

# The Messenger

The Monthly Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Columbus, WI



I'm afraid sometimes.

## Can God keep me safe?

One summer night during a severe thunderstorm, a mother was tucking her small daughter into bed. She was about to turn the light off when the little girl asked in a trembling voice, "Mommy, will you stay with me all night?" Smiling, the mother gave her a warm, reassuring hug and said tenderly, "I can't, dear. I have to sleep in Daddy's room." A long silence followed. At last, it was broken by a shaky voice saying, "The big sissy!"

All of us have fears. And they don't always end with a chuckle. Our fears may be rational or completely irrational, but when we experience them, they are definitely real. At times we are afraid and may wonder, "Can God help me?"

On another night, Jesus Christ's disciples were caught in a storm on the Sea of Galilee. Their fear was very real, too. Jesus came to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Do not be afraid" (Mark 6:50). Jesus was there, and they didn't need to be afraid any longer. He displayed his almighty power by calming the wind and waves.

Jesus can help us with our fears, as well. He controls all things and promises to use his power to help those who trust in him. When Jesus is in our lives, we can take courage and not be afraid.

While his promises are true for all kinds of fears, they are especially true for our spiritual

concerns. Many are afraid of dying and having to stand before a perfect God and answer for their imperfect lives. Jesus encourages us even in these great fears. He said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die" (John 11:25,26).

Life on this earth will end for all people, but Jesus promises that those who believe in him will live with him in heaven eternally. Jesus died on the cross to take our sins away so that God will not condemn believers in judgment but will

give them eternal life in heaven. This is the comfort and courage that God gives to those who trust him.

The Bible is filled with examples of God's power and his many promises to help us

with our fears. Our church exists to share the comforting promises of God with all those who are afraid. We'd love to have you come and hear more about how God can help you with your big fears and your little ones, too. Take courage, and don't be afraid; God can help you when you're afraid.



**Worship Series in September**  
Everyone welcome.

**THE CHURCH**  
*God* **WE WANT**

Every Thursday at 6:30 pm or Sunday at 8:00 or 10:30 am

# Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

## September 2023

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3 Pentecost 14</b>	8:00 am Worship, Communion Online Worship Posted 10:30 am Worship: Communion	4 No School	5 6:30 pm Elders/Visitors Mtg 10:00 pm Church cleaning	6 VB Home vs Peace, Sun Prairie 4:00 pm 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade Catechism classes 7:00 pm Bible Information	7 2:00 pm Ladies Aid Soccer AWAY vs Faith Christian, Randolph 6:30 pm Worship 7:30 pm Property Board	8 6:00 am Bible Breakfast CC Meet Janesville	9 Eastside Soccer Tournament
<b>10 Pentecost 15</b>	8:00 am Worship Online Worship Posted 9:15 am Bible Study, Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm Stewardship Board Mtg	11 9:30 am Pastor's Circuit Meeting Principal Conf. Capital Campaign Visit 6:30 pm *Board of Ed	12 3:00 pm Capital Campaign Meeting 10:00 pm Church cleaning	13 VB AWAY vs Eastside 4:00 pm 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade Catechism classes 7:00 pm Bible Information class	14 6:30 pm Worship	15 6:00 am Bible Breakfast Chick-fil-A Lunch CC Meet Lake Mills	16 VB B-Team Tournament
<b>17 Pentecost 16</b>	8:00 am Worship Online Worship Posted 9:15 am Bible Study, Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	18 MAPS Testing Seminary Symposium Fall Sports Picture Day 6:00 pm Zion School Volunteer Mtg	19 MAPS Testing Seminary Symposium Soccer AWAY vs Faith Christian 6:00 pm PATZ Mtg 10:00 pm Church cleaning	20 MAPS Testing VB HOME vs Our Redeemer 4:00 pm 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade Catechism classes 6:30 pm Council Mtg 7:00 pm Bible Information Class	21 MAPS Testing CC Meet Sun Prairie 9:00 am LLHS Visit 6:30 pm Worship, Communion	22 6:00 am Bible Breakfast Midterm Parents' Day	23 LLHS Soccer Tournament
<b>24 Pentecost 17</b>	8:00 am Worship, Communion Online Worship Posted 9:15 am Bible Study, Sunday School 10:30 am Worship, Communion	25 9:00 am Sanctuary Monthly cleaning 6:30 pm Capital Campaign Mtg	26 Capital Campaign planning visit 10:00 pm Church cleaning	27 VB AWAY vs Holy Cross 4:00 pm 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade Catechism classes 7:00 pm Bible Information Class	28 1-4 Field Trip Horicon 6:30 pm Worship, Communion	29 No School - Teacher Inservice 6:00 am Bible Breakfast	30 LPS VB Tournament

