

...IN SACRED PLACES...

CELEBRATING MINISTRIES OF CALVARY AND ZION LUTHERAN CHURCHES

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KIM



Martin Luther once said that “God writes the gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on the trees and in the flowers.” I love this quote because it reminds me that God is present in many places and speaks to us in many ways.

It is a time of year where we can finally enjoy being outdoors more often (that is if it ever stops raining so much). So many things are green and growing— flowers, trees, crops, grass, and more. It is just beautiful. And I love seeing the sky this time of year both the bright blue of the day and the stars of the night. I find it easy to see and sense God’s presence around me. And there is just something about being able to breathe in open space and fresh air that just fills my soul with peace. I suspect many of you have even stronger connections to the land and its gifts around here as you have lived here for much longer than I have. I hope and pray that as you look around you at all that God has made, you too feel God’s presence and peace.

On the less enjoyable side of things this time of year are unneeded rains and powerful storms. But these too speak of the God— showing us God’s power and majesty. When storms and waters threaten to overwhelm us, we have God’s promise from Scripture that God will always be with us. God will never leave us or forsake us.

As we go about our daily lives this summer, I want to encourage you to be on the lookout for the places and times that you experience God. Do you, like me, see and experience God in the world around you? Does it point you to the creative and awe-some power of the God who formed the universe? Or do you experience God somewhere else? Maybe you experience God in conversations with friends, or in the love of a spouse, child, (or in my case the love of my pets). Maybe you experience God in laughter or singing. Or maybe you experience God best inside the walls of our congregation. There is no right or wrong place to experience God’s presence for God is present in all things and able to be present in all places.

After noticing where it is that you see and experience God, I challenge you to think about what that place and experience of God is

THANK YOU . . .

Dear Calvary Lutheran,

Thank you for the scholarship you’ve awarded me for college. I will be using this at SCC—Milford campus in the fall. Thank you for all of your support and helping me with my faith.

Sincerely,

Jacob R. Adelson

Dear Friends at Swede Home WELCA,

Thank you for your recent donation of \$73. Funds such as these have helped us continue our services and programs at Genesis House. We have launched a new direction—an outreach we call “Open Arms” to expand our efforts to educate and reach those who are struggling. Your continuous support is vital to our future.

Please come visit!

Sincerely,

Pat and the folks at Genesis House

Thank You!

WELCA NEWS

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(CONTINUED FROM PASTOR KIM'S MESSAGE ON PAGE 1)

teaching you or how it is deepening your faith. See our faith is meant to be lived out outside of the doors of our church. Church is where we come to be in community with one another and grow in faith and love through worship, education, and service. But it is not meant to be the sole place where we experience God's work and God's love. Our faith should matter to our daily lives. It should be what determines the way that we interact with one another and how we live out our vocation. Faith should matter to daily life. If it doesn't then I am not sure that it is faith.

Aware of God's presence and pondering what we learn or experience through that presence, we grow closer to God. We grow too in other ways as God infuses every aspect of our life with love and grace.

So this summer, I encourage you to spend time with God in the places you know you have encountered God in the past. Put yourself in God's way and allow God to draw you deeper into God's very self. It may not happen right away, but as we grow in our awareness of God's work in our lives, we grow too in awareness of God's work in the world and how we as individuals and as a family of faith are called to be part of that work. God is making all things new in the world and that includes you!

In Christ,
Pastor Kim



CAROL JOY HOLLING CAMP HAPPENINGS

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS!

Join Camp Carol Joy Holling and Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries as they celebrate 40 years of camping! There will be a special celebration at camp on Saturday, July 13 from 10am to 4pm. Enjoy new and old camp activities like archery, zipline, boating, and so much more. We will end the day with a community worship at 4pm. All those who register at CarolJoyHolling.org/anniversary before June 26, will receive an exclusive 40th anniversary cuppie.

