

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

JUNE 2017

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



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OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Summer is a wonderful time in Minnesota. Wednesday worship makes the most of it.

2 & 5

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

Early in May those in worship were asked to take a congregational survey covering a variety of topics. Pastor Lisa breaks down the results and shares some insights.

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SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Zumbro member Maxine Sims shares God's love with others in a unique, simple, and cheery way,

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SOUTH SUDAN RELIEF

The ELCA is working together with others to provide immediate famine relief. Learn how you can help share the hope of Jesus with our partners in the South Sudan.

And the survey says...

Last month we asked you to take a congregational survey during worship. We wanted your feedback about everything from the Narrative Lectionary, to worship times, to live streaming worship. We heard from nearly 400 of you, and were pleased to see a decent representation across the generations. I am happy to share the results of the survey with you.

Over the last two years we've utilized the Narrative Lectionary as a way of reading the overarching story of the Bible throughout the program year. As a reminder, a lectionary is a schedule of appointed readings to be read during worship. Just over 70% of you reported that this lectionary has helped you to better understand the biblical story. A few of you commented that you missed the Revised Common Lectionary, while some mentioned appreciating hearing some new, unfamiliar stories.

With the introduction of The Big Idea (one Bible reading with one main point each week), we have worked hard to align youth faith formation and worship. One of our goals was to provide families with a shared experience. Thirteen percent of families reported that they talk about The Big Idea often, 57% reported sometimes talking about it, while 29% shared that they never discuss The Big Idea together. Current research certainly supports Martin Luther's idea that

faith is most effectively passed on in the home. We will continually strive to foster faith conversations within families.

A significant number of you are interested in the possibility of Zumbro worship services being live streamed online. We hear this request often from snowbirds, college students, and homebound members. We've been looking into live streaming worship for a while. It may be a possibility in the future (with the right technology and volunteers), but copyright laws will limit us to archiving only the sermon. In other words, to watch the entire worship service online you would need to watch it live.

Without a doubt, the questions in which we saw the greatest divergence of opinion were those pertaining to worship start times. Those of you that regularly worship at the 8:30am service on Sunday felt strongly about not changing that start time. There appears to be more flexibility with moving up the start time of the 11am Sunday service. That could result in an adjustment to our education hour. Furthermore, changing the 8:30am start time may not be a possibility for our radio broadcast, and we remain committed to continuing that important ministry. Needless to say, the Sunday morning schedule is complicated. Studies show that prime worship times in our country are between 9am and

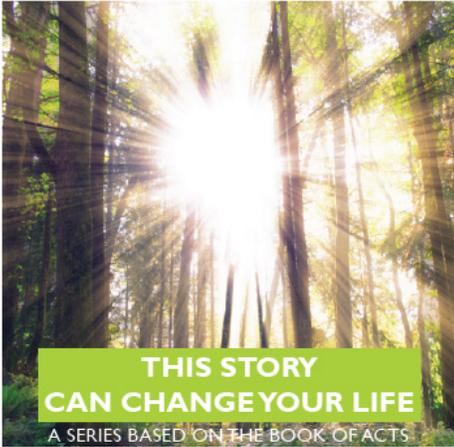


10:30am, and none of our current services fit into these time slots.

Wednesday evening scheduling is nearly as complicated as Sunday morning. We want to start worship late enough so that people coming straight from work have enough time to get here, and at the same time it is important to end faith formation and confirmation early enough so that families can get home to begin their bedtime or homework routines. When we asked you what time you preferred worship to start on Wednesdays, it was nearly an even split between 6pm, 6:15pm, and 6:30pm. Forty-one percent of you would prefer Wednesday programming to end by 7:45pm, 47% are willing to extend the evening to 8pm, and 12% would be comfortable extending to 8:15pm.

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Worship Details



This Story Can Change Your Life

We are journeying through the book of Acts. Jesus has been raised from the dead. The Holy Spirit has been given to Jesus' closest followers. Lives are being changed. There is room in the family of faith for all sorts of

people: for Peter who's not especially open to Gentiles, for Paul who's been a persecutor of Christians, and even for an Ethiopian eunuch. Come and hear their stories and consider how your life might be changed.

