

SOUTH ZUMBRO NEWS

October 2017

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF SOUTH
ZUMBRO LUTHERAN CHURCH



October is here and you will see a flurry of activity around our Little White Church on the hill! The painting is almost done, carpet layers are on their way, and then we will be putting the finishing touches on the renovated sanctuary. We are planning a re-dedication of our church on Sunday, October 15th. It should be a High Holy Day for South Zumbro as we thank our Lord for all our good fortune. When we are part of what God is blessing, we too, will be blessed!

My heart is filled with gratitude for all the work that so many different people have done. I am afraid to start naming people for fear of forgetting anyone who had a hand in this undertaking. So, thank you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all of you who have put in many hours of hard work on this renovation, Our church should be good to go for another 50 years!

Opportunities abound around here: Sunday School for all ages, confirmation classes, Bible studies, men's and women's groups. Norwegian heritage day is also on October 15th--enjoy a dinner after church that day! We will be celebrating Reformation Sunday on October 22nd with Tony's brass group! It is the 500th year of Luther Posting the 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. It is so good to have the freedom to worship and to worship God in our own way! Thank you, Martin!

As we look to October we will have some fun!

See you in Church!

Pastor Elden

South Zumbro is a welcoming, spiritually alive family of God, caring for one another and reaching out to encourage others to know Christ and His love.



South Zumbro
Lutheran Church

Pastor Elden Simonson
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South Zumbro Bulletin Board

- If there are any needs in the congregation that you know about, please contact our Parish Nurse, Cindy Bernards, or Pastor Elden.
- Our congratulations go out to Kelsey and Derek McMurchie on the birth of Valerie Jean on September 20! So happy for Grandpa and Grandma (Curt and Sherri Wigham) and Great Grandpa and Grandma (Frank and Sandy Ness)!
- Our thoughts and prayers are with Sandy Dahle and the family of Allan Brown (Sandy's son). God's strength and comfort be with you all!
- We think of Karen Engler, who had knee replacement surgery on September 18. May God give you strength and healing.
- Just a reminder to all participating in the WOW Secret Prayer Sister program. Remember your "sister" with a note or a small token. Pray often for her and her special needs.
- If interested in joining South Zumbro, we will have a New Member Sunday on November 5. Please call Pastor Elden at 907-654-7336.

2017 Fall Bereavement Support Group

Our culture feeds us so much misinformation about grief! Grieve alone. Just be strong. Don't cry. Just keep busy. Time heals all. Chances are, if you have lost a loved one, you have tried one of these approaches, and it hasn't worked. Grief is messy! It hurts, and it lasts a long time. But there is hope for healing and a "new normal" following the death of a cherished loved one.

Unfortunately, there is no one-size-fits-all plan for dealing with grief. That's why South Zumbro Lutheran Church offering a grief support group to help you learn about grief and discover healthy ways to heal. Stepping Stones Grief Support Group is an 8 week traditional support group format which offers a safe space for sharing and bonding with others who have experienced the death of a loved one. Understanding your grief, by Alan Wolfelt provides the framework for this group.

When: Thursdays, 7- 8:30pm, 7 meetings

October

- 5 Thursday – Stepping Stones Group 3
- 12 Thursday – Stepping Stones Group 4
- 19 Thursday – Stepping Stones Group 5

November

- 2 Thursday – Stepping Stones Group 6
- 9 Thursday – Stepping Stones Group 7

Where: South Zumbro Lutheran Church
4830 120 Ave SW Kasson MN 5594

THERE IS NO COST. ALL MATERIALS PROVIDED.

Don't wait! Join us at in the fellowship Hall. And enjoy a safe and confidential setting to explore your grief. Call 507-365-8110 or 907-654-7336 for more information and to sign up.



CPR (Celebrate, Praise, Rejoice)

All are invited to a contemporary worship service on Saturday, October 28, at 7 pm in our Social Hall. It is a time to praise God and feel the Spirit alive in our presence.

