



Zion Lutheran Church

The Messenger

September 2024

A Message from the Zion Lutheran Council President :

Where, oh, where has summer gone? It seems like just yesterday we were looking forward to enjoying trips to the beach, the cottage, exciting vacation destinations and now here we are, September has arrived with Labor Day, summer's last hurrah! At Zion fall activities are underway. Our educational programs are beginning. Rally Sunday is September 15th. Pennie Reis is our Sunday School coordinator and Stephanie Draheim is the head of of the confirmation program. We are also looking to begin a Bible study like we had last year. We urge parents and others who value Christian education to volunteer their time and talents in this area.

Likewise, our music program under our Worship & Music Assistant, Heather Watney, provides opportunities to raise our voices (or bells) in praise to the Lord. Cheryl Meyer is the director of the choir and Paula Staedt is the director for our bell choir. Once William Surtees returns to Lawrence he will be playing the organ for some of our worship services. There will also be Sundays when we may deviate from traditional music but those occasions will be published beforehand.

A very special thanks goes to Gary Neumann for using his knowledge and mechanical expertise to repair our lift at the front of the church so that those with mobility issues will have access to our beautiful sanctuary. His hard work on this project is deeply appreciated.

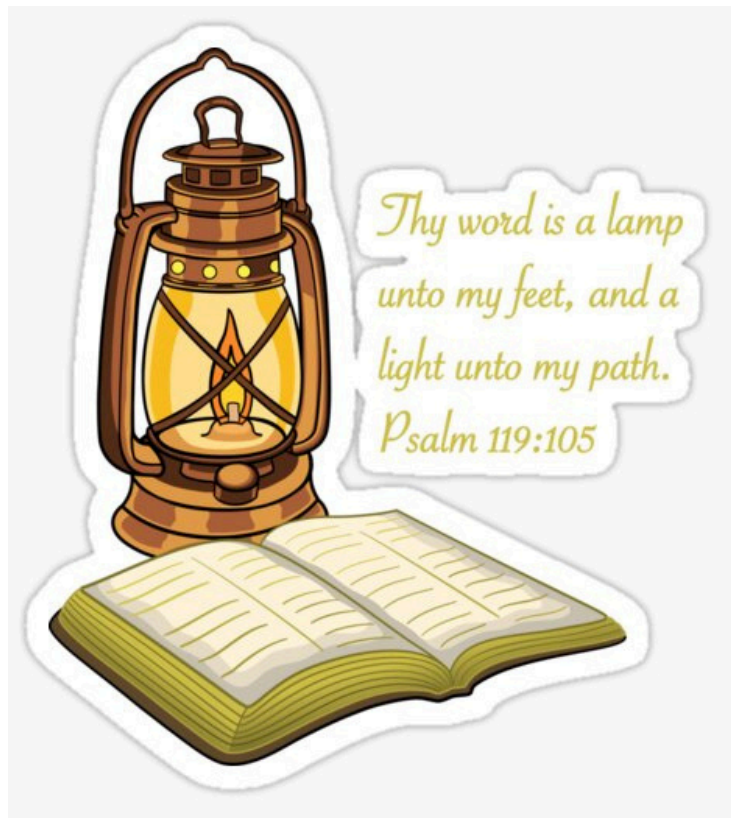
On the Affordable Housing Project, I can say that the selection committee has been working diligently and on August 27th had a very productive meeting with a potential developer. Many of our questions and concerns were addressed. Therefore, there is a tentative timeline. The selection committee would like to present the pertinent information concerning this proposal to the congregation on Sunday, September 8th. There will then be a two week period for members to consider the proposal with a congregational meeting scheduled for Sunday, September 22nd in order to vote. Mark these dates on your calendars because it is essential we have a plan in place for replacing the income we receive from the Appleton Bilingual School when they leave as of August 31, 2025.

Please keep the selection committee and Zion's future in your prayers as we move forward. In the 15th chapter of John's gospel, God tells us, "I am the vine and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit." To paraphrase from Matthew's gospel, "I was without shelter and you provided me a home". Through this housing project we can bear good fruit for Zion and the greater community.

Sue Bunkert, President

The Vicar's Views

One of my favorite Christian music artists is Amy Grant, who popularized the Scripture verse from Psalm 119: 105 in the song: "Thy Word". Take a few minutes and find the song online and be inspired by the words. The first verse of this song is especially meaningful: "Think I've lost my way; Still you're there right beside me; And nothing will I fear; As long as you are near; Please be near me to the end".



