



From the Pastor's Cup... »

April 2024

Dear Church Family,

April is the month that brings the end to another 8th grade confirmation class. I have confirmed 29 such 8th grade confirmation classes in four different church settings. Roughly figuring I have probably confirmed 340+ confirmands in those 29 years. I always find it interesting when I cross paths with one of those 340+.

It was a Sunday afternoon in February at Lincoln East when I crossed paths with one. Karen and I were in the public hallway with all the trophy cases. We were waiting for our next granddaughter's tournament basketball game. It was then when a former confirmand came up and called me "pastor" and shook my hand. His name is Colby. Colby and his family were there from Omaha. Just like us, they were waiting on one of his daughter's tournament basketball games.

We had time to catch up on his family, his work (he is an optometrist like my son), his parents and his two brothers. It was good to reconnect with Colby, it just proves Christianity is all about the relationships we make. After that, Colby and my son talked shop and then we went our separate ways, Karen & I followed our granddaughter into one gym, and Colby and his family into another gym.

Even though we will be confirming nine 8th graders on Sunday, April 28th our relationship with them doesn't end. You never know when your paths may cross. Proverbs 3:5-6 says:

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.*

And who knows, maybe one of those confirmands will come and serve you as your called and ordained pastor someday.

Sincerely Pr. Jer

9 am SUNDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP IN April 2024

The movie, **The Book Thief** based on the best-selling book published in 2006. An extremely moving story of a girl who transforms the lives of those around her during World War II Germany. When her mother can no longer take care of her, Liesel is adopted by a German couple. Although she arrives illiterate, is encouraged to read by her adoptive father. When the couple then takes in Max, a Jew hiding from Hitler's army, Liesel befriends him. Ultimately words and imagination provide the friends with an escape from the events unfolding around them.

8th GRADE CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2024

Reminder to start thinking about your Bible verse and My Faith Project for Confirmation Sunday on April 28, 2024. My Faith Project will be displayed on Sunday, April 21, 2024, in the fellowship hallway.

4/3/2024 6-7 p.m. – Lutheran Worship Practices

Bible Text: Exodus 8:1; Colossians 3:15-17; 2 Samuel 6:14-15

Lesson Focus: In worship God calls us, restores us to wholeness, and sends us out to serve others and the world.

Big Question: Why do we have to go to worship every week?

Key Words: WORSHIP, PRACTICE, BENEDICTION, OFFERING

- **Snack & drink plus staying the hour: Henry Garton's family.**

4/10/2024 – 6-6:45 p.m. – Christian Denominations

Video Clip by the Skit Guys -- Meet the Sanders

Bible Text: Matthew 16:13-20; John 17:6-21; Ephesians 2:1-22

Lesson Focus: The various Christian denominations share our beliefs.

Big Question: If we all worship the same God, and Jesus is Lord of all, where did all the different "churches" come from?

Key Words: PROTESTANT, CATHOLIC, ORTHODOX, CREED, ECUMENICAL, INFAALIBLE, INERENT

- **Snack & drink plus staying the hour: Harley Grone's family.**

4/17/2024 6-7 p.m. – World Religions

Bible Text: Genesis 17:1-7; 21:1-21; Isaiah 11:1-10; Matthew 15:21-28; Acts 10:1-35

Lesson Focus: Christians who are knowledgeable and confident about their own faith can communicate and collaborate respectfully with people of other faiths.

Big Question: How are Christians supposed to interact with people of other faiths?

Key Words: JUDAISM, HINDUISM, BUDDHISM, ISLAM, MUSLIM

- **Snack & drink plus staying the hour: Paxton Parde's family.**

4/21/2024 – Sunday Faith Project Display & Explanation – This is the Sunday that your faith project will be displayed in the hallway to the fellowship hall. You will also read your explanation to the church council and audience, answering any possible questions. This time is after worship.

4/24/2023 6-7 p.m. 8th Grade Confirmation Class YEAR END REVIEW

Video Clip by The Skit Guys – God's Chisel

Time to review the year, make sure all 20 sermon notes are completed, and whatever else we need to talk about. **Pastor and Karen provide snack that night!!! We invite parents to stay this evening to celebrate the end of the year!!**

4/28/2024 – Confirmation Sunday!!! Parents organize robes, flowers and the photographer.

Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting **March 14, 2024**

Meeting was called to order by Cindy Parde

Members present: Cindy Parde, DeAnn Oltman, Kristi Dorn, Neal Meints, Kenny Reed, Jason Wallman, Carrye Meints

Absent: Paul Jurgens, Kevin Buhr

Todd Bohlmeier gave a report on the insurance for the church.

Pastor Jer shared: Regroup & Reflect

Motion made and seconded to accept meeting agenda for 3-14-2024 meeting.

Motion made and seconded to accept minutes from February 4, 2024 and February 7, 2024.

Upcoming Baptisms:

- **3-17-2024** - Cash William Harwood and Stevie Sue Harwood (Paige & Steven Harwood)

Upcoming Weddings:

- **7/27/2024** – Emily Lenners & Brendan Lipovsky
- **11/2/2024** – Maggie Parde & Cole Baumgartner
- **2/8/2025** - Cole Jurgens & Jenilee Wright

Upcoming Events:

- Freeman Baccalaureate at Zion Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday June 23, 2024, Rev. Dennis Rock from Lincoln will be filling in for Pastor Jer.
- Sunday September 29, 2024, Mission Sunday, NLOM/ Camp Carol Joy Holling Executive Director Jason Gerdes here.

February's Mileage: 596 miles

Celebrating God's Work in Progress – Old Business

- **Spring Cleaning** - Saturday, March 23, 2024, will be spring cleaning. This will be inside and outside. We will begin at 9:00 a.m.
- **Non-member fee for Funerals and Weddings** - The committee shared a spreadsheet with our policy and other churches' policies. We will table this vote, so everyone has a chance to look it over and then vote at the next meeting.

Discerning God's Will – New Business

- **Debit Card/Venmo/ CD update** - Looking into increasing the debit card limit from \$500 to \$1000. Riley Frerichs is doing some research on using Venmo for payments to the church. The seminary fund will be put into a CD because the interest rate is better.
- **Insurance Update - Todd Bohlmeyer** - Todd explained that we have been with Church Mutual, but they are dropping our church. He has been doing research and we are now going with Brotherhood Mutual Insurance.
- **Council Coverages /Duties** - Discussed dates for the spring and covering services. Updating the list of duties for the council.
- **Holy Week/Easter Services** - Maundy Thursday with confirmation, Good Friday, Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. and a service at 9:30 a.m. Breakfast will be in between.
- **Music Contract - Discover Worship** - Looking into a music contract for Sunday School. The Discover Worship can only be used by the children. There will be more follow-up with Sammie Garton.
- **Zion's Church Constitution** - We looked over and discussed the first four chapters of the Constitution. We will focus on Chapters 5 and 6 for the next meeting.

Ministry Team Report as of February 7, 2024

- Financial-General Fund Balance on hand 2/1/2024 - \$149,398.21
- Income - \$146,965.74
- Balance on hand – 2/29/2024 - \$161,106.66
- Sinking Fund - \$56,282.68
- Seminary Fund - \$42,251.11
- Thrivent Mutual Fund - \$2,862.84
- Open Savings - \$34,871.16

Motion was made to approve the Financial and Ministry Team Reports.

Next Council Meeting will be Wednesday, April 10,2024

Devotions - 7:00

Committees – 7:05

Council – 7:30

We closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Carrye Meints, Secretary

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE: Did not meet

HOSPITALITY: Did not meet

Will serve on 3/17/24.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: Jason Wallman, Terry Oltman

Balance: \$14,777.49

Receipts: Evelyn Kisling 990.00 + Interest \$ 7.30

Balance: \$15,7774.79

Looking for things that the Church needs

PARISH ED: 3/14/2024 Meeting Notes

Members Present: Allison Lane, Nicole Behrends, Lanette Nelson, Courtney Schlake, Jay Bartlett

