

CONNECTIONS

510 Pine Street, Trinidad CO 81082 / zionsluth@gmail.com

Our Worship

Zion's worship service is at 10 a.m. each Sunday. We worship in the sanctuary and via Zoom.

Bible Study is at 8:30 a.m. and Fellowship time follows worship.

All are welcome! Both large print worship bulletins and sermon copies are available.

We remain mindful of the ways people are health compromised that may not be known. So please continue to practice healthy habits. Stay home when sick, wash hands regularly, observe social distancing. Masks wearing is at your discretion.

Church Garage Sale

Zion's annual garage sale is just around the corner. The sale will be held Saturday, Aug. 6, in the Fellowship Hall.

We need people to help: consider donating items for the sale, plan to shop the sale, and/or volunteers to help with the sale, as well as the set up, and clean up. Please let Julie Wersal know how you can help.

Donations are being accepted through Friday, Aug. 5. You can drop them off in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring items ready for resale...clean and in good repair.



Wackadoodle Thinking About God

By the Rev. Dr. Rebecca Z. McNeil

The church was on the main north-south highway through the state. We were one block off of the town square, the closest church to the county courthouse. Our location meant we had a lot of interesting "drop-in" business. One day a casually dressed woman found her way to the church after her first hearing at the courthouse.

"I need prayer," she said to me once we made our way into my study.

"Prayer is one of my specialties," I assured her. Then I asked if she wanted to tell me her story.

If my memory serves me right, she'd been arrested for hunting deer out of season. Her trial was coming up and she wanted me to pray that she would be found "not guilty" because it was going to be expensive otherwise. She told me she was, in fact, guilty, but she hoped I could pray so that her lawyer could fool the judge. Never having met this woman before, I tried to assure her that God loves her and would be with her no matter what the outcome of her trial. I prayed with her and promised to keep her in my prayers. I did not pray that her lawyer could fool the judge. I prayed that God would provide her everything she needed to be okay no matter what unfolded in her future.

When we finished praying, she still looked a little lost, so I reached into the cupboard behind my desk and found a little printed copy of a Psalm, with a pretty nature picture in the background. The tract, when folded in half, was about 2 inches x 2.5 inches so it would sit easily on a meal tray at the hospital or nursing home. I told her I thought reading the Psalm might help to comfort her, and remind her of God's presence with her throughout this ordeal.

Several weeks passed before the woman returned. She was dressed up in a blouse and skirt and pantyhose and heels.

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Wackadoodle...

(continued from page 1)

"It didn't work!" She shouted at me.

"It did not work!" She reiterated for emphasis.

"Oh?" I asked, not sure I wanted the conversation to continue.

"No," she said.

"The judge just found me guilty. It's going to cost me a fortune. This thing didn't work at all."

And as she spoke, she reached down inside the waistband of her pantyhose and pulled out the Psalm, all mangled and worn and moist-looking.

"I've kept this thing on my body ever since you gave it to me, and it did nothing for me."

And that was the end of that.

People have crazy theology! People believe the most wackadoodle things! People claim things in Jesus' name and teach things in Jesus' name that are nothing more than silly magic at best or a wicked con at worst. People turn the Bible into a Magic Eight ball, foretelling the future, or reading into ancient texts nonsense about current events. People turn Bible verses into talismans and wear crosses as if they'll ward off evil.

When I was 12, my best friend Carla and I sat in my bedroom listening to Donnie Osmond on my record player and thumbing through the little white leather King James Version of the Bible my grandma gave me on Easter when I was seven. I was a religious little kid and Carla was a preacher's kid, so we were a pair, opening the Bible and pointing our fingers at whatever we opened to. We read something about nations and decided it was about Vietnam and Cambodia and the United States, even though we knew nothing about Vietnam or Cambodia or the United States' foreign policy.

We were just kids at the end of the Vietnam War who'd overheard Walter Cronkite talking about the war every evening on the tv news. And the Bible said nothing about Vietnam, Cambodia, or the United States—nothing, not a word, but out there in the "ether sphere" we'd heard televangelists (certainly not Carla's father nor my pastor) carry on about supposed "Biblical Prophecies" coming to pass and we took our own turn at it. Ours was pretty crazy theology!

