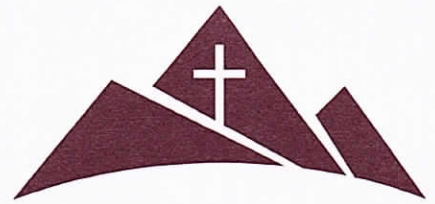


The Messenger

The Monthly Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Columbus, WI



Hope

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. - Romans 10:9

Did you ever wonder what made the early Christians willing to confess their faith in Jesus even when it brought persecution and death? Some Christians in the first century were stoned to death. Others were crucified. Still others were thrown to the lions. Yet they died praising Jesus, confessing him as their Lord and Savior. What moved them to endure hardship? In a word, hope.

There are so many images around this time of year that make us think of the beautiful side of the Christian faith – the stream of beautiful music, the meticulously displayed decorations, the candle-lit church, and the joyful attitudes of people, especially God's people who believe in Jesus and are looking forward to celebrating his birth.

But there is an ugly side to what we hear as well. A baby was born in a smelly, unsanitary barn. His parents were likely gossiped about for having a baby without being married. Foreigners who came to town for a visit took alternate routes home to avoid being questioned by authorities. Jesus and those who loved him had enemies from the beginning.



Did God tell them to arm themselves? Did he tell them to fight back? Did he promise that he would change the world into a place that was safe and happy all the time for his son and those who loved him? Nope. But there is one thing that God guarantees to every Christian – hope.

Christians are people who have hope. We know this life is temporary. Nothing in this life is going to last. It will all eventually decay and perish. But those who trust in Jesus and confess him as their Lord and Savior will enjoy a perfect life with him that will never end.

Jesus had enemies all of his life. In fact, they caught up with him and killed him. But God's promise is that because of Jesus' death, none of our sins count against us. God's great sin-removing love is what gives Christians hope. Those who follow him expect good

from their sufferings as well. Through persecution God strengthens a Christian. Through problems God changes the perspective and priorities of believers in Jesus. Through death, God takes us to heaven. Jesus is your Savior who came into this world to die and rise again so that you might live with him forever. That's real hope.

Come worship with us and learn more about what the hope for which Christians throughout the ages have been willing to live and die.

Zion Lutheran Church

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Items with * take place at school.						
3 8:00 am Worship with Holy Communion 9:15 am *Sunday School 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion 6:00 pm Advent by Candlelight	4 1:00 pm LHS Math Test	5 7:00 am Faculty Bible Study 8:00 am Organ Tuning	6 4:00 pm Catechism 7:00 pm Advent Devotion	7 2:00 pm Ladies' Aid Meeting	8 6:00 am BB Home vs Peace, Sun Prairie Bible Breakfast	9 9:30 am Christmas for Kids
10 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am *Sunday School 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	11 1:00 pm LHS Math Test	12 7:00 am Faculty Bible Study 6:30 pm *Board of Ed Meeting 7:00 pm Stewardship Board	13 4:00 pm Catechism 6:30 pm Council Meeting 7:00 pm Advent Devotion	14	15 6:00 am BB Away at Eastside, Madison Bible Breakfast 4:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal - FH Reserved	16 2:00 pm Schultz - Vlerck Wedding - FH Reserved
17 8:00 am Jr. Choir & Handchimes Worship with Holy Communion 9:15 am *Sunday School 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion 7:00 pm Lakeside Christmas Concert	18	19 7:00 am Faculty Bible Study 1:30 pm Zion Christmas Concert 6:30 pm Zion Christmas Concert	20 4:00 pm Catechism 7:00 pm Advent Devotion	21	22 6:00 am Bible Breakfast 12:30 pm *Early Release	23
24 8:30 am Children's Christmas Service 10:30 am Children's Christmas Service 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 10:00 am *No School-Merry Christmas Christmas Day Worship	26 7:00 am *No School-Merry Christmas Faculty Bible Study	27 4:00 pm *No School-Merry Christmas No Catechism - Christmas Break	28 6:30 pm *No School-Merry Christmas No worship-Christmas Break	29 6:00 am *No School-Merry Christmas Bible Breakfast	30 *No School-Merry Christmas
31 8:00 am *No School-Merry Christmas Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion						

10 Questions for Otto and Sheree Mattke

1. *Where did each of you grow up?*

Otto: I was raised on a small farm between Baraboo and Portage, graduated from Baraboo High and then attended Stout State University. I worked for a while in Eau Claire and then moved to Los Angeles, came back to Wisconsin and have worked in the Madison area since.