QUILTS

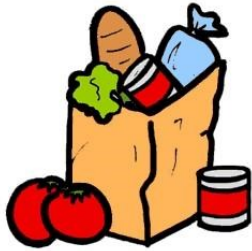
The Annual Quilt Auction at Carol Joy Holling Camp will be on Saturday, July 27th. There will be over 350+ quilts on display (including a few from our Swede Home quilting ladies) that will be auctioned off during the day. The auction starts at 9:30am.





W.E.L.C.A. NEWS

SWEDE HOME FOOD PANTRY



The Evangelism and Outreach Team oversees a nonperishable food and personal care item collection. You are welcome to bring donations at any time. ***Please place items you wish to donate in the basket located in the entry way of the church.***

Items are usually delivered the last week of the month. In June donations will go to Blue Valley Community Action. In July donations will go to Genesis House in David City.

Most recipients of Genesis House are women and children in need. They need food and grocery items, food children can fix for themselves, household supplies and personal care items.

All of the items we donate are greatly appreciated by the recipients as they help meet critical needs.

THANK YOU...

Dear Friends at Swede Home,

I am late in sending this thank you! The month of May just seemed to disappear in a flurry of activity as we launched our new outreach program called "Open Arms". And we have planted a garden to teach about growing and harvesting healthy foods! Thank you for your gifts of food, groceries, and supplies to Genesis House. You seem to choose just the best things for us—especially what we would call good kid food (food that children can easily prepare and snacks that help our families throughout the summer when children are home). I fix boxes of food to send home with our moms—similar to the backpack program. There were some Hormel complete entrees and other great choices for kids and a variety of canned and dry foods for moms to prepare. The "birthday mixing bowl" complete with cookie mix, frosting, and sprinkles was such a nice gift! Thank you for your attention to our wish list in making your selections. Please come visit!

Sincerely,

Pat and the folks at Genesis House

Summer will be arriving soon and it's time to start planning the Swede Home Ice Cream Social, to be held **July 21 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.** Sign up sheets will be available for you at June Circle meetings. Please return sign up sheets to Deb H. or Cheryl soon after your circle meetings. Thanks to everyone in advance for all you do to make the annual Ice Cream Social a success!

*Thanks to Kay Jones for her work organizing coffees after church this year, and to circle members doing summer coffees after church.

*Thanks to daytime circles for furnishing coffee after the Swede Home Memorial Day Service and to Ruth Circle for furnishing VBS snacks.

*Service for month of June is an offering to go to ELCA World Hunger Campaign. July service is Ice Cream Social.

*Remember Ice Cream at Assisted Living at Covenant Home on Monday, 7/22 at 2:30 p.

*June Altar Care will be by Mary Anna circle and July by Diana Johnson. August by Kathi Jones and Mary Stevens.

*Flowers this summer by Ruth Circle. Thank you for watering the plants, too.

*Quilting fun and fellowship will be on June 27 and July 25. Please join us.

*Bingo at MCH will be on Tuesday, July 30 at 2:00 p.m. Thank you Miriam circle for your help with this!

Grace & Peace to you,

Cheryl

JUNE

Hostess/Dessert Bible Study

Ruth – 6/12 Carolyn Nielsen Carolyn

Mary Anna-6/13 Alice Jane Alice Jane

Miriam - 6/14 Gloria Oquist

JULY

Hostess/Dessert Bible Study

Ruth – 7/10 Janet Nielsen Janet

Mary Anna-7/11 Jan Ernst Jan

Miriam– 7/12 Corinne Adelson Gloria

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION AND MINISTRY UPDATE



Gustin was born and raised in Beni, a village in the Dowa District of Malawi, where he spent much of his life working as a pig farmer, village leader and community development volunteer. From sunup to sundown, he could be found out on the land—if not at his own farm, at the farms of his neighbors. Volunteering his time, he would demonstrate new techniques and introduce new crop varieties to help others increase their yields and avoid the hungry season known to creep up on the community between harvests.

He was 57 when he got sick. The day started like any other, but working in the field, Gustin was overcome with muscle pain. Too weak to walk, he was helped by a fellow community volunteer, who hired a bicycle to bring them to the nearest clinic, 12 miles away. It was then that Gustin learned he was HIV-positive.

