



GRAPEVINE

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH IS A MOSAIC COMMUNITY SHARING THE GRACE OF CHRIST WITH ALL...

BAG FLUFFING

FOR CORNUCOPIA FOOD PANTRY
Fourth Monday at 1:00pm
Zion Lutheran Church – Youth Center!



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

CROSS-CULTURAL
INTERGENERATIONAL INTERFAITH
ZION'S 2024
CIVIL RIGHTS TRIP
TO ATLANTA

June 20-25, 2024

MAY 2024

Sunday Worship at 9:15am

In Person & Facebook live

Burmese Worship at 10:30am

Zion Lutheran Church
925 5th Avenue
Rockford, Illinois 61104

Phone: 815-964-4609
www.zionrockford.com
zionrockford@gmail.com



Around The Tables
May 19, 2024 at 10:15am
Fellowship Hall

**"WHY DO WE CELEBRATE
PRIDE MONTH"**
LED BY EDED BROWN
THE LIAM FOUNDATION



"SOLAR ENERGY"

LED BY BRAD ROOS
SUSTAIN ROCKFORD

June 2, 2024
at 10:15am
Fellowship Hall



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"Talking Trash About Recycling"

Presented by
Corinne Sosso
Executive Director of
Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful

June 9, 2024 at 10:15am

PASTOR'S CORNER

ZION COOKOUT AT CARS & COFFEE!

Zion is going to be cooking hotdogs and brats at the May 4th Cars & Coffee Rockford Car Show outside of Katie's Cup, along with a drink, chips and a cookie. This fundraiser is coordinated by the Zion Lutheran Church Multicultural Committee. They will be organizing the grilling on May 4th at Cars & Coffee from 10am-noon. Please come on out to support our efforts. Zion is a sponsor for this community building activity on the first Saturday of the month. Zion members also sell the Katie's Cup coffee and donuts. If you are interested in helping, let me know.

ROCKFORD MIDTOWN MARKET

The Thursday market starts on June 6th in the RPS205 parking lot. This is a Katie's Cup program and the market coordinator is Malika Miller. She has arranged to have 14 different vendors for the weekly market, which includes produce, crafts, soaps, clothes, a food truck and music every week. The market is SNAP friendly.

2024 CIVIL RIGHTS TRIP

Last chance to register for the 2024 Civil Rights Trip to Atlanta. We are going June 20-25 and adults and teenagers can attend. For registration information, contact the office. This is a ministry of Zion coordinated by the Multicultural Committee Peace to you today!

><> Pastor Thomas



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FELLOWSHIP & GATHERINGS

I am so grateful that our Sunday morning fellowship gatherings continue to grow under the leadership of Bonnie Dahlberg and Debbie Raymond. We have added our new kitchen chairs and varnished kitchen cabinets. We have more Sunday morning forums and conversations. In 2022, we had new chairs for the fellowship hall that makes them easy to clean.

Recently we were able to get new tables for the Fellowship Hall. We want to thank Sue Drilling for her support in getting the new chairs and tables for the Fellowship Hall through the memorials given to Zion in memory of her parents, Bill and Hazel Drilling. The Drillings were always grateful for the fellowship of friends gathering for worship and in the fellowship hall. Join us around the tables for community meals, conversations and activities!



INTERN RACHEL'S GREETING



Happy May! Including May, I have four months left of my internship here with you all! It is so hard for me to even believe that. I know that I have said this before but I am incredibly grateful for this community. I feel like I have been able to blossom as a ministerial leader here and that is because of the guidance and leadership I have as well as the willingness from the entire congregation to be open to me and what I have to bring. I am very thankful for you all here at Zion as well as the Midtown community.