Make plans now to attend and bring your friends. Celebrate, Praise, and Rejoice with us!



Calling all Veterans

You are invited to a dinner on Saturday, November 11, so save the date! Veterans and a guest or driver are invited.

Place: South Zumbro fellowship hall

Time: early afternoon (somewhere around there!)

A short program to follow!

Call Pastor Elden @ 907-654-7336 or the church office @ 507-365-8110 to RSVP. Join us for a fun time and fellowship!

Pastor Elden and Bill Stromme



WOW News

Norwegian American Day

Uff da! Norwegian-American Day is right around the corner! Sunday, October 15th....mark that day on your calendar and prepare yourself for a delight.

In preparation for this event we will be holding a lefse baking day on the morning of October 7th. Come learn the art of making this Norwegian dietary staple from those who do it best. We will be starting at 9:00. Even if you can only join us for a short while on Saturday, the process will amaze us all.

Norwegian-American Day at South Zumbro is a celebration for our entire congregation. Our festive dinner will take place following the church service. On this day we honor the Norwegian Heritage of South Zumbro Lutheran. Be sure to look for ways you can participate in this year's event.



Advent by Candlelight

Ladies, it's never too early to mark your calendar for a very special event! South Zumbro WOW will hold its 6th annual Advent by Candlelight on Sunday evening, December 3rd, at 5:30pm. There is no charge for this event, but a free will offering will be taken with all money going to a local charity. This is an evening filled with beautiful music, the Word, and wonderful fellowship as we prepare our hearts for the Advent season. All women of South Zumbro Lutheran are invited, but seating is limited. Reservations (sign-up) will begin the last Sunday in October. Volunteers are again needed for ladies to host a table for 6 to 8 ladies, provide a holiday centerpiece, table setting for the number of your guests and a sandwich or salad for them. This year a dessert will be provided by WOW. You may partner with another lady to host a table, it is lots of fun and only requires a few hours of your time. Information sheets are available or for more info call Marcia Bungum, 365-8935 or Julie Boyum 507-272-7623. Other volunteers will be needed and announcements will be made in the coming weeks with more information. Please, mark your calendars now.



South Zumbro's Got Talent

November 4th!!!! This is the night stars are lining up in just the right order for the spot light to shine down on the South Zumbro fellowship hall. Plan to attend the annual WOW Auction/Bazaar. This year we have a line-up of talent to blend in with the event. Between our large auction items we will turn the stage over to our South Zumbro Talent for some light hearted entertainment. In addition many items will be on display for silent auction throughout the night.

We plan to start the evening out with a meal of pizza, and silent auction, move on to the live auction/talent show, take an intermission break for pie and ice cream, close the silent auction and return to our seats for the final live auction/talent show acts. All proceeds from this event go toward the December WOW distribution of funds to various Christian organizations.

A few slots for amazing talent remain open....Hurry to contact Michele Stromme or Sandy Tjaden and fill these slots with your talent! (Music, skits, humor)

Thrivent Community Action is supporting this event by providing \$250 up front. This money will be used to bring in the Pizza and needed supplies for the event. Thank you Thrivent Community Action!





September Attendance

128, 124, 19, 176, 215

September Offerings

9-3-17

\$4518, home budget; \$350, building fund; \$200, Luther League; \$25, cemetery fund; \$50, Good Samaritan fund.

9-10-17

\$3546.36, home budget; \$295, building fund; \$95, missions; \$524, seed/fertilizer for parsonage field; \$450, special donation LCMC gathering; \$50, Good Samaritan fund; \$75, cemetery fund.

Offering 9-17-17

\$4588.50, home budget; \$230, building vision fund; \$300, hurricane supplies; \$25, cemetery fund; \$80, Sunday School; \$100, Good Samaritan fund; \$20, memorial fund in memory of Lu Clifford's sister; \$20, memorial fund in memory of Lu Clifford's brother.