PENTECOST

ACTS 1:1-5; 2:1-4

SUNDAY, JUNE 4 | 8:30am and 10am
 Holy Communion
 Preaching: Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner
 Music: Pam Hammond and Meredith Pritchard, vocalists

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7 | 6pm
 Holy Communion
 Preaching: Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner

CONVERSION OF PAUL

ACTS 9:1-19a

SUNDAY, JUNE 11 | 8:30am and 10am
 Preaching: Pastor Lisa Kipp
 Hymn Sing

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14 | 6pm
 Preaching: Pastor Lisa Kipp

PETER AND CORNELIUS

ACTS 10:1-33

SUNDAY, JUNE 18 | 8:30am and 10am
 Holy Communion and Prayers for Healing
 Preaching: Pastor Shelley Cunningham
 Now the Feast and Celebration Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 | 6pm
 Holy Communion
 Preaching: Pastor Shelley Cunningham

JERUSALEM COUNCIL

ACTS 15:1-18

SUNDAY, JUNE 25 | 8:30am and 10am
 Preaching: Pastor Vern Christopherson
 Music: Chizuko Ikeda, guest harpist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 | 6pm
 Preaching: Pastor Vern Christopherson

Nursery Hours

SUNDAYS | 8:15am-11:15am

Not staffed Wednesday evenings

Celebrate Pentecost

JUNE 4

Pentecost is a high festival Sunday in the liturgical church year, and the color of the day is red. All are encouraged to wear something red to church on June 4 as we celebrate the ongoing life of the Holy Spirit.

Hymn Sing

JUNE 11

Summer hymn sings are back! We'll sing some of your favorite hymns throughout the summer on the second Sunday of June, July, and August.

Guest Harpist

JUNE 25

Harpist Chizuko Ikeda from Japan will be providing music in worship on Sunday, June 25. CDs will be available to purchase for \$20. Ms. Ikeda is a former harp instructor for Akiko Hara, who regularly attends worship at Zumbro. Ms. Ikeda is spending a week in Rochester performing concerts at Mayo Clinic and the Charter House. Chizuko Ikeda's stay in Rochester and the Mayo Clinic will help her learn more about music therapy and healing music.

WORSHIP

Worship Outdoors this Summer

WORSHIP 6pm | S'MORES & MORE 6:45pm



Heading to the cabin for the weekend? Traveling for a weekend tournament? Working on Sunday morning?

Join us every Wednesday this summer on the patio for outdoor worship followed by s'mores and more. Worship begins at 6pm and is lively, relaxed, and Spirit-filled. Accompanied by guitar and keyboard, summer Wednesday worship is a blend of contemporary songs and familiar hymns. In the event of rain, worship is held in the Fireside Room.

Give outdoor worship a try this summer ... and stick around for a s'more afterwards!



And the survey says... continued

Finally, we sought your feedback about the seasonal murals that the Worship Arts Team has been creating for our worship space. Over 95% of you responded that you wanted the team to continue creating these murals. A handful of you mentioned that you miss seeing the red words of reconciliation while the murals are in place. Many of you thanked and praised the Worship Arts Team for their beautiful work, mentioning that they help to center you during worship, and that you found the murals inspiring and thought-provoking. A few of you inquired about the cost of the murals. Because the team has reused panels and supplies throughout the year, each mural has only cost about

\$120. I'm grateful for this team and for the ways they engage our senses in worship.

So what are we going to do with all of this information? The staff and church council are having conversations about the feedback, implications, and possibilities for the future. We will have a joint retreat later this month, and likely make some decisions at that time about moving forward with any possible changes. There is certainly a lot to talk about. Thank you for sharing your opinions and for caring so deeply about our congregation.

Peace,

Pastor Lisa

Pastor Lisa

Sharing God's Love



Maxine Sims (pictured to the left) is a fairly new member of Zumbro, but her name is quickly being known to many. She made it her personal ministry to notice people through the gift of a card in the mail. Every month the office shares with her a list of people turning 85 years or older. Maxine mails a birthday card, prayer, and crossword or word find to them. This ministry started years ago while she was a Sunday School teacher at a church she formerly attended. Her seventh grade

class was assigned by a pastor the task of writing to people unable to attend worship. After 10 years, she stepped away from teaching Sunday School, but the ministry and bond through mail continued. Her goal in this ministry is to remind everyone that God loves them. Thank you, Maxine!

Book Studies with Pastors

FOURTH THURSDAY

9:30-11am & 6:30-8pm

Signs ups for these book studies will be available throughout the summer in *Life at Zumbro* and myZLC.

JUNE 22—*Accidental Saints:*

Finding God in All the Wrong

People by Nadia Bolz-Weber

with Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner

JULY 27—*Present Over Perfect* by

Shauna Niequist with

Pastor Lisa Kipp

AUGUST 24—*Martin Luther: A Life*

by James Nestingen with

Pastor Vern Christopherson

Volunteer with Children at Zumbro

If you're interested in volunteering with VBS, VBS +PLUS+, or Faith Formation, a training is coming up for you to complete. All who work with children and youth at Zumbro are required to take a free, hour-long training called Protected in Christ's Name (PICN). Please let Family Ministers Kris Oppegard or Janette Reeves know of your interest.

