

CONNECTIONS

Website: ZionsLuth.org | zionsluth@gmail.com

New Sunday Adult Education Begins

Our Sunday morning Bible Study has changed. The 8:30 a.m. study has been replaced with Adult Education at 11:30 a.m. after Sunday worship (except on the Sundays when church council meets). Schedule updates will be shared in E-formation, Sunday Bulletins and in the newsletters.

The current study is, "Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism". Feel free to join in.

If someone is interested in restarting a separate early Sunday morning Bible study, please contact Vicar Lisa.

Worship Services

Zion's worship services are at 10 a.m. each Sunday in the sanctuary at 510 Pine St.

Adult Education Studies now take place after worship at 11:30 a.m., except on church council Sundays.



What Does Music at Zion's Mean to You?

"Speak to one another with psalms, hymns,
and spiritual songs.

Sing and make music in your hearts to the Lord"

—Ephesians 5:19 (Berean Standard)

By Melodie Lanosga

My introduction to Zion's was through music. Sharon Sorenson...always invitational...invited me to join in a Christmas Eve service. I hadn't even visited a church since moving to Trinidad the year before that. But Christmas Eve was a beautiful service, and I was happy to contribute musically.

Then I was invited to the 130th Anniversary of this beautiful church, and I came for the celebration. I sat at a picnic table next to a nice lady who could sing the old hymns, and we harmonized our way through a few of them. Her name was Andrea Doeden, the irresistible one. So I came again.

I've visited hundreds of churches, as a preacher's daughter (my excuse for everything), a traveling missionary in my zealous youth, and a piano player as needed.

(continued on page 2)

Serving Zion's

Church Council:

Kathy Broman
 Peggy Gustafson
 Norine Hazen
 Cherie Holder
 Paula Little
 Mike McNeil
 Carol Schulzkump
 Jeff Smith
 Julie Wersal

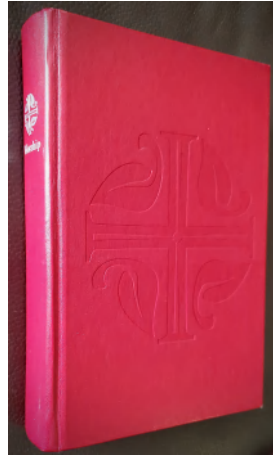
Staff:

Lisa Rygiel, Vicar
 Jo Moss, Assistant to the
 Pastor/Vicar

Standing Committees:

5 Loaves/Thanksgiving —
 Norine Hazen, lead
Altar Preparation —
 Kathy Nicolai, lead
Angels in Aprons/
 Birthday Cards — Lynn
 Chase, lead
Building & Grounds —
 Julie Wersal, oversight
Communications/Social
 Media — Lisa Rygiel, lead
Communion Bread —
 Cherie Holder
Flower Guild — Lynn
 Chase, lead
Prayer List/Warriors —
 Carol Smith, coordinator
Safety & Security — Jeff
 Smith, lead
Worship & Music — Lisa
 Rygiel, lead
Worship Assistants —
 JoAnn Karspeck,
 Coordinator

*Contact these people via
 Zion's email or by
 personal email/phone
 listed in the church
 directory.*



Music...cont.

(continued from page 1)

I played for a fundamental, Bible believing, King James Only Baptist Church in Cocoa, Florida...for the oldest black church in Colorado Springs...and for a Korean church, where the first service each Sunday was actually in Korean. That was a little nerve wracking. As a teenager I played Jesus music that came from the hippie movement in California. I've played some of it for you.

Having recently been asked to serve on the worship and music committee here, I've been considering the place of music in our church, and in the broader church.

"There are, without doubt, in the human heart many seed-grains of precious virtue which are stirred up by music," so says Martin Luther himself.

Many of our hymns and songs are chosen to remind us who we are as followers of Christ. Some of them are a celebration of our love relationship with the divine. It's good to feel those emotions.

We share connection with our church family as we sing a gathering hymn.

Listening to music during the offering can help us focus on gratitude, and our response to the goodness of God.

Communion music can connect our hearts to the sacred mysteries, leading us to choose repentance, and following in the footsteps of the Savior.

Times of reflection with a background of music create an atmosphere for us to listen and respond to the Holy Spirit.

