



GRAPEVINE

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH IS A MOSAIC COMMUNITY SHARING THE GRACE OF CHRIST WITH ALL...

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



140TH ANNIVERSARY

140TH ANNIVERSARY

PREACHERS

PASTOR PERRIE DRALLE

JUNE 11, 2023

9:15AM WORSHIP

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



JUNE 2023

Sunday Worship
at 9:15am

In Person & Facebook live

Burmese Worship at 10:30am

Zion Lutheran Church
925 5th Avenue
Rockford, Illinois 61104

Phone: 815-964-4609
www.zionrockford.com
zionrockford@gmail.com



Juneteenth
Worship

Sunday, June 18 at 9:15am

Worship at Patriots Gateway Community Center

615 S. Fifth Street – Rockford, IL 61104
Sponsored by Zion Lutheran Church

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“Axe” the
Intern

Axe Throwing Party
@ Big Timber Axe Throwing
4249 E State St.
Thursday, June 29th @ 5:00pm
\$20 per person

Big Timber
Website



Zion
Website



PASTOR'S CORNER

ANNIVERSARY BANQUET!

As we continue to make plans for our 140th Anniversary year, please mark your calendar for the Anniversary Banquet on Sunday, September 14, 2023. We will gather for 9:15am worship with Pastor Kendal Koenig our guest preacher. We will then have our Banquet at Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Club starting at 11:00am.

ANNIVERSARY TASTE OF ZION

Our Anniversary Taste of Zion will be on Saturday, October 14th from 4:00-6:00pm with Trinadora providing the music. There is much to celebrate and plan. If you would like to prepare or arrange for food from a particular cultural background, please let the office know.

The 140th Anniversary plans continue to provide us a time to remember God's faithfulness in the past. Our theme is "Be The Body... Today & Tomorrow". Our online videos of members has been a joy to help with and watch. Intern Alana has done a great job preparing these and posting them online. The stories are amazing.

CHURCH SURVEY!

During the month of April, we were all invited to participate in an online survey coordinated by the ELCA. Pastor Josh Ebener provided the resource and was able to meet with the Church Council at our April 15th retreat and then the Congregation on April 30th during the forum time at 9:15am. We thank you for participating in the survey and the 41 people who participated in the online survey. We do apologize for not having a paper version to fill out. The results are being discussed by the Church Council in order to make plans for the

future. We are looking to have another congregational forum near the end of August. This is a time for us to discern our strengths, understand our weaknesses and clarify our purpose based on the spirit guiding us forward.

In the survey, we discovered that these were the ministry areas that ranked very high. I am grateful to see how our service in the community is indeed a strength of ours. We continue to build on our partnerships and do advocacy in the community.

- ⇒ Community Connections
- ⇒ Justice
- ⇒ Gospel Preaching
- ⇒ Accessibility
- ⇒ Facility Use
- ⇒ Healthy Relationships

As we look at our lowest scores, I am not surprised at these areas. Most people who took the survey were not surprised either. We have various challenges as an older congregation and can build on our strengths to address these areas.

- ⇒ Length of Membership
- ⇒ Ministry Ownership
- ⇒ Participation
- ⇒ Finances
- ⇒ Age of Membership
- ⇒ Growth/Decline
- ⇒ Children

There were many other areas that we will be looking at as well in our planning. I am grateful for the participation of the congregation in this journey. Let us pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us.

God's Peace, Pastor Thomas

JUNETEENTH

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Worship at Patriots Gateway Community Center

