



July
2022



"Just wondering God"

Zion's News & Notes

A few words from Pastor Bill

So we have begun a journey together. You, faith-filled folk of Zion, have been on this journey for a while. Is it fair to think that this journey is longer than many had anticipated? I am trying to catch up with you on what is now a journey together.

It is in this reality that I, and perhaps you, wonder what God has in mind for us. What is Zion's mission and ministry even as we still struggle with pandemic angst?

One of my most favorite prayers in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* is the following:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Oh yes, I wonder! Contemplating Scripture I notice how many times it is observed that people, even faith-filled people, wonder and ask God questions. Questions may be about where is God today, or where has God been, or where is God guiding us for tomorrow. These are all good questions, and God is not afraid of our questioning.

But, when we question, let us also listen for God's response. Baptized "children" of God, we are called...we are endowed with gifts and talents...we are gathered and we are sent. We are not alone, but led and supported by God.

Do I know where are journey will take us? Not totally! But I am convinced that this journey is in God's hands if we but let God lead.

God's Peace Always,
Pastor Bill

PS: While my weekly hours are limited, I am available for home and office visits as well as by telephone or email. PastorBill@zionluth.com; thru Zion's Church Office; and my personal phone 860-335-2183.

Zion Lutheran Church

Zion News & Notes

Zion News & Notes is published each month by the church office. It includes news of upcoming events, thank you notes, a calendar, archives, photos and many other items of interest. Our newsletters are also available on our website: www.zionlutheranNy.org

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Contributors: Members of the congregation

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July Announcements

Sunday, July 10th: Worship Service will begin at 11 AM due to the Boilermaker Road Race.

Worship Team: Please continue to review the sign up sheets on the bulletin board in the narthex. Zion always needs your help to lead the services!

Technology Committee: This is currently one of the most important committees and you do not have to be an expert to join. Streaming the worship services on Zoom is here to stay and we find ourselves falling short in the area of technology. Zion is getting new equipment for sharing the services online which is really exciting and we are looking for a few people to join the committee! *If interested, please contact Sara S. or Mark Thompson.*

Abide: Our next session is on Sunday, July 10th at 1 PM. Please let Sara know if you need these materials sent to you. *(The materials and Zoom link were sent out via email on June 16th.)*

Music: Thank you to Tina Ponce for filling in as violinist during most of the month of June. We loved having her with us in the sanctuary!

Organist: Thank you to Kelli Watson for her years with Zion. We have enjoyed having her with us and we wish her all the best!

New Organist: Welcome Richard Bostick, Zion's new organist! Rich will be starting at Zion as the Organist/Music Director on Sunday, July 3rd. We are so excited to have him with us! *(More information about Richard and his position will be available in the next newsletter.)*

Learn and Lunch at Munson: Thursday, July 28th at 11:30 AM MWPAI is hosting a program about an update of some of **Norman Rockwell's** paintings. Stockbridge artist Maurice "Pops" Peterson, who has received acclaim for his *Reinventing Rockwell* series, is doing a presentation. As Rockwell did in his day, Peterson is envisioning a more inclusive and just world. **Tickets for the presentation** only are \$5 for museum members, \$8 for the general public. **For lunch reservations**, contact the **Terrace Cafe** by O'Connors at 315-797-0000 ext. 2212 under the name Learn and Lunch. See mwpai.org for menu and pricing. *Please let Zion's office know you're planning to attend so Zion can meet as a group by calling 315-732-4110 or email office@zionluth.com.*

