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Ascension Worship at Zion Thursday, May 25 | 7:00 pm

Luke is our teacher when it comes to Christ's ascension. (Matthew, Mark and John do not include any report of Christ's ascension. Luke ends his first volume with the ascension of Jesus (Lk 24:44-53) and begins his second volume with the ascension of Jesus (Acts 1:1-11). Zion's Ascension Eve worship is May 25 at 7:00 p.m.

VBS | June 19-23, 2017

Vacation Bible School for Preschool age children through 5th grade will be **June 19-23, 2017!** Please add this joyful and fun week to your family calendar as you begin planning for summer vacation. Online registration is available now through the [Zion website](#). Enrollment is limited this year. Register now to ensure a spot for your child!

- The Preschool program meets **9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** and is for children age 3 to those entering Kindergarten.
- Day Camp meets **9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** and is for children completing Kindergarten through 5th grade. Caring college age counselors from Camp Ewalu staff the Day Camp.

There is no cost to attend VBS. Monetary contributions or gifts in kind will greatly help to offset the program cost of \$52 for each Day Camp participant. Please consider making a contribution.

VBS is a team effort in which Ewalu counselors, Zion volunteers, parents, and campers serve together to make the program exciting and enriching. To make it all happen, we still need:

- ⇒ Adult volunteers for the morning Preschool program (9:00 – 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday) and the afternoon Day Camp session (1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Monday- Thursday)
- ⇒ Kitchen helpers to prepare snacks for hungry campers (Monday-Friday mornings)
- ⇒ Meals provided for the Ewalu counselors
- ⇒ Chaperones for our Wednesday service and splash trip

If you can help one or more days that week, please contact [Pam Cantrell](#), or sign up via the link on the [Zion website](#).

*** More details on Page 10!

From the Corner

At the funeral of my Uncle Don (Mom's brother) on April 4 his "faith statement" was read. No one (family, pastors, friends) knows quite how it came to be that Uncle Don wrote this piece and how it came to be in his membership file at Zion Lutheran in Muscatine. Don was a life-long (93 years) member of that Zion; he farmed all his life (raised sheep & hogs, beans and corn, gathered eggs and bailed hay); he drove a school bus for 30 years. When he died, his confidence in the resurrection faith brought serenity to the room and inspired his friends and family to recognize the resurrection faith that has claimed us.

The Faith Statement of Donald Stange

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." It is this salvation that I must continually search and seek with my willing spirit and this weak flesh. For Christ works in mysterious ways through our frail bodies. I firmly believe this body a creation of God and a blessing to me. Therefore, I am deeply in debt to him for this. It is my earnest plea and prayer that he will use me, the life in this body, to his honor and glory, that the strength, knowledge and the blessing granted to me may be shared with others to the furtherance of his kingdom, so others may know of His mercy and grace. He loved us we know because of he gave himself through his bitter suffering and death on the cross. This he did, so we might have life. He did not curse those who crucified him, but said, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

If I long to be like Jesus, I too must show that love to him, and also as endeavoring to live as a child of God be repentant and seek forgiveness. To you as fellow worshipers may I expose and show this love which God has blessed me with. To be a "Christian is one who has communion with God and his fellow men." This means that we must share our love with everyone. Love is a blessing given to you and to me by Him who first loved us. Now is the time for us if we have anything but love in our hearts, strike it out, be repentant, seek forgiveness, and accept Christ as our Saviour. Then to all may we have that fellowship of believers and say: "and now abideth faith, hope, love, these three: but the greatest of these is love."



Invitation to the Ordination of Brian Middleswarth

By the grace of God and
the call of the church
Brian James Middleswarth
will be ordained
to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament
in Christ's one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church
on Saturday, the third day of June
in the year of our Lord
two thousand and seventeen
at one o'clock in the afternoon
at St. John's Lutheran Church
1420 Walker St.
Ely, Iowa
The Rev. Dr. Mark Pries
Pastor at Zion Lutheran Church Iowa City, IA, preaching.
the Reverend Michael Burk
Bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, presiding.
Your prayers and presence are requested.
All ordained, consecrated, and commissioned
ministers are invited to process.
The color of the day is red.