Members Absent: Alyssa Lieneman

- Balance as of 3/14/24
 - \$1,977.06
- Expenses
 - None

Parish Ed Continued:

▪ Old Business

- Lanette ordered Sunday School material for Spring
 - Current VS Old curriculum
- 150th Anniversary
 - Coloring Pages
- Palm Branches for Palm Sunday
 - Steve Oltman will provide.
- Elections for 2024
 - Chairman – Jay Bartlett
 - Secretary – Courtney Schlake
 - Treasurer – Allison Lane
 - Members – Nicole Behrends, Lanette Nelson & Alyssa Lieneman
 - Council Rep: Carrye Meints
- VBS Save the Date
 - Online Signup link available April 1st
 - VBS: Tuesday 5/28 – Friday 5/31
 - Volunteer Sheet

New Business

- 2024-2025 Parish Ed Handbook
- 3rd Grade Sunday School Teacher
 - Carrie Reed has decided to stop after this current year.
 - Will put announcement in bulletin to find replacement.
- VBS
 - Volunteer sheet in Parish Ed Office
 - Should Pre-K be 2 or 4 days this year?
 - Need volunteers. Jay will ask Sarah.
 - Ask businesses for donations.
 - Walmart? Food Donations or monetary
- New Curriculum for Sunday School?
 - Will send survey for teachers to fill out.
- New Music Options
 - Discover Worship – online music/songs for children's choir.

PARK BOARD:

Discussed landscape work which will provide better seating area for spectators.

New calendar system for Fuller Park

Summer mowing

Adding members to board

PROPERTY & MANAGEMENT: Kenny Reed, Terry Oltman, Neal Meints, Connor Mason

Old Business: Church & Fellowship Doors
Heating & Air systems for church

New Business: Spring Clean-up 3/23
The water fountain by women's bathroom in fellowship hall is fixed.

PUBLICITY: Did not meet

STEWARDSHIP Did not meet

WILLIE & ANNA MEINTS ENDOWMENT: DeAnn Oltman, Laura Fikar, Steve Oltman

Old Business: Met on 2/26/24

Balance 1/26/24 \$ 329,874.90

Paid 17 College students \$ 930.00 each

Reimbursed 3 camp attendees

Balance 2/23/24 \$ 337,317.48

New Business: Will advertise in the newsletter & May bulletins for camp reimbursement after attending camp.

Discussed amount we will give to those attending Youth Retreat.

WORSHIP & MUSIC: Did not meet

YOUTH Did not meet

March 16th was National Quilting Day.

This picture is of most of our Lutheran World Relief/Local Quilt Makers.

Our next quilting days will be on April 8th & 9th and April 22 & 23rd - 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Come for the day or an hour. Bring your lunch.

Everyone is welcome to come to help on these days. Not experience needed!! We have a number of different jobs. It is also great fellowship time!



Grace Circle News

Grace Circle met Mar. 13, 2024 @1:30PM in the Fellowship Hall. The devotional meeting was opened by singing, "Shall We Gather at the River" and a prayer. Elnora Lenners and Lorene Wallman led us in an interesting Bible study on rivers.

Reading of the minutes opened the business meeting. Roll call was taken showing 9 members and 1 guest, Dianna Andrew, present. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$22.00. An offering of \$61.00 was taken. All members paid a fine of \$.25 if we wanted it to rain tonight.

Everyone signed Easter cards for shut-ins and Pastor and Karen.

It was decided to have Roxanne Dorn reorder Gather magazine for everyone this upcoming year.

No further business. Meeting adjourned.

Mickey Larkins – Secretary

Youth News



The poster features a yellow background with a pink border. At the top, the text "ZION SUNDAY SCHOOL" is written in large, bold, black letters, with "February 2024 Perfect Attendance" below it in a smaller font. Two large, pink, hand-drawn hearts are positioned on either side of the title. The names of students are listed in three columns, grouped by grade level. Each grade level is preceded by a bold, underlined title. The names are listed in a simple, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom center, there are several smaller, pink, hand-drawn hearts of various sizes.

