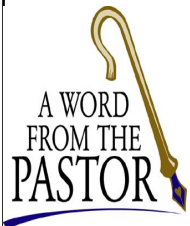
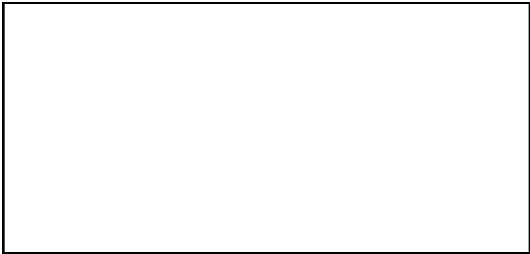


Zion Lutheran Church, School & Preschool
4550 Mt. Rushmore Road
Rapid City, SD 57701-8913

August 2023
NEWSLETTER



John 15:1 – I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

It's August, and that means motorcycles and school. The Sturgis Motorcycle Rally and the start of the school year have more to do with one another than you might think. Sure, one is filled with out-of-control characters wreaking havoc and the other has motorcycles. But both are all about gathering people together.

Both the Rally and school show us that we as human beings are inherently social creatures. Being connected to one another is a need. Dr. Vivek Murthy, the US Surgeon General, states, "[Loneliness is] like hunger or thirst. It's a feeling the body sends us when something we need for survival is missing." Dr. Murthy is pointing out what we as Christians have known since the beginning of time. We know that when God looked down on Adam in Garden He said, "It is not good that man should be alone" (Gen 1:18).

But we are alone. At least that is what statistics show us. Only 39% of the country reports feeling very connected to others. Mental health issues caused by feelings of isolation are on the rise. Overall, this feeling of loneliness across our culture is increasing. Dr. Murthy claims that loneliness has reached epidemic levels.

How do we reconnect to one another? We start by getting the order of connection right. We think that our problems of loneliness will be solved if we focus first on connecting to each other. But how did Jesus tell us to live life? First love God, then love one another. Only when we are connected to God through His Son Jesus Christ will we then be connected to one another in meaningful ways. Jesus is the vine, and we are the branches. Branches do not connect to branches. Branches are only grouped together and thrive when they connect first to the vine.

So yes, gather in social settings like sports, school, quilting circles, hikes, or motorcycle rides. But before all that, come together around God's Word and Sacrament. Come together as the body of Christ, as branches of His vine. "Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another" (Heb 10:24-25).

Welcome back to school. Welcome Rally bikers. Welcome all to God's house, to be connected to one another through the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Together in Christ,
Pastor Bryan



From the Principal's Office August 2023

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



This year marks Zion Lutheran School's 66th year in operation as a mission of Zion Lutheran Church! We are so grateful for God's blessings and to be a witness and service to the Rapid City community!

We are blessed to have many of our staff members returning this year. They include Hope Genzlinger, preschool director; Danielle Leyden, afternoon preschool teacher; Jenny Lee, enrichment aide; Hannah Sutton, enrichment aide; Regan Scott, enrichment aide; Lindsay Reule, school/church administrative assistant; Natalie Graumann, kindergarten; Megan Kettering, kindergarten; Krystol Frerking, first grade; Scot Dobbs, second grade; LeAnn Vogel, third grade; Amber Birkmire, fourth grade; Grace Weeks, fifth grade; Becki Aker, general educator; Mona Drolc, P.E., health, & music teacher; Hanne Burke, Spanish; and Ann Solinsky, principal.

Retirement: Mrs. Jane Withee has decided to retire from teaching kindergarten. Please celebrate with us on August 20th with a card shower to thank her for her years of service at Zion and many years as a dedicated servant in LCMS education ministry.

**Our teaching staff will be dedicated on Sunday, August 20th at the 8 AM service.
Please keep the entire staff in your prayers as we begin a new school year!!!**

MEET THE TEACHER DAY

This year Zion School and Preschool will begin with a “Meet the Teacher Day” on **Monday**, August 21st. Parents and students are invited to **schedule a time** to come to school between 8AM-6PM. (Some additional times may need to be scheduled on August 22nd.) During this time students and parents will be able to meet with their teacher, bring in school supplies, and fill out the forms for the school year. Once again, “Meet the Teacher Day” will be held in the multi-purpose room. We are looking forward to seeing all of our parents and children on August 21st.

