



**ZION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH • SCHOOL**
COLOGNE, MN

14745 Co. Rd. 153
Cologne, MN 55322

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**September
2019**

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Mission Statement
Zion Lutheran Church, Cologne, MN is a branch of Christ's family saved by grace alone, rooted in God's love, and growing in faith through worship, teaching, fellowship, and service as we reach out to others with the good news of Jesus.

Happiest...or Blessed?

By Pastor Eric Zacharias

The word is out: You and I live in the friendliest state in the United States and in a county considered to be the happiest. Big-Seven Travel asked it's 1.5 million followers to name the friendliest and not so friendly states. And the winner out of all the friendliest states in America? Minnesota takes top spot, for a second year in a row. "It's called 'Minnesota Nice' for a reason – the atmosphere in the Twin Cities and beyond is hard to match, with a homey feel and locals who go the extra mile to welcome tourists."

Carver County was deemed among the happiest (at least the top five, for the past three years), according to Smart Asset, who analyzed family stability, physical health, personal financial health, and economic security for the 980 counties in the country that have a population greater than 50,000.

How does it feel to live in such a place, where you are counted among the friendliest and among the happiest?

When reports like this come out, I wonder if people elsewhere consider pulling up stakes and moving here, with happiness being their chief goal. If that happened, I'm not sure happiness would be the result. People bring their unhappiness with them, along with bad attitude and unfriendliness; people in search of happiness end up in the darkest places.

Happy are the people whose God is the Lord. So wrote King David, in the closing line of Psalm 144. In that psalm, David speaks of God in a very personal way: my rock...my loving god...my fortress...my stronghold...my deliverer...my shield. God is all of these things to him--and blessed are the people who have such a God.

But therein lies the key: The blessings of God are nothing to you, unless God is everything to you. Martin Luther wrote, "The life of Christianity consists of possessive pronouns," meaning, it is one thing to say, "Christ is a Savior" and quite another thing to say, "He is my Savior and my Lord." The devil can say the first; the true Christian alone can say the second.

Blessed are you, dear friends, not because you live in the happiest county in the friendliest state. Blessed are you because God is your Savior, who forgives you your sins, nourishes your soul, guides you daily, delivers you from every evil of body and soul, and gives you eternal life. Blessed are you, for you know you are counted among the blessed, from Abraham forward. In your Baptism, you are blessed by the Blessed One to be a blessing to others. Despite the troubles, trials, and tribulations of life, you know that you are redeemed by God; you can't help but be joyous and loving: friendly and happy. Blessed.

In Jesus' Name,
Pastor Eric Zacharias

Ladies Aid/LWML

Organization Notes

ZION LADIES' AID/LWML AUGUST 11, 2019

Fourteen members were present at our July 11th meeting. President Bev Eggers opened the meeting and a devotion "Thank God for Everything" was given. Pastor led us in Bible study from the LWML Quarterly entitled "God's Time."

President Eggers called the meeting to order. The LWML pledge was recited and the minutes of the previous meeting were read. A motion was M/S/C to accept the minutes. The financial report was discussed, and a motion was M/S/C to accept it and file it for audit.

Correspondence was received from Chanhassen Dinner Theater, History of Theater, FMSC, and a thank you from the Earl Buetow family. Discussion was held about the Monthly Mites and the group chose to allot the July and August gift to Camp Omega and Southern Valley Battered Women's Shelter. No specific report was given from Christian Growth Committee, but Evelyn gave a report on the National Convention later in the meeting. The Funeral Committee reported that they served between 200-210 at Earl Buetow's funeral, having planned for 225.

Under Unfinished Business, Ruth gave us an update on the Tour Committee. Wednesday, Sept 11th, will be a fun-filled day, starting with the Bonnie Mohr Studio and Dairy Farm in Glencoe. Next is shopping at Quilt Haven in Hutchinson, followed by a delicious meal at Zella's on Main. After lunch a tour of the Clay Coyote Gallery is planned and the day closes with a wine tasting at Crow River Winery. The cost of the tour is \$79 and sign up is through Travel Easy in Waconia.

