

# the herald

NEWS OF ZION LUTHERAN | ANOKA

JUNE 2026

## It's Summer Camp Time!

To register go to <https://www.zionanoka.org/> and click on the yellow **Zion Kids Summer tab**. All campers must have a completed health form on file which is available online as well. Questions? Contact Lee Neitge [lneitge@zionanoka.org](mailto:lneitge@zionanoka.org).



**ZION**  
LUTHERAN + ANOKA

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

#### In-Person Worship

5 pm (Sat)  
8, 9 & 11 am (Sun)

#### Livestream Worship

9 & 11 am (Sun)

#### Cable TV

5 pm (Sun)

#### Radio Broadcast

106.1 (BOB-FM)  
9 am (Sun)

#### Scripture Readings

##### June 6-7

John 1:1-14

##### June 13-14

Genesis 3:1-7

##### June 20-21

Exodus 5

##### June 27-28

1 Samuel 17;  
2 Samuel 11:1-27

#### Preschool Music + Dance

June 3, 10, 17 & July 15, 22, 29  
10:30-11 a.m., Ages 0-5

#### Camp Wapo

Seeds June 19-21  
Grades 1-3 complete

#### Camp Wapo

Week-Long June 14-19  
Grades 4-12 complete

#### Sports Camp

July 6-9, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Grades K-5 complete

#### Summer Stretch

Thursdays, July 9-Aug 13,  
9 a.m.-5 p.m., Grades 4-8 complete

#### Summer Stretch Junior

Thursdays, July 9-Aug 13  
9 a.m.-5 p.m., Grades 9-12 complete

#### Ukulele Basics

July 16, 23, 30, 11-11:45 a.m.  
Grades K-5 complete

#### Toddler Tuesday Park Playdate

July 28, 10-11:30 a.m.  
Ages 0-5

#### Mini Camp Create It

August 18, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Grades K-5 complete

## It's Super Sale Time!!

The 2026 Zion Super Sale is just around the corner. See below for dates & times. There are many ways to help with the sale. Scan the QR Code on the right to sign up to help now!

- June 7: Begin accepting donations 12-7 p.m.
- June 8-9: Set up and donation drop off 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
- June 10: Final preparations from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- June 10: Perk Sale 5-6:30 p.m.
- June 11: Super Sale 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
- June 12: Super Sale 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
- June 12: Clean up starting at 12 p.m.

Questions? Contact Pat Stearns 612-418-0617.



## a message from your pastors



In the last sermon I preached here at Zion, I talked about “Junk, Joy, Jesus” a tool that I use to check in with people during small group discussions. Everyone gets to share a junk from their week, a joy, and a time when they felt the presence of Jesus. On occasion, someone will share that their junk and joy are one in the same. As I reflect on my time at Zion, and the end of my internship, I am feeling that duality of junk and joy at this time of transition. I will miss being a part of this faith community. I will miss Wednesday nights filled with pizza and a little chaos before our confirmation sessions. I will miss camp trips, Lutheran late nights, retreats, coffee and crafts, and all the moments in between where relationships were formed and faith took root in unexpected ways. I am so appreciative of the ways I have been able to serve in a pastoral role here over the last year. Thank you for trusting me to preach the gospel, to try a new expression of worship in our “Dinner Church,” to stand beside you at the font and the table, to pray with you in times of grief or celebration and to share in all of life’s precious moments. You have taught me what it means to be church together; how to care for one another, to show up for your neighbors, and to trust God. Zion has been a place where I have grown not only as a pastor, but as a person. While it is hard to say goodbye, I leave also filled with joy for the ways that God is continuing to move in and through Zion. Thank you for allowing me to walk alongside you during this season of ministry together.

Grace and peace to you all.

KATIE WEILAND

## Uproot, Destroy and Scatter

by Colleen Nelson

It was in May of 1975 that a lethal tornado descended upon the urban center of Omaha, Nebraska. The storm caused nearly \$150 million in damages, affected over 1,000 homes and businesses centered within 2,000 blocks, and killed 3 people. I was living in Omaha as a high school senior at the time and fortunately our home was not located near its 15-mile-long path. During the aftermath, I boarded a bus with some of my friends to help with the crushing task of cleanup, faced by too many to count. The bus drove past what I assumed had been a family’s home where nothing above ground remained. In my astonishment, I pointed out to others the brightly colored tulips against its foundation, unscathed. Another visual imprinted on my brain was a cereal box standing upright on the back of a toilet, even though very few walls in the home remained.

