



# Zion Lutheran Church

## The Tidings November 2020

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### **Thanksgiving Eve Worship**

Due to the pandemic, the Ferguson Ministerial Alliance has decided not to host the ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve worship service this year. In response, Zion has decided to hold an in-person service in the sanctuary on Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. The service, like all of our services, will be available to stream live and/or view at a later date on Zion's YouTube page. To access this service, please visit Zion's website, [zionferguson.com](http://zionferguson.com); links to the YouTube channel are on the homepage.





Our discussion of Stewardship this fall is coming to all of us under the umbrella of “Encouragement and Generosity,” and I don't want to appropriate the Stewardship Team's theme on those two words, but I do want to borrow both as I tell you about what I'm learning in my ELCA/CSS Zoom meetings. Some of this is a little embarrassing because I don't want to blow our own horns over how we are doing in the midst of this pandemic, but you should know how great you've all been in what I believe is acting as safe as we can while still trying to serve our entire membership.

So let me just start out by saying that so far in all of my Zoom meetings, I have yet to find any church that is doing as much as we are to reach out to our members, and we're doing it the best we can and in as safe a way as we know how. I can't thank you enough for what you are doing and I *encourage* you to continue as you are doing.

When the pandemic hit, we shutdown, much like everyone else did, but almost immediately, we:

1. Recorded worship services that went out to everyone weekly
2. Sent out a bulletin and sermon to everyone weekly
3. Sent out daily devotions to everyone

4. Started a Zoom Bible Class on Wednesday and Thursdays
5. Increased every member's weekly phone calls

And then we purchased recording equipment that allows us to live stream and record services by the time we reopened on the last Sunday of June. We opened our Sanctuary with checking temperatures, wearing masks, and social distancing, along with sanitizing the Sanctuary before every service. It was a little bumpy at first, but you all followed the rules and we have been having a “new normal” communion service ever since the opening. Thanks again for what you have done.

The live streaming has reached out to those who could not attend due to circumstances beyond their control, along with virtual communion. So our new normal, which happens to include additional people that we send our service to beyond our membership, has been reaching more people than we were before the pandemic hit us.

Yesterday, I attended an ELCA Congregational Vitality Zoom that discussed strategic planning. As most of you know, we are well on our way to having our initial plan finished and we're in the process of being able to present it to our entire congregation for approval.

Again, I don't want us to break our arms patting ourselves on the back, but all I can say is thanks to all of you for your support and I encourage you to say to each other, “Thanks for doing what you are doing.” We are doing our best to stay safe and yet, we are still worshipping and supporting each other as we do our best to conquer this virus.

And with the approval of the strategic plan, we will be able to move forward doing to mission work that God has put us here to do.

I would love to give each of you a hug and/or a handshake in saying thanks to you and encourage all of you to thank God that we have been Saved by Grace through Faith to Serve.

God is good and full of GRACE!

Blessings,  
Pastor Larry



## November Birthdays

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Martin Oswald  
Ben Vogelsang  
6<sup>th</sup> Ralph Taylor  
9<sup>th</sup> Catherine Copeland  
15<sup>th</sup> Joan Tucker  
Jon Tucker  
18<sup>th</sup> Pam Statler  
19<sup>th</sup> Sue Dunham  
Melba Gierse  
20<sup>th</sup> Chase Robinson  
22<sup>nd</sup> Jan Roevekamp  
27<sup>th</sup> Atalya Robinson  
Megan Robinson  
30<sup>th</sup> Nathaniel Voss

## November Anniversaries

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Jay & Pat Martin

## Poinsettias



Once again we will take orders for poinsettias to decorate the chancel for Advent and Christmas. Look for order information toward the end of November.

## Thank You

Many thanks to all of Zion's members who attended Mom's memorial service in person or virtually. I could feel your presence and strength. And thanks to all who called, sent cards, and kept my family and me in prayer. I know it made a difference. I have always said how caring and supportive the Zion Family is, and especially during difficult times. You are all such wonderful people, I couldn't make it through these times without you. I love you all so much.

