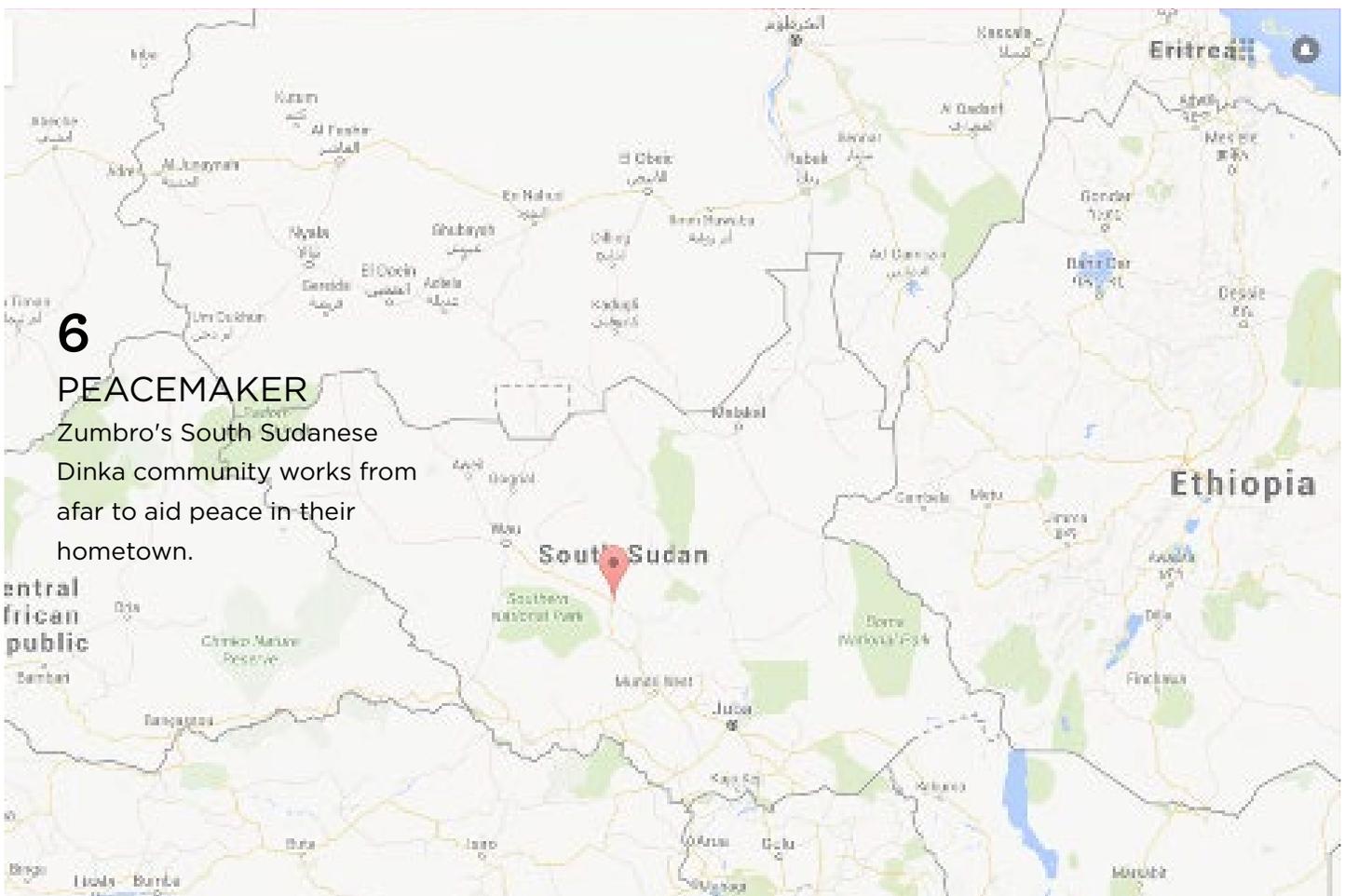


Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace, to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus.

