

LADIES DEPARTMENT



LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

*Women in Mission - Zion Lutheran
Mission Valley*



Bible Study times each month....

Esther Circle-2nd Tuesday of the Month-9 am
Ladies Aid-1st Wednesday of the Month
Rebecca/Ruth Circle-2nd Monday of the Month-
10 am. Each Bible study group or circle has ongoing
activities they are involved in, such as the kits, quilts,
Ladles of Love, etc. *But to participate, you do not
have to belong to a circle...*



ESTHER CIRCLE

Esther Circle met on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at
9:00 a.m. for its regular monthly meeting. Present
were Carolyn, Dorothy, Eva, Michelle, Irene, Cass,
Irene, Kay and Sherilyn.

Hostesses were Cass and Kay. Bible Leader was
Cass. Study material was in the Summer 2026 edition
of Lutheran Woman's Quarterly, "*How Long, Lord?*"

Business: Sewing ...no sewing this month.

General Meeting will be July 28 at 6:45. Esther has
devotions. Cass will do devotions. **Ladles of Love**
July was Esther C Group for August will be Esther A
Group. Menu of Ham, Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes,
Cranberries, Desserts and Bread.

Cards were sent to Lester Family, Bea Fuchs,
Alissa Blount, Peggy Polster, Seda Weaver and
Karen Wood.

All ladies of Zion are invited to join *Esther* on the
second Tuesday of each month as we study the Word
of God! Next meeting will be Tuesday, August 11,
2026, at 9:00 a.m. Hostesses will be Darla and
Barbara. PLEASE JOIN US!

Sherilyn Arnecke, Secretary/Treasurer

REBECCA/RUTH CIRCLE

Rebecca/Ruth Circle met Monday July 13th. We
had 9 members present Denise Afflerbach, Pat
Harper, Peggy Lee, Gloria Buchhorn, Shelia Seipert,
Shelvy Schneider, Winona Klacman, Seda Weaver,
and Debbie Meyer were present.

Peggy was Bible Study Leader, "How Long,
Lord?" from Lutheran Woman's Summer magazine.
Peggy opened Bible Study with Prayer. A good Bible
Study, on How Long? Wait, and Patience. Good
discussions, Peggy. Closed Bible Study with Prayer.

Business meeting:

No Sewing on 7-21; 7-28 LWML General Meeting
with Mite offering at 6:45pm and Rebecca/Ruth is
hostess. Discussed menu with vanilla ice cream,
toppings, chips, dips, trash and fruit, & whip cream
will be served.

Cards were sent.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Rebecca/Ruth will meet on Monday, August 10th
at the church at 10:00am. Pat Harper will be Bible
Study Leader, "Blessings in Disguise from "The
Least of These" on page 20.

All women are invited to come and join us for
Bible Study and Fellowship.

Secretary Winona Klacman.

LADIES AID

Ladies Aid met on Tuesday, July 7th. Kay Lagal
was hostess. It was delicious!! August hostess will be
Barbara Schmidt.

Kay lead our Bible Study from Women of Faith
study guide, "Living Above Worry & Stress". We
talked about 1st chapter, "Scattered Lives".

Offering was received.

Cards were sent to Lester Family, Jennifer Henry,
Barbara Schmidt, Karen Wood, Ken Sifford, Marvin
Janak and Peggy Polster.

We closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Eva Cooke, Chairperson



LADLES OF LOVE

Esther A is in charge of Ladles of Love in **August**. If you would like to participate in a group or form your own group, please talk to Sherilyn Arnecke.

Sherilyn Arnecke, Chairperson



Each month the ladies of the church are collecting a different item as one of their projects for Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry (VCAM). For the month of **August** LWML is **collecting Boxes of Mac & Cheese**. We are asking the congregation to help with this project. It would be very much appreciated. There is a box in the **Narthex near the Ladies Restroom** for your donated item. Please help restock the shelves at VCAM. If any questions, contact Eva Cooke, project chairperson.

Want to thank everyone for contributing food for all these people in need.

Eva Cooke, Chairperson

Thank you, thank you. For the month of June, 63 lbs. of pasta were collected for VCAM!



SEWING DAY

There was **no** Sewing Day on July 21st.

Our next Sewing Day will be **Tuesday, August 18th** at 9am in the multi-Purpose Room.

