

the herald

NEWS OF ZION LUTHERAN | ANOKA

SEPTEMBER 2024



ZION
LUTHERAN + ANOKA

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

In-Person Worship

5 pm (Sat)
8, 9 & 11 am (Sun)

Livestream Worship

9 & 11 am (Sun)

Cable TV

10 am & 5 pm (Sun)

Radio Broadcast

106.1 (BOB-FM)
9:10 am (Sun)

Gospel Readings

August 31-September 1

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 7-8

Mark 7:31-37

September 14-15

Mark 8:27-38

September 21-22

Mark 9:30-37

September 28-29

Mark 9:38-50

Rally Sunday - September 8

Rally Sunday is September 8! Traditional worship will take place at the 5 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. Sunday services. The format for 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. services will be blended worship and will include the Adult Choir and Bluegrass-style music. Worship on Sunday will include a blessing for the new school year.



Rally Day ice cream floats are back! Families and friends are invited to join us on Rally Sunday from 10-10:50 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for treats and activities! Learn about our Children, Youth and Family programs, complete registration and health forms, meet and catch up with friends!

Back-To-School Blessing Tags will be available on Rally Sunday as part of our celebration. Look for them in the Fellowship Hall during the 10 a.m. education hour and in the upper lobby following each service. Everyone is invited to decorate their own tag, perfect for backpacks, lunch boxes, laptop bags or even diaper bags!

Pastor Connie Tiede Confirmed as Lead Pastor

On Sunday, August 18, Pastor Connie Tiede was officially voted in as Zion's Lead Pastor with a 94.2% majority vote. Pastor Connie was recommended to the Congregation after thorough vetting and prayerful consideration by the Call Committee and unanimous approval of the Church Council. Congratulations!

Fall Stewardship Campaign

Building Strong Connections. Reaching Further. Together.

Our stewardship kickoff date is the weekend of September 28 and 29. Our emphasis this year is "Building Strong Connections. Reaching Further. Together." Acts 1:8 reminds us, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Let's unite and witness to God's grace and love, as we reach out to our neighbors. Together, we can make a meaningful impact.



Stewardship packets will be mailed the first week of October. The Stewardship Breakfast will be on October 6 in the Fellowship Hall. We will be asking you to prayerfully consider a one-year pledge to the General Fund and the Building Fund, as well as a special one-time gift towards the Technology and Building Renewal/Improvement Fund. 2025 is the first of a 3-year capital campaign to raise funds for these improvements. The Zion Foundation will match up to \$100,000 annually for three years. More information will be coming, and we will have opportunities to learn together about God's mission for Zion Lutheran.

a message from your pastors



Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times what was sown—Mark 4:20

“First shot at addressing the beloved in Christ at Zion,” I initially and excitedly thought to myself. “Now WHAT am I going to write!?” came the wet blanket of reality! “Write what you know,” the Spirit seemed to say. (At least, I THINK that was the Spirit?!)

Ok. What I know is.....how delighted I have been and am to be serving with you, with my pastoral colleagues in Pastor Connie and Pastor Sue, and with the amazing, wonderful staff here at Zion...what a privilege and what fun it has been to kick off my time here with you with the Crazy Book study over the course of this summer!...the conversations and encouragement along the lines of, “We sure hope you can stay beyond your interim time,” have been overwhelmingly BREATHTAKING. And, what I know is that I am willing to trust in the Holy Spirit’s presence in the process, the council, and the congregation to discern that possibility, a trust bolstered by the congregation’s overwhelming vote to extend the call to Pastor Connie as Zion’s lead pastor!...that my willingness to trust and explore the Holy Spirit’s urging has certainly been nurtured not only in the HEAPS of, at times, uncomfortable praise and flattery (“uncomfortable,” from the standpoint of ministry, as I understand it, is always about Jesus—I’m just a tool...however you want to take that!); more so, that willingness and trust has been encouraged by the growth I think I see all over the place here at Zion and Zion’s placement in this community across the spectrum of Zion’s ministries.