This Present Moment

Throughout these fifty days of Easter, we hear stories from the four gospels of Jesus appearing to his disciples after he has risen from the dead. Each gospel, in its own way, wrestles with how Jesus took physical form after coming back to life. In John, Jesus first appears to Mary Magdalene in the garden, but cautions her not to cling to him for he has not yet ascended to the Father. When he appears to his disciples later that same day, he somehow walks through locked doors to come into the room where they are hiding. Jesus then says, "Peace be with you," and invites them, and later Thomas, to touch the wounds in his hands and side in order to believe that he is real. In Matthew, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary encounter Jesus in route to tell the disciples the message of the angel. They take hold of his feet and worship him. Both Luke and John include scenes with Jesus eating fish after his resurrection to show that he is not a ghost, but possesses a physical body. In Luke, after walking to Emmaus with two disciples, Jesus reveals who he is at dinner while blessing and breaking the bread. Then mysteriously he disappears into thin air. And in the shorter ending of Mark's gospel, Jesus does not make any appearance after his resurrection. The angel at the tomb sends word to the disciples to go to Galilee and promises that there they will see the risen Lord.

After being raised from the dead, Jesus is present with his disciples, but you can tell the writers of the gospels truly have difficulty explaining this phenomenon. How exactly is Jesus with them in this in-between time before he ascends into heaven? As disciples of Jesus nearly two thousand years later, we could ask the very same question. How is Jesus with us? How do we know that he is present when we gather as a worshipping community?

In our liturgy preceding Holy Communion, the presider says to the congregation, "The peace of the Lord be with you." With these words, we remember Jesus' first appearance to his disciples after his Resurrection. Jesus comes to us as he did to them. As we share the peace with one another, we reenact the scene of Thomas touching the wounded hands of the risen Lord. When we shake hands with another person, we touch fellow members of the body of Christ, greeting them with the peace that comes only from our Lord.

Then as we begin our Thanksgiving at the Table, we speak this call and response, "The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**" In one sense, this is a declaration of fact. We know that Jesus is with us. His cross is marked on our foreheads. We are beloved children of God. And where two or three of us are gathered in Jesus' name, there he is in the midst of us. But this call and response also serves as a performative word. When we say, "The Lord be with you," we offer a blessing on the other person. We ask that they may experience the presence of Christ, that they may become aware on a deeper level that Jesus is with them and that they dwell within the life of God.

Then as we come forward to the altar, we receive the body and blood of our Lord. In the bread and wine, we take hold of Jesus as Mary Magdalene and the other Mary did and worship him. We take Jesus' presence into our own bodies. We carry him with us and he becomes fuel for our journey of faith. As we leave worship and go back to our daily lives, Jesus makes appearances in the world through us. Under the guise of parents, children, students, neighbors, community workers, and professionals, Jesus continues to share his message of peace to those whom we meet. As we hear the stories of our resurrected Lord during this Easter season, may we carry them with us in our worship practice. As you share the peace with others, hear the presider pray, "The Lord be with you," and receive Jesus' body and blood, may you recognize the risen Christ who is with you. Then may you be the presence of Christ as you go in peace to serve the Lord.

-Pastor Lutz

Congregational Happenings

Message from the Council President

Randy Willman, Council

Easter Sunday at Zion was a beautiful celebration of our risen Lord! Alleluia!

Council topics at the April 11 meeting included: (1) updates on the Kairos initiative. The next step is setting up at least one Community Engagement Panel. That is in the works. Dr. Brown plans to meet with council on Sunday April 30 to provide a synopsis of discussions at the cottage meetings many attended. The priority areas that emerged from the meetings will be put in to a Ministry Plan. The Plan will probably have 2 phases – the first phase for priority areas for the next 2 years and the second phase for years 3 and 4. It is anticipated one or more council members will present a final Kairos report to the congregation at a June date to be set. (2) Property team issues included updates on the Chapel and Welcome Center projects. (3) On the education side, Sunday School is soon ending and as summer approaches, discussions included VBS, confirmation camp and Adult VBS.