Irene Heinold & Darlette Mathisen, Chairpersons



MISSION VALLEY TEACHER & STAFF LUNCHEON

The ladies of Zion are asking for volunteers to help with the Teacher and Staff Luncheon for Mission Valley School on **August 10th at 11:15 am**. We are having salads of all kinds: Meat Salads, Vegetable Salads, Pasta Salads, and Fruit Salads! Also need Desserts! If you want to help that day, **please sign up in Narthex!**



Starting August 2nd thru August 9th, we are asking the congregation for monetary donations for Mission Valley Elementary School to buy a gift card from Amazon for the school to purchase school supplies, etc. **Please make checks payable to LWML Texas District** and give to Michelle Wendel.





LCMS registered non-profit Christian volunteer network service organization, titled the Orphan Grain Train (OGT). The OGT, whose name is slightly misleading, provides essential aid/relief to victims of disaster or in destitute situations. Items donated are distributed nationally and worldwide. There are 27 OGT distribution centers in the United States with the nearest to us being in Pasadena, TX.

This year we are collecting monetary donations for **packaged new socks and underwear for adults and children**. Monetary donations are preferred since this allows a LWML member to buy in bulk items for a cheaper cost.

Starting August 16th-August 30th, the congregation may place monetary donations toward socks and underwear in a labeled box in the narthex. Checks are payable to LWML Texas District. Orphan Grain Train will pick these up on September 11th at Grace Lutheran Church in Victoria.

Thank you for helping LWML with this extraordinary mission. These projects show our love and support to others in their time of greatest need.



SOURDOUGH BREAD CLASS

Have you ever wanted to know how to make sourdough bread? Well, here's your chance! The ladies of the LWML invite **ALL** ladies to a Sourdough Bread Class on **Monday, August 3rd at 6:30pm** here at the church. Our instructor, Kacie Schmidt Balfanz, will provide all the ingredients and teach us. **The class is \$50 and bring your own mixing bowl and towel to take home and cook. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those attending. Bring your friends and neighbors.**



Zion Lutheran Church of Mission Valley is hosting a Bunco Party in the Fellowship Hall on **Monday, September 14th at 6pm**. Registration and meal will be from 6-7pm with Bunco starting at 7:05pm. Invitations will go out middle of August and more information will follow in Sunday's bulletins and in September's Messenger.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT



Sunday School teachers for 2026-2027 will be installed during church on September 6th

September 13th will be the start of 2026-2027 Sunday School programs. Sunday School/Adult Bible classes start at 9am. Everyone is invited.

Board of Education



Get ready for our next Fellowship Faceoff on August 30th at 9:00 a.m. during Sunday School! Join us for a fun morning of fellowship, laughter, and friendly competition as we face off in a game that is still to be determined. Whatever the game may be, you won't want to miss the fun! More details coming soon.



Campers are having a fundraiser to raise money for camp next year on **Sunday, August 9th** after church service and Blessing of the Backpacks. They are having a Nacho and Hot Dog Bar with tea included for \$8 per plate. **Sign-up sheet in Sunday bulletin.** Please pay ahead to Ann Heller or Seda Weaver for count. Make checks payable to **Zion Lutheran Church.**

Join us during our **10am service on August 9th** as we lift up students of all ages—from our littlest learners to our college crew—and **bless their backpacks** for the year ahead! As the new school year begins, students, teachers, and educators are invited to bring their backpacks to church for a special Blessing of the Backpacks with guest pastor Jerry McNamara. Each participant will receive a backpack tag to take with them as a reminder that God is always with them throughout the school year! Let's start the school year surrounded in prayer and encouragement from our church family! **See insert.**

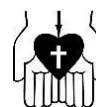


Our Glow in the Dark Worship Night featuring Brandon Lake was an unforgettable experience! We sang along, had a great time, and enjoyed an evening filled with upbeat, energetic music and joyful worship. Every song pointed us back to Scripture and the love of Jesus, and even those who had never heard Brandon Lake before found themselves enjoying and connecting with his music. It was a fun night of fellowship, worship, and glowing praise! We hope to host another concert this fall, so stay tuned!



If your children have any news like school recognitions, honors, sports, achievements this year that you would like to share, please submit them to the church office. Throughout the year, please submit special happenings. We love to hear about our children.

