

The Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church

July 2026



This July - of the year of our Lord 2026 - is a uniquely memorable month, as we all know. We celebrate important anniversaries: some happy, some sad. And it is okay to engage in such activities; they can bring healing, laughter, reinforcement of noble and worthy ideas, and honor to those near to our hearts.

The whole idea of anniversaries, of cycles, of annual events is written into creation by our Creator. It is He who set the cycle of day and night into place. He chose the pattern of six days of work and the seventh day of rest (Genesis 2.2-3). Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring are enduring realities declared by God in Genesis 8:22. And when He created the culture for his people Israel, he commanded yearly festivals and annual worship events, along with special days of remembrance, redemption, and reclamation. Even the ministry of Jesus followed, and in some cases was ruled by, the annual festivals - especially Passover.

So what does this reveal to us about our God? And what shall we do with His governance of our lives? There are probably a number of answers to these questions. Let's consider just one primary truth. "God is not a God of confusion but of peace, so all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner." 1 Corinthians 14.33, 40

Let's be honest: this world is chaos and is bent toward turmoil and revels in disorder. Can you imagine the state of the world should God glance away even for a moment?

In his very essence, our God is a God of order. He took the nothingness and void and made a stable universe, and enduring physical laws, and systems of motion that regulate and control existence. All creation testifies to his power and wisdom; he has brought peace.

Inside this big picture we live and move and have our being (Acts 17.28). One purpose of anniversaries, then, is to experience the order and peace of God. Be it a birthday, a service of remembrance, an anniversary of a great event, each of these is one way we say, "Thank you, Father and Creator, for helping us manage the mess and the madness that invades our lives."

Happy 250 America! Rest in Peace all who died in the flood. 🙏 Psalm 90.12

Pastor Tim Sternberg



Council Corner

July 2026

"If you erase all of your bad memories, you erase all of your wisdom." – Unknown

A year ago, our community dealt with terrible tragedy and loss. It is always hoped that lessons are learned and that we all grow from shared experiences, be they good or bad. "The past is never completely lost, however extensive the devastation. Your sorrows are the bricks and mortar of a magnificent temple. What you are today and what you will be tomorrow are because of what you have been." Gordon Wright.

Henry Ford said "Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." We have seen small bits of this over and over this past year. We are blessed to have had many new beginnings and to have even more ahead.

Zachariah 4:10 "Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel's hand." We have learned to all row in the same direction and our work and faith has carried us to a new starting point. And now we have a new pastor and are ready to lean into the harness. Welcome the beginnings and opportunities ahead.

Welcome to Pastor Tim. Find a committee or project to share your talents. The prayer garden work, Vacation Bible School, Sunday school, the altar guild, audio visual and sound all need your energy.

"I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things." Mother Teresa

Leslie North
Council President

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Contact us!

Website: www.zionkerrville.org

Staff:

Financial Secretary- Diane Hartjen
Church Secretary- Johnna Taylor
Interim Children, Youth, and Family Coordinator-
Darla Pfiester
Worship & Music Director/Choir Director- Judy Johnson
Organist - Helen Steele
Organist/Choir Accompanist - Jonathan Shim
Contemporary Service Director- Dan Stisser
Bell Choir Director- Jim Abbatiello
Children's Center Director- Jessica Russell
Nursery Attendant-vacant
Custodian- Freddy Ortegon
Building & Grounds Coordinator - Ray Valero

Church Council Officers

President- Leslie North
Vice President- Tammy Myers
Secretary- Debby Jascur
Treasurer- Eric Roehl
Church Council: zion-council@zionkerrville.org
Rev. Dr. Tim Sternberg: Pastor-Tim@zionkerrville.org

Staff Emails:

Diane Hartjen: finance@zionkerrville.org
Johnna Taylor: office@zionkerrville.org
Jonathan Shim: jonathans@zionkerrville.org
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Media Center: mediacenter@zionkerrville.org
Judy Johnson: judyj4819@gmail.com
Dan Stisser: danmusic@zionkerrville.org
Children's Center: children@zionkerrville.org

Representatives

Children's Center- Larry Cattran
Property- Mike Collins
Outreach- Patty Putnam
Worship & Music- Kimber Rhoads
Parish Education - Jana Nolan
Stewardship - John Miller
Safety - Gary Hartjen

Our main purpose for being the church is enabling each person to grow a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Child, Youth, and Family Coordinator

Love Jesus? Love working with youth? Help us build the next generation!