Message from the Treasurer

Ed Scheetz, Treasurer

Our income and expenses are tracking nicely as planned. The painting at 320 N. Johnson and sign project are about finished. Re-sodding the front yard is bid and also on budget. Spring is here and Zion is showing multiple face-lifts. Keep up the great work everyone.

	Mar-17	YTD 2017	% BUDGET
Income	82,864	282,901	27%
Expense	87,331	279,088	27%
	Mar-16	YTD 2016	% BUDGET
Income	270,500	411,539	42%
Expense	283,204	417,712	42%
16' wo/Line-of-Credit and EZE costs			
Income	110,500	251,539	26%
Expense	123,204	257,712	26%

May Membership Updates

May Birthdays

Fran Gruenhaupt (10); Kenn Gamb (11); Maureen Knowling (24); Dora Van Winkle (30)

Baptisms

Landon Hart; son of Rob & Amy Hart (4/15)
Kate Morgan Rocha; daughter of Emily Bonneau & Rene Rocha (4/15)

Deaths

Ann Brawner (4/15)
Dennis Rike (4/3)
Mary Wood (4/12)

Weddings

Elizabeth Clefisch and Jordan Hanarahn (5/19)

Freed
& RENEWED
in **Christ**
500
YEARS OF GOD'S
GRACE IN ACTION

Martin Luther's Quote of the Month

“Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.”

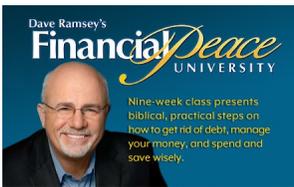
Congregational Happenings

With Appreciation from the Easter Breakfast Team

A BIG Thank You to everyone who helped make our 2017 Easter Breakfast so great! We had over 30 faithful volunteers giving of their time throughout the weekend, as well as 30+ people contributing food items for the meal. THANK YOU for supporting the great youth of Zion by donating, serving, eating, and sharing sweet words of encouragement! This is a wonderful start to the fundraising efforts that will help our youth attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering in June 2018!

~Maggie Atkinson, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Looking for Financial Peace?



If you want to get your finances back on track and become a better steward of God's provisions, plan to attend [Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University](#) 9-week program. Learn how to push through debt, set goals, achieve financial stability, and be more generous in your life. Couples and singles are welcome! A program kit will be provided to members of Zion at no cost. Non-members are also welcome (cost \$149).

Classes will take place on Sundays beginning June 4-July 30, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Zion and will be led by Steve and Katie Martin.

Questions or interested? Contact [Katie Martin](#) for more information. Sign-up by Monday, May 15 to [Shannon Esmann](#) or in the Narthex on Sunday.



Nearly 60 members of Zion Lutheran Church and New Creation International Church lunched together potluck-style after the two churches shared in a pulpit exchange of pastors.

Worship Happenings

Worship Highlights for May 2017

Fourth Sunday of Easter– May 7

- Saturday 5:15 p.m., Sunday 8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
- Plant Sale in the Parish Hall

Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 14

- Saturday 5:15 p.m., Sunday 8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
- Blessing of Women
- Final Day of Sunday School

Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 21

- Saturday 5:15 p.m., Sunday 8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
- Final Sunday of Senior Choir

The Ascension of our Lord – May 25

- Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Seventh Sunday of Easter – May 28

- Saturday 5:15 p.m., Sunday 8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Worship Happenings

May Music Schedule

Sunday, May 7: Zion Bell Choir Final Sunday

Sunday, May 14: Cherub Choir: Choristers and Junior Choir Final Sunday

Sunday, May 21: Senior Choir Final Sunday

Sunday, May 28 Kleiner Chor Final Sunday

Choirs Conclude Their Year of Musical Service

During April and May Zion's choirs, both vocal and instrumental, conclude their year of musical stewardship before taking their summer break. These choir members have been faithful in their rehearsals and have enriched our worship throughout the year. We pray their music has been a blessing to you in your worship life and we wish these musicians a refreshing and renewing summer break.

