:	Kristi Oertel Family

### Web Information

The Sunday school schedule, Baptismal Journeys, and Snack Calendar are on Zion's website ([www.zionlc.com](http://www.zionlc.com)) under Children's Ministry. Also, the Confirmation booklet and Disciples for Christ booklets are under the Youth Ministry under Confirmation information downloads.

## The J Team

The J Team meets the last Wednesday of the month after school until 5:00 p.m. Jan will pick the Stratford students up by the bike racks and walk them down to church. Our first J Team for the year will be September 24th. We have a new adult face this year to help with The J Team. Jackie Greenberg had so much fun at “Summer Fun” that she graciously accepted helping with The J Team. Thank you, Jackie!

Some of the activities we will be engaged in are: devotions, games, snacks, skits, scavenger hunts and more. One of the major activities the J Team does is service projects. Kids, you can look forward to making pumpkin pies for a November fellowship, baking cookies for Ronald McDonald house, singing Christmas carols at the Elder House, etc.

3rd through 5th grade parents, please watch your mail for a letter announcing this program for your children. We are anticipating a great year of learning and fun.

Also, students and parents—don't forget about Jinkers. He is alive and well and will be looking for a place to stay for October.

### 7-9th Grade Confirmation Kick-Off

On Wednesday, September 3rd, at 6:30 p.m. there will be a Confirmation Kick-off for Parents and Youth of 8 & 9th graders. Parents and Youth of 7th graders are asked to be there by 7:00 p.m. It is extremely important to attend this informational kick-off meeting in the Family Center. Also, it would be helpful to bring your calendar, for this will be a planning meeting where dates will be decided.

### Tenth Grade Confirmation Kick-Off

A meeting for all 10th grade Confirmation students and parents will be held on Wednesday, September 3rd at 7:30 p.m. in the Family Center. All 10th graders—a mentor MUST be chosen and their name turned in to the church office by August 24th. A letter will be mailed with more information.

### September Confirmation Electives

6:00—7:30 p.m.

Sept. 10	Video Scavenger Hunt
Sept. 17	What Hymns Teach Us
Sept. 24	What's for Supper?

### Thanks for Your Support

It's back to school time for teachers, staff, and students of all ages, and that includes seminarians. After a busy spring semester, I took a two-week break, then returned to Luther for summer classes. I took the summer maximum of three courses; the most recent of these was taught by the professor who will teach the upcoming Gospel of Mark Bible study, Dr. Sarah Henrich.

This fall I will do clinical pastoral education, which is basically an internship as a hospital chaplain, at Mercy and Unity Hospitals in Fridley, MN. I will also take a few classes at Luther at the same time.

In addition to learning in a classroom, I am assigned to a church in the Twin Cities area in which to participate, observe, and explore my gifts for ministry. This summer, in addition to my assigned church, St. Timothy Lutheran in St. Paul, I have been attending a small Spanish-speaking church named Pueblo de Fe, where I quickly became the head of the Sunday school program. Pueblo de Fe is a new mission congregation; they celebrated their second anniversary this summer. I intend to continue worshipping at both my English and Spanish speaking congregations throughout the coming academic year.

Deep and heartfelt thanks go out to all who have supported me this past year with letters, financial support, and especially prayers. I ask that you continue to keep me in prayer, as I continue on the journey to answer my call.

Blessings,  
Karen Polege

Zion received a certificate from the Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota that stated:

Thank you for helping to prepare leaders for Christian communities by providing tuition support for Karen Polege during the 2007-2008 academic year at Luther Seminary.

### National Youth Gathering

An informational meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 2nd, at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Center for the National Youth Gathering. All youth 9th through 12th grade can attend this gathering in New Orleans this July. If you are interested, you may attend this meeting.

## Zion Youth Grades 6-12 Fall Kick-Off Event Klemme Reserve September 28 1:00-3:00



Frisbee golf  
Bean Bag Toss  
Ladder Golf  
Board games

Bring a Friend  
Cook out for supper

### PASTORAL ACTS Funeral

---

The memorial service of Richard Zoellner was held at Zion Lutheran Church on Friday, August 22nd. Richard died on July 31, 2008.