Stay with me as I attempt to contrast and compare severe weather events to God’s presence in our lives. Both may catch us unawares. The approaching tornado spreads alarm and dread whereas a breakthrough, that reveals God amongst our dismay and consternation, opens our hearts to the good news of hope. Both are powerful entities but the hurricane is a force to be reckoned with, spreading destruction while our loving God is protective and encouraging. And finally, severe weather uproots, destroys and scatters. On the other hand, our faithful Lord collects, commingles and congregates.

*Collect*—John 10:27 “Jesus answered them, ‘My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.’”

*Commingle*—Matthew 13:50 (Jesus said) “For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”

*Congregate*—Matthew 18:20 (Jesus said) “For where two or more are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

# welcome

## Thank You, Pat and Carol!

For more than 12 years, Pat Morreim and Carol Skelly's faithful care and creativity in planting the church's outdoor planters have brought beauty and warmth to everyone who walked through our doors. Their dedication has helped create a welcoming space that reflects God's love and the spirit of our church community. Thank you for sharing your time, talent, and hard work so generously year after year. Your efforts have truly been a blessing to us all!



## Ice Cream Social - June 22

Craving something sweet? We have just the scoop for you! On Monday, June 22, join us on Zion's patio from 6:30-8 p.m. for an ice cream social (weather permitting)! Bring your friends, family and neighbors for an evening of laughter, community and of course, plenty of frozen delights. Don't miss out on this opportunity to connect with your fellow church members and enjoy a tasty treat together. Hosted by the NET.

## Zion at Riverfest - July 11

Stop by and visit Zion's booth at Riverfest Saturday, July 11 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Our booth is located again this year at the corner of Jackson & 2nd Street in Anoka. Come spin the wheel for a fun prize or just stop by to say "hello." We would love to see you! Sponsored by the NET, Church Council and staff.

## Baptism Class - July 12

If you are expecting, have had a baby or adopting and would like to know more about baptism, we will be having a baptism class on Sunday, July 12 at 12 p.m. in the Library. Contact Kristine Johnson at [kjohnson@zionanoka.org](mailto:kjohnson@zionanoka.org) to register for the class.

## American Red Cross Blood Drive - July 27

Zion is hosting a blood drive on Monday, July 27 from 1-6 p.m. in the CLC. To sign up, please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org) enter Sponsor Code: Zion.

## Annual School Supply Drive

Zion Lutheran will be partnering with United Methodist Church of Anoka for their annual *United for the Community Back to School* event. The event is August 13 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. At the event there will be free popcorn, hot dogs, chips, juice boxes, bottled water and ice cream. There will also be a bike and backpack give-away along with live music. Please drop off your items at Zion by August 2. Below are the items Zion is asked to collect.

Crayola colored pencils (12 count)	2 pocket folders in red, blue, yellow, green
Crayola watercolor paint sets (8 count)	Spiral or composition notebooks (wide & college rule) in the same colors
Glue sticks	Pens (blue or black ink)
#2 pencils	

# welcome and worship

## Habitat for Humanity - July 20-24

Our Habitat for Humanity week is July 20-24. Work times will be 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. We will be doing a rehab on an existing house located at 2560 Dunlap St N in Roseville. We have room for up to 10 volunteers each day. No skills required. Volunteers must be 16 years of age or older. All are welcome, including friends and families. Sign up for one or all of the days. If you are interested, there are information and sign-up sheets at the front desk.

All construction volunteers will also need to sign up online and sign a waiver with Habitat before arriving onsite <https://vhub.at/zionlutherananoka>. If you are interested in helping with meals, you can sign up at the front desk to provide any part of the meal, a main dish, a salad, a dessert, coffee, snack, etc. We are also looking for people to serve the meals. Meals can be brought directly to the job site by the server for the day or dropped off at Zion the night before. Please plan for 15 people for each meal. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Anders Lindberg at [guywhogrows@gmail.com](mailto:guywhogrows@gmail.com) or 952-463-6266.

