

Encounter Christ...Grow in faith...Love as Christ loved...Tell the Story

The Year to Come

I haven't written a newsletter article since May. That really hasn't been my intention. I usually combine June and July, but now it's August., and I never got the June/July one done. Such is the way my life has been. In the midst of everything else going on, the newsletter tends to be what I don't get done. I'm sure there are some of you who rarely get the newsletter read and never missed it, but I think it can be a helpful way to stay connected, especially for the folks who can't get to church. So, I'm back at it.

Typically my August newsletter outlines the upcoming year's plans for worship, education and service. I don't have a lot of detail on how the year's plans are shaping up, but will review how things went last year and talk a bit about the coming year in general terms.

Last year in honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we took a break from the lectionary for most of the year to preach and teach through Martin Luther's Small Catechism. I enjoyed the change of pace and enjoyed preaching the series. I especially enjoyed thinking about what the catechism has to say to us in the midst of our own contemporary situations.

This year in worship we'll return to the Narrative Lectionary. This year is Matthew's year. We'll start with some Old Testament, and in Advent move into Matthew's gospel. I've found the Narrative Lectionary invaluable for preaching and teaching the whole arc of the biblical story.

Sunday school will be much as it has been—twice a month. This year the focus will be on learning the Bible stories as well as memorizing some things like the Lord's prayer. We'll have a new class this year with Brock H. and Henry N. The plan is to use Augsburg's Whirl curriculum. We are working on another volunteer or volunteers for the younger group.

Service projects got a bit of a short shrift last year. After Sam got sick and that kind of took me out of doing more than the basic minimums of my job. That tells me we may need to think a little bit more about how to be intentionally involved in service and outreach to the communities we live in. It can't be all on one person to arrange, be it pastor or other member. I would like to gather a group of folks who are interested in service and outreach to meet once, maybe in September, with the idea of setting some service and outreach goals and dividing up responsibility for making arrangements.

I am looking forward to the coming year. It will hopefully be a more "normal" year for me, but we never get that guarantee. I have greatly appreciated that this is a congregation that pitches in to do what's needed, whatever happens in the pastor's life.

In Christ's peace,

Pastor Kris

August Calendar

August 5 9:00 am—Worship with Holy Communion

August 12 9:00 am—Worship

August 19 No worship

Pork BBQ – we will have a brief prayer service before the BBQ

August 26 9:00 am—Worship

Pastor Kris will be on vacation August 24—28. Pastor Glenda Ferguson will cover for emergencies. Her number is 402-443-5503.

August helpers

Cleaners—Carol and Harvey Mintzmeyer

Lectors—Nygrens

Ushers—Rick McKinley/Harvey Mintzmeyer

Communion Assistant—Megan Patent-Nygren

Contact Information

Pastor Kris Bohac—402 499 4993

krisbo90@gmail.com

President Charlie Rine—402.261.4772

Facebook—[Zion Lutheran Church ELCA](#)

Website—www.zionithaca.org