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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](mailto:office@zioncrusaders.com)  
[www.zioncolumbus.org](http://www.zioncolumbus.org)

**Tim Schwartz, Pastor**  
(509) 480-2967  
[tschwartz24@gmail.com](mailto:tschwartz24@gmail.com)

**Ben Zuberbier, Pastor**  
(920) 517-7940  
[pastorbenzuberbier@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbenzuberbier@gmail.com)

**Chad Grambsch, Principal**  
(414) 313-4308  
[cgrambsch@zioncrusaders.com](mailto:cgrambsch@zioncrusaders.com)

**Don Schultz, Lakeside Principal**  
(920) 648-2321

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

## USHERS FOR SEPTEMBER

### August 27th & September 3rd

8:00am - Team E2	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
	Drew Tratar

### September 10th & September 17th

8:00am - Team E4	10:30am - Team L2
Mark Lindell (C)	Dale Schultz (C)
Remington Lindell	Daniel Schultz
Roger Weiland (C)	Dylan Schultz
Bryce Weiland	Michael Hallberg
Brett Weiland	Jesse Schultz
Norman Weiland	Henry Tews
Eric Turnquist (C)	

### September 24th & October 1st

8:00am - Team E5	10:30am - Team L3
Kim Schilling (C)	Jim Kluetzman (C)
Ronald Knudson	Gabe Uttech
John Zandler	AJ Uttech
Andy Neuman	Michael Uttech
Matt Vosberg	Gary Schuhmacher
	Jadon Schwartz

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

### September 3rd

8:00am	10:30am
Kathy Harle & Joan Sennhenn	Aaron & Rachel Larson

### September 10th

8:00am	10:30am
Delmar & Carol Vick	Laurie Kirchberg & Pat Premo

### September 17th

8:00am	10:30am
Emily Henning & Nancy Huebner	Rick & Lisa Gentz

### September 24th

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

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

#### July

Date	Total
29/2	261
6/9	236
13/16	256
20/23	240
27/30	296

## Membership Changes

### Transfer In:

None

### Transfer Out:

None

### Released:

None

## Ministrations

### Baptisms:

6. Violet Jo Zuberbier  
Born 6/19/2023; Baptized 7/2/2023  
Parents: Ben & Hannah Zuberbier
7. Hudson Robert Wright  
Born 7/29/2022; Baptized 7/18/2023  
Parents: Logan Wright & Jora Hughes
8. Amelia Rose Lapp  
Born 7/18/23; Baptized 7/19/23  
Parents: Lukas & Camille Lapp

### Deaths:

6. Allyn Kitzerow - Born 9/24/1934; Died 7/3/2023
7. Harriette Moll - Born 3/5/1930; Died 7/19/2023
8. Elaine Vangen - Born 5/5/1926; Died 7/26/23

### Marriages:

2. Kelly Tramburg & Conner Johnson  
Married 7/8/2023
3. Hana Coughlin & Preston Koch  
Married 7/15/2023

### Confirmations:

None

### Affirmations of Faith:

Lorna Schultz



Art Sharpee 18th 93 years

### Messenger Deadline

Please submit your Messenger articles by September 19th. Contact Sue Henning at (608) 225-4853 or [suehenning25@gmail.com](mailto:suehenning25@gmail.com) if you have any questions.