For a while, we believed some wackadoodle things about God. We turned the Bible into a Magic Eight ball or Ouija Board and were pretty darned impressed by our astuteness. But, again, that was when we were twelve years old.

Recently, I've been reading some very disconcerting things about what a lot of full-grown, adult people believe about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the Bible. Until I retired, I was too busy reading good, solid theology and Biblical commentaries, theologians, and scholars to pay any attention to the crazy, no good, very bad God-talk taking place all over the radio and television, and internet. But, since I've retired, I've started flipping the channels and surfing the web. Whooeee! There's a lot of crazy-bad God talk out there. And most of those who are peddling the bad theology are making fortunes doing so, or are currying favor and gaining political power and influence as their reward.

One of the main reasons Mike and I placed our membership with Zion's when we moved to Trinidad last year is because Zion's is ELCA Lutheran (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America). The ELCA is a mainline, protestant Christian denomination that teaches good, solid theology, based on good, solid Biblical study, built on centuries of Christian teaching and thought, and informed by good, solid thinking about God that comes from other mainline protestant denominations (like the denominations in which I am ordained, and have served in ministry). The ELCA has stringent requirements of scholarship and fitness for our clergy.

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Acknowledgements: Newsletter contributors — Becky McNeil, Julie Wersal, Lisa Rygiel, Pastor Kate Schlechter, Tracy Wahl, Melodie Lagnosa and ELCA/Synod Bishop's Office. Photos/Images — Jo Moss, Pastor Kate Schlechter, Tracy Wahl, and Julie Wersal. Editorial Assistance — Lynn Chase and Tracy Wahl. Editor — Jo Moss.

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Wackadoodle...

(continued from page 2)

The ELCA has learned and continues to learn from history, continually reforming and refining our understanding of the Christian faith as we learn from our missteps and misunderstandings in our past.

I can pretty much assure you, that none of our ELCA pastors are getting rich serving their churches. None of them are flying private jets to and from their mansions built on the donations of those in their congregations. None of our ELCA pastors or leaders are drawing huge crowds to arena events in which folks yearning for meaning are whipped into a feel-good frenzy. None of our ELCA pastors are building their online presence and translating it into power and influence in the government of the United States. That's wackadoodle, and Lutherans don't do wackadoodle in the name of God.

In my recent reading about the frightening rise of (Un)Christian Nationalism in our nation and Europe, I have grown deeply concerned that too many of our churches have failed in helping our members develop good theology. I am deeply saddened that so many people in mainline protestant churches have learned their theology, their "God-thinking" not at the feet of their local well-educated local church pastor but at the feet of religious charlatans on the web, or television, or the radio who teach wackadoodle things that are, in fact, contrary to the teachings of Jesus.

As we enter this interim ministry period here at Zion's, I pray each of us will commit to learning and relearning what is taught about our Christian faith by our denomination. I hope we will take seriously the breadth and depth of Christian wisdom that is our inheritance as ELCA Lutherans. Believing in the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is not a magical talisman, it doesn't provide a Magic Eight ball for our lives, it doesn't provide miracle cures for what ails us, and being Christian doesn't give us get out of jail free cards. The Gospel is not a roadmap to exalted political greatness.



The good news of Jesus is that God, the creator of all that is, was and will be, is with us now and forever, loving us and empowering us through the Holy Spirit to love each of our neighbors as we love ourselves.

What's Happening in Zion's Lutheran Family?

