

Zoar Church (LCMC)
PO Box 2098
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Tofte, MN 55615

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Zoar Church Summer Newsletter 2026

Church on the Rocks



We're BAAAAACK...at least we will be! On May 31st, Church on the Rocks restarts for the summer months (continuing weekly through September 13th). Please join us for a lively contemporary worship service – 8am Sundays near Father Baraga's Cross on Lake Superior. Start your week with a brisk meeting in God's great outdoors, a North Shore and Zoar Church tradition since 1978!

♥ Memorial Blood Centers Community Blood Drive

Monday July 20th

The Memorial Bloodmobile will be at Zoar on **Monday July 20th** from **2:00pm-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 Anna Latz at annamlatz@gmail.com



Sunday service: 9:30 Sanctuary & streaming on Facebook

Church office hours: Friday 8am-11am

Pastor's office hours: by appointment 218-663-7925

Zoar Church, Tofte, MN is affiliated with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

The Beacon

ZOAR CHURCH PARISH NEWS

A Beacon of Hope on the North Shore



Pastor's Corner Faith Over Fear

~Pastor Al Alexander~



My favorite T-shirt says, "Faith over Fear". You see, there is a direct relationship between faith and fear; the greater your faith, the less your fear. These days, we could all benefit from a little (or a LOT!) less fear.

Faith over fear is a core Christian truth. David writes in Psalm 56:3, "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you." When Jairus learned his daughter died, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe." (Mark 5:36). When Jesus calmed the storm, Jesus told the terrified disciples, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" (Matthew 8:26) and when Peter walked on water with Jesus, he saw the wind, became afraid and started to sink. Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" (Matthew 14:31).

Would you like less fear? Here's what to do. If you're not a Christian, consider the claims of Jesus. Talk to a pastor. Read the Bible. A good place to start is the Gospel of John. If you are a Christian, get and stay close to Jesus, read and study the Bible, make prayer a priority, drive habitual sin from your life and put your Christian beliefs into action. Jesus never promised easy, but life is easier with Jesus. The greater your faith, the less your fear.

Upcoming Spring/Summer Message Series

Pastor Al continues preaching from the Gospel of Matthew, an eyewitness account of Jesus' ministry, teachings, miracles, prophecies and fulfilled prophecies. We're currently in Chapter 10 and will continue to work our way through Matthew verse by verse.

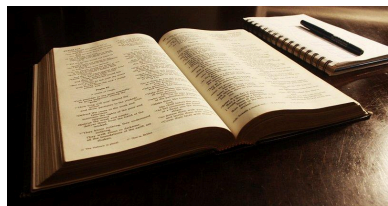
Our goal is to help people be confident about who Jesus is and to understand His teachings and expectations for His followers so we can live the good Christian life.

Please join us each Sunday for worship at 9:30 am in the sanctuary (also streaming on Facebook) or On the Rocks at 8:00 am near Fr. Baraga's Cross (May 31st through September 13).

Zoar Calendar

- Sundays 9:30am – Zoar Worship Service, Gospel of Matthew
- Sundays 8:00am May 31-Sept 13 – Church on the Rocks (near Father Baraga's Cross)
- Mondays 6:00-7pm Community Bible Study, Paul's Letters
- 3rd Sunday each Month – KID FRIENDLY Service (June 21, July 19 and so on)
- Saturday June 27 – Kids day trip to Lake Vermillion-Soudan Mine. Departure time TBD
- JULY 4 – Celebrate July 4th with grilled goodies and Quilt Raffle!
- Tue, Wed, Thu July 7-9 – Vacation Bible School (VBS) 6:00-7:30 pm
- Monday, July 20 - Bloodmobile at Zoar 2-6 pm (Appointment Required)
- Sunday July 19, 26 & Aug 2 – Pastor Emeritus Daren Blanck preaches
- Wednesday August 12 – All-Church Picnic, 5:30-7:30pm at Tofte Park

Lifelong Learning



Surely you know lifelong learning is one of the keys to living a longer and happier life. We're thrilled that more people have joined

the Community Bible Study and are exploring the depths of the Bible. The Bible is known as the living Word for a reason – its insights and truths are timeless, applying just as much today as 2000 years ago. The current study is from the letters of Paul (Galatians now, Ephesians, Philippians and Colossians to follow). Want to join us? Come to Zoar Church on Mondays at 6pm or log in on Zoom using the link Linda will email you each week (contact lmsalexand@gmail.com).

Zoar Summer News!

We're again planning fun activities for kids and families. What you need to know:

Summer Camp funds are available to any local children who are attending a Christian Camp (e.g., Story Book Lodge or Cathedral of the Pines or other) – call the church to make arrangements.

All kids are invited to join in a day trip to the Soudan Mine in Ely! Transportation, tickets and lunch/snacks provided. Mom/Dad – you're welcome to join too!

Call or Email zoarchurchtofte@gmail.com.

Vacation Bible School welcomes all kids ages 5-13. Join us for songs, games, Bible lessons and crafts! Tue-Thurs July 7-9 from 6:00-7:30pm.

August 12, 5:30-7:30pm, we will again host our All-Church Picnic at Tofte Park with grillers, chips and beverages provided. Pastor Al promises some fun games/events. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.



New Members/Associate Members

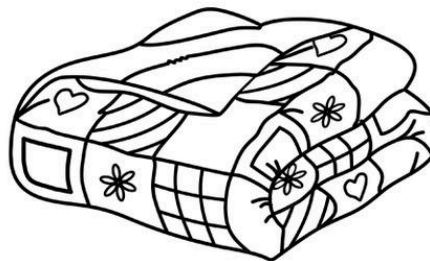


Zoar recently welcomed 3 new members and would be delighted to welcome you too. If you're ready to go deeper in learning about God, yourself, service to

others and serving God, become a member! Zoar has two types of membership: Voting Members who are typically those who regularly attend Zoar services and functions. Associate Membership is a great alternative for those who watch online. Associate members may hold positions of leadership and have partial voting rights (except for calling a pastor or determining church doctrine) and can retain affiliation with another church.

If you are part of the extended Zoar community and would like to connect more with this welcoming band of believers, consider becoming an Associate or Voting member. It's a single class meeting with Pastor Al (could be online) where he shares who we are, what we believe and the responsibility of church members. Contact Pastor Al to let him know if you're interested.

Quilt Raffle



Zoar is excited to be holding a Quilt Raffle along with our July 4th Fundraiser.

Tickets will be sold starting June 7 and will be \$5 each. The

hand-made quilt is sure to be an heirloom addition to your home so don't miss this opportunity. Tickets will be available through Zoar Church, either in person or online. Details will be posted later.

MN Adult & Teen Challenge

~ May 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.

They offer effective and affordable programs throughout Minnesota in the form of long-term, faith-based recovery programs and also short-term licensed treatment programs.

Birch Grove Kids Meals

~ August Mission Project ~



With limited resources, Birch Grove Community School provides breakfast bars in the morning which, in many cases, keeps children from starting the school day hungry so they are better able to concentrate on learning. BGCS also serves a hot lunch four days a week. One day a week students bring lunch from home due to the kitchen being used to serve Senior Lunch. Zoar's contribution assists BGCS in purchasing breakfast bars and food for children that forget a lunch from home. BGCS appreciates your support in this program.

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.



Read your Bible 
 & Pray Every Day 
 & you'll grow, grow,
GROW!

Starfish Fund

~ July Mission Project ~

In addition to the support that we provide to national and international missions, we also support the needs of our local community. During the month of July, we collect funds for our Starfish Fund which supports community members in times of need.