615 South Fifth Street - Rockford, IL 61104

Sunday June 18, 2023

9:15am

Brunch to follow worship

Sponsored by Zion Lutheran Church

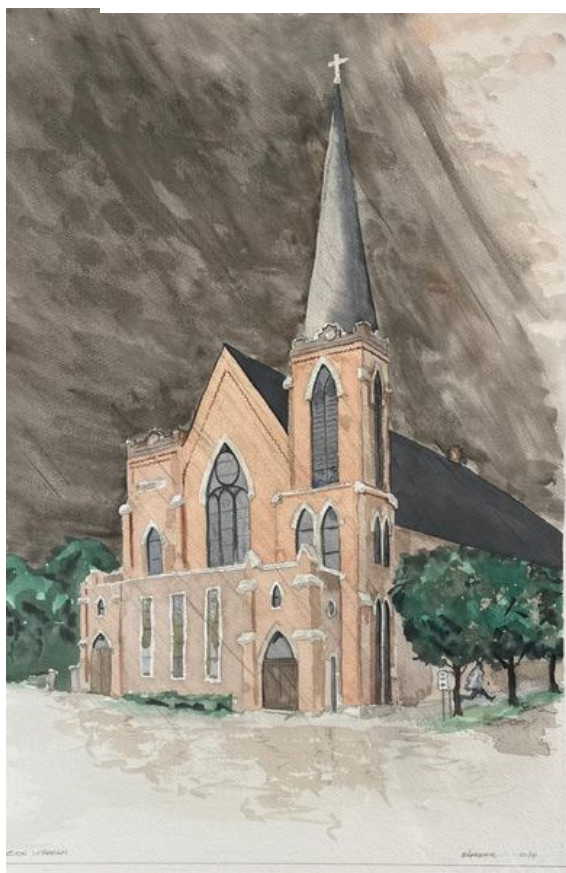
925 5th Avenue - Rockford, IL 61104

Zion is a mosaic community sharing the grace of Christ with all



Juneteenth is a holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It recalls how the states of Louisiana and Texas heard the news that President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Slavery continued in those two states for more than two years after the proclamation was signed because the word had yet to travel there. Texas and Louisiana finally got the good news on June 19, 1865. Former slaves broke out in spontaneous celebration. These were dangerous times. Even in the face of resistance and threat, the formerly enslaved Africans found ways to give voice to the wide range of thoughts and emotions at the announcement of the end of legalized slavery in the United States of America.

GERRY SWAN



Pastor Mike had a wonderful visit with Gerry Swan and saw an original water color of Zion by Elmer Harder that he had never seen before! Elmer's son, David, said that this was painted in about 1991. David was actually in Young Life with Pastor Denver Bitner, he shared in an email. <https://www.hardersigns.com/about-us>



PASTORAL INTERN

4

Greetings, dear ones!

As I see the sun shining outside and enjoy the warmer days creeping in, I am filled with gratitude for the light that Christ shines on us and the warmth that fills our hearts in community. This time of year always inspires me to get together with people, almost as much as it drives me to go outside and get moving. God is always creating, and this season reminds us that creation encompasses everything from the birds in the sky to the flowers decorating the ground to the community that draws us together.



Here are some places where I anticipate God’s creative, living power to be at work this month:

In my own spirit and growth as an intern; even as my year quickly progresses, I continue to learn new things from you all. I am always grateful for the ways I am being shaped by this community and led by the Spirit.

In the connections created at the Eliminate Racism Race Summit; I am hopeful that conversations continue and we continue our work together as a community.

In the dynamic gathering that is Cars & Coffee; I see life and community being built up in the neighborhood each time we get together in that parking lot.

In the seeds of faith planted at WOW; I pray that this summer, those seeds begin to sprout into joy, praise, and cross-marked community in the neighborhood.

In the growing produce that will be sold at the Rockford Midtown Market – and in all the ministries that work to address food insecurity in the Rockford area.

In the excitement (and maybe nervousness) of trying a new activity like axe throwing! I’m hopeful that our “Axe the Intern” event on June 29th will be a great opportunity for fun and fellowship.

Beloved ones, wherever we go, the Triune God walks with us and brings God’s creative power into our midst. A great reminder of this is Psalm 139; I encourage you to read it, meditate on it, maybe pray through it as you look at the flowers and trees this summer. The creation we see out there every day, after all, is “fearfully and wonderfully made” ...and so are you.

Peace,
Intern Alana



SHELTER CARE MINISTRY

Shelter Care Ministries Rockford



ZION MULTICULTURAL TEAM is asking the Zion congregation to join them in participating in this towel drive in memory of Charmaine Logwood, a Zion member, former social worker at Jubilee Center who passed in October, 2022. *“We’re close to opening the shower at the Jubilee Center. This will primarily be for Jubilee members who are literally homeless without access to shower facilities. If you don’t know, the Jubilee Center is located in a former school gymnasium and there was originally a locker room with a shower in the basement. With minor renovation funds from the State of IL, we’ve got the shower working again. But what we still need are white towels. Specifically large towels. Think of the size you’d bring to the beach (at least 30x60). If they are white we can bleach them.”*

CORNUCOPIA BAG FLUFFING

BAG FLUFFING

FOR CORNUCOPIA FOOD PANTRY

Fourth Monday at 1:00pm

Zion Lutheran Church – Youth Center!