To all the congregants at Zion: *It is with heartfelt appreciation for your kindness to remember Ben with sympathy cards to me. I had no idea how many friends we had in NY. I have received over 80 cards! Then we moved back to PA where we were born, remembering all of the times we spent together at church camp and finally getting married at the Arbutus Church of the Brethren located on the very street I now live on. My life has come full circle. God has certainly helped us through many hard times but it was a good 57 years of being together, both good and bad. Thank you for all of your support when our children were growing up at Zion. They had great mentors like the Loomises who were head of the youth group. Then Ben and I worked with Judy and Carl for a few years to keep the momentum going for the kids. We were always close to Fran and Russ Holzberger as we got together with our kids, they would sleep at each other's house and then we all met up at church the next day. These were all wonderful bonding times. I will miss you all, but am settling into the apartment in front of Michelle's house here on 160 Hostetler Road, Johnstown PA 15904. Would love to stay in touch. I am headed back to NY next week in hopes that I can sign the final papers for the house. The six hour drive is a long one and I would be happy if this were my last trip up this way. May God watch over you and the church. You have a wonderful congregation which I hope will continue to grow. My prayers are with you. Peace, Cheryl Edmiston*

Women of Faith Announcements

The Women of Faith would like to invite all women and their friends to our **Zoom Summer Bible Study**. Women from Our Saviour, Trinity Lutheran, and Zion Lutheran began this group about 1½ years ago. We would love to have women of all ages and lifestyles attend our zoom study. Please consider joining us to study the verses from the bible and how we can apply them to our daily lives by sharing with each other in discussion and listening. We meet once a month on the 4th Monday of each month at 7PM. *Below is the information for the next June Bible Study.*

The titles of the next two studies are based on Quilting. No, we will not be doing any quilting. Quilting suggests a gathering material pieces and sewing them together to make a beautiful quilt. These studies will attempt to do that with our studies' discussion; as we all have special pieces in our lives that, when put together, create a beautiful quilt of understanding and kindness while learning God's teachings.

The July program title is "Quilting Cutting and Piecing," which explores how our lives and Christian community come together to form a patchwork collection of faith, hope, love, peace, and joy, and even how we sometimes have to trim and patch life together. People from all walks of life are welcomed as your life sharing will enrich all of us.

If you would like to attend and receive summary materials and readings prior to the zoom meeting, please contact Patsy Glista (paglista@alumni.nmu.edu) or Fran Holzberger (315-796-3434 or rholtzberger@roadrunner.com). If video information is provided, please view the video prior to meeting, as we will not be showing it at the Bible Study Zoom gathering.

Date: Monday, July 25 | **Time:** 6:45 PM | **Leader:** Patsy Glista | **Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89886549987?pwd=elRaWGtqUU9pRVVkcjlrMmlZdVBQUT09>

Meeting ID: 898 8654 9987, **Passcode:** 931283, One tap mobile 16465588656, 89886549987#, *931283# US (New York) ++13126266799,,89886549987#, *931283# US (Chicago)

On Sunday, July 31st, there will be a special program facilitated by the Women of Trinity Lutheran. It will be a gathering at Our Saviour. Bring your lunch, as we'll be meeting 12 PM. The program title is "Relationships in Jesus Christ". The Facilitators will be Phillis Becker and Joann Blaise. Beverages and dessert will be provided by Our Saviour. More information to follow. Think about adding this to your calendar for July!!

Join Us!

Utica Catholic Book Store Manager Wanted

Join our team! *Join our team!*

Responsibilities:

Managing clergy relationships; Waiting on walk-in customers; Buying, merchandising, and selling of all manner of church supplies and religious gifts; Shipping merchandise; Managing sales, payments and vendor transactions in QuickBooks; Inventory work, and special projects as needed. Excel, QuickBooks, and Microsoft applications

Salary negotiable; email trosset@outlook.com

Utica Catholic Book Store Manager Wanted (Full-Time or Part-Time). Responsibilities:

- Managing clergy relationships
- Waiting on walk-in customers
- Buying, merchandising, and selling of all manner of church supplies and religious gifts
- Shipping merchandise
- Managing sales, payments and vendor transactions in QuickBooks
- Inventory work, and special projects as needed
- Excel, QuickBooks, and Microsoft applications
- Attention to detail is important for this position

Salary is negotiable depending on qualifications and experience.