## Ladies of Zion

A new year is beginning for Ladies Aid on September 7th at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. We would love to have you join us. We meet the 1st Thursday of each month. Our meetings begin with a devotion by the Pastor, followed by the business meeting and then fellowship with a dessert. Some months we have entertainment by our school children, our members and occasionally a community member. Please come and join us.

## Zion Starts a New School Year

Zion was blessed to be able to begin another school year on Tuesday, August 22nd. 83 students started the school year under the theme: "Growing Together in Christ." Our theme comes from 2 Peter 3:18: "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever!" Zion welcomes our new 1-2nd grade teacher, Mrs. Rebecca Prell, and our new 4K teacher's aide, Mrs. Anita Sharpee, to our faculty. We eagerly await a year of learning, growth, and memorable experiences.

Many have asked for an update about our school roof. For those that may not know, a part of our school roof came off during a storm on July 28. It was approximately a 30' by 30' section of rubber roofing material and insulation over the metal decking above our 1-2nd grade classroom. Inside damage was minimal due to extraordinary volunteers willing to clean up the water quickly. A roofing company came and installed a temporary roof. So we are okay for now, although that classroom's air conditioning needs to be repaired. Our leaders have contacted the insurance company, insurance adjusters, and contractors to get the issues fixed as quickly as possible. I have learned that this process can take time, and we are patiently waiting for everyone to accomplish what they need. We are thankful that we can still have classes and provide a safe environment for our students.

Please keep Zion School in your prayers as we continue to follow our mission to partner with parents and reach out to the community to educate God's precious lambs.

In Christ,  
Mr. Chad Grambsch, Zion Principal

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

08/15/2023 02:36 PM

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	Current Period	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	YTD Budget Percentage
<b>INCOME</b>				
CONTRIBUTION INCOME				
UNRESTRICTED	\$65,994.93	\$65,994.93	\$0.00	0.00%
DONOR RESTRICTED	200.00	200.00	0.00	0.00%
Subtotal Contribution Income	<u>66,194.93</u>	<u>66,194.93</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>66,194.93</u>	<u>66,194.93</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
FIXED EXPENSES				
CALLED WORKER PAYROLL	\$30,280.92	\$30,280.92	\$31,716.16	95.47%
SUPPORT STAFF	4,683.19	4,683.19	4,440.84	105.46%
BENEFITS	11,000.10	11,000.10	13,049.42	84.30%
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	1,201.75	1,201.75	1,796.83	66.88%
BUILDING & GROUNDS	7,783.61	7,783.61	10,383.75	74.96%
Subtotal Fixed Expenses	<u>54,949.57</u>	<u>54,949.57</u>	<u>61,387.00</u>	<u>89.51%</u>
DEPARTMENTS/COMMITTEES				
OUTSIDE SUPPORT	9,680.00	9,680.00	9,480.00	102.11%
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	394.00	394.00	225.00	175.11%
WORSHIP/MUSIC	1,327.95	1,327.95	1,175.82	112.94%
EVANGELISM/OUTREACH	0.00	0.00	541.67	0.00%
ELDERS	0.00	0.00	8.33	0.00%
STEWARDSHIP	0.00	0.00	333.33	0.00%
FAMILY MINISTRY	230.01	230.01	279.17	82.39%
Subtotal Departments/committees	<u>11,631.96</u>	<u>11,631.96</u>	<u>12,043.32</u>	<u>96.58%</u>
OTHER EXPENSES				
CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS	0.00	0.00	83.33	0.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>66,581.53</u>	<u>66,581.53</u>	<u>73,513.65</u>	<u>90.57%</u>
TRANSFER ACCOUNTS				
TRANSFER TO OTHER FUNDS	-\$6,798.40	-\$6,798.40	\$0.00	0.00%
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS</b>	<u>-\$6,798.40</u>	<u>-\$6,798.40</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
<b>EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES</b>	<u><u>-\$7,185.00</u></u>	<u><u>-\$7,185.00</u></u>	<u><u>-\$73,513.65</u></u>	<u><u>9.77%</u></u>

