

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Mount Pleasant, Michigan 48858

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Samuel B. Reith & Jonathon J. Bakker, Pastors

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“My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.” Psalm 62:1-2

An expert in time management spoke to a group of business students. As he stood in front of these high-powered over-achievers, he said, “Okay, time for a quiz.” He pulled out a one-gallon mason jar and set it on the table. Next he produced about a dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them into the jar. When no more rocks would fit inside, he asked, “Is this jar full?” Everyone said “yes.” The instructor came back: “Really?” He reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of sand. As he poured the sand, it filtered into the empty spaces left between the rocks. Once more he asked, “Is this jar full?” “No!” the class shouted. Without replying, the expert grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour until the jar was filled to the brim. He then asked, “What is the point of this illustration?” One eager beaver raised his hand and said, “The point is no matter how full your schedule may be, if you try really hard you can always fit more into it!” “No,” the speaker replied, “that’s not the point. The point is this: If you don’t put the big rocks in first, you’ll never get them in at all.”

We are on the brink of summer. This is the season that Michiganders wait for in earnest through the long months of winter. When it arrives we do our best to fill it to the brim with activities. And, “if you try really hard you can always fit more into it!” The trouble with summer or any season of life is that we always need to “put the big rocks in first.”

In Psalm 62 David proclaims, “My soul finds rest

in God alone; my salvation comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.” His rock is Christ. David recognizes that his life must be grounded in the Savior. And David makes his declaration based upon the promise and hope of a messiah that he has yet to see. The “rock,” the center, the foundation of David’s life was the covenant God who had promised to send His chosen one to secure the future of the children of Israel and all people. This truth must be at the center of life.

Will Jesus Christ, His life and His salvation be at the center of your life this summer? Or will you be so intent on filling up your schedule with the activities of summer that you will have no room for the “rock of salvation?” This is the problem of the season. Schedules change and with them our habits. We get out of the habit of attending church in the summer months with the same frequency as we do during the winter. The Bible class and Sunday school schedules change and we don’t find time on our own to continue our studies of the Word. We spend our weekends traveling and that makes the weeks in between all the more hectic. A busy summer can be a summer separated from the “rock of salvation.”

As we enter into the summer with its busy schedule, we must make room for Jesus now. If you are traveling, take the time now to identify an LCMS congregation where you can worship on Sunday. Following Memorial Day weekend, our midweek service returns to its familiar Monday

night time slot, 7:00 p.m. If you were out and about Sunday morning, you still have an opportunity to worship. Take time for daily prayer – in the morning, at meals, and in the evening. There is always room for Jesus Christ if you remember to put Him first.

“Rock of Ages...Let me hide myself in Thee.”

Pastor Reith

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL: The following students received an attendance certificate for completing 13 Sundays in April and May 2010:

NURSERY-KINDERGARTEN

Ashton Bucholz - K

Sydney Warne - K

1st – 2nd

Hunter Geiger - 1st

Joshua Camp - 2nd

Dana Hayes - 2nd

5th – 6th

Emily Vos - 6th

Please contact Julie Courtney at 779-5401 with any questions.



Dates to Remember

May 30: No Sunday school, Memorial Day Weekend

June 6: Final children's Sunday school class until Rally Day

July 12-16: Vacation Bible School

Planet Zoom Vacation Bible School

The bees buzzing from blossom to blossom remind us that **Planet Zoom Vacation Bible School** is coming to Zion **July 12-16**. Don't miss out on the fun activities and sharing God's Word with the children of Zion and the community. We will be learning about the boy Jesus in the



temple, Jesus feeding a big crowd, Jesus raising Jairus' daughter, that Jesus rose from the dead for me, and that God rescued Peter from jail.

Please **sign up** on one of the forms on the bulletin boards at Zion and GTK to be a helper one or more days the week of VBS. Soon there will be a sign-up sheet for snack items.

