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# *The Zion Messenger*

June 2018

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*June 3 – Youth Group*

*June 6 – Evangelism*

*June 7 – Trustees  
Men's Club*

*June 11 – School Board  
Stewardship*

*June 12 – Administrative Council*

*June 14 – Shipmates*

*June 17 – Youth Group*

*June 19 – Elders*

*June 20 – Glenwood*

*June 26 – Parish Education*

*June 27 – Heritage Health*

## **WHAT ARE PEOPLE LOOKING FOR IN CHURCH?**

It's a good question. Why do people join a church? What is it that attracts them in the first place? What is it that motivates them to make a commitment and stay involved?

Over recent years, thousands of people (both inside and outside church) have been asked questions like these. Answers given fall into some general categories. Dr. Kenneth Haugk, founder and director of Stephens Ministries describes these categories as: SPIRITUALITY, COMMUNITY, CARE, MINISTERING. "The needs are biblical and basic, describing our relationship with God and one another. A church's success in meeting these four needs determines its' health." Haugk goes on to suggest these four provide a "blueprint for planning and framing ministry." This coming fall Pastor Heath Curtis will lead us in strategic planning, with that in mind the June, July, and August news article will explore these needs beginning with . . . SPIRITUALITY.

*"My soul yearns for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God." Ps 84.2* Spirituality is the work of the Spirit; a new creation reality within the Christian heart.

It is the life Mary sought listening to Jesus as well those Greek men who came to disciples and said, "Sirs we want to see Jesus." "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Spiritual hunger is satisfied only in His Word and gifts; *the bread of life, the living water* that Jesus promised. It is the life God offers and gives; the top of the list of what a church might offer. Filled with the Spirit, individuals seek to learn about God, to listen to His Word, to learn to pray, to grow in discipleship and stewardship as His holy people.

*"Not by power, but by my Spirit says the Lord."* Zechariah 6.4 The need for spirituality, ('New Creation' life in Christ) is met only within the Holy Christian church. **First**, it is met in worship as we receive His gifts of grace in Word and sacrament. In response the people of God offer thanks, praise, prayer, offerings, and all God gives us to offer in holy lives of letting His light shine. **Second**, the need for spirituality is met in the personal – devotion life of every Christian. **Third**, our spiritual hunger is nourished as we take up His word in bible study and Christian education. **Fourth**, spirituality must include whole-life stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. "Works without faith never save, but saving faith is never without works." M Luther. Jesus said, *"The wind blows wherever it pleases . . . so it is with everyone born of the Spirit."* Perhaps more than ever before the church must find new ways to gather young and old around the Word. For it is the Word of life, the sword of the Spirit, by which the wind works for our good, bears forth His fruit, and 'looses' the gifts of the Spirit. *"All these gifts are activated by one and the same Spirit . . . just as the Spirit chooses."* 1 Corinthians 12.11

So what does this mean for you? Let worship be the center-ring, not the side-show of your life. Don't let anything keep you and your family from worship. It's fact and true that God intends your discipleship to be an '**on-going**' reality; take serious God's invite *"Stay in step with the Spirit."* Make effort to be creative in finding ways to incorporate your life with Christ: PARTICIPATE by devotion, prayer, study, VBS, Sunday school. And let it be very clear: The example of parents GREATLY influences children. Jesus said, *"Let the little children come to me."* Of the all the life-needs of a child this is the need that we must not neglect. *"Train up a child in the way of the Lord and when he is old he will not depart from it."* Dear parents of Zion: What will you make of God's word for your little ones? What do you gain? What do you risk if not? While most parents take all kinds of measures to safe guard loved ones from danger . . . what about evil? Will God's word and spirituality be only side-show in your family's life? *Come before His presence with singing* and He will equip you and your loved ones to stand against evil.

What are people looking for in a congregation? It's been said there are basically 2 kinds of church: Maintenance-minded or mission-minded. Anybody can be maintenance-minded - Just spend your energy, resources, and money on yourself. Being mission-minded requires an outward focus and requires 'wind' power. It's what Jesus was speaking of when He said to His disciples, *"Go back and wait for the Spirit."* Acts 1.4

## Summer With A Purpose Camps

This summer Zion Lutheran School will host its summer with a purpose camps for children ages 4-12. All camps meet at Zion and run from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Camps are offered at a cost of \$40.00 per child. Payment must accompany registration. No refunds will be issued unless the camp is cancelled. Registration fees can be transferred to another camp.

June 4-8 – Games Galore Camp

June 11-15 – Mess Camp

June 18-22 – Chocolate Camp

June 25-29 – Fun Camp

July 9-13 – Science Camp

July 16-20 – Sports Camp

Camp registrations must be received by the Friday before the start of each camp in order for staff to plan for the correct number of children. If you would like a registration form with a complete description of each camp, one can be picked up in the back of church or downloaded from our website at [zion-luth.org](http://zion-luth.org). If you have questions about our camps or need a form mailed to you, please call Pam Kleckner at 635-2446 ext. 02.



Zion Lutheran School has teamed up with the St. Louis Cardinals to offer an awesome price on a Cardinals vs. Cubs game! We are selling tickets (valued at \$83 each!) to the June 15th Cardinals vs. Cubs game for **only \$30 per ticket!** After that, the price will go up! The tickets are in section 270 (left field loge). You can even pick your row and seat numbers! Please call (635-3060 ext. 01) or stop by the school office with any questions or to purchase your tickets. Thank you for supporting Zion and Go Cards!



# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

## Staunton High School

*John Aljets*

*Elizabeth Birdsell*

*Bryce Buzick*

*Ariana Coan*

*Mackenzie Foster*

*Kyle Heflin*

*Konner Henke*

*Mitchell Wall*

## Universities

*Jennifer Banovic – Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Bachelor's of Science in Communications Disorders & Sciences*



VBS at Zion will be July 23-27, 2018. The theme will be Splash Canyon. Splash Canyon is packed with thrills and spills as kids Discover God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride. Strap on your life jacket and get ready for a rip-roaring river ride with \*Splash Canyon: God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride!\* Life is full of thrills and spills, and we may not know what's around the bend, but God does! At Splash Canyon VBS, kids discover that on life's wild ride, Jesus is always by our side (based on 2

Corinthians 1:20). For a Splash Canyon VBS overview check out:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILoiHbVK2Ww>

## **Solitude**

By Ruth S. Sievers

*"Be still, and know that I am God"  
If only we would listen,  
Instead, we rush and blunder on  
And our hearts ne'er will glisten.*

*The path He chooses for our life,  
We cannot seem to follow –  
But graciously He cares for us  
As in our sins we wallow.*

*We thank and praise Him for His grace,  
And mercy from above –  
We find it very hard to grasp –  
The depths of His great love.*

*Be Still, Be Still, Be Still and hear  
God's promises for today –  
We learn to find Him in His Word,  
"Be Still," my soul and obey.*

# June

# 2018

## Zion Lutheran Church

Staunton, Illinois

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

Zion works at His Service Station June 18 – 23

Pastor Mitties will be on vacation June 25 – July 5. (Contact Don Will or the church office for pastoral ministry.)