-Norma

## 30 Days of Thanks

As we start the month of November we remember that Thanksgiving is also coming. Even in this year of pandemic and divisive politics we still have a lot to be thankful for. So, please remember each and every day of November, think of something for which you are thankful. Write it down and share it with the people around you. If you participate in social media, please add the hashtag [#30daysofthanks](#) so others can find your message.



## Advent Devotional: Words of Encouragement

Over 20 members and friends of Zion volunteered to write a brief devotional to encourage and share with each other the strength God has given us. The deadline for submission to the church office is Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate having these as soon as you can send them to give us time to produce the booklet. We plan to have it ready for distribution on the first Sunday in Advent, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

# A Message from the President

Hello Zion Family,

It is hard to believe it is November already. It strikes me as strange that time seems to be flying by but also standing still.

Please know that Zion is not standing still. Our building may seem quiet except on Sundays but we are the Church and we are actively doing things to further God's kingdom.

We either have or are:

- Worshipping together in the building and remotely
- Coming together for bible studies on Wednesdays and Thursdays
- Interacting with others in the synod via Zoom meetings to collaborate with each other
- Worked together on the "God's Work. Our Hands." event with notes of encouragement to Oak Knoll residents
- Presented a Thrivent information event on October 25th after worship and on video
- Participated in the City of Ferguson's Drive-Thru Spooktacular on October 30th
- Attended a workshop, "How Change Comes to Your Church," put on by Church Innovations Institute on October 31st
- Planning a stewardship focus of Encouragement and Generosity
- Creating a special, fun Zoom event to present the draft of the goals and objectives that were developed by the Strategic Planning Team
- Working on nominations for next year's Council and Member Care Ministry positions

There are more things, of course. I want to thank everyone for working so hard to do all these things and more. You have heard this before, but it's true; it will take ALL of us to stretch and reach our goals in the mission we have set for ourselves. Please know you are key to our success. I am always available to listen to your ideas and passions.

With a grateful and thankful heart,

Pam



# 2020 Stewardship

## Focus: Encouragement and Generosity

Throughout the month of November, we look forward to hearing how other members use their time, talents, and treasures to encourage others and give and receive generosity. Being generous is our response to God's call to be noble and generous in spirit.

### ENCOURAGE

Pre-addressed, stamped note cards will be available in the back of the sanctuary. Please grab one (or more than one) during these four weeks or ask Andi in the office to send you them in the mail for you to use. Let's encourage each other by sending fellow Zion members a handwritten note.

### GENEROSITY

Have any gently worn shoes taking up space in your home? We will be collecting shoes to donate to Soles4Souls who disrupts the cycle of poverty by creating sustainable jobs and providing relief through the distribution of shoes around the world. Place your shoes in the white hamper located in the Narthex between now and November 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you need someone to come pick up shoes from your home, let Andi know and we will arrange pickup.



### FAITH COMMITMENTS

Will be made on Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> to support God's mission through Zion. Pledge cards can also be mailed to the church office.

## Coming Attractions

The Strategic Planning Team is excited to announce a special Zoom event scheduled for Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 3PM. This will be your opportunity to preview Zion's future by watching a series of "movie" trailers and participating in a "focus group" to find out more about how you can get involved with some of Zion's long-term goals. Come learn about the "coming attractions" as we unveil the strategic plan and provide an opportunity to interact with each other. We have missed our fellowship time as a congregation and hope this will enable us to spend quality time together as we learn about the proposed goals and objectives.

# All Saints Day

Our All Saints Day service will be celebrated on November 1st. During the service we will remember Charles (Chuck) Gierse, Ruth Green, David Jackson, Dorothy (Dott) Twillmann, Adele Cross, Ruth Rixford, William (Bill) Schluemer, Edna Oliver (Bob Oliver's mother), and Clifford Statler (Pam Statler's father) who passed since last All Saints Day. The Paschal Candle that was dedicated on All Saints in 2018 will be lit during the service.

In addition, we encourage a remembrance that can be done at home. You may choose to have a picture or other item that reminds you of your loved ones. Light a candle and then say this prayer or your own:

“Merciful God, you heal the broken in heart. In Christ's rising from the dead, you conquered death and opened the gates to everlasting life. We give you thanks for the time we shared with our loved ones. Renew our trust in you that by the power of your love we shall one day be brought together again with *(name)*. Strengthen us and give us courage for the days ahead. In your name we pray. Amen.”\*

Take some time to talk or think about the blessings God gave you through these special people.