ZION SUNDAY SCHOOL		
February 2024 Perfect Attendance		
<u>Little Angels</u>	<u>First Grade</u>	<u>Fourth Grade</u>
Dorothy Freeman	Beau Gronewold	Austin Folkerts
Ellie Grummert	Logan Hippen	Devyn Gronewold
Palmer Parks		Brixton Coffin
		Ellis Freeman
<u>Pre-K</u>	<u>Second Grade</u>	<u>Fifth Grade</u>
Jaxson Lane	-	-
	<u>Third Grade</u>	<u>Sixth Grade</u>
<u>Kindergarten</u>	Gus Garton	Millie Garton
Claire Freeman	Layton Lieneman	
Emmalynn Blecha		<u>Seventh Grade</u>
Lane Grummert		-
Tucker Parks		<u>Eighth Grade</u>
		Henry Garton

ZION SUNDAY SCHOOL

March 2024 Perfect Attendance

Little Angels

Dorothy Freeman
Henry Behrends

Pre-K

Jaxson Lane

Kindergarten

-

First Grade

Connor Jensen
Carson Behrends

Second Grade

Blakely Peters
Brooks Coffin
Emma Lane

Third Grade

-

Fourth Grade

Tanden Wiese
Brixton Coffin
Ellis Freeman
Jace Behrends

Fifth Grade

-

Sixth Grade

-

Seventh Grade

Maximus Cornelius

Eighth Grade

James Scholl

Volunteer Opportunity



Parish Ed is in need of a few more teachers for the next Sunday

School year beginning in September. If you have been wanting to get involved or volunteer your hour while you wait for your child/children during Sunday School, this is your time to shine! If you have a buddy this would be a great opportunity to do things together and split responsibilities and not feel the pressure of needing to be available every single week! It works great

when you have a partner in teaching so you can work together to switch every other week, every other month, only fill in when the other is gone and have a primary person teach, etc. Whatever works best for you and your partner would be fine. Or you can volunteer solo too! **We need volunteers to keep our youth program thriving!** Don't wait, contact a Parish Ed member today if you're interested!

First Communion Class - taught by Karla Carstens

Grayson Borgman – son of Chad & Liz Buhr

Bristyl Bayless – daughter of McKaila Bayless and Trevor Bayless

Nolan Buhr – son of Alex & Beth Buhr

Cash Harwood – son of Steve & Paige Harwood

Micah Hofstetter – son of Brandon & Lindsey Hofstetter

These young people have been meeting for the past few weeks on Wednesday evenings to prepare for their First Communion that will take place on Maundy Thursday. During these sessions they have been learning about God's unending love and sacrifices made for each one of them. We have discussed the two sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. How each of these sacraments are God showing his love "For Us". They have been studying how to prepare their hearts and minds each time they are blessed in partaking of this communion meal by understanding the significance behind the Bread and Wine, the Body and Blood of our Savior.

May this life-giving Bread always feed your soul and nourish your spirit. May you always know the peace of Jesus, the light of his love and the joy of his life within you.

Karla Carsten

Baptism/New Members

We welcome our newest members in Christ - Cash William Harwood and Stevie Sue Harwood. Children of Steve & Paige (Cornelius) Harwood. Sponsors for Cash were Trip and Amya Cornelius and Sponsors for Stevie were Ashley Wolsleben and Charlie Bales. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Also, we welcome Steve and Paige Harwood as new members to Zion. They come to us from First Plymouth Church in Lincoln. Paige was a former member of Zion. Paige's daughter Bella Burr will be confirmed this spring. And Cash is in the first communion class with Karla this year. The family will be recognized in the fall on New Member/Good Neighbor Sunday. Welcome to Zion!

Thank you's received

I would like to thank everyone for all the well wishes and cards I received for my 90th birthday!

Lois Buhr

We would like to thank the congregation for lifting Arlan up in your thoughts and prayers. Thanks to the Joy Circle for the delicious desserts and help serving and decorating at the luncheon. A special Thanks to Pastor Jer for his visits, prayers, and the beautiful service.

Thank you.

