

September 2022

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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Pastor Bill



Zion's News & Notes

A Few Words from Pastor Bill

Have you ever felt that so much is happening in your life, in the world, and yes, even in the church, that it is difficult to keep it all in perspective? Or, perhaps I am unique with this challenge?

I begin each day with a brief devotion, "God Pause", which arrives in my email from Luther Seminary. This helps me put perspective to my thoughts, and even, at times, my fears. Most often the devotions build upon Scriptures appointed for the following Sunday. Sometimes the author selects a hymn text for inspiration. Such was the case recently, and I wish to share some of this devotion by Ted Kunze '80 M.Div.Retired; Saint Peter, MN.

God of Grace and God of Glory (ELW 705, Verse 2)

Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

These words seem written for us today, don't they? With the war in Ukraine, the lingering pandemic, mass shootings, political polarization, economic turmoil, and many other difficulties, these are challenging days and we need God's wisdom and courage! But wait-this is not a new hymn. The author, Harry Emerson Fosdick, knew other challenging days. He was a military chaplain in World War I, survived the Spanish flu epidemic, and was forced to leave a parish because of theological controversy! As he wrote these words in 1930 for the dedication of the Riverside Church in New York, the Great Depression was developing and Hitler was rising to power in Germany. There will always be difficult "hours" and challenging "days". We are blessed, however, to know the "God of grace and God of glory," providing the wisdom and courage that we need to serve as Christ's people in the world.

Prayer

God of Grace and God of Glory, in these challenging days, free our hearts from the fears that bind us, that we may serve you with faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The words of the prayer that draw upon the hymnist's words from many years ago seem so appropriate for you and me, for the community of Zion, today. Freedom from God that is necessary for us to be "free from the fears that bind us".

Slowly we turn away from what was necessary in the face of a pandemic and, as careful as we might be, there is still an element of fear. We assess the reality of being the church today, and there is an element of fear. When we include personal life situations, the community and the world, fears may be many.

Fears can bind us and prevent us from being and becoming the people whom God has set free!

There are important things happening at Zion these days, not the least of which is the on-going Abide discussions led by Pastor Lori Kochanski, Assistant to Bishop Miller. I pray that you will be present for Worship on September 25th to hear Pastor Lori's message from God's Word, and that you will remain following Worship for an important time of discussion that she will lead.

I also encourage your participation with Trinity Lutheran (Herkimer) and Our Saviour Lutheran (Utica) at the 9/18 picnic at the Frankfort Marina Park following Worship.

And yes, note the return of special music at Worship along with the return to other protocols that were put in place due to Covid. Take note, also, of opportunities for learning and fellowship in this issue of Zion's newsletter.

"Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days". Free and Unbound - let us joyfully and faithfully serve God!

August's Important Announcements

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life...

Ferhun H. Soykan passed away on July 26th. Please continue to keep Kerstin and the entire family in your prayers.

Abide: Please make every effort to stay after the worship service on Sunday, September 25th.

Church Picnic: We hope you'll join us for a picnic! See page 10 for more details. Please send us an email or give us a call if you have any questions! (office@zionluth.com)

Joint Service at Trinity Herkimer: Sunday, September 4th, <u>Zion will NOT BE having a worship service in the sanctuary.</u> We will be joining our friends from *Trinity Lutheran Church at 443 Henry St. in Herkimer.* Please consider attending! If you are unable to make it to their service, you can attend at home via Zoom. *Trinity Zoom 10am worship service: Meeting ID: 315-866-6474 Password: 13350*

Your Neighbors Cook-in & More: SAVE THE DATE- Sunday, October 16th.

FAITH ALIVE is coming!: An intergenerational new way to experience growing our faith and learning about Jesus is coming to Zion. Planning has just begun and we'd love to have additional members join in the planning. Our vision is a time prior to worship on Sunday morning, at least once a month, when members of all ages gather for prayer, relationship building, snacks, some type of activity, maybe even a song or two and listening for God's presence. Want to help? Contact Laurel McCurdy or Patsy Glista for more information. AND be sure to check out the 'Faith Tools' on page three!

FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

"A person who has faith in these words 'given for you' and 'shed for you for the forgiveness of sins' is really worthy and well prepared." -Martin Luther

Many years have passed since the last opportunity at Zion for young people to be welcomed to the Lord's Table. It is both desirable and desired to provide for a time of preparation once again for our young people to take their appropriate place at the Lord's Table.

There is no specified "appropriate" age for this preparation. Parents have the ability to determine when a young person is ready to receive God's Gift of the Sacrament. Parents who desire their young person (or young persons) to receive the Sacrament are asked to contact Pastor Bill by calling Zion's Church Office, 315-732-4110, or by email at PastorBill@zionluth.com.