Zion Lutheran Church in Kerrville is seeking a passionate, high-energy Child, Youth & Family Coordinator to join our team!

If you are a faithful leader with a heart for discipling youth and a knack for organizing communities, we want to hear from you. This is a unique opportunity to:

- Lead Bible-centered youth ministry & family outreach.
- Recruit and inspire volunteers to serve the Kingdom.
- Grow our mission in the heart of Texas.

Details: 24-30 hrs/week | Part-time (Full-time potential) | Based in Kerrville, TX.

Check out the full description and apply today at <https://zlckerrvilletx.org/job-opportunities/>

Questions? Send your resume and a letter of interest to office@zionkerrville.org

Worship & Music Notes

Judy Johnson

Every morning I read from Our Daily Bread, the devotional booklet available at the church. On June 3, the article was called “The Power of Music.” The story of the sinking of the ship Endurance into the icy Antarctic Sea with its 27 crew members made me shiver. After their rescue, the men shared several things that aided their survival, including a banjo, brought on board by Leonard Hussy, the ship’s meteorologist. The power of music in that dire situation was instrumental (pun intended) in keeping them positive and filled with hope. I’ve always said that if I were stranded on a desert island, I would need a piano!

Think of all the hundreds of references to music in scripture....an awesome gift of God to encourage, heal, soothe and praise! Can you even imagine your existence without music?? When King Saul was stressed, David was summoned to “take up his lyre and play.” And of course the Psalms are filled with music references. I listen to contemporary worship music at 99.9 FM (KLOVE). It’s fun to sing along with songs our Praise Team knows.

And we all know how putting information to music strengthens memory. Do you remember singing the Books of the Bible? Both my grandmother and great uncle were playing the piano in their respective nursing homes when they were 100 years old!

So how has music affected your life and faith? Has it deepened your relationship with God?

*When in our music God is glorified
And adoration leaves no room for pride
It is as though the whole creation cried:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Let ev’ry instrument be tuned for praise
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise
And may God give us faith to sing always:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

July Worship Assistants

Liturgists: Brenda Abbatiello, Judy Johnson, Carol Greene, Kimber Rhoads, Jonathan Shim

Ushers: Jim Motheral, Tim Tompkins, Chris Tompkins

July 5	9:00 a.m.	Reader:	Tammy Gold
	11:00 a.m.	Reader:	Diana Haverlah
		Altar Flowers:	Sandra Yarbrough
		Children's Message:	Pastor Tim Sternberg
July 12	9:00 a.m.	Reader:	Henrietta Keener
	11:00 a.m.	Reader:	Sharon Turlington
		Altar Flowers:	Ward Jones
		Children's Message:	Pastor Tim Sternberg
July 19	9:00 a.m.	Reader:	Beth Taylor
	11:00 a.m.	Reader:	BiBi Brown
		Altar Flowers:	Sybil Marsh
		Children's Message:	Pastor Tim Sternberg
July 26	9:00 a.m.	Reader:	Larry Cattran
	11:00 a.m.	Reader:	David Turlington
		Altar Flowers:	Children's Center
		Children's Message:	Pastor Tim Sternberg



Happy Birthday!

7/03	Marcus Bigott	7/13	Ward Jones	7/19	Marilyn Lampman	7/25	Lonny Papenhagen
7/07	Jerry Halloran	7/14	Mary Frushour	7/20	Robert Balser	7/26	Debra Richardson
7/07	Tim Welsh	7/14	Trenton Hannemann	7/20	Lane Taylor	7/27	Gloria Louk
7/08	Jim Abbatiello	7/15	Rochelle Reichenau	7/21	Winifred Meyer	7/28	David Oehler
7/08	Jackson Ellis	7/15	Laura Veale	7/22	Liam Crowe	7/29	Addison Ashcraft
7/09	Ryan Lentz	7/16	Bernadine Dittmar	7/22	Jonathan Shim	7/29	Amy Jones
7/11	Delbert Oehler	7/17	Carlo Martinez	7/22	Dana Widner	7/29	Donna Kelley
7/13	Mary Heimann	7/19	Merle Bohn	7/23	Michael Borchers	7/30	Jacqueline Mease
				7/25	Emma Behrens	7/31	Kate Bernhard
						7/31	Kyle Bernhard

WOMEN of the WORD

COMING EVENTS:

*A big thank you to all the ladies that helped with the Car Show Bake & Craft last month. Please watch the weekly bulletins and church information slides for any future WOW events this summer.