- ★ Thanks go to **Dick Rasmussen** and to **Julie Wersal** for their hard work in preparing the living quarters for Pastor Kate to ensure that she and Koi have a welcoming home in the parsonage.
- ★ Pending final approval by the Secretary of the Interior, Temple Aaron in Trinidad will become the city's newest National Historic Landmark. The Landmarks Committee in May unanimously recommended the designation. The Jewish community founded Congregation Aaron in 1883. In 1889, one year before Zion's construction, Temple Aaron members built the temple that graces 407 South Maple St. today. The building was designed by the regionally famous architects the Rapp brothers, who also are credited with working on Zion's sanctuary the following year.
- ★ Special thanks to **Mark Moss** and **Julie Wersal** for their work to update fire extinguishers throughout the sanctuary and fellowship hall.
- ★ Congratulations to **Pastor Andrea & Paul**, who celebrated their 23rd anniversary on July 23.
- ★ Thank you to **Rita Burton** for the painting given in **Pr. Andrea's** honor. It is in the Fellowship Hall.
- ★ **Melodie Lanosga** will be host for a dinner party and screening of the opera *Madam Butterfly*, at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 5, in the garden at 419 Main St. Dress for the opera and bring a lawn chair. RSVP via text to Melodie at 719-213-1891.
- ★ **No, it's not an error, beginning in August, our E-Formation will be sent on Wednesday instead of Monday. And there will be no Saturday email blasts. That information will be available online instead.**
- ★ For pastoral care, contact **Pastor Kate** at: (619) 916-9630 or via email at: kateschlechter2005@gmail.com. Pastor Kate's office hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays, please contact her to schedule an appointment.
- ★ **Wal Reat**, missionary in Sudan, will be at Zion's on Sept. 25. Learn more about Wal Reat, in the November 2021 *Connections* Newsletter, available on Zion's website under the "News" tab or by contacting Jo Moss for a printed copy.
- ★ Deadline for September's *Connections* newsletter deadline is Aug. 17, email contributions to Zion's at zionsluth@gmail.com or to Jo Moss.

Church Council Notes Reflect Zion's Busy Summer

By Julie Wersal

June

Zion's Lutheran Church Council met on Sunday, June 12. All financial reports were approved. Income for the month of May was \$19,521, which included a \$10,000 transfer from the trust fund. Expenditures were \$14,296 which included \$5,177 collected and remitted for special offerings and \$2,917 for repairs and maintenance.

The average in-person attendance in April was 42 with 5 to 10 each week logging into Zoom.

The report from the Audit Committee was reviewed. This committee, made up of Jo Moss, Mary McKenna and Pat Fletcher reviewed the financial reports, including the trust fund, and found everything well documented and in order. We are grateful to Carol Schulzkump, Joni Jones and Jeff Smith for their good work overseeing our church finances.

Mike McNeil has been appointed to the council position vacated by Mark Nelson. This appointment was unanimously approved by council.

Council members discussed our policy on pets in the sanctuary during worship services. Our policy will be that registered service animals only (not "therapy" or "emotional support") animals would be able to accompany their owners. The animal would need to wear their vests and be kept under control at all times. This would be for indoor worship only, not when we worship outside.

We are looking to add members to the security committee. These volunteers would monitor the sanctuary door and check that doors in the fellowship hall are locked during services and after everyone has left. Please see Jeff Smith or any member of council if you would be interested.

Thank You All!

- Thank you to Jeff and Carol Smith for purchasing a printer/copy machine for the church!
- Thank you Kathy Nicolai for the beautiful light installed on the lectern!
- Thank you Dick Rasmussen for all of the construction work involved in setting up the lower level for Interim Pastor Kate Schlechter!

July

Zion's church council met after worship on July 10. Reports were approved as submitted. Income for the month of June was \$5034 and expenses were \$7796. Income for the first half of 2022 is \$67,462 and expenses year-to-date are \$63,617.

Pastor Kate and her dog Koi have moved into the lower level. We have installed a washer & dryer and updated some of the electrical.

Church council welcomed Mike McNeil who was appointed to take the position vacated by Mark Nelson.