I love springtime. I love the warmth of the sun and the cooling of the rain. I love thunderstorms and wet dewy grass in the morning. I love watching the grass turn greener and greener and watching flowers bloom from the ground and on trees. I love watching the world come back to life. We can feel it too. Creation has new life every spring and it never fails to amaze me. I love the yearly reminder that there is life after death. In the winter, the grass dies and the trees lose their leaves. We are covered in a cold blanket and put into a position of reflection on what was before. When spring comes, we are welcomed back to a renewed hope. We go outside and do yard work to free our lands of what lies on top, blocking the sun and halting our growth. Every spring I feel a cosmic invitation to welcome the new and release what once was. I feel this invitation this spring specifically. This spring I am engulfed in the new life that I hold inside me. I have never experienced this feeling before. Not only is creation in a new season, my husband and I are in a new season of our own as well. I am so excited for what is to come. I feel blessed to be on this journey while I am still here as an intern. May we all remember to take time this spring season to find ways to welcome the new and let go of what once was. May we all take a moment to appreciate what God has done for us and continues to do. May we all feel the warmth of the sun and the cooling of the rain!

Intern Rachel Perkins-Gama



ZION MINISTRIES

PANTRY DONATIONS - Thank you all for supporting WOZ (Women of Zion) in our effort to collect food for Cornucopia Food Pantry. I was thrilled to see the grocery cart full on the last several Sundays during March! May request: **cans of meat: tuna, chicken, beef, etc.** You can put the items in the grocery cart in the Narthex or bring to the church office. Thanks again! Karen Kermgard



BAGGING FOR CORNUCOPIA - We are in need of plastic shopping bags for the Pantry. Please drop off at the office and join us on the fourth Monday, at 1:00 PM, in the Youth Center for lots of fun while we fluff, & bag (Coffee & treats too) for Cornucopia Pantry! Thanks, Karen Kermgard.

WOMEN OF ZION - Join Women of Zion on May 16th Thursday for our annual salad luncheon. We have many fun Spring/Summer activities planned for the ladies of our church. Continue to look for more information in The Grapevine and weekly bulletins. WOZ Board: Karen Kermgard, Maggi Hallin, Kathy Rasch, Linda Reinhardt and Sue Drilling

WORSHIP LEADERS - Would you like to be a Communion Assistant, Reader, Sound, Usher, Greeter or Worship Host? You could have the assignment on the first, second, third or fourth Sunday of each month at the 9:15am worship service. Please let the church office know if you are available, interested or have a question.

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY - join us in the Zion Library at 9:30am

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY at Stockholm Inn, 8:00am—feel free to join these groups



GOLF OUTING

Wednesday, May 22

7:30 am Registration
8:00am am Shotgun Start



Timber Pointe Golf Club
5750 Woodstock Road, Poplar Grove, 20 minutes east of Rockford
\$100 per golfer
Includes cart, fees, golf balls, tees, lunch & gift bag
Performance prizes awarded
Funds Benefit Katie's Cup



CINCO DE MAYO NIGHT

Sunday, May 5, 2024 from 4-7pm

Food, drink, music, dance, cultural learning & advocacy

DONATION: \$5
BENEFITS LULAC,
A NON-PROFIT THAT SERVES
THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY



PARTICIPANTS
Trinadora & Other
Musicians &
Dance Groups

Sponsored by Katie's Cup
Located at
502 Seventh Street
Rockford, IL 61104



Midtown Community Health Team

MIDTOWN FUN & HEALTH FAIR



Saturday
June 8, 2024
from 11am-2pm

Patriots Gateway Community Center
615 S. Fifth Street - Rockford, IL



Zion Lutheran Church

COOKOUT AT
CARS & COFFEE ROCKFORD

MAY 4, 2024

10AM-NOON

RAISING FUNDS FOR CIVIL RIGHTS TRIP

APRIL 14TH—THANK YOU MARY WEDEL



We gathered together on Sunday, April 14th to thank Faith Community Nurse, Mary Wedel. Mary has served at Zion since 2020 and is retiring from her service at OSF Saint Anthony as a Faith Community Nurse. She has been a blessing at Zion, especially during the pandemic by providing us safe and wise advise. We thank God for her and her family. The fellowship time was a great blessing and we will miss her. St. Anthony Hospital is looking into hiring a new Faith Community Nurse. We will be informed if they do and they are assigned to serve with our parish.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Bonnie Dahlberg, Donna Leger, Angeles Polcher, Toni Wallin, and Ruth Larsen.