We share joy with our faith family, and a challenge to do God's work with our hands as we sing the sending song.

This is the first liturgical church of which I've been a member. So it's more conservative and formal than some. More cerebral and reserved, perhaps. There is less leading from the top, and more responsibility for the congregation. It's not a show, it's a time for all of us to bond with our voices.

And yet I know this is not everyone's comfort zone.

So I ask you, what does music at Zion's mean to you? I'd like to know what is meaningful to you, and how we can better serve you through worship.

(Note: You can respond to Melodie's question via email at: Upswinglife@gmail.com.)

Council Bits & Pieces — April 2023

- Zion's Lutheran church council met after worship on April 2 and welcomed Kathy Broman as the most recently elected member.
- Jeff Smith has been working to set up a smoke alarm system in the Sanctuary that works with the Ring security system.
- The date and time for a "spring clean-up" depends upon the weather. Stay tuned if you can help to get our lawns in shape.
- Three people volunteered for the audit committee. We will get everyone's schedule and select a time and place for this review.
- If you would like to be part of the committee to prepare for Zion's 135th Anniversary, please see Vicar Lisa. The anniversary celebration is set for Sept. 23-24.
- Note: As recommended by council, the Worship & Music committee discussed having outdoor summer worship and agreed to the outdoor summer services, weather permitting, beginning June 11. The services require many hands-on deck before and after service so volunteers are needed. If you can help, let Vicar Lisa or Sharon Sorenson know.

Full minutes are on the bulletin board at the Sanctuary entrance and in the April 5 E-formation.

Zion's Restarts Card Ministry



New Beginnings prison congregation is a Lutheran mission church holding regular in-person worship services for all who wish to join.

New Beginnings recently called Pastor Samm Melton-Hill, who is serving in a yoked call with Highlands Lutheran Church in North Denver.

Pastor Samm completed her Masters of Divinity (MDiv) at Harvard Divinity School in 2019 and now is working towards a Masters of Sacred Theology (STM) at United Lutheran Seminary.

Pastor Samm has served in a number of diverse roles throughout the years, including chaplaincy work at a medium-high security women's prison, a psychiatric hospital, and a number of large trauma centers. Prior to serving in a congregational setting, she was a Chaplain Resident and Palliative Care Chaplain Fellow at the University of Colorado Hospital.

According to Pastor Samm, New Beginnings wants to reinstate the card ministry with Zion's and is asking our members to bring blank greeting cards and stationary that the inmates can use to write cards and letters to those they love and miss. There is a container to collect them on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

Donations for postage also are appreciated.

Fisher Peak Community Church to be Host for 2023 VBS

Trinidad's community Vacation Bible School will be held this year at Fisher Peak Community Church. VBS is for grades K-6 and takes place the mornings of June 12-16. Teen and adult volunteers are needed. For more information you can contact Carol Smith or the FPCC church office.



What's Happening in Zion's Lutheran Family?

- ★ In February **Norine Hazen** applied for a grant offered by the Las Animas County commissioners. Last year, we received \$3,400 and this year's award is \$5,000. The grant money helps cover expenses for our food ministry — 5 Loaves, Thanksgiving and special Needs. We are grateful to the county commissioners for their generosity.
- ★ **Rita Burton's** artwork based upon Corinthians 13 has moved from the Fellowship Hall, to the Corazon Gallery where many of the items are for sale.
- ★ **Jeff Smith, Sharon Sorenson, and Ernie Parker** set up a Ring system component in the sanctuary that provides remote notification if there is a fire. This augments the existing Ring security system that also can be remotely monitored. Refer questions to **Jeff Smith**.
- ★ **Save the Date:** Zion's 135th Anniversary celebration is Sept. 23-24. If you would like to be part of this committee, please let **Vicar Lisa** know.



- ★ **Potluck luncheons** are a popular part of Zion's Fellowship. So we are instituting a first Sunday potluck, beginning in May. Bring your favorite dish and an appetite. Join the fellowship and fun.
- ★ We were blessed on Sunday, April 23 to have **Pastor Andrea** preside at worship as our supply pastor after Vicar Lisa became unexpectedly ill.
- ★ We remember in our prayers Zion's member **Dale Krueger** who passed away on April 21, after suffering a stroke earlier that week.
- ★ Our thanks to Pastor Diana Linden Johnson for facilitating the leaders retreat on April 15. The transition team, church council and staff took part.