Kindly send applications or inquiries to trosset@outlook.com

July Birthdays

Katie Marscher	1	Laura Inserra	19
Sara Silva	3	Matt Aceto	19
Jack Lambe	5	Benjamin Stevens	21
Shirley Morrison	5	Robert Stevens	22
John Aceto	10	Janet Bagnall	22
Kim Marscher	10	Chuck Carlson	22
Jon Pardee	11	Evon Pinkos	23
Devan Millbower	13	Wendy Kowalczyk	25
Emily Murdock	16	David Schiller	25
Paul Owens	16	Beth Dubeck	29
Fran Holzberger	18	Donna Cardillo	30

Gifts Given to the Glory of God

In Memory of:	To:	Given by:
Doris Zellner	World Hunger	Jeanne Gymburch
In Honor of:	To:	Given by:
Pr. Rick Klafehn	World Hunger	Laurel McCurdy
Pr. Rick	World Hunger	Linda Bennett
Pr. Bill's 50th Ordination Anniversary	World Hunger	Laurel McCurdy
Pr Gail's retirement as Dean	World Hunger	Linda Bennett
Doreen Nicholls, Laurel McCurdy, Deb Murdock, Linda Bennett, Jeanne Gymburch, and Jan Corn	World Hunger	Wendy Stevens

July Worship Team Schedule

Date:	Worship Assistant	Pastor	Greeters	Ushers
July 3	John Blackburn	Pastor Bill		Doreen Nicholls & Jeanne Gymburch
July 10	Wendy Stevens	Pastor Bill		
July 17		Pastor Bill		
July 24		Rev. Yost		Laura Hilt
July 31		David Grindle, SAM		Doreen Nicholls & Jeanne Gymburch

A Note from the Council President

Zion and Trinity held our third joint conversation via Zoom on Wednesday, June 22nd. Our council has enjoyed meeting with Trinity's council, and I admire their friendliness and commitment to becoming acquainted with and working with Zion members. At this meeting, we firmed up some of our joint plans for future months.

Our first joint plan involves joint worship services. On Sunday, July 3rd, Zion will host the first joint worship service. Trinity members are invited to join Zion for worship either at Zion or via Zoom. On Sunday, September 4th, Trinity will host a joint service for Zion. Zion members are invited to join Trinity for worship either at Trinity or via Zoom.

Our next joint event will be a picnic at the Municipal Memorial Park Marina in Frankfort. This picnic is planned for the second, third, or fourth Sunday in September. More information will follow once a date is established.

Laurel McCurdy is Zion's representative to Trinity's Faith Alive intergenerational Sunday School program. Laurel will attend Trinity on Sunday, June 26th to learn more about this program.

Sexual Harassment Prevention Training will take place at Our Saviour on Thursday, July 21st from noon until 2:00. The cost is \$15/person. All Zion council members and employees are required to take this training each year. If you are available during the day on July 21st, I strongly recommend taking advantage of this training opportunity. On-line training through the State of New York is also available. I have also invited Trinity members to attend this training.

In Christ's service,
Linda Bennett
Council President

		May 2022 Treasurer's Report		
	May 2022	Year to Date	Budget	Over/Under Budget
Income				
Giving	\$ 10,674.96	\$ 82,296.23	\$ 62,503.24	\$ 19,792.99
Other Income	\$ 1,358.55	\$ 7,113.40	\$ 8,517.55	\$ (1,404.15)
Total Income	\$ 12,033.51	\$ 89,409.63	\$ 71,020.79	\$ 18,388.84
Total Expense	\$ 14,784.04	\$ 69,108.51	\$ 71,464.67	\$ (2,356.16)
Net Income	\$ (2,750.53)	\$ 20,301.12	\$ (443.88)	\$ 20,745.00

Notes of Acknowledgment & Congratulations



Daniel Patrick Loomis, son of Robert and Susan Loomis and grandson of Bob and Bonnie Loomis, graduated Magna cum Laude from Siena College May 15, 2022.

Congratulations!



Linnea Ritchie graduated from Syracuse University with a PhD in Biology.

