**ZION’S MESSENGER**

**July 2022 + Zion Lutheran Church + 269-367-4817**

**Pastor Becky Emergency Phone: 616-265-2862**

**Email Address:** **pastorbecky@zionwoodland.org**

I am really thrilled to see how well our 3 month challenge for Ukraine through Lutheran World Relief went. During this time, Zion sent over $5000! Because of our giving, not just this special gift but through the many ways that we give to LWR programs all of the time, we were chosen to have a visit from Pastor Tim Krick, who is a congregational representative for LWR. This is a fairly new program and it is great to have a regular contact person to keep us informed about the many ways that LWR serves people in need all over our world.

On Tuesday, June 14, Pastor Krick met with me and some of our members. We learned a lot about how our gifts have been used to serve the refugees who have fled Ukraine as well as the people who have remained in Ukraine. LWR works with agencies already established around the world so that they don’t have to start from the ground up. We learned that the health kits, a project that Carol Engle spearheads every year, are a much needed thing for refugees who leave their homes with what they can carry and they really appreciate the basic health items that are in those kits. We no longer are doing the quilts, but we learned that quilts are not only used for warmth, but also provide a way for people to pack their personal items and they are often used as privacy barriers in refugee camps where so many people are living in cramped conditions. Wouldn’t it be great if any quilt makers at Zion would be willing to start this ministry again and teach new people to help with quilts again?

As I shared in a newsletter a few months ago, there are a lot of ministries through the ELCA that serve people both in this country and throughout the world. Each has a unique focus but they do work together when there is a crisis, such as the war in Ukraine or when there are natural disasters to work to meet the many needs of people who are affected. Lutheran World Relief works primarily overseas and Lutheran Disaster Response works both overseas and in our country for example.

I share this with you so that you may be confident that when you do support the ministry of LWR, your gifts go directly to people in need. Though our 3 month challenge for Ukraine has ended, our support to LWR will be ongoing and serve people in need throughout our world.

This is our calling as disciples of Jesus, to serve those in need to be best of our abilities!

 And always remember: “The Joy of the Lord is our Strength” Nehemiah 8:10

Pastor Becky+

**CHRIST IN OUR HOME &**

**THE LUTHERAN**

Sign-up in the narthex for Christ in Our Home and The Lutheran if you would like to continue receiving either of these publications or email Tara directly at office@zionwoodland.org.

**PASTOR BECKY IS ON VACATION**

the afternoon of July 17 through Monday, July 25. In case of emergency, please contact Marilyn Danielson at 517-526-4316.

**PRAISE IN THE PARK**

**JULY 16**

Zion will join with other area churches for an evening of music at the Lake Odessa Park on July 16 starting at 6 pm.  The event is sponsored by the Lakewood Community Women.  Our songs are What a Friend We Have in Jesus, Amazing Grace-Our Chains are Gone, and Victory in Jesus.  Bring your lawn chair and be prepared to enjoy a musical evening that will feature individuals and groups from various churches in the Lakewood Community.  An ice cream truck will be providing free ice cream treats as well.

**SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING**

**JULY 17**

The Semi-Annual meeting will be held on Sunday, July 17th immediately following worship service.  Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.  There will be a potluck following the meeting.  Hope to see you there.

**HELP FOR UKRAINE**

Thank you, Zion, for your generosity!  Gifts to Lutheran World Relief were designated to help the people of Ukraine.  All gifts during March, April and May, were directed toward Ukraine.  Zion gave a total of $5,335 during this time.  On June 14th, Pastor Tim Krick from Lutheran World Relief visited Zion.  He thanked us for our generosity and provided good information on our church’s efforts in Ukraine and other parts of the world that are in need of help.  Our gifts are very appreciated and are making lives better.  Thank you again.

**BIBLE BUDDIES**

Bible Buddies re-do coming in the fall! Thank you to all who have participated in our Bible Buddies programs in recent years. This was started to give our children and youth a connection with adults during covid when there was no Sunday School and we were not together much.

It’s time to update our list to keep this connection going. Our list of children and youth has changed as some littles have grown up a bit and some older youth are no longer part of this congregation. So, I would like to know a few things from the adults to get us ready for a fall start with new buddies.

1. If you have been a Bible buddy, would you like to continue?
	1. If so, would you like to continue with the same buddy or would you like a new buddy?
	2. If no, please let me know this as well.
2. If you have not been a Bible Buddy and would like to be one, please let me know.
3. This really is simply a good way to reach out and develop relationships with our children and youth. I will send out a new list of pairings in Sept. with your person’s birthdate and address. Being a Bible Buddy is as simple as sending cards and notes to your buddy and now that our children/youth are in church more often, you could also make a point to talk with them or sit with them during coffee fellowship and other activities.

Thank you to those who have been Bible Buddies and to those who will consider it!

**SPECIALS**

**Anniversaries**

01-Bernie & Barb Smith

10-Duane & Buffy Meyers

31- Jimmy & Ruth Hindman

**Baptisms**

04-Evelyn Brecheisen

04-Roxanne Johnson

13-Erin Brodbeck

20-Jackson MacKenzie

20-Rachel Meade

25-Cornealius Zylstra

25-Isabell Zylstra

26-Jenna (Avery) Olmstead

**Birthdays**

04-Dan Utterback

05-Jared Krikke

06-Donald Griffin

06-Will Plummer

07-Diane Southgate

08-Jolene Griffin

13-Calvin McDowell

16-Ivy McDowell

27-Jeremy Avery

**SUNDAYS IN JULY**

**July 3 In Sanctuary & Drive-in, Communion**

Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese

Elder: Dan Utterback

Trustee: Mike Johnson

Safety Person: Jerry Engle

Offering Counters: Doug Mackenzie, Mike Johnson

**July 10- In Sanctuary & Drive-in, Communion**

Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese

Elder: Paul Meade

Trustee: Dan Zylstra

Safety Person: Diane Griffin

Offering Counters: Mary Makley, Martha Yoder

**July 17- In Sanctuary & Drive-in, Communion, Semi-Annual Meeting**

Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese

Elder: Jolene Griffin

Trustee: Jerry Engle

Safety Person: Ken Heise

Offering Counters: Diane Griffin & Carlotta Willard

**July 24 In Sanctuary & Drive-in, No Communion,**

Claude Smith

Elder: Dan Utterback

Trustee: Mike Johnson

Safety Person: Dan Zylstra

Offering Counters: Jerry Engle & Carlotta Willard

**July 31- In Sanctuary & Drive-in, Communion**

Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese

Elder: Paul Meade

Trustee: Dan Zylstra

Safety Person: Jerry Engle

Offering Counters: Doug Mackenzie, Mike Johnson