

Zoar Church (LCMC)  
PO Box 2098  
7239 W. Highway 61  
Tofte, MN 55615

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## Zoar Church Fall 2022 Newsletter

# *You Are Invited!* "Faith-Family-Community"

### **Zoar's Community Fall Dinner 2022** **Saturday November 19th at Zoar Church**

Come join us for a celebration of family and community. Featuring great food, great contemporary Christian music, and a pretty decent message from a speaker lots of folks say isn't too bad. This is also a chance for us to say "thank you" to our *Ruby's Pantry* volunteers, church leaders, and community leaders, and an opportunity for Bible Club parents to get to know each other better!

*Food Served from 5:00-6:00*

*Speaker and Music from 6:00-7:00*

*Jamaican Themed Menu*

*Free of Charge (Free Will Donations Accepted)*

*Kids Crafts and Activities*

Come young and old. Enjoy a wonderful dinner and your friends in the community. We can't wait to see you again!



### **Inside this Edition**

- *Who Are We?*
- **Worship and Bible Study Opportunities**
- **Ruby's Pantry Information**
- **Bible Club and Sola Class**
- **Community Soup Suppers**
- **Missions, Ministries and More!**

**Sunday services are in-person, streamed on Facebook, and over 107.9 FM locally at 9:30 AM**

**Church office hours: Thursday 8am-11am**

**Pastor's office hours: Wednesday and Thursday mornings**

# The Beacon

## ZOAR CHURCH PARISH NEWS

*A Beacon of Hope on the North Shore*



### Upcoming Messages

*By Pastor Daren Blanck*



Martin Luther used the symbol of the five petaled rose to represent the faith of the 16th century reformation. Each petal represented a “sola” - a Greek word for “only” or “alone.” These solas summarized the truths of the Bible as Luther and his fellow reformers understood it: “We are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in the finished work of Christ alone. Everything I need for a life of faith can be found in Scripture alone, and because of all of this I glorify God alone.” From the very beginnings of the Jesus movement, followers of Christ have sought to summarize their faith through statements called “creeds” or “confessions.” One of these is the *Apostle’s Creed*. Another is the *Augsburg Confession*, an important foundational document in Zoar’s heritage. These symbols, creeds, and confessions are all an attempt to answer the question “Who Are We?” Who are we as people of God and followers of Christ and what does this mean in terms of how we interact within our community?

This fall we will be exploring that very question, using the five solas, the Apostle’s Creed and the Augsburg confession as jumping off points. We live in a topsy turvy world where the label Christian has as many negative connotations for some as it has positive for others. We won’t shy away from tackling some of our modern dilemmas like Christian Nationalism and the rise of the “nones” while we seek to explore from the life of Jesus exactly who we are if we claim to follow Him.

Join us each **Sunday** from **9:30 am - 10:30 am**. Coffee and goodies are served following the worship service. Come as you are. *All are welcome.*



October 9: *Wrestling with the Bible*  
 October 16: *Why I Believe in God*  
 October 23: *Who is this Jesus Guy?*  
 October 30: *Heavenly Wind*  
 November 6: *The Church Isn’t a Building!*  
 November 13: *Forever is Big*  
 November 20: *Called into Action*

### Sunday “Children’s Church”

Afraid your kids will be bored at church? Afraid you’ll be so distracted looking after their needs that you won’t “get anything” out of the experience - so why bother? We’ve got you covered! Every **Sunday** is actually an opportunity for you to relax and enjoy worship and for your kids to get to know Jesus. Al Alexander teaches “Children’s Church” during the **9:30 am** Worship Service. Each week offers learning, movement and a whole lot of fun. Roxana Cruz may even lead some Spanish songs! Questions? Contact Al Alexander at [ala0101011@gmail.com](mailto:ala0101011@gmail.com).

### *Who Can Calm the Storm?*

*By Marsha Hansen*

*Who can calm the storm in my heart?  
 And keep the wind from blowing it apart?  
 Who can build a fire inside to keep me warm?  
 Who can stop the thunder and rain,  
 And Take away the anger and pain?  
 When my sails are tattered and torn  
 Who can calm the storm?*

*Only Jesus can speak to the waters,  
 Only He can make the raging waves obey.  
 He can tell the wind it must not hurt me,  
 And with one word,  
 He can chase ev’ry dark cloud away.  
 When He whispers, “Peace, peace, be still,”  
 Wind and waves respond to his will.  
 Master of the sea, come calm the storm in me.*

*(Inspired by Mark 4:39)*

# KIDS BIBLE CLUB

## Campfire In The Park



*Bible Club* and *Sola Class* will begin this year with a campfire/hotdog/marshmallow roast in Tofte Park on Sunday Evening, **October 16th at 6:00 PM!** Come parents and kids to hear more about *Bible Club* and *Sola Class* and what Zoar Church has to offer!

Our first after school *Bible Club* will be **Wednesday October 26th.** This year,

in addition to music, crafts, and activities, we will be reading Bible stories in the *Read and Learn Bible* and learning with a video series called *Superbook* that connects Bible stories to everyday life. Our themes include God's love for us, trusting in God, and loving others.

*Bible Club* meets from **3:15-4:30** on **Wednesdays** through April at the Birch Grove Community Center. *Bible Club* is open to anyone from age 5 - grade 4. Pastor Daren and teacher Michelle Blanck look forward to a great year.

*Sola Class* meets each **Wednesday** at **6:15** at Zoar. *Sola Class* is so named for the "Five Solas of the Reformation." Our curriculum this year will focus on the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Communion, and the 5 Solas including games, in-class lessons, Bible reading "homework" and an occasional video to augment the lesson. *Sola Class* is for students in grades 5-8. After two years of *Sola Class* and a confession of faith, students may participate in confirmation. Pastor Daren teaches *Sola Class* with help from Leadership Team member Ada Schleinz-Hall.

