

Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace, to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus.

THE ZUMBRO Current

JULY/AUGUST 2018

Zumbro Lutheran Church | A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



2 & 6 SHARING THE HOPE OF JESUS

VBS is so much more than a week of fun songs and games.

3-4

WORSHIP DETAILS

July and August take us to a new sermon series focused on the Psalms and to the campfire on Wednesday evenings.

7

WORLD-WIDE CHURCH

Zumbro member Matt Hafar recently was able to attend a very special graduation—one that took him across the world to Slovakia.

8

STAFF NEWS

Kristy Giere shares news of her sabbatical and Bob Giere provides an update to his health.



VBS Synonymous with Discipleship

As grown adults, who have chosen to worship God and believe in Jesus' resurrection, it is sometimes easy to forget that children, our children, do have the same mature faith. Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a fantastic week of fun, songs, and glitter—this week is discipleship at it's finest. The volunteers and teen leaders are sharing the hope of Jesus, sharing God's love with the children who attend in ways they wouldn't experience elsewhere.



July Worship



Songs for Summer

LIFE IN THE PSALMS

SERMON SERIES

The book of Psalms was the hymnbook of ancient Israel and the early church. When they wanted to sing and pray, this was their resource. The themes of the hymns range from praise to lament to the coronation of the king. This summer we will take a look at a few of those ancient hymns, and examine their message in light of the changing world in which we live. We hope you are engaged and refreshed by that message.

THE DIGNITY OF ALL PEOPLE

Psalm 8

SUNDAY, JULY 1 | 8:30am and 10am

Holy Communion

Preaching: Pastor Vern Christopherson

Music: Mia Suzuki, vocalist

NO WORSHIP WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

A HEART OF COURAGE

Psalm 27

SUNDAY, JULY 8 | 8:30am and 10am

Preaching: Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner

Music: Ralph Schornack, vocalist; Susan and Corey Henke, piano/horn duo

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11 | 6:15pm

Preaching: Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner

A VERY PRESENT HELP IN TROUBLE

Psalm 45

SUNDAY, JULY 15 | 8:30am and 10am

Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing

Preaching: Marne Gade, Zumbro member

Music: Spencer Ketterling, bassoon; Susan Henke, piano

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18 | 6:15pm

Holy Communion

Preaching: Marne Gade

A LOVE THAT IS BETTER THAN LIFE

Psalm 63:1-8

SUNDAY, JULY 22 | 8:30am and 10am

Preaching: Pastor Vern Christopherson

Hymn Sing Sunday

Music: Paul Bye, alto saxophone

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25 | 6:15pm

Preaching: Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner

A NEW AND RIGHT SPIRIT

Psalm 1:10-12

SUNDAY, JULY 29 | 8:30am and 10am

Preaching: Carolyn Isaak, Zumbro member

Music: Mary and Abby Schneekloth, harp

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1 | 6:15pm

Preaching: Carolyn Isaak

WORSHIP

Nursery Hours

SUNDAYS | 8:15-11:15am

The nursery will not be staffed during Wednesday Worship.

Worship Outside

WEDNESDAYS | 6:15-6:55pm

ZUMBRO PATIO

We get it, enjoy your summer! If you're away or unable to attend worship on Sunday morning, attend worship on Wednesday. You'll get to sit outside, sit closer to the preacher during the sermon, have your personal prayers lifted up, and sing along with the worship band.

Planning a Baptism

Contact the church office to schedule a baptism.

SUGGESTED DATES & TIMES

SUNDAY | 8:30am & 10am

July 8, 22, 29

August 12, 26

WEDNESDAY | 6:15pm

July 11, 25

August 1, 15, 29

September 12, 26

SUNDAY | 8:30am & 10:30am

September 9, 23, 30

Sunday Hymn Sings

JULY 22, AUGUST 26

We're singing some of your favorite hymns throughout the summer!