In Jesus’ parable of the sower, of which we get “the punchline” above in Mark 4:20, His assumption is that a faithful response to an encounter with the seed of the Word, broadcast planted seemingly willy nilly, results in growth and growth that is measurable. How many more of Jesus’ parables draw from images from the natural world; of seeds and crops; of trees and their fruit; of fisher folk, their nets, and the resulting catch?! (Hint: it’s A LOT!!)

And yet at the same time, a noticeable number of Jesus’ parables also drawn from the natural world seem to defy a quantifiable return on investment or other such measurables, parables about teeny-tiny mustard seeds or yeast or weeds. Growth still seems to be the function. Yet the mystery of the Holy Spirit’s movement, God’s inscrutable timing, as well as our timing to respond all seem to confound our human insistence on evaluative measurables. GROWTH still seems to be the goal.

In many and various ways, as the Holy Spirit works on and through each of us through Word and Sacrament, through invitations and exhortations to participate and serve, through the circumstances of life and burdens shared one with another, seeds and their growth are being sown in our very lives. Only God and we can measure that growth. But make no mistake about it: GROWTH is still God’s goal.

My prayer is, as we anticipate the excitement and energy and movement of the Holy Spirit in our midst as a congregation and out into the greater Anoka and North Metro community through this fall’s offerings for welcome, for growing, for caring, for serving—all stated as our congregation’s core values—that we would also hear God’s invitation to grow; to be challenged; to be different in and through whatever way you may be led.

See you in worship!

Pastor MIKE

a personal reflection

Belonging to Christ

By Colleen Nelson

Most of us have a desire to belong to a group of some kind. The inclination, of course, ranges from a hermit who repels any kind of socialization to one who joins a great number of clubs and manages to juggle their calendar just fine. The gathering of people can be formal like a task force where one is expected to attend every meeting or laid back such as hanging out at Cheer's where everybody knows your name. Norm! Social groups online are a significant development in recent history. In fact, Meta (Facebook) is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Conducting virtual office meetings is a phenomenon, tied to the pandemic, and appears to be here to stay. Family is a community we didn't sign up for, yet we belong just the same. Members are encouraged to put time and effort into their relationships for the betterment of their collective. Unlike family, there are other groups that require no effort on our part. For instance, I am a baby boomer which, in my case, also labels me a senior citizen. My friend attended her 50th high school reunion recently and entered the room asking herself, "Who are all these old people?"

According to Paul, in his letter to the Romans **we belong to Christ**. In Romans 1, Paul's introduction pulls us into this relationship when he states, "...Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ..." My personal faith is dear to me and worshipping with other Christians is truly a blessing and a gift. To put our freedom of religion, in America, in perspective consider the statistics in a 2021 study. According to a report by the Pew Research Center, dated March 5, 2024, of the 198 countries analyzed, 183 governments harassed religious groups and 163 interfered with worship. Wow! I am thankful to God for the privilege to worship without impediments or hassles and for the freedom to serve in the name of Christ in my community and beyond.

welcome

Security Update

In August, Zion began having a visitor sign-in sheet at the front desk. All visitors working or volunteering on the second floor or going between first and second floor, will need to sign in and get a visitor name badge. Others attending Bible studies and meetings on the main floor will not be required to sign in. Thank you in advance for your help in making this a smooth transition.

School Supplies Drive a Huge Success!

Once again, members of Zion showed their great generosity by donating enough school supplies to fill the bed of a large pickup truck! With the help of other area congregations, these notebooks, pencils, markers, etc. will be used to fill 500 backpacks, which were distributed to needy families in mid-August. Your overwhelming support will give these young students a better chance for success in the classroom by equipping them on day one. Thank you for stepping up to make this special event such a huge success! Thank you, also, to those who donated gift cards valuing \$600 from Target, Walmart, and Aldi. Those are distributed, throughout the school year, by the school social worker and counselors to families who need them for basic necessities that most of us take for granted. Your gifts are greatly appreciated!



welcome and worship

Thank You Karen Orr!