Evelyn gave a summary of her time spent at the National LWML Convention in Alabama. She indicated that it was an "eye-opener" and very beneficial. All the countries were represented

and she was the only Liberian there. She will be working with "Heart to Heart Sisters," encouraging those not involved with the group to become involved and active members. It was suggested to ask representatives to come and speak to our group about the convention as well.

There will be a women's retreat in Mankato July 18-20, with Evelyn attending. It was noted that the list of kitchen rules was posted for those using the facilities so that everything is back in order when their events are over.

It was brought up that Chance Outreach International has accumulated items that need to be sent to Liberia and discussion was given as to how the group might be of help. A suggestion was made to give enough money to pay for two barrels to be filled and sent off. Evelyn thanked us for the offer but would like us to wait until she gathers together more items that she has been given for the two houses in Liberia. Chance Outreach is working to become a Recognized Service Organization to be on Synod's list, which gives credibility in consideration of LWML grants.

There will be no meeting in August. Dates to remember are the retreat in Mankato July 18-20. Our next meeting is September 5th, with Bev Rolf serving as hostess.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Zacharias,
Secretary

Annual Ladies Aid Tour

All ladies are welcome and encouraged to join the tour scheduled for Wednesday Sept. 11th. This year, we will be visiting Bonnie Mohr Studio and Dairy, Quilt Haven, lunch @ Zella's on Main, Clay Coyote and Pottery, and the Crow River Winery. Contact Travel Easy and send \$79 per person to Travel Easy if you would like to participate.

EYE OF THE TIGER

By Leah Janzen - Administrator

A child has to learn to crawl before they learn to walk. Of course that is not always the case, but most times the crawling comes first - and that's where the fun lies. For one, you can usually still catch them at this point, even though they think they are the fastest thing ever. Line up ten babies and see how each of them reaches their destination uniquely. It's a great way of reminding us all that there is, very rarely, only one way to reach a goal.

Crawling only lasts so long and then they are gone – like a shot! Walking is a major developmental milestone. It takes determination and dedication. It takes a lot of patience and encouragement along the way, too. There's a lot of picking them up, brushing them off, and telling them to try again. There are bound to be a lot of falls and fails along the way, but, before we know it, they are off!

The focus this year at Zion is one of determination and dedication – adopting an “Eye of the Tiger”, if you will. When a tiger sets a goal (usually food), they absolutely never give up. To them, it is a matter of life and death, and they do not quit until they reach their goal. Once that goal is met, they set another one, and another one, and another one – over and over and over again!

That's what this year is all about at Zion – instilling in each student the determination and dedication to set goals, attain them, and then set more goals. It might be memorizing those pesky multiplication facts, it might be matching all the big letters with the little letters that go with them; for the little ones (and teachers some days) it might be making it through the morning without crying. Whatever the goal, they are important and it's our job at Zion to help every student meet those goals.

Paul tells us, in his letter to Philippi, to keep going. “Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the

upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:13-14) Basically, it doesn't matter what your past is. It doesn't matter if you've been pushing your entire life or are starting fresh today. The point is to start. Take that step. Set that goal. Push towards it – even if it seems like a complete 180 from what you've known and what your used to. Afterall, there's nobody more suited to tell us how to do that than Paul.

Paul – formerly Saul – was the king of the turnaround. Saul was a Pharisee, Saul's father was a Pharisee. He was raised in those beliefs and educated in those beliefs. He felt so strongly about those beliefs that he took it upon himself to persecute Christians for their beliefs and their way of life. That all changed the day he met Jesus on the road to Damascus...and was blinded by the LIGHT! From that day on, he was a changed man. Saul became Paul. The Pharisee became The Apostle and unarguably one of the most important figures in the Bible.

The moral of the story: It's never too late to start, it's never too late to turn it around, it's never too late to set goals and strive towards those goals. Learn from the past, but set your eyes on the future. There is so much to discover. Our goal is to help each student gain that “eye of the tiger”, to find success in reaching their own goals – and to set more. That is part of our life in Christ.