\*Based on a prayer from the Funeral Rite, ELW pg. 285.

## Vote: Then Sing Election Day Broadcast

On Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:00pm-1:00am, join Music That Makes Community and The Center for Congregational Song for their Election Day Concert: Vote then Sing, a twelve-hour broadcast featuring songs and hymns to help us pray together, sing together, and be a non-anxious presence. Special guests, interviews, and lots of great music will be shared.

A team of MMC leaders will lead a time of reflection and singing from 5:00-6:00 pm Eastern Time. Tune in when you need a break from the news, letting your spirit rest and recharge. Visit [congregationalson.org](http://congregationalson.org) for more information.

# **Zion Council Meeting**

## **Tuesday, October 13, 2020 – 6:30pm**

**In attendance: Pam Statler, Kristen Kinney, Stacey Miller, Bill Budenholzer,  
Jason Martin, Doris McCall, Johnnie Tucker, Richard Schademann**

**Excused Absence: Larry Lemke**

- Welcome and Devotion
  - Prayer from Doris
- Confirm approval of meeting minutes from September 2020 meeting
  - Motion made, seconded, and approved
- Pastor's Report
  - None made
- Discuss Space Sharing
  - Pam emailed Boone and said we were still willing to talk; he responded that he had not seen the other church yet and had a meeting with a real estate agent about possible office space; he is still interested in our space and the possibility of working with Zion
  - Need to discuss this with the congregation in the Voters' meeting
- Stewardship
  - Encouraging others through generosity; planning with Pastor, Pam and Gail Voss
    - Generosity of time, talents, and treasures
    - Messages on November 1, 8 and 15; Commitment Day on the 22nd
- Nomination committee
  - Currently looking for committee members
    - Secretary is up for re-election – Kristen has served two consecutive terms
    - Member at Large is elected each year
    - Some member care members are up for re-election as well (2-year terms)
      - Doris and Richard will check on which members are ending their terms
- Team Reports
  - Strategic Planning – Jason
    - Coming Attractions is the theme of Zoom event on Sunday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> at 3PM
    - Teasers are out in the Bulletin with more promotion coming
    - Focusing on the Goals and Objectives that have been drafted

- Finance Report – Bill
  - Church in the red for \$5,117 for September
    - Some insurance payments were reclassified from the CDC to the church in September
    - Contributions still strong
    - Mission support checks were issued in September
  - CDC in the black for \$1,055 for September
    - Some expenses we reclassified from the CDC to the church, resulting in the small amount of income for the month
  - Will be working on a budget for 2021 with a draft done before next council meeting
- Worship – Doris
  - Devotions for Advent are being created
    - Members submit entries
      - 15 people have committed – need 27 entries total
      - Need to be into the church office by the 15<sup>th</sup> of November in order to be out on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November
      - Can be anonymous entries
    - Norma and Andi working on a project for the East wall – want to put together kits for members to take home to make their own ornaments to put along the wall after they are done
- Service/Community – Stacey
  - Ferguson Spooktacular
    - Drive through event at Forestwood Park on October 30<sup>th</sup>
    - 1 vehicle and 4 people can attend with the vehicle
    - Good response from people who want to participate
    - Bill volunteered to decorate his car
    - Will be looking for support from the Congregation for candy or money towards candy
  - Cards and devotionals were taken to Oak Knoll for God's Work Our Hands
  - Lutheran Campus Ministry sent a letter about a wish list for the semester – possible ongoing thing we can participate in to keep the relationship moving
    - Looking for Sponsors for Sunday Meals as well
    - Talk to Bill if interested in supporting them in this capacity
- Member Care Ministry – Richard