- Meet the teacher
- Bring in school supplies
- Fill out all necessary forms for the 2023-2024 school year
- Information on the SCRIP Program will be available in the school office
- Tuition payments, lunch payments and book fees can also be paid for in the school office.

Please contact Ms. Lindsay, Lindsay.Reule@Zionrc.org, to set up a time for “Meet the Teacher” or call 342-5749.

ADOPT A STUDENT

As Zion Lutheran School begins, we have several families and single parent families who are in need of financial assistance as they strive to give their children a Christian Education. The Board of Christian Education approves assistance with parents paying at least half of the cost and volunteering time for the church or school. If you would be willing to assist these parents on a monthly basis or a one-time contribution, please contact Ann Solinsky at school 342-5749 or at home 390-3092. Thank you for your prayerful consideration as we continue with Zion’s mission to “Share the Gospel.”

BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC

Zion’s PTL (Parent Teacher League) will be hosting a “Back to School Picnic” at Zion on Friday, August 25th from 5-7pm. Bring lawn chairs and plan to share a fun evening of food and fellowship as we begin the new school year! Look for more information in bulletins and in pre-worship announcement slides!

Knowing Jesus,
Growing in Faith,
Serving with Love



PRESCHOOL AIDE POSITION

Zion Lutheran Preschool is looking for a morning Preschool Aide. Responsibilities include helping with before school care and aiding in a 3-year-old and a 4-year-old preschool class each morning.

AFTER CARE STAFF NEEDED

Zion Lutheran is also looking for after care staff for our after school program. It would be a part-time position Monday-Friday 3-5:30pm.

Please contact Hope Genzlinger at 605-342-5749 or hope.genzlinger@zionrc.org for more information.

EARLY ELEMENTARY AIDE

The Board of Christian Education is now looking for a part time aide for the 2023-2024 school year. This position would be working with students in grades kindergarten through 2nd grade for 18-20 hours per week. If you are interested or know of someone who might be interested, please contact the school office or Principal Ann Solinsky at 605-342-5749.



These Zion Members will celebrate a birthday of 80 or more years in August
Remember them by a card!

- Aug 2** Janice Stevens
916 Mt. View Rd.
Rapid City, SD 57702

Aug 8 Marcene Bunge
602 E Tallent St.
Rapid City, SD 57701
- Aug 15** Marlys Wenzel
The Village Pines
1050 Fairmont Blvd A-317
Rapid City, SD 57701

Aug 17 Ronald Johns
3661 Skyline Dr.
Rapid City, SD 57701
- Aug 22** Betty Bonawitz
125 E Van Buren St
Rapid City, SD 57701

Aug 23 Adelle Riss
408 E Indiana St
Rapid City, SD 57701

IT'S FAST. IT'S EASY. IT'S MORE EFFICIENT!

From now on, please sign up online to help run our service slide show.

SignUp Genius

Simply point your camera at the QR code to be taken directly to our sign up.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We need some help with running our slide shows during services.

If you are able to help, please sign-up using the QR Code shown.



Buzzard's Roost July 9. Next up—a gentle, mostly level hike at Willow Creek Trail.

Bring a picnic lunch & let’s go hiking!

All ages and skill levels welcome. Meet in the narthex following the 10:00 service:



August 6 — Creek Caves Trail
August 20 — TBD

Questions? Contact a Board of Discipleship member: Jon Epp, Lynette Epp, Laure Anderson, Kate Meadows, or Azure Summers.

HERE ARE THE WAYS YOU CAN DONATE USING E-GIVING:

- ♦ Visiting <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZA92>
- ♦ Through our website, www.zionrc.org and click on the Give button in the upper right-hand corner.
- ♦ Through the Vanco Mobile app available from the App Store or Google Play. Use invite code 7L5HGB
- ♦ By scanning the QR code.

Thank you for your continued support!



Financial Report

	June 2023	Budget YTD
Budget Receipts:	\$171,977	\$1,469,566
Budget Expenses:	\$136,691	\$1,490,828
Gain or [Loss]:	\$35,286	(\$21,262)

Funds collected via Envelopes, Loose Plate, Tuition, Daycare & Preschool

Capital Campaign Summary-June 2023	
Together We Grow	\$1,285,210.05
Christ’s Way	\$ 396,828.68
Total Funds Received	\$1,682,038.73
Less TWG Expenditures	\$ 453,143.07
Add funds dedicated to TWG	\$ 227,595.36
Total TWG Funds	\$ 1,456,491.02