ANNOUNCEMENTS

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 18, 2025

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AS WE GATHER: The power of Easter lies not just in the life it offers us, but also in the way we are recruited to be life-bringers. This week, the role of love in leading us to life ... and enabling us to bring life to others ... stands out in the Lectionary. Love is never easy, it is always messy, unpredictable and scandalously inclusive. But, if we seek to follow Christ, we cannot avoid the privilege and the responsibility we have to be people of love. May your worship lead into this love of Christ, and into His life, a little more this week.



WALK HOME FROM JERUSALEM

<u>UPDATE</u> We are swimming in the Atlantic Ocean and have 3,708 miles to go to get back home. Please email, call, or fill out the form on the back table to submit your miles to Parish Nurse Rachel.

DISCOVER THE BIGNESS OF GOD at

Vacation Bible School. We will focus on exploring God's greatness through the details of His creation, encouraging kids to see Him as bigger, stronger, and more magnificent than they often realize. VBS runs July 13-16 and is open to kids from 3 years to finishing 4th grade. Register at: myvbs.org/zionkidsvbs

ATTENTION CRAFTERS We plan to

transform our VBS space into a giant nature scene and would love your help! We are also doing a "to scale" backyard scene in the conference room so we're asking for nature items, both oversized and real life sized. Tree trunks, grasses, leaves, etc... And oversized insects! You could create it yourself or maybe you have a giant spider in storage from Halloween. We are also looking for someone handy to create a wood or pvc pipe solution for our 18 ft x 6 ft backdrop that is made up of six posters. Contact Chez if you're interested in helping out or if you have any questions.

THE FLOWERS on the Altar this morning are given by Jason and Amanda Bormann in honor of their 24th wedding anniversary on May 26th. We congratulate Jason and Amanda on their special day and thank them for providing the flowers for our services today.

BAPTIZED yesterday were Haydon Jacob Noyes, son of Jacob and Danielle, Kaisyn Charles Keith Brockberg, son of Cameron and Amanda, and Brooklyn Nicole Hawkins, daughter of Corey and Danielle. We pray God's blessings upon Haydon, Kaisyn, Brooklyn and their families.

<u>HOSTESS MEETING TODAY</u> Zion has a hostess program to help with events in the Atrium and more ladies are needed. We are holding a meeting for current and prospective members **TODAY** after the late service in the conference room.

DIAPER DERBY IS UP AND RUNNING The Ruth Guild is collecting diapers again through Father's Day. Our total so far is 716 diapers. This year all the donations are going to The Teddy Bear Den. There will be a Tea Party/Baby Shower to wrap up the Diaper Derby on June 21st at 11am. A representative from The Teddy Bear Den will be the guest speaker.

ZION'S SOFTBALL TEAM is back on the diamond this season. Cheer them on tomorrow night at Sherman Park. They are playing two games—one at 6:30 and the second at 8:20. Both are on field D.

<u>A REMINDER</u> One Room Summer Sunday School begins June 1.



Meet Zion's "Adopt-A-Chap" and his family! It's a program offered through the LCMS. It provides opportunities to form a relationship with an LCMS Chaplain and support them in prayer. Our JOY group reached out and has "adopted" Lt. Colonel Jon Smithley—the 28th Bomb Wing Chaplain at Ellsworth AFB. We hope the entire Zion congregation will add the Smithleys to their prayers. We will continue to stay in touch and pass along their letters!



Back: Alex, Simon, & Kolby (Blessing's husband). Blessing in front of Kolby.

Front: Rebecca (Alex's wife), Rachel, Jon, Amie, Matthew.

Hello and Happy Easter,

First, Jon and I want to thank you for your prayers. The support of praying Christians is priceless to us.

We are living this life like the rest of you. Sometimes there are joyful times and sometimes the times are hard and trying. Beginning four years ago, we felt those trying, hard times, but God prevailed and preserved us! Two years ago again, we had the trying, hard times and once again God brought us through a great sorrow. And now we again have a difficult time concerning aging parents. We know these are things most people go through and we are depending on God to once again get us through it. The military life makes it a difficult choice for us.

BUT God also gave us some wonderful times the past few years. In the past 16 months two of our children got married! A joyous and wonderful experience! We have been training another puppy the last 20 months (fun and frustrating!). Our oldest will be getting her own apartment in the same city as us soon.

Thank you for thinking of us from time to time. Here are some things we would love prayer for.

- For Jon's mom as she is needing nursing care, but can not afford a nursing home.
- For us to make a good decision for her.
- For our daughter moving into her own apartment to have good friends and neighbors.
- For our oldest son who is taking the Bar Exam in July.
- For our two middle children who are still in college to make good Christian friends
- For our youngest to continue to learn to the best of his ability with his special needs.
- For Amie and Jon with our various and different health concerns.
- For the airmen and their families to grow in faith.
- For our friends: Samantha G., Destiny Drake, and Mrs. Krokas who are battling cancer at this time.

Sincerely,

Jon and Amie Smithley