He returned home, fearing the worst but determined to fight. Thanks to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi (ELCM), he knew where to turn for support. He met with a community health counselor whose training was provided by the ELCM and supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger. Gustin received access to treatment, health education, a listening ear and a companion for each long journey to the

health clinic or hospital. His counselor walked with him to every clinic visit—12 miles each way. You helped him get the medical care he needs.

Now 69, Gustin stands tall and strong, with a face of warmth and wisdom. He may work a little less in the field, but he has not reduced his commitment to helping others—not one bit. Now he's focused on health care, actively counseling others who are living with HIV and AIDS. This work is especially important in a county where the disease affects 9.6 percent of people ages 15 to 49.

“Because I know what its like, I know how to recognize the symptoms in others,” he said. “It’s important to have a friend that can help.”

As he grows older, so grows his ambition—he dreams of a day when he can start a small business and help the community expand the feeding center, also supported by ELCA World Hunger, that the ELCM operates to provide nutrition to children under 5.

“If it wasn't for the church, I wouldn't be alive,” Gustin said. “But now I know my life is not over, and I have a future.”

Emmaus Lutheran Leadership Academy



Interested in a new way to engage in education around the Bible and Lutheran Theology? Consider participating in the Emmaus Lu-

theran Leadership Academy. The first course *Introduction to Lutheran Reading of Scripture and Theology* will be offered at First Lutheran Church in Kearney and will run from July 24 to July 27. For more information or to register please contact the Rev. Dr. Michelle Carlson at mcarlson@firstlutheran Kearney.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ZION AND BENEDICT UMC JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, June 30th will be there will be a joint worship service for Zion and Benedict United Methodist Church in Benedict. Worship and fellowship will be at the Methodist Church with Pastor Kim preaching. Service starts at 8:15am.

Deepest Sympathies

Our thoughts and prayers are with
the family and friends of
Dorothy Ehlers on her passing.

+ *Rest eternal grant her, O Lord, and let
light perpetual shine on her.* +



ICE CREAM SOCIAL SUNDAY, JULY 21ST 6:30-9PM AT SWEDE HOME

WE WILL BE SERVING HOMEMADE
ICE CREAM, TOPPINGS AND AN
ASSORTMENT OF BARS/COOKIES.

Come join us for some food, fun, and
lots of fellowship!!

Free will donations accepted.

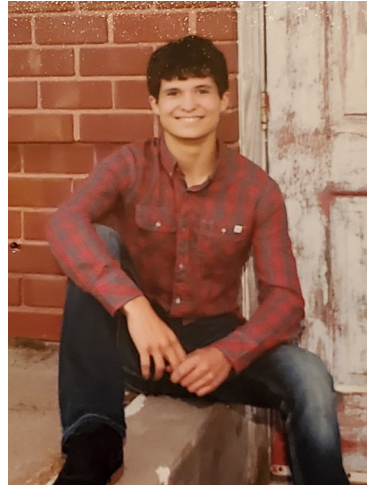
SWEDE HOME TO WELCOME SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR CONNIE STOVER

Join us for worship at Swede Home on Sunday, June 30th as we have a special visit from Deacon Connie Stover. Deacon Stover will be preaching and you will get to hear about the ministry of Spiritual Direction and Seeking the Spirit within. This is a ministry unique to the Nebraska Synod and is designed to help congregations and their members and pastors to grow in their faith.





MEET A MEMBER



Jacob Adelson is the son of Keny and Gia Adelson and the younger brother of Andrew. Living on a farm between Polk and Swede Home, he attended elementary and secondary schools in the High Plains Community Public Schools graduating this past May in the class of 2019. He plans on continuing his education at Southeast Community College in Milford, majoring in precision machining.

In high school he was involved in F.F.A. and golf. He also received special honors on the state level in art with photography.

Jacob states he has a strong interest in farming and would like to be involved in it some day.