# Zion Lutheran Church - Estate Funds Report

Report for the Month of:

July 2023

Previous Month Assets	\$140,147.54
Total Transactions	\$197.44
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$140,344.98</b>

New Church/School Total	\$134,005.93
checking/savings	

Accounts	Undesignated Checking	Undesignated Savings	Explanation	Monthly Statements	
				New Church/School Fund Savings	New Church/School Checking
Previous Balance	\$147.68	\$6,341.25		\$133,358.26	\$300.35
Monthly Transactions*	\$350.12	(\$500.00)		\$347.32	\$0.00
Current Balance	\$497.80	\$5,841.25		\$133,705.58	\$300.35
	(\$150.00) 7/14 Loan Merit	(\$500.00) 7/14 Transfer to Checking		(\$5,425.00) 7/5 American Bank	
	\$500.00 7/14 Transfer from Savings			\$1,679.16 7/5 Deposit	
	\$0.12 7/31 Interest			\$1,566.46 7/7 Varco	
				\$2,823.08 7/13 Deposit	
				\$222.00 7/14 Varco	
				(\$5,425.00) 7/18 American Bank	
				\$838.08 7/20 Deposit	
				\$1,516.46 7/21 Varco	
				\$1,458.08 7/25 Deposit	
				\$754.00 7/28 Varco	
				\$340.00 7/31 Varco	
Monthly Transactions TOTAL	\$350.12	(\$500.00)		\$347.32	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL TRANSACTIONS</b>	<b>\$197.44</b>				

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



## Weekly Word Week of August 27, 2023

### **SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY:**

#### **DANIEL - GOD'S KINGDOM IS EVERLASTING**

Daniel was taken from his home at a young age and placed in the service of a foreign king, the leader of the Babylonian Empire. Daniel's people, the nation of Israel, was in exile. By all appearance, they had been defeated and had no future. This, however, was not the whole story. Throughout the book of Daniel, God reveals that earthly kingdoms, one after another, rise and fall, but *his* kingdom is everlasting. His people, his believers, will share in his final victory over all enemies. World powers may have their day, but God will have the last word. Join us Sunday mornings at 9:15am at Zion to hear more about how the message of Daniel was comforting for the people of God to hear at the time, and how it is still comforting. We will cover just more than the first half of the book, chapters 1-7. The schedule is below:  
Sept 10<sup>th</sup> – God Blesses Daniel's Training in Babylon (ch. 1)  
Sept 17<sup>th</sup> – Daniel Interprets King's Nebuchadnezzar's Dream (ch. 2)  
Sept 24<sup>th</sup> – God Spares Three of His Followers in the Fire (ch. 3)  
Oct 1<sup>st</sup> – God Makes a Wild Dream Come True for Nebuchadnezzar (ch. 4)  
Oct 8<sup>th</sup> – King Belshazzar Sees the Writing on the Wall (ch. 5)  
Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – God Shuts the Mouths of Lions to Protect Daniel (ch. 6)  
Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> – One Like a Son of Man Reigns Forever (ch. 7)

#### **BIBLE BREAKFAST**

Fridays, 6:00 AM in fellowship hall.

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School Registration is available online and in person beginning Sunday, **August 20th**. At that time, children ages 3 (by September 1st) through 8th grade can register for this year's Sunday School. Sunday School will start Sunday, **September 10th**. In addition we are looking for a teacher and substitutes this year. If you are interested in being a sub or a teacher, please contact Pastor Schwartz or Ruth Becraft (608) 698-0831; [becraftra31@gmail.com](mailto:becraftra31@gmail.com).

#### **ZION CRAFT GROUP**

Zion Craft Group will be going to The Workshop on Sept 16th from 9am-12pm. The cost is \$20 per person. We will be doing quilling and if time allows another project. Please contact Sheree Mattke if you plan to attend: 920-210-8088.

#### **ZION JOB OPPORTUNITY:**

Zion is looking for before school help in Zion's Extended Care program. If interested contact Mr. Grambsch at 414-313-4308.