A special thank you to Karen Orr for leading the Zion Quilters for 10 years! We greatly appreciate all of your time and dedication to this wonderful ministry! Dianne Pederson will be taking over for Karen.

Baptism Class - September 8

If you are expecting, have had a baby or adopting and would like to know more about baptism, we will be having a baptism class on Sunday, September 8 at 12 p.m. in the Library. Contact Kristine kjohnson@zionanoka.org to register for the class.

O.W.LS - Presentation and Potluck!

On Tuesday, September 19 at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall come and listen to Esuvat, founder of ERIPOTO, a safe house for Girls and Women in Tanzania. This organization was a recent recipient of a Zion Foundation Grant. In the Maasai language, ERIPOTO means safety and security. This organization was established to address the gross inequalities, discrimination and injustice from birth to death facing many girls and women in Tanzania. Esuvat grew up in northern Tanzania as part of a large Maasai Community. Like most Maasai, her family raised cattle and goats and faced many poverty-related challenges. Sign up at the front desk.

Cinnamon Roll Sunday is Back!

On Sunday, September 29, Zion high school youth will be serving fresh-baked cinnamon rolls in the Cornerstone from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. This is a freewill offering fundraiser for our youth's Mission Trip to the Boundary Waters next year.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 | 1PM-6 PM | CLC

To make an appointment, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit www.RedCrossBlood.org and enter Sponsor Code: Zion.

Noisy Offering for Camp Ministries

On the weekend of September 7 & 8 we will be resuming our Noisy Offering for Camp Ministries. This year we are excited to be hosting our 6-7th grade confirmation retreat at Camp Wapo in the fall. Thank you for your continued support so we can make opportunities like this possible.



Worship in person Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Sundays at 8, 9 & 11 a.m.

Livestream on Sundays at 9 & 11 a.m.

Cable TV Channel 6 Broadcast Sundays at 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Radio Broadcast BOB-FM 106.1 Sundays at 9:10 a.m.

music ministry news

Music Rehearsals Begin in September

Adult Choir, Worship Team and Ringmasters Bell Choir will begin rehearsing in September as we enter back into fall programming. If you are interested in joining a group, contact Jonathan Campbell, Director of Music and Worship jcampbell@zionanoka.org.

- Adult Choir: Rehearsals begin September 4, 7-8:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.
- Worship Team: Rehearsals begin September 4, 6-7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
- Ringmasters Bell Choir: Rehearsals begin September 11, 6-6:45 p.m. in the Bell Room.

New Children's Choir Director

We are thrilled to welcome Callie Pendergrass as our new Children's Choir director! Callie is a recent college graduate and life-long Zion member. She grew up singing in children's choir under Nancy Nordin so she knows her ropes! Children's Choir will begin on Wednesday nights in October. Watch for more information in the weekly E-update and October Herald.

grow

Adult Faith Forums Return September 15

We have an exciting fall line up for our Sunday Adult Forums. Mark your calendars and join us Sundays at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall beginning on September 15.

