

THE VISITOR

September & October 2022

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Issue #3 - Page 1

Grace and peace to you all! I am grateful to be back with you all after my three-month Sabbatical. I thank the Lilly Endowment for the once in a lifetime opportunity for my family and I to travel to Europe. I would also like to thank the congregational leadership for having put in place years ago the importance of clergy renewal, knowing that rest and renewal are important to the life of ministry. During my Sabbatical I learned a lot about taking care of myself, my family, and being present.

Which brings me to this...have you ever heard of "spam bot"? A "spam bot" is an automated account that is programmed by robots using algorithms and hackers to engage in potentially deceptive, harmful, or annoying activity. In other words, social media is dangerous to our mind, spirit, and mental health as Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber wrote in her recent article, *"Our Drug of Choice Right Now is Knowing Who We're Better Than"*. (A side note: I acknowledge to some degree that there are also living giving groups and friendships on social media. It's complex.) Pastor Nadia states that social media is our bolus button, *"A couple years ago, when I re-tweeted someone's super mean comment (something about women or gays - I can't remember), it was pointed out to me that the comment was from a brand new account, without a profile pic, and had only four followers. I assumed that an actual person was saying these ideologically-laden things to me, things that made me feel outraged. And (just like each time this same thing happens), when I felt that fire of outrage, I directed the heat of my disgust toward everyone in this country who I believe is on "that side".* She goes on to write about righteousness, how we all think of ourselves at times as righteous and thinking that the other side is sinful or wicked. Although as we all know, but maybe don't want to admit it, we are all sinful no matter what side your on. She goes on to contemplate that *"sin, a flaw that consistently causes errors in our relationships, is like a loop inside of us that manipulated messages on social media and hooks into and then pulls us apart – from our best selves and from each other."*

You maybe wondering why is Pastor bringing this up in our fall newsletter. Part of my Sabbatical practice was and is a break from social media. For two months I haven't gotten sucked into the negative comments or Facebook posts that have me curling up into a ball and hoping that when I wake up the world will be a kinder place. When I read Pastor Nadia's article it all made sense. She even ties in the Gospel in her article stating that *"Jesus would make a lousy Instagram influencer."* If Jesus was on social media it would never go viral because Jesus' messages don't make us feel superior. For example, Jesus tweets: You have heard it said, you shall not commit adultery. (*You instantly think Amen Jesus I have been loyal to my spouse I am good!*) Then Jesus adds, But I say to you that everyone who looks at another with lust has already committed adultery in their heart. Nadia writes *"Everyone around Jesus that day who considered themselves righteous because they had not cheated on their spouse were pretty bummed that Jesus would take that ranking away from them so quickly. But he doesn't up the ante to be mean. He ups the ante so that we realize how futile the human righteousness ranking system is."*

The black hole of social media is the ranking system. Comparing ourselves for better or worse with photo-shopped pictures, clever video edits, and not to mention spam bots. The cost is broken relationships, disconnect from reality, mental health, and moving us further away from the Creator who loves us madly. Where's the hope in all this complexity, because let's admit it, social media isn't going anywhere. Once again Nadia eloquently clarifies for us, *"The Gospel confronts us in our virtue and says You need not rely on your ability to be better than others. Lay down the ranking system. Walk away from your projects of self-perfection. None of it matters. You can stop trying to earn-by-comparison what has already been freely given to you: your freedom, your blessedness, your right to be loved."*

Thank you, Pastor Nadia, for your thoughtful insight. Thank you, Lilly Endowment and the community of Zion. You are loved beyond measure.

Grace upon Grace,
Pastor Natasha

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD HAYES

Undesignated Memorials Judy Teets

IN MEMORY OF DONNA KALMBACH

Zion Lutheran Church Women (ZLCW)