COMMITTEE NEWS



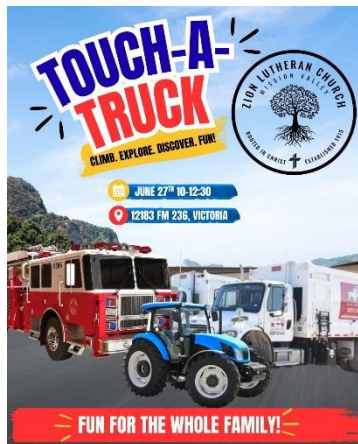
Board of Outreach



Mark your calendars! Board of Outreach has scheduled a South Texas Blood Tissue Blood Drive here on **Sunday, September 27th, from 8am-1pm,** which is also our Annual Picnic. Walk-ins are welcome!! Individuals who are 16 years old may be eligible to donate with parental consent. More

The Messenger, July 2026

information to follow in the bulletins or September Messenger. For questions regarding blood donation, call South Texas Blood Tissue at 210-731-5590. Judy Faulkner, Chairperson



TOUCH-A-TRUCK

Was a fun success. Our Megan Meyer and Ann Heller did a great job organizing and preparing a car lot full of BIG trucks that moved, made noises, and flashed their lights. Kids and parents alike enjoyed the fun.

We thank all those wonderful professionals who took their time to attend and make some kids smile. This was one of fun summer events planned. Megan's and Ann's coordinating efforts of Outreach committee and Education committee to reach out to our community neighborhood. We give thanks for all blessings and the opportunity to share.

Judy Faulkner, Outreach Chair.

See insert.

CONGREGATION NEWS



OUR SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of Linda Dentler Griffin of Boerne, Tx. who passed away July 21, 2026. She was the sister of Fred Dentler.

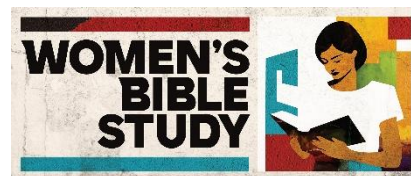


VOTERS' ASSEMBLY MEETING

Zion's Voters' Assembly Meeting will be held on **Sunday, August 16th**. The meeting will be held immediately following the Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall. If anyone or organization would like to put something on the agenda, please let Council know.



Happy, Happy birthday to Shelvy Schneider who celebrated her 90th birthday on July 6, 2026. She is the husband to Don and mother to Kristy Zarate, Cindi Klesel and Alan Schneider.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Join us as we begin a new monthly Women's Bible Study at Zion Lutheran Church! **Beginning in August, first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm. Our first Bible Study will be August 5th.** Come grow in God's Word, strengthen your faith, and enjoy fellowship with other women in a welcoming and encouraging setting. **For more information, contact: Kristy Zarate, 361-935-1236.**



CHURCH ANNUAL PICNIC

Mark your calendars! Zion's Church Annual Picnic will be on **Sunday, September 27th following Church Service.** On the menu is a fantastic Taco Bar, sides and ice cream w/toppings with a Free-will offering. There will be Face Painting, Craft Times, and Popcorn Station. Sign-up sheets for activities including Adult/Children Bingo, Silent Auction, Sweet Walk, Dominoes, Cookies, Set up/Clean up are on a table in the Narthex. Those who volunteered for this year's picnic are Darla Sifford, Cass Martignoni, Peggy Lee and Michelle Wendel.

An example ballot sheet for the free-will offering lunch is attached in this Messenger for review and will be in Sunday's bulletins all of August and September 6th & 13th for you to vote & place in a basket in Narthex starting August 2nd.

Also see attached the flyer of all the fun activities planned for the church picnic.



NEW GROUP COMMUNICATION TOOL

GroupMe is replacing the Remind tool to allow group communications to be sent to the Zion Congregation. The new communication group will be called "Zion Connect". Seda will load each member into the new tool. Each member will get a text message from Zion Connect providing instructions to join the group. **To join, simply respond to the message by typing #stay. You can ignore the instructions to get the GroupMe App.** If you need assistance joining the new group, contact David Miller.



THANK YOU

Althea "Allie" Faulkner update:

Allie has been on our prayer list since birth. Her rare heart condition was an almost impossible situation. She had several small operations to get her through waiting for her heart to grow large enough for the big repair operations. Your prayers were a comfort with dramatic results. After the big surgery, she was stabilized and was dismissed. She still returns for re-evaluations. It has been a blessing to have her in our lives. She will be age three in November 2026.

We all thank you. Due to her successes, her name will be removed from the prayer list of immediate need. She has come so far but still needs prayers. Parents are Jay and Catherine Faulkner with brother Jamie. Grandparents are Paul and Judy Faulkner.

