

The Messenger

The Monthly Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Columbus, WI



I'm under a lot of stress.

Can God help me with some relief?

A man once attended a presentation called "All Stressed Up and Nowhere to Blow!" He was attracted by the title because it described the way he felt at the time.

Perhaps you know the feeling. An online search of the word "stress" lists 344 million hits. Maybe that indicates that you and I are not the only ones who feel stress in our lives. Occasionally, we each would have to say, "I'm all stressed up!"

Stress puts the squeeze on all of us at one time or another. It's natural to look for relief. As we seek to discover just how practical our relationship with God really is, we might be led to ask, "Can God help me with some relief?"

It seems like some people in Palestine had that question nearly 2,000 years ago as they went out to hear a new preacher named Jesus. The all-knowing Jesus gave a wonderful answer in that teachable moment that we now call the Sermon on the Mount.

Matthew, one of the disciples with Jesus on that day, records some of Jesus' comments about stress. He said, "I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food and the body more important than clothes?" (Matthew 6:25). To those stressed about grocery money, Jesus pointed out that God doesn't let the birds go hungry. To others who were stressed over an inadequate

wardrobe, Jesus pointed out that God doesn't let the flowers down when it comes to how they look. His point was made in a question that he still asks us today, "Are you not much more valuable than they?"

Of course, we are! The Bible tells us that "God so loved the world!" (John 3:16). You and I are included in that statement of good news. God showed his love by removing the greatest stress—our sin that separated us from our God—and placing it on Jesus, who took it away by his death on the cross.



God has the perfect antidote to relieve stress. He wraps his loving arms around us and says, "I love you! I forgive you." That relieves the stresses over finances or health or time crunches or job pressure ... or anything. Relief is as close as God's promises, which are written for us in the Bible. Each week we take a close look at some of those wonderful promises. Come and share with us some genuine stress relief.

Join us for worship!

You are always welcome here.

Thursday evening: 6:30 pm

Sunday Morning: 8:00 & 10:30 am

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Teacher Appreciation 3:30 Faculty Meeting	2 Teacher Apprec. Kingdom Prep Visit 6:00 pm WWD Mental Health Seminar, Pardeeville	3 Teacher Apprec. 6:00 Bell Choir Practice 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	4 Teacher Apprec. 7:45-11 Sanctuary Cleaning 2:00 Ladies Aid 6:30 Worship, Communion	5 Zion 1-4 Track Meet Teacher Apprec. 6:00 Bible Breakfast 7-9 pm Marriage Seminar	6 BLAC Divisional Track Meet 9-1pm Marriage Seminar
7 Easter 5 8:00 AM Worship, Communion Online Worship Posted 9:15 AM Bible Study, Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship: Communion Fellowship Hall Reserved: Baptism Luncheon	8 Pastors Circuit Meeting, Pardeeville 6:30 Board of Ed	9 1:30 Spring Concert 6:30 Spring Concert 7:00 WELS Wind Ensemble	10 6:00 Bell Choir Practice 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	11 7:45-11 Cleaning 6:30 Worship	12 6:00 Bible Breakfast Chick-fil-a-lunch	13 BLAC Conference Track Meet
14 Easter 6 Mother's Day 8:00 AM Worship Online Worship Posted 9:15 AM Bible Study, Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	15 6:30 Stewardship Board	16 6:00 PATZ 7:00 WELS Wind Ensemble	17 5:00 Worship Committee 7:00 Choir Rehearsal 6:30 Church council	18 Ascension Grade 3-4 Camp Randall Field Trip 7:45-11 Sanctuary Cleaning 6:30 Worship at St. John's Juneau (no service at Zion)	19 BLAC Softball Tournament 6:00 Bible Breakfast 12:30 Early Release	20 BLAC Track Meet Rain date
21 Easter 7 8:00 AM Worship Online Worship Posted 9:15 AM Bible Study, Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 12-9 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved	22 9-10:30 Sanctuary: Mo. Cleaning Fellowship Hall Reserved - 8 th Grade Banquet	23 7:00 WELS Wind Ensemble	24 K-2 Field Trip	25 Last Day of School 7:45-11 Sanctuary Cleaning 6:30 Worship, comm. 8 th Grade Graduation Grades K4-8 sing	26 6:00 Bible Breakfast 8:00 Faculty Inservice	27 Free-cycle
28 Pentecost 8:00 AM Worship, Communion Online Worship Posted 10:30 AM Worship, Communion Free Cycle	29 Memorial Day	30 7:00 WELS Wind Ensemble	31			



