

FROM THE PASTOR

Luke 4: 5-8 : “The devil led Him up to a high place and showed Him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to Him, “I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. So if you worship me, it will all be yours. “Jesus answered, “It is written: Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.”

When I interviewed with the Call Committee here at Zion St. John, one of the questions I was asked was if I preferred traditional or contemporary worship. I believe my answer was along the lines of, “while I have more experience with traditional worship, I enjoy both.

While some might view that statement as a “safe answer”, it really is the truth. I think one of the traps that people easily fall into when they engage in heated debates about styles of worship is that it’s easy for us in the consumer culture we live in, to lose perspective on who is the subject of the conversation. A former colleague of mine had a way of putting things in perspective when it came to worship. “The subject of worship is always God, not me.” I think his perspective is very helpful.

Congregations are worshipping communities. We gather on Sunday mornings to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection, and on other significant dates as well. We gather to offer our thanks and praise to God. We gather to hear God’s Word and receive the Sacraments.

As your pastor, I put a great deal of time and energy into preparing for worship. For worship is central to our life together. Pastors have a responsibility to preach Biblically based sermons and administer the sacraments. Worship committees work with pastors so that the traditions of the congregation get a vote in the decisions that are made for the future. Certainly we may have preferences as to the style of worship that resonates with us. On Pentecost Sunday our newly formed Praise Team helped lead worship. I greatly appreciate Nancy Retz for directing this group and I am grateful to the members of our Praise Team for sharing their musical gifts with our congregation. We are blessed here with so much musical talent that is expressed through our Chancel Choir, our Bell Choir, our organists and those who sing or play solos. Some of the principles the Praise Team will follow include: using our usual order of worship as a guideline; using a combination of familiar hymns and contemporary praise music. In my experience, Lutheran Churches that go to contemporary worship get into trouble when the “marks” of Lutheran Worship, such as The Apostle’s Creed and The Lord’s Prayer aren’t present. Most churches are open to using contemporary worship when the music is done well. The devil delights in churches that engage in “worship wars” between traditional and contemporary. One of the subjects that will be discussed by church leaders in the coming months will be how often to have the Praise Team participate in worship. I encourage you to pray for our congregation as we discern God’s will in these important matters.

God’s Blessings To You,
Pastor Kim



- June 1 Athena Levad
- June 3 Holly Greimann
Gary Schoning
Mavis Schroeder
- June 4 Norma Corporon
Bradley Greimann
- June 5 Ruth Ann Brayton
Jacob Wiseman
- June 6 Carla Berding
Hannah Meints
- June 9 Todd Becker
- June 10 Landon Rother
Cassidy Kingery
- June 12 Kim O’Connor
Ken Beck
Maxine Harvey
John Latham
Andrew O’Connor
Karen Squier
Kim Wills
- June 14 Lorna Meyer
- June 15 Jacob Retz
- June 16 Michelle Brady
Jason Rolling
- June 17 Lois Brinkman
- June 18 Maxine Heuberger
Todd Hopes
- June 19 Heaven Harper
- June 21 Don Heuberger
Mary Kragel
- June 22 Kristle Curtis
Ian Latham
- June 23 Lori Osland
- June 24 Lori Sanders
- June 27 Alice Greimann
- June 28 Kari Mondt
- June 29 Doris Muller
McKenna Strike

PRAYER LIST

Let us know if you or a loved one would like to be on our prayer list. Names will stay on the list for eight weeks. If you would like to continue beyond that time, please let us know.

LET US PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

- + Stacie McGregor (daughter of Kim Jensen and granddaughter of Gladys and Delmar Koch), Luanne Peterson, Wendell Meints, Fred Eberling, Madisyn Harper
- + our missionary family in Senegal Dirk, Sarah, Eva & Ellen Stadtlander
- + the family of Daniel Bechtel
- + our fathers on Father’s Day and every day of the year
- + our high school graduates: Justin Meyer, Carli Mondt, Mackenzii Rasmus, Ty Sanders, and Miranda Simmons
- + our service men and women serving our country, Andrew O’Connor who is again serving in Iraq, and Andrew Brayton (son of Dale and Kathy Brayton) overseas.