Sheree: I was raised on a farm between Beaver Dam and Waupun, graduated from Beaver Dam High School. I have lived in Beaver Dam, West Bend, Lake Havasu City, AZ for a very short time and Sun Prairie.

2. *How did you meet and marry?*

Both of us had joined Peace in Sun Prairie but we didn't know each other. Pastor Stroh wanted to start a singles group in the church and invited both of us to attend the organizational meeting. We were the first to arrive and, so we started a conversation. Our first discussion with each other was about sinus infections (we were both plagued with them). It ended up that Otto became the director of the group and Sheree the assistant director. We both felt that God had intended for us to meet. It wasn't very long, and we had to give up our membership in the singles group and become leaders of a different group - Marriage Partners.

3. *What do you do to keep your marriage strong?*

We both feel it was the Lord's hand that brought us together and that it is his Word that keeps our bond strong. We have had our share of trials, but it is the knowledge that the Lord is in control that got us through them. We feel blessed to have each other, our children and our friends at Zion.

4. *Give us a rundown on your kids - where do they live and what are they up to?*

Otto brought four children into the marriage, Sheree one and together we had one. Going from oldest to youngest:

Machelle is a Doctor of Audiology and lives with her husband Chris in Belvidere, IL

Heather is a human resource director for a firm in Green Bay and lives with her husband, Matthew, son Mitchell and daughter Grace in Appleton.

Megan works at Columbus Chemical and lives with her husband Ryan Duffy on the edge of the Columbus Country Club. Her son, William, works at Duffy Bros. Grain.

Matthew is a commodities broker and works with dairy farmers. He lives with his wife, Brittany, (our favorite daughter-in-law) in Germantown.

Lisa is a pharmacist technician and lives and works in Madison.

Rachel, our youngest, whom many of you know, is chief of staff for the congressman that represents the Columbus area and lives with her husband, Brandon in Washington, D.C.

5. *What is the best vacation you have taken together and why?*

Our trip to Alaska for our 25th anniversary was amazing, seeing all the wonderful sights and learning more about Alaska was an unforgettable experience.



6. *What is the most satisfying thing about your work? What's the most challenging?*

Otto: I am partially retired, working two days a week has its benefits. Also, still being part of the business and knowing I am helping the next manager get started is rewarding.

Sheree: Knowing that I am contributing to making the company work for the good of our customers. It has become more challenging in keeping up with the amount of work to complete and dealing with team members from different cultures and languages.

7. *How did you come to be a part of Zion?*

We moved to Columbus in search of a Victoria era home to restore. For a couple of years, we stayed members of Peace Lutheran Church in Sun Prairie since Otto was on the council there but when the term expired we joined Zion.

8. *What do you do to keep your faith strong?*

We attend church regularly, Bible study often and study the Bible daily at home. We find the WELS devotional booklet *Meditations* very helpful. Remembering to trust in the Lord and asking for his will to be done in our lives.

9. *What are the greatest challenges you see facing our congregation? What is your favorite thing about it?*

When we first joined Zion, we felt that it was an inward-looking congregation. That has changed significantly, but we feel we need to continue to focus on bringing lost souls, or confused ones, into or back into the congregation. We love that we have the sure knowledge that we receive the Word in its pure form every time we worship and love that we sing the traditional hymns.

10. *Five years from now, what would you like to be different about Zion?*

We would like to see a new school built and offerings to the Lord be ample to fully fund all the necessary functions of Zion and to have funds left over to pay for more outreach and to support our wonderful synod.

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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
tschwartz24@gmail.com

Robert Wilke, Pastor
(920) 623-4870
revrwilke@gmail.com

Alex Vandenberg, Principal
(507) 353-0719
avandenberg@zioncrusaders.com

Jim Grasby, Lakeside Principal
(920) 648-2321



Council Names

and Numbers

Rick Gentz, President	920-623-2507
Don Lamb, Vice President	920-623-0556
Nils Johansson, Secretary	608-239-5123
Brady Weiland, Treasurer	920-285-7362
Dan Retzlaff, Education	920-319-0018
Jeff Krakow, Elders	920-210-2388
Matt Vosberg, Outreach	920-210-3817
Jim Greiling, Property	920-623-2512
Dave Harle, Stewardship	920-623-3819
Craig Lathrop, Family Ministry	Unlisted

Thanks
be to God
for his
incredible
gift!