THE ZUMBRO Current

JUNE 2016

Zumbro Lutheran Church | A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



6

PEACEMAKER

Zumbro's South Sudanese Dinka community works from afar to aid peace in their hometown.

2

HALF TRUTHS

Statements said with the best intentions can sometimes hurt others. Zumbro's next sermon series will explore the Bible to find the whole truth.

4 & 5

PREACHING FEAR

Seminary student and Zumbro member Madi (Lenz) Chelberg reflects on the most anxious part of her first year at Luther Seminary.

7

NEED A RIDE?

Zumbro has contracted with two taxi services in Rochester to aid people in getting to worship on Sunday mornings.



Half Truths

Do you believe that everything happens for a reason? Or that God won't give you more than you can handle? Christians have been making statements like these for years. Perhaps they have even helped you through a difficult time. But do they really come from the Bible?

This month we are going to explore these and other sayings that people often believe. Here's why I think this is important—sometimes these well-meaning statements can actually hurt people. And sometimes they can even push people away from God.

I recall visiting with a woman several years ago. Her teenage son had just died unexpectedly. "My friends keep telling me that 'everything happens for a reason,'" she told me, "but I can't believe in a God who would have a good reason for taking my son from me."

Pastor Adam Hamilton calls these and other similar statements *half truths*, suggesting that they aren't necessarily completely untrue, but at the same time may only be partially true. So how will we determine their truth? We're going to dig into the Bible and figure out what Scripture really does say about the matter. We're going to read the Bible carefully, consider the context, and hold the statements up against what we know to be true about God.

Your beliefs might be challenged. You might not even agree with everything we have to say, but ultimately our goal is to inspire deeper theological exploration. Even more, I hope that this series might lead all of us to discover some even greater notions that we hold to be true about God. I hope you'll join us as we consider these *half truths*.

June 5 & 8
June 12 & 15
June 19 & 22
June 26 & 29

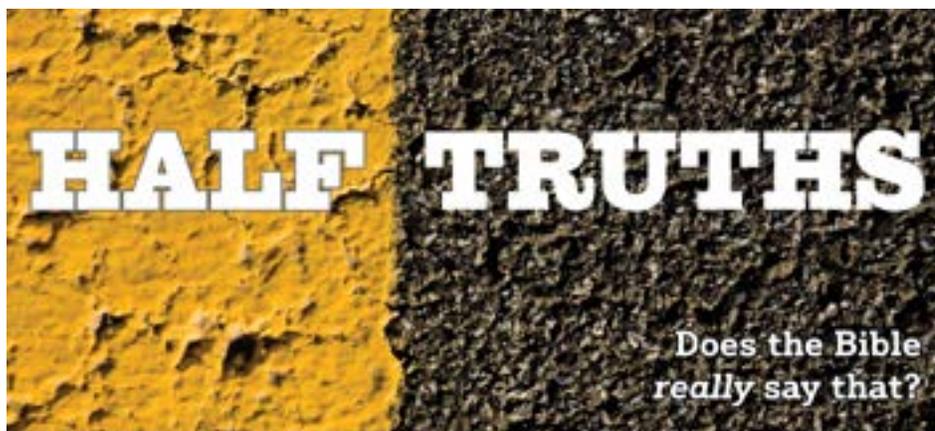
Everything Happens for a Reason
God Won't Give You More Than You Can Handle
God Helps Those Who Help Themselves
God Said It, I Believe It, That Settles It

See you in worship,

Pastor Lisa



Worship Details



**Everything Happens for a Reason • God Won't Give You More Than You Can Handle
God Helps Those Who Help Themselves • God Said It, I Believe It, That Settles It**

EVERYTHING HAPPENS FOR A REASON

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

Holy Communion

Music: LaDonna McGohan and Lily McGohan, oboe; Ruth Lincoln and Carol Wilkinson, vocalists

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

Holy Communion

GOD WON'T GIVE YOU MORE THAN YOU CAN HANDLE

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

Music: Corey Henke and Rachel

Tschann, horn; Susan Henke, piano

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing

Now the Feast Liturgy

Music: Michaela Sandness, violin

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Holy Communion

GOD SAID IT, I BELIEVE IT, THAT SETTLES IT

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Music: Pam Hammond, soloist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

WORSHIP

Worship Outside

WEDNESDAYS | 6pm

SOUTHEAST PATIO

Worship on Wednesday evenings to unwind and experience an encounter with God amidst your busy week. Music is led by a lively ensemble and worship is more informal with a "come as you are" feel. Afterwards, stay for s'mores & more (campfire, s'mores, and outdoor games)!