Chris and Erica Cox

“Focus on the Bible and Jesus.”

1. *Let's start with your family: Where did you grow up? How did you meet and marry?*

Erica – Born and raised in Montello, WI

Chris – Born Louisville, KY; spent time in Chicago and Chicagoland; Sun Prairie WI since 1991

Erica and Chris met at Badger Bowl in Madison and were introduced by a mutual friend. I was hooked right away – it took Erica several years to be convinced by my bowling skills ;)

2. *What do you want people to know about each of your kids?*

Ethan – All energy...all...the...time. As Grandma described him – “he’s your family’s spark plug.” Ethan loves sports, reading, video games, and music.

Norah – Spunky, sensitive and sweet, and so smart we’re both trying to claim credit for which family she’s most like.

3. *Chris, if someone asks you what you do for a living, what do you tell them? Erica, what does your work at Zion entail?*

Chris – I manage a team of Business Bankers and am on the Exec Team for a community bank (Bank of Sun Prairie).

Erica – With Norah’s arrival in 2020 coinciding with Covid, Erica has been the Cox household President for 3 years. She’s recently started part-time in the Zion School Office and is loving it!



4. *When you have time off, what do you like to do/ where would you like to go?*

With young kids our lives revolve around sports seasons but when we travel, we enjoy the Beach and going to sporting events.

5. *Have you been Christian all your life or did you come to faith later than when you were kids? How have things changed for you in regard to your spiritual life over the years?*

Erica – Life-long WELS member and graduated from St. John’s in Montello.

Chris – We loosely attended a Methodist congregation in Glendoe, IL and Sun Prairie, WI. We attended a pre-marriage and adult baptism class in Schofield, WI (St. Peter) before we were married in 2013.

6. *What are the hardest personal challenges to your faith that you face today? What do you do to deal with those challenges?*

Aging and death of Grandparents and Parents – it’s tremendously lonely and leaves you feeling untethered.

7. *What challenges do you see facing our church in the near future? What do you hope stays the same as time goes on?*

Continuing societal shift, furthered by technology, toward focus on the individual. There also seems to be a growing and pervasive negativity that is used to further justify a Machiavellian approach to the pursuit of earthly desires. What is Jesus if not the embodiment of hope?

As far as what stays the same – a focus on the Bible and Jesus.

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Council Names and Numbers

Jeff Krakow, Chairman	920-210-2388
Roger Weiland, Vice-Chairman	920-285-7360
Nick Uebelacker, Secretary	608-225-8861
Will Penterman, Treasurer	920-750-8763
Andrew Tratar, Education	920-296-1485
Noah Litherland, Elders Outreach	608-354-5131
Aaron Larson, Property	608-220-6906
Otto Mattke, Stewardship	608-516-5279
Mike Hallberg, Family Ministry	608-225-4351

Our Mission

The mission of Zion
Evangelical Lutheran Church
and School is to preach and
teach God's saving Word in
all its truth and purity.