9-24-17

\$3520, home budget; \$695, building vision fund; \$1360, hurricane relief; \$100, fuel for drivers to Texas; \$25, cemetery fund; \$100, Good Samaritan fund; \$10, memorial fund in memory of Allan Brown.

September 2017

South Zumbro Council Minutes

Those in attendance: Marilyn Aarsvold, Lynn Knutson, Don Ness, Don Rosenberg, Dale Ness, Brian Herbst, Wayne Larsen, Steve Jurens, Jefferson Bernards, Pastor Elden; absent: Corey Carlson and Sara Johnson; visitors: Dawn Nemechek and Michele Stromme.

Jeff led prayer and the Bible Study: Lead Like Jesus—Chapter 1, “Are You a Leader”

Meeting was called to order by President, Marilyn Aarsvold.

The secretary's reports from July and August were reviewed. A motion was made to accept, seconded, and approved to accept as is. The treasurer's report was also reviewed. A motion was made to accept, seconded, and approved.

Pastor's Report:

- The deacons and Pastor would like to have three services on December 24—a regular worship service at 10 am and then two candlelight services in the evening at 3 and 8:30 pm. New cups for the candles are needed (more fire safe). Motion made, seconded, and carried.
- Confirmation starts on September 20.
- “Stepping Stones” Grief Support Group begins on September 21.
- Walt and Jeanie can't go to the Annual Gathering, so a motion was made, seconded, and carried to have Brenda Rosenberg be the second voting delegate.
- Pastor will be at Prairie Meadows on September 21.
- Pastor and Karen will provide refreshments following the December 20 service.
- Nominating committee is starting to look at slate of officers for next year.

Committee Updates:

- Bill Stromme and Lu Clifford will be working together as mission coordinators.
- Michele reported on upcoming WOW activities.

Old Business:

- The deacons suggested Samaritan's Purse for hurricane relief as the benevolence assignment for September. Motion carried. Beginning in October, \$200 of benevolence will go to LCMC every month and \$400 will go to the deacon-recommended organization.
- Wayne gave an update on the sanctuary remodel.
- Don reported on the lawn project south of the parsonage. The project has been finished and paid for. The council will purchase gifts for the people who loaned equipment for the project.

New Business:

- President Marilyn made a request to have the church secretary present at the council meetings when possible. Motion was made, seconded, and carried.

- The Sunday School Christmas Program was discussed, with the time being in the afternoon on December 17.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by:

Michele Stromme,

Church Secretary

Reformation milestone: celebration and repentance

October 31, 2017, marks the 500th anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation, when Martin Luther posted his "95 Theses" on a church door in Germany. This wasn't an unusual act at the time; Luther was simply welcoming scholarly debate. But his ideas opposing certain teachings and practices of the Roman Catholic Church led to a monumental shift in Christianity.

Along with other reformers, Luther taught that Scripture is the supreme authority for the believer; that salvation comes by grace alone, through faith alone; and that baptism gives all full access to God in Christ ("the priesthood of all believers"), so there's no need for an intermediary such as a pope, priest or saint. Initially, the reformers intended not to leave the Catholic Church but to reform it. But those who protested church practices

became known as Protestants, and eventually, multiple denominations arose — Lutheranism, Presbyterianism, Anglicanism and others — and did, in fact, separate from the Roman tradition.

Sadly, woven amid the good intentions to rightly teach and live the faith were sins on all sides: Luther hurled insults "with the best of them"; the pope excommunicated him and had other reformers executed; the beliefs and faith of theological opponents were regularly disparaged. As Heinz Josef Algermissen, a present-day Roman Catholic bishop in Germany, states: "In commemorating the Reformation, we cannot just see it as a jubilee, but should also admit our guilt for past errors and repent on both sides for the past 500 years."



South Zumbro Vision & Mission Statements

VISION STATEMENT:

South Zumbro is a welcoming, spiritually alive family of God, caring for one another and reaching out to encourage others to know Christ and His love.