Leadership Retreat Participants: (from left) Pastor Diana Linden-Johnson, Kathy Broman, JoAnn Karspeck, Vicar Lisa Rygiel, Paula Little, Pamela Serafini, Cherie Holder, Mike McNeil, Lynn Chase, and Julie Wersal. Top, Erin Ogletree and Kathy Broman participate in one of the retreat activities.

Spotlight On:

Zion's 5-Loaves Offers Monthly Food Ministry

The last Saturday of each month, volunteers package and deliver lunches to people throughout the Trinidad community. The lunch program, dubbed 5-Loaves is based upon the Gospel tales of "Feeding of the 5,000". The story is simple; thousands of people gathered to hear Jesus teach and heal. However, at evening meal, there was nothing to feed the crowd until Jesus took the loaves and fishes and miraculously multiplied the food so all were fed.

As Biblical scholars explain, feeding the hungry is both an act of compassion and demonstrates the presence of God's kingdom. Zion's 5-Loaves program mirrors that lesson by providing weekend meals that supplement Meals on Wheels, Trinidad's Food Kitchen, and other primarily weekday feeding programs.

The Friday before each 5-Loaves delivery day, 2-7 people gather in the Fellowship Hall to pack non-perishable food items and to count the number of meals to be delivered on each of eight routes. On Saturday, volunteers place perishable food items such as chicken, breakfast food, sausage, etc., (depending upon the menu for the day) into each bag. Saturday meal preparation begins between 7 and 7:30 a.m. Delivery volunteers arrive between 9 and 10:30 a.m. to collect lunches for their respective routes.

On average the delivery teams provide a combined 200 meals as part of more than 100 stops. Each route usually has 10-20 stops with an average of 20-30 meals provided. Most stops provide 2-3 meals per household, with up to six meals delivered for unique situations. The delivered meals are designed to be large enough that people can have more than one meal from each delivery.



In addition, 5-Loaves coordinators **Norine Hazen** and **Peggy Gustafson** make special deliveries to areas frequented by the unhoused as well as for those who provide special services on weekends and cannot get meals. The two of them also pay special attention to people who have unique or temporary needs. Sometimes this means providing meals from 5-Loaves storage on days other than 5-Loaves weekends.

"Christians have followed the lead of Jesus in seeking to feed people, especially those with limited access to food," wrote Mark D. Roberts in *The High Calling*.

Indeed, Bible messages are inspirations to all of the people who volunteer to help the 5-Loaves program as they care for one another and offer hospitality and encouragement to others, which allows us to participate in the ministry of Jesus.

ELCA Update

Synod Caring Team Celebrates God's Creation

ELCA congregations and institutions across the country are incorporating the care for God's creation into their mission. Through the work of volunteers, Lutherans are making a difference in their communities.



ELCA's Creation Caring

Team is a self-organizing committee of the ELCA Rocky Mountain Synod whose main focus is on changing how people treat the Earth, from being consumers to advocates, realizing that we are part of creation and what we do to the Earth we do to ourselves.

The team's mission is for congregations to become Creation Awareness Centers, for creation to be emphasized throughout the Church Year, and to help the ELCA develop resources that celebrate God's creation so that we can seek to incorporate the principles of sufficiency and sustainability. There are many ways to learn more about the Creation Caring Team, including:

- Join the team's monthly gatherings at 10 a.m. on the 2nd Saturday of each month via Zoom at us02web.zoom.us/j/83008940316
- Visit the team's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/153008509368206>
- Contact the team via Email at: rmscreationcareteam@gmail.com

Zion's Welcomes Five New Members



Zion's welcomed five members during Easter celebrations. Two people joined through the sacrament of baptism: Tami Hix and Bruce Livingston. Three people joined by faith acclamation: Linda Schaefer and Tea & Chad Compton.



Centering Prayer Returns to Zion's

Prior to March 2020, Zion's had a Centering Prayer group that met weekly, and while we had hopes of restarting it when Covid-19 struck, that program was delayed until now. Rita Burton will be facilitating the Centering Prayer program beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, May 12, in the Fellowship Hall. This workshop is open to our entire community, all are welcome!