Marie Zimmerman & the families of Arlan Zimmerman



Thank you to the Council and Zion Congregation for the gift card to Home Depot for my birthday. These are the items I got with the gift card. Thank you again!

Pastor Jer

A Thank you from the Nebraska Synod – To the members of Zion Lutheran Church for the \$12,000.00 Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and churchwide ministries of the ELCA.

From Bishop Scott Johnson and Bishop of the ELCA Bishop Elisabeth Eaton

The family of Bernice Parde would like to thank Pastor Jer and the Zion church family for their support over the past few years. Thank you, Pastor and Karen for the many home visits and, most recently, the hospital visits. We are appreciative for the beautiful funeral service and all the ladies of the church that provided salads, desserts, and served the meal. Thank you for all the support, prayers, cards, and many other acts of kindness you have given our family. She was proud to be a part of such a strong church family.

Card Shower

The family of Ernie Zimmerman is having a card shower for Ernie's 95th Birthday. Ernie's birthday is April 9th. Let's see if he can receive at least 95 birthday cards. Happy Birthday Ernie!



Congratulations to Isaac & Riley Frerichs on the birth of their son Silas Bradley Frerichs. Born March 20th. Congratulations to Grandpa Greg & Grandma Kristi Dorn.

The Council is looking for volunteers to set up the Nativity Scene in the Fellowship Hall for the Christmas season. This committee would be responsible for putting it up and taking it down. **We are also looking for volunteers to put up the crosses in the Fellowship Hall for the Lenten season.** The duties would include setting up and taking down.



These were wonderful donations to our church family. These decorations look beautiful each year. It adds so much to the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for carefully considering helping out with these special projects.

If you are interested, please contact a Council Member.



April 27th is Administrative Professional's Day

and feel it is important to extend a big THANK YOU to Karen and Riley for all they do for us here at Zion! These two do an amazing job of keeping us organized and balanced. If you see either of them this month, please let them know how much they're appreciated.

Sympathies:

Our sympathy to the family of Thees Busboom who passed away Sunday, February 26th. His funeral was here at Zion on Thursday, February 29th. Please continue to keep Irene, John & Marcia, Paul & Jenny, Mike & Doreen and Laurie & Greg and their families and all the extended family in your prayers.

Our sympathy to the family of Arlan Zimmerman – Arlan passed away Sunday, February 18th; his funeral was held here at Zion Saturday, February 24th. Please keep Marie Zimmerman, Marsha & Dean Zulauf, Russ and Amy Wallman, Robert and Doreen Wallman, Crystal and Ron Scholl and their families in your prayers.

Our sympathy to Lois & Ervin Meints and their family on the passing of Lois's sister - Evelyn Meints who passes away February 17th her funeral was at Christ Lutheran Church rural Pickrell on February 21st. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Our sympathy to Jim & Carol Young – Jim's mother Dorothy Young passed away she was at Gold Crest a short time. Please keep Jim & Carol in your prayers.

IF INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A WEEKLY BULLETIN you may do so by contacting the Church secretary and making a check out to Zion Church for \$75.00.

Bulletin's sponsored March:

For the week of March 17th: Bulletin was sponsored by Mark & Cerice Cornelius the grandparents of Cash & Stevie Harwood in honor of their baptisms.

For the week of March 24th: Bulletin was sponsored by Larry & Macy Gronewold and Patty, Brittnay & Jeremy Thomas in memory of Lawrence Gronewold their father and grandfather. Lawrence passed away March 25, 2022.

For the week of March 31st. Bulletin was sponsored by Dennis & Rhonda Fossler and Donald & LeAnn Fossler in memory of Harvey Fossler their father. Harvey passed away March 28, 2014.

Snow Brigade

Week of April 1- Matt Meints Captain**, Les Lieneman – tractor, David Meints – tractor, Gary Wiese, Andy Schoen, Perry Jurgens, Kenny Jurgens, Josh Nelson, Jeff Wiese, Jason Lovitt

Week of April 8 – Jordan Busboom ** Captain, Eric Parde – tractor, Chris Fossler – tractor. Chris Fossler -tractors, Duane Jurgens, Greg Robinson, Larry Johnson, Hunter Blackwell, Keith Parde, Steve Oltman

Week of April 15 – Alan Wiese ** Captain - James Meints – tractor, Kenny Newman, Paul Jurgens, Gerald Ideus, Todd Bohlmeyer, Brian Garton, Josh Gronewold, AJ Wiese.