It is anticipated that preparation will take place this fall following discussions with parents to determine an appropriate schedule.



September Birthdays

Caryn Carlson	1	Aaron Tompkins	16
Carolyn Renno	8	Timothy R. Mahay	16
David Midura	9	Roger Beiswenger	18
Brandon Miller	10	Sarah Bennett	18
Christopher Lambe	12	Ed Grove	26
Eric Weir	14	Ella Bonvicino	27
Jack Henke	16	Carol Buchholz-Blackburn	28

Gifts Given to the Glory of God

In Memory of:	То:	Given by:		
Claudia J. Trad (August)	World Hunger	Mark and Martin		

September Worship Team Schedule

Date:	Worship Assistant	Pastor	Greeters	Ushers
Sept. 4		Worship with Trinity/Herkimer		
Sept. 11	Linda Bennett	Pr. Bill		
Sept. 18		Pr. Bill		
Sept. 25		Pr. Lori Kochanski		

FAITH TOOLS KEEP YOUR FAITH ALIVE!



Rubber bands – to remind you to be flexible, things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out. *Romans* 8:28

Band-Aids – to remind you to heal your hurt feelings, yours or someone else's. *Colossians 3:12-14*





Pencils – to remind you to list your blessings every day. *Ephesians* 1:3

Eraser – to remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and it's OK. 1 John 1:9

Pen— you get to write your own history. Make good choices and be accountable for them. *Joshua* 24:15

Glue Stick – remember God will always stick with you. *Matthew* 28:20



Journal – scriptures are here because someone decided to write down the story of their lives. Your life is just as important. Keep record of it. *Matthew* 24:35



With Love, Your Zion Family

Faithful Learning and Teaching Together (FLATT) Current Offerings

Hospitality in Worship Planning and Leadership, 2 sessions Monday, September 27th, and Tuesday, October 25th, 6:30-8pm

Language for God: A Lutheran Perspective, 5 sessions Wednesdays, September 14th, 21st, 28th, and October 5th & 12th, 7-8:15pm

Formation of the Biblical Canon, 2 sessions Tuesdays, September 27th and October 4th, 7-8:15pm

Artful Reflection and Group Conversation: This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation and the Stories that Make Us Cole Arthur Riley, 5 Sessions Thursdays, September 15th, 22nd, 29th, October 6th & 13th, 9:30-10:45am

Artful Reflection and Group Conversation: Birthing the Holy: 5 sessions Thursdays, November 3rd, 10th, 17th, December 1st & 8th from 9:30-10:45am

> Register HERE for all offerings: https://forms.gle/RuW90a9XNPnijNyE7

> > 3

Thank You Notes

Dear Zion Family, We wanted to express our gratitude for your support and comfort during this difficult time. We have grown up in the Zion community, and I know both of our parents valued their relationship with Zion and God greatly. Thank you for helping us celebrate our Dad's life with such a beautiful service.

Jackie, Jon, and family

Dear Worship Team: We don't thank you enough for your willingness, time, and dedication to Zion's services. We so appreciate you using your gifts to glorify God, serve the church, and build up others. We cannot do what we do without you and we just want to yet you know how thankful we are for you. Please continue to review the sign up sheets and sign up where you can.

Thank you to the Hamilton College Students for hosting a car wash event on Zion's parking lot on Friday, August 19th! And a special thank you to Joe Schmidt and Mary Margaret Krukonis for offering to stop by and play some music!!

Thank you for your prayers and so many get well wishes. While my broken bones are healing I am unable to return to normal activities. Prayerfully I will be able to see and thank you in person by November.

Marilyn Preuss

Thank you to our editors, Laurel McCurdy and Wendy Stevens! Wendy and Laurel take time out of their busy schedules to proofread our monthly newsletter and weekly bulletins. We appreciate them so much!

Thank you to Stewart's for donating ice cream kits for our Ice Cream Social! Stewart's provided pretty much everything that we needed. Thank you to our Zion family for bringing in water bottles and wipes and other treats.





<u>Thank you to everyone</u> who uses the Amazon Smile Program!! Zion has received \$482.63 since we started using the program. This quarter, Zion received \$29.61.

If you use the Amazon app, use the search tab and search Amazon Smile, then type in the charity, Zion Lutheran Church New Hartford, and turn **ON** the Amazon Smile Program. *Your shopping experience will not change*. You can follow the same directions if you use the website version. If you use Amazon at all, we would **love** it if you set up this program!!! *(Please see Sara if you have any questions.)*

Council President's Report

These have been busy times at Zion. An Ice Cream Social was held on Friday, August 12th. Stewarts donated six gallons of ice cream and numerous toppings. Thanks to their generosity, many enjoyed sundaes at the social. There was even enough ice cream left over for those attending worship to enjoy sundaes for two Sundays following this social. A special thank you to Jim Marscher for providing music for this gathering. Another thank you to the Marketing and Communications Committee (Sara Silva, Laurel McCurdy, and Pastor Bill) for planning this outstanding event. An additional thank you to those who served and provided cones, toppings, and water.

