

WEEKLY BULLETIN

JUNE 7TH, 2026

livelife
together

THE SPIEL



Congrats CLASS OF 2026

This year Higher Ground is celebrating our talented graduating senior, Zoe Johnson, who is graduating from Oregon High School and jumping into an exciting future. Zoe has left an enduring impact Higher Ground and our entire faith community through her gentle spirit, leadership, creativity, and servant heart.

Our culture celebrates success and defines our identity in terms of accolades, achievements and medals. As followers of Jesus, however, we know that success is found in following Jesus, using our gifts for God's glory, investing in those around us, and embracing the uniqueness in which God made each of us. Therefore, to celebrate our graduate as uniquely made in God's image, I asked her family to share highlights of what makes Zoe special, as well as a blessing for her during this time of transition. Please join us in thanking God for our dear friend, Zoe Johnson!



Zoe Johnson

ZOE IS HEADING TO MADISON COLLEGE TO STUDY COSMETOLOGY AND PURSUE HER GOAL OF BECOMING A STYLIST.

When asked to highlight what makes Zoe unique, her family listed five words. First and foremost, Zoe is **SAVED**. She loves the Lord and you can see His influence in every aspect of her life.

Zoe is also a **FRIEND**. To know Zoe is to know you have a friend. She goes out of her way to extend friendship and unconditional love to everyone she knows.

She is a woman of **PEACE**, having a calm stillness that puts others at ease and makes room for tranquility with everyone she meets.

Zoe is **ACCOUNTABLE** and driven by integrity. She takes ownership and responsibility of everyone and everything God puts on her heart.

Lastly, Zoe is **AMBITIOUS** as she is always trying new things and loves inviting others to join her.



MAY GOD CONTINUE TO FILL YOUR HEART WITH GLADNESS AND THE QUIET CONFIDENCE THAT THERE'S NOTHING IN THE WORLD YOU CAN'T HANDLE. MAY YOUR LIGHT CONTINUE TO SHINE ON EVERYONE YOU MEET. AND MAY THOSE IN YOUR PATH COME TO REALIZE WHAT A GIFT THEY HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO KNOW YOU SWEET ZOE. MAY ALL YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE ACCORDING TO GOD'S WILL AND WISDOM.

LOVING ★ ELEGANT ★ INDUSTRIOUS

THE SPIEL



HOUSEHOLD WELL

Summer + Jesus Bucket List

Without intentionality, faith can become an afterthought during a busy summer. Which of these ideas could you try out to help your household keep focused on Jesus this summer? Perhaps each member of your household could pick one idea to be in charge of carrying out between now and September 1st. Share your stories and pictures with us at info@livelifetogether.com.

- Plan a get together with a friend/family from church.
- Sign up for daily worship devos at <https://sing.theworshipinitiative.com/>. *Bonus tip - try this as a way to start your day as a household. Give everyone something to color or doodle on, play the devo on a speaker, and set the foundation for your day!*
- Have a Household Well book club. Pick a book of the Bible to read individually and a date your household will come together to talk about it. Have fun snacks and drinks for your book club discussion.
- Take a picnic to a high hill (ex: *Olin Turville Park, Blue Mounds State Park, anywhere grassy and up high*) and take turns reading from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7. Imagine together what it would have been like to be part of the crowd listening to these powerful teachings.
- Take a Creation Hike (or walk). Find a nature trail and spend time observing God's creation. What amazes you? How does God reveal himself in creation? Start the hike with Psalm 19:1-4 and finish with Psalm 104.
- Look at the stars. Read Psalm 33:6-9 and Isaiah 40:26-28. How have you experienced God's power? Where do you need God's power right now?
- On vacation or in a new place? It's a perfect time to try something new! Challenge each person in your household to do one bold act of kindness while you are out and about. (*Compliment a stranger, buy someone's coffee, talk to someone who looks lonely, help with a task.....*)
- Identify one neighbor a week to serve or connect with. Spend that week praying for that neighbor. (*Make cookies, invite them to a firepit or to go for a walk, etc.*)
- Put Sunday worship on your calendar. Start your summer by putting first things first and write down the Sundays that you can commit to attending worship together. *Challenge: Going to be gone a lot of Sundays? Find a church to attend in one of the locations you are visiting.*
- Prayer walk around a local school.
- Pick up trash and pass out water bottles at a local park.



HIGHER GROUND

equipping our youth with life-long skills to be followers of Jesus.

COMING UP FOR YOUTH:

Higher Ground is the 7th-12th grade youth group at *the Church*. Our desire is to connect teens and their families to Life in Jesus while equipping students with the skills they need to be life-long followers of Jesus. At the same time, we exist to also equip families to have Christ-centered homes that nurture a day-to-day relationship with Jesus. Friends are always welcome!