The WOW Board's next meeting will be on Monday, September 14th in the conference room. All ladies are welcome to attend. The Ladies' Breakfast Fellowship Group meets the second Monday each month at 9:00 at Cracker Barrel. Please come and join us!

The **Martha Circle** will take a summer break and meet again on Tuesday, September 1st at noon in the conference room.

The **Ruth/Rebecca Circle** will take a summer break and meet again on Thursday, September 3rd at 9:30 am in the conference room. Their study is [A Woman Jesus Can Teach](#) by Alice Matthews.

The **Deborah Circle** will take a summer break and meet again on Thursday, September 10th at 2:00 pm in the conference room. They will discuss Chapter 5 in the book [the book Overbooked and Overwhelmed](#) by Tara Sun.

Magdalene Evening Circle meets the first and third Tuesdays at 6:00 pm in the Chapel.

Zion Cares Ministry: If you know someone who might benefit from a casserole or has other needs, please contact the church office.

The Flower Ministry could use some more small bud vases.

Zion Men Of the Bible

Zion Men of the Bible (ZMOB) meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Our main focus is to study the Bible and discuss how it affects our daily lives. Our meetings start with a light dinner at 6:30 pm followed by discussion of any special activities that are being planned. Such activities include service projects and organizing special events like the Classic Car Show. The rest of the evening is devoted to Bible study.

For more information, please contact the church office.

July 2026



Every Sunday
 8:30 Prayer Cell
 9:00 Traditional Worship
 10:10 Children's Sunday School
 11:00 Contemporary Worship

All activities are subject to change

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00 ZLCC Chapel 12:00 Women's AA 5:30 Potluck for No Reason 7:00 AA	2 9:00 LWR Sewing 10:00 Ladies Bible Class 12:00 NA 6:00 Praise Team rehearsal 7:00 Nar-Anon	3 5:30 AA 7:00 Speaker Mtg	4 10:00 AA 10:00 NA 
5 Communion 9 & 11 Services 10:10 Lutheranism 101 for kids 10:15 Adult & Children Sunday School 6:00 NA	6 12:00 Women's AA 5:30 Men's Bible Study 6:00 Ladies Reflection AA 7:00 Zion Recovery	7 9:00 LWR Quilting 12:00 AA 6:00 Magdalene Circle 6:30 Men's Group	8 9:00 ZLCC Chapel 12:00 Women's AA 7:00 AA	9 9:00 LWR Sewing 10:00 Ladies Bible Class 12:00 NA 6:00 Praise team rehearsal 7:00 Nar-Anon	10 5:30 AA 7:00 Speaker Mtg	11 10:00 AA 10:00 NA
12 9 & 11 Services 10:10 Lutheranism 101 for kids 10:15 Adult & Children Sunday School 6:00 NA	13 8-12 VBS 9:00 Women's Fellowship Breakfast 12:00 Women's AA 5:00 Zion Cares 5:30 Men's Bible Study 6:00 Ladies Reflection AA 7:00 Zion Recovery	14 8-12 VBS 9:00 LWR Quilting 12:00 AA 5:30 Church Council	15 8-12 VBS 9:00 ZLCC Chapel 12:00 Women's AA 7:00 AA	16 8-12 VBS 9:00 LWR Sewing 12:00 NA 6:00 Praise team rehearsal 7:00 Nar-Anon	17 5:30 AA 7:00 Speaker Mtg	18 10:00 AA 10:00 NA
19 Communion 9 & 11 Services 10:10 Lutheranism 101 for kids 10:15 Adult & Children Sunday School 6:00 NA	20 9:00 Hill Country Quilt Guild 12:30 ZLCC Board Mtg 12:00 Womens AA 5:30 Men's Bible Study 6:00 Ladies Reflection AA 7:00 Zion Recovery	21 9:00 LWR Quilting 9:00 Hill Co. Quilt Guild 10:00 Staff Mtg 12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 Magdalene Circle 6:30 Men's Group	22 9:00 ZLCC Chapel 9:00 Hill Country Quilt Workshop 12:00 Women's AA 7:00 AA	23 9:00 LWR Sewing 10:00 Ladies Bible Class 12:00 NA 6:00 Praise team rehearsal 7:00 Nar-Anon	24 5:30 AA 7:00 Speaker Mtg LCMC Annual Gathering in New Braufels	25 10:00 AA 10:00 NA LCMC Annual Gathering in New Braunfels
26 9 & 11 Services 10:10 Lutheranism 101 for kids 10:15 Adult & Children Sunday School 12:30 Pastor Tim installation 6:00 NA	27 9:00 Holy Casserolers 12:00 Women's AA 5:30 Men's Bible Study 6:00 Ladies Reflection AA 7:00 Zion Recovery	28 9:00 LWR Quilting 10:00 Staff Mtg 12:00 AA	29 9:00 ZLCC Chapel 12:00 Women's AA 7:00 AA	30 9:00 LWR Sewing 10:00 Ladies Bible Class 12:00 NA 6:00 Praise team rehearsal 7:00 Nar-Anon	31 5:30 AA 7:00 Speaker Mtg	



