



## **Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:**

In the interest of brevity, it has been requested that we keep the Prayer List in the Bulletin, and mentioned during services, for people who are experiencing immediate health issues and not those with chronic health issues. However, we want to continue to remember all who are experiencing health problems in their lives in our prayers. Therefore, we are now going to list everyone to remember in your prayers on the website and newsletter. **If you have asked for someone to be on the prayer list and they are doing better or can even be removed, please Geri know so she can keep the list updated.**

Please pray for † Linda Laager's siblings and family as they have Covid † Raymond Masloski † Sue Christenson †  
† Joyce Zimmerman † Kayla Thompson † Connie Homstad Bergeson † Wyatt Brusseau † Dan Remer †  
† Tom Swanson † Terri Christopherson † Sandy Alper † Eddie Weleski † Dale Van Dale † Darlene Carlson †  
† Velva Larter † Jessie Muir † Tom Brownrigg † Erich Hartwig † Virginia Coffield † Chris Danzl † Jeff Christiansen †  
† Dick Olson † Owen & Janet Swenson † Owen Swenson † Galen Schultz † Ann Lasky † Audrey Hartje †  
† Landon Labine†

† Armed Forces † our Law Enforcement † our First Responders †

Let's also pray for wisdom for all world leaders in the time of this world-wide health pandemic and for all who have contracted the Corona Virus that God lays healing hands upon them and they are able to make a successful recovery.

**IN MEMORY:** Please keep families and friends of the following in your prayers:

† Ronald Hanson † Clarence Renville † Paul Olsonawski † Peg Carpenter † Henrietta Schultz †  
† Brett Anderson † Kevin Olson †

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**Prayer Requests or Announcements:**  
[shirleys@wiktel.com](mailto:shirleys@wiktel.com) text 218-843-1067  
or leave notes on desk by computer

**Ushers:** Laverne & Pat Isaacson  
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**Do you want your newsletter emailed to you? If so, please email me and I will put you in the distribution list.**

## The Pastor's Corner: A Message from Pastor Andy

Would you look at that? It has already been a calendar month since we started this journey together and there is no turning back now. As the fall quickly approaches it brings with it the next cycle in the church year: confirmation, Sunday school, back to school festivities, and looking forward to a change in parament color (if you're a church nerd!). With all of this transition, change and fresh starts comes a lot of anxiety and worry, and we all feel it in different ways. Some of us get nervous energy and stay productive and active; some of us freeze up and plant ourselves in a comfy spot; others of us do other things to deal with all of the stress and anticipation of new starts.

It's okay to feel whatever you feel!

This is the first time in a very long time where I am not formally preparing for the beginning of the school year. I have been a student for a very long time, always riding the wave of summer leading to a new year in the fall. I did the normal K-12 cycles, but then it was time for college, then more college, then youth programming, and then more college, and then substituting teaching, and then more college...every step of the journey so far has been built around the ups and downs of the school year. That hasn't changed as I now prepare for the return to faith formation here in the church.

Sunday school is coming. Confirmation is coming. Bible studies will be developed.

The important thing for me to remember, and you as well, is that we are not on this journey alone. God is with us always, and that is something I tend to forget when the going gets tough. When I get worried or stressed about the amount of work that needs to be done to make something awesome, I tend to forget that God never leaves us, especially not when things get hard. In fact, often that's when I experience God's presence just a little bit stronger. Often it comes from an unexpected source too: a friendly wave as I drive up the road; a visit from a friend; a smile of a toddler; and even a rainstorm in the middle of the hottest stretch of weather. God is everywhere, in all things, and our challenge is to see it, to feel it, to experience that presence wherever we might find ourselves.

Now, receive this blessing: The world has waited long enough to hear your voice, to feel your feet treading with gentle curiosity, to see how you wear each adventure beyond the porch light of home.

You are always ready before I am, besting my instinct to keep you close. Thank God the world beckons you anyway, and the Spirit whispers a presence you cannot outlast.