## Intern Pastor Katie Weiland Farewell

The weekend of June 6 & 7 at all four worship services, Zion congregation will bless and send off Intern Pastor Katie Weiland. Join us for cake and coffee in the Cornerstone as we thank Katie for her ministry here at Zion and wish her well as she embarks on a six-month Luther Seminary Graduate Preaching Fellowship.

## Summer Worship Series - Villains of the Bible

Every great story needs a great villain. Imagine Star Wars without Darth Vader, The Lion King without Scar, or Batman without the Joker. The Bible is no exception. Inside we find epic, unforgettable stories with equally unforgettable villains who do terrible evil in the sight of God and humanity. Yet, so often we gloss over the villains and lift up the heroes. Adam and Eve. Moses. King David. John the Baptist. Jesus. These are the characters that normally get featured in their own sermon series. But I think there is profound value in exploring the villains of Scripture, too. When we explore the villain, an uncomfortable truth arises. They become a mirror held up to us that exposes where we've missed the mark. These villains reveal the familiar shapes and patterns of sin and brokenness. They confirm the deep tragedy of the human condition. And once we learn to recognize those shapes and patterns in Scripture, we begin to recognize them in the world around us and in ourselves. And while this all sounds really heavy, this is also where the good news of the Gospel comes in. Whenever that uncomfortable mirror is held up, God's grace surely follows. Like the prophet Nathan did for King David - calling sin a sin allows it to be forgiven. Brokenness called brokenness can be restored. Evil called evil can be redeemed. This sermon series invites us into the stories of the villain. It holds up that mirror. And it reminds us that more often than not, we have more in common with the villain of the story than we'd care to admit. But, ultimately, the God who sees all of this clearly is the same God who runs toward us, anyway. Villains of the Bible begins Sunday, June 14!

## Summer Choir - Join the Fun!

Join us on Sunday mornings this summer May 31, July 5, August 2 & August 23! We'll learn a fun, easy song to sing in worship that day. Practice from 8:15-8:45 a.m. in the choir room. Sing in worship at the 9 a.m. service. NO ROBES! For more info contact Jon Campbell at [jcampbell@zionanoka.org](mailto:jcampbell@zionanoka.org).

# caring for each other

## May 16, 2026 Recovering Peace Conference - A Reflection of the day

The Zion Addiction Awareness Ministry (ZAAM), who organized this event, worked right up to the last minute to get everything in place for the day. The goals of this conference were for participants to focus on healing in addiction and recovery, and to learn more about recovery for themselves and others they care about—to convey a personal message that “you are here and you matter.”

The following conference presenters shared stories and conversations about what helped them move toward healing:

- John Noltner collected over 30 stories from participants, speakers, and resource table people which he put together in a powerful slide show that was shown Sunday morning as part of his worship message.
- Pam Lanhart shared her story, losing a son to an opioid overdose and the organization she created to help families move toward healing, articulating what “love first” dynamics look like to foster recovery.
- Pastor Ed Treat from the Center of Addiction and Faith shared how his personal story led him to help churches be a safe and welcoming place for people who can find help rather than be afraid of the stigma.
- Deryl Glaze gave people hope and motivation to grow in their recovery journey, reminding them that they mattered and how to recover well.
- Per Nilsen shared the power of faith practices in recovery Lord’s Prayer. So powerful! People are still talking about it!!
- Bill LeClair told about how the Recovery Cafe Anoka has fostered hope and healing in those who gather there and how Zion has become a vital partner and participant.
- Lori Blaukat - shared how Anoka County is working to change the narrative about Mental Health and recovery, how a community—large or small— can reframe stories by making it OK to talk about it.
- Patti Constant and her panel discussion members shared stories of people caught up in the opioid crisis & how Anoka County’s leadership in creating the FACES of HOPE documentary is making a difference.

Zion has taken a step in becoming one voice with other organizations in this community to promote healing for people in Recovery from Addiction and to promote Mental Health and Wellbeing.

We are deeply grateful to all who made it happen, supported, spoke, and shared resources.