THANK YOU

As I think of all my church members, I am forever grateful for the talents I see in you. We have a talented group of persons here, those who each have a special craft, a talent for cooking, a talent for leadership, a gift of humor, and all those who carry so much faith and wisdom. I thank you all for being part of our church family. I am forever grateful to you. This is not a goodbye; it is a thank you, cause I love you. **You each** make our church a "**whole**".

Judy Faulkner

THANK YOU

To the Congregation,

Thank you to those that called, messaged, sent cards and above all—the PRAYERS during my recovery from my recent car accident. I am still dealing with a few issues, but improving!

Thank you again,

Karen Wood 😊



Due to the privacy laws, hospitals no longer notify pastors when a member is admitted or treated. If you know of anyone being taken to the hospital (emergency or otherwise), or who is especially ill, please call an Elder or contact the church office.



COMMUNION AND/OR VISITATION

During our absence of a pastor, if you or know someone in the hospital or would like a home visit and/or want communion, please contact David Miller, head Elder, or call the church office, 361-578-5447 or contact Seda.



SHUT-INS

Please continue to keep our shut-ins in your prayers and enliven their lives through visits, letters, and cards or phone calls.

Dalhardt & Rose Goebel
3100 S. River Road
Cuero, Tx 77954

James Morris, Sr.
3472 FM 447
Victoria, Tx 77905

Alissa Blount
Arboretum of Winnie
1215 TX-124
Winnie, Tx 77665

Dan & Doris Nugent
5404 FM 236
Victoria, Tx 77905



PRAYER LIST

To add another person's name to our prayer lists, you must be a member or active worshipping guest of Zion and identify yourself as the one requesting prayer for someone else. It is your responsibility to gain this permission! The church office reserves the right to edit prayer requests for publication.

Please check names on the Prayer List. Please let the office know should someone be removed.

*******PRAYER REQUESTS*******

1. Bill Lagal
2. Cole Ohrt – friend of Zion
3. Holly Corey
4. Loma Chandler – Karen Wood's sister
5. James Morris, Sr.
6. JoNell Martin
7. Ann Pantel – wife of Curtis Pantel
8. Lisa Roman – niece of Cass Martignoni
9. Kamryn McDavid – granddaughter of Pribyl's

10. Mai Harwell
11. Rose & Dalhardt Goebel
12. Julie Heinold
13. Alissa Blount
14. Jodie Schaefer – friend of Barbara Schmidt
15. Becky Debore – friend of Irene Heinold
16. Glennie Bednorz – friend of JoNell Martin
17. Ava Soliz – Ann Heller's friend's daughter
18. Jim Krause
19. Priscilla Dornburg
20. Pauline Janak
21. Emily – friend of Ann Heller
22. Charles Krueger – Cass Martignoni's brother
23. Kenneth & Nancy Hahn – Faulkner's friends
24. Cindy & Jennifer Henderson – Randy Carter's sister & niece
25. Jana Ragsdale – niece of Julie Heinold
26. Pam Ficklen – niece of Barbara Schmidt
27. Kim Gisler – relative to Jacki Cooke
28. John Meharg – Calton Arnecke & Darlette Mathisen's cousin
29. Janie Bolten – Jacki Cooke's friend
30. Ryan Aaron – friend of Cooke's
31. Robert Kaiser – friend of Arnecke's
32. Bea Fuchs
33. Richard Gisler – friend of Zion
34. Darryl Heller
35. Jan Foerster – friend of Karen Wood
36. Ken Sifford
37. Leslie Thigpen Hanslik – friend of Cooke's
38. Peggy Polster
39. Eva Cooke
40. Marvin Janak
41. Karen Wood
42. Randy Kersten
43. Bill Pozzi – friend of Pribyl's
44. Kaleigh Newman – friend of Keeleigh Cooke
45. Becky



ATTENDANCE CARD

Members & Guests, please fill out an attendance card for each worship service attended and place them in the offering plate. These cards help us to keep accurate records and assist with pastoral care. Please list each individual's name attending if in a family. That way each one gets counted.



BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES FOR AUGUST

August 2 – Hilbert Nagel
August 3 – Blayne Blount
August 4 – Karen Wood
August 5 – Todd Brown
August 6 – Teagyn Kelly
August 9 – Luther Pick
August 13 – Taylen Kelly
August 15 – Fred Dentler, Carly Adcock
August 16 – Shelvy Schneider
August 17 – Kyle Woytasczyk
August 19 – Darren Weiser, Gloria Buchhorn
August 20 – Avery Adcock
August 25 – Bryan Lester
August 26 – Jimmy Cooke
August 29 – Katarina Zarate, Travis Jaeger
August 31 – Taylee Lester, Jacob Lester,
Katherine Lester



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST

August 2 – Vallerie Marbach, Kelley Mundy
August 4 – Iris Heller
August 7 – Darryl Heller, Corey Gras, Callie Gras,
Calder Gras
August 8 – Pat Zmeskal
August 15 – Cody Jaeger, Nathalie Burns
August 18 – Reagan Weiser
August 19 – Alan Sharp
August 21 – Tammy Mitchell, Westley Kelly
August 22 – Candice Clay, Gavin Hoefling
August 23 – Shawna Bues, Ronny Weaver,
Peggy Polster
August 24 – Mark Wendel
August 25 – Wendy Bishop
August 27 – Mai Harwell, Keeleigh Cooke
August 28 – Laverne Judge
August 29 – Landen Finn, Lauren Castilla
August 30 – Calton Arnecke
August 31 – Stephen Lester



**HEARING
ASSISTANCE**

HEARING ASSISTANCE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

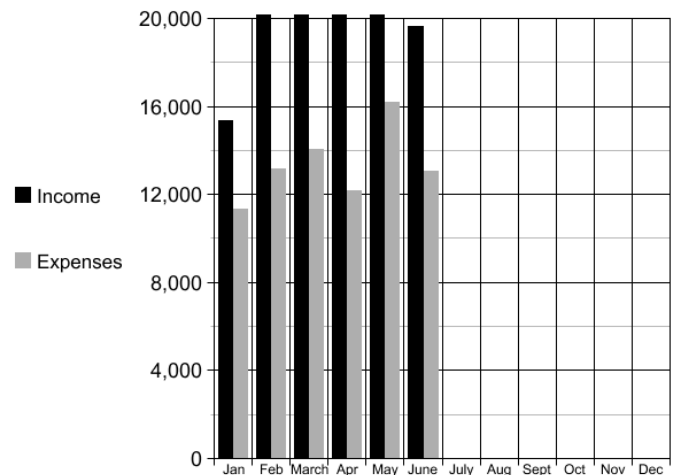
To assist anyone to hear the discussion at meetings in the Fellowship Hall, the Fellowship Hall is now equipped to use the same hearing assistance devices that are used in the sanctuary. Just bring one of the devices from the sanctuary to the Fellowship Hall. Contact David Miller or David Pribyl for any assistance.



RECYCLING INK CARTRIDGES

How do we get rewards for recycling ink cartridges? As a Reward Member of Office Depot, the church gets \$2 back in program rewards for each ink cartridge that we recycle, up to 10 cartridges per month. Qualifying purchases include any product or service purchase made in store or online. All brands of ink qualify for recycling rewards. This helps with the rising cost of supplies for the church. There is a basket on a shelf in the Narthex between the Men's & Ladies' Restrooms for your cartridges.

General Fund - 2026 Income vs Expenses



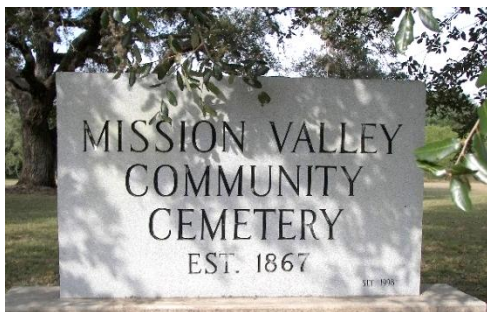
In the above chart, you can see our expenses and offerings. We share this with you so you are aware of how this is continuing to impact our overall ministry. Even as we continue to thank God for the many blessings He gives to Zion, including those of the financial offerings of His people, the Church Council and Church Office are being as mindful as possible about the stewardship of the church budget.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE	
Sunday, June 28 th	82
Sunday, July 5 th	66
Sunday, July 12 th	75
Sunday, July 19 th	84
Sunday, July 26 th	81



Entire Service on: Zion's Facebook page
<http://www.facebook.com/zionmissionvalley/>

*****We are trying to "boost" our social media (Facebook) and internet presence. If you are a Facebook user, go ahead and give us a "Like" at [facebook.com/ZionMissionValley](https://www.facebook.com/ZionMissionValley). We are posting several times a week with various memes, quotes, Q&A, and interesting articles. "Like" and share what you see, whether it's Sunday's service or a goofy meme! Also, be sure to click on the church webpage, <https://zionlutheranmv.org/> and let it load up. You don't even have to read it! It drives the algorithms to keep us closer to the top when people do searches for churches in the Victoria area.