May 7 will be the final Sunday for the Zion Bell Choir. The prelude, *Towers*, is based on "change ringing", the practice of ringing bells in cathedrals in England based on mathematical sequences. The bell choir will also play *I Was There to Hear Your Morning Cry* by the late John Ylvisaker and conclude with a lively version of *This Little Light of Mine* with piano.

Zion's children in the Cherub Choir, Junior Choir and Choristers will bring smiles as they sing on Mother's Day, May 14. Cherubs will sing songs honoring mothers (and fathers). They also pray for God to bless our families on this special day. Choristers and Junior Choir will introduce the hymn, *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life*, serve as cantors for Psalm 31 and finish with a gospel version of *How Can I Keep from Singing*. We are so thankful for our faithful choir children and their director, Christy Curry Hoyland.

The Senior Choir closes out its year of service with a choral "singing Sunday" on May 21. They will sing a wide variety of anthems reflecting different styles of music and different scriptural texts. Included will be a Renaissance selection, *Cantate Domino* by Sweelinck and contemporary selections, *The Word Was God* and *With a Voice of Singing* by Powell and Jennings respectively. Charles Velte, a member of the Senior Choir, has arranged the hymn tune "Abide With Me" and entitled it *Before the Fruit is Ripened* with an accompaniment by J.S. Bach. The choir's traditional spiritual this year will be *In Dat Great Gittin' Up Mornin'* and they will close with *Precious Lord* as the choral Benediction.

Sunday, May 28, will be the final Sunday for the Kleiner Chor. Included in their music will be the gospel song, *Come and Go With Me To That Land*, and *The Whisper*, a devotional song for communion.

Summer Music

Now is the time to start thinking about summer music at Zion. We have so many musicians at Zion but busy schedules during the year don't always allow us the opportunity to participate in worship services. How about sharing your music during summer worship! Solos (vocal and instrumental), ensembles (vocal and instrumental) and family choirs are welcome. Even children and youth are encouraged to be part of worship in this way. A sign-up sheet is on the "Volunteer Opportunities" board in the main hall.

MAY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		6:30a Men's Bible Study	8:30a Shalom 9:00a Quilt-tiers 9:45a Staff Meeting	11:00a Communion @ Briarwood		9:00a NAMI Walk
		6:00p Mental Health Team 7:00p Global Missions	4:30p Cherub Choir 6:00p Choristers & Jr. Choir 6:45p Confirmation	3:00p Communion @ Oaknoll 6:30p Senior Choir	7:00p Jr. High Friday Fun Night	5:15p Worship 6:00p Plant Sale
7 Lambo Sunday	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:15a & 10:45a Worship 8:00a Plant Sale 9:30a Fellowship/ Learning 10:15a High School Choir 5:00p HS Youth Group	9:30a Mom's Meet-Up 11:00a Free Lunch	6:30a Men's Bible Study 10:00a Prayer Shawl Team 6:30p Council Meeting	8:30a Shalom 9:00a Quilt-tiers 9:45a Staff Meeting 4:30p Cherub Choir 6:00p Choristers/Jr. Choir 6:30p Journeymen Bible Study 6:30p Community Engagement Panel	6:30p Senior Choir		8:00a Men's Ministry Breakfast 10:00a Mother's Day part @ Emerson Pt. 5:15p Worship
14 Teacher Appreciation	15	16	17	18	19 Synod Assembly	20 Synod Assembly
8:15a & 10:45a Worship 9:30a Fellowship/ Learning 4:00p Free Lunch Prep	11:30 Senior Singles 7:00p Prayer Group	6:30a Men's Bible Study 9:30a Gather Bible Study 5:00p Property Team 5:30p Men's Ministry Team 6:30p Stewardship	8:30a Shalom 9:00a Quilt-tiers 9:45a Staff Meeting 1:30p Afternoon Book Club 2:00p Health & Caring Team	12:00p 4 Steps to Sure Steps 5:00p Wedding Rehearsal 6:30p Senior Choir	11:30a Prime Timers 5:00p Clefisch/ Hanarahan Wed- ding	4:00p Caregivers Group 5:15p Worship
21 8:15a & 10:45a Worship 9:30a Fellowship/ Learning 3:00p All Zion Bowl	22	23	24	25 Ascension Day	26	27
	9:30a Mom's Meet-Up	6:30a Men's Bible Study 5:15p 500 Reformation Team	8:30a Shalom 9:00a Quilt-tiers 9:45a Staff Meeting 6:30p Journeymen Bible Study	7:00p Worship	11:30a Prime Timers	5:15p Worship
28 Memorial Day 8:15a & 10:45a Worship 9:30a Fellowship	29 Office Closed	30	31			
		6:30a Men's Bible Study	8:30a Shalom 9:00a Quilt-tiers 9:45a Staff Meeting			