If you have a child who might be interested in *Bible Club* or *Sola Class*, or for more information about the campfire night, call Pastor Daren or Emily or drop us an email.

## Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesday morning Bible Study is an opportunity to dig into the theme and text from Sunday morning in an informal setting and apply it to our lives. Join us for coffee or tea and a lively discussion each **Wednesday** from **9:30-10:30 am.**



# Ruby's PANTRY

## WEST END DISTRIBUTION

## Attention West Enders!

By *Mary Vandoren*

Our 6th *Ruby's Pantry* drive through distribution event will be this **Thursday, October 6** at **Birch Grove** from **5:15-6:45.** Thank you to all who have been coming! We have been averaging 90-100 shares. That's a lot but not enough. So far, no waiting.

This distribution is not income based and you will not be taking from others. The fact is, if we don't get our numbers up to 132 (Ruby's minimum) we will no longer be able to continue.

The cost is \$25 cash, and you get a large cart full of food. If you truly can't afford it, we will give it to you free. No questions asked. We also have volunteers from each township that are willing to deliver to homes in their areas for those with conflicts. Anyone wanting to donate a share, that won't be attending, those contributions can be sent to the Grand Marais State Bank or dropped off there. Make checks out to *Zoar Lutheran Church "WE Feed"*.

Please help us continue to provide this valuable service to the West End. We not only supply a lot of food and drink, but we prevent good food from adding to our landfills. Be green for a little green. See you there!

## Community Soup Suppers

### Wednesday Evenings at 5:15

Join us on Wednesday evenings this winter for a free bowl of soup! Soup suppers provide an opportunity to come together as a community during the cold, and often tough, months of winter to share a delicious meal, fellowship and a few songs.

Soup is served from **5:00 pm until 6:00 pm** and is provided by Zoar Church members and friends. The first soup supper will be held on **Wednesday, November 23.**



*Happy Thanksgiving!*



## Cook County Food Shelf

### ~September Mission Project ~

During the month of September, Zoar supported the *Cook County Food Shelf* as our Mission Project. The Cook County Food Shelf operates out of the First Congregational Church at Third Avenue and Second Street in Grand Marais. We collected monetary donations as well as donations of non perishable foods, household items, and clean brown paper grocery bags. For more information about the needs of the food shelf, you can contact Gwen Lenz at **218-387-9860**.



As you probably know, blood banks have been dangerously low since the start of COVID. Giving blood could easily save a life: maybe that of a relative, friend, or neighbor. The bloodmobile will be at **Zoar Church** on **Monday November 14th** from **2:00pm-6:00pm** and **someone is needed to schedule the donors**. It's just a few hours on the phone and we supply what you need, such as names and numbers of previous donors - plus any names of people you know. If you can help out, please call Polly at **218-663-7398**. You will feel blessed to be a blessing!

## Land Sale Update



In 1972 Mathilde (Billie) Peterson bequeathed 80 acres in *Superior National Forest* not far from Tait Lake to Lutsen and Zoar Lutheran Churches. Though her wish was for this land to be used as "a place where children's minds are filled with the wonders of God's Creation," our two congregations found it difficult over the years to utilize this densely forested and wetland property for retreat or recreation purposes. A joint committee of the two churches was formed in the fall of 2021 to explore the possibility of selling this land while hoping to honor the spirit of Ms. Peterson's gift. In the end KGM Contractors offered an agreeable bid for all 80 acres and both congregations approved the sale in congregational meetings in August. At Zoar's Annual Meeting in September, the congregation passed a resolution to form a committee to determine how to best utilize the proceeds of the land sale to benefit the future of the congregation and the children of the community. Leave a message for Tina McKeever or Spencer Motschenbacher if you are a member interested in serving on this important committee.

## Samaritan's Purse

### ~October Mission Project ~

Zoar Church is supporting *Samaritan's Purse* as our Mission Project during the month of October. U.S. disaster relief units have tractor-trailers that are stocked with heavy-duty tarps, generators, chain-saws and other tools to aid in cleanup efforts. The team maintains a constant state of readiness - monitoring weather conditions and emerging threats around the nation in order to respond at a moment's notice to help victims of natural disasters. *Samaritan's Purse* is working with those affected by **Hurricane Ian**. Disaster relief units arrived in Fort Myers and Englewood on September 30th. Volunteers are already working to mud-out flooded homes, cut downed trees, remove debris, and tarp roofs.

## CHUM

### ~November Mission Project ~

*Churches United in Ministry* (CHUM) serves more than 8,000 low-income, homeless, hungry, isolated, or otherwise marginalized community members throughout the Duluth area each year. CHUM has 40 member congregations and offers emergency food, shelter, advocacy, support, and street outreach.

CHUM is Duluth's primary safety-net organization where people who are homeless or who have low incomes can go for assistance and a safe community. CHUM also operates Duluth's largest food shelf. CHUM has a Drop-In Center where people can pick up mail, do their laundry, eat a hot meal, and socialize.

## Prayer Chain

The Apostle James in the New Testament urges members of his church to pray for one another. The Apostle Paul calls on us to bear one another's burdens and to pray without ceasing. If you have a prayer request please contact Polly at **218-663-7398** or [pollyblue@gmail.com](mailto:pollyblue@gmail.com). Polly sends out occasional emails and calls asking members and friends to pray as there is need. You may include as much information as you choose. Also, tell Polly if you would like to be added to the email list.

