

# YOU ask about...

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# Faith

## Zion Lutheran Youth Retreat October 3-5, 2008

We are blessed this year to have Rev. Tim Pauls, one of the most popular speakers from Higher Things youth events, as our main speaker. Those of you who have heard him speak at Higher Things events know what a great speaker he is. We will be hearing a new presentation based on his latest book coming out in July called *You Ask about Faith*. Pr. Pauls will map out how we Lutherans understand faith as a gift (not our work), then apply it to prayer, miracles and more. It might sound a little "catechismy" at first, but it involves cows and a recurring character named Deadguy.

Ordained in 1993, Pastor Pauls currently serves as associate pastor and acting school administrator for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Boise, Idaho. He also currently serves as editor of *Higher Things Magazine*. His personal interests include outdoor activities, camping, reading and directing the church choir. Pr. Pauls and his wife have two sons.

We will again balance the serious teaching and reverent worship many of you experienced at last year's retreat with activities that youth of all ages will enjoy. Saturday evening's semiformal dinner is the high point of our retreat, served at Schuler's fine restaurant across the street from Zion.

Live music with Eric and Polly Rapp will again round out the weekend. The Rapps are a Lutheran husband-wife duo who met in a church choir. To the partnership Eric brought fine flatpicking, an affinity for old-time country and bluegrass, and a knack for songwriting--influenced by artists as diverse as the Beatles, Norman Blake, Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, Nirvana, Tom Russell, Paul Simon, Smashing Pumpkins, Michael Smith, and Gillian Welch. Eric will be entering his first year of seminary training this fall at Fort Wayne.

Polly's musical background includes a lifetime of singing, an interest in a variety of folk instruments, and a passion for performing. A honeymoon in the Smoky Mountains clinched their now-signature sound, when they got their hands on their first mountain dulcimer. Since then they have established a varied repertoire--wryly humorous or thoughtful takes on life, love, work, and faith (Lutheran, of course!).

After dinner and music on Saturday evening we feature an opportunity to learn and participate in folk dancing (like the Virginia Reel). No one will be forced to dance, but it's almost as fun to watch as it is to participate! This was reportedly the most popular part of last year's retreat, so we extended the time for it this year.

And, just to clarify, the ages the retreat is open to are those in seventh through twelfth grade plus college students. We will have very close supervision of the youth at all times, assigning unchaperoned attendees to responsible chaperones of our choosing. Respectful behavior is demanded at all times.

### Friday Evening

- 4:45 - 6:30 Zion: group check-in, instructions, homestay assignments
- 5:00 - 6:50 Zion: Dinner
- 7:00 - 7:15 Schulers: Welcome and announcements
- 7:15 - 8:00 Schulers: Catechesis I - Pr. Tim Pauls
- 8:10 - 9:50 Organized social activities and games in Zion's Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 Zion: Compline
- 10:45 Zion: Host families pickup guests

### Saturday

- 9:00 Zion: Host families return guests
- 9:15 - 9:45 Zion: Matins
- 10:00 - 10:45 Schulers: Catechesis II - Pr. Tim Pauls
- 10:45 - 11:15 Break
- 11:15 - 12:00 Schulers: Catechesis II - Pr. Tim Pauls
- 12:00 Pick up sack lunch at Zion and walk to Stuart's Landing (a park by the Kalamazoo river) for a picnic and some practice dancing with some Hillsdale college student instructors. Those who wish can stay longer for some ultimate frisbee in the park.
- 4:30 - 5:00 Zion: Vespers
- 5:00 - 6:45 Schulers Semiformal banquet - dinner music from the Rapps and an address from Pr. Tim Pauls
- 6:45 - 9:50 Music and dancing with Eric and Polly Rapp
- 10:00 Zion: Compline with Confession and Individual Absolution
- 10:45 Zion: Host families pickup guests

### Sunday Morning

- 9:00 Zion: Host families return guests
- 9:15 - 10:15 Zion: Catechesis IV - Pr. Tim Pauls
- 10:30 Zion: Divine Service with Holy Communion

1:00 Zion: Pr. Tim Pauls will be giving a special (RSVP) presentation for adults followed by discussion regarding the challenge of keeping youth in the church as adults. Supervision of youth & children will be provided at Zion.