Contemplative prayer is a key component of Centering Prayer and is centuries old, practiced by all of the world's principal religions.

It represents a desire to have God draw us closer into a relationship. As we grow closer to, and come to better know God, we gradually let go of who we think we are, to become who we truly are. It is both a relationship with God and a discipline to deepen that relationship. It requires only the intention to grow closer to God.

Centering Prayer proceeds from a Judeo-Christian tradition, but can be practiced by anyone. It is designed to be simple in its practice designed to help people develop a relationship with God, with one another and with their true self.

Centering Prayer is also beneficial as a means to spiritual healing from personal trauma, addiction, and the "slings and arrows" of daily life. The practice itself is very simple and requires only an individual's intention and commitment. If you have questions, please contact Rita Burton.

Zion's Campout-Picnic Set for May 18-20

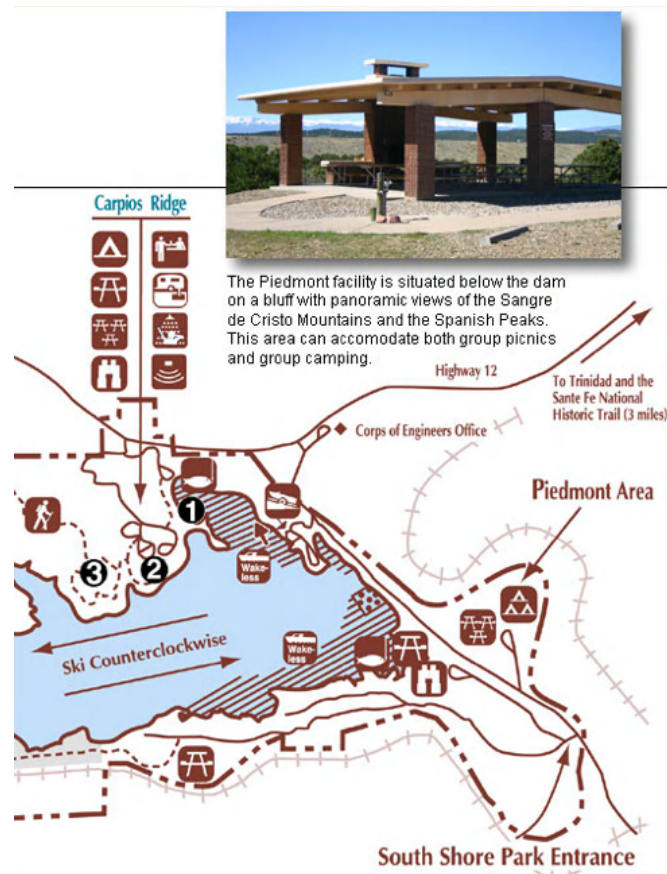
May 18-20, Zion's will sponsor it's second annual campout/picnic at Trinidad Lake. As last year, participants may join the fun and fellowship to picnic for the day or to camp for one or two nights.

We will gather at the Piedmont group camping shelter, which can seat 60 with fireplace, water, electricity, and a large grill.

Ten tent sites and three RV sites with 50 amp also are available and help to complete the amenities for fellowship as well as for enjoying nature or camping. Additional RV spots are adjacent to the group site.

There is time to participate; let Jeff Smith or Jo Moss know if you plan to camp or stay for day.

Plan to bring food, camping and recreational supplies, and be sure to have a park pass. For directions, see map.



Santa Fe Trail Days Again Includes Zion's Booth



Zion's Booth at 2021 Santa Fe Trail Event: Cherie Holder and Rita Burton (top) and Paula Little, Vicar Lisa Rygiel, Peggy Gustafson, & Becky McNeil.

Santa Fe Trail Days is Trinidad's annual festival celebrating the Santa Fe Trail, which ran between Missouri and Santa Fe, New Mexico. The *Mountain Route* or the Upper Crossing of the trail followed the Purgatoire River from La Junta upstream to Trinidad, then south through the Raton Pass and into New Mexico.

This year, Zion's Lutheran again will have a booth at the festival **Saturday, June 10**.