On **June 6th**, the Adult Bible class and Sunday School classes will combine for a **ZIP, ZAP, and ZOOMING** time of fellowship, snack, craft, and lesson. The activities will introduce everyone to this summer's VBS. We hope you will "bee" there to join in the fun! **Help us Bee-prepared by registering early.** Registration forms are currently available on www.zionchristtheking.org and will be available June 6. During Sunday School we will be making invitations to give to friends, asking them to come to VBS. Those making invitations and those who turn in a completed registration form on that day will receive a **gift**. When students bring back a registration form from a friend they will also receive a gift. Help us make this the best VBS ever. God has given each of us many gifts and talents. Please use them to assist and support VBS this year. **Pray, Volunteer, Enroll, Donate, Support.**

Be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us.



Ephesians 5:1-2



Graduation Open House



As most of you know, **Ashley** will be graduating from Mt. Pleasant High School on June 6. **Cindi and I would like to invite all of you** to join us in our celebration that same afternoon. Open house will be after the graduation at Zion from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. We look forward to your participation in another significant achievement in the Greenlee family as Ashley begins her college career! **Todd & Cindi Greenlee**

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Monthly Income & Expense Report

through April 30, 2010

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
YTD Budgeted Expenses	\$ 120,037.12	\$ 119,356.00
YTD Actual Expenses	<u>\$ 127,644.64</u>	<u>\$ 109,021.15</u>
YTD Balance	(\$ 7,607.52)	\$ 10,334.85
YTD General Fund Income	\$ 122,980.10	\$ 100,408.14
YTD Actual Expenses	<u>\$ 127,644.64</u>	<u>\$ 109,021.15</u>
YTD Income Less Expense (\$	4,664.54)	(\$8,613.01)

God gives us His love, goodness and mercy daily. He has given us victory over sin and death through His Son. Christ has given us the blessings of forgiveness, justification, a new life, and an eternal hope. Because of His bountiful blessings, we should be compelled to show our gratitude. Do we? Or are we taking all that we receive for granted?

If Christ were to come into our homes in physical form, certainly we would express our thanks in tangible ways. We would make Him comfortable, run errands for Him, offer our best food, and give Him our time and attention. However, we don't have that opportunity, so we show our gratitude in different ways.

One way to express our gratitude is to give thanks throughout the day in our prayers and thoughts. Our thanksgiving is expressed when we use the faith God has given us to live in obedience to His Word. God hears and sees our gratitude through the lives we live, generously sharing our time and money with others in Christian love, extending our thanks to Him in praise and glory in weekly worship and privately throughout each day.

Gratitude opens our hearts to receive more of God's love, which then enables us to be more faithful with our resources. Our gratefulness to God will enable us to give thanks even during bad times, because God promises to comfort and sustain us in all things.

The Stewardship Board

April Mission of the Month,
Women's Aid Service,
received \$186.00.

June Mission of the Month

Lutheran Hour Ministries

Many of you receive and read the Daily Devotions that are sent to subscribers by e-mail from Lutheran Hour Ministries. These devotions have been sent to many of our Zion members, CMU students, and their friends and relatives. If you have read these devotions but have never **listened** to them being read aloud, just click the link given at the beginning of the devotion to hear an audio version. You will find that you may focus on the message more closely than when you sit and scan through it on your computer screen. There are many "good causes" asking for your assistance these days, but most of them do not impact the eternal salvation of yourself and others as does Lutheran Hour Ministries. Please give generously to spread God's word in this way.



Dave Campbell

Wayne and Karyn Kiefer

Bety Pekrul

Jim & Delores Morford

Almost **twin leather coats** were mismatched to their owners on April 25. Please check your dark brown or black leather coat to see if it is safe at home. Contact the office at Zion to reclaim your missing black jacket and return the dark brown one to its happy owner.

Service Times

Our midweek service returns to its familiar time slot for the summer months. Beginning June 7 the service will be moved from Wednesday to Monday at 7:00 p.m. As usual this service takes place at the Chapel. The Lord's Supper will be offered on the fourth Sunday of the month.

Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Our monthly Men's Breakfast Bible Study will take place on Saturday, June 19, at 8:00 a.m. This month our gathering will take place on the deck at the home of John and Claudia Schimmelmenn. We will be continuing a study provided by the Lutheran Hour Ministries entitled "Enlarging the Harvest." Please make your plans now to attend.

Community Food Distribution June 26

We will be hosting the community food distribution on Saturday morning June 26. Approximately 75 pairs of hands will be needed to ensure that the distribution will go smoothly. Please mark the date and make plans to be a part of this worthy charitable endeavor.