2 Corinthians 9:15

Greeter Schedule



December 3

8:00am — E7	10:30am — L4
Dale & Joyce Gajdosik	Bernard & Genevieve Setz

December 10

8:00am — E6	10:30am — L5
Jim & Jenny Greiling	Marcia Rewolinski & Arlene Sennhenn

December 17

8:00am — E8	10:30am — L6
Wilma Lenz & Joan Herzberg	Dan & Laurie Weiland

December 24

8:00am — E9	10:30am — L7
Bill & Merle Nehmer	Wayne & Darlene Powers

December 31

8:00am — E10	10:30am — L8
Gene & Elaine Beier	Otto & Sheree Mattke

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.



Video Team Schedule December 2017

3 Phil Manteufel
10 Matt Greiling
17 Mark Lindell
24 Randy Koehn
31 Gary Schuhmacher



December 3 & December 10

8:00am - December 3	10:30am - December 3
8:00am - December 10	
<u>Team E5</u>	<u>Team L7</u>
Mike Vick (C)	Roger Weiland (C)
Dale Schilling	Bryce Weiland
Ron Yerges	Brett Weiland
Bruce Hatzinger	Peter Klokow
James Stadler	Randy Koehn
J Doyle	

December 10, December 17 & December 24

8:00am - December 17	10:30am - December 10
8:30am - December 24	10:30am - December 17
	7:00pm - December 24

Team E6

Kim Schilling (C)
Ronald Knudson
Tracy Busse
John Zandler
Scott Brenner
Matt Vosberg

Team L1

Tom Schultz (C)
George Decker (A)
Aaron Larson
James Kopfer
Dayne Kopfer
Brandon Lee

December 24, December 25 & December 31

4:00pm - December 24	10:30am - December 24
10:00am - December 25	10:30am - December 31
8:00am - December 31	

Team E7

Jim Grieling (C)
Matt Greiling
Nicholas Arndt
Mark Hintz
John Brey
Bob Marousek

Team L2

Dale Schultz(C)
Daniel Schultz
Matt Ganser
Dylan Schultz
Michael Hallberg
Nathan Hallberg
Henry Tews

If you have any questions about the schedule, would like to be added as an usher or won't be able to serve any longer as an usher, please call Julie Doyle at (608) 846-5103.



October Church Attendance

Date	Total
29/1	376
5/8	473
12/15	350
19/22	400
26/29	392

Membership



Membership Changes

Transfer: Ryan & Rachel Radloff & children Bethany, Noah and Owen

Remove: Jacob Brown, Colleen Diels, Shawn Firkus, Ross Goodinson, Tracy Hintz & son Ty Grimes, August Lindert, Cherokee Marousek, Jacob Udell

Ministrations

Baptisms:

15. Lisette Jane Crave, daughter of Jordan and Leah (nee Janke) Crave. Born 9/24/17. Baptized 10/1/17.
16. Martin Paul Kanzenbach, son of Matt and Jill (nee Duin) Kanzenbach. Born 10/20/17. Baptized 10/29/17.

Deaths:

11. Loretta Augustine. Born 9/16/22. Died 10/6/17.
12. Sylva Kehl. Born 1/11/22. Died 10/8/17.
13. Arnold Schulz. Born 6/25/60. Died 10/24/17.

Messenger Deadline

Please submit your Messenger articles by **December 20th**. Contact Sue Henning at (608) 225-4853 or suehenning25@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Merle Nehmer	12th	83 years
Shirley Knudson	12th	86 years
Evelyn Wendt	23rd	99 years

Zion Ladies Society

The busy Christmas season has arrived.



Ladies Aid

Our December 7th meeting at 2:00 pm is no exception. When you come to the meeting, you can bring items (homemade cookies, individual packages of pudding, jello, raisins, etc.) to be packed in approximately 40 cheer boxes. Bring any amount because it will be divided among the boxes.

You may also bring items for the Relief Committee. Be sure and mark your donation for "Cheer Box" or "Relief".

Zion's students grades Kindergarten to Grade 2 will entertain us. All Zion ladies are welcome to join us. We wish everyone a Blessed Christmas. Reminder - We do not have a meeting in January.