Family & friends

IN MEMORY OF INEZ KNOOP

General Fund Bob/Connie Knudson

IN MEMORY OF DAVID NIENOW

General Fund Marlyn/Virginia Korslien Myron/Carol Rovig

IN MEMORY OF DICK RONNIE

Trust Fund Pat White

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY SANNES

Building Fund Edgar/Carmen Wheeling

IN MEMORY OF SHERRY LESLIE

<u>General Fund</u>	Joel/Sonja Hernes	Ruth Ann/Larry Rexine	Donna Desjardins
Joe/Beth Stenvold	Larry Wahlund	Judy Teets	Brenda Morelli
Karen/Duwayne Walz	Dale/Kay Mattern	Andy/Judy Tossett	Vivian Kockler
Armend/Ranae Lynner	David/Myrna DeMers	Peggy/William Thom	Nadine Blesener
Charles/Sandy Swenson	Mary Ann Stoa	Jerry/Sharon Hovey	Family & Friends
<u>Playground Fund</u>	John & Glenda Streccius		
<u>Trust Fund</u>	Pat White	Ardell Boyeff	
<u>Undesignated Memorials</u>	Dale/Corrine Semmen		
<u>Youth Fund</u>	Bob/Connie Knudson		

Funds you may donate in memory/honor of someone:

- Zion General Fund
- Building Fund
- Community Outreach
- Education
- Global Missions
- Music Ministry
- Playground
- Prayer Shawl
- Trust
- Youth Ministry
- ZLCW

**If no specific fund is indicated, gifts go to the Undesignated Memorial Fund*



 **PASTORAL ACTS** *January– July 2022*

Baptisms

- Croix Michael Harvey Wald*—1/9
- Fletcher Lee Wenstad—1/23
- Finn James Aller—2/6
- Archer James Gladback—2/13
- Odin Michael Trottier—3/19
- Jaxson Lee Niess—3/27
- Hunter Mark Ozment—4/3
- Ander Eugene Ozment—4/3
- Dillon Lee McNulty—5/1
- Nash Steven Heilman—5/1
- Caylor Rose Hennessey—5/7
- Berkley Jean Boechler—5/15
- Avery Mae Gidley—8/14

** indicates service performed by outside minister*

Funerals

- Craig Bryon Anderson*—1/6
- Karen Ann Sutter*—1/6
- Dorothy E. Sannes*—1/14
- Oveda Jane Johnson—2/6
- John “Jack” Wearth Dickman—2/15
- David J. Nienow—3/31
- Richard Donald Harp—4/9
- Jennifer Michelle Dalen—4/20
- Donna Mae Kalmbach—4/30
- Sheryl “Sherry” Diane Leslie—6/9
- Richard “Dick” Ronnie—6/3
- James “Jim” Sigurd Goodman—8/13

Weddings

- Ryne Hornecker & Angela Lothspeich*—6/11
- Kaila Williams & Kaycee Verlinde*—7/16

The Call Committee has been working on the process for calling a new pastor since the end of June. Their work began by creating a project plan to outline approximately 60 steps that need to be taken between the time that the committee initially met and the time that a new pastor will be installed. They meet regularly and are currently implementing a series of steps to complete the Ministry Site Profile (MSP). The MSP is designed to stimulate reflection within Zion's congregation, to be a summary of the characteristics and ministry of the church, and to serve as the first impression that Zion wishes to give to prospective candidates. Upon completion of the MSP, the Call Committee will submit it to the Western North Dakota Synod. The synod will use the information in the MSP to help identify potential candidates for Zion's open pastor position. The Call Committee invites you to contribute to the completion of the MSP by participating in a survey designed to help identify the top ministry tasks and gifts for ministry that the congregation desires in a new pastor. The survey is intended to be completed by all members of Zion's congregation and may be submitted online or completed on paper and then turned in to the church office. Your participation in the survey will help ensure that your voice is heard in the call process and that the MSP depicts an accurate representation of Zion's needs and desires. Please feel free to reach out to any member of the Call Committee with questions or comments regarding the survey or anything else related to the call process. Thank you so much for your support as we work collectively to call an individual who will be the right fit for the open pastor role. You may access the survey online through the URL <https://bit.ly/zionministrysurvey> or this QR code. Or, if you prefer to complete a hard copy version of the survey, you may pick one up at the church office.



CALL COMMITTEE needs your help!



ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men's Group—COMING SOON- contact Pastor Natasha • Young Adult Group—COMING SOON—contact Chris • Hannah Circle (Bible Study for Women) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOUL Sister (Bible/Book Study for Women) • Moms On A Mission (Bible/Book Study for Stay at home Moms) • Sisterhood (Mission/Outreach Group for Women) • Prayer Shawl • Quilting |
|---|---|

Cub Scouts Pack #4432 Update

- ATTENTION KIDS AGES Kindergarten through 5th Grade! You are ALL invited to check out our Cub Scouts Pack!
- Our Cub Scout Pack will be recruiting for the new year on September 15th at 6pm here at Zion Lutheran. Students and Families are welcome to attend. There are dens for boys, girls and both boys/girls. We are also a pilot program for Family Dens! Come check it out! There will be games and food!



Did You Know?

Zion has **30** Worship Assisting slots to fill each week.



greeters

We have **3** services which each need Worship Assistants. We have a Worship Assistant position for just about **any age**. **Families** can sign up to help with a Worship Assisting position. The **more people** we have volunteer, the **fewer times** each group will have to serve.

Worship Assisting is a great way to **share your gifts** with your Zion family.



Below are the Worship Assisting positions available each week:

Saturday 5:00pm Worship

Usher Team
Communion Server
Reader
Clicker

Sunday 11:00am Worship

Greeters (2 Teams of 2)
Usher Team
Communion Servers (2)
Reader
Clicker

Wednesday 6:15pm Worship

Usher Team
Communion Servers (2)
Reader
Clicker

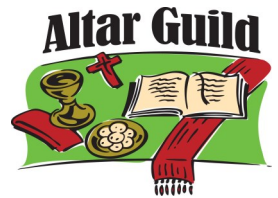


Food, Faith, Family Meal Serving Teams

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

Food, Faith, Family
Food Serving Team

Altar Guild
Team



Here is how you can be a part of worship assisting

If you would like to help by being on an Usher Team, Altar Guild Team or Food, Faith, Family Serving Team, contact the office and we will help you with a team.

/

if you have any questions, contact the church office, (701)852-1872 or email zlc@srt.com.



Beginning Sept 11th & 12th

- Saturday 5:00pm
- Sunday 10:00am
 - 1st & 3rd Traditional
 - 2nd & 4th Led by Praise Band)
- Wednesday 6:15pm (Camp Style)



Office will be
CLOSED on
Monday,
September 5th



The following groups & ministries are resuming this fall. You are invited to attend any of the following (*bring a friend*):



Join our Faith Family—attend New Member Orientation



**Sunday, Nov. 6th
9:00-9:45am in the Fellowship Hall**

New members will be received at the 10:00am worship service that morning. If you are a visitor interested in joining our Faith Family, please contact the office (852-1872 or zlc@srt.com) to be added to the new member list. Information regarding orientation will be emailed/mailed the middle of October.

We look forward to meeting you!



Zion's Home Communion Ministers play a huge role in keeping our homebound members connected to our church. Your time commitment is only once per month with 1-3 people to connect with. We provide

all the needed training. If you are interested, please contact the office.

Contact Pastor Natasha if you know of a member who is homebound/in a nursing home who is interested in receiving visits or if you would like to become one of Zion's Home Communion Ministers.



Meets @ 2pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month in Music Room.

This circle joins together for a monthly bible study which is usually led by one of the pastors.

Contact the office for more information.

Next meeting is Thursday, Sept. 8th @ 2pm.



**Quilting Ministry
Meets @ 9:00am on the 3rd Monday of the month in the Fellowship Hall.**

Many hands are needed to cut pieces, pin, sew and tie.

No experience necessary!

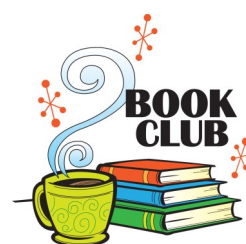
First meeting is September 19th @ 9am.



Meets every Tuesday 1:00pm ~ Fellowship Hall

This group meets weekly to enjoy the art of painting. You do not have to know how to paint to join. A short lesson is given at the beginning of the

session, then conversation and painting on your own continues until 4:00pm. Bring your own supplies and any paint medium except latex paints due to allergies.



Meets @ 6:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Fellowship Hall.

Read the book (or not) prior to the meeting date and come to discuss the book. Books are chosen by the group—so if you have any suggestions, bring them with you.

First meeting back they will discuss "A Prayer for Owen Meany" by John Irving September 13th @ 6:30pm



Meets @ 5:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in Youth Room.

