

## Summer Picnic & Hike Fellowship

Join us for fellowship as we enjoy God's creation in the beautiful Black Hills! We will drive to the trailhead after Sunday late service, hike to a midway point, stop for a picnic lunch and devotion, and then finish the hike. Each hike length will be adjusted to suit the attendees. Families and hikers of all abilities are encouraged to join. Questions may be directed to any Board of Discipleship member.



1. August 11 - Horse Thief Lake Trail - 5.3 mi, moderate
2. August 25 - TBD



We had 9 members join us for the hike at Coon Hollow on Sunday, June 30.



22 hikers enjoyed fellowship along Stratobowl Rim Trail on Sunday, June 9.



Knowing + Growing + Serving

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## August 2024 Newsletter

### No More Sour Grapes! (Ezekiel 18:2)

It seems everyone's a victim in today's world. Personal responsibility has become a byword in our society. "I am the way I am because of the horrible way I was raised by my parents. It's all their fault. They really messed me up." If it's not the parents, it's society's fault or somebody else's just so long as the blame is applied to someone else. Sour grapes!

Not much has changed. The 6<sup>th</sup> century BC citizens of Judah had pretty much the same buck-passing mindset. The prophet Ezekiel, among others, is busy prophesying impending judgment and doom. In fact, the first 24 chapters of his prophecy contain almost nothing but visions, symbolic acts, and oracles portending judgment against God's people. Babylon, the appointed sword of God's wrath, is unsheathed and poised to strike. So, the inhabitants of Jerusalem race to pin the blame on their parents. "The fathers eat sour grapes and the children's teeth are set on edge," says the popular proverb.

Every good lie contains a large kernel of truth. Every individual's sinful proclivities are literally inherited from the father. The Church calls this original sin. The results of original sin are expressed in the addendum to the first commandment: "I, YAHWEH your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me." And, of course, experience bears this out. If the parents are ne'er-do-wells, the more likely the kids will be. And it generally just gets worse with each successive generation.

But none of this excuses the individual. YAHWEH God speaks of personal responsibility in spades in Ezekiel 18 - "The soul who sins is the one who will die." No more sour grapes! But the good news is that repentance can break the chain. Through the prophet, God lays out the example of three generations of men. The man in the middle is an unrepentant sinner, but both his father and his son are righteous in God's eyes because neither does what he does. They both look to God and live. The chain is broken.

With every oracle of judgment, God also promises deliverance and restoration for those He will bring to repentance. This case is no exception. In fact, the judgment and deliverance cycle predicted by Ezekiel for Jerusalem both prepares the way for and foreshadows the ultimate chain breaking work of the Messiah. His cross would be the ultimate cycle of judgment and deliverance, the ultimate pronouncement by God, "no more sour grapes." The cross judges us, telling us to stop blaming our parents. We are responsible! But it also delivers us, because, on it, Messiah himself consumes the sour grapes of the wine of God's wrath.

In Christ,  
Pastor Schulte

## DONATE BLOOD



Lets come together and save lives. Did you know that only 3% of the population donates blood, yet most people are eligible. Make a difference in someone's life for a short hour of yours!

August 27, 2024

2:30pm - 6:00pm

Contact Roxi Withee to schedule or for questions: 605-786-4237.



School kids who bring in a donor will get a prize & the class that brings in the most donors will win a pizza party!



### THANK YOU

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ. We just want to say thanks for all the prayer support our family has been given with Nathan's liver transplant. It takes at least a year for the body to heal. We firmly believe the Lord has led us to this church family knowing how supportive you would be. We are truly blessed and love our Zion family.

Gary and Anita Muelling



### WICKS

#### "WIDOWS IN CHRIST KNOW SALVATION"

THE "WICKS" ARE ENJOYING BEING TOGETHER EACH MONTH, BUT WE HAD TO CANCEL OUR JULY PICNIC DUE TO A VERY HOT SUNDAY. WE NOW PLAN ON MEETING AT THE OUTDOOR CAMPUS WEST PICNIC AREA (WEATHER PERMITTING) ON AUGUST 18, 2024 AT 12:00PM.

