

April - May 2013

wordinstone

Zion Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
1025 High Street
Klamath Falls, OR 97601
www.zionklamathfalls.org

Sunday School
Sunday, 9:00am
Worship
Sunday, 10:15am



Above: Planting a tree in the parking lot Creation Sunday, April 21 (photo by Joe)

More than a Potluck?

I love potlucks. Some of my earliest memories of the church include the old, red *The Lutheran Hymnal*, looking around in worship wondering why the men seemed to fold their hands differently, and AAL potlucks—which always included Randy’s fried chicken and playing outside during the business meeting.

The word pot-luck first appears in 16th century England, where it described “food provided for an unexpected or uninvited guest, the luck of the pot” (*Wikipedia*). Of course, when we hold a potluck in our church basement at Zion, there is no such thing as an “uninvited” guest, and they’re generally

planned in advance. And the “luck of the pot” has never disappointed! There’s always plenty of good food!

When is a “potluck” more than a “potluck”? Answer: When it is part of the life of the church. When it’s in the context of the Christian community.



Above: Thanks, again, to everyone who helped decorate the sanctuary for Easter!

Coffee hour. Potlucks. Ice cream socials. These practices help constitute the believing community as a social body.

The formation that happens as part of these seemingly neutral events is vital for the catechesis and education of our young people—and for the continuing formation of all our people.

One of my seminary professors once commented, “Coffee and potlucks? That’s part of formation! If we don’t have

time for these things, what’s forming them [our people]? Bowling league? Soccer team?”

When we start talking about passing on the faith to the next generation, the network built in our church basement is essential. Dave Kinnamon, in his recent book *You Lost Me*, calls these “interconnected approaches to faith transference.” He writes, “We need new ecosystems of spiritual and vocational apprenticeship that can support

deeper relationships and more vibrant faith formation (13).”

The fellowship we share as a congregation helps us hold each other accountable and be shaped into the community of believers. Building strong relationships over coffee and casseroles allows us to do this. We get to know each other and we connect in ways that enable us to love and serve one another in good times and bad.

Kinnamon also remarks, “Disciples are not mass-produced. Disciples are handmade, one relationship at a time (13).” Where? In church basements. On playgrounds. In Sunday School and Bible Classes. One at a time. Wherever the Lord congregates His communities of believers, people He has redeemed by His blood and gathered around His good gifts of grace. And, Lord willing, coffee and casseroles!

+ Peace to you +
Pastor Scott



Read: Acts 9.1-20



+ OUR MISSION +

Zion Lutheran Church, led by God, has been established to sow God's Word, nurture the believer, and foster growth in Christ.

STAFF

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BOARD OF ELDERS

Paul Wunder, Head Elder

Jim Fields

Cal Homer

Gene Miller

John Nickelson

Curtis Waite

James Huntsman, Cong. Pres.

WISDOM FROM WITTENBERG

This regular feature shares a quote or short piece by a theologian from the Lutheran tradition.

Martin Luther (1483-1546)

The following is from Luther's letter "To All Who Suffer Persecution" (1522), *Luther's Works*, vol. 43, 67-68:

"Lord, heavenly Father, if we must fall into sin, let us fall into any other sin, but deliver us from a hardening of the heart and keep us in and with Him whom You appointed Lord over sin and innocence. If we do not deny Him or lose sight of Him, all sin, death, and hell will not harm us. Yes, what is there that might harm us?

Still we must thank God with all our heart that He still permits us to see Him, as though He did not yet contemplate the withdrawal of His Word, so that He has given you and others a spirit not offended by His Word and a love for it. This is attested by the fact that you do not believe because of men but because of the Word itself...

Therefore our concern now must be to be grateful to the Father of

all mercy and consolation and to see to it that our faith henceforth does not consist in words but in power. For St. Paul says in 1 Corinthians [4:20], "The kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power." Our ability to speak or write eloquently about it is not sufficient; rather must our lives and deeds testify to the truth, as we demonstrate our love and bestow our works of kindness on friend and foe.