Congratulations!



Isabel Silva will be starting High School in September!! How did the time go by so fast? We are so proud of her and we are wishing her all the best at New Hartford High School. She is pretty excited.



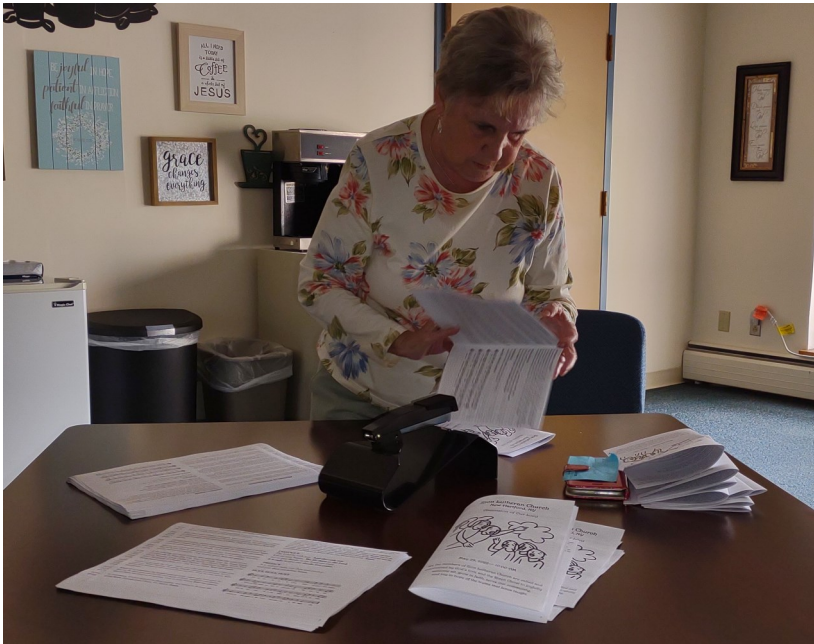
Jayden Silva will be going into SIXTH Grade in September, (his last year in elementary school!!) We are so proud of him and he continues to amaze us every day. He is the most loving and kind boy that we know!! Jayden still wants to be an archeologist.

EXTRA, EXTRA!

Zion is excited to announce that a new Marketing & Communications team has been meeting to plan and implement new strategies to boost our presence in the community, as well as on the web. Current group members are Laurel McCurdy, Pr. Bill, and Sara Silva. Sara Silva is the coordinator for the group, and any interested members who would like to join are asked to reach out to Sara or Laurel. Current discussions and work load include a new digital outdoor sign for the church, and an improved YouTube channel.

We understand that this could be time consuming, and if you cannot participate in meetings but would like to volunteer when opportunity arises, that is definitely an option and we'd love to have your help & support!

Let us know if you're interested in coming on board at any capacity!! Meetings take place during office hours, but Zoom may be an option for you.



Thank you to Carol Grove for folding the bulletins for us!!!

I've missed having help with the bulletins! -Sara

URGENT NEED in Utica!

Quickly respond to disasters, often fires.

Address the urgent needs of those affected.

Commit to one response each week.



Free training for our Disaster Action Team

Email: joineny@redcross.org

Call: (518) 387-9441



American Red Cross
Eastern New York Region

World Hunger

We're happy to announce that from Ash Wednesday through Synod Assembly, Zion raised **\$1,434.92.**

Thank you to everyone who supported this season's mission, the Udder Joy of Giving!!!
(The Synod's goal was \$500 per congregation!)

Approximately \$32,000 was raised at Synod Assembly!



UPSTATE NEW YORK SYNOD ASSEMBLY, JUNE 5-6, 2022

LOCATION AND THEME: Synod Assembly took place at the Rochester Joseph A. Floreano Riverside Convention Center and at the Hyatt. The theme was, “Cultivating a G.R.A.C.E. Mindset: Generous Love.”