Story Time +PLUS+

Beginning on June 5, Story Time +PLUS+ will be offered at both Sunday worship services. Kids can experience the Big Idea in lessons and activities they can understand. Parents can enjoy the sermon. The children return to worship during the hymn following the sermon.

Summer Hymn Sing

JUNE 12, JULY 10, AUGUST 14

We will sing some of your favorite hymns during the summer.

Nursery Hours

Sundays 8:15-11:15am

Wednesdays 5:45-7:15pm

Planning a Baptism

SUGGESTED DATES AND TIMES

8:30 and 10am Sunday

June 12, 26

July 10, 24, 31

August 14, 28

6pm Wednesday

June 1, 15, 29

July 13, 27

August 3, 17, 31

An Update from Luther Seminary

by Madi (Lenz) Chelberg

I have been at Luther Seminary for about a year and a half, pursuing my M.Div. with an emphasis in Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. I am just shy of being halfway finished, but once I graduate, I will be an ordained youth and family pastor!

This past spring, I took the class I was looking forward to least: preaching. I don't know why I was always so nervous to take this class. Maybe it had something to do with my worry about saying the correct things or the fear that my work wouldn't be good enough for the pulpit. But with the help of some of my closest friends at school, and my wonderful professor, Dr. Karoline Lewis, this class soon turned into my favorite class I have ever taken.

My preaching class, along with every other class I have taken at seminary, has helped me strengthen my identity in Christ, both as a theologian, and as a public Christian leader. Not only do I feel more confident in my preaching, but also I have fallen more in love with proclaiming the Gospel that welcomes everyone into Christ's love.

In addition to my on-campus classes, I am working at Living Waters Lutheran Church in Lino Lakes. It is a completely new experience, and a huge change from growing up at Zumbro.

Right now, Living Waters has an interim pastor, so I have had the opportunity to see first-hand what goes into the call process from both an administrative perspective and a congregational perspective. This will be so beneficial to me when I begin the call process after I graduate.

Living Waters is a much smaller congregation than Zumbro, but is full of high school and middle school students. This is perfect for a youth ministry-oriented student like me. My main responsibilities at Living Waters include leading the high school youth group on Wednesday evenings and planning and leading youth retreats. The most recent retreat I planned and led was the yearly confirmation retreat to Luther Point Bible Camp.

Along with my position at Living Waters, this past May I started my clinical pastoral education as a chaplaincy intern at Mercy Hospital in Coon Rapids. I am working alongside the hospital chaplain to gain experience in clinical pastoral care, both in a general hospital setting and in an emergency room setting.

There have been some pretty big changes in my life, too! This past April, I got married, right here at Zumbro. Pastor Lisa officiated, and it was a beautiful ceremony.



Madi (Lenz) and Max Chelberg

My new husband, Max, works in Rochester as a mechanical engineer for Dunham Associates. Right now, we live in Inver Grove Heights, but once I graduate from seminary, we are hoping to move to Rochester to be closer to my family and Max's job.

I am forever grateful to everyone at Zumbro for their support and encouragement. I wouldn't be where I am today without every single person with whom I have crossed paths. There have been bumps and bruises along the way, but I have never felt so strongly that this is exactly what God has created me for and called me to do.

Zumbro has a long standing tradition of financially supporting candidates for pastoral ministry from our congregation. Since 2015 the Gifts & Memorials Team has provided \$16,070 to cover the cost of Madi's seminary tuition. If you would like to help sustain this fund, please contact Bob Giere. Your giving makes a difference.

