

Through Zion's Window

June 2023

Dear friends in Christ,

Pentecost...the Holy Spirit...and a Promise

“I will be with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20)

Pentecost Sunday falls this year on this upcoming Memorial Day weekend, May 28. But many people, including Christians, may not know why the day is special or what is celebrated. Unlike Easter and Christmas, when colorful eggs, Easter bunnies, Christmas trees and Santa Claus are indications of the upcoming Christian holidays, there are no such social markers by secular society ahead of Pentecost. Here are 5 things you should know about Pentecost to give you a quick and basic understanding of what it is:

- 1) Pentecost Sunday marks the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles.
- 2) Pentecost Sunday occurs 50 days after Easter.
- 3) The Bible records the Pentecost in Acts 2:1-13.
- 4) Pentecost is also known as “the birthday of the Church”
- 5) Pentecost launches the large-scale spreading of the Gospel after Jesus' ascension. Acts 2:41 records that after Peter spoke to the crowd after receiving the Holy Spirit, some 3,000 people were baptized.
- 6) (BONUS FACT!): In Western Churches, Pentecost is usually represented with the color red, which symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit. – So remember to wear Red on May 28!

So what does this mean for us?? It means we're not alone, but the Holy Spirit is with us always! It's with us when we are cooking or working or gardening and even when we are trying to enjoy the great outdoors while getting eaten alive by supersized mosquitos! And the Holy Spirit is with our church-guiding us and giving us life so that we can share it with others!

Pentecost, or the celebration of being given the Holy Spirit in our lives, means that when we are out caring for others, or need courage to speak about our faith, or are scared out of our minds to speak of hope when the world around us seems that of doom, God is right there with us. God is guiding us and loving us, and giving us the courage and strength that we need to endure it all.

Jesus' words, “I will be with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20b) have been fulfilled! The Holy Spirit is with us to guide us and protect us. So let us celebrate in this promise and live into the assurance of the Holy Spirit!!

See you in Church.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Doug



Minutes from meeting on 4/16/23.

Meeting called to order at 9:34 by president Jerry Liesener.

Members present: Debbie Guenther, Frank Wolter, Gerry Liesener, Natalie Siedschlag,, Chris Siedschlag, Sally Schoenike, Carrie Wendorf, Lynn Clemans, Deanna Braunschweig and Pastor Doug Andersen

Devotions were led by Pastor Doug. May devotions to be led by Debbie Guenther.

The minutes of March meeting were approved after motions by Chris Siedschlag and Frank Wolter

It was noted to add Deanna Braunschweig to the Worship committee.

A motion was made by Debbie Guenther and seconded by Deanna Braunschweig to approve the Treasurers report; motion carried.

Pastor thanked all who helped to set up the church for the services of Holy Week and Easter.

Sunday school to start at Cross on April 23.

Pastor will be attending the "West Conference Pastors Gathering" on 4/20/23.

Worship committee will meet in May to prepare for Pentecost and summer services. It was suggested that we explore the possibility of having a 6:00 AM Easter service next year.

Evangelism committee discussed the craft project for May and the little free library. A basket will be donated by Zion to St Peters Lebanon for a fund raiser.

It was decided that Zion would not have worship on June 25., There will be a joint service at Cross on that Sunday followed by their annual picnic.

Stewardship will be working at the Bread and Roses on April 20 and there is a fellowship breakfast on April 29th with Natalie Siedschlag speaking on horses.

Old business discussed- Update the membership list (Sally and Carrie will oversee). Also suggested to provide a Zion event list.

American Family Insurance is \$1,000 deductible for the roof; balance to be paid by insurance. Jerry checking on Church Mutual insurance. American Family is still providing insurance for churches but may not be able to in the future.

Envelopes to be ordered for next year.

Discussion on updating the church website with services, pictures, community events/posters

New faucets installed in kitchen by John Siedschlag.

New business – discuss monthly events for that month so committees can be prepared.

Landscape wall in front of church has deteriorated; area to be fixed by Jeremy Graf.

It was discussed to provide No Sew blankets to Reformation Church in memory of Art Hall.

Discussion to give welcome bags for new people at church.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 followed by "The Lords Prayer"

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Guenther

Adult Education



Adult Education will be from 10:00-11:30 at Zion, every 1st- 4th Wednesday. Now is a great time to join in! Zoom attendance is also an option if needed. Contact Pastor or the office to get set-up with a link. All are welcome! We are currently doing a text study on the weekly scriptures, readings are available in the narthex.

Note: There will be no Class June 7th and 14th.

Sunday School will be held on June 4th after Worship at Cross. This will be the last gathering of the year. Join us for a celebration of our time together. All kiddos are welcome! Contact Lily or Gina for more info.



Pastor will be on the boardwalk behind Roots, weather permitting, on Fridays from 10-12. Join him for fellowship and conversation. All are welcome! In the event of any changes Pastor will update you via Facebook.

We will be providing coffee each week after worship. If you would like to bring in treats, please do.



Please
Pray
for...



Ellen Braunschweig
Peyton Wolter
Tom & Donna Meotke
Ross & Jacob Kopfer
Patrick Jones
Shirley Koeppl
Marlee Smith
Carol Schuett
Melissa S.
Bernice (Bede Zwieg's sister)
Paul Egholm

Zion has a separate account set up for donations toward our window repairs. If you would like to give directly to this fund, please talk directly to Carrie about the donation or place it into the offering plate in a separate envelope with a note designating it to "window fund". Thank you!



St. Olaf's will be hosting a one-day VBS on Saturday August 5th from 10 – 4pm. This event will be free and will include lunch and a T-shirt. Children 3-12 are welcome to register online. They have a more info and a link on their website or you can follow the link from the email blast.

Cross will be hosting the annual picnic Worship service at Cross Lutheran on June 25th. We will be joining them for Worship at 10:00am. This year's gathering will not be at the park. If the weather is nasty, we will still have worship, but it will be moved indoors.



Please bring either a casserole, salad, or, dessert along with a lawn chair.

Cross will be providing BBQ and hot dogs for all with soda and water. We will have outside games, popcorn, and water balloon toss. Join us for fun and fellowship!



We will be putting together a Summer Newsletter for the remaining summer months of July and August. All information needs to be into the office by June 20th to be added. Thank you!!!