- **September 15: Family Promise** - One of Zion's expressed values is that of SERVICE: we strive to be a WELCOMING faith community. Growing. Caring. SERVING. One of the ways we live that out is through our connection to Family Promise in Anoka County (FPAC). Back in 2009, a group of Anoka County residents, congregation leaders, lay people and other caring individuals saw a need in our community. Today, FPAC presents a model in which community needs invite a community response. The name refers to the promise, in the sense of commitment, made by our community to families in need. Join us for our first Adult Forum of the new season to learn about how FPAC is doing that; how Zion responds, and how YOU might be a part of Christ's call to our congregation and its commitment to serve. Join David Frei and Zion member Pat Stearns to learn more about Family Promise and how our congregation can continue to support the Anoka community.
- **September 22: Zion Choir's Italy trip** - This past summer, our Director of Music & Worship Jonathan Campbell led a choir tour of Italy. The choir and other community members not only toured cultural sites throughout Italy, but also sang at some of the most beautiful and historically important churches in the world, including Saint Mark's in Venice, San Vitale in Ravenna, St. Clare's Chapel in Assisi, and St. Peter's in the Vatican. Join Jonathan and other participants in this journey as they share their experiences.
- **September 29: Security Team Update & Review** - We want people not only to come and feel welcome at Zion but also to feel safe. Last year, our Security Team provided some changes and updates on our security protocols and procedures and have continued to work on and refine those protocols and procedures, as well as update our building and our training. Come learn how we can continue to work on keeping each other safe and learn what we are doing here at Zion. For those who attended last year, much will be a review. If you did not attend last year, we invite you to come and learn.

Small Group Ministry - The Chosen - Season One

The first study of this fall will be Season One of *The Chosen*, a dramatic video miniseries based on the Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Each weekly episode runs anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour. PLUS, each week we'll have some time for discussion and study of the Bible itself, so this could be a little longer than "the usual" hour study. Please plan on about an hour and half for these sessions. Study guides can be ordered at the front desk for \$15. Sign up for a class at the Welcome Desk. Class times, locations and schedules are as follows:

TIMES AND LOCATIONS

- Mondays at 1 p.m. in the Legacy Room led by Pastor Sue Wallager
- Tuesdays at 8:45 a.m. in the Legacy Room led by Pastor Mike Pancoast
- Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Legacy Room led by Pastor Connie Tiede and 6 p.m. in a space TBA led by Pastor Mike. (We are also encouraging Confirmation and WHIRL parents and choir members to participate, as well!)

SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

- Week of September 9 - Episode 1 "I Have Called You By Name"
- Week of September 16 - Episode 2 "Shabbat"
- Week of September 23 - Episode 3 "Jesus Loves the Little Children"
- Week of September 30 - Episode 4 "The Rock on Which It is Built"

We will continue with Season Two after the new year.

Zion Career REBOOST - September 11 & 25 and October 9

Is a job change in your future, either by choice or not? Have you or someone you know found yourselves having to reimagine your job or career due to a lay off, a company downsize, or just because it's time for change?

As a welcoming faith community committed to growth, care, and service, Zion is offering a series of three short career "reboost" seminars intended to help with crafting a résumé; brushing up on interview skills; and other questions you might have. Led by Zion member Dave Recker (Captain, US Navy, retired), Dave has been coaching hundreds of job seekers for 25 years! Seminars will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Legacy Room and are open and available to any and all. For more information, please contact seminar leader Dave Recker captaindr@comcast.net or Pastor Mike mpancoast@zionanoka.org.

Zion Pages Book Group

SEPTEMBER 23 | 6:30 PM | LIBRARY

We will be discussing *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell: A Novel* by Robert Dugoni. Zion Pages meets the 4th Monday of the month during the program year. All are welcome!

Men of Zion and Friends

The next activity of the Men of Zion and Friends group will take place at 10 a.m. on September 9 at George Green Park in Anoka. We will be playing an unusual and unique form of "Frisbee golf". After the game we will have lunch at Culver's. No cost except lunch. Questions call Doug Boxeth 763-222-3936 or Mike Kelly 651-233-3363.

Welcome to Children, Youth and Family Ministries!

Zion CYF Staff welcomes you to Fall 2024! For more information and to register for programs visit Zion's website www.zionanoka.org/registration-events/ or scan the QR Codes at the right.

Zion Kids Sunday School Begins September 15

Join us for fun family faith formation activities for kids of all ages and their families! We meet from 10-10:50 a.m. during the school year. New families may join at any time!