Thus we must pray first of all that God may impart more and more strength to us and our friends and let His dear Child Jesus grow in our hearts from day to day that we may praise, glorify, and confess Him with a zealous and happy heart."

Altar Guild Notes

Altar service for April was provided by **Bonnie Fields and Mark and Becky Hertel.**

Altar service for May will be provided by **Adelaide Blair, Patsey Mathes, Carol Lett, and Shelley Johnson.**

The next Altar Guild meeting will be Sunday, **June 2nd**, after

May Birthdays

- 2 BARBARA EICHELKRAUT
- 4 SARAH PARSONS
- 5 ELEANORE BEETS
- 6 JALIN KELLY
- 9 CAROLYN WAITE
- 13 CHARLOTTE WAITE
- 16 JUDY MANCHESTER
- 16 STEVE HILLYER
- 16 PATSEY MATHES
- 21 SHERIDAN NICKELSON
- 23 MALINDA NEVIN
- 24 ANGELO MERRIGAN
- 31 BRAYDEN GREGORY

May Anniversaries

- 12 CURTIS & LISA WAITE

BIBLE STUDIES @ ZION

SUNDAYS, 9:00 AM

Baptized for This Moment

Location: Fellowship Hall

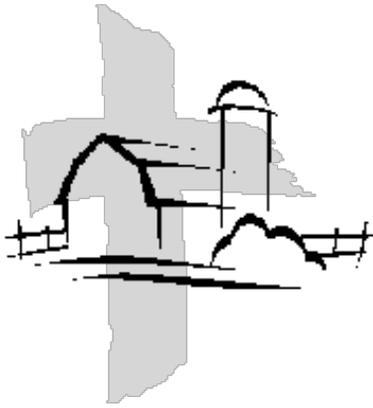
WEDNESDAYS, 1:00 PM

Our midweek class meets in the family room. We are studying *Leviticus*.

Note: We will break while Pastor is gone (June 8 - July 14).



our worship service (this has been rescheduled due to the Voters Assembly May 19th).



Reaching Rural
America for Christ

MISSION FIELDS: Rural & Small Town Mission

Many congregations across the heartland of America are concerned about shrinking membership and congregational survival. Often, it seems that programs and resources that address these issues are geared toward suburban church settings. LCMS *Rural and Small Town Mission* (RSTM) recognizes

that while the work to which God has called congregations is the same, the context in which that work is carried out can be very different—even in rural America.

While there is no "one" program or resource that will provide guaranteed results, RSTM provides training and resources aimed at helping rural and small town congregations assess community needs and search for opportunities to engage their communities through acts of witness and mercy.

Rural and Small Town Mission supports pastors, professional and lay leaders in sole parishes from rural and small town settings by providing on-going leadership training and connecting them with available resources for a number of ministry areas. Their leadership training and conferences will assist congregational leaders in community engagement and leading change as congregations become aware of changing community

demographics. As the work of RSTM continues to expand, there will be additional discussion of issues such as congregations working together in partnership, ethnic outreach in rural and small town settings and congregations with Lutheran day schools.



There are two "green thumbs" under those gloves! Thanks for your help with the flower beds, Sandy!



Above: Travis and Keith from Basin Glass working on the skylight in the Narthex on a beautiful spring morning back in March.

One of the primary components are "Engaging Rural Communities Events" that focus on congregations working together for the sake of the kingdom and meeting the needs of the communities in which they exist. As the work of

Rural and Small Town Mission continues to expand, their intention is to address such topics as the worker priest model of pastoral ministry and examine various partnership models for multiple

congregations working together.

If you would like additional information, please contact program coordinator, Amy Gerdt by email at amy.gerdt@lcms.org or by calling 1-888-463-5127.

“Why should the average Lutheran kid go to church?”

Read Pastor Harrison’s entire article here: <http://www.lcms.org/page.aspx?pid=1257>. Note: It is the third article (click #3 at the top of the page), from March 11, in “The View from Here” series.



LWML Spaghetti Dinner **Saturday, May 18th** **5:00pm - 7:00pm**

Join us for some food and fellowship! Suggested donation is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children (12 and under). All proceeds benefit the Gospel Mission Women’s Shelter Project.