

The Contact

August 2007

Pastor Paul D. Ostrem
Cheryl Hollich—Lay Associate
Wilma Roach —Secretary
Oscar Alvarez —Custodian
Heather Simpson—Missionary to Japan
Kihario Lutheran Parish—Tanzanian Companion

CHURCH COUNCIL—2007

Austin Cole - President	Kris Ward - Vice-President
Dave Hanson - Treasurer	Julie Frye - Secretary
Sue McDonald - Parish Ed	Roger Roskens - Planning
Kent Heckman - Youth	Doreen Borde - Fellowship
Jon Benson - Evangelism	Mike Carter - Property
Bill Chrisman— Stewardship	Mike Batenhorst - Finance
Beth Batenhorst—Social Ministry	

Phone Numbers

Church Office	563-263-5074
Fax	563-263-8858
Dial Inspiration	563-263-9999
Fellowship Hall	563-263-3049
Website	www.zionmuscatine.org

Worship Services

Sunday Worship Services 9:00 A.M.

Saturday Evening Worship Services

July 14 - September 1, 2007, 5:30 P.M. Zion Lutheran Church
Sauerkraut Supper Thursday, September 13, 2007

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Zion Lutheran Church
PO Box 585
6th & Sycamore St
Muscatine, IA 52761
563-263-5074

Sometimes I ask the council where they have seen the values of the congregation operative in a special way. (Our statement of values declares that we value **Word and Sacrament; Discipleship; and Partnerships.**)

This month, it would not be hard for me to answer that invitation.

As I reflect upon how we value **Word and Sacrament**, I give thanks for the ways the ELW is being received in the congregation. Granted, I have gotten lost a time or two. (One Sunday I couldn't find the correct "preface" which I chant as a part of the communion liturgy, so I just sort of made something up!) I am still getting used to the changes in the Creed - don't make me say it without the book! But WOW! Do you people sing! When we chant back and forth unaccompanied the opening lines of the communion liturgy, it is incredibly beautiful. Likewise, you have picked up the new portions of Setting 1 very well and I find myself singing the "Glory to God" all week long. Zion worships well, at least in part because we value Word and Sacrament and bring to it our best.

I look back with thanksgiving to the Fourth of July parade where our congregation bore public witness that feeding the hungry and caring for the poor is a significant part of what it means to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Even if we had received only one can of food during the parade (we received 569 pounds) we still would have borne a powerful witness to this community concerning the meaning of **Discipleship** for us, what it means for us to share both daily bread (everything needed for this life) and the Bread of Life (Jesus himself) with all people.

Partnerships were also at work during this past month. Obviously, we could not gather food as we did unless we were in partnership with the food pantry. All five apartments in the Gateway House are now filled with people who have moved there from the shelter at MCSA, again something which would not have happened without partnerships with MCSA, the ELCA, and other entities. And what a joy it was to host an ecumenical Vacation Bible School with four other congregations in our community, congregations excited, pleased, and grateful for that opportunity.

Look for our values in operation. It is gratifying.

Pastor Ostrem

August brings plans for the Fall. Where has the summer gone? Perhaps you are asking that too, especially when school got out late and now begins at the "regular" time.

Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 9. Before that, we will once again celebrate Faith Stepping Stones for entry into Confirmation (August 26). But, when Sunday School begins, it will introduce something brand new—Akaloo. What's an Akaloo?? The name is inspired by the Greek word that means "to follow." Jesus said to his disciples, "Follow me." Drop your nets. A new life awaits you. Akaloo is based on this simple, radical call to discipleship. As such, "faith formation" will move beyond the Sunday School experience. Akaloo brings an enduring perspective, offering a program of intentional discipleship that covers the entire lifespan. The program is organized by age group—Children, Youth, and Adults. We will be participating in the first two. Online and print resources transform how we live out discipleship. The resource has three great parts—