Summer Sunday morning Bible Class

There will be a six week series of lessons "Heroes of Faith" beginning in June and ending August 1.

BOARD OF FAMILY LIFE

ATTENTION CAMPERS!! There's still time to SIGN UP for this year's camping weekend – Friday, July 16 - Sunday, July 18th. We are going to the Traverse City KOA. There are lots of activities on site and within a short distance. We will have a community breakfast on Saturday morning and a pot luck on Saturday night with a church service on Sunday morning. Please sign up on the bulletin board at either Zion or Christ The King so we can make appropriate reservations! If you have questions, feel free to call Linda Hanley @ 989-289-0261 or email me @ lindalhanley@juno.com

Men's Softball

This year we will be having a men's softball team and we will once again play in the church league. Games will begin after Memorial Day and we will play one night a week: a double header with the tournament being August 6 and 7. Please contact me if you have an interest in playing softball and would like to play on the team. Todd Greenlee



Summerfest

Once again we have another annual volunteer event. On June 24-26 we will support the parking for Summerfest. For those of you who are not aware, for several years we have done this and all proceeds go to our new sanctuary fund. This has resulted in about \$1500.00 - \$1600.00 each year. All we do is collect the money from those who choose to park at Island Park. Please consider your availability and sign the sheets posted on the bulletin boards at Zion or CTK. Todd Greenlee



Yard Sale

It has been a few years since our last sale, so we are planning a **Yard Sale Fund Raiser** this summer.

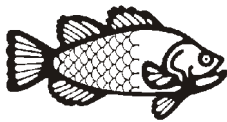
All proceeds will go to the New Sanctuary. It is tentatively scheduled for August 21. So start boxing up those items you want to contribute. We will have transportation available to pick up items that you are unable to deliver to the church. If you have any questions about Family Life activities or suggestions for future events, please talk to any board member: Linda Hanley, Brandi Bucholz, Krista Claybaugh, Diane Prekert, or Ann Reith.



Youth of third grade through high school take note!

Please remember you are to help with the bake sale at the church yard sale in August. Bake many cookies, bars and cupcakes. Drop them off at Zion the Friday night before the sale.





Second Annual Zion Lutheran Bass Fishing Tournament

will begin at sunrise on **Saturday, June 12**. It is free fishing weekend in Michigan so no license is required. No sign-in is required so everyone of all ages may travel to any fishing location of your choice and begin to catch fish. Fish will be weighed at Zion for each contestant between 3:30 and 4:00 p.m. A potluck dinner with fish and sloppy joes will be held at 6:00 p.m. All are invited, even if you did not fish.

Awards will be presented at the dinner. Prizes will be awarded in each category for adult and youth (17 & younger). Largest bass prize is determined by weight of any bass species. In the event of a tie, the longest length will win. The non-bass prize is determined by weight of entire catch of any fish that is not a bass. General fishing regulations apply. The limit of large and small bass is **5 total in any combination**. The minimum length is 14 inches.

Feel free to take digital pictures to share during the potluck dinner! Please follow all fishing rules and regulations. Have fun and invite everyone that you know. All are welcome!



For more information, call Don Bucholz at 506-5438 or email donbucholz@hotmail.com.

This event is sponsored by the Board of Family Life.

LWML NEWS

Mark your calendars and fill out your registration! The **LWML Michigan District Convention** is July 9 - 11, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn, MI. This will be an amazing weekend filled with worship, fellowship, music, service, laughter, and fun! Please contact Brandi Bucholz if you have any questions about this convention. Registration is due **June 10th**. We hope that you can come!

Theme Verse: How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52:7 (NIV)



Attention Men (& Women who are sick of seeing your husband's same tie week after week) **GOT TIES!?! WE NEED THEM!** The LWML is looking for ties to make into eyeglass cases for **MOST** Ministries. Please donate ties by placing them in the collection box located in the back of the church. Thank you!!!

Quilting Circle

This year the quilting circle has sent 45 quilts to Lutheran World Relief. The circle will have at least 80 more quilts completed that will be sent in the fall. A big thank you to Kim Johnson who donated lots of material for the quilts. If anyone has material they wish to donate, please contact Joyce Carter at 772-5782.