Are You Ready for the Holidays? Get Some Help with Scrip Cards!

Thanksgiving is but a memory, and Christmas is right around the corner! Let Scrip stay on top of your shopping needs during this hustle and bustle season.

One easy way to wrap up your gift shopping is with Scrip cards. With more than 700 retailers that participate in the Scrip program, there's sure to be something for everyone on your list.

Don't forget about the Christmas cooking and baking! We have cards from several area grocers in stock, so you can purchase all the ingredients you need to whip up your delicious meals and tasty treats.

Of course, traveling is a big part of the celebrations. Whether it is gas, hotels, or prepaid cards from companies like Discover and American Express, you will find many options through Scrip.

If you need to order a Scrip card that is not in stock, the deadline to order for Christmas is Wednesday, **December 13th at 3:00 pm**. Pending inclement weather (which delays shipments), we would then have cards ready for pickup by Tuesday morning, December 19. You would then have until the morning of Friday, December 22nd to pick up your order.

Sales times are at school on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 7:45-8:15 AM and Monday-Friday 2:45-3:15 PM. There are also sales in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays 9:00 to 9:15 AM (just before Bible Study). In addition, Scrip cards will be available for purchase at Zion's home basketball games. The only home game in December will be Friday, December 8th.

Scrip cards are a true win-win -- by purchasing Scrip cards, you are benefiting the Christian education of your children/grandchildren/family members and supporting the ministry of Zion Lutheran School.

Lutheran Military Support Group

How has LMSG served our military? In 2016, LMSG donated more than \$56,000 to the following: • European chaplaincy (WELS) • Grants to local congregations for



events/recognitions/family support • Special services for military members serving in Guam • Blue Star Mothers to assist those on active duty and their families

Year to date in 2017, more than \$58,000 has been contributed to the following areas: • Time of Grace Armed Forces Network broadcasts and advertising • 2018 Military Contact Pastor Conference for ELS/WELS pastoral participation • 10 Chaplain Certification Scholarships to military contact pastors • WELS National Civilian Chaplain's Office for visits to bases and military contact pastors • "Member Assistance Program" counseling for military personnel • Grace Lutheran Church (WELS mission), Minot, ND, to strengthen its ministry to the military families stationed in and around Minot Air Force Base • LMSG website and Facebook page enhancements to support communication with our stakeholders

Visit LutheranMilitary.org and our Facebook page to learn more about LMSG and how to get involved.

The USA is home to many young veterans of the war on terror, as well as older veterans from prior conflicts. Some of them are members of our own congregations. Some were stationed overseas. Some stateside. Some were wounded – visibly and invisibly. Some suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, depression or substance abuse. Some are homeless. Some are successful community leaders.

As Christians and US citizens, we have a responsibility to help those who are shouldering the burdens of war and protecting our earthly freedoms. We can do that without picking up a weapon. We can do it shoulder to shoulder in Christian service. That sense of responsibility is what brought veterans from the ELS and WELS together in 2015 to form the Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG). Today, more than 320 congregations have formed local chapters to broaden our outreach to our military, veterans and those connected to them. The LMSG board of directors is encouraged by the sincere interest in growing these numbers because the needs are great. We encourage you to pray every day for the ministry needs of our military and their families. Prayer is a powerful tool! You also helped through \$525.00 in financial gifts over the Veterans Day weekend. THANK YOU!

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Financial Statement
October 2017**