In 2021, Zion's Santa Fe Trail booth asked (and answered) the question "Why Zion's?" And, they offered information, outreach, and art projects.

For 2023, Paula Little and Mike McNeil are coordinating Zion's Santa Fe Trail booth. They are seeking volunteers to work two-hour shifts between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., as well as assistance with set up and take down.

Paula described the 2021 event as fulfilling, "Two years ago we had a 'decorate a wooden cross with beads and ribbons project,' which the kids loved.

"They carried the crosses around on

Main Street and, of course, we gave out candy as an enticement! It was so much fun to represent our very active church and to let the community know the varied programs in which Zion's is involved."

And, Zion's 2023 Santa Fe Trail booth promises to be as active in terms of activities and outreach. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Paula, 719-680-7189/ paulajeanlittle@gmail.com, or Mike, mmcneil72@gmail.com. Come out to support Zion's and to help celebrate Trinidad's role in the history of the American West!

Did you know? The Santa Fe Trail was traversed by a bevy of fortune seeking individuals. From 1821 to 1846, the Santa Fe Trail was a two-way international commercial highway used by both Mexican and American traders.

It was eventually supplanted by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway which largely followed the trail.

After World War I the trail was reborn, since in the 1920s it gradually became paved automobile roads.

For more information about the Santa Fe Trail activities, which include events on both Friday and Saturday, June 9-10, visit the Trinidad-Las Animas Chamber of Commerce site at:

<https://www.tlacchamber.org/event-5235002>



May





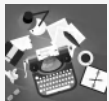



2023

Ushers:

- 7 — Mark & Jo Moss
- 14 — David & Pamela Nelson Serafini
- 21 — Steve & JoAnn Karspeck
- 28 — Peggy Gustafson & Jennifer Erickson

Lector:

- 7 — Jo Moss
- 14 — Pamela Nelson Serafini
- 21 — Melodie Lanosga
- 28 — Jennifer Erickson

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
	11:30 am PEO (Fellowship Hall)	5 pm Dementia Support Group				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10 am Worship 11:30 am Potluck and Adult Bible Study	5:30 pm AA (Fellowship Hall)			 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 11:30 am Centering Prayer 		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10 am Worship 11:30 am Council	11:30 am PEO (Fellowship Hall) 5:30 pm AA (Fellowship Hall)			Zion's Campout/Picnic at Trinidad Lake 	11:30 am Centering Prayer 	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10 am Worship 11:30 am Adult Bible Study	5:30 pm AA (Fellowship Hall)	Newsletter Deadline 		 5-Loaves Prep/Delivery 9:30 am Bible Study 	11:30 am Centering Prayer 	
28	29	30	31	Birthdays:		
10 am Worship 11:30 am Adult Bible Study	5:30 pm AA (Fellowship Hall)			2 — Amy Navarette 2 — Jennifer Erickson 3 — Jeannine Hagen 11 — Linda Theige 12 — Trey Otten 13 — Steve Karspeck 17 — Ruthie Culpepper		

From Our History Books:

Pastor Shandrick Concludes 24-years of Service by Helping Zion's Prepare for 100th Anniversary

(This is the tenth in a series recounting the life of Zion's Lutheran, which has looked at church history through Zion's 90th birthday in 1978.)

In 1980, Zion's started planning for the church's centennial year. As part of preparations, in 1980 Pastor Shandrick led work to restore the exterior of the church. That same year, Zion's began using the Lutheran Book of Worship and published its first pictorial directory, a practice that continues to this day.

In 1981, saw creation of both the Shandrick Endowment Fund and the Makloski Youth Fund. Then, in 1982, refurbishing moved from the sanctuary exterior to its interior with all of the wood revarnished and new carpet installed throughout the building. In 1983, a carillon (bell) system was installed in the sanctuary and dedicated to the memory of Maxine Michaelowski.

Pastor Shandrick retired in 1985, having served Zion's Lutheran for almost 24 years, the longest pastoral tenure in Zion's History.

Now we prepare for our 135th Anniversary, so watch the bulletins, E-formation, newsletter and website for more information. If you want to help with these preparations, contact Vicar Lisa



Zion's Lutheran Church
510 Pine Street
Trinidad CO 81082

ADDRESS:

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