Altar Committee

A person is needed to be the chairman of the altar committee. Training will be provided. If interested, please contact JoAnn Gust at 644-2657 or Brandi Bucholz at 506-5434.

YOUTH

Kid's Camp - (Grades 3-8)

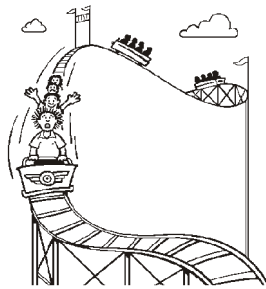


The youth board is happy to announce that Zion is sending their first group of kids to camp Lu Lay Lea during the week of August 1-7. This will be a great opportunity for the kids to bond and share memories that will last a lifetime. All of our youth have been actively involved in fund-raising activities; this revenue has enabled the board to cover much of the cost of the camping week. Each camper is responsible for part of the cost. Please visit the following website to view pictures of the camp and read more information:

<http://campplulaylea.org/>. A letter with detailed information will be sent to the families of our youth. Registration and deposit are due in the office at Zion on Sunday, June 13.

YOUTH

Cedar Point



If you are ready to ride the roller coasters and play at the water park this summer, this trip is for you! On August 10-11, youth in grades 7-12 will spend one day at the amusement park and one day at the water park at Cedar Point. The Youth Board of Zion Lutheran Church will provide funding for the transportation, night at the hotel, and breakfast Wednesday morning. Each participant will provide money for their own admission to the park for two days, food, and souvenirs. Friends are welcome to attend, but have an additional cost of \$30.00 for lodging and transportation. Please call the church office at Zion (772-1516) by July 16 to register. Permission slips are available in the office. Contact Pastor Bakker with any questions.

COMMUNITY COMPASSION NETWORK FOOD DISTRIBUTION

On the morning of **June 26**, our church will be hosting the Community Compassion Network (CCN) food distribution. This is a major undertaking for our church, both monetarily and physically. One agreement, beyond offering our physical facilities and manpower for the morning, is to provide snacks and beverages for the 400 - 500 guests who will be coming to receive the grocery items. The Evangelism Committee will be in charge of this part of the activity. The doors open at 7AM and we need to have our coffee, water/juice, and snacks ready. If you can help the committee earlier in the week as they prepare apple sauce cups, crackers, cheese, cookies, etc. (suggestions open), please let John or Claudia Schimmelmenn know. Also if you can help to set up early on Pantry Day, make this known as well.

If you are unable to be at Zion to participate in this outreach project on June 26, you can help by giving a generous monetary offering to defray the expenses associated with the snacks and

other products that we will provide. Remember, we received an anonymous donation of \$1600 which was necessary to make the commitment to host this day and purchase the groceries which will be delivered for distribution. For that we are very grateful. However there are more expenses to be covered and much to do.

Please encourage your families and friends to sign up to help. We hope to have at least 75 people from our congregation volunteering for the morning. Parking cars is a big part of the early morning hours. Younger children can help as well. There will be much to do! Please put this on your calendar. Also get the word out to friends who aren't our church members, but who might be willing to help for the morning.

International Ministry

Many thanks to Zion members who contributed money to the ISM dedicated fund in April. We were able to raise \$393.76. The money we collected will help to meet some important needs of internationals whom we serve. Thank you also to members who gave gifts for the baby shower in May. Both women were overwhelmed with surprise and appreciation to receive gifts from church members they had never met. It is through acts of kindness like this that we minister to our international community and friends. You can view photos from the baby shower at www.internationalsatcmu.org/photos.html

Summer classes begin at the chapel June 1st. We will offer "American Culture, Cooking, and Idioms" and the Bible Study "Life of Jesus-Parables". We will also continue to scrap book this summer, every Saturday from 10am-12pm, and church members are welcome to join us!

Currently, the 3 greatest needs of International Ministry at CTK are: volunteers for conversation partners; volunteers to teach a lesson for the American Culture, Cooking, and Idioms class; and a bicycle for a 12 year old boy.

Learn about other ways that you can support our ministry at: www.internationals.org/support.html and www.internationals.org/donateditems.html