Cornucopia



Food Pantry



AROUND ZION

BAG FLUFFING— Now with the pandemic having slowed down, the need for bags has really increased, PLEASE drop your bags off and if you are able, join us monthly for lots of fun while we fluff, (Coffee & treats too) Thanks, Karen Kermgard.

WELCA/WOZ— WOZ (Women of Zion) would like to thank everyone for their food donations to Cornucopia. . During June Peggy King, Cornucopia Director, requested we collect condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, etc.). You can put your donations in the grocery cart which is in the Narthex or you can bring them to the church office. Thanks again for your support. Karen Kermgard

WELCA/WOZ—SAVE THE DATE! We are planning wonderful, fun activities this Spring. Contact Karen Kermgard, 815.398.4460, to register for events.



WELCA/ WOZ June 15—All (men and women) are invited to Zion's WELCA meeting June 15th at 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Laura Furman, Curator of Collections and Education at Midway Village Museum, will be presenting a program about Rockford's Camp Grant. Details will follow in the Grapevine and bulletins for Save the Date updates! Hope you can join us!

HOME VISITS— If you would like to be a part of visiting and keeping in touch with the homebound of Zion, or have any questions regarding visits, contact Pastoral Intern Alana Harms and she will talk with you about it and help answer any questions you may have.

HOMELESS MINISTRY—Are you interested in the homelessness in our Zion neighborhood? There is a free one hour introductory course through www.homelesstraining.com. We will have an updated report on this to the congregation by Bonnie Dahlberg. Questions please call Betty Morgan, 815.282.0717. Thank you. Missions Team

BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday Morning Bible Study at Stockholm Inn, 8:00AM, feel free to join the group

Lutheran World Relief In-Gathering

October 7 9am-Noon

October 8: Noon-3pm



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**





ZION'S 140TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2023

How wonderful it is to celebrate the legacy of Zion. We are in the process of inviting various Pastors and former Interns back to Zion. We are looking for ideas and volunteers to lead in areas of celebration. We are off to a great start, so please continue to help us plan events and activities. The Chairs are Ron Simmons and Jane Lightcap. Contact them, or Pastor Mike with ideas, questions or to volunteer. Thank you.

ANNIVERSARY SCHEDULE

June 11	Pastor Perrie Dralle Preacher
June 18	Juneteenth at PGCC
August 13	Pastor Chrissy Salser Preacher
August 20	Pastor Julane Nease Preacher
September 10	Pastor Kendal Koenig Preacher Anniversary Banquet 11-2pm at Mau-nah-Tee-See Country Club
October 14	140th Celebration Taste of Zion 4-6pm
October 15	Pastor Denver Bitner Preaching—Homecoming Sunday
November 19	Pastor Katrina Steingraeber
December 10	St. Lucia Fest at Zion after worship

COMMUNITY GARDEN



Gardens are located
around 5th St and 5th
Ave

Free garden beds available! Water
and hoses provided. If interested,
please call:

**ZION LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

815-964-4609

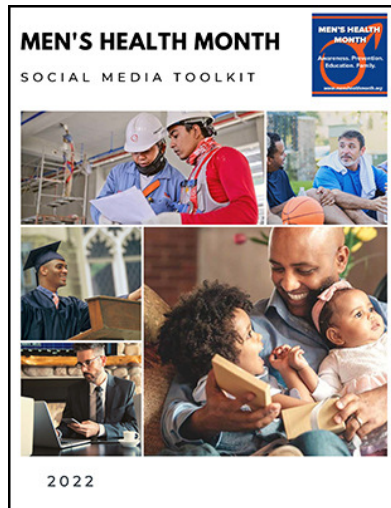
NURSE MARY'S CORNER

Nurse Mary's Corner

“At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead. Daniel 1:14-16



June is Men's Health Month



Men: Here are some things you can do to take care of your health:

- Eat healthy and get active
- If you drink alcohol, drink only in moderation
- Quit smoking
- Know your family's health history
- Get screening tests to check for possible health problems
- Make sure you're up to date on your vaccines (shots)

See a doctor for regular checkups even if you feel healthy. This is important because some diseases and health conditions don't have symptoms at first. Plus, seeing a doctor will give you a chance to learn more about your health.

Remember, it's never too late to start healthier habits. A healthy eating routine and regular physical activity can help control your: · Blood pressure, Blood sugar, Cholesterol, Weight

By keeping these numbers in a healthy range, you can lower your risk of serious health problems like type 2 diabetes and heart disease. Small changes can add up to big results!