Learning Happenings

Adult Learning in May

Lambo Sunday; Meet Phil Latessa of Empower Tanzania Sunday, May 7 | 9:30 a.m.

There is drought and starvation in various parts of Africa, and we have been praying for rain in Lambo. Beyond prayers, Zion's initial response to hunger in Lambo has been swift with money being wired to Lambo Lutheran Parish for various designations. These blessings flow out of Zion. Heide and Charlie Bursch are returning to Lambo briefly in May to learn how these projects are coming along. However, more sustainable interventions are necessary:

Zion has an opportunity to partner with [Empower Tanzania, Inc.](#) (ETI) an Iowa-grown NGO in Tanzania to bring agricultural education and practical support to Lambo.

You are invited to attend a highly informative and motivational Q&A session with Phil Latessa on Lambo Sunday (also known as the Zion Plant Sale Day). After making your plant purchases, please come and help us articulate what Zion's mission will be in supporting our Lambo brothers and sisters toward the means of growing beyond basic needs. Charlie and Heide need your voice when they negotiate with ETI on the ground in Lambo!

Carbon Fee and Dividend; A Bipartisan Solution to Climate Change Sunday, May 21 | 9:30 a.m.

Marc Frank will speak about proposed legislation with advocates on both sides of the aisle. This proposal is a transparent system allowing free enterprise to guide us to a low carbon future while stimulating the economy.

Youth Learning in May

Last Day of Sunday School is May 14!

We'll wrap up the year with special activities in the classroom followed by milk and cookies in the Parish Hall.

Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Sunday, May 14

As another Sunday School year comes to a close, Zion gratefully recognizes the 36 dedicated volunteers whose gift of leadership and service has been such a blessing to our children. Their steady influence and cheerful enthusiasm, as well as their ability to connect with our children and youth, are a tremendous gift to Zion. On May 14, we will express our appreciation.

Special Delivery!

Young adults who are at college or away from home on other adventures received care packages from Zion the last week in April. The Confirmation classes met April 19 to assemble care packages as their last service project of the year. Packages included popcorn, granola bars, drink mix, mini chocolate bars, and a handmade greeting card. It's our way of letting these young people know that we are thinking of them and wishing them blessings on their way.

Learning Happenings

VBS | Kool-Aids Wanted!

Serving as a Kool-Aid camp counselor is a cool way for Junior High and High School age youth to spend some of their summer vacation! Maggie Atkinson, Director of Youth and Family Ministries, will be shepherding the Kool-Aids in a leadership program throughout the week. Maggie will be teaching and promoting leadership skills to the Kool-Aids as they work with the VBS kiddos, developing the abilities of these tweens/teens to engage, encourage, and support the younger children. If your son or daughter would like to volunteer, please contact [Maggie Atkinson](#). Youth can also sign up to volunteer through the [Zion website](#). We'll work to accommodate busy summer schedules!

There will be an orientation session for youth volunteers on Sunday, June 18. We'll meet at Zion at 4:30 p.m. for orientation then join up with the Ewalu counselors for a picnic. If your son or daughter will be volunteering at VBS, please be sure to set aside this date/time so they can attend.

VBS | Activity Supplies Needed!

We're looking for army guys, small action figures, Polly Pockets for a parachute activity. If you like tea, drink up! We're in need of regular size tea boxes. A collection box for these items will be available near the coat racks starting [May 1](#).