### Baptisms

Wyatt James Meador and Madison Rose Meador, the son and daughter of Jamey and Lisa Meador, received the sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, August 24th, at 1:00 p.m. Their sponsors are Scott and Christina Helms.

### Wedding

The marriage of Katie Leick and Jon Fleming was held in Sylvan Lake, South Dakota, on Saturday, August 31st. Please remember Katie and Jon in your prayers as they begin their lives together.

### **Blood Pressure Screening**

At the Stratford Community Hall 9:30—11:00 a.m.  
2nd Wednesday of the month

### **Blood Pressure Check and Glucose Testing**

Fourth Tuesday of each month, 1:30-3:30 at the Stratford Library by a nurse. Call for information.

### **Steak Feed**

The Stratford VFW will have its monthly steak feed on the first Tuesday of each month.

### **Community Outreach Meal**

St. John's Lutheran Church, Spencer, will serve a free meal on the 4th Tuesday of each month, from 5:00—6:30 p.m.

### **Stratford Monument**

A longtime local dealership of Sunburst Memorials, is now represented in this area by Mike and Cindy Ullman. The Ullman's are lifelong Stratford residents and Cindy is the daughter of the late Chuck Drexler.

Chuck was in the monument business for many years and his service and dedication to quality will be continued by his family. Please contact Stratford Monument for the opportunity to turn your memories into a memorial of love and beauty. 715-687-4943.

### **Meal With-A-Peel**

Trinity Lutheran Church  
201 N. West St. Loyal, WI  
Wednesday, September 17 4-8 p.m.  
Swedish & Regular Meatballs,

Baked potatoes with toppings, lots of salads and bars  
Bake Sale, Candy, Gift Items, cards  
Adults \$6.50, 6-12 \$4.50

### **Pancake Dinner**

Sunday, Sept. 28th  
10:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

At St. John's Lutheran Church  
1 mile north of Spencer on Hwy 13

Wheat & potato pancakes, sausage, applesauce, cheese & bars  
Adults \$6, 6-12 yrs old \$4 Preschool Free

### **YOUR CHURCH STAFF**

Church Office Hours:  
Monday—Friday  
7:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Marty Ferris  
V. President: Tadd Schoenherr  
Secretary: Rhonda Thompson  
Treasurer: Rod Huther  
Evangelism: Pat Emon  
Parish Ed: Wendy Spaeth  
Property: Dan Schrameyer  
Stewardship: Ellen Leick  
Worship: Denise Marg  
Youth: Gary Wussow

### PASTOR: Sue Eidahl

Home Phone: 687-4381  
E-mail: eides@zionlc.com  
Parish Associate: Janice Lee  
E-mail: janicelee@zionlc.com  
Secretary: Wendy Drexler  
E-mail: wendy@zionlc.com

### CHURCH OFFICE:

715-687-4110  
FAX: 715-687-3541  
WEB SITE: www.zionlc.com

### **WORSHIP ON SUNDAY AT 8:00 & 10:15 a.m.**

### **Sunday School—9:00 a.m.**

### **INDEX**

Page	
1	September Schedule
2	Pastor Sue's Letter
3	Rally Sunday
4	Sermon Series
4	Stewardship Update
5	Share—Capital Appeal
6	About Your Offering Envelopes
7	Thanks
7	Bible Study Opportunities
8	Connecting Home & Congregation
8	Building Update
9	Council Minutes
9	Puppets
10	Sunday School
11	Sunday School
12	Thanks for Your Support
13	Youth Event
13	Pastoral Acts
14	Community Events
	Inside Pull Out
	• Calendar / Serving Schedule
	• YMCA Pryme Time

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The 21st of each month.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE**

Thursdays by 9:00 a.m.

### **WEEKLY E-MAIL**

Goes out on Monday early morning. email janicelee@zionlc.com to get it

### **Please keep the office updated:**

- Address changes
- Births
- Deaths
- Hospitalizations