

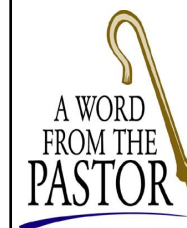
September 2022 NEWSLETTER



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- ⇒ Youth Group, J.A.M., Confirmation, and High School Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, September 7, 2022.
- ⇒ Worship Times will change back to 8:00am & 10:45am on Sunday, September 11, 2022.
- ⇒ Sunday School & Adult Bible Study will begin on Sunday, September 11, 2022.
- ⇒ Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30am-4:00pm.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,



As we begin a new academic year there is a lot on our minds. Students, families, and teachers returning to the routines of the classroom. A Capital Campaign promising the possibility of long-awaited facility and ministry expansion. Bible Study, Confirmation, and Sunday School lessons to deepen our knowledge of the scripture and faith.

Of course, as many of you may have heard, I personally have an additional consideration on my mind, as our family deliberates the call extended by the South Dakota District Board of Directors to serve the District in the capacity of Assistant to the President. As I've said to many of you, this is extremely difficult, choosing between two amazing things!

Some have asked what specifically this new call entails. The position is both familiar and novel. Many of the duties will be similar to the former "District Executive" position with the difference that the duties of Education Executive now reside in a new, part-time position currently held by Mr. David Geidel. The Assistant to the President will focus primarily on visiting, supporting, and encouraging Pastors of the District, working with congregations to promote mission opportunities, supervising District subsidized ministries, and assisting the President in various District administration duties.

I have so greatly appreciated your sincere support and prayers. Your love and kindness, as always, have been there for us through this time of personal prayer and struggle.

As the time of decision draws closer I ask for your prayers for the South Dakota District, Zion, and for our family, asking God to give all involved clarity and peace....praying with confidence "Thy Will be done."

In Christ,
Pastor Paul



From the Principal's Office September 2022



Zion Lutheran School and Preschool began the school year with 165 students. We still have a few spots available in some of our classrooms. If you know of parents who might be interested in enrolling their child for the 2022-2023 school year, please have them contact Mrs. Solinsky, 342-5749. We offer small class size with maximum 16 in each preschool class, 15 in kindergarten, and 22 in each grade school class. (1st & 2nd Grades are full.)

As we start another school year, it is good to review and focus on our purpose at Zion School and Preschool:

Mission Statement
Knowing Jesus, Growing in Faith, Serving with Love

Philosophy
God has established Zion Lutheran School and Preschool for these reasons: To share the Gospel, to provide Christian education, to worship and serve, to accept and encourage, and to put teamwork into action.

ZION'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **By Knowing Jesus, we develop the kind of Christ-like character that will make the graduates of our school Christian leaders in the church and world.**
- **By Growing in Faith, we maintain the highest standards of academic excellence in elementary school education integrated with, and related to, the teachings of God's Word.**
- **By Serving with Love, we provide an environment for children to discover, develop, and use their God-given talents in service to others and to His glory.**
- **By Serving with Love, we partner with parents in leading their children to successful, useful and purposeful living.**

STUDENT SAFETY

A goal of Zion Lutheran School is to provide a safe environment for all children. In order to do this better, we will continue to implement some very important policies this fall.

We continue to have cleaning protocols in place this year. Students and staff will also be frequently washing their hands. Morning care will continue to meet in the front narthex area. If you would like to see more about our fall reopening plan, please contact Miss Lindsay in the school office. Families will be able to go back to the classrooms, but will need to check in at the front office or with a staff member before going back to the classrooms.

Students with life threatening allergies may require certain safeguards in order to be safe in school. Zion Lutheran School has an approved and adopted policy for supporting students with life-threatening allergies. This policy provides guidelines and establishes protocols to promote prevention and management of life threatening allergies. It addresses the identification of individual needs, staff awareness, necessary curricular and procedural modifications, and emergency plans. If you would like to view or have a copy of this policy, please get one from Miss Lindsay in the school office or from Mrs. Solinsky.

We also feel that parking lot safety is also very important for all of our students and families as well. If you are dropping off or picking up Zion students, please follow this recommendation: You may use the drive-through lane to drop children off before school. Then circle to the left and exit through the **back** of the parking lot. If you intend to walk children into the school, rather than dropping them off, please park in that lot and assist them across the driveway.

After school, the orange cones will block that driveway and students will be picked up in the parking lot, with drivers being careful as they pull out of parking spaces. Cars will need to be parked before students are dismissed to go to their vehicle. Thank you for doing your part to keep our children safe and our traffic flow efficient.

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 with a one-time contribution, please contact Ann Solinsky at school 342-5749. Thank you for your prayerful consideration as we continue with Zion's mission to "Share the Gospel"

NEW SCHOOL STAFF

Megan Kettering will be joining Zion Lutheran School's teaching staff as a part-time kindergarten teacher in the morning. (Mrs. Graumann will be teaching part-time kindergarten in the afternoon.) Megan is an alumna of Zion Lutheran School. She also taught 2nd grade at Zion in the 2015-2016 school year. She has 2 children of her own that attend Zion Lutheran School. Her hobbies include playing volleyball, going for walks with her dog, traveling, playing games, and spending time with her family and much more! She loves being with children and watching them grow as a person, as a student, and as a child of God.