Save the Date for Adult Vacation Bible School August 7-10, 2017

Our speaker will be Jason Mahn, Associate Professor of Religion at Augustana College. After completing his Ph.D. at Emory University (2004), Jason taught full time at Duke University (Durham, NC) for three years before coming to Augustana, where he teaches courses in theology and contemporary religious belief. Jason has published a number of scholarly articles about contemporary Christian theology and religious belief, suffering, vocation, secularism, and temptation and sin. His newest book, *Radical Lutherans/Lutheran Radicals*, will be forthcoming from Cascade Press in about a month.

Zion Library News

Luther and Reformation Items at the Zion Library

The library has a TON of material on Luther and the Reformation! I set out to write an article listing all the items, but there are at least 40 of these so I decided to highlight just a few.

We'll also post a complete list in the library, and have handouts available. Please know that many of these items are on display, so an item may not be in place by call number in the library. If there is an item you want but can't find, please leave us a note as to the title and put it in the check-out box. Thank you!

- ◇ [The Barber Who Wanted to Pray](#) (2011) by R.C. Sproul in the Children's Literature section
- ◇ [The Life of Martin Luther: A Pop-Up Book](#) (2017) by A. Trini in the Children's Literature section
- ◇ [Papa Luther: A Graphic Novel](#) (2016) by D. Maurer--YA 284 MAU
- ◇ [Luther](#) (2004) --DVD top row of the Media shelf
- ◇ [Daughter of the Reformation: A Historical Perspective of the Life and Times of the Wife of Martin Luther](#) (2015) by M. H. Rasmussen--270.6 RAS 2015
- ◇ [An Atlas of the European Reformation](#) (2015) by T. Dowley--REF 940 DOW 2015
- ◇ [The European Reformations](#) (2010) by C. Lindberg--274 LIN
- ◇ [Martin Luther](#) (2004) by M. Marty--284.1 MAR
- ◇ [The Reformation: A History](#) (2004) by D. MacCulloch--270.6 MAC
- ◇ [Martin Luther and the Called Life](#) (2016) by M. D. Tranvik--284.1 TRA 2016

~Kathy Penick

What's Happening @ Zion

Mom's Meetup

Mondays in May – May 8 & 22

Meetup at 9:30am. We'll meet in the Gathering Room at Zion. All stay at home parents/caregivers welcomed. Bring your kiddo if they are still home with you. If they've gone off to school on Mondays, come on your own. Friends always welcome!

Snacks for kiddos & coffee for grownups provided. Questions? Email [Mary Merulla](mailto:Mary.Merulla@zionchurch.org).

Men's Ministry Breakfast

Saturday, May 13 | 8:00 a.m.

Bring a friend and meet for conversation and fellowship at Zion in the lower level, Gathering Room.

Mother's Day Party at Emerson Point Assisted Living

Saturday, May 13 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Join in for a Mother's Day Party hosted by Zion's Early Childhood Ministry Team at Emerson Point Assisted Living (1355 Shannon Drive, Iowa City, 52246). This will be a fun event filled with games, crafts, singing, and service. Our time will be spent with each other and with the residents of Emerson Point. We'll enjoy a light snack, sing some songs that we all know or can learn easily, play some games, and do some crafting. Come with your child to this activity and put a little sunshine into someone else's day!!

All Zion Family Event: Bowling

Sunday, May 21 | 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

The entire Zion church body is invited to a fun afternoon of bowling! Sign-up between services with one of the Youth & Family Ministry Team members. Carpooling from church at 2:40 p.m. is encouraged! [Please RSVP](#) by May 14. Hope you can join us! Questions about this event? Contact [Maggie Atkinson](mailto:Maggie.Atkinson@zionchurch.org) at 319-338-0944.



Camp EWALU Zion Family Retreat Weekend

July 14-16, 2017

Don't miss out on this annual fun weekend in the outdoors at Camp EWALU. There will be fun, fellowship, and activities for all ages. Come Friday evening (7/14) and spend 2 nights, or come up Saturday morning and stay over into Sunday. Campfires, hikes, swimming, crafts, adventure and ropes course. Thanks to Zion sponsorship, the cost is only \$15/person/night including lodging and all meals. Stay in cabins (w/AC) or camp out in a tent. You choose. Bring the whole family. Bring a friend. *Camperships are available for anyone in need. Call the church office for registration information (319-338-0944).*

Did You Know that Zion Has Child Protection Policies? Read them [here](#).

