

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

MARCH 2018

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



6-7

SENIOR WORSHIP

In retirement, your worship community may shift locations, but the intentionality of worship stays the same.

2

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

Learn how we work side-by-side with our mission partners.

Pastor Lisa also shares her plans for a sabbatical this summer

5

HOLY WEEK

Our Lenten journey concludes the end of this month. Experience the emotion and drama as we prepare for Jesus to rise from the dead on Easter Sunday.

8-9

TANZANIAN ADVENTURES

Get a behind-the-scenes look at what happens while Zumbro members visit our mission partners at Iambi Lutheran Hospital.



Walking Side-by-Side

I returned from Tanzania just a couple of weeks ago. It was another wonderful visit. The hospitality we were shown was second to none, we connected with old and new friends, and we witnessed daily the compassion that Iambi Lutheran Hospital staff continually extend to their patients.

Some of you might wonder, “Why do we continue to return to the same place year after year?” I suppose there are any number of good answers to that question—God is calling and sending us, the need is great, and as a congregation we really can make a difference. All of these responses are true, but our relationship goes deeper than that.

Six years ago, when Zumbro members first set foot on the grounds of Iambi Hospital, they didn’t know what to expect. Neither did the staff of the hospital. Through conversations and time spent together, we decided to create a covenant with one another. This covenant guides our relationship. It calls upon us to pray for our partners, to tell stories about Iambi’s mission, to help supply material resources, and to help sponsor specific needs, all as we are able. It also dictates that we will stay in relationship through regular communication and visits.

I’ll be the first to tell you that this partnership can be challenging. I’ve often said to our Tanzania Ministry Team, “If this were easy, we’d probably be doing it wrong.” Relationships are hard, especially ones maintained across incredibly diverse cultures.

The ELCA urges congregations partnered with global companions to practice something called accompaniment ministry. In accompaniment ministry we commit to walk side-by-side one another, and we strive to blur the lines between givers and receivers in our relationship. We pay careful attention to values like mutuality, vulnerability, empowerment, and sustainability.

In many ways, this kind of ministry is fundamentally different than a typical short-term mission trip. So what are the benefits of engaging in accompaniment ministry? And what are the benefits of typical short-term mission trips? These are big questions, and I care deeply about the answers.

This summer I will be taking a sabbatical. I’ll be returning to Tanzania for several weeks to delve deeper into these questions. At the same time, I’m also going to be doing some research on short-term mission trips. Throughout my 18 years on staff at Zumbro, I have led 24 mission trips and 283 different people to



Pastor Lisa and Pastor Manase Msengi, Director of Iambi Lutheran Hospital, work side-by-side.

places in the U.S. and around the world. I’m working on creating a survey that will be sent off to each of these people. I’m interested in discovering the impact that these experiences have had on people’s lives and faith.

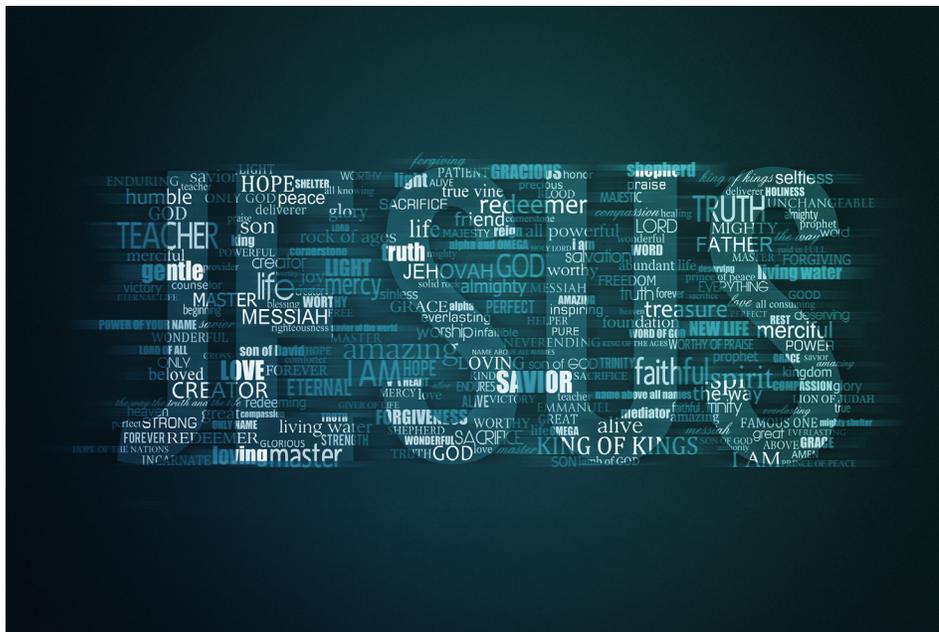
I’m not exactly sure where my research will lead me, but I’m eager to find out. Mission work certainly can be challenging, but it is also life giving, life changing, and Spirit-filled. And I have no doubt that God is at work in our ministry and in our relationships.

