

LIFE TOGETHER

*A quarterly newsletter for the sinners and saints of Zoar and
St. Ansgar Lutheran Church*

Springing into Faith

Philosopher and theologian Soren Kierkegaard had a dilemma: how do we make sense of faith when logic and reason would tell us otherwise? He certainly wasn't the first to ask the question and he's certainly not the last. But his answer, though unsatisfactory for some, actually can provide for us a great insight into the life of faith. He says that reason and logic will only lead you to the edge of a "broad, wide, ugly ditch." Logically, there is no way around it and there is no way you will be able to make it across. But for Kierkegaard, and for us, "we can only cross the broad, wide, ugly ditch by taking the leap of faith." Faith is what urges us to jump, even if we doubt we'll make the other side. Faith is what allows us to let go of what is possible in our minds, and embrace the mystery of God who does the impossible. This spring, may we have such a bold faith, as to take a leap, trusting that God is carrying us to the other side.

Pastor Ryan

What's Happening


Worship Calendar

Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m. @ St. Ansgar; 10:30 a.m. @ Zoar

March

- 3/1 - Lent 3
Gospel: John 2: 13-22
- 3/7 - **Wednesday Lent Worship**
7:00 p.m. @ St. Ansgar
- 3/11 - Lent 4
Gospel: John 3: 14-21
- 3/14 - **Wednesday Lent Worship**
7:00 p.m. @ Zoar
- 3/18 - Lent 5
Gospel: John 12: 20-33
- 3/21 - **Wednesday Lent Worship**
7:00 p.m. @ St. Ansgar
- 3/25 - Palm Sunday
Gospel: Mark 11: 1-11
- 3/29 - **Maundy Thursday**
7:00 p.m @ Zoar
- 3/30 - **Good Friday**
7:00 p.m. @ St. Ansgar

April

- 4/1 - **Easter Sunday**
7:00 a.m. **Sunrise @ Zoar**
9:00 a.m. @ St. Ansgar
10:30 a.m. @ Zoar
Gospel: John 20: 1-18
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- 4/8 - **Second Sunday of Easter**
Gospel: John 20: 19-31
- 4/15 - **Third Sunday of Easter**
Gospel: Luke 24: 36b-48
- 4/22 - **Fourth Sunday of Easter**
Gospel: John 10: 11-18
- 4/29 - **Fifth Sunday of Easter**
Gospel: John 15: 1-8

May

- 5/6 - **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
Gospel: John 15: 9-17
- 5/13 - **Seventh Sunday of Easter**
Gospel: John 17: 6-19
- 5/20 - **Pentecost Sunday**
Gospel: Acts 2: 1-21
- 5/27 - **Trinity Sunday**
Gospel: John 3: 1-17

Did You Know?

Easter falls on the first Sunday following the first full moon of the Spring equinox. This might seem strange and random, but the early Church tradition holds that Jesus died on or near Passover, which falls on the first full moon of the Spring equinox, thus why Easter changes dates each year.

***Bold font indicates worship at a time other than our usual Sunday morning schedule**

Wanting More?

- Join us for Bible Study every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. to discuss next Sunday's readings.
- Visit Pastor Ryan at Klein's Grill for lunch on Wednesdays, anytime from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Stop by to say, "Hi," or bring your questions and comments for good conversation.