Miss Mona will be taking on a new role at Zion Lutheran School this year. She will continue to teach P.E. and health for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. In addition to P.E., she will be teaching music classes twice a week. Please keep Miss Mona in your prayers as she takes on this new adventure at Zion!

Danielle Leyden will be joining Zion Lutheran Church School and Preschool as the Pre-K teacher. she previously taught preschool at Little Lambs Lutheran Preschool with Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Sturgis. Danielle grew up in Sturgis on a small ranch and attended the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, where she met her husband. Danielle and her husband have been married for 8 years and living in Rapid City for the last 6 years. Last year she left her career in hospitality to spend more time with her family and pursue her own business. Danielle is excited to teach preschool again while she and her husband continue their search for a vacation rental property. They have a son who attends first grade at Zion, as well as being foster parents to a three year old girl. Their family enjoys the great outdoors, animals, gardening and cooking. She is looking forward to teaching and sharing God and His creation with our little ones and all of you.

Zion's returning school staff includes: Hope Genzlinger, preschool director; Ann Solinsky, principal; Celena Leon, preschool aide; Natalie Graumann, kindergarten; Jane Withee, kindergarten; Krystal Frerking, 1st grade; Scot Dobbs, 2nd grade; Lianne Geidel, 1st grade aide; LeAnn Vogel, 3rd grade; Amber Birkmire, 4th grade; Grace Weeks, 5th grade; Becki Aker, general educator; Hanne Burke, Spanish; Lindsay Reule, school/church secretary; Jenny Lee, preschool enrichment teacher; Hannah Sutton, preschool enrichment teacher; Regan Scott, aftercare; Sierra Rowley, aftercare; Mark Klewicki, custodian; Roger Grueschow, custodian.

School office hours are from 7:30am-4:00pm for administration and 7:45am-3:30pm for teachers.

Zion Lutheran Church, School and Preschool Parent Partnership Meetings

Everyone wants excellent schools for all children, but excellent schools also require strong families and healthy communities.

Schools, homes and communities need to work together to put our students at the center!

We want to partner with you as parents to make Zion Lutheran School a great place to grow and learn!

We are hosting **Mandatory Parent Partnership Meetings** on September 12th at 6:30pm and September 24th at 1:00pm.

(Both sessions include the same content, you only need to attend one session that fits your schedule.)

This meeting will cover various school policies, procedures and general housekeeping information.

OTHER NOTES OF INTEREST

- We will **continue saving** Family Fare receipts and Family Fare Brand UPC codes.
- **Box Tops for Education-** Zion church and school families will be able to scan their receipts with their phones for Box Top codes to Zion Lutheran School.
- Forms for the **SCRIP** Program are available in the office. This program allows you to put money toward your child's tuition or make donations to our church or school, from companies that you shop at on a regular basis. Contact Hope Genzlinger or the School Office for further information (342-5749 or hope.genzlinger@zionrc.org or ZionSchoolSec@zionrc.org)

**Knowing Jesus,
Growing in Faith,
Serving with Love**



The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is celebrating 80 years of God's Grace (1952-2022). To commemorate this event, they are suggesting that

we strive to gather 80 items for mission events at our meetings. So, Zion's LWML's theme for 2022-2023 will be "What's Your 80?"

The theme of the September meeting will be "What's Your 80 for Zion's School?". We will meet at 10:00 a.m. on September 10 at Zion. The special speakers will be Ruth Kudera and Colleen Murphy giving us a report on the District LWML Convention in June. They were very inspired by the experience and are excited to share with us.

The ingathering will be supplies for Zion Lutheran School teachers "wish list".

Wiggly eyes, pompoms, blue sticky tack, brads, sticky notes, Ziplock baggies—snack, sandwich & gallon size, pencils/pens, paper plates—small & large, balloons, buttons, cotton balls, feathers, muffin liners, wax paper, aluminum foil, Q-tips, envelopes, band-aids, contact paper, clear packing tape, Dixie cups—small size, Sharpie markers, masking tape, popsicle sticks, and large and small safety pins.

There will be a box by the information table for members of Zion to contribute to this ingathering.

All ladies of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend. Refreshments are served after the meeting and a time for fellowship.

The Care Circle ladies Bible Study will meet on

Monday, September 12, at 9:30 a.m. We will use the first Bible study in the Fall issue of The Lutheran Women's Quarterly. We are always done before 11:00 a.m. Please consider joining us to study God's Word with your Christian sisters.

Questions? Call Gail at 605-430-9715.



HELP WANTED!!!

Zion Lutheran Daycare is looking for responsible, caring adults, high school, and college students to work in our afterschool daycare program for the 2022-2023 school year. Come and spend some quality time with the kids from our school Monday

through Friday from 3:00-5:30pm. Supervising the playground, helping with homework, serving snack, and making relationships are the duties of this job. Paid training and free nights/weekends/holidays are also perks of this job. Please call Hope 391-9046 or email Hope.Genzlinger@zionrc.org for more info and application forms. Positions begin immediately. Starting wage is \$12/hour.