PLEASE NOTE!

In order to keep Pastor Kim informed and our prayer list accurate, please let the church office or Pastor know if you are in the hospital or are anticipating hospitalization.

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Thank you to all those who contributed towards our Bakeless Bakesale. The deadline was June 1 so I will report how much was donated in the July Newsletter.

Thirty-eight towel bundles were delivered to Bremwood. Thank you to all of you for your generous donations. And thank you to Maxine Heuberger and Pauline Peter for your work with this project.

We are in the process of finding a date for a Women's Event this fall. We will have more information on this next month.

Again, our Synod Women's Organization Convention is in Waverly on June 19. The cost is \$35 if you registered before May 29. You can still register after that date but the cost is \$45. Registration and coffee start at 7:30 am and the convention begins at 8:30 am.

Our summer Bible Study is on prayer this year. Think about joining us.

In His Service,
Marlene Severe

There will be a Come and Go Bridal Shower for Sue Crawford, bride of Pete Nelson, at church from 9:30am to 11:00am on June 5.



IT'S RUMMAGE SALE TIME!

We are looking for good, clean, used items needed for stewardship projects!!

(Sizes up to 24 months)

Baby Sleepers
Baby Onesies
Baby Blankets

Full, Queen, or
King Size Sheets

Blankets for Middles
when Making Quilts

New or Good Condition Washcloths

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!



CIRCLE INFORMATION

Rebekah Circle

Monday, June 7
7:00 pm

Bible Study Leader: Julie Routh
Hostess: Marlene Severe

Dorcas Circle

Tuesday, June 1
9:00 am

Bible Study Leader: Margaret Bolk
Hostess: Eleanor Olk

Joy Circle

Tuesday, June 15
11:30 am at Sheffield Inn

From the Youth Director

Eight days and a computer... and you will never be the same! What did Bryanne do at Certification School? What is Certification School? This past month, I attended Vibrant Faith Ministries Certification School at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. Vibrant Faith Ministries is an organization whose mission is "to equip congregations, families, and individuals to live and pass on a vibrant faith in Jesus Christ." The institute is run by Rev. Paul Hill, who is a former professor at Wartburg Seminary (yes, Pastor Kim was one of his students). Paul Hill is a BRILLIANT man who is passionate about youth, teaching youth, and equipping families to bring Christ in their home. Vibrant Faith hosts many one day seminars, conferences, and also their certification school that has been attended by over 150 people. I was a member of group #57; there were 12 of us who signed up for a crazy week of learning with Paul and also Jim LaDoux, the new director of certification school. We came from all over the United States; Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, North Carolina, and Louisiana. We varied in where we were in our careers; one guy had literally been at his church one week, was installed Sunday morning and then came to certification school. Others had been in ministry most of their life, a few of us were new, one church sent their youth director and one of their pastors, and one woman was a strictly a volunteer. I have told many of you we bonded as a group in one-tenth of a second. Even though we were learning all day long about the brain, the Bible, liturgy, the current church state, attending chapel, and meeting with professors, we still had game time and goofed off. Vibrant Faith has recently revamped the way

certification school is done. Now *eight days and a computer*, our week was crammed pack to become theologians who also work with youth. Another concept that I will be passing along to the families of Zion St. John is **home is church too**. I will explain this idea more next month.

As I have now been back for more than three weeks, my mind is still spinning from all the knowledge I was given. I came away with a wealth of knowledge that is priceless, along with 11 new friends and associates whom I may call upon. A few of you have heard this story, but I feel compelled to share it with everyone who did not hear my children's sermon the day I returned. One afternoon during cert school we spent down at the ropes course. The ropes course is a great place to overcome your fears. It is created with 55-foot telephone poles that are placed 10-feet in the ground (so 45-feet up in the air). I walked across two poles, one horizontal to the ground and the other was at an incline, and I also participated in the zip-line and the big swing. The last high ropes element was the "leap of faith." For this element, a person climbs up the telephone pole, stands on top of the pole, and then jumps for a cow bell that is suspended in the air. SOUND FUN?? Needless to say I wanted to accomplish this. Paul kept telling us to "trust in our equipment;" a sit harness and also a chest harness. Picture this- Bryanne climbing to get to the top, standing up there, counting 1...2...3... jumps and misses the cowbell. Yes, I was bummed I missed it. But I was later told that I went past the cowbell (thus realizing I really do have bad depth perception). I was SO proud of myself for accomplishing the leap of faith.

