Is Laughter the Best Medicine?
by Pamela Holz
Parent Crosslink Winter 2013

What we need is a clearer perspective, remembering where we need to keep our focus. There was no joyful laughter on that hill outside of Jerusalem on that blackest of Fridays. The only laughter would have been the maniacal glee of a mistaken Satan thinking he had just overcome the world’s Savior. But his laughter was quickly quashed as the triumphant, risen Jesus trampled on his premature gloating and crushed his visions of victory.

Even beyond laughter, our victorious Savior gives us something less fleeting: true joy. “May the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; may they be happy and joyful” (Psalm 68:3). Does this mean that we can’t enjoy a good belly laugh, a great guffaw, or a howl of hilarity? Not at all. But it is important that we guide our children to learn what is and isn’t appropriate to laugh about. We don’t want to laugh unkindly at someone else’s expense—for example, a person with a different appearance or a unique manner of doing things. And we certainly never want to laugh at those things that God takes very seriously, summarized succinctly in his Ten Commandments.

We do know a beautiful freedom because of Jesus’ victory, allowing us to rejoice that we need not fear Satan and death because their sting has been removed. That sure knowledge cuts through the tensions of our lives, giving us room to smile, rejoice, and make glad noises of all types before the Lord: giggles, guffaws, shortles, chuckles, or even a song at the top of our voices!

Quarter 3 Mission Project
During the third quarter we will be collecting our chapel offerings to support The Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, WI. Our seminary trains men to become pastors and missionaries. Grades 5-6 will be sponsoring this project.

2/11-> $43.07
Total-> $193.89

Set Your Heart on Things Above

Also available @ zionrhinelander.org
Early Early Dismissal
Today is an 11:30 dismissal. Parents will need to pick up their students at 11:30. The teachers will be heading to Manitowoc for the Northern Wisconsin District Teachers’ Conference. There is no school tomorrow or Friday.

Next Wednesday, February 18, the district has a teacher inservice day with a 1:45 dismissal. Buses will be running on that early dismissal day.

2015-16 Kindergarten/Preschool Open House
Thursday, February 26, is our 2015-16 Open House for prospective preschoolers and kindergartners. The Open House is from 4-7pm. Come and visit the classrooms and meet the teachers! The event is open to the public, so tell a friend!

Miss Wahl
Miss Wahl has received a divine call from Crown of Life Lutheran Church in West St. Paul, Minnesota, to serve as first grade and Spanish teacher at their Lutheran Elementary School. Please keep Miss Wahl in your prayers as she works to determine where she can best use her God-given gifts to serve, here at Zion or at Crown of Life.

Mr. Mildebrandt
Mr. Mildebrandt has received a divine call from Christ Lutheran Church in Eagle River, Wisconsin, to serve as principal and upper grades teacher at their Lutheran Elementary School. Please keep Mr. Mildebrandt in your prayers as he works to determine where he can best use his God-given gifts to serve, here at Zion or at Christ in Eagle River.

Tuition Assistance for 2015-16
For members of Zion Lutheran Church there is additional tuition assistance available for the 2015-16 school year. The deadline to apply is April 30. Just head to our zionrhinelander.org school site and click on the FACTS tuition assistance link. A copy of your 2014 federal tax return is needed to complete the application.

Kids For Christ
The Kids for Christ are gearing up for the Feb. Zion Education Spirit Week. The special events will kick off with the annual 6-8th grade Lock-In on Feb. 20th after school until 11:00 A.M. Feb. 21st. Then on Monday morning the students will be treated to a pancake breakfast served by the Kids for Christ. It will be served from 7 A.M. until school start at 8 A.M. That Monday will also
be the start day for some fun dress-up days and support of the local Food Pantry. Check out the list below and PARTICIPATE and have some fun.

**Monday PJ day**, just roll out of bed and come to school! Well almost. Pancakes for students.
Food item: breakfast things such as cereals, hot or cold, pop tarts, breakfast drinks, juice

**Tuesday Crazy day**, hair, hats, clothes...go CRAZY (please no hair color). Food item: Lunch items such as soups, mac and cheese, canned tuna, and so on

**Wednesday Dress Up day**, Morning chapel with offering, Lenten service at 3:30
Food item: Canned veggies or fruits, pasta sauces, and the like

**Thursday Super Hero day** come as your personal super hero or one from books, movies, TV, Food item: Snacks, crackers, fruit snacks, chips and so on

**Friday Sports day**, Zion sports teams can wear uniforms, local or national sports teams, or your personal interests.
Food item: Deserts-sweets, cake mixes, brownies, cookies, puddings etc.

**Sunday All school sings in church 9:00 A.M. March 1st** Every family is being asked to supply a dozen cookies for the coffee hour that morning. Kids for Christ will be setting up and serving the treat items.

---

**Zion Wish List**
We are blessed here at Zion Lutheran Church and School with so many generous, Christ-centered families who have graciously given gifts to our school in response to Christ’s love. The following link is to our school wish list for items that do not fit into our school and church budget at this time. If you’d like to help with one of these projects contact Mr. Ristow to learn how. Thanks!

[Zion Wish List](#)

---

**PRIDE PTO News**

Boxtop Challenge - Box tops will be collected on Friday February 20th. Winning classroom will get a treat! Just drop them in the designated container outside of the preschool room. Be sure to include your classroom on the envelope or ziplock so your class gets the proper credit!

The Family Fun group is sponsoring a Winter Dance for all students in grades 4-8 on Friday, February 27th from 7-10pm. The event gives the older kids in our school a chance to get together, dance a little and have lots of fun! If you are interested in helping, please contact Raychel Stella, chairman of the Family Fun Group or Mrs. Mildebrandt.

---

**Set Your Heart on Things Above**

Also available @ zionrhinelander.org
SCRIP News
Do you need a special something for your sweetheart for Valentine’s Day? Stop and check out Scrip! From Fun Factory to Build a Bear Workshop, Scrip is available for all kinds of Valentine’s fun! Order by Monday, February 9th to be sure and have the cards you need. And as always, stop and see Michele Antonuk in the hallway before school or Mrs. Mildebrandt at any time!

Upcoming Events
2/11- 11:30 Dismissal- Parent Transport Day PM - Teacher Travel Day
2/12-13- No School- Northern WI District Teachers’ Conference- Manitowoc
2/16- New to Zion Bible Class 6:00
2/17- Home BB vs. Homeschoolers 4:00
2/17- Board for Parish Education 6:30
2/18- 1:45 dismissal- Teacher Inservice
2/18- EC Eligibility check
2/19- Away BB @ Christ- Eagle River
2-20/21 Lock-in for 6-8th grades
2/23-27- Spirit Week SEE above list
2/25- Spring School Pictures
2/26- Preschool/Kindergarten 2015-16 Open House
2/27 Winter Dance 7-10pm for grades 4-8
3/1 - Grades preschool-8 sing in church, Kids for Christ serve coffee hour
3/6-8- Luther Prep Coed Basketball tournament in Watertown, WI
3/17- Board for Parish Education 6:30
3/18- EC Eligibility Check
3/20- 3rd Quarter Ends
3/23- No School- Teacher Inservice
3/25- 1:45 Dismissal- Teacher Inservice
3/25- 3rd Quarter report cards sent home with students
4/30 - Applications for Tuition Assistance for 2015-16 due
Full 2014-15 Zion Lutheran School Calendar

Set Your Heart on Things Above

Also available @ zionrhinelander.org