Fellowship is once again flourishing at Zion Church: 10:15am on Sunday mornings. We are having from 25 to 70 people in attendance depending on the Sunday. It's obvious that the people at Zion enjoy fellowship time with each other. We also have from 2 -5 men who routinely attend our fellowships who have become acquainted with us from Ruthies Kitchen. They have told us that they feel very welcome and one routinely attends the church service as well. So many members have stepped up and sponsored Sundays which has been wonderful. We have celebrated birthdays, Around the Table discussions, Adult forums, Retirements, and special Christian Holidays. People have been very generous in donating treats and providing monetary support for further Fellowships. We have been very appreciative of everyone's interest in supporting Fellowship time at Zion. It has been heartwarming to hear all of the conversations and laughter that takes place during these times. We are happy to be able to provide once again the opportunity for people to come together and fellowship weekly after church service.

MAY 2024 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:15am Worship	29 8:00am Miss Carly's Sandwich making - kitchen 9:30am Book Study - Library	30 8:30am Staff Meeting 5:30pm Patriots Gateway Center Open House 6:00pm Church Council Retreat - Zion	1 8:00am Bible Study - Stockholm Inn 8:00am Miss Carly's Sandwich making - kitchen 5:00pm WOW - Fellowship Hall	2 National Day of Prayer 1:00pm Songs That Changed the World - Katie's Cup 6:00pm Sustainability Movement Meeting - Fellowship Hall	3 Office Closed 9:00am Private Music Lesson - Youth Center	4 9:00am Cars & Coffee and cook out- RPS Parking Lot
5 DIAKONIA Sunday 9:15am Worship 4:00pm Cinco De Mayo - Katie's Cup	6 8:00am Miss Carly's Sandwich making - kitchen 9:30am Book Study - Library	7 8:30am Staff Meeting 9:00am Worship Committee - Library	8 8:00am Bible Study - Stockholm Inn 8:00am Miss Carly's Sandwich making - kitchen 9:00am Grapevine Articles Due 11:00am Missions Team - Zion 5:00pm WOW - Fellowship Hall	9 4:00pm Katie's Cup Board 5:30pm Zion Development Board	10 Office Closed 9:00am Private Music Lesson - Youth Center	11 1:00pm Ruthie's Kitchen & Closet
12 Mother's Day 9:15am Worship	13 8:00am Miss Carly's Sandwich making - kitchen 9:30am Book Study - Library	14 8:30am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Katie's Cup Conversation	15 8:00am Bible Study - Stockholm Inn 8:00am Miss Carly's Sandwich making - kitchen 12:00pm Miss Carly's Board Meeting - Youth Center 5:00pm WOW - Fellowship Hall	16 Grapevine Mailing 11:00am Finance Committee - Library 12:00pm Women of Zion Annual Salad Luncheon	17 Office Closed 9:00am Private Music Lesson - Youth Center	18
19 Pentecost 9:15am Worship 10:15am Around the Tables - Fellowship Hall	20 8:00am Miss Carly's Sandwich making - kitchen 9:30am Book Study - Library	21 8:30am Staff Meeting 3:30pm Building and Grounds 6:00pm Church Council Retreat - Zion	22 7:30am Katie's Cup Golf Outing - Timber Pointe 8:00am Bible Study - Stockholm Inn 8:00am Miss Carly's Sandwich making - kitchen 5:00pm WOW - Fellowship Hall	23 11:00am Memorial Team 1:00pm Bag Fluffing—Youth Center 4:30pm Patriots Board	24 Office Closed 9:00am Private Music Lesson - Youth Center	25 1:00pm Ruthie's Kitchen & Closet
26 Trinity Sunday 9:15am Worship	27 Memorial Day 8:00am Miss Carly's Sandwich making - kitchen	28 5:00pm HR Committee 6:00pm Church Council	29 8:00am Bible Study - Stockholm Inn 8:00am Miss Carly's Sandwich making - kitchen 5:00pm WOW - Fellowship Hall	30	31 Office Closed 9:00am Private Music Lesson - Youth Center	1