Many people think of the doctor as someone to see when they're sick. But doctors also provide services — like screening tests and vaccines — that help keep you from getting sick in the first place.

Screenings are medical tests that doctors use to check for diseases and health conditions before there are any signs or symptoms. Screenings help find problems early on, when they may be easier to treat.

Depending on your age and medical history, you may need to be screened:

Certain types of cancer, High blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes & Mental health conditions, like depression.

Stay up to date on your vaccines. Ask your doctor or nurse which vaccines you need to stay healthy — then make sure you stay up to date.

For more info, <https://health.gov>

If you would like a free blood pressure check to get started on your healthy lifestyle stop in my office at the church any Wednesday 10-1 and I will be happy to visit with you. If you have any clinical questions give me a call at 815-291-8407. Mary



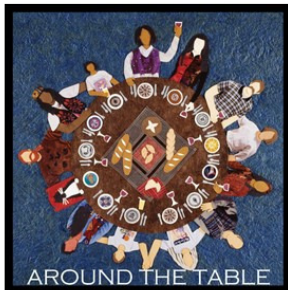
Midtown Community Health Team

MIDTOWN FUN & HEALTH FAIR



Saturday-June 10, 2023
from 1pm-3pm

Patriots Gateway Community Center



Around The Tables

June 11, 2023 at 10:15am
Fellowship Hall

THE LIAM FOUNDATION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PHYLISS GALLISATH



JUNE 2023 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28 Pentecost 9:15am Worship</p>	<p>29 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>30 9:00am RVC Literacy ESL Class - Marander Room</p>	<p>31 8:00am Bible Study - Stockholm Inn 9:00am RVC Literacy ESL Class - Marander Room 5:00pm Music Lessons - Choir Room 5:00pm WOW - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>1 9:00am Rockford Midtown Market - Katie's Cup 9:00am RVC Literacy ESL Class - Marander Room 4:00pm Katie's Cup Board</p>	<p>2 Office Closed 9:00am Private Music Lesson - Youth Center</p>	<p>3 9:00am Cars & Coffee - RPS Parking Lot 1:00pm Ruthie's Kitchen</p>
<p>4 Trinity Sunday 9:15am Worship</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 9:00am Anniversary Committee 2:00pm Zion Outreach - Youth Center</p>	<p>7 8:00am Bible Study - Stockholm Inn 1:00pm Multicultural Team Room 5:00pm Music Lessons - Choir Room 5:00pm WOW - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>8 9:00am Rockford Midtown Market - Katie's Cup 4:00pm Zion Development Board</p>	<p>9 Office Closed 9:00am Private Music Lesson - Youth Center</p>	<p>10 1:00pm Midtown Lutheran Parish Fun & Health Fair - Patriots Gateway Center 1:00pm Ruthie's Kitchen</p>
<p>11 9:15am Worship 10:15am Around the Tables - Youth Center 3:00pm Pastor Joanne Adrian Memorial - Zion</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 9:00am Worship Committee - Library 12:00pm Katie's Cup Conversation</p>	<p>14 8:00am Bible Study - Stockholm Inn 9:00am Grapevine Articles Due 5:00pm Music Lessons - Choir Room</p>	<p>15 Grapevine Mailing 9:00am Rockford Midtown Market - Katie's Cup 11:00am Finance Committee - Library 1:00pm WELCA / WOZ Camp Grant Presentation - All are welcome!</p>	<p>16 Office Closed Synod Assembly 9:00am Private Music Lesson - Youth Center</p>	<p>17 Synod Assembly 1:00pm Ruthie's Kitchen</p>
<p>18 9:15am Juneteenth Worship at Patriots Gateway Center</p>	<p>19 Juneteenth OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>20 3:30pm Building and Grounds</p>	<p>21 8:00am Bible Study - Stockholm Inn 5:00pm Music Lessons - Choir Room</p>	<p>22 9:00am Rockford Midtown Market - Katie's Cup 4:30pm Patriots Board</p>	<p>23 Office Closed 9:00am Private Music Lesson - Youth Center</p>	<p>24 1:00pm Ruthie's Kitchen</p>
<p>25 9:15am Worship</p>	<p>26 1:00pm Bag Fluffing - Youth Center</p>	<p>27 5:00pm HR Committee 6:00pm Church Council</p>	<p>28 8:00am Bible Study - Stockholm Inn 5:00pm Music Lessons - Choir Room</p>	<p>29 9:00am Rockford Midtown Market - Katie's Cup 5:00pm "Axe" the Intern - Big Timber Axe Throwing</p>	<p>30 Office Closed 9:00am Private Music Lesson - Youth Center</p>	<p>1 9:00am Cars & Coffee - RPS Parking Lot 1:00pm Ruthie's Kitchen</p>