Yarn is available if you wish to make shawls at home. Prayer Shawls are given to people who are seriously ill or grieving.

First meeting is September 14th @ 5:30pm



**Sisterhood Ministry
Meets @ Noon on the 3rd Sunday of the month—locations vary**

Meet other women of the church while learning, celebrating and being a servant of God.

Watch for details of the upcoming meeting.



JOB OPENING

Office Administrator

This person is to be a well-organized, upbeat, self-motivated team player, providing general secretarial support for the church office. Personal qualities necessary for this position are patience, dependability, flexibility, confidentiality, attention to detail, and the ability to work independently. Typing, answering

phone skills, customer service, computer skills (*data entry, email, Google calendar*), proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Publisher, ability to operate the copier and folding machine. Previous office experience preferred. The Office Administrator position is a 40 hr/wk (full time), 12-month paid position. Wage will be \$15-\$19 per hour depending on experience.

Email resumes to zionbookkeeper@srt.com

***Because we are searching for our main office administrator, the staff will need to let a few of our regular items go until the position is filled. Our weekly E-news will be one area we will NOT be able to continue with our current staffing. Thank you so much for your understanding and prayers during this time of transition.**

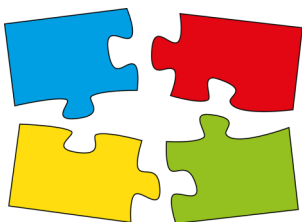
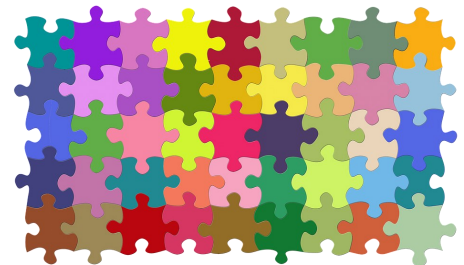
Outdoor Enhancement Team Update

OUR NATURAL PLAYSCAPE-It's a huge puzzle! Where do you fit in the big puzzle?

We are in the next phase of our amazing Natural Playscape project! How do we accomplish the dream?

We NEED YOU! Every single one of you! You can ALL play a part in this amazing project whether it be

- ◆ Taking one of the smaller projects on as a family/small group
- ◆ Helping with a build day on a specific project—either building, bring food, there is a job for EVERYONE!
- ◆ Using your gifts to complete a specific project area
- ◆ *Do you have a connection to someone who works in the concrete business, an engineer, plumber, electrician, etc...we need them!*
- ◆ *Do you have a passion for this project and the skill set to lead the project as the Lead Project Director—someone who can work side by side with Chris to be sure contractors, volunteers and such fit together (like a puzzle!)?*



CHURCH SCHOOL UPDATE

- Registration deadline is **Wed, Sept 14th**. (Beginning Sept 15th there will be a \$35/person late fee-unless you are a NEW family OR are able to serve with the church school ministry-please contact Chris)
 - Sessions to choose from:
 - Wednesday, 4:30-5:30
 - Wednesday, 7:00-8:00
 - Sunday, 9:00-10:00
 - Church School Begins:
 - Sun, Oct 2nd/Wed, Oct 5th
 - **PARENT & STUDENT ORIENTATION**
 - **Wed, Sept 28th**
 - **5:10pm OR 7:00pm**
 - **Students and Parents should attend to complete the needed authorization forms and covenant**
 - **Workshop Training** for ALL Workshop Leaders/Helpers and Shepherds:
 - **Wed, Sept 28th**
 - **4:30pm OR 7:20pm**
- ⇒ **Esther**—Our first rotation will dive into the bravery of Esther who became queen and a hero to all her people.

Wednesday Night Schedule

4:30-5:30—Church School Session I
5:15-6:15—FFF Supper
6:15-7:00—Wednesday Night Worship
6:15-8:00—Confirmation Events
7:00-8:00—Church School Session II

Kids' Sabbaths

Following each rotation our students will share with the congregation the story they have learned during a worship service. The students will sing a few songs, share the story (through reading, skit, puppets, etc) and help throughout the worship service.