- Holy Shenanigans Sunday School (Kids 0-5 and at least one parent or guardian.) Family-style gathering with music, Bible stories and community. Meets in the Chapel on the upper level. Activities follow in the Spark Park. Contact Lee Neitge lneitge@zionanoka.org.
- Kid City Sunday School (Grades K-5) Experience the story of Jesus and reflect his love in the world. Meets in the Theater for opening and then divides into groups for activities. Contact Ann Campbell acampbell@zionanoka.org.



Zion Kids
Sunday School

Preschool Dance Begins September 17

Children will get those wiggles out and learn fun creative movement songs and dances while growing in their faith. Tuesdays from 9:15 a.m.-9:45 a.m. in the Theater. Ages 2-5 with caregiver.

This is a free event!

Contact Lee Neitge lneitge@zionanoka.org.



Preschool
Dance

KidSing Begins September 18

Zion's youngest children's choir features singing, dancing and making new friends. We'll also learn to play the ukulele and grow in our faith. Wednesdays from 4:30-5 p.m. Kids ages 3-8.

Contact Lee Neitge lneitge@zionanoka.org.



KidSing

Whirl Wednesday Begins September 18

Kids in Grades K-5 meet from 5:30-6:45 p.m. We start with gym games and then split into two groups:

- WHIRL! (**W**elcome, **H**ear, **R**espond, **L**aunch!): Where kids in Grades K-2 explore a Bible story with a crazy cast of video characters who inhabit a fictional but weirdly familiar congregation.
- Joiz-N-Noiz: Where kids in Grades 3-5 experience a more sophisticated, pre-teen version of a Bible story.

Contact Ann Campbell acampbell@zionanoka.org.



Whirl
Wednesday

Zion Confirmation Begins September 11

Youth in Grades 6-8 meet Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m. Confirmation is an important milestone in your son or daughter's faith journey that began at their baptism. It is our joy to partner with you in helping you fulfill the promises you made at baptism and help your child grow in their relationship with God.

Contact Katie Weiland kweiland@zionanoka.org.



Confirmation

Common Ground

High School Ministry starts in September. Watch for details in the E-update and Life Together bulletin inserts.

Contact Katie Weiland kweiland@zionanoka.org.

Grief Support Group

SEPTEMBER 3, 10, 17 & 24 | 6:30-7:30 PM | LEGACY ROOM

All are welcome to attend a grief support group Tuesdays in September from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Legacy Room. Contact Pastor Sue with questions swallager@zionanoka.org.

HopeFest

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Every October, organizations and individuals unite across the country for a national effort to uplift the needs, voices, and experiences of survivors. Congress declared the month of October to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month in 1989.

Locally, leading up to October, Alexandra House is hosting its annual HopeFest event on Saturday, September 28 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Anoka City Hall Plaza. Cities, law enforcement, county government, advocacy groups, churches, businesses, and others come together in a collective commitment to prevent domestic and sexual violence. Attending HopeFest helps to create a safer, more compassionate, and informed community for all. It amplifies how a community can collaborate to raise awareness, honor victims, celebrate survivor resilience, foster education, promote community engagement, and work towards ending domestic and sexual violence in our community.

This family-friendly event grows larger every year as more and more people recognize the impact of domestic and sexual violence and commit to help end it. It is exciting to see how it is creating community awareness around domestic violence, and raising critical funds for the survivors—to help them thrive as they remain on their journey to safety and self-sufficiency.

Admission includes a HopeFest wristband for games and activities, all you can eat BBQ, and the option to participate in the 1+ mile Walk and/or Kidz Dash (Ages 3 - 10). The event also has a variety of exhibitors including Zion Rachel Circle which is among the growing number of faith communities that have a domestic violence awareness ministry.

For more information about tickets, sponsorship opportunities, fundraisers & fundraiser teams, and scholarships for admission go to the Alexandra House website <https://www.alexandrahouse.org/hope-fest/>.