SOFTENER SALT FUNDRAISER

Zion's annual Softener Salt Fundraiser is underway. We offer 50 lb. blocks, Rust-Out Pellets, Yellow Pellets, and Solar Salt Crystal. If you are interested in purchasing some salt, contact any student at Zion, the office, or place an order after church.

FINANCES

Salary:

Beginning Balance (1/1/2019)	-\$59,468.86
YTD Income	\$223,165.58
YTD Expenses	-\$251,904.85
Current Balance (8/13)	-\$88,208.13
Current Loan Amount	\$93,449.00

Missions:

YTD Total (5/31)	\$2,185.00
Budgeted	\$1,495.00
Unbudgeted	\$690.00
2019 Pledged	\$7,500.00
2019 Goal	\$15,000.00

LHS:

Year to date total (5/31)	\$6,482.66
2019 Commitment	\$22,715.00
Per communicant member	\$55.00

Building/Repair Fund:

Account Balance (7/18)	\$78,748.21
Suggested household contrib.	\$550.00

FROM THE OFFICE

Office Hours are 8:00 AM – 3:15 PM, M-F.

Please have bulletin items to the office by noon on Thursdays and newsletter items to the office by the third Friday of the month. Thank You!

BOXTOPS, MILK MOOLAH & MORE

Just a reminder that we are still collecting Boxtops for Education, Milk Moolah, Econo Foods Receipts, Our Family UPCs, Coborns points, and Country Hearth UPCs for our on-going fundraisers. The collection box is outside the church office. We appreciate your donations.

USHER SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER USHERS

September 1 st	Amber Brueggemeier Lindsey Moen
September 8 th	Carson Ulrich Konrad Breeggemann
September 15 th	Charles Morschen Sophia Morschen
September 22 nd	Grace Dose Alison Dose
September 29 th	Canton Vinkemeier Cadee Vinkemeier

ZION'S LOOKING FOR FOOD DONATIONS!

School is right around the corner and the lunch program is asking for food donations to help our students start the year on the right foot.

Fresh Fruit	Fresh Veggies
Flour	Sugar
Powdered Sugar	Brown Sugar
Brownie Mixes	Cake Mixes
Elbow Noodles	Spaghetti Noodles
Ketchup	Miracle Whip
Pudding Mix	Rice Krispies
Graham Crackers	Peanut Butter
Jelly	

Youth & Putt-Putt Golf September 8

We will head out to play golf at Big Rock (Mound) in the late afternoon (after the CC Steamboat Days parade)

Summer Renovations at Zion

Over, Inside, Around

Many enhancements were done at Zion during these summer months. First, the original tiles on the church (c. 1953) were torn off and replaced with metal tiles. The cost for that was approximately \$150K, for which many contributed generously; monies from the Ron Stieve endowment were also applied to this project cost, so that there is no remaining debt over Zion's head; just an attractive and durable roof that will serve Zion for decades.

In June, a Columbarium was placed in Zion's cemetery, set on a large concrete slab which could accommodate another columbarium, if needed. A columbarium is a wall, room, or building used to store urns holding the ashes of people who have died and been cremated. The name "columbarium" comes from *columba*, the Latin word for "dove," as the Romans thought that the niches of the columbaria resemble the houses made for pet doves. Our columbarium has 48 compartments, 24 to a side.

In mid-August the administrative wing of Zion was stripped of its wallpaper and painted. Afterward, the carpets were replaced. The administrative wing was added to Zion in the late 1990s by an anonymous donor. The updating of this area was directed by Suzanne Honebrink and funds to accomplish this were given by an anonymous donor.

All of these improvements to Zion were done at a considerable cost. We cannot help but thank God for the generosity of his people here at Zion. Our thanks, indeed, go out to those who put their mind and their heart and their will to accomplish these projects; by them, the people of Zion are blessed, now and for generations.

Thank You to Donna Stole!

Donna was recognized for her twenty years of service here at Zion School, through LESM (Lutheran Special Education Ministries). Donna worked part time, helping our students who needed help with classwork and educational skills. Terri Benz from Hamburg replaces Donna, as Donna was advanced to be a supervisor with LESM.