Go, child, into the wild places where you will fail and fly and find newness of life. My heartstrings dance behind your figure like a kite tail rising in the wind, rejoicing in your freedom.

**(“For Sending a Child into the World”, Ordinary Blessings, Meta Herrick Carlson)**

## HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP



Sion is looking participants in our ministries!  
Is that you?

We are in desperate need of a Superintendent for Sunday School! Please consider taking on this most necessary work. Contact Pastor Andy, Torey, or any other Board member.

We are always looking for ministry volunteers: musicians, readers, ushers, Sunday school teachers, you name it we can use you!

### Amazon Smile

Sion Lutheran Church is registered on Amazon Smile now, so when you shop Amazon for all of your needs, switch to smile and select us as your charity of choice!



### Sunday School/Confirmation

We are working on Sunday School plans as I type this. There will be more information coming soon. The same goes for confirmation!

### Directory Updates

We are looking to update our directory, so we know how to get a hold of you for all the reasons: phone calls, snail mail, email, and random visits. If you could reach out to the church office and let us know how best to get a hold of you that would be a great help! All we really need is the basics:

Name(s):

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

You can send all of this information to the church email: [sionlutheran@gmail.com](mailto:sionlutheran@gmail.com) or leave it on a note for either Geri or Pastor Andy!

*P.S. If you would like to be removed from the list, we would like to know that as well!*

## "God's work. Our hands." Sunday



## God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

In addition to blessing backpacks on September 12, we're hoping to participate in God's Work, Our Hands Sunday! This year there are 2 specific projects we're looking to do:

- 1) Decorate birthday cards for children living in disaster impacted communities that are served by Camp Noah.
- 2) Collect Non-Perishable food items for senior meals

For more information about these and other projects, visit:

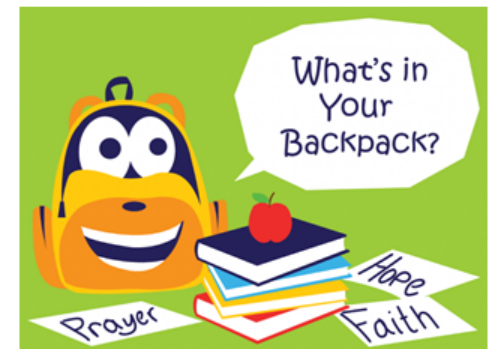
<https://www.lssmn.org/get-involved/volunteer/gods-work-our-hands/northwest>

## Back to School, Back to School!

Believe it or not another school year is upon us! In just a few short days (depending on when you are reading this) our students will be returning to the classroom for another year of learning. It's always amazing how time flies and how quickly things sneak up on you—like back-to-school days. Here at Sion, we're right there with you. As you all prepare to send your young ones off to school, we're gearing up to welcome them back to Sunday School, Confirmation, and all the other ministries that may be coming up soon.

To make this an awesome year of faith formation and education in the church we need some help, and here's what you can do to help:

1. Come to worship on September 12!
  - a. We're blessing backpacks, students, teachers, administrators, and everybody involved in school. We'll pray, sing, bless, and feast on goodies.
2. Sign your student(s) up on our Google Form, so we know who we can expect to participate.
  - a. Here is the link: <https://forms.gle/9JvqWnnfGUmPfup39>
3. Volunteer!
  - a. We're always looking for willing participants in our ministries here at Sion. There is no experience required, as we will walk with you through everything you would need/want to know!



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Together we can make this an awesome school year!

## National Youth Gathering: Everything You Need to Know Right now!

Hey you? Yes, you! Are you, or somebody in your household, going into 9<sup>th</sup> grade or will have finished 12<sup>th</sup> grade by 2022? Well, we would like to invite you to be a part of the National Youth Gathering cohort being formed now by the Kittson County Lutheran Churches (Lancaster, Hallock, Lake Bronson, Kennedy, Karlstad and Stephen).

Since this is a large undertaking, the leaders of these churches are pulling together to create one large group of youth. We will work together on fundraising, team building, bible study and preparation. Working together, as the body of Christ, we can accomplish so much more than if we were to act individually.