MISSION STATEMENT:

South Zumbro is a family where you belong, a home where you are loved, and a sanctuary where you can seek healing. We desire to become servants of Christ by serving each other, our church, our community, and those beyond our borders. We are committed to equipping Christians through Biblical preaching and investigation of God's Word. We rely on prayer for direction in our personal lives and in the life of the Church.

Council Members

Council President:
Marilyn Aarsvold
507-365-8402
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Vice President:
Steve Jurrens
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Deacons:
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507-365-8939

Treasurer:
Don Ness
507-365-8101
ddness@kmtel.com

Financial Secretary:
Lynn Knutson
507-365-8175

Office Hours

Pastor

Pastor Elden's office hours are
Wednesday thru Saturday
9 am to noon.



Secretary

Our church secretary, Michele Stromme's office hours are Fridays from 10 am to 12 noon.



Anointing

Last week at South Zumbro's Monday evening Bible study, we started studying the New Testament book of Hebrews, originally written to Jewish believers, encouraging them to continue believing in Christ Jesus as their Messiah/Savior. Hebrews 1:9 says, "Therefore God has anointed you with the oil of gladness more than your companions." This started a discussion of anointing, who else was anointed, and what it means.

Well, I have always loved words and the meanings of words, so I decided to study it and report back to you. I knew about the New Testament passage in James 5:14 where he talks about visiting the sick and anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. So it seems like a medical prescription...and then I thought of the parable of the Good Samaritan when he pours oil and wine on the wounds of the injured man (Luke 10:34) or when the disciples were sent out to preach and heal (Mark 6:12-13).

We had also discussed King Saul and then David when they were anointed to be king in Israel. So then I went to the Old Testament and found many examples of anointing—when Moses anointed the tabernacle and Aaron as the high priest to be "sanctified," "holy" and "set apart" for special, not every day use (Exodus 40:9-15 and Leviticus 8:10-12). And when Saul, then David, and Solomon were anointed and chosen to be Israel's king (1 Samuel 9:16 – 10:1, 1 Samuel 16, and 1 Kings 1:10-40). David was anointed three times! So it appears that anointing started as a mark of respect and was reserved first for priests to be set apart for religious service and then kings as being divinely appointed leaders. Anointing with oil signified God's blessing or call to a special job on that person's life.

Then I was reminded of our favorite Psalm 23:5, "you anoint my head with oil." What was that person? A priest? A king? David must have meant something when he wrote that poem...I found that the origin of anointing was from a practice of shepherds (David was a shepherd!). Lice and other insects would often get into the wool of sheep, and when they got near a sheep's head, they could burrow into the sheep's ears and kill the sheep! So ancient shepherds poured oil on the sheep's head. This made the wool slippery, making it impossible for insects to get near the sheep's ears because the insects would slide off. From this, anointing became symbolic of blessing, protection, and empowerment.

In Bible times people were anointed with oil as a mark of respect and to signify God's blessing and welcome to guests. Jesus was not anointed by the host but by a woman who was a sinner (Luke 7:36-50). She knew that Jesus was God's anointed chosen one. In Luke 4:18-19, Jesus quotes Isaiah 61:1-3, telling of the Messiah. "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me to preach...to heal...to proclaim...to comfort...to give...the oil of joy..." Jesus knew God had chosen Him to be prophet, priest, and King, Messiah of the world.

We, as Christians, are the priesthood of believers (1 Peter 2:9), chosen to share the sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit in our world. We have been chosen for a special purpose. We can share God's healing power. We can proclaim God's saving grace to everyone. We can share God's comfort in our world. We are God's anointed, chosen for this special purpose.

Your Parish Nurse,

Cindy Bernard's



Hospital Policy

If you are hospitalized in Rochester or know of someone from South Zumbro who is, please contact the church and let us know about the hospitalization. Mayo Clinic no longer supplies patient lists for pastors to view, and we are dependent upon hearing from our members about their hospitalization. We want to be a support for you, so let us know if you need care at the hospital.

South Zumbro Lutheran Church

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(507) 365-8110 church

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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