What's Happening @ Zion

Jr. High & High School Youth Events for May

Junior High Fun Night

Friday, May 5 | 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Bring your friends, a snack to share, and energy! Plus, there will be chips & salsa involved!

High School Youth Group: Food & Fun

Sunday, May 7 | 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Bring your friends, and a Taco topping to share (meat & cheese will be provided)! We'll make dinner together, then play together!

Questions about youth group? Contact Maggie at Maggie@zionlutheran-ic.org.

Senior Singles

Monday, May 15 | 11:30 a.m.

Senior Singles will meet for lunch and fellowship at Red Lobster, Coralville.

Prime Timers

Friday, May 19 | 9:30 a.m.

Prime Timers will meet for lunch and fellowship at Ronnenberg, Amana.

Blue Zones @ Zion – Actions for Life

Eat Wisely: Pledge to add Blue Zones Food List items to your weekly menu

- *Why Do It:* The Cornell Food & Brand Lab found that if your house is stocked with healthy food, you're more likely to eat in a way that will help you live longer and lose weight.
- *How To Do It:* Review the [Blue Zones Food List](#) to find foods that promote health and longevity. Make sure to include these items on your grocery list. (Ex. Dark Green Vegetables, Plant Proteins, Whole Grain Foods)

Outreach Happenings

Lambo News

Dear Heide, Mark, the Zion family and 2016 Lambo Team,

Please receive our season greetings in the precious name of all names, Jesus Christ.

I want to witness that I have personally continued to be blessed by the updates on your mission pursuits, as I successively access your periodic *Zion Trumpet News*.

With keen interest I have been following the process you are going through, in developing the Strategic Plan for your Church. It reminds me of a similar process I facilitated for our new Mwanga Diocese. We have just adopted our first Strategic Plan (2016-2020) for which I was lead Consultant. Mwanga Diocese has set aside six priorities: Evangelism, Diaknoia, Capacity Building, Companionship, Economic Empowerment, Cross Cutting Issues. These areas to be adopted by all parishes, including Lambo.

Last week the Mwanga Diocese members of the diaspora in Dar organized a successful fund-raising dinner for our Diocese to implement the plan. Lambo Parish pastor, Rev. Enirisha Msangi, accompanied the Mwanga Bishop. Next day Pastor Msangi appraised us on the status of the parish and the plans ahead, as shall be adopted from the Mwanga Diocese Strategic Plan. With the Diocese primary focus toward Evangelization and Mission, the Lambo Parish dream is to build a sanctuary.

At the beginning leaders and members sought a bigger plot beyond the current facility. Due to our perceived urgency, we will go ahead at our current location.

In another development, the construction of classrooms in Mombea Primary School is in process, while also building the village Ngolea Secondary School. (More information will be coming to Zion.)

Meanwhile, as I expect to be in Lambo for the whole duration of Easter, I will get the Lambo Parish official status of plans for the Kindergarten, the milling machine and of course the needed construction completion details for Mombea Primary School.

Remain ever blessed, so that through your being blessed, you also become a blessing to others.

Cheers.

Mark

Bread for the World June Lobby Day

In early June, Bread for the World members from Iowa will be lobbying Senators Grassley and Ernst in their Washington, DC offices. Big cuts are being proposed to federal safety net programs. Both of our senators will be important in the budget process. Bread for the World's Iowa organizer is hoping that our senators will have received 2000 Bread for the World letters before the lobby day. Zion will be having an Offering of Letters later in the year. However, I am requesting that member of our congregation write letters before the June lobby day. If you would be willing to write letters, please let me know. I'll provide sample letters and writing materials. I'll mail the letters for you. Before I do, photocopies will be made. The photocopies will be delivered at coordinated meetings at our senators' district offices in Cedar Rapids. My email address is: sjpanther@hotmail.com.

Thank you,
Steve Panther

Contact Us

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Friday:

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

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Zion is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

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