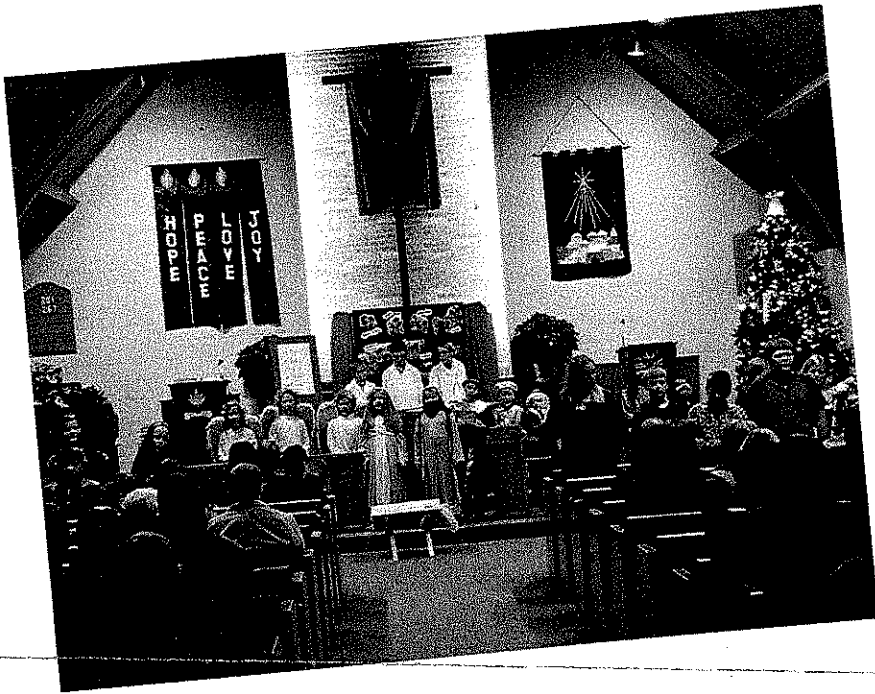
Life Milestones

Baptisms:
12/17 - Henry Scott Scheuring

Funerals:
12/2 - Earl Richter
12/8 - Jim Johnson

Youth News

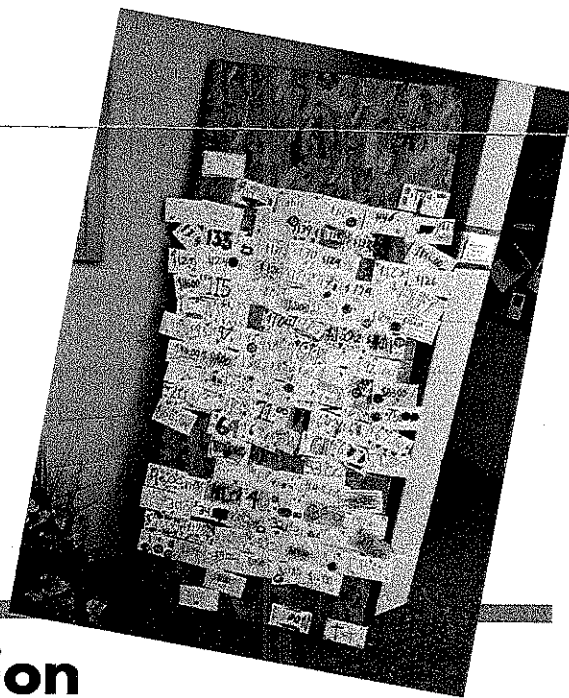
Sunday School



The Sunday School Christmas program was a huge success! "Stories of the Savior" showed us how God is present throughout the stories of the Bible that we know and love so well. The kids did a great job!

A special thank you to all who helped make this Christmas program a great, fun-filled evening. And a special thank you to those who stayed for the soup and sandwich fundraiser to help support our kids.

A special thank you to our Sunday School kids and leaders for decorating our sound system fundraiser envelopes. Pick up an envelope with any dollar amount you prefer, fill it with that amount of money, and return it to the church to help with our new sound system. Plus, as an added bonus, any extra that is brought in will go to support our Sunday School. Your support is greatly appreciated!



Confirmation

We've now crossed the halfway point for the confirmation year and this year seems to have flown by so quickly! This is really a great group of students and our church is blessed to have them as part of this community. A few reminders for things upcoming:

- During Lent, students are to attend at minimum 4 of the mid-week services, although as I have told the students, attending more of the mid-week services will lead to a better experience, as they all fit together into a common theme.
- We will continue our regular class schedule on **Wednesday, April 4th @ 6:30 p.m.**
- Our last class will be May 23rd

Church News

Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly

Every year, our synod hosts a gathering to worship, learn, grow, and determine the direction of our synod in the coming year(s). This year, the annual event will take place at the Holiday Inn in Fargo from Saturday, June 2nd - Sunday, June 3rd. Our congregations is allowed 2 representatives each to attend as voting members, and as many non-voting members as would like to attend. These representatives vote on the issues being presented at the assembly. This is always a great event, so please contact Pastor Ryan if you are interested in attending!

Make a Joyful Noise

As many of you know, our sound system is in need of an upgrade. The Zoar Church council has voted to update our system and plans have already begun to get this project going. The new sound system will allow us to do more with our worship (recording to post online), as well as provide assisted listening devices for people who may need them. This will help to make our worship experience even more inviting for all people. We ask for your prayers in this process and we humbly ask for your support. Please consider an additional contribution to help with this project.

Looking Ahead

Summer Worship

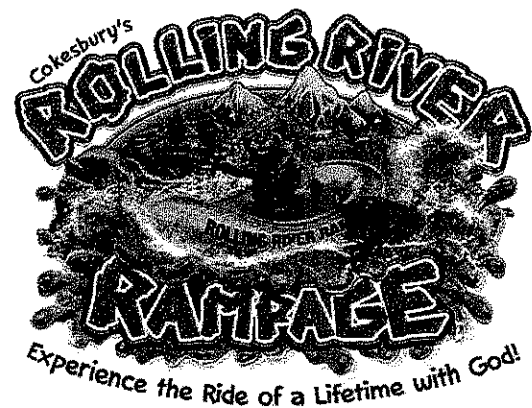
Winter weather got you feeling down? Even the idea of summer seeming too far away? Well, believe it or not, summer is on its way and that means sun, relaxation, and lots of lake time. But it also means busy, fun-filled weekends. So what's a person to do if they want to keep connected to the things happening at church, but can't make it on Sunday for worship? We've got you covered. Join us this summer for Wednesday campfire worship. We'll gather to sing, pray, and worship, all while enjoying the beauty of the outdoors. A schedule and more information is still to come.

Outdoor Worship

Last summer, we hosted an outdoor worship service with a potluck. And it was such a great day and a great event, that we're going to do it again! More information is coming soon!

Vacation Bible School

Are you ready for some summer fun? Come join us for Vacation Bible School as we navigate the rolling river of God's love. More details to come soon!



Questions? Comments? Concerns?
Please contact Pastor Ryan at the
church office (701-883-5991) or by email
(pastorryan@drtel.net)