Staff to Lead Upcoming Retreat



The scenic Heartwood® Conference Center & Retreat in northwest Wisconsin is the location for the ALOA (Adult Lutherans Organized for Action) Colorama Lutherhostels. It's open to all Christians over 50 who are looking to be refreshed in body, soul, and spirit. Each week a team of presenters are assembled to create an environment of learning and connecting with

others. Those who attend the five-day Lutherhostels will be inspired by spiritual topics, music, devotions, and beautiful outdoor fall activities.

Two sessions of ALOA are offered: September 25-30, 2016 (Colorama Lutherhostel I) and October 2-7, 2016 (Colorama Lutherhostel II).

Zumbro's Bob and Kristy Giere will serve as devotion and music leaders during the Colorama Lutherhostel II. Visit ALOAserves.org for more information about ALOA, accommodations, and registration. Brochures are available in the church office or from Bob and Kristy Giere.

ZWELCA Action Project

Beneficiary: LINK (Living Independently with Knowledge)

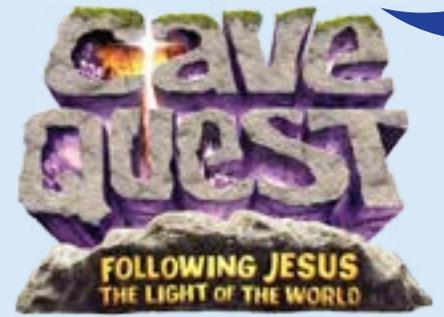
LINK program of Lutheran Social Services in Rochester that strives to transition at-risk and homeless youth ages 16-21 years old into independent adults by providing case management services, life-skills groups, peer support groups, and a transitional housing program for those who are eligible.

Please help by donating (one or more) of these items:

- Food items (canned or packaged)
- Paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissues)
- Cleaning products (dish soap, laundry soap, etc.)
- Baby diapers, wipes, ointment
- Hygiene products (deodorant, razors, feminine products, bath soap, shampoo, tooth brushes and toothpaste)
- Paper cups and paper plates
- Gift certificates (Kwik Trip gas, Wal-Mart, Target, Rochester Public Transit bus)

All items for the above projects may be placed in the Action Box outside the lounge.

Our ongoing projects: layette items for Lutheran World Relief, eyeglasses for Lions Club, beverage tabs for Ronald McDonald House, and Campbell soup labels and greeting cards for the Rainbow School. These items may be left in the drawers at the ushers' stand.



VBS and VBS +PLUS+

JUNE 20-24

Time is running out to register your children for a fantastic week of music, Bible stories, games, and crafts. For more information on this over-the-top-week and to register, visit www.zumbrolutheran.org

Camp Staff

Kris Oppegard would love to keep in touch with camp staff this summer. Please drop off your summer camp address in the church office. Include your name, the name of the camp, the camp address, and the dates when you will be at the camp.

PICN Training

JUNE 7 | 6:30-7:30pm

KAIROS ROOM

Protected In Christ's Name (PICN) is an hour-long training that is necessary for all who work with children and youth at Zumbro. Especially those who are volunteering for VBS or serving as an adult leader on a summer youth mission trip. Please bring your driver's license to fill out a background check. Contact Kris Oppegard to sign up for this free training.

Peacemaker.

Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace, to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus. This isn't just something that is recited at the end of worship at Zumbro, but is the mission of the people that worship here. It is a way of life that comes from deep in our souls, including the Dinka who worship here on Sunday afternoons.

Zumbro is the home of a Dinka congregation. They worship every Sunday at 2pm in the Fireside Room. The Dinka are a tribe from South Sudan who came to the United States as refugees during a long civil war. This congregation worships Jesus Christ in their native language of Dinka and serves as a gathering place for South Sudanese Dinka in Rochester. The Sudanese Dinka Community is a part of Zumbro Lutheran Church and is a worshipping community of the ELCA.