On my lovely 3-hour drive back from Dubuque I kept hearing Paul say "trust in your

equipment.” I knew there was something more to it. Leap of faith... trust in your equipment... then my internal light bulb went off... The leap of faith was me putting full trust in God that he would give me the strength to accomplish my goals. My equipment wasn't just the two harnesses, it was also God. Trusting in Him as I had wings for a split second and also to get me back on the ground. Would I do it again? Yes, and next time I want to encourage most of the youth to do the leap of faith as well!!

As I said before, my week of certification school is priceless to me. I have made friends that mean the world to me who understand the craziness that is youth ministry, received a wealth of knowledge, and I also came to realize where I can go in ministry. I would like to thank everyone for their support as I was away and also support for sending me to cert school. If you would like more information about Vibrant Faith Ministries, please visit their website <http://www.youthandfamilyinstitute.org/index.html>

Parent's Place

In last month's Outlook I encouraged you to discuss schedules with your children as your *highs and lows*. The reason I chose schedules was because of all the craziness that can overrun our lives during the upcoming summer months we can opt out of church each week. I pray that everyone has a peaceful summer filled with not only baseball games, vacation, and spending time at the pool, but also with love and friendship.

Now that school is out everyone has a new sense of freedom. For kids, freedom can mean not having to sit through school all day, being able to sleep in, and not have to worry about crazy schedules so they can spend more

time with friends. Parents you might be worried about your kids becoming too lazy. You may want them to have fun over the summer yet still help around the house. You are also free from school schedules and having to run your young ones around! FREEDOM... During June, I encourage families to discuss freedom. What does it mean to everyone in your home? What do you think it means to others? Is there a price to freedom? I partially want to discuss this as the Fourth of July is just around the corner. Talk about our country and its foundation of freedom; settlers came to America to escape religious persecution. They wanted to worship in their own way, not how someone else was telling them to worship. Our high school graduates have a new sense of freedom! I hope and pray that each of us remembers what it means to be free and to also respect other's freedom.

VBS 2010

It is almost here!! *Hero Headquarters: Where Kids Join Forces with God!* Vacation Bible School will be July 5-9. VBS will be in the evening again this year. Our nights will start off with dinner at 5:15pm. Dinner will be open to everyone; your only cost is a free will donation. The night will continue with opening starting at 6:00pm, the kids will then rotate around to stations, then end with closing at 8:00pm. Registration is due June 1, but of course your registration will be accepted right up till VBS. There are blank registration forms on the youth bulletin board in the Narthex and the registration box is also located in the Narthex. Always remember that friends and family are welcome to sign up for VBS; the more the merrier!! If you are interested in helping with VBS please contact Bryanne NOW; we still need a few more adults to be Heroes!

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Darwin and seconded by Brigid.

Respectfully submitted,
Carla Berding, Secretary

Special Council Meeting

A special council meeting was held Tuesday, May 4, 2010. President Larry Greimann called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Present were Pastor Kim Wills, Larry Greimann, Carol Leucht, Betty Heginger, Delmar Koch and Darwin Meyer.

Pastor Kim led us in prayer. Larry gave the results of his search for a Treasurer for Zion St. John Church. Julia Showalter has agreed to do the bookwork on payroll taxes and Mary Kragel has agreed to be the church treasurer. Discussion was held on pay and monthly hours. We followed guidelines as written in the constitution.

Darwin Meyer made a motion we pay Julia Showalter \$15.00 an hour to do the payroll work and pay Mary Kragel an honorarium of \$300.00 a month to be the church treasurer. Carol Luecht seconded the motion and motion carried.