- Committee met in October – everyone was present
    - Nothing major was reported
      - Pat Martin requested to step down
      - Her list has been distributed to other member care members
  - Education – Jason
    - Nothing new to report
    - Wanting to pick up Seeking Shalom again but want to do it safely
  - Property – Pam/Johnnie
    - Justin has been requesting bids for re-sealing and re-striping the upper parking lot and fixing the ramp to the lower lot
      - Has called three vendors for bids
        - One has come back so far - \$2,768
        - Waiting to get the other bids to compare
    - Still need to prime and paint some wood around the sanctuary door
  - Hospitality – Doris
    - Haven't been able to do Fellowship and trying to come up with something fun to do
      - Put on hold because they don't want anything to dilute the Strategic Planning Event or the Stewardship Event
      - Nothing will happen until other events are underway
      - Let Bill or Doris know if you have any events or ideas
  - Virtual Training on October 31<sup>st</sup>
    - Gail, Stacey, Pastor, Pam and Doris will be in attendance
    - All day event
- Voter's Meeting
  - Tentatively scheduling it for December 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Finalizing the Agenda during November 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting
- Next Meeting Date – November 10<sup>th</sup>
- Prayer
- Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm



# Zion Lutheran Church

## November Calendar

| Sun   | Mon   | Tue  | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat       |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|-----------|
| <b>1 All Saints Day</b><br>9:30am- Worship  | <b>2</b><br> M Oswald<br> B Vogelsang | <b>3 Election Day</b><br> J&P Martin<br> | <b>4</b><br>10am-Bible Study   | <b>5</b><br>6:30pm-Bible Study  | <b>6</b><br> R Taylor   | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>8</b><br>9:30am-Worship<br>3pm-“Coming Attractions” Zoom Event   | <b>9</b><br>1pm-Worship Team<br> C Copemand  | <b>10</b><br>6:30pm-Council Zoom   | <b>11 Veterans Day</b><br>10am-Bible Study<br> | <b>12</b><br>6:30pm-Bible Study   | <b>13</b>  | <b>14</b> |
| <b>15</b><br>9:30am-Worship with Guest Pr. Kendra Nolde<br> J Tucker<br> J Tucker | <b>16</b>   | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b><br>10am-Bible Study<br> P Statler   | <b>19</b><br>6:30pm-Bible Study<br> S Dunham<br> M Gierse | <b>20</b>  | <b>21</b> |
| <b>22</b><br>9:30am-Worship & Stewardship<br> J Roevekamp   | <b>23</b>   | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b><br>6:30pm-Thanksgiving Eve Worship   | <b>26 Thanksgiving</b><br>Office Closed<br><br>Happy Thanksgiving   | <b>27</b><br>Office Closed<br> A Robinson<br> M Robinson | <b>28</b> |
| <b>29</b><br>9:30am-Worship   | <b>30</b><br> N Voss   | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b><br>10am-Bible Study   | <b>3</b><br>6:30pm-Bible Study  | <b>4</b>   | <b>5</b>  |

# *Zion Lutheran Church*

## **Serving on Sundays in November**

|                           | <b>Nov 1</b>                 | <b>Nov 8</b>       | <b>Nov 15</b>                | <b>Nov 22</b>        | <b>Nov 29</b>                |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Pastor</b>             | L Lemke                      | L Lemke            | K Nolde                      | L Lemke              | L Lemke                      |
| <b>Music Accompanist</b>  | W Sullivan,<br>D. Mus., AAGO | A Mayhew           | W Sullivan,<br>D. Mus., AAGO | A Mayhew             | W Sullivan,<br>D. Mus., AAGO |
| <b>Assistant Minister</b> | R Schademann                 | P Statler          | P Herrmann                   | C Linhorst           | R Schademann                 |
| <b>Reader</b>             | G Voss                       | D Balestier        | Li Lemke                     | D Tucker             | P Herrmann                   |
| <b>Communion Servers</b>  | GVoss                        | W Devenport        | P Statler                    | S Miller             | P Herrmann                   |
| <b>Ushers</b>             | Li Lemke<br>J Tucker         | D Kaiser<br>L Wolk | G Voss<br>J Roevekamp        | Li Lemke<br>J Tucker | D Kaiser<br>L Wolk           |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>        | J Stoverink                  | J Stoverink        | J Stoverink                  | J Stoverink          | J Stoverink                  |

\* Scheduled servers are subject to change at the discretion of organization leaders.  
If you have a schedule conflict, please inform the Church office of any changes or schedule swaps.

