
The Zion Messenger

August 2018

WHAT ARE PEOPLE LOOKING FOR IN CHURCH? PART III – The Need for CARE

August 1 – Evangelism

August 2 – Trustees
Men's Club

August 5 – Youth Group

August 9 – Shipmates

August 13 – School Board
Stewardship

August 14 – Administrative
Council

August 15 – Glenwood

August 19 – Youth Group

August 22 – Heritage Health

August 23 – Alumni & Friends

August 28 – Parish Education

Why do people join congregations? Like many Lutheran congregations, the majority of Zion's members joined by baptism or transfer. Increasingly new members joining today are people who at one time were members of a church but then drifted away, or simply never had a church home. Whatever their background the question is, what do people look for, what do they need in a church? Surveys reveal four basic needs, one of which is **the need for care.**

Fundamentally, Christians care because God first 'cared' for us. "*We love because He first loved us.*" Care and love for others like good works 'adorn' the Gospel of Christ especially during times of crisis. During life's 'Wild Ride' times, a church's response will greatly influence relationships within the congregation and with God.

Opportunity for care spans a wide range of emotional-spiritual-physical-medical needs. To be sure it would be unrealistic for us to try to meet all; many times the best way to care is to help people find the resource they need. But at the same time we must not fail to reach out with spiritual and emotional support. In times of crisis people struggle with questions like: Why is this happening? Why does God allow suffering? While we cannot answer every question and need, we must not fail to remind of God's promise to walk with His people through their crisis. Here are some ways congregations care for people at such times:

Laitly Training: Clergy provide pastoral care, but what happens when need exceeds the amount a pastor can provide? Fact is care opportunities abound, for those grieving, divorced or separated, terminally ill, homebound, for the member going through job-loss or recently moved, even those with a new baby. To meet such needs training can be provided by church.

Specialized Care: This includes inactive members, hospitalized, homebound, and those in nursing homes. Specialized care requires training theologically, emotionally, socially, and psychologically. Specialized visiting is also an opportunity for inter-generational ministry; children and youth helping can provide a particularly powerful aspect of Christian care. "*I was*

sick and you took care of me . . . Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.” Matthew 25.40

Support and Recovery Groups: Another way to care is through support for people with chronic or ongoing health conditions, chemical dependency, and so on. Recovery care is a dimension of ministry that ‘gives legs’ to the message of God’s great love. Grief support for those dealing with the death of a loved one, divorce support . . . these are a few of the care needs today. Since 2015 Zion has offered sessions of GriefShare. Offering such support and recovery groups can open the church to turning focus and efforts and reaching out beyond our walls. When congregations today provide such care, it speaks volumes about who we are as the people of God.

Greeting Card Care: Another way of expressing care among members and within the community is a card ministry. As members mark significant birthdays, anniversaries, when sickness or hospitalization occur, during hard times as well as accomplishment and success, graduations, confirmations and the like - Zion’s Helping Hand volunteers provide invaluable quality of care as they share the love of Jesus for all. Such care ministries have a mission of empathy, witness, encouragement, and comfort in the name of the Lord. By such works the light of the Gospel is shined and spread.

“Care is Powerful! Care brings people back to church and deepens their relationships with God. Lack of care drives people away and leaves them searching for God’s presence. Sometimes the cry for care is loud. The church must also listen for the voiceless cries of those who need care. We should never forget to hear the cries of the lepers to Jesus, “*Lord have mercy upon us.*” Christ, interrupting the business at hand, responded to their cry. We pray, “Lord make us your instruments of care, your means of nurture, your hands of love your servants who bring good news today and for eternity.”*

*Dr. K. Haugk, God’s Plan and Calling for our Congregation

AUGSBURG CONFESSION V: Concerning the Office of Preaching

“To obtain such faith God instituted the office of preaching, giving the gospel and the sacraments. Through these as means, (God) gives the Holy Spirit who produces faith, where and when He wills, in those who hear the gospel. It teaches that we have a gracious God, not through our merit but through Christ’s merit, when we so believe. Condemned are the Anabaptists and others who teach that we obtain the Holy Spirit without the external word of the gospel through our own preparation, thoughts, and works.”