- *Akaloo Leader Website* offer ways to plan, build and customize your teaching materials. Materials are 100% web-based. If you are not web-savy, then we will have someone to help you by downloading your materials.
- *Akaloo Learner Handbooks* provide the core teaching material for each lesson. Each age grouping of Akaloo features an age-appropriate Learner Handbook. Hand book genres and formats change depending upon the learners ages.
- *Akaloo Learner Web Sites* connect church and home in new ways. Each age grouping of Akaloo features a web site that extends what happens on Sunday morning. Weekly, notes, activities, and games will be sent out to the learners by the teachers. Due to this, we will be needing email address so that the connection can be made and the fun can begin.

Are you ready to Akaloo? Would you like to teach Akaloo? Let me know.

Blessings, Cheryl

Financial Report

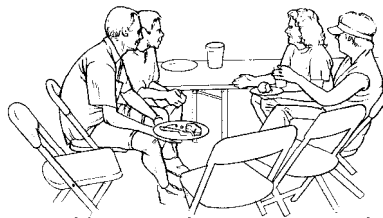
If you would like to see the full report as the finance committee and council sees it and reviews it each month, please call or stop in the church office.

ZLC Monthly Financial Update

Income	January-June, 2007
Budgeted income	\$149,703.43
Unbudgeted income	10,999.70
Total Income	\$160,703.13
Expenses	
Budgeted Expenses	\$162,078.38
Unbudgeted Expenses	11,115.05
Total Expenses	\$173,193.43
Net income for 2007	- \$ 12,490.30
Fund Balances 6/30/2007	
Current Fund	\$ 35,946.27
Building Fund	53,829.28
Memorial Fund	7,772.52

Supper Club

“Sneaky Pete’s” in LeClaire will host the Supper Club for Saturday, August 18, 6:00 p.m. Sign up on the bulletin board near the nursery. Join us for a wonderful evening of fun, food and fellowship.



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## A Resource for Families

Christy Roby Williams, a member of Zion and a social worker with Lutheran Services in Iowa, has graciously offered to volunteer her time and gifts to do family intervention, mentoring, and referral for members of our congregation. She is willing to help families around issues of child-rearing, communication, marital conflict, teen issues, and all family dynamics. Feel free to contact her at 260-5401.



## ‘Contact’

The Contact articles are due in the office on Monday, August 27, 2007 with assembly on Thursday, August 30, 2007, 9:00 a.m.

If you would like to receive the ‘Contact’ by e-mail instead of through the mail, contact the office.



## E-Mails

Occasionally Pastor Ostrem sends out a short e-mail to members of the congregation regarding special events, notifications of deaths in the parish, requests for prayer, etc. At this time we have over 90 families on this list. If you are not receiving these updates but would like to, please let us know your e-mail address so we may add you to the list.

## College Students

As our young people return or begin college we ask that you contact the church office with their names, addresses, and e-mail addresses.

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## TRUTH

In its purest form, truth is not a polite tap on the shoulder. Truth is a howling reproach. What Moses brought down from Mount Sinai were not 10 suggestions.

———— Ted Koppel

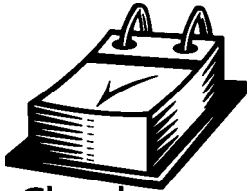
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## Sowers



Sowers will meet at June Pries’ home on Monday, August 20, 6:30 p.m. Bring your latest project or a new one that you are beginning and join us. It is an evening of good fellowship and fun.





Check Your  
Calendar

## SAUERKRAUT SUPPER

The Annual Zion Sauerkraut Supper has been scheduled for—

Thursday, September 13, 2007  
4:00—6:30 PM

Tickets: \$7.50 for adults  
4.00 for children  
(10 & under)

Tickets go on sale August 12, 2007 and can be purchased in the church office or by contacting a committee member. Tickets will be on sale until noon on September 12th.

The menu includes: Sauerkraut with Roast Pork, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Homemade Noodles and Applesauce, Roll & Butter, Homemade Pies, Coffee and Milk.

