

**Northeast Kansas
Lutheran Church Partnership
*LCMS***

SEPTEMBER, 2022



From the Pen of the Pastor

What was it I heard?!

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ...

God's voice, as He speaks to us, isn't always as clear and concise as we wish it was. In fact, at times, it is quite difficult to discern, with any great sense of accuracy; just what it is that God is saying to us.

Some years ago, while I was attending a District Convention for Iowa District West, Reverend Richard Kapfer, the District President, told us there was a shortage of Pastors in the LC-M.S. Later, he brought it up again and he suggested I prayerfully consider helping fill the shortage. What was it I was hearing? Was it just Rev Kapfer talking or was it God talking to me through him? Was this a follow up to previous thoughts I had regarding the pastoral ministry? I wondered. Just what was it I heard?' Has that ever happened to you?

I'm sure you recall what God tells us in the account of Abraham and what he thought he "heard" God tell him regarding his son Isaac in Genesis 22.

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." 2 He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." 3 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. 4 On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. 5 Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." 6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. 7 And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8 Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. 9 When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son...

What was it Abraham heard? Did God really command him to kill his own son? If God's voice is rarely as clear as we'd like it to be, how sure could Abraham have been that he heard God clearly?

continued to next page...

**Partnership
Office Address:**

613 S. First,
Hiawatha, KS 66434
Phone: 785-740-0268
office@nepartnership.org

Office hours:

8 am-1 pm Mon & Wed
8 am-3pm Tues & Thurs

Member Congregations:

First Lutheran, Sabetha
311 Cedar
Sabetha, KS 66534
785-284-3566

St. Paul, Fairview
110 East Maple
Fairview, KS 66425
785-467-8816

Immanuel, Fairview
656 240th St.
Fairview, KS 66425

Zion Lutheran, Hiawatha
613 South 1st
Hiawatha, KS 66434
785-742-3995

Pastor Michael Dunaway

Cell 785-285-1714
revdunaway@gmail.com
(Day off-Friday)

Pastor Ian Kinney

Cell 260-348-1891
pastoripkinney@gmail.com
(Day off-Saturday)

continued from page 1

As Shelley and I pondered what Reverend Kapfer had said to me about a shortage of pastors, and as we considered the encouragement of Pastor Carl Noble, Missionary Gary Theis and others regarding whether or not God was calling me into His ministry, I thought I heard a small voice bidding me to "come." But did I?! What was this I was hearing? Was it real?

I longed for a sign. I prayed for a bright light...for a loud and distinct voice, such as Paul heard on the road to Damascus; but, none came. Although it seemed doors were mysteriously opening, and that God was leading me, in the final analysis I had to step out in faith that He was speaking to me... as Abraham did in Genesis 22. Let me conclude that story...

11 But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." 12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

The story of Abraham and Isaac reminds us we need to be sure of what we hear. In this story of one of the greatest acts of obedience and faithfulness we also see how vital it is to clearly discern what the Lord is saying and what His will truly is.

Consider for a moment how terrible things would have been if Abraham hadn't been listening when God ultimately said,

"Abraham, Abraham!" ... "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him"

Seeing the importance, how can we be better assured that we are listening, hearing and discerning correctly?

Well, we can start by staying attuned to God's Word. We can live lives of devotion, meditation and prayer. We can compare what we 'think' we are hearing to God's true Word and to a reasonable understanding of what that Word says and whether or not our understanding of it is true to the revealed nature of God as seen in Christ Jesus. We can ask ourselves, "Is what I 'think' I am being called to do compatible with who I am and the person God created me to be? We can seek wisdom and insight from people we know, trust and admire and finally, we can look for red flags, signaling us that we might be might not have heard correctly or maybe went too far.

Obedying God may sometimes be a struggle, because it necessitates that before we can **hear** God, we must be truly **listening**. Amen.

Yours in Christ...

Pastor Mike

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Military: (F) Liam Blum, Kelsey (Blum) Holsapple, Cory Holsapple, Aaron Foist; Allan Feek, Kevin Remmers; (I) Tristan Knott, Chad O'Brien, Daniel Wheeler, Paul Reynolds Jr.; (SP) Kyle Vanness, Mary Burkett, Spencer Ernst, Bert Ernst.