The main point that I want to share with you this month as we start Sunday School, Confirmation class and hopefully, Adult Bible Study, is the importance of turning to God's Word as a source of guidance and strength in our lives. Scripture is central in the curriculum this year for our children and hopefully it is central in your prayer life. Whether you read from the Bible each day, listen to the Scripture readings on Sunday or participate in a Bible Study, we can all experience light to guide our daily path. On September 15th, copies of "Daily Discipleship" will be available in the back of the Sanctuary for you to take home and use for your own Bible Study. The scripture readings will be the same as those used on Sundays during worship.

On September 15th, we will kick off classes for Sunday School and Confirmation. I want to especially thank Pennie Reis, Sunday School Coordinator, and Stephanie Draheim, Confirmation Coordinator, for their leadership and dedication in educating our children and youth. We will offer a special blessing for our children (and their backpacks!) teachers and parents as they begin the school year and study God's Word.

My hope and prayer for all of us is that we will turn to scripture as a way to grow in our faith, be inspired and receive the strength and light we need for our spiritual journey.

In Christ's Service,
Vicar Jake



Zion Lutheran Church

September 2024

Monday, September 9, 2024	Submissions due for October's calendar
Sunday, September 1 Deut 4:1-2, 6-9; Ps 15 James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Worship Service 9:00 am followed by Coffee Hour	Lectionary 22 (Pentecost 15) Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer Assisting Minister: Tricia Kasten Musicians: Cheryl and Jon Meyer Opens and Closes: Gwen Schwandt
Monday, September 2	Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day
Wednesday, September 4	Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm
Sunday, September 8 Isa 35:4-7a; Ps 146 James 2:1-10 [11-13]; Mark 7:24-37 Worship Service 9:00 am Followed by Coffee Hour	Lectionary 23 (Pentecost 16) Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer Assisting Minister: Grace Van Eyck Musician: Jim Schley Opens and Closes: Jim Schley
Tuesday, September 10	Zion Mutual Homes Meeting 10:00am
Wednesday, September 11	Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm
Sunday, September 15 Isa 50:4-9a; Ps 116:1-9 James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38 Worship Service 9:00 am followed by Coffee Hour Sunday School & Confirmation	Lectionary 24 (Pentecost 17) Rally Sunday Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer Assisting Minister: Gwen Schwandt Musician: Heather Watney Opens: Greg Pettigrew Closes: Tammy Mossholder Acolyte: Lily Gruselle
Monday, September 16	Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm
Tuesday, September 17	Visitation Minister Meeting 10:30am
Wednesday, September 18	Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm
Sunday, September 22 Jer 11:18-20; Ps 54 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37 Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am Worship Service 9:00 am followed by Coffee Hour Sunday School & Confirmation	Lectionary 25 (Pentecost 18) Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer Assisting Minister: Deb Reis Musician: William Surtees Opens: Jim Schley Closes: Tammy Mossholder Acolyte: Alexa Rusch
Wednesday, September 25	Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm
Sunday, September 29 Dan 10:10-14; 12:1-3; Ps 103:1-5, 20-22 Rev 12:7-12; Luke 10:17-20 Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am Worship Service 9:00 am followed by Coffee Hour Sunday School & Confirmation	Michael and All Angels Pastor Karen Jewell Assisting Minister: Tom Meltz Musician: William Surtees Opens: Gene Wiese Closes: Gwen Schwandt Acolyte: Freya Budde

Zion Council Minutes

Minutes of the Council Meeting of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Monday, July 15 2024, at 6:30 pm

Present: Sue Bunkert, Ray Pittman, Tammy Mossholder, Gail Hunter, Tom Meltz, Kandie Wilz,
Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer; Excused: Kyle Mosberg

Opening Devotion led by Gail Hunter @ 6:30 pm

Approval of Agenda: motion made and approved

Approval of Minutes: motion made and approved

Parish Administrator's Report: Hand out – New Voices a group who had interest in renting out the Parish House has decided not to rent it out. Letters have gone out to nonprofits about renting out the Parish House. AASD is back up to date with payments to the church. The issue was not receiving invoices from Lambert Services. Vicar Jake is set up in the Parish House for now with his office. Karen will be taking a full-time position with another job and her hours will be reduced from 20 to 10 hours however she will fully be able to assist Zion with all our needs!

Vicar Jake's Report: Hand out- He went over his goals for July- December.