Carry Outs Available (with tickets)

Homebound members need reservations called in no later than 12.00 (noon) on September 12th for delivery of suppers to their home.

A sign-up sheet is on the easel in Fellowship Hall to sign-up for donations for the supper.

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### Sauerkraut Supper Meetings

The meetings for the Sauerkraut Supper have been scheduled. The will be in the Multi-purpose Room at 6:00 P.M. on August 20, September 10, and the wrap-up meeting will be September 24.

## A Message from LSI – Bringing Help and Hope During Natural Disasters

Summer in Iowa often brings harsh and unpredictable weather. This year, tornadoes and flooding have left both physical and emotional scars on those that have been affected by these natural disasters. That is why Lutheran Services in Iowa partners with Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) to provide emotional and spiritual support as well as other needs as part of the individual and community recovery effort.

Together with LDR, LSI responds to the unmet needs of communities in the wake of a natural disaster. Our disaster response coordinator works with local churches and organizations to develop a plan to address the unmet needs, including spiritual and emotional care, to those whose lives have been devastated. LSI and LDR also help strengthen the capacity of congregations to respond to their own needs and the needs of others during these times of disaster by creating preparedness and response plans.

Through this amazing partnership, LSI and LDR can help those in need when disaster strikes.



### Akaloo

The name Akaloo is inspired by the Greek word meaning “to follow.” Jesus said to his disciples, “Follow me.” Drop your nets. A new life awaits you. Akaloo is a new resource that will be used for Sunday School beginning in September. Akaloo is intentional discipleship that’s open to God’s surprises. Are you ready to Akaloo? Watch for further information.



## FAITH STEPPING STONES...

**Confirmation:** There will be an orientation for all 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders and their parents on Sunday, August 26 after worship. On that day, the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade students will receive their Study Bibles and the 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will receive their Stepping Stones.

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Graders will begin classes on Wednesday, September 5, 6:00 PM. 9<sup>th</sup> Graders will be Affirm their faith on Sunday, October 21, 10:30 AM.

**Three Year Olds begin Sunday School.** Sunday School will begin on Sunday September 9 and the 3 year olds that will be beginning Sunday School will receive a blessing on Sunday, September 16 (both services).

**Bibles to Third Graders:** The Third Grade class will begin a review of the Bible on September 30 and October 7. They, along with their parent(s), will work on finding specific verses in the Bible and reviewing both the Old and New Testaments. On Sunday, October 14, they will receive their Bibles as part of both worship services.

# Youth News



## MESSY GAMES SATURDAY, AUGUST 11 1:00 PM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Wear old clothes and come prepared to get wet and messy. It's great fun for all. Prizes for the winners! Sign up on the bulletin board if you are interested.



## Looking Ahead—

Don't forget the Labor Day Brunch on Sunday, September 2. Parent and youth workers will be needed.

# STORIES TO TELL - GIFTS TO SHARE

Over the balance of this year the Stewardship Committee will be sharing stories of the work and efforts of the ELCA at home and around the world.

## Day of Pentecost in Los Angeles

Your offerings help strengthen congregations as they reach out to people of diverse languages and cultures. As a church, we are challenged to speak with distinctive voices. True to the legacy of Martin Luther, your generosity provides people the ability to worship in their own language. In fact, 40 different languages are used regularly in ELCA worshiping communities.

Swedish immigrants originally established the Angelica Lutheran Church in 1888 so they could worship in their mother tongue. Today Angelica still serves an immigrant body of worshipers, but one that is mostly Hispanic. In addition to English services, worship is conducted in Spanish, using the ELCA's *Libro de Liturgica y Cantico*. Music from Spain, Guatemala, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, and El Salvador is accompanied by guitars, piano, drums, and other percussion.

“We are very sensitive to the traditions of our members countries,” says Pastor Carlos Paiva. As on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit is active at Angelica, bringing people of various cultures and languages together into a larger whole.