We would like to thank all who have shown their love and support during our loss. Thank you for the beautiful cards, memorials, flowers, and all the kind words. Special thanks to Pastor Zacharias for the prayers and beautiful service, Zion's Ladies Aid for serving the luncheon, and Julianne Marcsisak for playing the organ.

-Earl Buetow Family

We express sincere appreciation for the cards, well wishes, and especially prayers offered on our behalf during Lynn's cancer journey. His recuperation is going well after the stem cell transplant at Mayo Clinic. To God be all the glory, honor, praise and thanksgiving!

-The Zellman Family

New Teachers at Mayer Lutheran HS

Rachel Bohnhoff will be teaching Biology and Math at MLHS this year. She is a graduate from Sheboygan Lutheran High School and from Concordia University Nebraska in Seward.

Joshua Pingel will be teaching World History this year as a student teacher for the first semester from Concordia University Wisconsin.

Luke Alliger and his wife, Katie, just graduated from Concordia University Chicago and will be directing the instrumental music program at MLHS and seven area elementary schools.

Pastor LeRoy LaPlant will be teaching Old Testament for the first semester as MLHS seeks a permanent Theology Teacher-Campus Pastor.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

BIRTHDAY LIST

2. Lila Rolf
3. Tori Stacken
4. Neal Kroells
Krianna Boelke
6. Carol Henschen
7. Luke Vinkemeier
Jeff Sons
Tyler Schulz
Lukas Degler
Madelyn Degler
8. Elizabeth Hoen
Stacy Dose
Megan Brueggemeier
10. Zachary Bones
11. Erin Penning
Jason Hokkanen
12. Wally Buetow
13. Robert Thuening
Christina Degler
Ralph Buetow
Inez Buetow
Anna Brueggemeier
Ronald Arndt
15. Clayton Sauter
Jeffrey Brueggemeier
19. Ronnie Olson
Tanner Olson
Mark Lenzen
Rachel Boucher
21. MaryJo Sauter
24. Tim Huinker
25. Ashley Schulz
26. Sheryl Gruenhagen
27. Ella Molnau
Colin Bingham
28. James Rolf
29. Daniel Stuewe
Arlys Panning
Darlene Leistiko
30. Jeff Vinkemeier

ANNIVERSARY LIST

9. Gary & Cathy Stahlke
10. Terry & Jill Bruesehoff
12. Tim & Kirsten Huinker
16. Hilbern & Karen Brockoff
Jeff & Christina Vinkemeier
17. Darrell & Barb Knorr
21. Ralph & Carol Buetow
Mark & Nissa Klasutermeier
22. Jeff & Stephanie Gardner
23. Jeff & Theresa Sons
28. Jim & Pam Ische
29. Jacob & Cara Buetow
30. James & Jean Ische

VISITATION LIST

Belle Plaine

Marjorie Wolter
Chuck & Norma Woolery

Cologne

Gloria AmEnd

Norwood Young America

Harold Bruesehoff
Joycelyn Rolf

Waconia

Alvina Fick
Darrel Knorr

Remembering our Soldiers

Eben Karnitz – Air Force
Eddie Karnitz

2019

SEPTEMBER

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
	LABOR DAY	1ST DAY OF SCHOOL Chapel @ 8:10 AM		Ladies Aid/LWML Meeting 7 PM		
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
Church Service 9:30 AM	1ST DAY OF ADVANCED PK	1ST DAY OF BEGINNING PK		Chapel @ the Harbor 10:15 AM	Salt Orders Due	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Church Service 9:30 AM Pizza Party @ the Huinkers		Evangelism Meeting 7:30 PM				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Church Service 9:30 AM		Evangelism Meeting 7:30 PM			Salt Order Pick-Up	
29	30	01	02	03	04	05
Church Service 9:30 AM	ZEL Meeting 6:30 PM					



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Return Service Requested

SCHOOL STARTS 9/3

8:00 AM Start Time

8:10 AM Opening Chapel (feel free to join us)

SERVICE TIME CHANGE

Sunday, September 1st @ 9:30 AM

(this will be the start time thru May)