Care Facilities & Shut-Ins: (F) Stan Kohlmeier, LaVonne Thieme, Rosemary Scher; (I) Gene Rice; (StP) Carol Bauer, Betty Allen; (Z) Judy Clay, Darlene Covert, Connie Kneisel, Jaynell & Donald Robidoux, Charles Fritz, Tom Hansen.

Also in our prayers: (F) Kam Lawler, Joyce Paulsen, Evelyn Goodman, Karen Aeschliman, Carla Bishop, Roger Riekenberg, Lisa Riekenberg, Curtis Cook, Crystal Kinkler, Melonie Creek; (IMM) Traci Rahe, Fred Meeks; (St.P) Wes Duesing, Deb Bailey, Danny Bauerle, David Bauerle, Chris Torrey; (Z) Cheryl Coffman, Charlotte Gigstad, Dale Mueller, Mark Mueller, Carl Mueller, Debbie & Andy Trent, Sherry Hartley.

We Remember the blessed saints who now rest in the Lord (Karen Kohlmeier), and we pray for their families that they remember all who die in the Lord live with the Lord. (Romans 6:5)



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sept 2-Journey Arnesen, Sept 2-Rebel Arnesen, Sept 3-Lance Orton, Sept 4-Marge Stover, Sept 5-Joann Davidson, Sept 5-Mike Dunaway, Sept 5-Kris Kidwell, Sept 5-Mitchell Stoller, Sept 7-Marissa Lee, Sept 7-Myriah Lee, Sept 8-Julie Burenheide, Sept 8-Judy Georg, Sept 9-LaVonne Thieme, Sept 10-Donald Robidoux, Sept 11-Darryl Hoppe, Sept 12-Dean Bailey, Sept 12-Paul Pearson, Sept 13-Danny Bauerle, Sept 14-Janis Krug, Sept 14-Kelli Bauman, Sept 14-Kinley Schuette, Sept 14-Morgan Schuette, Sept 15-Doug Kleopfer, Sept 16-Oliver Smith, Sept 17-Traci Rahe, Sept 17-Kendall Heiniger, Sept 18-Jeff Brockhoff, Sept 18-Eve Georg, Sept 21-Kim Priest, Sept 24-Melissa Detweiler, Sept 27-Kaytlynn Bulk, Sept 27-Bill Priest, Sept 28-Selena Smith, Sept 28-Steve Goodman, Sept 29-Dwight Kruse, Sept 29-Paige Fries, Sept 29-Matt Sprick, Sept 30-Brenda Rahe

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 1-Debbie & Andy Trent, Sept 4-Jim & Sharon Lowe, Sept 15-Bob & Evelyn Jones, Sept 15-Mike & Marlene Bosworth, Sept 17-Jon & Brittany Middendorf, Sept 18-Bernard & Karoline Chadwell, Sept 23-Rick & Glenna Strahm, Sept 27-Shane & Christa Schuette

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We invite all kids to come and join us for Sunday School!
Sunday School meets each Sunday morning at **9:15am** at **First and Zion**.
Sunday School at **St. Paul** starts after the service at **9:30am**.
The Zion Adult Bible Class and the **First Adult Bible Class** meet
on Sunday mornings at 9:15am. Please come join us!!



MEETINGS

JOINT ELDERS – September 12th @ 7:00pm

JOINT COUNCIL – September 19th @ 7:00pm

PARTNERSHIP ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday nights at 6:30pm
at St. Paul, following
Evening Prayer Service which
starts at 6:00pm.



Partnership Ladies Bible Study

Tuesday nights at 6:30pm
at Zion Lutheran.
Please join us!

September

VISIT THE PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE

Our website, (www.neklutherans.org), contains the history of the partnership and partnership churches, a calendar of events, recent happenings and future events.

New pictures are added frequently.

It has past copies of the newsletters and the calendar for you to reference.

Special announcements are also placed on the website.

Go to www.neklutherans.org.

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH:

LYF will meet on the first Sunday of the month
unless otherwise posted.