August Worship



Songs for Summer

LIFE IN THE PSALMS

SERMON SERIES

THE SPLENDOR OF CREATION

Psalm 19:1-6

SUNDAY, AUG. 5 | 8:30am and 10am

Holy Communion

Preaching: Pastor Vern Christopherson

Music: Kelsey O'Leary, vocal

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 8 | 6:15pm

Holy Communion

Preaching: Pastor Vern Christopherson

A SONG FOR THE SABBATH

Psalm 92:1-8

SUNDAY, AUG. 12 | 8:30am and 10am

Preaching: Pastor Lisa Kipp

Music: Alan Hansen, vocal

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15 | 6:15pm

Campfire Worship

Preaching: Pastor Lisa Kipp

A GOD WHO WALKS WITH US

Psalm 121

SUNDAY, AUG. 19 | 8:30am and 10am

Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing

Preaching: Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner

Now the Feast and Celebration

Communion Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 22 | 6:15pm

Holy Communion

Campfire Worship

Preaching: Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner

GRATITUDE FOR GOD'S GIFTS

Psalm 145

SUNDAY, AUG. 26 | 8:30am and 10am

Preaching: Pastor Shelley Cunningham

Hymn Sing Sunday

Music: Michael Bostwick, clarinet

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 29 | 6:15pm

Campfire Worship

Preaching: Pastor Shelley Cunningham



Campfire Worship

AUGUST 15, 22, 29

We all love worshipping outdoors. And there's nothing quite like gathering around a campfire singing campfire songs in the summertime. For three weeks in August, Wednesday Worship will become Wednesday Campfire Worship. We'll gather around the campfire, sing favorite old songs and learn some new ones accompanied by guitar, read the Bible, hear stories, and perhaps watch a skit or two. Communion will be on August 22. Bring your favorite lawn chair and join us as we wrap up a summer of worshipping in the great outdoors on Wednesdays from 6:15-6:55pm near the southeast patio. S'mores will follow worship!

Women's Bible Study

JULY 25 | 10:30am-1:30pm

ZUMBRO KAIROS ROOM

Zumbro members Patti Hewitt and Elaine Thoreson will lead the Bible study. Lunch will be served for \$6.50/person.

Coming This Fall: Music Mondays for Kids

Beginning in September, music opportunities for kids in grades K-9 will be moved to Mondays. Your children can make music singing in a choir or ringing handbells. They will learn the basics of music from Music Minister Kristy Giere and children's choir director Janette Reeves. Monday, Sept. 10 will be our kickoff night. Visit zumbrolutheran.org/music for a complete rehearsal schedule. Look for more information in the September issue of *The Zumbro Current*.

Children Make an Impact at VBS +PLUS+

It is so important that kids understand that they can serve from a young age, really make an impact, and have fun doing it! The earlier we begin to give kids good experiences serving others, the more it will become a part of who they are as a person and a Christian. I heard from many parents of young kids (Kindergarten - 2nd graders) that VBS +PLUS+ is one of the only opportunities for that age group to serve the Rochester community. They were thrilled to sign their kids up for it!



Our trip to Feed My Starving Children is always a highlight of the week. I know that kids really look forward to interacting with the senior citizens at the Salvation Army Daycare (Caring Partners) as well.

VBS +PLUS+ aligns with Zumbro's mission and culture. Many of the friends (youth and adult) that they see at Faith Formation and worship during the school year also help with VBS. There is effort made to infuse positive energy and joy into every opportunity for youth at Zumbro. It's different because of the intensity of the week. We are together every day, for many hours every day ... kids really get to know each other and the volunteers that serve beside them. We also have quite a large number of families from outside Zumbro that join us every year for VBS. The large numbers and added variety makes it a special week as well.

Kids and youth these days often have a bad reputation for being self-centered and always on their phones. This is one week out of their summer where this is definitely not the case! Their energy to serve and dedication to whatever task is set before them is inspiring and heart-warming.

Thank you for sharing your children with Zumbro and the Rochester community,
Janette Reeves, Family Minister and VBS Director

Zumbro's Mission Reaches Worldwide



In 1866, three Slovak congregations started schools in the Slovak language. Martin, Slovakia was one of those congregations. In 1875, the ruling Hungarians abruptly closed all Slovak language schools.

After many wars and Communism, the congregation decided to revive the school in 2003 with just a kindergarten class. Those kindergartners graduated from high school this June, making them the first graduates of the Lutheran Academy in 143 years.