Church School Calendar

Available to print on our website under Children's Ministries Tab

Bible Workshop

Sunday, September 25th

9:00-9:55 am

This is for all 3rd Graders and any 4th/5th Graders who have not been gifted a Bible from Zion. Students AND Parents should attend the workshop. The students will be presented their Bibles during the 10:00 am worship service on Sunday the 26th. Registration form is available on our website or you may [click here](#) to go directly to the form or call the office.

Please register before September 22nd.

Fed and Forgiven

There will be a Holy Communion Education Event on Wednesday, October 19th from 5:30– 7:30 pm. This 2-part intergenerational event will be a time of exploring and learning about the sacrament of Holy Communion through a variety of hands on activities. We hold one event in the fall and one event in the spring. These 2 events together bring a broader understanding to Communion from a Lutheran perspective. The events can be done in any order but families are encouraged to attend both events. The second event is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5th. If you or your child(ren) have not had any previous Communion instruction or would like to learn a little more, join us! Please contact Chris if you would like materials to preview prior to the event. Age appropriate resources are available for preschool-adults that can be used to enhance the understanding and appreciation of Holy Communion.

Sign-up on our website or [click here](#) to go directly to the form or call the office.

YOUTH MINISTRIES *by Kortni Plorin*

CONFIRMATION UPDATE

We are so excited for the new year of confirmation to begin! We are including our offsite partners again and can't wait to see what fun and learning is ahead this year. Things will look a little different from last year as we are getting back to our Pre-Pandemic confirmation ways. So please mark your calendar with the dates below:



- SEPT 14TH:** 6th-9th Grade Confirmation Orientation
- OCT 20-21st:** High School Western ND LYO Gathering in Minot
- OCT 21-22nd:** Jr. High Western ND LYO Gathering in Minot

TRICK-OR-CAN



Confirmation Students will be collecting non-perishable food for The Lord's Cupboard food pantry. We are inviting the congregation to join us in the efforts the week of **October 21-30th!** We will have the Donation Station trailer here once again and Zion's kick-off will be October 26th with food being collected at the church through Sunday, October 30th. The confirmation students will also collect food during "Trick or Can" on Wednesday, October 26th. Let's try to fill up the "Donation Station" trailer.

Sunday, October 30th at 1 pm congregation members are encouraged to meet us at the Lord's Cupboard to help unload and sort the food!

WESTERN ND LYO GATHERING

October 20th-22nd

This year, Western North Dakota LYO Gathering team has split the event into two grade options! This is the first year the Jr. High students are able to attend which is super exciting! **October 20th at 1pm- 21st until 2:30pm** is reserved for our High Schools to grow in their faith together. **October 21st at 6pm- 22nd until 2:30pm** is our Jr. High students turn! This is very exciting for our Synod to make this move for our younger students to experience an LYO gathering. More information to come about registration and a more detailed schedule!



2022 CONFIRMANDS

We have another group of Zion Confirmands on our hands! **Our 11th Graders will affirm their baptism on Sunday, October 30th at the 10:00am worship service. The congregation is invited to join us for a reception at 9:15am in their honor.**

Students affirming their faith include: Jillian Ackerman, Claire Anderson, Lucas Beeter, Annlea Eskelson, Allison Francis, Elyssa Greenwell, Dylan Henderson, Seth Huus, Carley Kersten, Gavin Lillemon, Avery Lunde, Mazzie Mills, Brady Peterson, Jaxson Radke, Adam Roedocker, Jaxson Sipma, Jagger Swartwout, Kailey Teets, Conley Vetsch, Kelsie White, Cali Wilson, Kayden Wilson, and Aiden Zerr Congratulations Confirmands!



YOUTH GROUP

IGNITE 9TH -12TH GRADE

It's time for another fun filled year of High School youth group here at Zion! With the summer coming to an end and school starting up, we will return to meeting weekly! We will continue to meet on **Wednesdays from 8:00-9:30pm.** Our kick-off night will be **October 12th @ 8:00pm.** There will be snacks and games and time to sit and talk about what we would like to do this year! I can't wait to gather with you all again!



J-WALKERS 6TH-8TH GRADERS

*J-Walkers meets from 7-9pm *

It's time for J-Walker fun to resume! Our J-Walkers kick-off will be **Friday October 21-22nd at the Western ND LYO Gathering in Minot!** This is the first year they are offering and Jr. High event and it is sure to be a great time! More information to come once Zion's education year takes off!