SENT TO SERVE

Zumbro Women of the ELCA Holiday Cookbook

An addition to this year's ZWELCA Bazaar will be a new Holiday Cookbook! The cookbook will be available for purchase at the Christmas Bazaar—perfect timing for holiday gift giving! Recipe forms can be found at www.zumbrolutheran.org/uploads/holidayrecipeform.pdf and at the ushers' stand. Recipe submissions will be accepted through July 1 and can be dropped off in the church office or emailed to Administrative Assistant Connie Saunders. You can direct your questions to Kari Jadin at kafische@hotmail.com or (507) 536-3822.

On Going Projects

The following items may be left in the drawers at the ushers' stand:

- Layette items for Lutheran World Relief
- Eyeglasses for Lions Club
- Beverage tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- Campbell Soup labels and greeting cards for the Rainbow School

April Project Update

Hiawatha Homes received 45 large-size adult bibs and 11 floor blankets. Donated bath towels were used to sew the bibs. Thank you!

Thank You from the Youth

Our youth summer mission trips will happen next month. Before we leave, we need to THANK YOU, Zumbro, for your continued support over this past school year. The youth worked in Attic Treasures during the ZWELCA Bazaar. ZWELCA generously donated the \$1,950 raised in that area to the summer youth mission trips. Our Palm Sunday breakfast raised \$900. The Youth Stock fundraiser collected \$11,000 in support. And, the Youth Silent Auction raised about \$2,000. Finally, the Worship Arts Team sold Lenten Mural Tiles during the Silent Auction and the \$300 raised was donated to our summer youth mission trips.

Again, THANK YOU! We are truly blessed and overwhelmed with your continued support of our mission-minded youth. Our middle school youth are heading to Lake Traverse, SD, for a mission trip with YouthWorks. Our high school youth are heading to Montego Bay, Jamaica, for a mission trip with Mission Jamaica. Please keep our 47 youth and adult leaders in your prayers.

Action Project

BENEFICIARY: LINK (A PROGRAM OF LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES)

LINK strives to transition at-risk and homeless youth ages 16-21 into independent adults by providing case management services, life-skills groups, peer support groups, and a transitional housing program for those who are eligible. Please help by donating these items:

ITEMS NEEDED:

- food items (canned or packaged)
- cleaning products (dish soap, laundry soap, etc.)
- Personal hygiene products (razors, feminine products, bath soap, etc.)
- Paper products (paper cups, paper plates, toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissues)
- Baby diapers, wipes, ointment
- Gift certificates/cards (Kwik Trip, Wal-Mart, Target, Rochester Public Transit)

Items can be placed in the Action Box outside of the Lounge.

South Sudan Relief

Every Sunday afternoon a group of Sudanese Dinka Christians from South Sudan gather to worship in Zumbro's Fireside Room. While they consider Rochester and Zumbro home, they are deeply connected to their friends and family still in South Sudan. The ravages of civil war and famine have impacted millions of people in South Sudan, leading to the food insecurity of more than 7 million people. The ELCA is working together with others to provide immediate famine relief.

You will have an opportunity to help share the hope of Jesus with our partners in the South Sudan on Pentecost Sunday, June 4.

"People are hurting all over. Violence and hunger are threatening our nation. We are doing all we can to help."
 -Kamen Makuer (photo to right), Zumbro Dinka Lay Evangelist

PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 4

WORSHIP TOGETHER

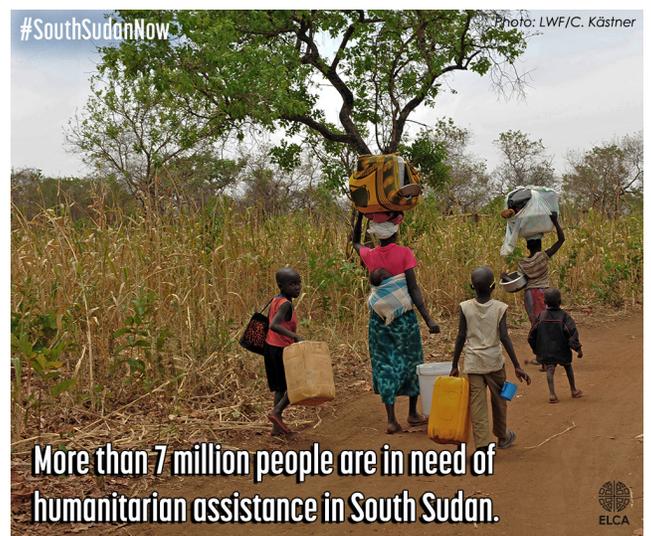
As we celebrate the Holy Spirit and the bridges built between God's people, we will lift up in prayer our brothers and sisters in the South Sudan.