Get in Touch

Church/School Office
(920) 623-5180
office@zioncrusaders.com
www.zioncolumbus.org

Tim Schwartz, Pastor
(509) 480-2967
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Ben Zuberbier, Pastor
(920) 517-7940
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Chad Grambsch, Principal
(414) 313-4308
cgrambsch@zioncrusaders.com

Don Schultz, Lakeside Principal
(920) 648-2321

Thanks
be to God
for his
indescribable
gift!
2 Corinthians 9:15

USHERS FOR MAY

May 7th & May 14th

8:00am - Team E2	10:30am - Team L6
Dale Schilling (C)	Paul Kehl (C)
Dale Gajdosik	Otto Mattke (A)
Kenneth Schulz	Dennis Winter
Matt Yaroch	William Mattke
Nick Yaroch	Nils Johansson
Nate Yaroch	Shaun Opsahl

May 25th - Graduation

7:00pm - Team L7
 Matt Huber (C)
 Carter Huber
 Jeremy Maas
 Korben Maas
 Brady Grambsch
 Michael Vertz

May 21st & May 28th

8:00am - Team E3	10:30am - Team L1
Randy Koehn (C)	Tom Schultz (C)
Dan Retzlaff	Aaron Larson
Noah Litherland	James Kopfer
Steven Hahn	Brandon Lee
William Penterman	Max Larson
Brian Baney	Andy Tratar

If you have any questions about the usher schedule, would like to be added as an usher or won't be able to serve any longer as an usher, please call Randy Koehn at (920) 296-4333.

WORSHIP WELCOMERS

May 7th

8:00am	10:30am
Dale & Joyce Gajdosik	Nils & Lara Johansson

May 14th

8:00am	10:30am
Delphine Schaefer	Aaron & Rachel Larson

May 21st

8:00am	10:30am
Jeff & Melody Krakow	Laurie Kirchberg & Pat Premo

May 28th

8:00am	10:30am
Kathy Harle & Joan Sennhenn	Rick & Lisa Gentz

If you are interested in being added as a greeter or need to be removed from the schedule, please contact Melody Krakow at (920) 210-6323.



Church Attendance March

Date	Total
1/5	491
8/12	423
15/19	334
22/26	334
29	181

Membership Changes

Transfer In:

None

Transfer Out:

None

Released:

None

Ministrations

Baptisms:

1. Preston Koch (Adult)
Born 12/11/1997; Baptized 3/5/2023
2. Ace Valentine Schultz
Born 2/20/2023; Baptized 3/5/2023
Parents: Kevin Schultz & Faith Zellmer

Deaths:

5. Jenny Beitz
Born 6/14/1972; Died 3/29/2023

Marriages:

None

Confirmations:

Preston Koch (Adult) - Confirmed 3/5/2023

Affirmations of Faith:

None



Elaine Vangen	5th	97 years
Jane Evers	13th	82 years
Patricia Heiman	13th	81 years
Delores Karow	16th	92 years
Nancy Kind	27th	81 years

Bylaw Change

Whereas our current bylaws state the term of office shall be three years (Article III Section 2), and

Whereas we are having difficulty getting men to run for office, and

Whereas the top reason they state is the length of commitment, therefore let it be

Resolved that we change the term of service to two (2) years and let it be further

Resolved that we allow them to fill three (3) consecutive full terms before requiring them to take a year off and let it be further

Resolved that Article III Section 2 now read:
The term of office for each council member shall be **two** years. No council member shall serve more than **three** consecutive full terms. He shall again be eligible for election to the council one year after the expiration of this **third** consecutive **full** term of office.

(Changes in **bold**)

Messenger Deadline

Please submit your Messenger articles by May 20th.

Contact Sue Henning at (608) 225-4853 or

suehenning25@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Crusader Chronicle

School Theme: Rock Solid in the Lord

Zion Lutheran School Mission Statement
Our school partners with parents of Zion and reaches out to the community through a Christ-centered education, empowering students to live lives of service for God's glory on earth and preparing them for eternity in heaven.

CALL NEWS

On Holy Thursday evening, Mrs. Asmus received a divine call to serve as 2nd grade teacher and assistant athletic director at St. Paul, Lake Mills.

Please keep her in your prayers as she deliberates the two callings that the Lord has presented her to consider, grades 1-2 at Zion and grade 2 at St. Paul.