To learn more about where your mission support dollars are shared, visit [www.elca.org/stewardship/interpreting.html](http://www.elca.org/stewardship/interpreting.html)

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## “All Are Welcome” – Camp EWALU Fund Appeal

Dear Friends at Zion Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Ewalu Board of Directors and the Ewalu staff, I want to thank you for your strong commitment to this ministry and for your contributions and pledges to the Ewalu “All Are Welcome” campaign. With your help, the capital campaign has now “picked up momentum” and is now well passed the halfway point and close to the \$900,000 mark toward our \$1.5 million goal.

We are excited about the prospect of beginning construction soon and being able to offer new and hospitable lodging spaces that will enhance all of the ministries of Ewalu. Your support is not just a gift of dollars that will build buildings, but also an expression of your faith and trust in the value of this ministry.

Yours in the joy of the living Christ,  
Dale Goodman, Executive Director

A handwritten note added these words: “*Thank you so much for your leadership in a remarkable effort by the people of Zion on behalf of the Ewalu “All Are Welcome” campaign. This campaign would be very easy if all our constituent congregations could do it as well as you have.*”

Zion has committed gifts and pledges in the amount of \$18,600.

# COUNCIL REPORT – July Meeting

Included here are some highlights from the July Congregational Council meeting:

- Heard a report from the Stewardship Committee that 569 pounds of food items were collected for the food pantry at the Fourth of July parade.
- Seventy-six students attended the ecumenical Vacation Bible School.
- Heard reports on progress on several projects around the facilities: New sidewalks were poured around the Gateway House (funded by the Gateway Fund); the asbestos has been removed from the old boiler, the rest of the work to begin around August 1; the forms are in place for the new storage building.
- Discussed possible reasons why expenses are considerably higher than income (about \$12,000) in the first six months. Expenses are running close to budget; income is lagging. Identified some items to monitor in the months ahead.

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*So many of our dreams at first seem impossible, then they seem improbable, and then, when we summon the will, they soon seem inevitable.*

—Christopher Reeve

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

Sunday, August 5, 10:15 a.m.  
ZLCW Board Meeting at church

See the ZLCW column for group meetings and times.

LOOKING AHEAD: Thursday, September 13 –  
Zion's Sauerkraut Supper

Thought for the month – **“Plant zucchini only if you have lots of friends.”**

From: Life's Little Instruction Book, Volume II

# ZLCW NEWS

*“TO MOBILIZE WOMEN TO ACT BOLDLY ON  
THEIR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST”*

**“OUR YEAR TO CARE ~ OUR YEAR TO SHARE”**

**“To Mobilize Women to Act Boldly on  
Their Faith in Jesus Christ”**

August – a time to “squeeze in” that last vacation before school starts, enjoy the outdoors with picnics, barbeques, or just getting together with friends. Our groups in the ZLCW are planning on enjoying the last days of summer. Here's what we are up to:

Tuesday, August 21; Group 4 will meet at the church at 10:45 a.m., drive to Eliza, IL for lunch & return to the church for their meeting.

Thursday, August 16; Group 5 (spouses invited) will meet at the Elms Restaurant at 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 23; Group 6 (families invited) will meet at The Lighthouse (formerly Charthouse) at 6:00 p.m. So what are you up to? Whatever it is – enjoy the “lazy, hazy days of summer”.

We are once again collecting items for school kits and now is the time to buy. While out shopping for your favorite students, how about picking up a few items to share with Lutheran World Relief.

The following items are requested:

Notebooks, 150 sheets ruled paper

1 blunt scissors

1 pencil sharpener, 1 (2½”) eraser

1 (30 cm) metric ruler (can have inches)

6 unsharpened pencils with erasers

12 sheets construction paper

1 box of crayons (8, 16 or 24 count).

Cloth bags will be provided. You may put your donations in the boxes by the ZLCW bulletin board.

