

Lynn Peffer, Principal Zion Lutheran School

A Journey of Christian Growth

As a child growing up in Battle Creek, Iowa, I absolutely loved summer! We had the best 4th of July celebration in the county with a parade (you've never seen so many tractors in your life!), contests (I won the frog jumping contest when I was 10 years old), carnival games, baseball and softball games, food, and the biggest fireworks display in three counties! People came from all over to our Independence Day celebration! Our little town of 1,000 people swelled to around 2,500-3,000 that day, mostly attracted by our fireworks display.

Alexandria has an awesome Independence Day fireworks display. And, I have to admit that it's even better than Battle Creek, Iowa's! But Battle Creek's display has something Alexandria's doesn't: the excitement of the knowledge that at any time, one of the rockets could be fired into the crowd! Battle Creek's volunteer firemen have been known to have occasionally (accidentally) fired some of their rockets into the crowd! Talk about excitement! Back in about 1980, they accidentally sent one into the crowd just to my left, hitting our pastor's daughter in the hind end! She wasn't injured badly, but she became the butt of many jokes! The firemen have since curtailed their "celebrating" during the day to make the event safer. But, you never know when it could happen again! It brings a totally unique feeling to Battle Creek's Independence Day celebration! I miss it!

As Christians, we are fortunate to have two Independence Days to celebrate. The 4th of July and our baptism days! And, there may even be those lucky enough to have been baptized on the 4th of July. Our baptism day is when we became independent or "free" from our sins. The Spirit entered our lives that day, and because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we were saved, no longer slaves of sin! This freedom from sin is one of the main messages we present to our students at Zion Lutheran School! We are a fine academic institution, but we're an even better spiritual institution. We are a tool that God uses to spread the word of salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, by God's word alone! Zion Lutheran Church and School members and families are important parts of this ministry. Without the support of all of you, we would not touch the lives of these children and influence the community and the world as we do! Thank you all for your support!

Mr. Mindach and I will be working throughout the summer doing all that needs to be done to keep things running smoothly and to improve how we educate and witness to the students of Zion! Enrollment for 2010-2011 looks good right now. We still have room in K-8 for more students! Please help spread the word of the wonderful world of Zion to your friends, neighbors, and others!

Other items of note:

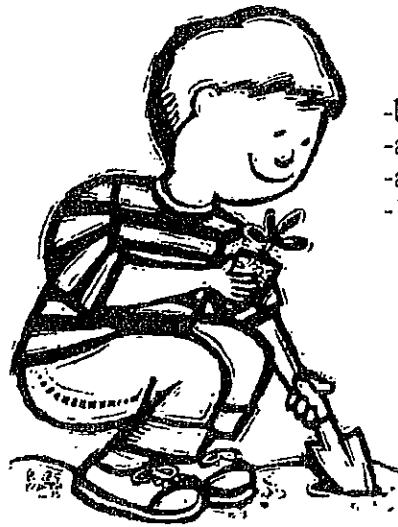
1. Don't forget to order scrip during the summer! You can earn money for your tuition or another's, or you can choose to let your dollars help pay for the new building project!
2. For those who don't like to order or forget to order, remember that we keep a lot of scrip "on hand" during the summer months. Simply stop by the office during office hours or see Mr. Peffer after 8:00 AM service before you buy gas, groceries, gardening/yard items, food, etc., during the summer months!
3. A list of all the gift cards we keep on hand is displayed on the "Scrip Center" in the office entry area, or in the narthex on Sunday mornings!
4. We are looking for a new location to put up a sign advertising our school! If any of you have a location or have a connection to a location that would be a great place for this, please contact Mr. Peffer or one of the school board members as soon as possible!

5. Basketball, math, reading, and science camps are occurring during the summer months. Contact the office for more information! - 4 -
6. We will need volunteers to possibly do some moving of some offices, classroom furnishings, etc. during the construction this summer. Please consider helping out if given the opportunity!

Blessings on your summer activities, and thanks again for supporting Zion Lutheran School!



A few tidbits to let you know how the Scrip program is growing!



- biggest family rebate to date \$377.30
- amount applied to student tuition \$188.65
- average rebate per family \$59.73
- 122 families had rebates that totaled \$7,286.66 - \$3,643.33 for Zion ministries including tuition, tuition assistance, new building fund, passion drama, & youth

