

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

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Zoar Church Spring Newsletter 2024

CHRISTIAN SEDER

March 20th - 5:15-6:30 pm



Did you know the timing of Jesus' death and resurrection was planned beforehand? Jesus carefully managed His ministry to ensure God's timing. The symbols and meaning of Passover are reflected in our Christian

beliefs and show how Jesus' death is the perfect and final sacrifice needed to free us from sin's bondage.. Come and celebrate a Christian Seder dinner with us and learn about the Passover and how it forecast Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. We'll be celebrating with Matzo Ball soup, beef brisket (graciously made for us by Maryam Torabi), potato kugel, carrot salad and coconut macaroons. It will be a night to remember! Let Pastor Al know if you're coming (it will help with seating!) 612-308-2185.

♥ Memorial Blood Centers Community Blood Drive

Monday March 18th

The Memorial Bloodmobile will be at Zoar on **Monday March 18th** from **12:00pm-6:00pm**. Donations are by appointment only.

You can schedule your donation by going online to www.mbc.org/searchdrives (Sponsor Code 1673) or by contacting Jane Johnson at (218) 663-7254 or dippersc99@gmail.com.

Community Soup Suppers

Wednesdays through May 8th at 5:15

Soup Suppers have been well-attended and are a great way for people to share their talents and resources by bringing salads, breads and even dessert! Everyone is welcome.

Sunday services at 9:30 AM are in-person and streamed on Facebook

Church office hours: Thursday 8am-11am

Pastor's office hours: by appointment 612 308 2185

The Beacon

ZOAR CHURCH PARISH NEWS

A Beacon of Hope on the North Shore



Spring Message Series



Pastor Al will be speaking from the Book of Acts starting April 15th. The Book of Acts recounts the explosion of Christianity after Jesus rose from the dead. Within about 30 years, Christianity spreads from Jerusalem all the way to Rome. It is the story of the early church, concentrating on the exploits of Peter and Paul. Please join us for worship Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the sanctuary or, starting June 2nd, come to Church on the Rocks near Father Baragas Cross at 8:00 am.

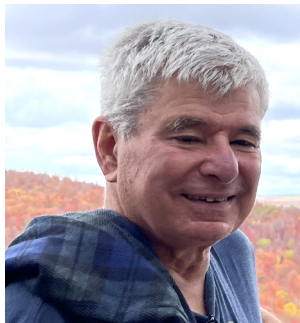
New Members

Zoar Lutheran Church is delighted to welcome six new members: John and Gail Thompson, Lollie Cooper, John Elling, and Hans and Greta Hall. We look forward to continued learning and fellowship with them. Please contact Pastor Al if you are interested in becoming a member of Zoar Church.

Pastor's Corner

~Pastor Al Alexander~

It's Springtime and my thoughts have turned toward Easter and how Jesus approached His trial and death. On the night of His arrest, Jesus did an amazing thing. He washed His disciples' feet. In those days, the roads were dirt-covered and used by animals and people alike with very little sanitation. I can only imagine what the sandals and feet of guests looked and smelled like when people entered a house.



Zoar Calendar

- Mar. 17 - Zoar Semi-Annual Meeting follows church/pancake breakfast
- Mar. 18 – Bloodmobile at Zoar; 12-6 pm; by appointment only
- Mar. 20 - Christian Seder Dinner; 5:15-6:30 pm
- Mar. 27 – No Bible Club or Soup/Supper
- Mar. 29 – Good Friday Service; 6:00 pm (No Children's Church)
- Mar. 31 – Easter Service; 9:30 am (No Children's Church)
- Apr 7 – Minnesota Teen Challenge leads worship; 9:30 am
- Apr 14 through Fall – Message series on the Book of Acts
- May 8 – End of Bible Club and Soup/Supper for season
- June 2 – Church on the Rocks starts; Sundays 8am near Father Baragas Cross in Schroeder
- Bible Club – Wednesdays 3:15-4:30 pm at BGCC through May 8
- Children's Church – Sundays during Zoar worship service
- Adult Bible Study – Mondays 6:00-7:30 pm at Zoar or via Zoom

(Pastor's Corner Continued)

Washing feet was the job of the lowest servant; no one of any importance would be doing that! But Jesus said, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45)

Jesus went on to serve all mankind by dying on the cross; He expects His people to follow His example of serving others – even if it means doing the lowliest of tasks, even when serving is a little unpleasant.

During this wonderful time of year, think about Jesus dying on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and, on Easter Sunday, rising from the dead. By doing this, Jesus defeated both sin and death. I pray each of you will spend Easter with your loved ones and will enjoy serving one another.

Blessings, Pastor Al

He is risen! He is risen indeed!

Chosen People Ministries

~ March Mission Project ~

Chosen People Ministries is a mission to Jewish people around the world to support their community and culture and teach about Jesus the Messiah. Zoar donations go to the regional center in the Twin Cities and Duluth to support those Jewish communities and further understanding of Jesus.