Texas District

Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



HARVEST
WORKERS

It's Gathering Time! #CALLED2026

Have you ever sensed God nudging you? Ever get the feeling that God had something more for you in this life? If so, you are in good company! Across Texas and around the world, God still calls ordinary people like you and me into his extraordinary Kingdom work. The key question for us is how do we recognize and respond to being called? This summer, we will be exploring this question together. On July 24-25, Lutherans from across Texas will gather in New Braunfels for our 17th Annual LCMC Texas District Gathering. I personally would like to invite you to join us.

Our theme this year is CALLED, based on 2 Timothy 1:9: "He has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began." This grounds our understanding of what it means to be called: not because we have earned anything, but by God's own purpose and grace. The truth proclaimed here once again is that God delights in calling ordinary, unfinished people to be equipped and commissioned for Kingdom mission and ministry.

To be clear, this Gathering is for everyone. This is not a pastors' conference; it is not a church assembly for voting delegates; nor is it only for church council members to attend. This Gathering is for you! This weekend is a divine invitation for you to join our church family reunion. Come and see, for it is good! Experience uplifting worship, faithful teaching, inspiring messages, and great food and fellowship. And through it all, we pray that each of us may be better equipped to discern how God is calling us.

This year we are blessed to welcome three dynamic keynote speakers. Ben Griffin is the CEO of LINC and lives in Dallas. Ben is a former church planter and pastor with a heart for equipping leaders for creative kingdom ministry. Nathan Hoff will also be joining us from Trinity Lutheran in San Pedro, California where he serves as pastor and leads an internship program that invests in the leadership development of young adults. And finally, we are also privileged to have our Service Coordinator for LCMC, Julie Smith, join us from St. Peter, Minnesota. All three speakers will challenge and help us grow in our understanding of what it means to live out our calling in Christ.

And this Gathering isn't just for adults. Our Youth Gathering and Lock-In for students grades 6 through 12 will take place right alongside the main Gathering. The Youth will also be studying the same verse from 2 Timothy and will have engaging teaching time with youth leaders and our keynote speakers. Students will get the chance to participate in a service project and will have tons of fun that's planned just for them!

Our mission is to multiply disciples and churches. Through intentional relationships, we are equipping leaders, strengthening congregations, and inspiring mission. Our Gathering each year exemplifies this focus as our church family comes together to encourage and love one another for the sake of mission. See you in New Braunfels!

Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at www.harvestworkers.net). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Please contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or bryce@lcmctexas.org.