Jacob was baptized and confirmed here at Calvary, Swede Home. He has been a regular acolyte for a number of years and enjoyed going with the youth group on their mission trips to Denver and South Dakota.

When asked about his church he stated he has a lot of great memories of his church and that it is a “great place”.



PASTOR KIM WILL BE OUT OF THE OFFICE JUNE 9TH-14TH FOR CONFIRMATION CAMP. SHE WILL BE CHECKING VOICEMAIL AND EMAIL IF YOU NEED TO REACH HER!

Calvary Lutheran Church
Nebraska Synod, ELCA
950 129th Road
Stromsburg, NE 68666
Church Phone: (402)764-5981

Kent Adelson, Council President
Diana Johnson, Organist
LeeAnn Willhoft, Custodian

Council Members:
Todd Hanquist, Lynn Hofmann, Kay Jones, Kent Adelson,
Sandra Johnston, Dan Ienn, Fran Lott
All Calvary members, Ministers

Rev. Kimberly Belken
Pastor
(402) 764-0481 (cell)
(402) 764-5961 (parsonage)
(402) 764-5981 (church office)
kimberlyrbelken@gmail.com

Zion Lutheran Church
Nebraska Synod, ELCA
202 Sherman
Benedict NE 68316

Cal Bittinger, Council President
Diana Johnson & Craig Swedenberg, Musicians
Chris Jarosz, Sunday School

Council Members:
Cal Bittinger, LuAnn Bolton, Dawn Kush, Justin Schoch
All of Zion members, Ministers

ANNIVERSARIES

CALVARY:**JUNE**

Amy and Drew Harris

June 2

Yancy and Kim Krol

June 3

Dennis and Betty Hinkle

June 6

Roxanne and Jerome Czarnick

June 10

Tim and Missy Althouse

June 16

July

Chris and Heidi Smith

July 3

Bob and Bonnie Dittmer

July 6

Josh and Kailie McCarville

July 12

Tom and Lynn Hofmann

July 20

Lewellen and Carolyn Nielsen

July 23

Ty and Erica Twarling

July 25

Rod and Kay Jones

July 27

ZION:**JUNE**

Gregg and LuAnn Bolton

June 21

July

Chris and Miranda Martin

July 3

BIRTHDAYS

CALVARY:**JUNE**

02- ETHAN FJELL

03- GLORIA OQUIST

05- MARJ JOHNSON

05- SANDY JOHNSTON

06- LENORE KESSLER

10- TALIA FRANK

11- BECKY WILLHOFT

16- JUNE LARSON

19- JONATHON HANQUIST

19- AARON OQUIST

19- ERIK OQUIST

21- WENDY SHAFENBERG

21- TRENT STEVENS

22- VINCE KROL

23- CRAIG BROUILLETTE

28- DEBORAH ERNST

28- ABIGAIL JONES

29- GARY WALLER

30- MIKE NEUJAHR

JULY

01- BETTY HINKLE

03- JACOB ADELSON

03- EMMA KOBUS

04- JESSICA NOBLE

05- PATRICK BUSH

08- LEEANN WILLHOFT

08- PHYLLIS YUNGDAHL

10- TERESA JOHNSON

10- JILL WESTRING

11- MISSY ALTHOUSE

13- RYAN JOHNSON

14- KOBE BROUILLETTE

17- CAROL NICHOLSON

18- KRIS UDEY

21- CAROLYN NIELSEN

25- KIRK DITTMER

25- TINA WATTS

26- SCOTT FREDRICKSON

30- DENNIS JOHNSON

ZION:**June**

07- Jordyn Stearns

15- Lyndsey Bolton

19- Jeff Crowdell

22- Gregg Bolton

23- Gary Hild

25- Colby Bolton

27- Isaac Reetz

29- Ryder Crowdell

July

02- Kristopher Rediger

04- Zander Martin

07- Dawna Bolton

12- Jimmy Stearns

14- Krayton Schoch

31- Adam Rediger



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Melissa Forsberg	Alice Jane Oquist
Denny Johnson	Elvin Reetz
Linda Johnson	Imo Richardson
Lenore Kessler	Harvey Schlegelmilch
June Larson	Vance & Elaine Toline
Nick Nicholson	Jan Wells-Bachman

