



# Zion Lutheran Church

## The Tidings July 2021

### *Inside this Issue*

Pastor's Message

Zion & Community Articles

June Council Minutes

Calendar

Worship Servers



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and click  .

## Save the Date LuMin St. Louis



**SEPTEMBER 18, 2021**  
**UNIVERSITY CITY, MO**

Information about tickets  
coming in August.

# My Heart & Mind

Last month's Tidings article from me to you was about where we've been and the good work that we've done, not only within Zion, but what we've done in our community. It talked about what our plans are for the future and how important it is for all of us to be part of that work to make Zion a sustainable force in our community and in the world we live in.

This past month, God had me focused on folks that have been, and still are, ill or hurting in lots of different ways. The year started out with me ministering to folks outside of Zion who I have served before and/or who are dear friends of Linda and mine. As I thought about that, I looked over at the wall in my office that Pastor Sam put up a long time ago, which now has my Certificate of Ordination and my Letter of Call from you to me back on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January 2020. Why I thought of that is beyond me right now, but here it is:

*"We call you to exercise among us the ministry of Word and Sacrament which God has established and which the Holy Spirit empowers: To preach and teach the Word of God in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions; to administer Holy Baptism and Holy Communion; to lead us in worship; to proclaim the forgiveness of sin; **to provide pastoral care**; to speak for justice on behalf of the poor and oppressed; to encourage persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel; to impart knowledge of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its wider ministry; to endeavor to increase support given to our congregation to the work of our whole church to equip us for witness and service; and guide us in proclaiming God's love through word and deed.*

*In accepting this call, you hereby promise to fulfill this pastoral ministry in accord with the standards and policies for ministers of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Therefore, be diligent in the study of Holy Scripture, in use of the means of grace, in prayer, in faithful service and in holy living.*

*Specific responsibilities, compensation, benefits, and conditions of this call are contained in a document related to this call. With this call, we pledge our prayers, love, esteem, and personal support for the sake of the ministry entrusted to you by God and for our ministry together in Christ's name."*

I remember how I felt when Bishop Candea ordained me on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2020. It is a feeling that is indescribable!

I guess the feeling that I've had this last week or so, as I've been involved in a great deal of Pastoral Care, has been one of how I titled this message to you, "My Heart & Mind." Clearly, our lives are in the hands of our Lord and Savior, but one of the things that I said this past week in one of my devotions was, "God gave us both a heart and a mind and so, I'm guessing He expects us to use them."

It's been hot these last couple of weeks, and as I'm writing this, today is just the first day of relief from the heat. As I look at those of you who live alone, I wonder *who is the person who checks up on you on a daily basis?*

The last part of my dad's life, he was alone and legally blind (mom had died earlier). He was an early riser, just as I am, and so I called him every morning for a conversation that usually lasted only a few minutes. I encourage all of us to stay in contact in such a way that we know how our loved ones are doing.

The other part of all of that is for us to have conversations with our loved ones – or maybe even ourselves – to know when it is time to move to a Senior Retirement Center. As I visited one of our members this week, we talked about the fact that at 83: I am not as strong as I was at 73 or 63 and my balance is probably not as good as it was then either. When falls happen, bad things happen to our bodies. Bones break, sometimes we hit our heads, and the list goes on. None of that is good!

You also may remember that my only sister, Jeanette, fell in her kitchen three years ago, broke a hip, could not get up, and was not found for *three days*. She is a year younger than me and is still in a Nursing Home in Phoenix, Arizona.

So, all of that has been on my heart and mind recently and still continues to remain front and center. You called me to serve you; Pastoral Care is a major part of that, especially as we get older. Please just take what I'm saying as concern for all of us.

God is good and full of GRACE!

