



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Connecting with God; Connecting with Others; Connecting others with God

Pastor Melody Sell, Interim Pastor
85 E. Brandt Boulevard
Landisville, PA 17538
(717) 898-2911 (o)
(570) 916-8835 (c)
prmsell2@ptd.net

DAILY DEVOTIONALS FROM PASTOR SELL ***June 13-17***

Monday, June 13

Lately workers have been on the roof of the Black Knight Tavern in beautiful downtown Landisville. It has been over a year since the fire and for the most part there has not been much activity around the building. A couple weeks ago there was a lone man on the roof, then larger machines were parked beside the building. It is a slow beginning, but it is a beginning.

Zion is approaching a new beginning in ministry with a new Pastor. The beginning will be slow as you get to know each other. Don't let this new venture be one sided by waiting for the Pastor to contact you – reach out and make yourself known. Send an email to say 'Hi'. Drop in for an office visit. Share some of the abundance from your garden. Wear your nametag when he begins leading worship on June 26. Above all pray for your Pastor!

Tuesday, June 14

Do you remember this song from Sunday School or church camp?

*I am the church! You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus,
All around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!*

It may be a simple, little ditty but it sums up an essential principle of the church: We are in this together. We are called by God to faith in Christ and empowered by Spirit to share the Good News with the world. One person cannot do it by themselves – it takes all of us together. We are the church!



Wednesday, June 15

One of my two big koi (about 15 inches) disappeared during the winter. There was no floating body and no bones when the pond was cleaned this spring so what happened is a mystery. Since I only had one in the pond, I decided to purchase a couple more. I got two colorful little fellows about two inches long. I followed all the instructions to acclimatize the fish to their new environment and allowed them to swim free. It was several days before I saw them again. It has been about five weeks now and I see them once or twice a week. Most of the time they hide under the rock ledges or in the algae.

Church people are a lot like the new fish. They want to stay hidden – a part of the church but not involved. They come to worship every so often, maybe Christmas and Easter, but are not otherwise involved. The church needs everyone to share their gifts and talents as they are able. There are so many ways to contribute – sending notes; making phone calls; encouraging the Pastor; praying for the congregation. No gift is too small or unimportant to share. As Zion begins a new adventure with a new Pastor, pray about how you can be involved in the ministry of Jesus Christ in Landisville.

Thursday, June 16

I don't like chaos! I like things prepared, ready, and in order. God is working something new at Zion and for a few weeks there may be confusion -- even a bit of chaos. Chaos is not always a bad thing, but it can be uncomfortable. Remember much good can come as you walk out of the confusion. Be patient; pray fervently; reach out; offer help. The chaos will lead to new understandings and vision. Ministries will change. Don't get caught up saying "but we've always done it this way." Be open-minded and always keep the Lord Jesus in your hearts, minds, and thoughts.

Friday, June 17

This is my final daily devotional for the people of Zion and others who follow them each day. In more than 350 daily devotions I have talked about my journeys around town, my house and yard, everyday events, and even birds pooping on me. I hope I have challenged you to look around and see the activity of God all around us. I hope you have laughed and identified with the stories and the messages about life with God and with each other. I have cherished your comments about the devotions and your stories of similar events and experiences.

“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways...The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.” (II Thessalonians 3:17)