Peace.

Pastor Lisa

Pastor Lisa

Sunday Worship



The Hour Has Come

SERMON SERIES

We continue to read through the Gospel of John, discovering along the way who Jesus is and what it means when he says, “The hour has come.”

JESUS COMFORTS HIS FOLLOWERS

John 16:16-33

SUNDAY, MAR. 4 | 8:30am and 10:30am

Holy Communion

Preaching: Pastor Lisa Kipp

Music: Zumbro Lutheran Choir (8:30am); Nicole Pittenger, Janette Reeves, vocalists (10:30am)

PETER'S DENIAL

John 18:12-27

SUNDAY, MAR. 11 | 8:30am and 10:30am

Preaching: Pastor Vern Christopherson

Music: Bel Canto Handbell Choir (8:30am and 10:30am), Zumbro Choristers (10:30am)

JESUS STANDS TRIAL

John 18:28-40

SUNDAY, MAR. 18 | 8:30am and 10:30am

Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing

Preaching: Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner

Music: Zumbro Woodwind Quintet (8:30am and 10:30am), Zumbro Lutheran Choir (10:30am)

PALM SUNDAY

John 12:12-27; 19:1-16a

SUNDAY, MAR. 25 | 8:30am and 10:30am

Palm Processional for Children

Preaching: Pastor Shelley Cunningham

Music: Zumbro Lutheran Choir, Zumbro Choristers, Zumbro Brass Ensemble
Nursery: 8:15-11:45am

Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast

SUNDAY, MAR. 25

7:30-8:30am and 9:30-10:30am

You are invited to a pancake breakfast! Zumbro youth will prepare and host the pancake breakfast for all as a way to raise funds for their summer youth trips and to say “thank you” to everyone for their ongoing and faithful support. A free-will offering will be received to support the summer youth trips to Duluth, MN, and Houston, TX.

Nursery Hours

SUNDAYS | 8:15-11:45am

WEDNESDAYS | 6:15-8:15pm

Faith Formation

HIGH SCHOOL

WEDNESDAYS MAR. 7, 14, 21

YOUTH ROOM | 7:15pm-8pm

Planning a Baptism

SUGGESTED DATES AND TIMES

SUNDAY | 8:30am & 10:30am

March 11

April 8, 29

May 13, 27

WEDNESDAY | 6:30pm

March 14

EASTER VIGIL

Saturday, Mar. 31 | 7pm

WEDNESDAY | 6:15pm

April 11, 25

May 2, 16, 30

Contact the church office to schedule a baptism.

Easter Memorials

You are encouraged to make your giving go farther this Easter by sharing the hope of Jesus in meaningful ways. Gifts can be mailed to Zumbro or placed in the offering basket with a yellow pew envelope. More information is to come in the *Life at Zumbro*.

Easter Flowers

Bring our sanctuary to bloom by ordering flowers for our Easter garden. Plants may be designated in memory or honor of someone and taken home after the 11am Easter service. Use the yellow pew envelopes or call the office. Enclose cash or check made payable to Zumbro Lutheran. Options: lily/\$15, tulip/\$15, begonia/\$15, mum/\$15, azalea/\$25