Alianza Internacional de Ayuda

~ May Mission Project ~



AIA (Alianza Internacional de Ayuda) was established in 2020 to serve the poorest people in Peru. We met them through Richard Mamani Cruz and his wife, Roxana. AIA was instrumental in delivering materials for Richard to build solar panels at the school in Chichillapi high in the Andes as

well as making much-needed repairs at Bethel Church deep in the jungle. Richard and Roxana have been invited back to the Tofte community this Spring; please join us in praying for their return.

Lutheran Indian Ministries

~ June Mission Project ~



Lutheran Indian Ministries proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ with Native American peoples, disciples Native leaders to share the Gospel with their brothers and sisters, addresses social sufferings in a way that values Native cultures, and envisions a day when all nations walk together in Christian fellowship. Lutheran Indian Ministries serves Native American communities in the Alaskan interior, Hawaii, the Pacific northwest, and the southwestern US.



Zoar Church has a YouTube ministry with encouraging and challenging mini-messages posted every Tuesday. You can find the link on Zoar's Web page or on YouTube at:

@lindaalexander-goodnewsath5013.

In 3-4 minutes you can gain something to ponder and learn each week.

MN Adult & Teen Challenge

~ April Mission Project ~

Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge assists people in gaining freedom from chemical addictions and other life-controlling problems by addressing their physical, emotional and spiritual needs.



Adult & Teen Challenge
Minnesota

We are excited to announce that the Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge Choir will lead worship at Zoar on **Sunday April 7th**. They will perform songs and harmonies and give testimonies of what God has done and how He is working in their lives. We look forward to an amazing time of worship, praise, fellowship and testimonies. An offering to support Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge will be taken.

Zoarkins Update

Children's Church (Zoarkins Time) continues to be fun for all as we have anywhere from 3-9 kids in the classroom. We dance and sing, do crafts and learn a little more about Jesus every time we meet. Judy M. is a favorite of the kids as she has the best craft activities! Zoarkins artwork, pictures and prayers are featured in the Zoarkins Grotto downstairs. Come to Soup/Supper and check out the creativity.

If you've got school-age kids, we'd love to see them on Sundays at 9:30 am for this special time.



Need a Ride?

We all know transportation can be difficult at times. If you need a ride to attend Sunday worship or Wednesday Soup Suppers, or if you're willing to drive, please call the church or Pastor Al. We'll connect passengers and drivers. It's a great way to get to know each other better and share the warmth of our community!



North Shore Living Ministry



This past year, Ken Netland has served the residents at North Shore Living in Grand Marais by leading Bible studies and visiting shut-ins. When the care center was shut down due to COVID, Ken visited residents in their rooms, in accordance with the rules, ensuring the residents had someone to talk to and pray

with. In addition, Lavona C and Marsha H lead a monthly singalong with the residents and Zoar leads worship on the 4th Sunday of each month (and on Easter Sunday this year) at 2pm. Jesus said, “...whatever you did for the least of these...you did for me.” (Matthew 25:40) If you’d like to help with this work of love and service, please contact Pastor Al (zoarchurchtofte@gmail.com).

Befriender Opportunities!



We’re excited to announce Zoar is working with Lutsen Mountain and Caribou Highlands to greet and support international workers as they cycle in and out of our community. Student workers are often here for 3-6 months and benefit greatly from

opportunities to use their English and learn more about our culture.

We are looking for people to drive on occasion (to/from church services, soup/suppers or social activities we host), help plan and organize activities (possibly a trip to Grand Marais or Ely, picnic in the park, soccer match or game night), or just be willing to talk and engage with these workers when they are around us.

This is a terrific opportunity for us to share the love of Christ and learn more about other countries and people. If you’d like to be involved, please contact Zoar Church by email (zoarchurchtofte@gmail.com) or call/text Linda Alexander at 612-817-8045.

India Church Dedicated to Zoar Church



Bishop Kishore Daroga came to Zoar last year, prepared a meal and spoke about the amazing things God is doing in Andhra Pradesh, India. By God’s grace, Bishop Kishore has planted or rebuilt 14 churches serving more than 2000 people (mostly former Hindus).

Zoar sent a special gift to the ministry last Fall and designated the ministry as our January mission-of-the-month this year.

Significant repairs to the 15th church are nearly complete and, in appreciation, on April 9, Bishop Kishore will dedicate the church and name it ZOAR after Zoar Lutheran Church in Tofte. Thanks to all who have contributed to Bishop Kishore’s ministry in India. I am delighted that Zoar is touching people across the world for Jesus.

Prayer Requests

Please send your prayer requests to the church (zoarchurchtofte@gmail.com) or Pastor Al (ala010111@gmail.com). It is our privilege to pray for the concerns of the Zoar family.

Prayer is one of the most amazing gifts God gives to His people. You can go right into the Father’s throne room and let Him know what is on your heart. I encourage everyone to take advantage of the wonderful privilege of prayer. Also, please consider being part of Zoar’s prayer chain. (Contact Pastor Al). You can make a difference. Prayer changes things.