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Our Ministers - All the People of Zion

Senior Pastor Michael Thomas
Pastoral Intern Rachel Perkins-Gama
Pastor Emeritus Denver Bitner
Office Manager: Jolyn Hess
Outreach Coordinator: Janice Forrest
Faith Community Nurse: Mary Wedel
Music Ministry Coordinator: Jodi Beach
Custodians: Shanita Baker and
Denzel Banks
Worship Media: Kurt Brown

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Michael Beert, Pam Bitner, Bonnie Dahlberg,
Gary Fulkerson, Debbie Gortowski, Thomas Habing,
Karen Kermgard, Angeles Polcher, Debbie Raymond,
Ron Simmons, Kris Sommer,
Pastor Michael Thomas, and Neal Tolodxi

Church Council Officers

President: Kris Sommer
Vice-President: Thomas Habing
Treasurer: Michael Beert
Secretary: Bonnie Dahlberg
Pastor: Michael E. Thomas

www.zionrockford.com

www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford

www.youtube.com/zionrockford

GRAPEVINE DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE 2024 GRAPEVINE, EMAIL BY MAY 8, 2024 to submit an article: zionrockford@gmail.com, or please send a hardcopy to the church office.

OFFERINGS & DONATIONS WELCOMED!

Mailed...In-Person...Online

We are grateful for your generosity in supporting our ministries at and beyond Zion. There are envelopes in the place you are sitting at in worship and in the lobby of the church. Donations can be mailed to the church office or placed in the Offering Box in the back at the pole on the pulpit side before, during and after worship. You can also donate through the mobile app called, **Vanco Mobile**. You can download the Vanco Mobile app for free from the App Store or Google Play. From there, you can make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving right through the app to our various ministries. If you have questions with online or the mobile app, please email zionrockfordfinances@gmail.com for more information.

PRAYER CORNER

WE ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:

- ◇ The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Pastor Michael Thomas, Pastoral Intern Rachel Perkins-Gama, Pastor Emeritus Denver Bitner, the Zion Church Council, Pastor Caleb Uk of the Burmese congregation; the Zion Staff, Zion Outreach Board, Staff and Programs of Patriots' Gateway Center, Katie's Cup and Zion Development Corporation.
- ◇ Pastor Cosmas Mujungu of Sepuka Parish
- ◇ Pastor Selvakumar and Arcot Lutheran Church in India and Sepuka/Msisi Church in Tanzania.
- ◇ For the Northern Illinois Synod; North Conference churches; Midtown Lutheran Parish, Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries.
- ◇ For those who grieve loss of loved ones: Shirley Simmons, Kevin, and Sonja Brace.
- ◇ For healing: Eloise Anderson, Chiquita Bills, Phyllis Brynteson, Colette Buchert, Linda Callahan, Yolanda Churchill, Charlie Dahlberg, Norma Daugherty, Jim Duhigg, Deanna Hartenberg, Vanda Nielsen, Linda Reinhardt, Wayne Spitzer, Carrie Steder, and Megan Zaphel.

If you have a prayer request or a prayer of gratitude to share, please notify Pastor Mike or Intern Rachel. The prayer room is upstairs to the left of the sanctuary and is available during office hours and on Sunday before and after worship services.

VANCO
FAITH



Zion Lutheran Church
925 Fifth Avenue
Rockford, Illinois 61104

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ROCKFORD, IL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*“A Mosaic Community Sharing
the Grace of Christ with All”*

Place mailing label here.

GRAPEVINE

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH IS A MOSAIC COMMUNITY SHARING THE GRACE OF CHRIST WITH ALL...

Zion is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

PARTNERSHIPS



Sunday Worship at 9:15am In the Worship Space

Also Facebook Live/Online Worship

(Also posted at www.youtube.com/zionrockford afterwards)

Burmese Worship at 10:30am In the Chapel