1. Discussion about services on Wednesday nights for those who missed previous Sundays due to work, illnesses, etc.
2. Discussion with John Meyer with Stewardship Committee for campaign in October.
3. Prepare Evangelism plan for past members and neighbors.
4. Meeting with visitation ministers and appreciation for them.
5. Evaluate worship and prayer experiences.
6. Plan for Advent- the meals, prayer, interest in bible study.
7. Solicit grants for worship music and advent – fundraisers.
8. Support for Affordable Housing Project- being our cheerleader.

Confirmation is being planned by Vicar Jake and Stephanie Draheim. It will be on Sunday mornings. We have 2 girls in class. They are having past confirmands help with acolyte to accommodate schedule for services.

Vision for church and congregation – we have our mission and now to put a vision in progress.

Committee Reports reviewed from:

Property: There was some water was found in the Communion Supply room. Gwen, Gail, and Tammy looked at it and then went upstairs and the roof above the room is flat and there is water on it. It will be addressed to the property committee and see what the next steps are to address this if truly a leak in the room. Gary has begun work on fixing the lift in the front.

Worship and Music: no handout

Zion Mutual Homes: Hand out –meeting on July 9th. Concrete repairs have been done.

Finance: Hand out- Income exceeds expenses by \$3,396 YTD.

Old Business:

Affordable Housing: Bonnie and Kandie will be attending the Affordable Housing Conference in Middleton July 16th and 17th, will be meeting and talking with many developers and funding agencies. The 14th was the deadline submission of proposals by developers for the project. Only one submission was received from a collaboration between three companies. This will be reviewed, and selection team will discuss the proposal.

Habitat: Meals are going well; last one is the 18th. Looking to keeping this mission in the future.

New Business:

There was a discussion about the doors on Commercial St. being locked going forward on Sundays. The 6 people who usually use those doors to do fellowship have keys to get into the church. No concerns currently just thinking of safety for all. This matter will be sent to the property committee for further consideration.

Job proposal: Hospitality and Entertainment Coordinator, 20 hours a month, working with activities such as Outreach Participation, Advent, Lent, Christmas in July, etc. Paid position that would come from designated funds that are not being used. A job description was designed, and Personnel will review and meet. If approved by them it will be posted in bulletin and social network on how to apply if interested. Looking for someone with organization skills, skilled set, some heavy lifting involved, and a people person.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 19, 2024, at 6:30 pm

Devotion to be led by Tommy

Motion to Dismiss at 8:04 pm.

Closed in Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Hunter

These minutes have not been approved. They will be approved at the Monday, August 19, 2024, 6.30pm Council meeting.

Office Hours Update

The updated office hours for September 3rd-December 13th will be:

Monday-Tuesday: 9:30am-2:00pm

Wednesday: Closed

Thursday-Friday: 9:30am-2:00pm

Additionally, Office Administrator Karen Farlow's updated hours will be 9:30am-2:30pm two days per week on a two week rotating schedule. [either Wednesday/Thursday (week of Sept 9th) or Monday/Tuesday (week of Sept 16th)]

Job Posting

Hospitality and Outreach Coordinator

We are seeking an individual to work with the pastor, other church staff, church council and volunteers to turn their ideas and content for events and outreach into reality. This is a part-time, hourly position, without benefits. The position is open to people who are committed to the mission of Zion Lutheran Congregation and serving the needs of the local community. If you are interested, please contact Wendy Sachs by phone 920-851-3422 or email wife4bike@aol.com. A copy of the job description is available upon request.

Affordable Housing Project Update

Team Meetings:

July 31, 2024 Selection Committee Meeting (by invitation only)

Meetings with Key Individuals/Organizations:

Harriet Redman, WisconSibs; Don Bernards, Baker Tilly; Carrie Sanders, Hope Community Capital

Important information:

- The Zion Selection Committee met several times to go over questions about the proposal from the potential developers. The main takeaways from their answers were that they do intend to raze the parsonage to build a new building, they offered their sense of the pros and cons of doing the whole process at once versus in phases, they clarified that they also see the value in integrating the affordable units with the market rate units, they moved Zion further along in an understanding of how a partnership would work, and they shared a typical funding mix for getting a project like this one done. They also did reply that they felt adding small businesses to the build would be complicated from a design/accessibility perspective and also from a financial feasibility perspective.

- The Selection Team discussed it being time to engage with both an attorney and a CPA well-versed in these types of projects.