There was no further business. Delmar Koch moved at 7:30 p.m. the meeting be adjourned. Pastor Kim seconded the motion and all voted in favor of the motion to adjourn.

We closed by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Heginger, Sec'y. Pro-Tem

A heart-felt thank you to Steve and Heidi Harper for redecorating the main bathrooms. They look wonderful!

The Church Council



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Greetings from the Stewardship Committee that is presently being formed. Darwin Meyer has willingly volunteered to be chairman of the Stewardship Committee. He will be asking people to help serve on this very important committee of our church. When you are asked, please prayerfully consider helping serve and lead our congregation forward as God challenges us in our Stewardship Commitment. Everything we own physically and spiritually is a gift from God. All of us are blessed with different gifts from the Spirit. Some of us are blessed with more time than income, others are blessed with more income than time, and still others of us are blessed with both time and income. God asks each of us to tithe in the ways we can. Thank you for your gifts. Please look at the financial report included in this newsletter and consider where your family is year to date in your commitment to our financial picture.

Yours in Christ,
The Zion St. John
Stewardship Committee

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP IN 2010

As of April 30th we have **received \$68,361**. Thank you for your faithful giving.

As of April 30th our **expenses have been \$80,068**. This amount is less than our budgeted expenditures.

At this time, our giving is \$11,707 less than our spending.

Currently we do have a positive balance in our checking account. Please prayerfully consider how you can help us keep our budget balanced during the summer.



ZION ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL Meeting Minutes from May 18, 2010

Members present: Larry Greimann, Betty Heginger, Carla Berding, Brigid Christianson, Michelle Brady, Carol Luecht, Charles Sukup, Darwin Meyer, Mary Kragel, and Bryanne Hensley.

Larry Greimann called the meeting to order. Bryanne led devotions.

Mary Kragel shared the thank you notes received from the Lenten offerings. **The Treasurer's Report** was placed on file for the audit. Carol made the motion to use the May offering received for mission work to be used for Amercian Missions; Delmar seconded that motion.

Bryanne brought to our attention the 2010 budget line item for Y&FM Mileage is printed in error; it currently reads \$375 which is the pro-rated amount for 2009. The amount recommended to the council in November was \$1200.

The fundraiser brunch on April 25 raised \$1443.10. Carla made the motion to give \$640 towards Bryanne's Certification School tuition and she will be responsible for raising the remaining amount of approximately \$635. The rest of the fundraiser money will be used for building improvements. Michelle seconded this motion.

The Secretary's Reports for the regular meeting on April 20 and the special meeting on May 9 were reviewed. Brigid made the motion to accept the minutes as written; Michelle seconded this motion.

Pastor's Report was reviewed.

Darwin reported the **Stewardship Committee** is currently being formed; Darwin will serve as Chairperson. An update will be in the June newsletter.

Bryanne gave the **Parish Ed and Youth & Family Ministry Committee** reports. Senior Recognition will be on Sunday, May 23, during service & fellowship time. Bryanne has finished Baccalaureate plans for tomorrow night. VBS plans continue. She gave an update on what she learned from Certification School.

Carol and Betty reported the **Worship & Evangelism Committee** has the June schedule almost done.

Larry reported for the **Property & Management Committee**. The Bride's Room is almost done; he will look into repairs needed to the roof next. The upstairs toilet will be replaced in the parsonage. The council wants to thank Steve & Heidi Harper for redecorating the bathrooms.

Darwin, Chuck Nolte, Tom Severe, and Judy Siems will be organizing some golf outings throughout the summer at Ridge Stone. More information will follow.

Darwin reported the ladies of the church are interested in purchasing an artificial Christmas tree. Discussion was held but no action was taken; more discussion will be needed at a later date.

Larry reported that a new, lighted sign for the front of the church has been donated by an anonymous donor. Darwin approved this gift; Carla seconded the motion.

Offering counters for June are Darwin and Larry; Carla will be a back-up.