Hamilton College students held a successful car wash at Zion on Friday, August 19th. Sara provided free tickets to visit Zion again at 10:00 Sunday mornings. The car wash was free, \$284 in donations were collected! The donations will go to a local food bank. Thank you to Joe Schmidt and Mary Margaret for providing music for this event. Another thank you to all who participated in this most worthwhile event.

Please mark your calendars with these IMPORTANT September happenings:

1. Sunday, September 4th, our friends at Trinity invited us to attend their 10am in-person worship service. This service will also be available via Zoom. More info and the Zoom link can be found on page two under *announcements*.

2. Sunday, September 18th, is our picnic at Frankfort Marina Park with our friends from Trinity and Our Saviour from 12:00-3:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex to share what you'd like to bring. We will also be collecting canned goods that will go to local food pantries!

3. EXTREMELY IMPORTANT- September 25th, Abide Conversation with Pastor Lori Kochanski after worship.

We will gather after worship for an open and honest conversation so that we can remain faithful to Zion's purpose of worship, mission, and service. The work done that day will have a large impact on how we make plans for the future. Your participation is VITAL to help Zion look to the future. Zoom links will be available to those who cannot attend in person. You will also be receiving a postcard and phone call to remind you of the importance of this gathering. **PLEASE MAKE PARTICIPATION IN THIS GATHERING A TOP PRIORITY. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION.**

In Christ, Linda Bennett Council President

Back to School Prayer

Lord give our children a thirst for knowledge, wisdom and understanding. May their hearts be ready to learn this year, at home, school and church. Open their ears, may they crave knowledge and seek it out.

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	J	July 2022		Year to Date		Budget		Over/Under Budget	
Income									
Giving	\$	15,976.03	\$	112,161.07	\$	87,506.45	\$	24,654.62	
Other Income	\$	418.64	\$	11,339.51	\$	11,924.55	\$	(585.04)	
Total Income	\$	16,394.67	\$	123,500.58	\$	99,431.00	\$	24,069.58	
Total Expense	\$	16,848.37	\$	95,021.58	\$	99,410.06	\$	(4,388.48)	
Net Income	\$	(453.70)	\$	28,479.00	\$	20.94	\$	28,458.06	

Ice Cream Social Memories







Thank you to everyone who came out for fellowship & ice-cream. It was a great time!!





Ice Cream Social Memories







Thank you to everyone involved who made this happen. We are looking forward to our next event!!

Car Wash at Zion













Extra, Extra

Social Media

If you use social media, Facebook or YouTube,

like & share Zion's posts! **Subscribe** to our YouTube Channel (*Zion Lutheran Church*,

New Hartford, NY) and **share** the videos of our worship services! Please **share** our website, (www.zionlutheranNY.org). Social media allows us to **connect** with our members, as well as people who may not attend our church. It's a free & easy way to **promote** Zion and strengthen our community outside of Sunday services. **Thank you!!!!**



Comment

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OUR MISSIONARY TO ZAMBIA VISITS 3 CHURCHES IN THE UPSTATE NY SYNOD

LIKE SUBSCRIBE

During the weekend of August 12th-15th, the Rev. Kristin Engstrom, ELCA Facilitator for Leadership Development and Capacity Building in Zambia, spent time at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Penn Yan, Luther Memorial in N. Syracuse, and Hope Lutheran Church in Troy. At the Global Mission Team Meeting on that Sun-

day afternoon, Pastor Kristin (second person in the back row) shared the three areas that she and the ELCZa leadership have decided to work on. The first goal is to empower pastors by offering workshops on Lutheran theology—what it means to be a Lutheran. The second goal is to develop a scholarship program so students may enroll in seminary and become pastors. Some of the money that we give will be earmarked for scholarships. Thirdly, Pastor Kristin meets weekly with the leadership's planning team to create a VISION for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Join us for a Picnic at Frankfort Marina Park with our friends from Trinity & Our Saviour on Sunday, September 18th from 12-3pm. Carpooling from the church parking lot is an option. *Food*: Make your own sundaes. Please bring a dish to pass, condiments for sandwiches, chips, salads, or desserts. The churches will provide tablecloths, paper products, utensils, drinks, cold

cuts, and ice cream. **To do:** Corn-hole tournament– please bring one if you have the game! There is fishing, and a small playground. Please see the sign up sheet or give us a call. (Please bring a canned good for local food pantries!)

<u>Address</u>:

Parking lot 122 Marina Park Dr. Frankfort, NY 13340