The Dinka congregation has been led by Lay Evangelist Kamen Makeur since 2005. This month he will live out Zumbro's mission of building bridges, reaching out with compassion, and sharing the hope of Jesus back in his hometown in Sudan—despite the danger he is faced.

Since 2014, two clans of Kamen's hometown, Rumbek, have been fighting, resulting in the deaths of between 8 and 40 people every week. According to Kamen, this fighting is the result of the government being unable to control clans after the civil war. The government failed to distribute goods and Rumbek offers no basic services to its residents. This caused major strife and it has become uncivilized.

While this fighting is far from Minnesota, Zumbro's Dinka is affected by it intimately. Kamen has sent \$3,000 home to treat his nephew's and his wife's gunshot wounds from the fighting. Unfortunately, his nephew's wife died due to her injuries. This story is all too common to many from our Dinka congregation.

For the past 10 months, Kamen and a small group of South Sudanese leaders in the United States have been facilitating a peace agreement between the two warring clans of Dinka in their home state. So far, the peace has held and dozens of lives have been saved.

For four weeks this June, 18 Dinka leaders in the United States, including Kamen, will travel to South Sudan's capital, Juba, to meet with lawyers and politicians to create community laws and hopefully to finalize the peace manifesto. Prayers are requested for Kamen's safe travels to and from South Sudan, for safety during the peace discussions, and for the fighting to end.



Kamen Makeur

As Kamen said, "I'm just trying to be a peacemaker."



Did You Know?

Zumbro has contracted with Med City Taxi to provide taxi service to both Sunday worship services. All you need to do is call Med City Taxi, (507) 282-8294. If a taxi isn't available, you can call Yellow Cab, (507) 282-2222, as a back-up service. Please let the driver know you want a ride to Zumbro Lutheran Church, 624 Third Avenue SW, and they will charge Zumbro's account.

Thank you for using our taxi service on Sunday. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tracy Schar at (507) 288-2649 or tracyschar@zumbrolutheran.org



Fort Bend Boys Choir of Texas Concert

JUNE 13 | 7PM

SANCTUARY

This choir has performed for three United States presidents, performed with numerous symphony orchestras, received an Addy Award, and was nominated for an Emmy Award. Plan to attend this memorable concert performed by boys with extraordinary music abilities. Repertoire includes choral literature from classical to folk music. Free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be received.

BELONGING Zumbro Travelers

Zumbro members and guests are welcome on all tours. Itineraries and reservation forms are available at the ushers' stand and in the church office.

The Fireside and Shrine of Our Lady Guadalupe

August 11-12, 2016

Enjoy "Singin' in the Rain" musical at the Fireside Dinner Theatre in Ft. Atkinson, WI, and a tour of the Shrine church and grounds of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse, WI. Itineraries and reservation forms are available on the ushers' stand and in the church office. Reservations are due July 11.

May Updates

BAPTISMS

Deziray Jo Lee

Lucas Michael Ryan

Maxwell James Stenzel

FUNERAL/MEMORIAL SERVICES

Clifford W. Laging

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Craig Dickinson
Custodians

Karla Dexter
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Kamen Makuer
Dinka Lay Evangelist
makuerkamen@yahoo.com

Barb Desens
Nursery Coordinator

Newsletter Deadline

Please submit items for the July/August issue of the *Zumbro Current* by May 10, to zlcpublications@zumbrolutheran.org

Thank You for Your Support

In July the youth summer mission trips participants will go out into the world sharing the hope of Jesus. Thank you, Zumbro, for your continued support of mission trips and youth over this past school year.

The pancake breakfast on Palm Sunday raised \$1,000, the youth stock fundraiser collected \$15,000, and the youth silent auction raised around \$2,500.

Your support of our mission-minded youth is overwhelming, humbling, and appreciated. Our middle school youth are heading to Indianapolis, IN, for a mission trip with YouthWorks. Our high school youth are heading to Denver, CO, for a mission trip with YouthWorks and two days of adventure. We look forward to sharing our stories with you via our trip blogs. Please keep our 55 youth and adult leaders in your prayers.

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Time Dated Material



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