

LIFE TOGETHER

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

"I Love to Tell the Story..."

"...For those who know it best, are hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest..." This is one of my favorite hymn lines. I love it because it's such a great reminder that no matter how many times we hear the stories of the Bible, God continually finds ways to speak to us in new ways. And speaking of hearing the story in new ways, I'm very excited to announce that we will be doing something a little different this year. Ordinarily, we follow what is called the "Revised Common Lectionary" for our readings on Sunday morning. However, this year, we are going to be taking a different route through Scripture - one that takes us from the beginning to the end, all in hopes that we can better learn and hear the beloved story of the Bible. Beginning on September 2nd, we'll travel back to the time of Noah and Abraham, King David and the prophets, before coming to the stories of Jesus around Christmas time. I hope that you find this new experience exciting, meaningful, and inspiring for you and your faith journey. I know that I can't wait to hear the story again!



What's Happening

Worship Calendar

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

September

9/2 - Pentecost 22
Genesis 6: 5-22; 8: 6-12; 9: 8-17

9/9 - Pentecost 23
God's Work, Our Hands Sunday
10:00 a.m. @ Zoar

9/16 - Pentecost 24
Genesis 12: 1-9

9/23 - Pentecost 25
Genesis 39: 1-23

9/30 - Pentecost 26
Exodus 14: 5-7; 10-14, 21-29

October

10/7 - Pentecost 27
Exodus 19: 3-7; 20: 1-17

10/14 - Pentecost 28
Joshua 24: 1-26

10/21 - Pentecost 29
2 Samuel 11: 1-5, 26-27; 12: 1-9
Psalm 51: 1-9

10/28 - Reformation Sunday
Confirmation Sunday
1 Kings 3: 4-28

November

11/4 - All Saints' Sunday
2 Kings 5: 1-15a

11/11 - Pentecost 32
Micah 1: 3-5; 5: 2-5a; 6: 6-8

11/18 - Pentecost 33
Isaiah 36: 1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7

11/18 - Community
Thanksgiving Worship

11/25 - Christ the King Sunday
Jeremiah 1: 4-10; 7: 1-11

**BACK TO
SCHOOL!**

God's blessings upon
the school year

Did You Know?

Legend has it that on
October 31st, 1517,
Martin Luther nailed his 95
theses for church reform on
the door of the Castle Church
in Wittenberg, Germany. His
ideas were meant to start a
conversation, but eventually
would lead to something
greater - a Reformation!



***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:

6/17 - Trail James Baker

Funerals:

8/20 - Sandy Stock

8/25 - Jack Jensen

Youth News

Sunday School (Pre-K - 6th Grade Students)

Ready to get back into the swing of things this Autumn?! We are looking forward to sharing our Sunday mornings learning about Jesus and have fun while doing it! Crafts, Projects, Music and Stories await! We had such a wonderful time with our VBS Bible story "Reader's Theater" that we hope to incorporate much more of that! Be on the look out, perhaps there will be a future performance to delight our congregation?!

We will begin our school year, **Sunday, September 16th @ 9:30 a.m.**

We are currently looking for new Sunday morning helpers. Usually one, perhaps two, Sundays a month is all that's needed! Our only requirement is to have **fun**, NO expert-level Bible knowledge necessary! Our current helpers' children are getting older, thus 'graduating' onto Confirmation soon, so we'd love to get some of the younger children's families on board to keep this wonderful ministry vibrant!

Confirmation (8th & 9th Grade Students)

It's hard to believe, but it is already time to prepare for another year of confirmation! Our confirmation program is open to all 8th and 9th grade students. The Rite of Confirmation takes place in the fall of students' 10th grade year, upon completion of the confirmation requirements.

A few dates to take note of for the upcoming year:

- There will be an informational meeting for parents and students on **Wednesday, September 12th @ 7:00 p.m. at Zoar**. This is for all 8th and 9th grade students and their parents. It will be a chance to go over the upcoming year, as well as answer any questions you may have. Please contact Pastor Ryan if you are unable to attend, but are still looking to be a part of the confirmation program. The first day of confirmation will be on **Wednesday, September 19th @ 6:30 p.m.** A meal will be provided at 6:00 p.m.
 - All 10th grade students who are being confirmed this fall must complete their final confirmation project as soon as possible. **Confirmation Sunday is October 28th** and these projects must be completed in order to participate in this special service.
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LYO (8th-12th Grade Students)

LYO will look a little different this year - and we think that's a really good thing! We're very excited for our new LYO format and we hope that it will help us build a foundation for future growth in the years to come. We want our high school youth to know that they have a place in this community of faith. So this year, we are introducing a new format to LYO.

Beginning in October, we will have regular meetings on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. We'll provide a meal beginning at 6:00 p.m., so all that our youth need to do is come over from practice or other after school activities. We will also have regularly scheduled events on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Both our Sunday events and our Wednesday events will be filled with games, activities, and time for discussion and reflection on faith and everyday life. We're thrilled to be a part of LYO and we hope that you will come and join us for what is shaping up to be an awesome year!

Church News

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

As Christians, we not only hold fast to what we believe, but we also allow that faith to shape and change how we live. Our faith is a living, active part of our lives and as such, it is evident in how we act. God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is a chance for us to do just that, putting our faith into action.

On **September 9th at 10:00 a.m. at Zoar**, we invite you to join us as we take our worship out into the community for a day of service and fellowship. We will begin our day with a time of encouragement and celebrating communion together, before moving into our service projects, which include:

- Care packages for college students
- Cleaning at the Food Pantry
- Christmas stockings for veterans
- Painting the warming house at Sunset Park
- Visiting the residents at the Manor
- Painting Kindness Rocks
- Landscape work at the parsonage
- Quilting

Lunch will be provided. Bring work clothes and a joyful spirit, as we love and serve our neighbors.

Looking Ahead

Fall Dinner @ Zoar

Mark your calendars for our annual fall dinner! All are welcome to join us for worship and a meal on **Sunday, October 7th**. Worship begins at 10:30 a.m. with the meal immediately following the morning service. Thank you to our WELCA groups for helping organize our monthly meals.

Miss Worship?

Catch up on Sermons online!

With our new sound system, we now have the ability to record our worship services. Beginning in September, you can listen to sermons from previous Sundays on our website (www.zoarlutheran.net). So whether you missed a Sunday and want to catch up, or you simply want to listen to a favorite sermon again, we have you covered.

Community

Thanksgiving Worship

It has become a tradition in LaMoure, to celebrate Thanksgiving together. The LaMoure, Ministerial Association is once again planning our community-wide Thanksgiving worship service. More details are still to come, but we would love to have you join us on **Sunday, November 18th** as we worship, give thanks, and even take some time for food and fellowship following the worship service. Let us all give thanks for the many blessings God has given to us.

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

Check out our website!
www.zoarlutheran.net