#### **DIVINE CALL**

Pastor Schwartz has received a divine call to serve two congregations in Michigan: King of Kings Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth, MI and Mt. Sinai Lutheran Church in Montrose, MI. Please include Pastor, Niki and family as well as both congregations in Michigan and Zion here in Columbus in your prayers. Any encouragement or input you have for Pastor Schwartz concerning our ministry here is greatly appreciated.

#### **MEMBER CENSUS CONTINUED**

We are continuing to update the contact information we have for members of Zion, especially with our upcoming capital campaign. We want to serve you and communicate with you as effectively as possible. If you have not done so already, please fill out a member census card and hand it to an usher. Or, access your weekly email from Zion and do it electronically. Thank you!

#### **MEMORIALS**

We would like to thank everyone that gave memorials for Harriette Moll. We rejoice in your generosity from hearts touched by His resurrection promises.

#### **25TH ANNIVERSARY**

Flowers on the altar are given in honor of the 25th Anniversary of James and Heather Kopfer on August 29th.

#### **ADULT CHOIR RESUMES SEPTEMBER 6**

Adult choir rehearsals will be starting up again on Wednesday, **September 6** at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome, no matter your musical ability! Adult choir rehearses every Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:00. Come make a joyful noise to the Lord! Contact Cathy Backer with any questions. 952-239-1817 [cbacker@zioncrusaders.com](mailto:cbacker@zioncrusaders.com)



## Rick and Gina Voelker

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

Rick was born and grew up in Columbus. Gina was born in Waukesha and moved to Beaver Dam as a young girl. Then when my mother remarried Rudy Sennhenn we moved to Columbus. We were married in Columbus in 1973.

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

First that we are extremely proud to be their parents. We were given this beautiful gift of 2 boys and a girl and they are all married and have families.

3. *Someone asks you what you did for a living before retirement. What do you tell them?*

Rick was an owner/operator of a flooring business his entire life, a trade that his father passed along to him. Gina worked at a physician's office, about 14 years at MATC in financial aid and finished her career at The Poser Clinic for 14 years.

4. *You are both into some creative pastimes. How did you get into sewing and woodworking? What do you love about them so much?*

Rick loves woodworking because it's relaxing to him and he is a very creative person so it allows him to use that. We also needed furniture when we were first married because we had little and he made most of our furniture. He has really perfected his craft over the years and is constantly being asked by our children to make something they would like. I used to make all our children's clothes while they were young. I even made Rick a three-piece suit once. My true love though is knitting. I have made hundreds of sweaters, blankets, baby outfits, mittens, hats etc. I knit hats for the newborns at the hospital and work on more difficult projects now.

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

We tend to worry about the turmoil our world is in and what it will be like for our grandchildren, of

which we have seven. We have to remember that God is in control and we need to try to not worry about this.

6. *If you would, talk about your spiritual path on which God guided you. How did you come to be a part of Zion?*

Church has always been a part of our lives. Rick went to Catholic grade school and I was Lutheran. When we married, I joined his church because we knew we

wanted to have our family as one unit. But it has always been based around God and church. We were very active in our last church and tried to help whenever we could. Our son joined Zion and our grandkids went to Zion school and one grandson is at Lakeside Lutheran. We would go to services from time to time and just felt that the Bible was being taught and followed. It is very important to us and we feel like we now have a huge family in the church. Our daughter has since joined Zion and her three children go to school there.

7. *If you are inviting someone to come to church, what do you tell them?*

They will love it! We actually met a family this summer and told them about the school and how much our grandkids enjoy it and we enjoy watching them grown in God. Now they are attending and sending kids to Zion as well. It's wonderful how people stay after services and just visit and get to know each other.

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

Challenges are probably keeping people engaged in attending. Covid seemed to really put the brakes on many people attending and you just can't get the fulfillment as you do when you don't attend. Funding probably goes along with that as well. We always hope there will be a school because that is what instills all the learning about God, and just being kind, loving human beings. We are so blessed to have found Zion Church and thank you all.