Week of April 22 – Mark Buhr **Captain – Gary Gronewold – Tractor, Stan Lenner – Tractor, James Lenner, Billy Harms, Larry Gronewold, Dale Zimmerman, Luke Ideus, Justin Hippen.

Week of April 29 – Greg Dorn ** Captain, Dean Zimmerman – Tractor, Russ Wallman – tractor, Paul Remmers, Craig Ideus, Terry Gronewold, Dave Holland, Alex Buhr, Mike Busboom.

List of Easter Lillies for 2024 – (This is the list as of printing time on Monday – March 25th anything added after will be in the bulletins for Easter)



Alvera Bade & family

In Memory of Victor Bade, Emil & Margaret Wallman, Ralph & Neda Bade

Dennis Buhr & family

In Memory of Bev Buhr

Karen Buhr & family

In Memory of Leonard & Bruce Buhr

Mark & Christy Buhr

In Memory of Gloria Baker, Red Hofeling, Leonard & Bruce Buhr

Mark & Cerice Cornelius

In Memory of Ron & Adeline Cornelius, Diane Cornelius, Steph Morris

Betty Daubendiek, Carol Bloodworth, Connie Thornburg & families

In Memory of Walt & Angeline Johnson, Dean Thornburg, Roger Daubendiek and Roger Keller

Shirley Gronewold & family

In Memory of Ehme Gronewold

Steven & Paige Harwood

In Memory of Ron & Adeline Cornelius, Diane Cornelius, Steph Morris

Caroline Ideus, Laurie Leners, Craig & Jess Ideus & families

In Memory of Gary Ideus

Lynette Jurgens & family

In Memory of Ernest & Anna Jobman, Sarah Jurgens, Marilyn Folkerts, and Alisa Knipe

James & Kelly Leners, Eddie & Lynette Dorn and families

In Memory of Ernest, Emma, Dennis and Terry Meints

Tracy & Brooklyn Lidolph

In Memory of Wayne & Dorothy Lidolph & Larry White & Loved Ones

Kent & Jennifer and family

In Memory of Lowell Rahe, Keith Mahler, Cliff & Idella Mahler

Evelyn Meints & family

In Memory of Vernon Meints

Mildred Meints & family

In Memory of Lawrence Meints & Loved Ones

Walt & Katie Meints family

In Memory of Walt, Katie, Jim & John Meints

Terry, DeAnn Brett & Ashley Oltman

In Memory of Lenhart, Angeline & Gilbert Oltman and LaVerne Wolken

Doug & Cindy Parde & family

In Memory of Edward & Bernice Parde

Devonna Primavera & Betty Schone & families

In Memory of Elmer & Leona Trauernicht

Patty, Brittnay & Jeremy Thomas & Larry & Macy Gronewold

In Memory of Lawrence & Shirley Gronewold, George & Eleanor Wolken, Willie & Esther Gronewold

Lorene Wallman & family

In Memory of Eldon Wallman & Scott Higgins

NEED YOUR HELP!

If you have a Graduate from High School or College that will be graduating or graduated at Christmas time, please send your information to the Church office at jpzionlutheran@yahoo.com. Whether it be college plans or work plans.



Graduation Recognition Sunday is planned for **Sunday May 19th**.

Spring Clean up – Inside and Outside

Thank you to everyone that came and helped with the spring cleaning inside and out. Many hands make light work.

Here is a list of the people that were there to help **very** sorry if we missed your name. The sign-up sheet was at the last minute.



