



KNOWING<sup>†</sup> GROWING<sup>†</sup> SERVING<sup>†</sup>

# Christ's Way | Zion's Ministry Expansion Campaign



## From Your Impact Phase Director...

### Christ's Way Capital Campaign is going strong!

God's blessing to all of you! After our first six months of the **Christ's Way** Capital Campaign, we are going strong. We have hosted some incredibly successful events over the last few months that have added financially to the campaign, as well as provided a lot of fun for our congregation and school community. Be on the lookout for upcoming events for the **Christ's Way** Campaign through the rest of the year.

Also, don't forget to check out the floorplan in the Narthex periodically. We have been coloring a graphic to show the amount we've raised as the dollars continue to come in. It's a fun and visual way to track our progress!

As a reminder, to move forward with the expansion, we need to have in hand 55% of the building cost, as well as a positive cash flow for our General Fund. We love our church and school staff at Zion, and roughly 90% of our annual budget supports them. We must remember that, before we can expand our ministry, our current ministry needs our attention! After struggling all year long with our budget, we ended the year with a loss of just over (\$21,000). To pay our monthly bills, we have had to dip into our dedicated funds. We cannot afford to keep doing this. We now have to pay ourselves back what we used from these funds, as well as maintain enough income to pay for our day-to-

Christ's Way Capital Campaign Pledged Amount \$1,586,461.00



day operations. We cannot expect to expand our ministry until the funding for our current ministries is under control. We can and will do this, but we need to do it together, as a church-and-school family! The roadblocks that are being put in front of us are no match for God, but God asks us to work together through Him! Glory be to God as we move forward with our **Christ's Way** Campaign!

**Kevin Aker, Christ's Way Impact Phase Director**

*Let us commit ourselves to knowing, growing, and serving each other in Christ's Way.*



## What is Discipleship?

# Go Make Disciples.

Matthew 28: 18-20

Discipleship is a term that refers to the way students were taught in Jesus' day. Jesus had 12 disciples who followed Him everywhere and learned from Him as He interacted with them and others around them. Those disciples were then able to teach others when Jesus ascended to heaven.

Zion recently combined the boards of Outreach and Stewardship to become one Board of Discipleship. This combining of boards was for both practical reasons and to emphasize our relationship with Jesus as one not only about knowing Him, but also following Him. Jesus said, *"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And look, I am with you always to the very end of the age."* (Matthew 28:18-20).

Discipleship shows our relationship with Jesus is one of continually learning from Him (Bible study and regular weekly worship) and putting into practice what He has taught us (love and service to others), as He Himself daily walks with us.

What does this have to do with the Capital Campaign? The growth of our church depends on each of us growing in our own spiritual walk. How are you growing spiritually? Are you attending a Bible study? Are you serving others? Are you attending and participating in weekly worship services? The Board of Discipleship is here to help you connect to opportunities to know Jesus, grow in your faith and serve in love. Our Zion family can always use more board members, volunteers and disciples for Christ. As you examine your own spiritual growth, how might the Holy Spirit be leading you to know Jesus more? To grow in your faith more? To serve others?

The members of the Board of Discipleship would love to help connect you to a Bible study, service opportunities and/or ways to participate and be involved in worship. Please feel free to reach out to any one of us—Jon and Lynette Epp, Azure Summers, Laure Anderson or Kate Meadows.

### "Stellar" VBS 2023



A great time was had at "Stellar" Vacation Bible School (VBS) in June with kids learning lots of different ways to "Shine Jesus' light!" Our VBS serves about 160 kids, many of whom do not attend Zion. This is such a great event that embodies our mission of "Knowing Jesus, Growing in Faith and Serving with Love."

### Basketball Camp Raises \$2,500 for Christ's Way!



The first Zion Basketball Camp recently took place. Grace Weeks, our 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, planned and led the camp. Forty students ranging from grades 1-5 practiced skills, learned new skills and had a lot of fun at the same time! Ms. Weeks's motto is to "Play hard and give God the glory!" All the kids received a t-shirt with this message. This event raised almost \$2,500 for the **Christ's Way** Capital Campaign. Be on the lookout for this next summer, as we plan to make Zion Basketball Camp an annual event!

# A Message from Your Campaign Chairs

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God's blessing to Zion Lutheran Church, School and Preschool!

We are through our sixth month of the **Christ's Way** Capital Campaign. The campaign is going strong! As of the end of the second quarter (June 30), we have raised \$396,828.68.

The campaign committee continues to search and apply for grants via outside foundations. So far, we have reached out to the John T. Vucurevich Foundation, The Lorenz Family Foundation, The Mundt Foundation, and The South Dakota Community Foundation.

We will contact The Miller Family Foundation this fall to inquire whether it would be appropriate to apply for a grant with them. If you know of other community foundations that might be interested in helping Zion Lutheran Church, School and Preschool, please let Don or me know. Or, if you have a creative fundraising idea, please share it with us! We are open to thinking outside of the box.

Please continue to pray for God to bless our **Christ's Way** Campaign. Please also pray for and continue to support the general fund, so that the ministries we currently have (including a bursting-at-the-seams preschool through 5th grade) can run smoothly and efficiently. We are grateful for all of your help, through financial donations, time of serving and sharing your God-given gifts!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Youth Serve  
at Project  
Rapid..... Wed., Aug. 2-5

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Hike Creek  
Caves Trail ....Sun., Aug. 6

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Prayer  
Walk..... Sun., Aug. 13

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Hike TBD .... Sun., Aug. 20

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First Day  
of School .....Wed., Aug. 23

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Back to School  
Fundraiser  
at Pizza  
Ranch..... Thurs., Sept. 7

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Fall Service Times  
Resume .....Sun., Sept. 10

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New Member Classes  
Begin ..... October

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Craft Fair..... Sat., Nov. 18

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*A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries the bones. ~ PROVERBS 17:22*

Don Valenti & Bill Aker, *Christ's Way* Co-Chairs

## Prayer by the *Christ's Way* Prayer Team

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*Prayer makes a huge impact as God works through our prayers.*

In Jerusalem Herod was violent against Christians. He killed James the brother of John with the sword, and he arrested Peter. Herod put Peter in prison, and he had squads of soldiers guarding him. Acts 12:5 says that prayer for Peter was made to God by the church. Acts 12:6-7 tells us how God answered the prayers: "In prison Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his hands. Peter went on to be used by God in many more places. And more people became Christians."

Our Lord asks us to pray, and His promise is that He hears our prayers and answers. Please join me in praying:

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the blessing to be part of the Christian family at Zion. We praise you for the many blessings you have given us. As you work through us, help us to continue in your current work to share the good news of Jesus with people in this area and elsewhere. May you grow us spiritually as we look forward to the physical growth of Zion, so more people can know Jesus. Please help us to draw closer to you and to one another.

In Christ Jesus,

Amen!



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**Christ's Way** | Zion's Ministry  
Expansion Campaign  
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Rapid City, SD 57701

Visit our  
*Christ's Way*  
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[www.zionrc.org/  
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Pick up a  
**Frequently-  
Asked-Questions  
(FAQ) document**  
or submit a Question  
Submission form  
in the narthex

**Prayer  
Request  
forms**  
are available  
in the narthex



***Campaign gifts may be placed  
in the Christ's Way box in the  
narthex. Envelopes available.***

**“Now to Him who is able to  
do immeasurably more than  
we can ask or imagine...”**

**~ EPHESIANS 3:20-21**