PLEASE HELP TO KEEP US UP TO DATE:

*If you have a new phone number, address, or email address,
please make sure you send it to the Partnership office.*

You can e-mail the office at
office@NEKpartnership.org or call 785-740-0268.
The office would also like the names and addresses
of any members who are at college. Thank You!



SERVERS FOR SEPTEMBER

FIRST LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Sept 4th: **Elders**–Shane Schuette & Dwight Edelman, **Acolytes**–Millie Stoller & Tyson Detweiler,
Ushers–Les Trentman & Steve Goodman, **Greeters**–Shane & Christa Schuette, **Counters**–Ken & Joyce Meyer

Sept 11th: **Elders**–Kurt Detweiler & Patrick Cochran, **Acolytes**–Hadden Bachelor & Tinner Bachelor,
Ushers–Stan Remmers & Steve Aeschliman, **Greeters**–Patrick Cochran Family, **Counters**–Vicki Edelman &
Steve Aeschliman

Sept 18th: **Elders**–Allan Spellmeier & Scott Schremmer, **Acolytes**–Lily Pearson & Jethro Steiner,
Ushers–John Feek & Paige Strahm, **Greeters**–Scott Schremmer Family, **Counters**–Heather Lehwald &
Darrell Schuette

Sept 25th: **Elders**–Dwight Edelman & Shane Schuette, **Acolytes**–Paycen Schremmer & Millie Stoller,
Ushers–Ed Hatheway & Bud Bauman, **Greeters**–Carl & Ruth Swart, **Counters**–Patty & Stan Remmers

Altar Guild for September: Sue Schuette, Tammy Cochran, Heather Lehwald, Linda Swogger, Deb Sjulín
Trustees for September: John Feek & Stan Remmers

ZION LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Sept 4th: **Elder**–Kurt Killman, **Acolyte**–Brady Killman, **Ushers**–David Middendorf & Derrick VanDusen,
Greeters–, **Lector**–Derrick VanDusen, **Sound System**–Leon Wissmann

Sept 11th: **Elder**–Leon Wissmann, **Acolyte**–Corey Dunaway, **Ushers**–Bob Freese & Larry Walter,
Greeters–Leon Wissmann, **Lector**–David Middendorf, **Sound System**–Dwight Meyer

Sept 18th: **Elder**–Scott Gigstad, **Acolyte**–Remington Killman, **Ushers**–Leon Wissmann & Richard Clay,
Greeters–Richard & Cindy Schilling, **Lector**–Jessica Gigstad, **Sound System**–David Middendorf

Sept 25th: **Elder**–Dale Strobel, **Acolyte**–Brady Killman, **Ushers**–David Middendorf & Derrick VanDusen,
Greeters–Richard & Cindy Schilling, **Lector**–Leon Wissmann, **Sound System**–Derrick VanDusen

Altar Guild for September: Virginia Freese, Kyndl Koerperich

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

Sept 4th: **Greeters**– Jeff & Leslie Brockhoff

Sept 11th: **Greeters**– Steve & Nancy Manche

Sept 18th: **Greeters**– Darryl & Helen Hoppe

Sept 25th: **Greeters**– David & Danny Bauerle

Altar Committee for September: Rosalie Mellenbruch, Carolyn Schneider, Jeff Brockhoff

LUTHERAN WOMENS MISSIONARY LEAGUE
Zion Lutheran Church, Hiawatha, Kansas
August 9, 2022

The regular meeting of the Zion Lutheran LWML was called to order by Lela Middendorf, August 9, 2022, with 5 members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, and the treasurer's report was given by Diane Davis.

Lela shared a letter from Dakota Boys Ranch about Honey Sunday. Sharon moved that we donate \$50.00 to Dakota Boys Ranch in lieu of participating in Honey Sunday. Anne seconded the motion and it carried.

Traci Rahe sent a thank you note for our support of her ministry.

Lela shared information about the Kansas Zone LWML Fall Event to be held on Saturday, October 8 at Zion. She also pointed out that the Sonshine and the Fall Quarterly have good articles that we shouldn't miss.

We closed with a devotion based on Psalm 4 titled "Praying the Psalms". A prayer was offered after reading Psalm 4.