-Don Bernards, along with Jon Armstrong of SVA and Carrie Sanders from Hope Community Capital are willing to work with Zion, both in terms of the financials for the Affordable Housing Project and with Zion Church to establish a long-term financial plan to take the church into the next decades on solid financial ground.

-The Housing Summit Planning Committee has offered the Zion Affordable Housing Project and opportunity to speak at their summit in October.

Upcoming Meetings:

August 27, 2024 Selection Committee Meeting (by invitation only) and Three Leaf Developers

September 9, 2024 Roundtable Meeting (Anyone may attend to hear updates on the Affordable Housing Project)

Faith Formation

It's that special time of year where we gather to celebrate the start of faith formation for our Sunday School and Confirmation students. This will take place on Sunday, September 15th, also known as Rally Sunday! On that Sunday, we will gather for worship at 9 a.m. which will include the Blessing of the Backpacks and praying for those who will help guide our youth through their faith formation, our teachers and their families. After, Sunday School and Confirmation will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School is open to all students who will be 3 years old by September 1st - 5th grade. Confirmation is typically for students who are currently in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade, but high school students who are not confirmed have also joined in the past. If you have a student who would like to join our faith formation program, please email childfaithformation@zionappleton.org and we will help you get them enrolled.

Sunday, September 15th - Rally Sunday. Sunday School and Confirmation Begin.

Sunday, December 8th - Christmas Program

Sunday, December 15th - No Sunday School. Confirmation Class will be held.

Sunday, December 22nd - Christmas Break - No Sunday School or Confirmation Class.

Sunday, December 29th - Christmas Break - No Sunday School or Confirmation Class

Sunday, January 5th - Epiphany Walk (Special event for Sunday School and Confirmation).

Sunday, January 12th - Sunday School and Confirmation classes resumes as normal

Sunday, March 23rd - No Sunday School or Confirmation classes. Spring Break

Sunday, April 13th - Palm Sunday (Special event for Sunday School and Confirmation classes)

Sunday, April 20th - Easter - No Sunday School or Confirmation classes.

Sunday, May 18th - Confirmation Sunday. Last Day of Sunday School.

Stewardship Notes: Gratitude in Action

As we enter the season of autumn, we reflect on the many blessings we have received. Stewardship is an act of thanksgiving, recognizing that everything we have is a gift from God. This month, let's focus on how we can show our gratitude through our time, talents, and treasures.

Reflect on 1 Thessalonians 5:18: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." How can you express your gratitude in your daily life?

Memorials Gratefully Received

Tammy & Dennis Mossholder-donation given in memory of what would have been Jan & David's 58th wedding on August 27, 2024 for sanctuary repairs.

Dave & Janice Weber-donation given in memory of Joan Hawkins

Altar flowers for the September 1st worship service were given by Clarice Belling in memory of James's parents, Helen and Elmer Belling.

Special Worship Music and Celebrations



Zion Lutheran Church

912 N. Oneida St. Appleton, WI 54911

9AM

September 15: Bluegrass Music --- Rally Sunday

October 27: Jazz Music --- Welcome Sunday

November 3: Bagpipe and Cello Music --- All Saints Sunday

December 24: String Quarter (4 pm) and Organ (6 pm)

January 5: Epiphany Walk and Brunch

For more information, please contact Zion Office - 920-739-3104

Please check our website: zionappleton.org for our newsletter, weekly bulletins, Choir and Bell Choir Schedule and other worship times and events.

Lunch Social Group

Come join the Lunch Social group. We get together every 3rd Thursday of the month at 11:30am. We change locations every month. Check the clipboard in the narthex to find out where we are going for the month. Please sign up or at least let Colleen know you are coming so she knows about how many are going to be there. Hope to see some new faces join us. No age limit.

Thank You From Zion

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help water flowers and assist with groundskeeping tasks this spring/summer and those who assist with ongoing building maintenance.

Thank you to Pennie Reis and Stephanie Draheim for their leadership in Sunday School/Confirmation.

Thank you to Vicar Jake and Pastor Karen Jewell for preaching/presiding over our services

Thank you to those who have served as assisting ministers and readers during August

Thank you to those who assist with fellowship after service

Thank you to all those who have helped with building security for worship services.

Thank you to our office volunteers who have helped in the past months, Lynn Walter, Janice Staedt, Grace Van Eyck and JoAnn Salm

Thank you to all who have served as ushers or volunteered in any way to serve our congregation.

Thank you to all those who donated water or other items for the blessing box which continues to be an important resource for marginalized members of our community.