HIGHER GROUND IS ON SUMMER BREAK

The High School Mission Trip is July 12th-18th.

Please pray for leaders and students as they prepare their hearts for mission.



Life in the Word is for students in 5th & 6th grade youth group at the Church. Class time on Sunday evenings during the school year is used to instruct students in the basics of our faith, as well as Luther's Small Catechism. Students also develop relationships during this time that prepare them to continue to live in community during their teen years.

LIFE IN THE WORD ON SUMMER BREAK

The Middle School Mission Trip is August 2nd-5th.

Please pray for leaders and students as they prepare their hearts for mission.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT EMILY POWERS: EPowers@LIVELIFETOGETHER.COM



Our Adopt a School Partner is:
LEOPOLD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WAYS TO SERVE:

Support for after school clubs at Leopold: There is no MSCR at Leopold, and they are looking for volunteers to help with the existing clubs or perhaps run one - they are open to having them be 4 to 6 weeks in length. If you want to teach a skill or have an idea for an after school program reach out to Amy Meyer at ameyer@lifelifetogether.com.

Questions? Contact Amy Meyer: ameyer@lifelifetogether.com

Kids **CONNECTION**

Kids Connection is for children 4th grade and under, and their parents. Kids learn bible stories through games, crafts and songs. Kids build strong relationships with each other while learning truths about Jesus. 5th and 6th grade students are invited to attend this class as junior helpers. Contact Emily Powers at epowers@lifelifetogether.com.

KIDS CONNECTION ON SUMMER BREAK

MESSAGE & NOTES

THE TAPESTRY: CRIMSON THREADS RISEN INDEED

Luke 24:1-49

Focus: Jesus, the Messiah, is really Risen! If not for this fact, we would be like the disciples on the road who said, "We had hoped he was the one." But praise be to God! Christ is indeed risen, and because He lives, the threads of our lives are eternally woven together with His, safe and secure. Because He lives, we too shall live.

WORD

Read John 20:19-30; Acts 1:1-14

What were Jesus followers waiting for after Easter? What were they going to do?

What did people need after Easter? What did God give them?

THE TAPESTRY - Life in Jesus

What did Jesus followers want, but not need?

Is anything that you want, but don't need, holding you back from what God has sent you to do?

PRAY

Pray that God would give you the understanding, abilities, healing, etc. that you want.
Pray that He would help you trust that He has already given you what you need.

LOVE

What is one step you will take this week in your journey as a disciple who makes disciples?

CALENDAR & EVENTS



UPCOMING:

SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH: 9AM WORSHIP

Join us for our in-person and online worship on Sunday at 9am. Join us online at lifelifetogether.com/thisweek. You will find the livestream, the bulletin, the lifeLines and all that you need for the week, on this page. We look forward to worshipping together.

SUNDAY, JUNE 14TH 9AM NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

Help us to welcome all of our new members on New Member Sunday!

*2*22 ON BREAK FOR THE SUMMER*

MONDAY, JUNE 21ST: DONUTS WITH DAD

Stay after worship with Dad and grab some donuts in honor of all of the Fathers and Father figures in our congregation!

MONDAY, JUNE 22ND 6:30PM THE CHURCH LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING

The Church Leadership Board Meeting will be at the Church on June 22nd at 6:30pm. If you have any questions, please contact the board at board@lifelifetogether.com.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28TH AFTER WORSHIP

We're having a picnic after worship! So stay, bring a snack/lunch, a chair or blanket, your favorite outdoor activities (i.e. frisbee, bean bag toss) and let's hang out! *[No WELL Connected this week]!*

SUMMER SERIES: UNDERSTANDING THE LCMS: WALKING TOGETHER WITH CLARITY: A SUMMER OF PRAYER, DISCERNMENT, AND STRENGTHENING OUR SHARED WITNESS

Since the LCMS will meet in convention this summer, we'll take time to review who we are as a church body, discuss some current and upcoming challenges, and seek to move forward together in faith as we follow Jesus.

SUNDAY, JUNE 14TH: AFTER WORSHIP

We begin by remembering who we are in Christ.

OR

THURSDAY, JUNE 18TH: 8PM VIA ZOOM

We begin by remembering who we are in Christ.

AND

SUNDAY, JULY 12TH: AFTER WORSHIP

We seek wisdom as we navigate what is not yet clear .

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16TH: AFTER WORSHIP

We move forward in faith, trusting the One who leads us.