- Genesis House and Living Waters Rescue Mission, Blue Valley Action, & Denver Metro Ministries
- Houses for Health recipients.
- Table Grace Café
- Bishop Brian Maas and the Nebraska Synod staff
- Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and all ELCA congregations and members
- Pastor Rob Corum and the Nebraska Synod Prison Ministry
- Our ELCA Partner Synod—Pacifica Synod
- Our companion synods in Tanzania and Argentina
- First Lutheran Church in Rising City

To request prayers call

Calvary: Jan Ernst 402-747-8041

Zion: LuAnn Bolton 402-710-8708



ZION WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

June

Communion Assistant: Bri Schoch

Usher: Ken Kush

Greeter: Dawn Kush

Readers:

June 9th: Dawana Bolton

June 16th: Bri Schoch

June 23rd: Gregg Bolton

June 30th: Joint Service at Methodist Church

Acolytes:

June 9th: Tierney Schoch

June 16th: Axton Martin

June 23rd: Lyndsey Bolton

June 30th: Joint Service at Methodist

July

Communion Assistant: Gina Schoch

Usher: Gary Hild

Greet: Janet Hild

Readers:

July 7th: Gina Schoch

July 14th: Gary Hild

July 21st: Todd Schoch

July 28th: Gregg Bolton

Acolytes:

July 7th: Krayton Schoch

July 14th: Axton Martin

July 21st: Tierney Schoch

July 28th: Lyndsey Bolton

CALVARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

June

Assisting Minister: Sandy Johnston

Scripture Reader Maggie/Amy Harris

Ushers: Kay Jones and Bonnie Carlson

Acolyte: Elise Fjell

Bell Ringer: Colby Nelson

July

Assisting Minister: Gladys Johnson

Scripture Reader Lynn Hofmann

Ushers: Wayne Johnson and Todd Hanquist

Acolyte: Peyton Hofmann

Bell Ringer: Mark Jones

June 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Worship	3	4	5 7:00p Church Council	6	7	8
9 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Worship Pastor Kim at confirmation camp	10	11	12 7:00p Men's Bible Study 7:00p Ruth's WELCA Circle	13 2:00p Mary Anna's WELCA Circle	14 9:00am Miriam's WELCA Circle	15
16 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Worship	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Worship	24	25	26 Pastor Kim vacation	27 9:00a Quilt Day Pastor Kim vacation	28	29
30 8:15a Zion worship at Benedict UMC 10:30a Calvary Worship						

July 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	6
			7:00p Church Council			
7 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Worship	8	9	10 7:00p Men's Bible Study 7:00p Ruth's WELCA Circle	11 2:00p Mary Anna's WELCA Circle	12 9:00am Miriam's WELCA Circle	13
14 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Worship	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Worship 6:30p Ice Cream Social	22 2p Ice Cream Social to Midwest Covenant Home	23	24	25 9:00a Quilt Day	26	27
28 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Worship	29 Pastor Kim vacation	30 2p MCH Bingo (Miriam Circle)	31			

Together we are spreading God's word and doing God's work!

Benedict Lutheran Financial Report
2019
Disbursements

Expense	Expenses	Income
Building & Maintenance	\$ -	Jan \$1692.50
Cleaning	\$ 625.00	Feb \$1640.00
Conferences	\$ -	Mar \$2386.00
Continuing Education	\$ -	Apr \$1345.00
Insurance	\$ 1465.75	May \$1088.00
Mission Share	\$ 1045.00	Jun
Office Expense	\$ 218.57	Jul
Organist	\$ 900.00	Aug
Organist—Fill In	\$ -	Sep
Professional Expense	\$ -	Oct
Pulpit Supply	\$ -	Nov
Mileage	\$ -	Dec
Salary	\$ 9281.15	
Utilities	\$ 1513.13	
Worship & Growth	\$ 234.39	
Confirmation	\$ 345.00	
Fellowship	\$ 156.06	
Total	\$15,784.05	
Total Offerings thru 5/31/19		\$8,151.50
Balance Forward as of 1/1/18		\$20,155.82
Total		\$28,307.32
Expenses Paid thru 5/31/2019		\$15,784.05
Balance per checkbook thru 5/31/2019		\$12,523.27

.....IN SACRED PLACES.....