BRING YOUR PICNIC LUNCH AND BEVERAGE.  
SEE YOU SOON!

ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT  
SYLVIA STOLTZ (605-431-3595) OR  
PRISCILLA SAYLES (605-431-9759)



### ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

We offer electronic giving to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation especially during the busy travel time this summer. Online Giving allows you to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation, or view your online donation history. You can schedule your donation using any of the following methods:

- Through our website ([www.zionrc.org](http://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:





## We need adults to help with Sunday School this year!



We need teachers, activity leaders and helpers for our Elementary classes this coming year. We need at least four adults each session to work with our young people.

Can you give 5-7 Sundays to help our children grow in their faith? Sign up in the Narthex!

If you aren't able to commit to a whole session, we also need substitutes!



# BACK TO SCHOOL

Inflatables  
Food Fun!  
Fellowship

Sponsored by Zion PTL



## Picnic

August 23  
5-7 PM



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

### WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

This year marks Zion Lutheran School's 67<sup>th</sup> 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; Megan Weishaar, preschool aide; Jenny Lee, enrichment aide; Hannah Sutton, enrichment aide; Regan Scot, enrichment aide; Lindsay Reule, school/church administrative assistant; 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; Hanne Burke, Spanish; and Ann Solinsky, principal.

\*Natalie Graumann will be a returning staff member this year in a different position. She will be using the skills God has blessed her with as the part-time literacy aide.

Zion Lutheran School and Preschool is welcoming 2 new members to the Zion staff. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin the new school year at Zion!

**Kayla Leininger** Miss Leininger has been teaching for 10 years, 7 in kindergarten, and is excited to be joining the Zion Community as a kindergarten teacher. She received her B.A in Elementary Education from Dakota Wesleyan University and holds an Early Childhood Endorsement. She enjoys reading, kayaking, cooking, baking and spending time with her family and friends. In her spare time, she can be found learning to decorate sugar cookies and crafting.

**Danica Shupick** Miss Shupick will be joining the Zion teaching staff as the Physical Education/Health teacher and also as the afternoon preschool aide. She graduated from Black Hills State University in May of 2024, with a major in Physical Education as well as a minor in Outdoor Education and Athletic Coaching. She enjoys teaching kids and motivating them as well as giving them the tools to achieve their goals.

Our teaching staff will be dedicated on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> 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 "Meet the Teacher Day" and "Parent Partnership" meetings on **Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>**. Scholl families will be scheduled for a "Parent Partnership" time. After the brief meeting in the multi-purpose room, families will be able to go back to the classrooms to meet the teachers. During this time students and parents will be able to receive class information from their teacher, bring in school supplies, and fill out the forms for the school year. We are looking forward to seeing all of our parents and children on August 20<sup>th</sup>.

- Parent Partnership Meeting
- Meet the teacher
- Bring in school supplies
- Fill out all necessary forms for the 2024-2025 school year
- Information on the SCRIP Program will be available in the school office
- Tuition payments, lunch payments and book fees can be paid for in the school office.

Please look for "Back to School" letters for a time schedule.

### 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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!

### FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

AFTERNOON pre-K AND GRADES K-5 WILL BEGIN CLASSES ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2024. K-5 CLASSES START AT 8:15AM AND AFTERNOON pre-K CLASS STARTS AT 12:00PM. THE SCHOOL DAY ENDS AT 3:00PM.

MORNING PRESCHOOL CLASSES WILL BEGIN THE FOLLOWING WEEK: MWF CLASS WILL BEGIN ON MONDAY, AUGUST 26, AND T/TH CLASS WILL BEGIN ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 27. BOTH CLASSES RUN 8:15-11:15AM.

# Teacher Wanted



## Music Teacher

Zion is seeking a part-time music teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. This position will be approximately 8-10 hours per week.