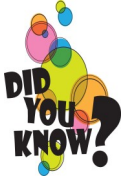
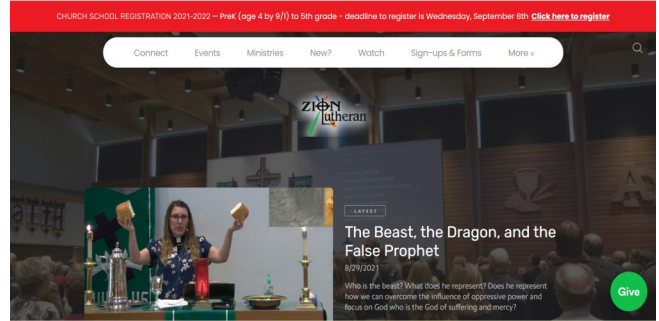
J-Walkers will move to meeting one Friday a month after the LYO Gathering

KORTNI'S KORNY CORNER

Who is the greatest babysitter mention in the Bible? David. He rocked Goliath to sleep.

Check out Zion's new website: New Look & Now Mobile Friendly! Same address: www.zionlutheranminot.org

The best way to learn about all things Zion and find out about upcoming events is through Zion's website: www.zionlutheranminot.org.



You can add the Zion website right to your mobile device just like an app. The latest info will always be right at your fingertips 24/7/365. Check below for the easy device-specific instructions to get started!



For Apple Devices

- 1) Go to www.zionlutheranminot.org on your **Safari browser**.
- 2) Depending on your device, at the top or bottom of the screen you'll see an icon depicting an arrow that looks like it's trying to get away from the square. Tap this button.
- 3) Once tapped, you will have a few options. Swipe left until you see the **"Add to Home Screen"** option. Select this one.
- 4) You'll be asked to choose a name for the home screen icon; hit **"add"** in the top left when you've picked one. When you're done, you will have Zion right there on your home screen.

For Android Devices



- 1) Go to www.zionlutheranminot.org on your **Chrome browser**.
- 2) Touch the overflow button (three vertical dots) and select **"Add to Home Screen"**. (One recommendation: you can customize the text below the icon - touch the text inside of the "Add to Home Screen" box and change it up.)
- 3) All you have to do is touch **"add"** and the site will join your other apps.

LIKE TO WORK WITH CHILDREN?

LOOKING FOR A PART TIME JOB?

Now Hiring: NURSERY STAFF
\$10 PER HOUR
MUST BE 14 YEARS OLD
STARTS SEPTEMBER 29TH

Hours:
Sundays 9:30am to 12:15pm
Wednesdays 4:15pm to 8:15pm
As Needed:
Mondays 8:45am to 10:45am & 6:45pm to 9:00pm
Thursdays 6:15pm to 8:00pm

CONTACT CHRIS FOR MORE INFORMATION

Be a part of a team!

A Food, Faith, Family Serving Team

Volunteer to join a Serving Team for Wednesday Night Food, Faith, Family Meals. Serve once every 6-8 weeks (less if more teams sign up). We can set you up with a team, or form your own team! Families encouraged to join!

Fall Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 4:00pm

Zion Lutheran Church

1800 Hiawatha Street
Minot, ND 58701

Return service requested



Our Purpose:

Loved by God – Living out the Love of Jesus

Our Guiding Principles:

growing spiritually *to be more like Jesus*
actively caring *for one another*
welcoming and inviting *all people*
giving generously *to join in God's work*
joyfully serving *as Christ's hands and feet*
living faithfully *in daily life*

Zion Lutheran Church

Phone: 701-852-1872

Email: zlc@srt.com

Website: www.zionlutheranminot.org

Like us on [Facebook](#)

2022 Council Members

John Butgereit, President
Charlsie Burud, Vice-President
Bethany Jensen, Secretary
Erica Atkinson, Treasurer
Derek Buss
Roger Guttormson
Melissa Helgeson
Richard Jensen
John Thompson
Annlea Eskelson, Youth Member
Interim Pastor Steve Sathre
Associate Pastor Natasha Kolles