Henry Garton, Sammie Garton, Harley Grone, Jayden Wiese, Iris Wiese, McCoy Peters, Avery Busboom, Logan Busboom, Bella Burr, Max Cornelius, Brogan Ideus, Konnor Kolm, Kyle Kolm, Kristy Dorn, Connie Thornburg, Carrye Meints, Cindy Jurgens, Rose Gronewold, Faithy Bigly, Pastor Jer, Karen Gilbreath, Mert Rademacher, Craig Ideus, Connor Mason, Jason Wallman, Art Schuster, Deric Bloom, Kenny Reed, Doug Parde, Jordan Busboom,

David Meints, Neil Meints, Paul Remmers, Kelly Lenner, DeAnn Oltman, Kristen Meyer

Beatrice Educational Foundation

On behalf of the Lincoln Food Bank/Beatrice Public Schools Backpack Program we would like to thank you for your contribution. Your commitment to helping provide food-filled backpacks to hungry children and their families in our community is sincerely appreciated. The backpacks are providing much-needed food to children in the Beatrice Public School system that otherwise may go hungry during the weekends.

This is a program that, with continued community support such as yours, we hope will grow each year to meet the needs of our school children and their families. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the children in our community!

Sincerely,

Patty Kaufmann

Jill Zimmerman

Backpack Program Planning Committee

In thanking Zion Lutheran for providing money and food for the Beatrice Backpack program and the Food Pantry they have given Zion tickets to the Empty Bowls Luncheon on Wednesday, April 17th at the Vintage Venue from 11:30-1:00. If you are interested in attending there are free tickets on the sound booth in the back of the church.

150 years: Reflecting Zion's Past and Growing in God's Grace
Thanks to all who joined in celebrating the first 50 years
of Zion last Sunday.

The anniversary committee would like to give special thanks & recognition to...

- Pastor Jer for organizing our beautiful worship service & Bishop Johnson for his inspiring message
- Our secretary Karen Gilbreath for all the extra office time spent preparing for this service
- Our talented musical members from organists, trumpet & guitar players to choirs, both young & old
- Those helping with the delicious luncheon from "Big Foot Catering" run by Dennis & Doreen Remmers & crew to the delicious salads and desserts donated & to those that volunteered to serve.

We also thank Doreen Remmers for writing a Thrivent Grant for \$250.00 which helped fund the Freewill

donation meal that raised \$1,784 which will go to the Anniversary Fund for future expenses.

- Gerald Ideus for sharing his wagon in front of church
- Denise Ideus & Janet Byars for the many hours of research which Denise then created into the placemats, the 'Zion Times' bulletin insert and board displays.
- Silent Auction donations and bidders. Donations were received from Craig & Carol Bloodworth, Betty Daubendiek, Jason & Joni Folkerts, Les & Mert Rademacher, Patty Thomas, Kim & Connie Thornburg, Paul & Stephanie Wallman. Donations totaled \$765.00.
- Marcia Busboom for assisting with altar flowers & outdoor arrangements
- Our Zion Council members for their support

FYI -The Heritage Room is back under construction the rest of this month, so displays have been taken down.

If you have photo or memorabilia you would like to donate, **please contact Connie Thornburg at 402-673-3605** or any other Anniversary Committee member.

Two more Recognition Sundays remain. Pastor Arden Dorn on July 21st and Pastor Casey Lieneman October 27th.

Watch future newsletters & bulletins for further details.

Thank you to the Anniversary Committee: Janet Beyers, Jeni Bohlmeier, Denise Schlake-Ideus, Janet Harms, Sandy Meints, Steve Oltman, Mert Rademacher, Connie Thornburg

150th Anniversary Celebration



Bishop Johnson took a selfie of him and the congregation.

The Children's sermon with Bishop Johnson. He took them on a journey through the sanctuary. A journey of trust and faith.



YOUR VOCATION FOR THE MONTH

What you do for God!

WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE

April 7

Pastor: Jerry Gilbreath
Organist: Alnora Daubendiek
Acolytes: Jayden Wiese
Konnor Kolm
Lector: Jenny Busboom
Greeters: Council
Special Music: Men's Choir
Breakfast Club: VeAnn Jurgens

April 14

Pastor: Jerry Gilbreath
Organist: Shirley Gronewold
Acolytes: Konnor Kolm
Kipton Lovitt
Lector: Todd Bohlmeier
Greeters: Todd & Jeni Bohlmeier
Darwin & Susan Buss
Special Music: Kids of the Kingdom
Breakfast Club: Ivy Bloom

April 21

Pastor: Jerry Gilbreath
Keyboard: Janelle Ideus
Guitar: Deric Bloom
Acolytes: McCoy Peters
Karlee Riha
Lector: Linda Blackwell
Greeters: Karla Carstens
Eddie & Lynette Dorn
Special Music: Endless Hallelujah
Breakfast Club: Jennifer Mahler

April 28

Pastor: Jerry Gilbreath
Organist: Alnora Daubendiek
Acolytes: Colt Rinne
Brogan Ideus
Lector: Gary Gronewold
Greeters: Tony & Kristin Hoffman
Steve & Diane Oltman
Special Music: Amigos
Breakfast Club: Need Volunteer

April Altar Guild: Cindy Jurgens, Carrie Reed, Janet Harms, Peggy Johnson, Rose Gronewold.

April Table Troop: Duane Zulauf, Stan & Mary Lenners, Al Wiese, Doug Parde, Jeff Busboom, Steve Gronewold, Mark Buhr, Alex Buhr.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



1 Jason Folkers Jackson Grenemeier	9 Emerson Ideus Anna Siebert Brittany Thomas Ernest Zimmerman	21 Brian Evers Ryan Harms Susan Newman
2 Matthew Fossler Kace Schoen Booker Theye	10 Arnold Buhr Cole Schuster	22 Angela Blecha Grayson Borgman
3 Ella Archer Morgan Frerichs	12 Dennis Fossler Macy Oltman Lindsey Remmers	23 Lindsay Harms 24 Garrett Ideus 25 Brittany Sturek Beau Gronewold Paige Harwood Jami Meints
4 August Garton	13 Devin Dorn Kinley Novotny	26 Duane Jurgens Doreen Remmers Ryan Wiese
5 Maximus Cornelius Larry Gronewold Emma Lane Kent Mahler Kevin Trauernicht	14 Monty Barnard Maverick Podany Sloane Gene Sturek	28 Emmalynn Blecha Gary Carstens Sandi Davison
6 Kim Folkers Angie Grone Steve Gronewold Connor Mason	16 Rhonda Dorn Alan Folkerts McKenzleigh Ideus	29 Josh Jensen Brian Daubendiek
7 Presleigh Borgman	17 Carley Leners Janet Schuster	30 Linda Ideus Savannah Mahler Mya Mierau Doug Parde Wayne Wallman Adam Frerichs Heath Hovendick
8 Ron Scholl	18 Lauralee Sullivan Brooks Coffin Joni Folkerts Karissa Parks 20 Jonah Reed	

April 2024

	1 VBS online sign-up begins	2 6:30 The Chosen Bible Study	3 6 pm Confirmation 7 th & 8 th	4	5	6 WELCA Spring Gathering @ Syracuse, NE
7 8:45 SS 9 am BKF Club/ Adult SS 10 am Worship/Men's Choir/Comm	8 9-3 Blanket sewing	9 9-3 Blanket sewing 6:30 The Chosen Bible Study	10 1:30 Grace Circle 6 pm 7 th & 8 th Confirmation 7 pm Committee mtg 7:30 Council	11	12	13
14 8:45 SS 9 am BKF Club/ Adult SS 10 am Worship/Kids of the Kingdom	15	16	17 6 pm 7 th & 8 th Confirmation 6 pm Endless Hallelujah practice	18 Ladies Aid	19	20
21 8th Grade Faith projects after church 8:45 SS 9 am BKF Club/Adult SS 10 am Worship/ Endless/Hallelujah/ Comm	22 9-3 Blanket sewing	23 9-3 Blanket sewing	24 6 pm 7 th & 8 th Confirmation 8th grade party – parents are also invited	25 Ladies Aid **Printing Day Newsletter**	26	27
28 Confirmation Sunday 8:45 SS 9 am BKF Club/ Adult SS 10 am Worship/ Amigos/Communion	29	30				