Anne Arnesen
Secretary



ANNUAL BBQ/Bonfire

October 2nd, 2022 at 4:30 pm

1 mile north of the 4 mile corner (Hwy 36 & Old Hwy 75)

Bring your lawn chair

Please bring a dish to share

Hot Dogs, drink and table service provided!!!

FUN GAMES AND FELLOWSHIP!!!

(in case of rain.....this will be held at The Red Rooster....Dwight's house) 2353 184th Rd

FIRST PRESCHOOL



Ms. Denise and Ms. Keremy are excited about a new school year! We are pleased to announce that Sarah Snyder will be our assistant teacher, helping in our classes. She is familiar with our school as having both of her children attend our preschool!

Another change this year is that we will be making our playground larger and adding a rubber mat surface under the swings and some play area. We are thankful for our board members and church members for making this happen. We also appreciate the donations we received to fund this big project. The kids will enjoy having more room to run around and the new surface will keep everything looking neater.

The first day of Preschool is August 18th for Ms. Denise's classes and August 19th for Ms. Keremy's class. We have 31 students enrolled!

Thank you for your prayers and continued support!



ST. PAUL PRESCHOOL

We are gearing up for a new school year with lots of fun and exciting adventures. We are opening up with a beach theme and will be hatching baby turtles—(pretend not real). We are going to explore all the wonders that God has given us.

Open house and orientation is Aug. 25 at 6:00. If you know anyone interested, please invite them to attend. We still have 2 openings. The preschool is providing the main dish and everyone is asked to bring a dish to share.

We will have a fundraiser at the Maple Leaf Festival on Sept. 24th from 10:00—5:00. If anyone would like to donate baked goods or craft items, please let me know.

Thank you everyone for your continued support of our program.



Confirmation

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Please join us, with your confirmand(s), for our 2022-2023 Confirmation Orientation meeting on August 31st at 6:30 P.M. at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fairview.

We will provide an overview of this year’s catechetical instruction, go over requirements and hand out this year’s schedule and syllabus. The first confirmation class will begin the following week, September 7th, at 6:30.

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

AHG is gearing up for an exciting year! If you know of a young lady who interested in growing her faith and serving her community with a fun group of girls, encourage her to check out American Heritage Girls.

Thursday August 25th - Family Style Welcome Back Night - Bring the whole family for ice cream, games, crafts, and devotional, we'll introduce the annual theme and girls can meet their unit leader. All events at Zion at 6:15pm unless otherwise noted. www.americanheritagegirls.org



is

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Week 1 visits	2 Pr. Dunaway Day Off	3 Pr. Kinney Day Off
4 13th Sunday- Pentecost 9:15 Bible Study @Zion & First 9:30 St. Paul Dorcas 9:30 St. Paul Bible Study Elder's mtg. @First	5 Labor Day	6 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	7 10:30 Ministerial Alliance 1:30 First LWML 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	8 Week 2 visits 6:15 AHG Troop mtg.	9 Pr. Dunaway Day Off	10 Pr. Kinney Day Off
11 14th Sunday- Pentecost 9:15 Bible Study @Zion & First 9:30 St. Paul Bible Study	12 9:00 Staff meeting 7:00 Joint Elders	13 9:00 Circuit @Zion 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:30 Zion LWML	14 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	15 Week 3 visits	16 Pr. Dunaway Day Off	17 Pr. Kinney Day Off
18 15th Sunday- Pentecost 9:15 Bible Study- Zion & First 9:30 St. Paul Bible Study Zion Elder's mtg. 7:00 First Men's Group	19 Articles Due for Newsletter 9:00 Staff meeting 7:00 Joint Council	20 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	21 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	22 Start of Fall Week 4 visits 	23 Pr. Dunaway Day Off	24 Pr. Kinney Day Off
25 16th Sunday- Pentecost 9:15 Bible Study @Zion & First – Breakfast 9:30 St. Paul Bible Study & Fellowship	26 9:00 Staff meeting	27 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	28 1:00 AC Home service 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	29 6:15 AHG Troop mtg.	30 Pr. Dunaway Day Off	