ADVOCACY STATION

You will be invited to write letters to leaders encouraging our support for those in desperate need. A station will be set up in the Narthex.

GIVE

You will have an opportunity to give to Lutheran Disaster's Response for South Sudan relief. Donations can be made during worship, by mailing a gift to the church office, online through myZLC, or by sending a text to 73256 (write *Zumbro* in the message line, follow the return link, and select South Sudan from the drop down menu). Donations will be collected through June 15. Thank you.



Summer Worship Choir

JULY 30

Want to give choir a try without the commitment? Perhaps Summer Worship Choir is what you're looking for! Singers of all ages are welcome to be a part of a choir that will sing in worship on Sunday, July 30, at 8:30am and the beginning of the 10am service. A rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, July 26, at 7pm in the choir room. Even if that rehearsal doesn't work, come for another rehearsal Sunday morning, July 30, at 8am. Questions? Contact Music Minister Kristy Giere. Look for a sign up opportunity in the *Life at Zumbro* beginning July 9. All are welcome!

Zumbro Travelers and Friends

Itineraries and registration forms can be found in trip brochures at the ushers' stand.

- Southeast Minnesota Tour: McNeilus Wind Farm, SPAM Museum, and Paramount Theatre-June 13
- Minnesota State Capitol Tour and Como Park Zoo and Conservatory-June 26

An Update on Our Facility Planning Project

As was discussed during our Annual Meeting, the church council has commissioned a Building Visioning Team. The team's goal is to engage an architectural firm to develop a master plan for Zumbro Lutheran Church that addresses our identified needs. Members of the team are:

Jane Callahan	Dave Larson
Dan Dokken	Teresa McCormack
Kirk Gill (co-chair)	Mike Neumann
Alan Hansen (co-chair)	Tracy Schar (staff)
Bill Horlitz	

The specific charter for this group is to develop a long-range, multi-phase facilities plan, including cost estimates and recommendations for funding options.

We met with three architectural firms in early April, sharing our needs assessment and touring the facility. We've received proposals, including firm background and qualifications, examples of work, approach and process, references, etc. We conducted final interviews the week of May 15, and our team has chosen to work with Wedseth, Smith, and Nolting of Rochester.

The timeline for this master plan work is that it be completed in September, and then brought to the council and congregation. We expect this plan to outline multiple options/phases that we can consider to as we balance between needs and affordability. We will want input from the congregation every step of the way. And when it comes time to make a decision, that will be the work of the congregation.

A part of this creative process will include the architects meeting with staff, user groups, and members-at-large to gain additional perspectives. Expect that opportunity at some point. These plans are preliminary.

It should be an exciting summer at Zumbro Lutheran Church!

Respectfully,
Building Visioning Team



Helping Others Conquer Debt

The Gifts & Memorials Team made a \$2,500 gift on behalf of Zumbro Lutheran Church from a recent Endowment Fund dispersment to support bringing the Lutheran Social Services' program, *Financial Counseling*, to Rochester. Lutheran Social Services is one of Zumbro's six primary mission partners.

Financial Counseling provides quality guidance and tools so people can conquer their debt, gain control of their finances, and achieve financial stability. They offer caring support without judgement and shame—real help that provides hope and a plan to move forward. To learn more about the program, visit www.conqueryourdebt.org

To help Zumbro support programs and organizations like Lutheran Social Services and *Financial Counseling*, contact Gifts & Memorials chair and Zumbro member Dan Dokken at dokkendm@yahoo.com to learn how.

Fair Trade Goods

Fair Trade coffee, chocolate, and goods will be sold before and after worship services on the first Sunday of the month during the summer.

FYI

May Pastoral Acts

BAPTISMS

Alice June Clarke

David John Zimmerman

MARRIAGES

Kat Jenkins and Sam Lauer

SAINTS GONE BEFORE US

Helen L. Johnson

Lowell "Red" L. Thompson

Planning a Baptism

Contact the church office to schedule a baptism.

SUNDAY AT 8:30am & 10am

June 11, 25

July 9, 23, 30

August 13, 27

WEDNESDAY AT 6pm

June 14, 28

July 12, 26

August 2, 16, 30

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Barb Desens
Nursery Coordinator

Newsletter Deadline

Please submit items for the July/August issue of the *Zumbro Current* by June 15, to zlcpublications@zumbrolutheran.org

Vacation Bible School

JUNE 19-23 | 9am-12pm

Three-Year-Old—Grade Six

\$20/child or \$50/family

You can feel it and smell it—summer is nearly here! At *Maker Fun Factory VBS*, kids enter a world where creativity and fun are around every corner! Kids become hands-on inventors who discover they're lovingly crafted by God. The music, games, Bible stories, crafts and snacks bring it all together for a fantastic week! Register online at www.zumbrolutheran.org

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