Peace & Blessings,  
Pastor Larry



## July Birthdays

2<sup>nd</sup> Audrey Fink  
3<sup>rd</sup> Stacey Miller  
11<sup>th</sup> Emily Voss  
22<sup>nd</sup> Justin Kinney  
27<sup>th</sup> Megan Hickman  
29<sup>th</sup> Annis Tucker  
31<sup>st</sup> Robert Negwer



## Amazon Smiles for Zion



**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

## July Anniversaries

10<sup>th</sup> Alton & Catherine Copeland  
12<sup>th</sup> Robert & Esther Negwer

I shop a lot on Amazon. It's easy and seems to be fairly priced for most things. Even though I don't have to "mask-up" anymore, I still don't feel entirely comfortable shopping without a mask. Any of you who shop Amazon know the benefits. Now, there's a new benefit: shopping with Amazon Smiles can give money back to Zion! We get 0.5% of the price of most items in the Amazon store. I know that doesn't sound like much but a little from me and a little from you adds up. So please think about shopping for Zion when you need to shop. Use the link below and select Zion Lutheran Church Ferguson as your Smiles charity.  
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/43-6013044>

– Bill Budenholzer

## Memorial Services

Martin Steinbach's memorial service will be on Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM at Blessed Savior in Florissant, 2615 Shackleford Rd., Florissant, MO 63031. A luncheon will follow.

Elizabeth Schluemer's memorial service will be held at Zion on Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be a short visitation at 12:30 PM, the service will begin at 1:00 PM, and a reception in the Upper Room at Zion will follow the service.

**BURGERS & SMORES**  
Wednesday  
July 14  
August 25  
5 PM - 8PM  
7019 Forsyth Blvd  
St. Louis, MO 63105

LUMIN ST. LOUIS  
CAMPUS MINISTRY OF ELCA

# A Message from the President

Dear Zion Family,

I hope this finds you and those you love safe and healthy. It is hard to believe we are halfway through 2021 already.

Pastor Larry, Bill Budenholzer, and I attended the virtual Central States Synod Assembly on Friday June 4th and Saturday June 5th. The overall theme of the assembly was "United with Christ in Baptism; One Body, Many Members." The keynote speaker on Friday night was Ms. Judith Roberts, Senior Director, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion of the ELCA. Ms. Roberts shared many thoughts and ideas about equity, diversity, and inclusion and challenged us to make a plan to do one thing to broaden our understanding; something like reading a book, having a conversation, or attending a workshop.

We enjoyed virtual worship on Friday night and Saturday morning with many different congregations and people across the synod participating. A lot of the meeting was "business." One highlight of the reports was the Treasurer's report (don't laugh because you know I am an accountant). The synod ended 2020 with a surplus of \$143,482! They had no idea what to expect in 2020 but experienced a 3% increase in congregational support. The trend over the past 10 years has been decreasing support every year. They placed this surplus in a temporarily restricted account and intend to use it over the next couple of years to share this surplus with congregations and other ministry partners. In the 2021 budget they increased the support for Campus Ministry compensation, increased grants to three seminaries, and added grants to support congregations in technology and communication.

The assembly voted to pass various resolutions, too. They were:

- 1) Resolution SA 21.01 – A Season of Global Awareness
- 2) Resolution SA 21.02 – Embracing the Earth Charter
- 3) Resolution SA 21.03 – Calling for a Social Statement on Child Protection
- 4) Resolution SA 21.04 – Racial Justice Resolution for the Central States Synod
- 5) Resolution SA 21.05 – Thanksgiving for Ministry

You can find the details on these resolutions on [www.css-elca.org/assembly](http://www.css-elca.org/assembly).

Thank you for the privilege of representing you at the assembly. It was a very interesting and enlightening experience and reminded me of all that the synod and the churchwide organization does to further our ministry efforts on a wider scale.

Blessings to all,

Pam



## Alternative Worship Team



The Alternative Worship Team has been meeting regularly and working hard to develop a new/additional worship opportunity. We hope this new format will benefit both members who cannot attend regular Sunday worship, or who would like another opportunity to gather with others to praise God, AND serve our neighbors who are currently un-churched.