SCHOOL BUILDING LISTENING SESSION ON APRIL 23

The Zion School Building Committee was formed last Fall (in 2022) to address the future needs of our school. The mission of Zion Lutheran School is to partner with parents of Zion and reach out to the community through a Christ-centered education, empowering students to live lives of service for God's glory on earth and preparing them for eternity in heaven. It is our belief that to continue this mission we need to address the urgent need for a new school facility. Over the past few months we have been gathering information and preparing preliminary floor plans and elevations for a new school structure. We want the members of Zion to be fully informed on this important endeavor and given the opportunity to view plans, ask questions and provide input. Therefore, we invite you to attend a listening session in our current school building on Sunday, April 23rd after 10:30 am worship (around 11:45 am). Please mark this on your calendars. Meanwhile, we look forward to meeting with you!

SPRING CONCERT

On Tuesday, May 9, students will present our spring concert at 1:30 and 6:30. Students may be picked up at their classrooms after the 1:30 concert. Refreshments will be served after the 6:30 concert. Band, Junior Choir, Handchimes, and all 4K-4th grade students are involved in this concert. We look forward to seeing you there! More information about when students should be back for the evening concert will be coming soon.

CHICK-FIL-A MAY 12

Chick-fil-a order forms are available for Friday, May 12. Forms are due May 5.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Our Teacher Appreciation Committee has planned some teacher appreciation week activities. We are asking for monetary donations to recognize our hard-working, dedicated teachers. Donations in any amount can be sent to the office marked for teacher appreciation. Please have donations to the office by April 20th. We will use the donations to purchase items from the teachers wish lists. Also you will see an envelope come home with your children. Please look for the envelope the week of April 3rd. Please read the instructions and have them sent back to school by April 20th. Thank you!

ZION CRUSADER ATHLETIC NEWS

Track and Softball are in full swing! Please make sure your child has everything they need for practices- water is highly encouraged! Softball has their first games next Friday on April 28th at St. John's Juneau. Early dismissal at 2:30 will be needed for these games as they start at 3:30. We are excited to see our Zion athletes praising God by using their gifts and talents to the best of their abilities.

1-4 TRACK MEET

The 1-4th grade Zion track meet is on Friday, May 5. It includes Lutheran schools from the area this year. Students are involved in various events like the 50 meter dash and frisbee toss. Parents and others are invited to attend. It starts at 12:30 and finishes by 3.

CONFIRMATION

Join us Sunday, April 30th as we celebrate our 8th graders' confirmation in a special worship service at 10:30. The 5-8th grades will be singing.

April 21, 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 23: New school listening session, 11:30 in gym

April 26: 7-8 field trip

April 27: K-4 field trip

April 28: Tuition Payment Indication forms are due

April 28: 5-6 field trip

April 28: Zion softball Quad at St. John's, Juneau

April 30: 5-8 sings for Confirmation

May 5: 1-4 Track Meet

May 6: Divisional Track Meet

May 8: Board of Ed meeting, 6pm

May 9: Spring Concert

May 12: Chick-fil-a lunch

**2nd Semester Missions:
Kingdom Prep High School In
Milwaukee, WI.
Total Raised: \$904.36**

Zion SCRIP

Monday: Before school
Friday: Before school
Afternoons by appointment only

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Income and Expense Statement
 GENERAL FUND 01, March 2023