As for the question: How did you and I become members of the church.

So we confess in the Small Catechism, “I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength, believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the truth faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.”



Zion's First Day of school is August 15, 2018

On Saturday, August 11, 2018, Zion will be hosting its 16th Annual Golf Classic at Timber Lakes Golf Course in Staunton, IL. We invite you to be part of this event by entering a team or being a hole sponsor. Sponsorship and registration forms are now available by contacting the church or school office. During the event, golfers will be served a sack lunch followed later in the afternoon with a BBQ dinner as golfers come off the course. A skins game will be available along with mulligans and 50/50. We will have a shotgun start at 11:00 am. For more information, please contact the school office at 635-3060 ext. 01.



Altar Guild & How it Works

Each month you are given a key fob from the church secretary registered in your name. This gives you access to the Parish Center only.

Two vases of flowers are delivered by Brick House Florist each Saturday morning. Brass vases for flowers are in our little room.

Check the church calendar posted in our room for altar color changes (if any).

Individual cups are to be placed in silver trays and filled with wine. Three in the middle should be filled with non-alcohol wine. Flagon (pitcher) is filled with wine. Fill the ciborium (small lidded dish) with small wafers. (Gluten free wafers are available also.) Two silver trays with white place mats need to be put on the front pews for empty individual cups.

On the altar, covered up, is the chalice (common cup) and paten (plate for wafers). Also two purificators (napkins) to wipe the common cup.

After each service, check the side trays on the pews and toss the used cups. Check trays on altar for refills of cups and wine, refill flagon, wash common cup for the next service, replace used purificators, check wafers for refill.

After the 10:30 service, everything should be washed with soap and water (they tend to get sticky) and put away. Everything has felt covers. Flowers come out of plastic liners in the brass vases and put in glass vases for anyone who ordered them. These plastic liners go back in the wooden "holder" and need to be taken to the florist shop for next week.

Any unused wine from the flagon and individual cups is placed in a gallon jug (marked consecrated). Same for the wafers (marked jar). Both are used first for the next week's communion set up.

Purificators (napkins) soiled with wine and lipstick from each service, should be taken home and cleaned and brought back for the next week.

Check wine supply, wafers, and individual cups. If it looks low PLEASE call the church secretary on Monday morning so she can order our supplies. It does take at least a week for orders to be received, so keep that in mind.

At the end of your month, return the key fob back to the church secretary and return the cleaned purificators (napkins) from your last service.

We welcome anyone willing to give us their time and "talent" for one month. Please consider joining us. We do have a need to fill several months, July and September. It isn't as complicated as it looks. You and your partner for the month can work out your own schedule each week.

I am available anytime for questions or concerns.

Gayle Yarnik
(618) 635-3752

August

2018

Zion Lutheran Church

Staunton, Illinois

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9am Lydia Circle 6pm Evangelism 6:30pm Communion 7pm Bible Study	2 10am Bible Study: Acts 6:30pm Trustees 7:30pm Men's Club	3	4 5pm Worship w/C
5 8am Worship w/C 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/C 6pm Youth Group	6	7	8 9am Lydia Circle 6:30pm Communion 7pm Christ Care Bible Study	9 10am Bible Study: Acts 6pm Shipmates at Bamboo Garden	10	11 5pm Worship w/C
12 8am Worship w/C 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/C	13 6:30pm School Board 6:30pm Stewardship	14 7pm Admin. Council	15 9am Lydia Circle 12:30pm Glenwood 6:30pm Communion 7pm Bible Study	16 10am Bible Study: Acts	17	18 5pm Worship w/C
19 8am Worship w/C 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/C 6pm Youth Group	20	21 7pm Elders	22 8:30am Chapel 9am Lydia Circle 2:30pm Heritage Health 6:30pm Communion 7pm Christ Care Bible Study	23 10am Bible Study: Acts 7pm Alumni & Friends	24	25 5pm Worship w/C
26 8am Worship w/C 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/C	27	28 7pm Parish Ed.	29 8:30am Chapel 9am Lydia Circle 6:30pm Communion 7pm Bible Study	30 10am Bible Study: Acts	31	

Zion works at His Service Station August 13-18