Thank You Summer Camp Kids!

A big “Thank You” to all Zion's Sports Camp, VBS K-5, and Camp Create It kids for their awesome help bagging 333 Matthew Bags this summer. “Jim Socks-A-Lot” rallied our campers to bug their parents for sock donations which went right into the bags. Thank you families! Our campers are pros at making Matthew Bags and in praying God's blessing over each one of them. See you again soon!



care

Family Promise Commitment Week



Zion's next opportunity to provide hospitality for 5 or 6 Family Promise families in shelter is the week of September 16 and we are asked to provide hygiene-focused supplies for a month. To help with purchasing items, please contact Pat Stearns pat.stearns@comcast.net by September 6. If you would like to give money to support the purchases, please donate money to Zion, include a note stating for the Zion Family Promise Account and your Zion offering envelope number.

Zion is also committed to providing three meals to three families during our hosting month (total of nine meals). If you would like to donate a meal, please contact Pat at the email address above and she will send you the link and instructions. Meals can be ingredients to make a meal with instructions, a prepared meal, gift card to a common restaurant or frozen meals. Delivery is made to the families directly on the day of your choice.

Home Communion and Visitation Training

OCTOBER 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 | 6:30 PM | LEGACY ROOM

There will be a training for all those who are interested in our visitation and home communion ministry Tuesdays in October at 6:30 p.m. in the Legacy Room. Contact Pastor Sue swallager@zionanoka.org with questions.

Prayer Ministry Invitation

If you have a celebration or concern you would like the Prayer Team to include in their prayers, complete the green prayer card located in the Sanctuary pew racks, in Zion's Chapel and also at the front desk or you can email your celebration/concern to prayer@zionanoka.org.

Thank You Recent Radio Broadcast Fund Donors

Shirlie Johnston
Lyle & Marlene Willock
Dianne Carlson
Liz Jensen
Charles & Mary Kucera
Greg Nelson
Tim & Cheryl Schwarz

Marilyn Herbold in memory of Paul Stone and Marge Anderson
Kristine Johnson
Craig Bakken
Lois Peterson

about our people

Baptisms

Aug 11 - Olivia Johnson
Aug 18 - Hailey Steinke
Aug 18 - Madelyn Steinke

Deaths

Joanne Nelson
Dean Pehlke
Marge Anderson

care for each other and our world

Zion Addiction Awareness Ministry

The August Herald introduced this ministry. Our purpose is to provide faith-based care for those who may be addicted to drugs or alcohol and to address the needs of those who are affected by the addiction.

The ZAAM committee is making progress in bringing this ministry to fruition.

- Purpose - The primary focus of this group is support, prevention, education, and referral related to alcohol and drug addiction and mental health.
- Library - A special section of the library will be devoted to reference materials and devotionals specific to the topics of drug and alcohol addiction and mental health.
- Brochure - A brochure describing the mission of ZAAM is nearing completion and will be available soon. It will contain facts, statistics, educational and crisis connection web sites and phone numbers.
- Guest Speaker - Watch for the October date and time when ZAAM will host a speaker who will address opioid drug use. The topics will include the characteristics of opioids, statistics, and behaviors relating to its use. The drug antidotes, Narcan/Naloxone that prevent overdose death, will be explained as well as how and when to use them.

ZAAM ministry meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. For further information contact Pastor Connie ctiede@zionanoka.org or Mike Wittkamper mwittk1@gmail.com.

News From the Zion Creation Care Team

NexTrex Recycling Challenge

All right Zion Community: let the fun begin! Over the next nine months, the Creation Care Team is sponsoring a recycling challenge through NexTrex, a company that diverts plastic waste from ending up in landfills and gives it new life as sustainable decking material. If we collect 1,000 pounds of approved plastic, Zion will receive a bench made of NexTrex recycled plastic to place in Zion's green space. To make it more exciting, Zion staff has agreed to participate in a contest to see which team can collect, by your donations, the most plastic by weight. The winning team will have their names immortalized on a plaque mounted on the bench.