	October 17	Estimated Monthly Budget	Fiscal Year to Date Jul - Oct 17	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Church Picnic Income	-		310.00	
Extra Synod Missions Income	170.00		445.00	
General Fund Offerings	60,589.35		208,647.59	
LLHS Building Income	70.00		498.00	
Other Donations	-		3,881.99	
Other Receipts	154.18		205.53	
Substitute Teaching Reimbursement	-		-	
Transferred from Undesignated	7,000.00		14,000.00	
WLCFS Income	70.00		631.00	
WLIM Income	75.00		405.00	
Total Income	68,128.53		228,824.11	
Expense				
ACH fee	10.30		31.80	
Apartment Rent	635.00	635.00	2,540.00	7,620.00
Called Workers Salaries & Taxes	29,733.31	28,229.75	111,442.02	338,757.00
Church Supplies	254.44	208.33	900.81	2,500.00
Convention/Cont' Education	100.00	66.67	430.00	800.00
Copier	685.94	283.33	1,699.85	3,400.00
Elders Board	-	29.17	-	350.00
Family Ministry Board	207.45	358.33	640.30	4,300.00
Guest Pastor	318.20	58.33	318.20	700.00
Health Insurance	6,729.00	7,150.00	26,916.00	85,800.00
HRA Savings	2,023.00	2,016.67	8,092.00	24,200.00
Custodial	1,160.91	1,225.00	3,432.89	14,700.00
LLHS Building Expense	70.00		498.00	
LLHS Expense	3,029.46	2,250.00	10,361.22	27,000.00
Maintenance	1,128.01	2,204.17	6,702.25	26,450.00
Meditations	362.00	125.00	711.00	1,500.00
Mileage	540.25	358.33	1,314.76	4,300.00
Miscellaneous	-	16.67	-	200.00
Organists	336.74	282.67	1,175.24	3,392.00
Outreach Board	55.00	291.67	55.00	3,500.00
Payroll Expenses	252.46	241.67	963.32	2,900.00
Pension Insurance	-	2,445.00	7,446.00	29,340.00
Postage and Delivery	254.31	116.67	468.20	1,400.00
Secretaries	2,202.89	2,033.33	9,832.74	24,400.00
Stewardship Board	1,327.67	391.67	2,504.26	4,700.00
Substitute Teaching	3.26		3.26	
Sunday School/VBS	249.94	233.33	886.64	2,800.00
Synod Mission Expense	6,163.94	4,666.67	21,102.50	56,000.00
Telephone & Internet Expense	250.83	258.33	1,001.58	3,100.00
Utilities	3,668.70	3,093.75	13,559.06	37,125.00
WLCFS Expense	70.00		631.00	
WLIM Expense	75.00		405.00	
Worker Comp/Liability Insurance	-	1,066.67	-	12,800.00
Worship	481.70	316.67	1,055.00	3,800.00
Total Expense	62,379.71	60,652.83	237,119.90	727,834.00

Zion Lutheran Church - Estate Funds Report

Report for the Month of:

October 2017

Previous Month Assets	\$260,583.60
Total Transactions	-\$9,874.07
Total Current Assets	\$250,709.53

New Church/School Total	\$173,630.33
checking/savings	

	Monthly Statements			
	Undesignated Checking	Undesignated Savings	NEW Church/School Fund Savings	NEW Church/School Checking
Accounts	\$944.43	\$57,810.24	\$175,636.70	\$717.77
Previous Balance	(\$149.93)	(\$7,000.00)	(\$2,724.14)	\$0.00
Monthly Transactions *	\$794.50	\$50,810.24	\$172,912.56	\$717.77
Current Balance				

Transactions	(\$150.00) loan Marks	(\$9,000.00)	(\$4,623.38) American National Bank church loan	
	\$0.07 Interest	\$2,000.00	\$1,446.00 10-2 Deposit	
			\$2,723.00 10-9 Deposit	
			\$2,772.00 10-16 Deposit	
			\$1,860.00 10-23 Deposit	
			\$20.00 10-24 Deposit	
			\$510.00 10-30 Deposit	
			\$1,815.00 10-31 Deposit	
			(\$4,623.38) American National Bank church loan	
Monthly Transactions TOTAL	(\$149.93)	(\$7,000.00)	(\$2,724.14)	\$0.00
TOTAL TRANSACTIONS	(\$9,874.07)			
Interest Received	\$0.07			

YOU ARE INVITED! You and your family and anyone you would like to bring can join us this Christmas for the many opportunities we have to hear the message of faith and hope and love that God gives us. Whether you join us for any of our worship opportunities or have your children attend Christmas for Kids, we would love to have you here. We pray that your time spent with us will build you in your confidence that God loves you and is with you to help in your every need. Please call our office or check out our website for more information on our Christmas celebration at Zion.



ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL



Are you looking for a school for your child?

Zion Lutheran School has been a part of the Columbus Community for years, educating children since 1856. We offer an accredited education for k4 - 8th grade in a safe, Christian environment.

We have experienced, caring teachers in small classrooms, and offer competitive academic, athletic and music programs.

Tuition is affordable and we are willing to work with your family. To set up a family tour, ask questions or enroll, call (920) 623-5180 or visit www.zioncolumbus.org !