THE STADTLANDER STORY

A Newsletter From Our Missionary Family in West Africa

Easter fell on Independence Day here in Senegal. Not only that, but it was the 50th anniversary of Senegal's independence from France. Due to the many planned celebrations and activities, the Christian community here in Linguere decided to hold its Easter celebration on Saturday night. Worship was at 6pm, followed by a community meal of mutton and potatoes in an onion sauce, eaten with bread. A couple rounds of toufam (a favorite Fulani sweet yogurt drink) followed.



Parents gather children around a wooden bowl for baptism during Easter worship in Linguere.

An exciting part of our Easter worship was the baptism rite. Six babies and children were baptized during the service. The baptismal font was a carved wooden bowl, traditionally used for milk and couscous in Fulani culture. It was wonderful to see these children welcomed into

this small community of faith, supported by so many Fulani Christians. Not only were regular worshippers present at the service, but many of the Christians who live farther from Linguere were able to come into town. The following day was an unusual Easter for a pastor's family, having no church services.

Our colleagues, the Grow-Hanson family, came up from Dakar for Easter weekend. The kids hid and hunted Easter eggs in the morning. Then everyone walked to the Independence Day parade to watch schools, performing groups, and military file by. We had an American-style Easter dinner with pork roast and mashed potatoes. As wrestling is very popular here in Senegal, we watched some matches on TV. We finished off the evening with an Easter hymn sing. We hope your celebration of Christ's resurrection was as enjoyable as ours.

We Pray:

- For newly baptized Fulani Christians and their parents, that they may be a light to others.
- For Senegal's people and government, that they continue to work towards a fair and sustainable democracy.
- For the production and distribution of newly recorded Pulaar audio bibles.
- For Fulani people who will hear the word of God in their own language, that it speaks to their hearts.
- For the Pulaar speaking Christian Community's new relationship with the Lutheran Church of Senegal.

Blessings,
Dirk, Sarah, Eva, and Ellen Stadlander
ELCA Missionaries Serving with
The Lutheran Church in Senegal

JUNE 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 6:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Dorcas Circle VBS Registration Due 8:00 p.m. AA & Alanon	2 6:00 p.m. Youth & Family Committee Meeting	3 7:00 p.m. Parish Ed Meeting		
6 Second Sunday of Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion 3:00 p.m. C.I. A. Youth Group	7 5:45 p.m. HS Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Rebekah Circle	8 6:30 a.m. Bible Study 8:00 p.m. AA & Alanon	9	10	11 NE Iowa Synod Assembly Wartburg	12 NE Iowa Synod Assembly
13 Third Sunday of Pentecost NE Iowa Synod Assembly 9:00 a.m. Worship Service General WELCA Meeting After Church	14	15 6:30 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. Joy Group Meets at Sheffield Inn 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting 8:00 p.m. AA & Alanon	16	17 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast at Sheffield Inn	18 Articles for the "Outlook" due today!!	19 Synod Women's Convention—Wartburg
20 Fourth Sunday of Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion	21	22 6:30 a.m. Bible Study 8:00 p.m. AA & Alanon	23 2:00 p.m. HS Movie Day	24	25	26
27 Fifth Sunday of Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. VBS Training	28	29 6:30 a.m. Bible Study 8:00 p.m. AA & Alanon	30			

WORSHIP

Head Usher: Daren Meints

Ushers: Ethan Meints, Collin Meints, Stephen Schoning, Collin Schoning, Tyler Conlon

Altar Guild: Arliss Greimann
Tina Pick

Tape Delivery: Byron/Betty Heginger

Lectors: Diane Wills, Amanda Wills

Greeters:

6 Jon/Barb Swanson
 13 Chuck/Judy Nolte
 20 Darrin/Beth Strike
 Catherine and McKenna
 27 Byron/Betty Heginger

Acolyte:

6 Collin Schoning
 13 Courtney Larson
 20 Austin Neff

Crucifer:

6 Tanner Tuttle
 13 Mickee Guritz
 20 Blake Brady

Offering Counters:

Darwin Meyer, Larry Greimann
 Backup—Carla Berding

Coffee Fellowship Time Servers:

6 Daren/Pam Meints
 Gene/Carolyn Riles
 13 La Vonne Conlon
 Vi Keniry
 20 Need Volunteers
 27 Need Volunteers