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	Current Period	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	YTD Budget Percentage
INCOME				
CONTRIBUTION INCOME				
UNRESTRICTED	\$68,741.71	\$590,132.19	\$0.00	0.00%
DONOR RESTRICTED	23,731.00	34,311.99	0.00	0.00%
Subtotal Contribution Income	92,472.71	624,444.18	0.00	0.00%
INTEREST INCOME				
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	0.00	6.82	0.00	0.00%
RELEASE FROM RESTRICTIONS	2,550.08	64,986.62	0.00	0.00%
RELEASED FROM RESTRICTION	100.00	4,134.28	0.00	0.00%
TOTAL INCOME	95,122.79	693,571.90	0.00	0.00%
EXPENSES				
FIXED EXPENSES				
CALLED WORKER PAYROLL	\$29,964.82	\$268,790.15	\$278,518.50	96.51%
SUPPORT STAFF	4,710.95	34,647.96	37,507.50	92.38%
BENEFITS	24,982.54	139,221.95	165,291.75	84.23%
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	2,148.03	10,672.32	14,699.97	72.60%
BUILDING & GROUNDS	8,289.47	74,873.51	84,682.53	88.42%
Subtotal Fixed Expenses	70,095.81	528,205.89	580,700.25	90.96%
DEPARTMENTS/COMMITTEES				
OUTSIDE SUPPORT	8,574.00	77,966.00	77,278.50	100.89%
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	0.00	2,753.44	3,000.06	91.78%
WORSHIP/MUSIC	147.96	4,035.07	9,937.62	40.60%
EVANGELISM/OUTREACH	0.00	389.55	4,875.03	7.99%
ELDERS	0.00	0.00	74.97	0.00%
STEWARDSHIP	271.07	2,559.13	2,475.00	103.40%
FAMILY MINISTRY	357.53	3,044.56	2,400.12	126.85%
Subtotal Departments/committees	9,350.56	90,747.75	100,041.30	90.71%
OTHER EXPENSES				
CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS	100.00	810.00	1,125.00	72.00%
Subtotal Other Expenses	100.00	810.00	1,125.00	72.00%
TOTAL EXPENSES	79,546.37	619,763.64	681,866.55	90.89%
TRANSFER ACCOUNTS				
TRANSFER TO OTHER FUNDS	-\$3,708.24	-\$72,481.42	\$0.00	0.00%
TOTAL TRANSFERS	-3,708.24	-72,481.42	0.00	0.00%
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$11,868.18	\$1,326.84	-\$681,866.55	-0.19%

Report for the Month of:

March 2023

Zion Lutheran Church - Estate Funds Report

Previous Month Assets	\$145,934.06
Total Transactions	\$2,707.85
Total Current Assets	\$148,641.91

New Church/School Total	
	\$141,715.15
checking/savings	

Accounts	Undesignated Checking		Explanation	Undesignated Savings		Explanation	Monthly Statements		NEW Church/School Checking	Explanation
							NEW Church/School Fund Savings			
Previous Balance	\$147.14			\$6,917.94			\$136,778.02		\$2,090.96	
Monthly Transactions*	(\$450.21)			(\$588.53)			\$2,846.17		50.00	
Current Balance	\$597.35			\$6,329.41			\$139,624.19		\$2,090.96	
	\$600.00	3/1 Transfer from Savings		(\$600.00)	3/1 Transfer to Checking		\$1,436.46	3/3 Vancor		
	(\$150.00)	3/8 Loan Marks		\$11.47	3/31 Interest		\$3,602.08	3/3 deposit		
	\$0.21	3/31 Interest					\$1,098.08	3/7 deposit		
							\$422.00	3/10 Vancor		
							\$964.08	3/14 deposit		
							-\$5,425.00	3/14 AM Bank		
							\$1,581.76	3/17 Vancor		
							\$988.08	3/21 deposit		
							\$629.00	3/24 Vancor		
							-\$5,425.00	3/28 AM Bank		
							\$1,446.46	3/31 Vancor		
							\$1,288.08	3/31 deposit		
							\$240.09	3/31 Interest		
Monthly Transactions TOTAL	\$450.21			(\$588.53)			\$2,846.17		\$0.00	
TOTAL TRANSACTIONS	\$2,707.85									

Notes: \$20,000 in New Church/School Savings is designated for New School Building seed money.

**Get Connected.
Get Together.**

Get informed and inspired with the latest news from WELS missions and ministries.

wels.net/together



THE LORD
IS MY SHEPHERD;
I SHALL NOT WANT.

Psalm 23:1

WELS NIGHT
AT THE BREWERS

FRI. 7/7 7:10 PM

50% OFF
COLLECTOR

ORDER NOW
wels.net/brewers2023



Newsletter of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

The Messenger

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