Here are details:

- The three teams will be- Pastor Connie and Ann Campbell, Pastor Sue and Katie Weiland, and Pastor Mike and Lee Neitge.
- Each team will have a designated bin for plastic collection at Zion.
- Plastic collected for each team will be weighed each week and posted, so we can track their progress. The plastic will be dropped off weekly at an approved site.

What can be recycled?

- Grocery bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, plastic shipping envelopes, Ziploc & other reclosable food storage bags, cereal bags, case overwrap, salt bags, pallet wrap and stretch film, wood pallet bags, produce bags.
- All plastic must be clean, dry, and free of food residue.

Keep an eye and ear out for more information about this competition, save your approved plastic, and let's reduce waste going to the landfill. Oh, and have fun doing it!

Every Meal Volunteers

As the school year is about to begin, so will the ministry of Every Meal at Lincoln Elementary. We need volunteers to help put bags of food in backpacks for the children who sign up.



Every Meal is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to fight child hunger through community and school partnerships. They strive to make a difference in children's lives by specifically focusing on food gaps — the times when children aren't at school to access meal programs. Every Meal supports families with programming over the weekends, summers, and extended school breaks. Providing children with wholesome food is their focus, and their growth and achievement is at the heart of everything we do.

This is where you come in. We need volunteers to place a bag of food into the backpacks of Lincoln Elementary students typically on Fridays, but also the last day before a break. Volunteers will be trained and can easily sign up via SignUpGenius. If you would like to have a sign-up link sent to you or would like more information about this great ministry, contact Pastor Connie at ctiede@zionanoka.org.

Zion Foundation: Helping to Bring More Representation to Minnesota Classrooms

Zion Foundation actively participates in local charities which are helpful in the community by offering grants to organizations that make a difference. One such group for this past year was Black Men Teach - a non-profit committed to bringing more representation to Minnesota classrooms. With a mission to recruit, prepare, place, and retain Black male elementary school teachers, they're molding the next generation of educators and improving outcomes for our students of color. We are proud to help this noble mission.

For more information about Black Men Teach, check out their website at <https://www.blackmenteach.org/>.

For more information about how other Zion Foundation Grants are at work in the community, visit <https://www.zionanoka.org/zion-foundation/zion-foundation-grants-in-action/>

Submitted by Jamie Gaboury, Zion Neighborhood Engagement Team (NET)

Zion Equity Umbrella

Zion's Equity Team is divided into different teams to best address the concerns and issues facing our church and community. These teams are:

- Neighborhood Engagement Team (NET), formerly our Evangelism Team, led by Randy Korus. Next meeting date is September 10, 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- Creation Care Team co-leaders are Carol Dixon and Ellen Johnson. Next meeting date is September 3, 6:30 p.m. in the Legacy Room.
- Social Justice Team led by Liz Fenwick and Amy Norquist. Next meeting date TBD.
- Zion Addiction Awareness Ministry facilitated by Michael Wittkamper. Next meeting date is September 24, 6:30 p.m. in the Library.

All interested parties are invited to attend any of these meetings.



1601 4th Avenue
Anoka MN 55303

ZION
LUTHERAN † ANOKA

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A WELCOMING FAITH COMMUNITY.
GROWING. CARING. SERVING.

Eagle Scout Project at Zion



Scout Rob Gawreluk completed his Eagle Scout project by refurbishing the garden by the Green Space. Rob dug up all of the old plants, added new soil, planted new plants and put weed mats down followed by mulch. A job well done! Thank you, Rob, for all of your hard work! It looks great!

WELCOME

You are invited, you are welcome to come and experience God's love at Zion Lutheran Church.

CONTACT US

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763.421.4656
www.zionanoka.org