Save the Date

SON OF GOD MASS IN WORSHIP

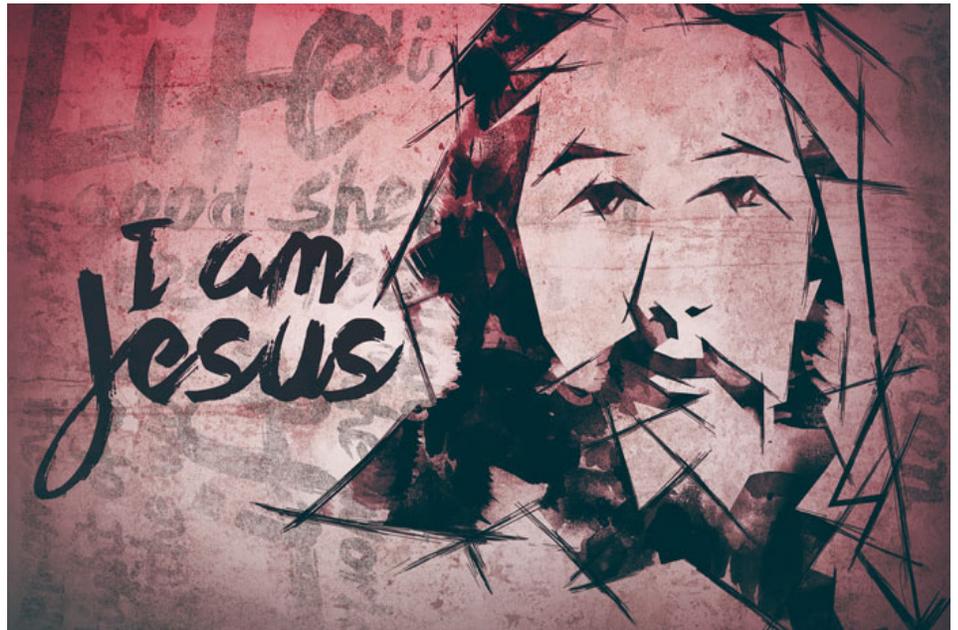
SUNDAY, APR. 22

The Zumbro Lutheran Choir under the direction of Bob Giere will present *Son of God Mass* by English composer, James Whitbourn.

Save The Date

MAY 20

The Zumbro 2018 High School Graduation Recognition Sunday is May 20.



Wednesday Worship

The Call of "I Am"

We continue to explore who Jesus is in the Gospel of John. There are certainly episodes in this gospel that reflect an image of a gentle savior, but Jesus gives us many other snapshots of who he is and why it is worth our time to follow him.

I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

John 10:11-18

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 7 | 12pm and 6:30pm

Holy Communion (6:30pm)

Preaching: Pastor Shelley Cunningham

I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE

John 8:1-12

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 14 | 12pm and 6:30pm

Preaching: Pastor Vern Christopherson

I AM THE VINE

John 15:1-12

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 21 | 12pm and 6:30pm

Holy Communion (6:30pm)

Preaching: Pastor Lisa Kipp

NO WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 28

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

March 7, 14, and 21

12pm	Worship
12:45pm	Lunch
4:45-6pm	Dinner
6:30pm	Worship

Holy Week Worship Details

These three days offer powerful times of praying, storytelling, and singing. They include any number of dramatic moments such as the stripping of the altar on Maundy Thursday, the pounding of the nails on Good Friday, and the procession of light during the Easter Vigil. As these dramatic moments unfold, it's as if worshippers are transported to a different place and time.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

THURSDAY, MAR. 29 | 5:30pm and 7pm
 Living Last Supper (details below)
 Hand Washing
 Holy Communion
 Stripping of the Altar
 Nursery: 6:45-8:15pm

A LIVING LAST SUPPER

MAUNDY THURSDAY
 5:30pm and 7pm
 One memorable Thursday night long ago, Jesus and his disciples gathered in the Upper Room to share the Passover Seder. Little did the disciples know that this meal would be their last supper with Jesus. Jesus and his 12 disciples will join in a Living Last Supper at Zumbro on Maundy Thursday. They will tell stories of their journey together and of their joys and struggles along the way. At the end of the drama, they will invite worshippers to join them for the Last Supper.

GOOD FRIDAY

John 19:16b-41

FRIDAY, MAR. 30 | 7pm
 Journey to the Cross
 Opportunity to take sins and struggles to the cross
 Preaching: Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner
 Music: Zumbro Lutheran Choir; Michael Bostwick, clarinet
 Nursery: 6:45-8:15pm

*There is a Community Good Friday Service at Calvary Episcopal Church, Rochester at 12pm.

EASTER VIGIL

SATURDAY, MAR. 31 | 7pm
 Procession of Light
 Remembrance of Baptism
 Holy Communion
 Hear storytellers retell stories in new, creative ways
 Family-friendly worship



Easter

Easter is the unexpected conclusion that Jesus' death is not the end of the story, but a joyful new beginning. As we celebrate Easter, we share in the joy of Jesus' resurrection. The trumpets blare, we shout "Alleluia!", and we remember that because he lives, we will live also.

EASTER SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APR. 1 | 8am, 9:30am, and 11am
 Holy Communion
 Preaching: Pastor Vern Christopherson
 Music by: Zumbro Brass Ensemble, Bel Canto Handbell Choir, Zumbro Lutheran Choir
 Nursery: 7:45am-12:15pm

Care Ministry Gathering

SATURDAY, MAR. 3

10:30am-12pm

Has God given you a heart for people who are elderly or homebound? If so, Care Ministry at Zumbro may be the place for you to act on that heart! Care ministers devote a couple hours each month to visiting and bringing communion to folks who seldom get outside of their homes. Contact Congregational Life Minister Ruth Monson for more information, or attend the Care Ministry Gathering. This gathering is for all current care ministers at Zumbro and anyone interested in learning more about care ministry.