More information will be coming soon pertaining to sign-ups, initial meetings, and the like. Be watching your mailbox and/or email inbox for the Youth Gathering Information.

In the meantime, let's get our fundraising started!

We are putting a calendar together, and we would like you and your loved ones to sponsor a day. Here's how it works:



### 1) Pick a day to sponsor

- a) The day you pick could be a birthday, an anniversary, as a memorial, or a “just because” pick.
- b) Contact your pastor/youth leader with your “Date Order Form”
  - i) The leaders are collectively tracking orders on a single calendar
  - ii) Anyone from any of the churches can purchase a day, so don't hesitate—act now!
  - iii) You can purchase as many days as you would like, limited to availability!
- c) Pay your bill!
  - i) The amount owed for the day depends on which day of the month it is.
  - ii) For example: the 1<sup>st</sup> costs \$1; the 25 costs \$25
- d) Enjoy the result!
  - i) We hope to have the year sponsored by November 1<sup>st</sup>, so that we can assemble a calendar with pictures of the youth and the other local happenings to enjoy the whole year long.

We realize the gathering will have happened by the middle of summer, but we believe this is a fun fundraiser, we can celebrate all year.

Feel free to reach out to purchase your dates as soon as you read this article. We will make every effort to fill the calendar by November 1<sup>st</sup> so that the Calendars with the completed dates will be for sale in December. Spread the word because the dates can be purchased by anyone interested.

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## LAWNMOWING

Thank you everyone who has signed up to mow. If you have signed up for the Peterson Kids, they will contact you after they have mowed for payment. It is \$25 each time - typically 1 time per week if needed.

|                  |                              |                  |                               |
|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Week of Sept 5:  | Todd Nelson (Peterson Kids)  | Week of Sept 12: | Ken Peterson (Peterson Kids)  |
| Week of Sept 19: | Tim Peterson (Peterson Kids) | Week of Sept 26: | Greg Peterson (Peterson Kids) |

## MEALS ON WHEELS

Sion Lutheran is scheduled to deliver MEALS ON WHEELS during the month of September...Volunteers are needed! Please contact Judy Remer to sign up!

## DONATIONS VIA VENMO

Sion Lutheran now has Venmo! For those of you who don't know what Venmo is, it's an app that allows one to transfer money from one person/entity to another. Very handy in our distance living, as well as sending funds to college students, buying stuff online, etc. Now you can make your donations to Sion Lutheran through this app as well. The account name is attached below in a screenshot. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask. This goes directly to Sion's Bank Account.



Pastor: Andy Graves  
 Ushers: Laverne & Pat Isaacson  
 Comm Asst:

# September 2021

Church Phone: 218-762-1691  
 Parsonage: 218-762-5300

ALL SERVICES ARE IN PERSON OR YOU MAY WATCH LIVE [HERE](#)

| Sunday  | Monday                                      | Tuesday                     | Wednesday                | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------|----------|
|   |   |                             | 1)                       | 2)       | 3)     | 4)       |
| 5)<br>Coffee: P<br>9:30AM Worship<br>MOW: Todd Nelson (Peterson Kids)   | 6)  | 7)                          | 8)<br>5:30PM Council Mtg | 9)       | 10)    | 11)      |
| 12)<br>Coffee: STUVWXYZ<br>9:30AM Worship: Backpack Blessing<br>MOW: Ken Peterson (Peterson Kids)                     | 13)<br>3PM<br>American Legion Auxiliary Mtg | 14)                         | 15)                      | 16)      | 17)    | 18)      |
| 19) Fall Theological Conference (Pastor Andy)<br>Coffee: ABCDE<br>9:30AM Worship<br>MOW: Tim Peterson (Peterson Kids) | 20)   | 21)<br>Newsletter Items Due | 22)                      | 23)      | 24)    | 25)      |
| 26)<br>Coffee: FGHIJ<br>9:30AM Worship<br>MOW: Greg Peterson (Peterson Kids)  | 27)   | 28)                         | 29)                      | 30)      |        |          |