If you are donating postage stamps and eyeglasses, put them in the box by the ZLCW bulletin board.

Coffee, cards and napkins are still available for purchase and will be sold after Sunday worship. If you want particular flavor, let us know and we will order it for you with our next order.

Do you have something you'd like to share? Feel free to post it on the ZLCW bulletin board. Remember to visit the women's page on Zion's website at

<http://www.zionmuscatine.org>

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## Lay Readers

*August*     5     Jason Dornbush  
                  12     Katie Chrisman  
                  19     Deb Hughes  
                  26     Karen Goodell

## Greeters

*August*     5     Mike & Beth Batenhorst, Justine Schmelzer  
                  12     Bob & Bonnie Nicolai  
                  19     Gary & Judy Sebbert  
                  26     Pat & Dick Koll

## Acolytes

**9:00 A.M.**

*August*     5     Cole Morgan & Ben Chrisman  
*August*     12     Alex Merrill & Kody Bass  
*August*     19     Katie Manley & Meg McDonald  
*August*     26     Brandon Honeyman & Thomas Gustafson

## Ushers

**Richard Jacobsen**     Mark Evans     Alan Lange     **Daryl Smock**     Mark Frye  
    Wilmer Denker     Bob Schreiner                      Ron Subbert     Mike Carter

## Hospitality

*August*     5     Property Committee  
                  12     Planning Committee  
                  19     Evangelism Committee  
                  26     Social Ministry Committee

## Altar Guild

Kristi Truitt

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# AUGUST 2007

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                               | Monday                                            | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                       | Wednesday | Thursday                                                                                                                                          | Friday | Saturday                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 29                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 30                                                | 31                                                                                                                                                            | 1         | 2<br>4:45 PM Planning Committee<br>6:00 PM Gateway Committee<br>6:30 PM Social Ministry Committee<br>7:00 PM Worship Committee                    | 3      | 4<br>5:30 PM Worship Service - Zion Lutheran Church                                                                                                                             |
| 5<br><br><b>BOARD MEETING</b><br>9:00 AM Worship Service<br>10:15 AM ZLCW Board Meeting<br>11:30 AM Youth Committee | 6                                                 | 7<br>5:45 PM Memorial Committee<br>6:15 PM Fellowship Committee<br>7:00 PM Evangelism Committee<br>7:00 PM Stewardship Committee<br>8:00 PM Finance Committee | 8         | 9<br><br>6:45 PM Executive Committee<br>7:30 PM Church Council | 10     | 11<br>1:00 PM Messy Games<br>5:30 PM Worship Service - Zion Lutheran Church                                                                                                     |
| 12<br>9:00 AM Worship Service                                                                                                                                                                        | 13                                                | 14                                                                                                                                                            | 15        | 16<br>6:00 PM Group 5 - Elm's Restaurant<br>6:30 PM Property Committee                                                                            | 17     | 18<br>5:30 PM Worship Service - Zion Lutheran Church<br>6:00 PM Supper Club -                                                                                                   |
| 19<br>9:00 AM Worship Service                                                                                                                                                                        | 20<br>1:00 PM AARP<br>6:30 PM Sowers - June Pries | 21<br>10:45 AM Group 4 - Breakfast<br>5:30 PM Parish Ed Committee<br>6:30 PM Thrivent<br>7:30 PM Trust Fund Committee                                         | 22        | 23<br>6:00 PM Group 6 - Lighthouse Restaurant                                                                                                     | 24     | 25<br><br>5:30 PM Worship Service - Zion Lutheran Church<br>6:30 PM Alvarez/Aguirre Wedding |
| 26<br><br>9:00 AM Worship Service<br>10:15 AM Confirmation Orientation 7th & 8th Grades                           | 27<br>9:00 AM Contact Articles Due                | 28                                                                                                                                                            | 29        | 30<br><br>9:00 AM Assemble Contact                           | 31     | 1                                                                                                                                                                               |