Five years ago I came here through the ELCA Global Mission Program, teaching English and leading daily devotions as the class entered high school.

returned to teach another semester in 2015. Thanks part to a gift from Zumbro member, was able to attend graduation this summer.

It was very meaningful me to see and hear that the

students have grown to be fine English speakers and, I believe, fine young men and women.

I thank God for the opportunity to share my faith and my language, and I thank my family and the many Zumbro members who encouraged me throughout my journey.

-Matt Hafar, Zumbro member



Crafts or Bazaar

The Annual Christmas Bazaar will be Saturday, Dec. 1, so all you crafty people can use your God-given talents and time to get ready to help the craft sales. Many talented crafters donate items for this major fundraiser—now is a great time to get started!

Attic Treasures

Remember to set aside those treasures that no longer work for you. Then, donate your unwanted items to Attic Treasures this December. Attic Treasures accepts Scandinavian items, collectibles, books, toys, games, household items, home décor, holiday decorations, and much more. (Please no clothing or computers.)

SAVE THE DATE

Grab your apron! Lefse will be back in production October 8-11 and October 22-25. Free hairnets—bring a friend.



Kristy Giere's Sabbatical

Upon the recommendation of Pastor Vern and the Zumbro Personnel Team, I will begin a six-week mini-sabbatical on Sunday, July 1. I am deeply grateful for this opportunity to take some time off. I don't have many things planned other than a trip to Holden Village in the Cascade Mountains of Washington and a week-long

conference at St. Olaf College in Northfield on Worship, Theology, and the Arts. I also plan to spend time at our cabin in Wisconsin with Bob as he continues to recover from kidney cancer (urothelial carcinoma) and surgery. I will return to the office on Monday, Aug. 13.

-Kristy Giere, Music Minister.

Health Update from Bob Giere

First, I want to express my deep gratitude for all the support and prayers that members of my Zumbro family sent my way over the past two months. As you may know, I was diagnosed with a malignant tumor in my left kidney in April. After a series of diagnostic tests and consideration of treatment options, I ultimately had my left kidney removed on the surgery, it was determined that the cancer was totally contained in the removed kidney and no further chemotherapy or oncology treatment is necessary. What a relief! I am currently in the process of recovering from surgery, but feeling stronger everyday. I have begun to return to work gradually and look forward to a full recovery in the coming weeks.



May 18. A few days after

We worship a great and loving God who I experienced first-hand through your love and support during these difficult and uncertain weeks. For that, I cannot thank you enough.

In the love and peace of Christ,
Bob Giere, Director of Zumbro Lutheran Choir and Director of the Wednesday Worship Band

ZWELCA Action Project

BENEFICIARY: School Kits for Lutheran World Relief

ITEMS NEEDED PER SCHOOL KIT:

- 4 (70-sheet) notebooks (wide-ruled or college-ruled, no loose leaf paper)
- 1 blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades)
- (30-centimeter) ruler
- pencil sharpener
- 5 new #2 pencils (unsharpened, secured together with a rubber band)
- 1 eraser
- 1 box of crayons (16- or 24-count)
- 1 backpack (cloth, sturdy)
- Backpack fabric (light-weight denim, twill, canvas, corduroy, upholstery)

All donated items are appreciated and may be placed in the Action Box outside the lounge.

May Action Project Update

Thanks to a Thrivent Action Team grant and donations from the congregation, 75 personal care kits and 47 baby care kits were assembled and delivered to Lutheran World Relief in June.

Ongoing Project

Eyeglasses for Lion's Club

(Note: Deposit eyeglasses in container near the coat room.)

June Pastoral Acts

BAPTISMS

Owen Samuel Clarkson
Max Raymond Peterson
Alexis Marie Duncomb

GONE BEFORE US

Gordon S. Green
Ila J. Uptagrafft
Helen M. Suk
Heidi J. Shaughnessy
Norman R. Pearson
Irene J. McKenney

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Kamen Makuer
Dinka Lay Evangelist
makuerkamen@yahoo.com

Barb Desens
Nursery Coordinator



Newsletter Deadline

Please submit items for the September issue of the *Zumbro Current* by August 15, to Allison Passon at allisonpasson@zumbrolutheran.org

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