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEBRASKA SYNOD, ELCA**

202 Sherman St
Benedict NE 68316

Return Service Requested

Know God, Love God, Share God's Love

COUNCIL NOTES

Calvary Lutheran Church
Know God, Love God, Share God's Love
May 1, 2019

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Pastor opened meeting with book *Called by God to Serve – Reflections for Church Leaders* by Robert F. Holley & Paul E. Walters (Chapter 9)

Present: Pastor, Todd, Lynn, Kay, Kent, Sandy, Fran, Dan

CELEBRATING GOD'S WORK IN PROGRESS (Old Business)

Lawn Mowing ~ Colby will weed eat and rake. Took about 2 hours at parsonage, paid \$10/hour. Mark and Penny are mowing church - \$50/each time. Mark and Penny are mowing the parsonage at \$50/each time. Kay confirmed these amounts with last year's bill submitted by Mark/Penny.

Secretary position – Mandi started Holy week and did bulletins. Starting in June she will complete each month's newsletter.

DISCERNING GOD'S WILL (New Business)

Building committee – Dan talked to Doug about brick work on steeple. Doug is taking care of this. Doug will contact Dave Scott about steeple/brick repair.

Sunday School teacher thank you – As a council agreed to thank Sunday School teacher with gift certificate to the Coffee Shop in Stromsburg for \$10/each. Paid for out of Spiritual growth account. Pastor will pick up gift certificate. Sunday School teachers were Tina Watts, Clayton Watts, Cheryl Jones, Lynn Hofmann and Kay Jones.

CARING FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS

Treasurer's report – motion to accept by Dan, seconded by Todd, approved

Treasurer's Report

April, 2019

Beginning Balance **\$7,220.66**

Offering:

General Offering	7,144.00
Sunday School	60.25
Lent	1,202.00
ELCA LIRS	55.00
ELCA Mission Share	1,655.00
Zion for March Share	1,895.17
	12,011.42

Expenses:

Vanco eCheck Monthly Fee	8.79
Weebly Custom Domain-Annual Web Fee	19.95
Malware Anti-Virus for church pc	42.19
Postage Stamps for Treasurer	55.00
NE Brass Concert—2 Ads in paper	65.00
Office Supplies; ink cartridge	81.78
Sikes Pest Control	125.00
Synod Assembly—Delegates	470.00
Cemetery Association	500.00
NE Synod ELCA Mission Share	1,520.00
Backpack Program—Lent Offerings	1,774.00
Zion Benedict April Share	1,843.29

Utilities:

Church	956.22
Parsonage	118.30

Salaries:

Pastor	2,291.22
Mileage	305.47
SECA	227.85
Portico Benefit Services	1,055.86
Synod Assembly	164.50
Continuing Education	137.79
Diana	446.54
LeeAnn	236.64
Supply Organist	50.00
FICA	460.36
	12,955.75

Balance as of April 30th, 2019:

\$6,276.33

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**Mission Statement: Know God, Love God,
Share God's Love**



Guiding Principles:

1. **Jesus is Lord and Savior**
2. **All are welcome in this place.**
3. **Serving in love with generosity and hospitality**
4. **Provide an atmosphere for spiritual growth and reflection.**
5. **Teaching and sharing God's Word with joy**
6. **Mutual respect in relationships**

Return Service Requested

Stromsburg, NE 68666
950 Road 129th

**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEBRASKA SYNOD, ELCA**

.....IN SACRED PLACES.....