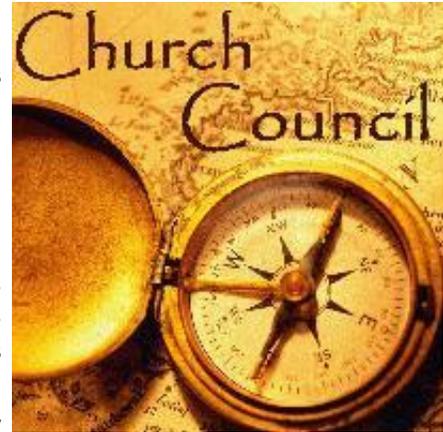
The garage sale is scheduled for August 6 and we are looking for help to organize the donations and work during the sale. Please see Julie if you would be able to help.

The security committee is looking for people to help during worship services. Please contact Jeff Smith if this is something you may be interested in.

We are looking for ideas for a service project for God's Work Our Hands 2022. We will arrange to have a worship service followed by a potluck dinner September 11.

Pastor Kate began working with council on our transition process using the manual *Congregations in Transition*. The first step will be to select a Transition Team to begin a self-study process of our church, its history and hopes for the future.

The next church council meeting will be on Aug. 9.



Journeys in Faith: A Box of Rocks

By Tracy Wahl

We were at my mom and dad's house in the sewing room.

My mom was going through some things on the cutting table. There was a basket of sewing notions, a combination of my grandma's and my mom's. They were actually heirlooms innocently disguised.

And there was this a small green box of rocks. It was a small cardboard box that slid open. It had the word attachments embossed on it.



And inside were arrow heads, rocks with interesting textures — one that looked like glass....all rocks that for some reason when someone's hand had grabbed a hold of heard the words "keep this one" inside their head. There was also a single silver cross.

The rocks were my Uncle Bruce's. I had never met him but he was the brother of my Grandma Jesse. I don't even remember ever seeing a picture of him. But I also have a laminated table he made that is filled with rocks that he polished. Now that I'm writing this, I want to go and gaze closely at the rocks in that table too.

But back to that box. It was green and it slid out like a deck of cards. As my hand grabbed the rocks, it was fun to imagine what his hand must have felt like as he grabbed these same rocks.

A sharp edge here, a place where my finger rests neatly and naturally in a groove made by time. There were small and medium sizes of arrowheads. Some with incredibly sharp tips, still, all these years later.

And that cross. It was made out of thin pressed aluminum. Not like something you'd see around someone's neck. More like a free cross that some church decided to give out to spread the word.

And now it had landed in my hands — spurring all these questions.

Spotlight On:

All Are Welcome Because God Welcomes Everyone!



By Lisa Rygiel & Julie Wersal

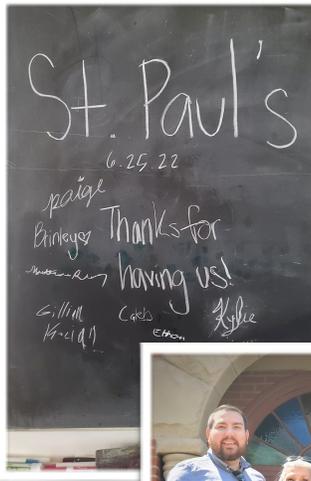
Established last year, our welcoming committee's theme is "All are welcome because God welcomes everyone!" The focus is to identify any barriers within our church that would make worship challenging for anyone in our community. The committee's goal is to make sure that everyone who worships at Zion's will feel welcomed and comfortable, regardless of race, ability, economic situation, marital status, age, ethnicity, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Our goal is to build an open and inclusive church where everyone feels loved! Among the activities that the committee has undertaken to meet that goal thus far have included:

- ★ Designing gender neutral bathrooms
- ★ Installing a changing table so that people have a place to tend to infants
- ★ Shortening/rearranging pews to allow for a wheelchair or walker access
- ★ Having large print bulletins and copies of the sermon available
- ★ Recording services for those who cannot attend, and
- ★ Mindfully opening our arms and doors to all Children of God!

If you have any suggestions regarding other improvements that we could undertake to achieve our goal, please talk to Pastor Kate, Julie Wersal, or Lisa Rygiel. Thank you and remember, "All are welcome because Jesus welcomes everyone!"