AUGUST 24TH—31ST: LOVE DANE

Mark Your Calendars! We will be serving again with Love Dane through Collaboration Project. More information coming soon. In the meantime, learn more about Love Dane here: <https://www.collaborationproject.us/love-dane>

SEE THE BACK PAGE FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES



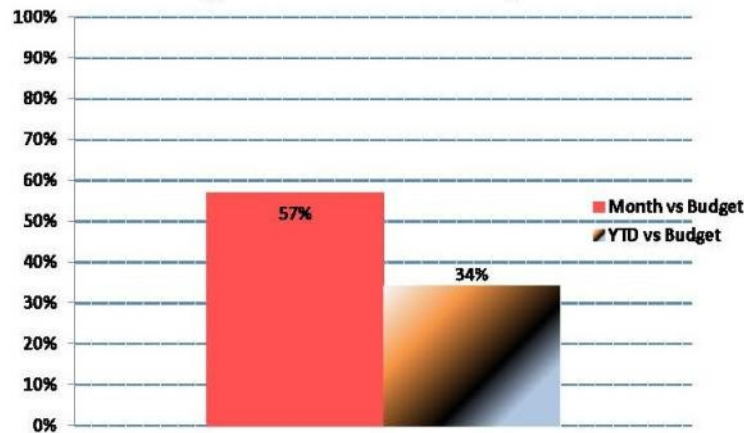
CHECK OUT UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ONLINE



GLANCE *at the* FINANCE



Offerings: Month and YTD vs. Budget



Tithes and Offerings as of April 30, 2026			
Monthly received	\$ 30,439	YTD received	\$ 213,229
Monthly goal	53,448	YTD surplus/(deficit)	(23,009)
Monthly surplus/(deficit)	(23,009)	2026 goal	624,045
This month last year	\$ 42,341	Goal remaining	410,816
		2025 total	\$ 600,435
Additional Information as of April 30, 2026			
Line of Credit Balance*	\$ 24,885	2022 Loan Balance	~\$29,800
Balance was \$0 from January 1 to January 30*		Paid monthly	
Church Finances as of March 31, 2026			
	2026	2025	
Operating Rev.	\$ 193,556	\$ 166,188	
Operating Exp.	200,006	202,677	
	\$ (6,451)	\$ (36,488)	
*LoC must have \$0 balance for 30 days per calendar year			

BIRTHDAYS

6/7 Matt Wiperman
 6/7 Jennifer Wood
 6/10 Kristen Carstensen
 6/13 Micah Powers
 6/14 Samuel Tsai

ANNIVERSARIES

6/9—64 years
 Donn and Rose Tolley

Birthdays and Anniversaries for this week! If your special day does not appear, please contact the church office to update your records.

OUR VISION: STRATEGY

HOW ARE WE DOING IT?



Come to lifeWorship! We join together to focus on Jesus, offer Him praise, and allow Him the space to speak to us. lifeWorship is an exciting part of *the Church* experience. Join us in lifeWorship every week and experience the amazing blessing of freedom that comes in humbling yourself before God.



Connect to lifeGroup! At *the Church* we really do "live life together." In lifeGroup, we meet weekly in each other's homes to share a meal and share our lives as we grow in Jesus. Our connection to other people is at the heart of our Christian experience. Authentic connections happen most effectively in smaller groups where there is opportunity for dialogue and relationships, and our primary place for these authentic connections is lifeGroup.



Commit to lifeServe! At *the Church* we offer our time, talents, gifts, and abilities to serve God, serve His church and serve others. It's easy to come to church only for what we can get out of it, but the Bible says that each of us has something to give back. There is a need each of us can answer. We want you to experience Life in Jesus to the fullest, and encourage you to take time to give yourself away in ministry.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONNECT WITH US!

COMMUNION

If you're a guest, you're welcome to attend the Lord's Supper with us this morning. We only ask of you what God asks of us all - that you can answer 'yes' to the following questions:

- ◆ Have I been baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
- ◆ Do I believe that I am a sinful human being without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy in Christ Jesus?
- ◆ Do I believe that Jesus is God's Son and my personal Savior?
- ◆ Do I believe that Jesus' true body and blood are present in the bread and wine?
- ◆ Do I desire by the Holy Spirit's power to live a Godly life?

If you have questions, please feel free to speak with a Pastor, a Worship Assistant, or someone sitting near you.



SERVICE TIMES:

the Church
2833 Raritan Rd.
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Combined Traditional & Exalt Worship
9:00AM [In-Person & Online]

THE TAPESTRY...Crimson Threads: Risen Indeed [June 7th, 2026]