# Zion Lutheran Church

## Fund Balances – 9/30/2020

|  |                            |                |
|--|----------------------------|----------------|
| Church/CDC Equity 1/1/20                 | 150,352                    |                |
| Earnings on Investments                  | 6,962                      |                |
| Church Fund YTD                          | (12,572)                   |                |
| CDC Current Year                         | 36,184                     |                |
| Church/CDC Equity                        |                            | 180,926        |
| Restricted Funds                         | Major Mtce/Roof            | 48,296         |
| Other Restricted Funds                   | Archives                   | 705            |
|  | Bell and Choir             | 1,323          |
|  | Church Decorations/Flowers | 783            |
|  | Parish Resource Center     | 1,454          |
|  | Sunday School              | 1,662          |
|  | Vacation Bible School      | 0              |
|  | National Youth Gathering   | 2,735          |
|  | Good Samaritan Fund        | 6,838          |
|  | CDC Playground Fund        | 4,047          |
|  | Women's Guild              | 175            |
|  | Future HVAC Fund           | 20,000         |
|  | Little Church Maintenance  | 5,047          |
|  | LHSA                       | (3,200)        |
|  |                            | 89,865         |
| <b>Total Equity Church Funds 9/30/20</b> |                            | <b>280,553</b> |
| <b>Other Funds</b>                       | Future Bldg/Oak Knoll Sale | 9,762          |
|  | Scholarship Fund           | 68,181         |
|  | Roth Fund                  | 85,437         |

### 2020 Summary Net Income/Loss Monthly

| 2020 Monthly | Church   | CDC      |
|--------------|----------|----------|
| January      | 209      | 3,437    |
| February     | 2,007    | 3,287    |
| March        | (2,856)  | (8,624)  |
| April        | (3,433)  | (11,399) |
| May          | 156      | 12,879   |
| June         | (2,723)  | 11,489   |
| July         | (1,340)  | 14,901   |
| August       | 525      | 9,159    |
| September    | (5,117)  | 1,055    |
| October      | -        | -        |
| November     | -        | -        |
| December     | -        | -        |
| YTD Total    | (12,572) | 36,184   |

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**Celebrating  
God's Grace**

**November 2020**

## **Zion Leaders**

### **Congregation Council**

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Pastor           | Larry Lemke      |
| President        | Pam Statler      |
| Vice President:  | Stacey Miller    |
| Secretary:       | Kristen Kinney   |
| Treasurer:       | Bill Budenholzer |
| Member At-Large: | Doris McCall     |
| Member At-Large: | Johnnie Tucker   |
| Member At-Large: | Jason Martin     |
| Member At-Large: | -                |

### **Member Care Ministry**

Richard Schademann  
Carole Herrmann  
Dorothy Kaiser  
Doris McCall  
Deborah Balestier  
Pat Martin

### **Committee Chairs**

|              |                         |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| Finance      | Pam Statler             |
| Property     | Johnnie Tucker          |
| CDC Support: | Janet Schaper           |
| Stewardship: | Pam Statler/Gail Voss   |
| Worship      | Gail Voss               |
| Education    | Jason Martin            |
| Personnel    | Ara Tess                |
| Nominating   | Gail Voss/Stacey Miller |

### **Organizations**

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| Fellowship:  | Robert Negwer |
| Altar Guild: | -             |
| Hospitality  | Doris McCall  |

### **Team Leaders**

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Worship             | Gail Voss     |
| Service & Community | Stacey Miller |

### **Team Members:**

#### **Worship Team**

Gail Voss\*  
Kristina Oswald  
Nyokia Robinson  
Norma Wolz  
Doris McCall

#### **Service & Community Outreach Team**

Stacey Miller\*  
Dorothy Kaiser  
Doris McCall  
Bill Budenholzer  
Linda Lemke  
Bob Oliver  
Richard Schademann  
Janet Schaper  
Ara Tess  
Pam Statler  
Johnnie Tucker  
Deb Murrish  
Sue Dunham  
Justin Kinney  
Kristen Kinney  
Linn Moore  
Annis Tucker  
Dawn Tucker