Zion's: Where People Celebrate Memories, Create New Ones



In July Zion's was host for a youth group from St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church that spent the night in Trinidad on their way to a youth gathering. The students left thank you messages on the Fellowship Hall blackboard, and their church sent thank you notes and a generous donation.

In May, Pastor Rawlins' family joined us for worship and received a plaque in Pastor Rawlins' memory made by our Bread & Belonging youth. That same day, a former member and her sons worshipped at Zion's to observe her 45th wedding anniversary.

Then in June, John & Susan Vowell visited Zion's where they were married to observe their respective golden wedding anniversaries.



Photos: Thank you note from youth group visit; 45th wedding anniversary celebrants; and John & Susan Vowell celebrating 50th at Zion's.

988 is New Number for National Mental Health Hotline

Saturday, July 16, Colorado joined the rest of the United States in transitioning the 10-digit National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to 988, an easy-to-remember three-digit number for 24/7 crisis care. The lifeline is the result of a three-year joint effort among the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to put crisis care more in reach for people in need.



People can use 988 for any kind of emotional distress including: thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crises, or any other kind of emotional distress. They also can dial 988 if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.

The new three-digit number is multi-lingual and connects people to the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, where compassionate, accessible care and support is available for anyone experiencing mental health-related distress. An online chat feature also is available through Lifeline's website at <https://988lifeline.org/chat/>. Veterans and their loved ones can Dial 988 and then Press 1 to reach the Veterans Crisis Line.

As with the previous 10-digit national number, 988 calls are routed to Lifeline call centers nationwide based on a person's area code from the phone they are calling from. Colorado, like other states, is actively engaged with state and federal partners to determine the appropriate solutions for call routing. Colorado's Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) recognizes that many people in the state do not have a phone number with a Colorado area code. The agency wants to ensure a safe, immediate connection to local resources and support, so while Colorado works to build 988 staffing capacity and address call routing, the state also will maintain its statewide crisis line at 1-844-493-8255 as well as 988. In 2021, Lifeline received 3.6 million calls, chats, and texts. That number is expected to at least double within the first full year after the 988 transition. More information is available at www.samhsa.gov/988.



Pastor Kate: Sitting at the Feet of Jesus

During this time of intentional interim, there are five developmental tasks that I am going to ask you to show up for and engage with as a community of faith. Each of the tasks, first and foremost, is grounded in prayer and Bible study. Jesus is present with us and like Mary and Martha, we will trust that Jesus is present in our church home. We open our hearts and ears and listen for the Holy Spirit to bring us God's guidance. We study God's word, we listen to God, to each other, and to the world outside our doors.

The five tasks generate a process, not a program, that is designed to create a picture of the universe of God at Zion's Lutheran Church. It is as if God, the artist, uses your prayers, your study, your willingness to listen and to have open courageous conversations with each as a paintbrush that begins to form on the canvas, a beautiful picture of the active faith that is present in, with and through Zions Lutheran Church in Trinidad. For the light of Christ to shine through this picture, the shadows come into focus and reveal a story of the journey of faith in this place from its earliest beginnings to its current existence.

Briefly these developmental tasks include:

#1 Coming to Terms with Congregational History. You will be asked to reflect and converse about your history as a congregation. You will come to appreciate the historical, sociological, spiritual, and emotional dimensions of this corporate body of believers. You get to stop, rest at the feet of Jesus, and appreciate where you have been, enjoy where you are and anticipate where you may be going. We must look back to know what direction we take into the future.

#2 Discover a New Identity. With our world rapidly changing, many congregations unconsciously think of themselves as not changing. They don't want to. They like the same, familiarity each week. But we know, with all the pressures in our world, the distractions, and even pastoral changes, congregations change. Case in point, you pivoted to use zoom during Covid. And it worked beautifully. Not all change is bad. With change comes a new understanding of what your identity was, is, and might be in the future.