The **Mission Valley Community Cemetery** has some news!! There has been a facelift occurring at the site. Come and see what wonderful change has happened. We can now see the south side fence as it has been revealed. The original gate has been exposed, and many older graves are accessible for cleanup. Just to let you know the improvements are happening. This ability for happening was from an anonymous donor. Thank you!



VICTORIA CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

Visit our website at: www.vcamvictoria.org or our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/vcam.org/> for VCAM services or news.

MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2026

June Services

Total Households Served – 1479

Total Number in Households – 3486

Food Boxes – 1275

Basic Needs - 3471

Home Delivery - 26

Homeless Served – 171

Homeless Visits - 795

New VCAM Households Served – 81



VCAM ANNUAL RAFFLE TICKET FUNDRAISER SPONSORED BY THE VCAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS GRAND PRIZE \$1,000 HEB GIFT CARD

In August we will begin selling tickets for our annual Raffle Ticket Fundraiser. This is our only fundraiser each year that does so much to help stock our pantry inventory. The raffle ticket drawing will take place on Friday, October 9th. Leading up to the drawing, we will be sponsoring various events to highlight 40 years of our ministry!

You will be able to purchase raffle tickets from the VCAM board of directors or tickets will be sold at VCAM. More details about the fundraiser will be posted in the coming month.

This is your way of donating to the organization AND win a prize(s).

Please consider setting yourself up for recurring donations to assist VCAM in the expanding needs of the community. Staple inventory items always in dire need in the pantry:

Rice (1 or 2 lbs. bags – uncooked), cereals (box or bag), 1lb. bag beans, pastas, tomato sauce.

Please consider donating these bags to VCAM. This will greatly assist in maintaining our expenses. VCAM is always in need of T-Shirt bags for all phases of our operation. Please recycle VCAM.

Blessings...*Marc*

Clients come on a once-a-month basis, while our homeless population is served on a daily basis.

All services are provided free.

Please continue to refer those who require our services to VCAM & please continue to support.

"Providing hope when things seem hopeless..."



ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS

The Messenger Staff wants to correct any errors and/or omissions. Please let the church office know promptly.

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL



SUNFLOWER — The sunflower, a symbol of faithfulness and devotion, represents a life turned toward God. Just as the flower follows the sun, believers are called to seek the light of Christ and remain focused on Him.

Its bright bloom reflects the joy and glory of God's presence, while its steady growth points to a life rooted in faith. The many seeds of the sunflower can also symbolize spiritual fruitfulness.

In Christian symbolism, the sunflower reminds us to remain steadfast, to seek God daily and to reflect His light in all we do.



IN EVERY SEASON, TURN TO GOD

Are you enjoying a happy time? *Praise God.*

Is life becoming difficult? *Seek God.*

Are you experiencing a quiet moment? *Worship God.*

Are you suffering great pain? *Trust God.*

Are you unsure what to do? *Ask God.*

Are you overwhelmed with joy? *Thank God.*

WHY ME?



When we're faced with unexpected hardship, our first impulse is often to ask, "Why me, O God? Why me?"

Yet when a blessing comes our way, we receive it with gratitude and rarely ask the same question: "Why me, O God? Why me?"

FYI

CHURCH CONTACTS

Sunday School – Board of Education/Youth
Lutheran Youth Fellowship – Board of Education/Youth
Altar Guild, Pauline Janak
Blood Drive, Church Office
Leaders Of Compassion, Eva Cooke
Judy Faulkner
Ladles of Love, Sherilyn Arnecke
Library, Sherita Miller
Memorials, Seda Weaver
LWML President, Michelle Wendel
Esther, Iris Heller
Ladies Aid, Eva Cooke
Rebecca/Ruth, Debbie Meyer
Worship/Music Bd., Hilbert Nagel
Church Secretary, Seda Weaver
Sound System, David Miller
Kitchen Cartel, Darla Sifford
Board of Elders, David Miller
Board of Trustees, Pauline Janak
Board of Outreach, Judy Faulkner
Board of Education/Youth, Jacki Cooke
Candice Clay
Board of Fellowship, Priscilla Dornburg
Security & Safety, David Pribyl

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President, Pat Zmeskal
Vice-Pres., Pauline Janak
Secretary, Terry Depine
Treasurer, Seda Weaver
Financial Sec, Teresa Boswell
Elder, David Miller
Elder, David Pribyl