PENTECOST/GLOBAL COMPANION SUNDAY: The Liturgy of Holy Communion was celebrated at 6:30 on Sunday evening. We prayed for our global church, remembering our brothers and sisters in Christ in our two companion synods of Zimbabwe and Zambia. The Presiding Bishop of ELCZ, Kenneth Sibanda and Senior Pastor Geoffrey Njapau of ELCZa sent greetings to us. A three minute video was presented. This video can be accessed on YouTube by Googling, “Greetings from Global Companions.”

WORLD HUNGER: Zion Lutheran Church contributed \$1,939.17 to the Holy Cow World Hunger Campaign. Bishop Lee Miller and his wife donated \$5.00 for each person who wore a decorated mask on Monday morning, for a rounded off total of \$2,000. Pastor Bill and Laurel wore “Holy Cow/The Udder Joy of Giving” masks that were created for us by Sara Silva. The final total collected at Synod Assembly was \$31,758.53.

FINANCIAL REPORT: For the first time, the synod is projecting to receive less than \$1 million from local congregations and our contributions to the wider church will be decreased from 37.50% to 32%. Todd Eames told us, “This budget should not be seen as one of austerity, or yet another step toward some demise. Rather, this budget is our first step in our dance with the Holy Spirit as we find our way in fulfilling our role in God’s mission for this world.”

OTHER BUSINESS

- Pam Donovan, Our Saviour, was voted in as synod council member.
- Thomas Madden will have another term as Synod Vice President.
- We do have a new dean of our conference: The Rev. Allan Ferguson, who lives in Homer, NY and is pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, Cicero. He was unable to be at Synod Assembly as there was a funeral at his church.
- Synod Authorized Ministers (SAMs) will be able to speak and vote at Synod Assembly.
- Julie Grindle reported that there is a dearth of pastors, making it hard to find a match for each church that is looking for a pastor.

Bishop Miller’s Dismissal: Go in peace! Grow in love, grace the world.

L. McCurdy

Called to ‘go in to the Fray’

(Deacon Patsy Glista)

Pastor Bill invited me to share a bit of my June 12th sermon message in the newsletter. A question and two statements provide the foundation. ‘What is so good about Jesus?’ is the question. A Celtic reading provides the first statement, ‘I want to go in to the fray...I don’t want to just observe cathedrals through tour bus windows.’ And the second is our Bishop Miller’s elevator speech for our synod, “I dream a church where love activates us to do justice and to share joy.”

What is good about Jesus? Through Jesus, we receive the Holy Spirit, Jesus is God’s visible love to us. Jesus fulfills his promises. Because of the Holy Spirit Jesus is with us when the way is easy and when the journey only seems to go up a steep rocky hill. Amazing! We have an amazing Jesus about which we should sing, “I’ve got the joy, love, and peace down in my heart!”

The love of Jesus, the peace of Jesus, feel wonderful in our hearts BUT the Spirit sends us forth into the world to share that love and peace with others. We are called by the Spirit to take that joy out into the messy world. Let us together wonder how the Holy Spirit can use each one of us to follow Jesus’ examples of care for those in need and to spread God’s amazing love! How might the Spirit take us outside our church building, outside the walls of our hearts, on new Jesus adventures, to activate God’s love into action? What is keeping us from stepping out into the fray, to speak out for justice, and to share the joy of the Lord?



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Like us on Facebook at:

Zion Lutheran Church, New Hartford, NY

*The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is to prayerfully
discern God's call to help people
to become more fully devoted followers of Christ.*



Boilermaker Sunday

Watch the Race With Us!

July 10th is Boilermaker Sunday! Three volunteers are needed to receive donations of food or cash from 6 AM - 9 AM in Zion's parking lot. (It would be helpful if one volunteer has a key but, if not, someone will open the door.) *Please let Sara or Kim Marscher know if you are able to help!*

The Hospitality Drinks/Food Tent and the use of Zion's bathrooms will not be available this year due to Covid concerns.

Please note: Worship Service will begin at 11 AM on this day.

Boilermaker