#3 Lay Leadership in the Congregation. How does faith in action and prayer function together at Zions? The time between placed pastors provides a congregation with the opportunity to honestly assess what may be needed in terms of developing and strengthening the lay-leadership in the congregation. This does not mean that something is wrong; it means we need to know what kind of leadership the congregation will need following the interim time. In his book, *Leadership is An Art*, Max DePree notes, "A congregation's leadership is like an organ or a choir. There are many different kinds of voices, but when integrated, they make up a wonderful musical expression."

#4 Strengthening Denominational Ties. What resources are out there that maybe Zions can tap into or forge a partnership in a new way? What does it mean to be an expression of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in Trinidad, CO? What does Martin Luther's Small Catechism have to say to Zions in 2022? How has Lutheranism evolved since the Reformation and how can this community's unique expression of Lutheranism, the constitutional groundwork for Zions, remain contemporary?

#5 Commitment to New Directions in Ministry. Congregational self-study clarifies the congregation's sense of uniqueness as a faith community and its mission in the local neighborhood. Members and friends of the community become aware of new opportunities for service while at the same time affirming what is good, and well established in the congregation's life and traditions. Interim time invites everyone to participate. Be present. Stay engaged. Have fun! Think of it as an adventure.

My office hours are on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and I would love to share story with you, answer any of your questions, or address any concerns you may have. Please reach out and make contact with me directly at 619-916-9630 or kateschlechter2005@gmail.com. Together we keep our eyes on the cross and sit at the feet of Jesus.

With you on the way,
Pastor Kate Schlechter

ELCA Updates

Synod's TEEM Process Responds to Ministry Needs

(second of two-part series)

In the July newsletter, we explored the TEEM process (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries), which responds to ministry needs of the ELCA. We learned that Lisa Rygiel is a TEEM candidate and currently is involved in a process of study, mentoring, and internship, among other tasks. Now, we explore those steps, and how TEEM can apply to us at Zion's.

Once TEEM candidates complete the academic and practical ministry requirements and are granted approval by a Candidacy Committee, they normally serve their first call in the ministry site originally identified by the bishop. In Lisa's case, that could be here at Zion's.

Each candidate must complete both a candidacy application and an entrance information form, as well as a congregational registration form. They also must submit to a background check and psychological evaluation. The final requirement is for a candidate to write an entrance essay.

Next, a Competency Assessment Panel (CAP) assesses a candidate's understanding of Lutheran confessional theology. The CAP also identifies additional resources and course work that will strengthen that candidate's ability to integrate Lutheran theological understandings with the praxis (practice as distinguished from theory) of ministry. The panel assesses a candidate for the following:

1. Bible — skills understanding & interpreting Scripture through a Lutheran hermeneutic (interpretation)
2. Theology & Ethics — abilities to reflect critically through Lutheran theological and ethical lenses
3. Lutheran Confessions – abilities to articulate and integrate into ministry the foundational teachings of the Lutheran church
4. Church History – a basic understanding of the history of Lutheranism in the United States
5. Worship – abilities to lead worship, preach, and serve as a spiritual leader
6. Teaching – abilities to teach the Christian faith to others
7. Evangelical Mission & Stewardship – skills and knowledge for leading and developing communities of faith in responding to God's mission through outreach and the practice of holistic stewardship
8. ELCA Structure & Polity – understanding the interrelationship among all expressions of the church
9. Administration – basic church administrative skills
10. Service – a commitment to justice and skills for addressing hunger and poverty
11. Pastoral Care – knowledge, skill, and experience providing basic pastoral care to people in various life circumstances, as well as abilities to lead and prepare others to provide appropriate ministries of care.

In the first year in ministry, a candidate receives supervision that provides a TEEM candidate with an opportunity to receive structured feedback from an experienced pastor. The internship evaluations or other structured feedback normally are completed during a candidate's second year of service in a ministry site. Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is another important part of the development of pastoral care skills. The selected CPE program is sensitive to and understands a candidate's culture and ministry responsibilities. If you seek additional information, contact Lisa Rygiel or Pastor Kate.