SAVE THE DATE Women's Zumbro River Conference Spring Event

THURSDAY, APR. 19

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, OSTRANDER, MN | 4:45-8:30pm
Pastor Emily Carson, Southeastern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA Director of Communications, is the guest speaker for this event with the theme, "Be Kind to One Another." Details will be in the *Life at Zumbro* as the date gets closer.



Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner shares a greeting with Shorewood residents.

Senior Worshipping Communities

There are seasons of life we go through—childhood, new parenthood, middle-age, and retirement. Life may change, and your faith may change as you experience these seasons, but worshipping can stay a part of your life. Every month, one of Zumbro's pastors brings a worship service to a handful of Rochester's retirement communities: Charter House, Fairway Ridge, The Homestead, Realife Co-op, and Shorewood. This worship includes a sermon, piano or organ accompaniment provided by volunteers, and communion. While we would enjoy visiting other senior living facilities, the five we visit regularly have been chosen because a growing number of Zumbro



Pastor Shelley Cunningham and Pastor Vern Christopherson delivered a message together for Charter House residents.

JOURNEY OF FAITH World Day of Prayer

FRIDAY, MAR. 2

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH, ROCHESTER, MN

The church will be open to anyone from 7am-6pm to come and join others around the world in prayer. Coffee, treats, and fellowship will begin at 10am, and the worship service will begin at 10:30am. The creation story in Genesis 1 will be the focus with the theme, "All God's Creation Is Very Good!" written by the women of Suriname.



June Warren accompanies the singing of Charter House residents.



members reside there, and are unable to make it to Zumbro for worship.

"These services are a highlight of our senior ministry. They provide meaningful worship for those who aren't able to get to church and vital community." Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner continues, "Each gathering is different, but in all of them we welcome a wide variety of people, some who are not part of Zumbro. We've had a number of people join Zumbro without setting foot in our building, because Zumbro comes to them to share God's message of love and forgiveness."



The Homestead residents are consistently strong singers!

Donations Requested for Youth Silent Auction

SUNDAY, APR. 8

If you or anyone you know would be interested in making a personal or business donation to the Silent Auction, please contact Family Minister Kris Oppegard. Thank you in advance for supporting our middle school youth, high school youth, and adult leaders, as they continue to prepare to be sent out on their summer trips to Duluth, MN, and Houston, TX.

High School Youth Opportunity

WEDNESDAYS MAR. 7, 14, & 21
YOUTH ROOM | 5:30-6:15PM

Pack your dinner or grab it in the Lounge then bring it to the Youth Room. This time is intended for high school youth to eat with each other, connect with each other, or do homework. Contact Family Minister Kris Oppegard with questions.

STEP UP Leadership Development Event for High School students

THURSDAY, MAR. 8

GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE
ST. PETER, MN

This day-long leadership development event will introduce youth to college level concepts of leadership and will help them to develop a stronger personal plan for continuing to grow as a leader. If interested in this FREE event, please contact Family Minister Kris Oppegard.

Tanzanian Adventures

In February, a team of six from Zumbro traveled to Tanzania to visit our mission partners at Iambi Lutheran Hospital. They were busy teaching, preaching, listening, learning, and preparing an x-ray room. But above all, they were deepening our relationships with the faithful staff of the hospital and the Central Diocese.

The hospital faces many financial challenges. Zumbro's Tanzania Ministry Team continues to meet regularly to discern how we might best walk alongside our partners and work together to meet some of these challenges. Thank you for your ongoing prayer and financial support. Each year that we visit we are able to see tangible ways that your giving is making a difference.



Before we departed for Iambi, we spent a day running errands in the larger city of Arusha. One major task was to purchase an air conditioner for the x-ray room. Bob Jenkins and Tim Daly were happy to find installation directions in English.



Our first day in the village started out with worship in the local ELCT congregation. Worship included dancing, choirs, a processional offering, a greeting from our Zumbro team, and Pastor Lisa preaching in English and Swahili. The hospital's nursing students departed on Monday for month



long practicums in neighboring medical dispensaries. Nurse Practitioner Ann Leland went along to drop them off. All 20 students, their beds, and food rations for the month joined Ann and their teacher in this one small bus!

We met 100-year-old Asia while on palliative care visits. Asia had been using this red, plastic chair as a walker. She was beyond elated when we returned with a walker for her that Zumbro delivered in a medical container several years ago.