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America

Our Ministers - All the People of Zion

Senior Pastor: Michael Thomas;
zionrockfordpastor@gmail.com

Pastoral Intern: Alana Harms;
internalanah@gmail.com

Financial Secretary: zionrockfordfinances@gmail.com

Office Manager: Jolyn Hess: zionrockford@gmail.com

Faith Community Nurse: Mary Wedel;
Mary.V.Wedel@osfhealthcare.org

Music Ministry Coordinator: Jodi Beach;
jodibeach3@gmail.com

Custodian: Shanita Baker;
zion.custodian1883@gmail.com

Outreach Coordinator: Janice Forrest;
juju051959@gmail.com

Worship Media: Kurt Brown; zionrockford@gmail.com

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Michael Beert, Bonnie Dahlberg, Gary Fulkerson,
Debbie Gortowski, Kathy Hand, Ruth Larson, Angeles
Polcher, James Rasch, Kris Sommer, Pastor Michael
Thomas, Neal Tolodxi.

2023 Church Council Officers

President: Kris Sommer
Vice-President: Michael Beert
Treasurer: James Rasch
Secretary: Ruth Larson
Pastor: Michael E. Thomas

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.zionrockford.com

Like us on www.facebook.com

Follow us on www.youtube.com/zionrockford

Offerings: We are grateful for your generosity in supporting our ministries at and beyond Zion. There are envelopes at the place you are sitting and in the lobby. Donations can be placed in the Offering Box in the back at the pole on the pulpit side before, during and after worship. You can also



donate through the mobile app called, **Vanco Mobile**. You can download the Vanco Mobile app for free from the App Store or Google Play. From there, you can make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving right through the app to our various ministries. If you have questions or need assistance with our new mobile app, please email zionrockfordfinances@gmail.com for more information.

PRAYER CORNER

WE ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:

- ◇ The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Pastor Thomas, Pastoral Intern Alana Harms, the Zion Church Council, Pastor Caleb Uk of the Burmese congregation; the Zion Staff, Zion Outreach Board, Staff and Programs of Patriots' Gateway Center, Katie's Cup and Zion Development Corporation.
- ◇ Pastor Shadrack Langu of Sepuka Parish
- ◇ Pastor Selvakumar and Arcot Lutheran Church in India and Sepuka/Msisi Church in Tanzania.
- ◇ For the Northern Illinois Synod; North Conference churches; Midtown Lutheran Parish, faculty and students of Rockford Lutheran Schools, Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries.
- ◇ For those who grieve loss of Dave Kremmel, and Pastor Joanne Adrian.
- ◇ For healing: Eloise Anderson, Kurt Brown, Colette Buchert, Yolanda Churchill, Jim Duhigg, Deanna Hartenberg, Jolyn Hess, Vanda Nielsen, Debbie Raymond, Linda Reinhardt, Becky Sharpe, and Wayne Spitzer.

If you have a prayer request or a prayer of thanksgiving to share, please notify Pastor Mike or Pastoral Intern Alana. The prayer room is upstairs to the left of the sanctuary and is available during office hours and on Sunday before and after worship services.

GRAPEVINE DEADLINE

FOR THE July 2023 GRAPEVINE,
EMAIL BY JUNE 14, 2023

To submit an article,
please send a hardcopy to the church office or
email to zionrockford@gmail.com.

(If you call Kris Sommer and she is unable to answer please leave a message so she knows who to call back, thank you)

VANCO
FAITH

Zion Lutheran Church
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*"A Mosaic Community Sharing
the Grace of Christ with All"*



GRAPEVINE

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH IS A MOSAIC COMMUNITY SHARING THE GRACE OF CHRIST WITH ALL...

Zion is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

June 2023

Zion Lutheran Church
925 5th Avenue
Rockford, Illinois 61104
Phone: (815) 964-4609
www.zionrockford.com
zionrockford@gmail.com

PARTNERSHIPS



Sunday Worship, In the Sanctuary at 9:15am

Facebook Live/Online Worship

(Also posted at www.youtube.com/zionrockford
afterwards)