Creativity and Faith: God Created You to be Creative

The South East Colorado Women of the ELCA invited us to attend *Creative In the Image of God*, "To learn how God created you to be creative!" We will be encouraged to celebrate beauty all around us, our unique talents, and learn about artists who combine their art and their faith. We will be able to tap into our creative spirit with prayer stations. *Creative in the Image of God* runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 13, at First Lutheran, 1515 North Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs.

Deadline to register is Aug. 9. Details and registration can be found in the fellowship hall, on our website (<https://zionslutheran.tithelysetup2.com/events/creative-in-the-image-of-god>), and from Lisa Rygiel or Jo Moss. If we have enough interest, we may caravan or carpool there. If you need financial assistance with registration, please email zionsluth@gmail.com.

August 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	5:30 p.m.: AA (Fellowship Hall)	5:30 p.m.: Dementia Support Group 6:30 p.m.: Trinidad Music Association (both in FH)			9:30 a.m.: Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall & Zoom) 	Church Garage Sale — Fellowship Hall
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:30 a.m.: Bible Study 10 a.m.: Worship, Fellowship Follows	5:30 p.m.: AA (Fellowship Hall)	5:30 p.m.: Church Council (Fellowship Hall)				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:30 a.m.: Bible Study 10 a.m.: Worship, Fellowship Follows	5:30 p.m.: AA (Fellowship Hall)		 Newsletter Deadline	6-8 p.m.: Autism Awareness Group (Fellowship Hall)	9:30 a.m.: Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall & Zoom) 	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30 a.m.: Bible Study 10 a.m.: Worship, Fellowship Follows 	5:30 p.m.: AA (Fellowship Hall)	6:30 p.m. Worship & Music Committee (Fellowship Hall)		10 a.m. Book Club (Fellowship Hall)	Five Loaves Preparation Day 	Five Loaves Delivery Day 
28	29	30	31	Birthdays: 14 — Ivy Otten 24 — Diane Hagen 16 — Cathy Tamas 30 — Rita Burton 16 — Xavier Pierce *** — Daryl Shoup 18 — Paul Tenney 18 — Benjamin Pierce 22 — Arthur Pierce		
8:30 a.m.: Bible Study 10 a.m.: Outdoor Worship (weather permitting), Fellowship Follows	5:30 p.m.: AA (Fellowship Hall)					
Lectors: 07 — Mike McNeil 14 — TBD 21 — Lisa Rygiel 28 — Pamela Nelson-Serafini				Ushers: 07 — Carol Schulzkump & Hailey Bearden 14 — Mary McKenna & Jo Moss 21 — John & Lisa Rygiel 28 — David Serafini & Pamela Nelson-Serafini		

From Our History Books:

Zion's Sanctuary Construction Took Just 11 Months

In April 1888, a committee of five men, representing a newly formed Lutheran Church in Trinidad, decided to build a structure that would "adequately house" their religious ideals, including what was eventually to prove their zealous determination for freedom within their chosen church.

Among the committee members were Charles Innes, of Scottish ancestry who came to Trinidad in 1880 from Leavenworth, Kansas. He was a stonemason who not only is credited with work on Zion's but also on Holy Trinity catholic Church.

Two other members were Herman and Ernest Reisch, brothers who immigrated from Northern Germany. They were woodworking craftsmen who opened a furniture store and cabinet shop in Trinidad. In addition, businessman Charles Richter, who also served as church secretary for 35 years, contributed his decision making prowess and business sense to help spur construction of the sanctuary. The handiwork and talents of these individuals lives on in the Zion's sanctuary today.

To build a Lutheran Church sanctuary in Trinidad, Richter was placed in charge of a committee, which just two days after the congregation decided to build a sanctuary was able to select a site for the church and secure financing for construction. Then, despite side influences, private business, and other problems, the sanctuary committee was able to construct the "architectural jewel" that is the Zion's sanctuary in just 11 months.

Early church records note that, "Artistic ability, craftsmanship, and time were undoubtedly lavished on the new church, both in building and those early operations. Its architectural style is described in Zion's archives as completely unique and without parallel, at least on this continent."



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