Join us for our next sermon series from Pastor Tim Sternberg



“I WILL COME IN TO HIM AND EAT WITH HIM, AND HE WITH ME” - REVELATION 3.20

Meals with Jesus

JULY 19TH THRU AUGUST 9TH

**ZION LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

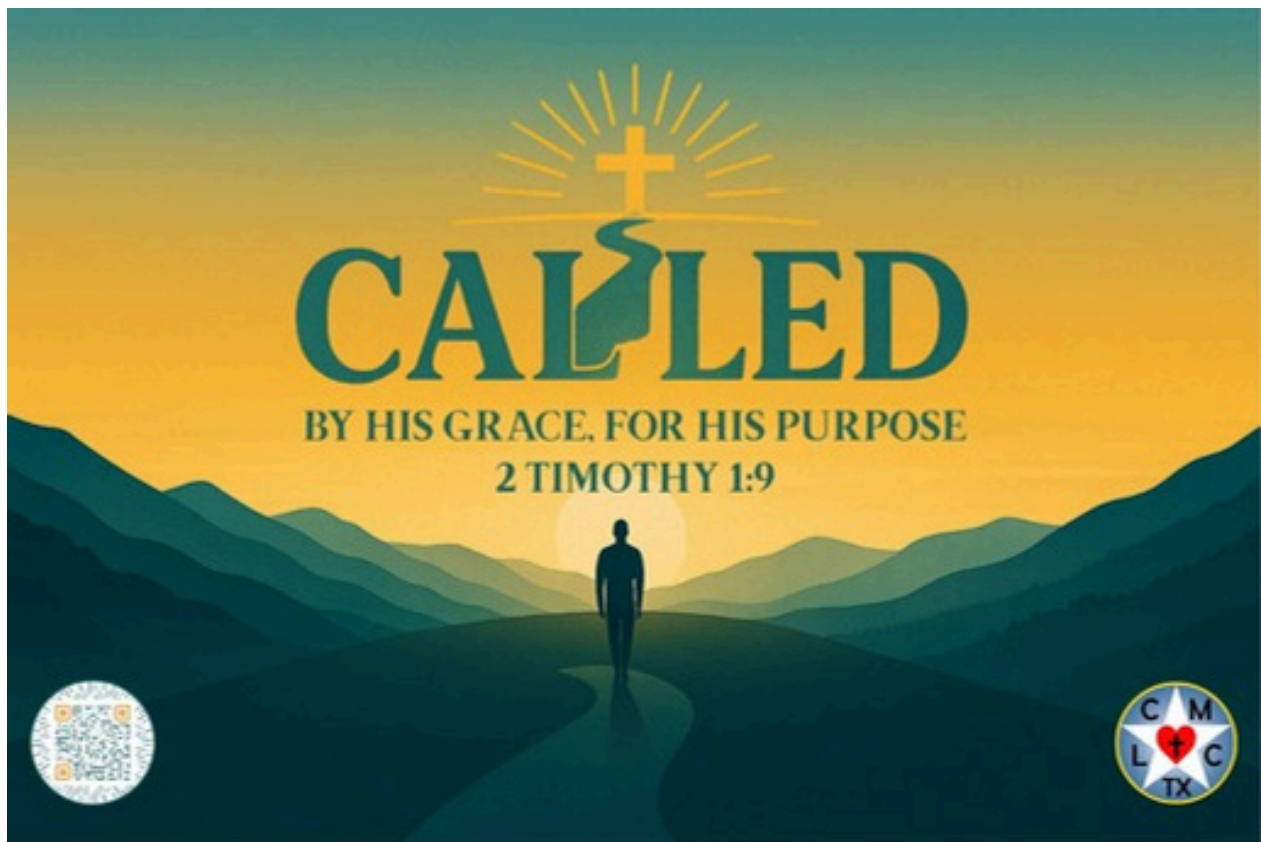
CAMPING WITH JESUS

Games
Music
Bible Stories

Crafts
Science
Snacks

VBS
July 13 - 16
8:00- 12:00

Contact: 210-296-1924 Darla



Join us for Annual Gathering 2026

"He has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began." -2 Timothy 1:9 CSB

We come together for great food and fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ to learn about ministry opportunities, receive powerful teaching, and worship the Most Awesome God!



FRIDAY & SATURDAY

July 24-25, 2026



**SAINT PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
New Braunfels, TX

**MORE INFO &
REGISTRATION
COMING SOON!**



Website

www.lcmctexas.org/annual-gathering



Phone Number

512-942-7776

What's Happening at Zion Lutheran Children's Center

ZLCC is an outreach ministry of Zion Lutheran Church; serving the Kerrville Community by providing Quality Education in a Nurturing Christian Environment.

July Birthdays

Aria D'Ann
Astrid
Arlo
Delilah
Kolbie
Robert



Curriculum

Week 1: Land of the Free
Week 2: The Wild West
Week 3: The Ball Game
Week 4: Flying High
Week 5: Space



Bible Focus

Week 1: Moses
Week 2: 10 Commandments
Week 3: 10 Commandments
Week 4: The Battle of Jericho
Week 5: David and Goliath

Special days in July:

July 3rd: ZLCC is Closed

July 6th—9th: Vacation Bible School

July 17th: Pajama Day



Please join us for Sunday Services

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 n.m.

Sunday School

10:00 a.m.

All are welcome!

*"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and
where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is liberty.*

2 Corinthians 3:17