# caring for each other

## Zion Cancer Support Group

Drawing from his own experience with cancer, Pastor Mike will be facilitating a Cancer Support Group the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. or 6 p.m. in the Fireside Room. This group is for anyone with cancer, post-cancer, family members and friends, or if you KNOW someone with cancer and want to be supportive of them; June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, October 20, and November 17. Please note that each group (afternoon or evening) has a minimum requirement of 3 and a cap of 12 people. If we need to add additional groups, we can do that. Cost is \$15 which covers the cost of the book *God Meets Us in Our Suffering* which was co-written by Pastor Mike. Sign up at the Welcome Desk.

## Our Neighbor's Table

Zion's Social Justice Team is highlighting small, ethnic restaurants where anyone so inclined can gather for new food experiences and fellowship! We are calling these gatherings "OUR NEIGHBOR'S TABLE." Wear your Zion name badge (so we can recognize each other) and join us on the second and third Thursdays of each month as we celebrate the gift of global diversity right here in the north metro! Below is June's schedule.

- Thursday, June 11: NO GATHERING THIS WEEK - Zion Super Sale
- Thursday, June 18 at 6 p.m.: Tasteful Delights 3726 N 7th Ave, Anoka (near Anoka High School); features a wide array of Eastern European food.

## Thank You Recent Radio Broadcast Donors

Every Sunday morning at 9 a.m., Zion's worship service is broadcast on BOB-FM (106.1). Our radio broadcast covers a good portion of Minnesota and reaches several hundred listeners each Sunday, including many who do not have internet capability. Special gifts to support Zion's Radio Broadcast Fund are welcome.

Cara Fish  
Charles & Mary Kucera  
Randy & Ida Boike  
Lyle & Marlene Willock  
John & Sandy Steinbring  
Craig Bakken

Jane Freeburg in memory of Shirley Dussl  
David & Barb Loe in memory of Chet Tollefson  
Glenn & Jan Osmonson in memory of Rod Halvorson on his birthday  
Lois Peterson  
Kristine Johnson

# about our people

## Baptisms

April 26 - Harlow Theisen  
May 10 - Sylvie Tirevold

## Deaths

Ileen Dahl  
Joyce Bentz  
Shirley Dussl  
Dorothy Hall  
Colleen Werdien

## New Members

Timothy & McKendra Van Gundy

## from the zion equity team umbrella

**Zion's Social Justice Team recently posted a banner** on Zion's campus to affirm our Christian belief that all people are valued children of God. The banner is hanging on the fence of our Green Space where Zion's children play. We want to thank Intern Pastor Katie Weiland and Thrivent for the grant to purchase the banner. We hope the banner warms the hearts of people who pass by Zion.



**During the weekend of April 25-26, the Creation Care Team** celebrated this year's Earth Day by giving away 125 free bare-root trees and bushes! The varieties included six tree species (Norway Spruce, Apricot, Paper Birch, River Birch, Sugar Maple, Tamarack) and four bush species (Red-Osier Dogwood, Highbush Cranberry, Juneberry, Nannyberry). Except for the Apricot tree, all are native to Minnesota. The giveaway occurred after each of the four services and was a great success, with no leftover plants! Fact sheets and planting instructions accompanied each plant to its new home. These plants were purchased from the Anoka Conservation District, whose "mission is to holistically conserve and enhance Anoka County's natural resources for the benefit of our current and future generations through partnerships and innovation." Learn more: [www.anokaswcd.org](http://www.anokaswcd.org). How are your new trees and shrubs doing? How about those given away last year? Creation Care wants to know! Please send photos and/or comments to [mpancoast@zionanoka.org](mailto:mpancoast@zionanoka.org).

Thank you for being a Creation Caretaker!





1601 4th Avenue  
Anoka MN 55303

**ZION**  
LUTHERAN † ANOKA

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A WELCOMING FAITH COMMUNITY.  
GROWING. CARING. SERVING.

## Godspeed, Ann Campbell!



Thank you, Ann, for the many ways you have blessed Zion and this community. You will always be a cherished part of our church family.

### WELCOME

You are invited, you are welcome to come and experience God's love at Zion Lutheran Church.

### CONTACT US

1601 4th Avenue  
Anoka MN 55303  
763.421.4656  
[www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org)