A tour of the OB department revealed all of the new supplies provided for the hospital through our "Helping lambi Deliver" campaign. Thank you, Zumbro, for making a difference in the lives of many moms and babies!



On Wednesday, we led worship and taught Holden Evening Prayer to the hospital staff at their daily chapel service. Bob and Sue Jenkins led the singing, and everyone was eager to participate in candle lighting.



Tim Daly, Pastor Lisa, and Bashiri Abdallah worked together to fix a local pastor's microscopic reader with a suture kit and surgical tools borrowed from the operating theater. It's amazing what you can do when you're determined to fix something with limited supplies!



Near the end of our stay in the village, the local "basket ladies" bring a market to our guesthouse. Baskets ... and more baskets ... are available! It's always fun to visit with the women and support their trade.



Dr. Sue Jenkins delivered a lecture on fetal alcohol syndrome for all of the hospital's medical staff. Navigating the language and cultural differences regarding alcohol use was challenging, but Sue did a wonderful job and answered many thoughtful questions.



Before our departure we were gifted beautiful Maasai fabric from our friends at lambi. Here we are pictured on the chapel steps with several of the local pastors and doctors. As we received our gifts, the staff sang, "We are Marching in the Light of God."



Our trip concluded with a safari through some of God's most beautiful creation. Lions, giraffes, elephants, monkeys, zebras, hippos, and even more creatures were abundant. The national parks in Tanzania are breathtakingly beautiful.



Listening Posts on Our Church Building

From Needed Maintenance and Repair to New Construction Possibilities

The congregation is encouraged to attend one of three listening posts being offered to discuss proposals that could improve our physical plant. A lengthy review of our building produced a list of needs, wants, and wishes. Working with an architect, a committee of parishioners has produced a series of design concepts to answer these items.

We need your ideas and input. We are at a very preliminary point in this process. All proposals are fluid and can be changed or omitted from any final building project. Come with questions, ideas and preferences! We expect a lively dialogue as we look at the detail of the list of potential ideas to solve problems, improve function, and provide accessibility for our church building.

The meetings are being held in the sanctuary on Sunday, Mar. 11, as the Adult Forum (9:35-10:20am); on Wednesday, Mar. 21, after the evening service (7:15pm); and on Saturday, Apr. 21, starting at 10am. We hope to see you there!



ZWELCA Action Project

BENEFICIARY: Lutheran World Relief-Fabric Kits (Local)

Many of the Fabric Kits will be distributed to supply vocational training programs and newly trained tailors to launch sewing businesses.

ITEMS NEEDED:

Fabric: 2 pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric (no stains or holes), cut to the following measurements
 Thread: 2 spools of matching or neutral, general-purpose thread, 250-300 yards

- 2-1/4 yards of 60" wide,
- 3 yards of 44" wide, OR
- 4 yards of 36" wide fabric

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

Action Project Update

In January, collections were requested for Mission Sewing and Families First. The quilters received several pieces. Deliveries were made to Families First, including several packs of diapers and a large bag of many other items. Thank you for the many donations!

SAVE THE DATE VBS & VBS +PLUS+

JUNE 18-22 | 9am-12pm
 JUNE 18-21 | 12-3pm

SAVE THE DATE ART CAMP

JULY 30-AUGUST 2 | 9am-12pm
 August 2 is 9am-3pm with the Artist Showcase in the afternoon.

On Going Projects

The following items may be left in the drawers at the ushers' stand (unless noted):

- Layette items for Lutheran World Relief
- Beverage tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- Campbell Soup labels and greeting cards for the Rainbow School
- Eyeglasses for Lion's Club (Note: Deposit eyeglasses in container near the coat room.)

February Pastoral Acts

BAPTISM

Sullivan Wayne Meyer
 Hazel Rey Thoendel

SAINTS GONE BEFORE US

Lois M. Swanson
 Marilyn L. Fryer
 Mark A. Danielson
 Douglas J. Trangsrud
 Rodney J. Lee
 Laverne F. Orwoll

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Ralph Schornack
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Robert Schneider
 Maintenance Lead

Craig Dickinson
 Ryan Flemke
 Custodians

Karla Dexter
 Office Assistant
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Kamen Makuer
 Dinka Lay Evangelist
 makuerkamen@yahoo.com

Barb Desens
 Nursery Coordinator

Newsletter Deadline

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

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT March 7, 14, and 21

12pm	Worship
12:45pm	Lunch
4:45-6pm	Dinner
6:30pm	Worship

PLACE
TAB HERE

PLACE LABEL HERE

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Time Dated Material

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(507) 288-2649

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