In our recent meetings, we have decided that we will begin by worshiping two Fridays a month, at 6:30 pm, on Zion's patio, with the upper room as an alternate site. We will worship for approximately 30 minutes, followed by time for fellowship, an activity, or a service project. We plan to keep the worship very informal and family-friendly. The team voted on the name "Connectionz" and the logo above.

We are excited about experimenting with some worship options and hope that you will join us when we begin. Keep an eye/ear out for announcements of new worship opportunities!

– Deb Murrish

## Financial Sustainability Team

The Financial Sustainability Team has been working on these items:

- A survey was sent out in order to find out in general what people might want to learn about wills and financial planning. The plan is to have Stephen Phelps ELCA Foundation CSS Representative come to present information to interested members and friends. If you have not completed a survey and would like to, please contact Paul Herrmann or Andi in the office for a form. A meeting is being planned for late September or later.
- Preparing a report about the status of Zion's finances currently to share with the congregation so we know where we are today.
- Exploring what our future finances would look like with different scenarios (e.g. a pastor needing health insurance and retirement benefits) to share with the congregation.
- Drafting an investment policy statement for use as a guide to how financial resources are managed.

– Pam Statler

# Video Streaming

Zion has been streaming our Sunday Worship on YouTube since June of last year. Before that, others were working hard to record worship and make it available. Members, neighbors and strangers have been able to share worship with us each week. Last month we had 5 new subscribers and 187 people viewed worship. It's an important mission that lets everyone at Zion spread the Word far and wide and video streaming is helping to do that.

A lot of work has gone into making our worship available to others. All the hard work has gone into setting up the programs and apps that let us stream to make it easy to follow through during worship. It's a simple process of following the bulletin and clicking on the next scene. The program moves the camera and displays any titles or notices to go with the particular section in the worship bulletin.

If anyone is interested in seeing how it works, please contact me. This is your invitation. You can sit alongside and watch as we go through Worship or even try it out if you want. I'd be happy to meet anyone who is interested and explain how it works and how simple it is to make the stream work.

– Bill Budenholzer

## Lutheran School of Theology

As a part of its Public Church emphasis this year, Lutheran School of Theology is offering several classes designed to assist the church in its awareness of issues impacting people in order to be prepared to better love our neighbors as ourselves. The next class offered is Intersectionality, taught by Dr. Linda Thomas, Full Professor of Theology and Anthropology at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago on Saturday, July 17, from 9:00-10:30 am CDT via zoom. Registration costs \$15.

The concept of Intersectionality considers overlapping oppressions, such as race, class, gender, sexuality, able-ism, and many other things, as they are experienced and suffered by marginalized persons. This concept is a vital tool to name multiple, intersecting oppressions for the systemic violence they cause and to propose solutions for a more just society. This session will explore Intersectionality to critique the ongoing oppressions of marginalized persons in the United States today. Special attention will be paid to Intersectionality's relationship to Womanist theology, that is, reflections about God done from the lived experiences of Black women. Register at: <https://lststl.org/classes/>.

# **Council Meeting**

## **Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 6:30pm (Zoom)**

**In attendance:** Pam Statler, Kristen Kinney, Bill Budenholzer, Pastor Larry Lemke, Jason Martin, Stacey Miller, Doris McCall, Johnnie Tucker, Fannie Cole

**Excused Absent:** Jan Roevekamp, Carol Linhorst

- **Welcome and Devotion**
  - Mark 4
  - Comparing the parable of the Mustard Seed to the Kingdom of God
    - We are the ones who plant seeds and those seeds will bear fruit
- **Confirm Approval of meeting minutes from May 2021 Meeting**
  - Motion made to approve minutes, seconded, and approved
- **Pastor's Report**
  - Carol Linhorst is in the hospital
  - Gail Voss's mom is in hospice
  - Mary Roth is in rehab
    - Dell Roth taking care of her
  - Bob Oliver is out of the hospital and doing okay
  - Ferguson Ministerial Alliance did not meet
- **Permission for a bar to move in down the street**
  - The church office was contacted by someone who wants to open a bar/restaurant in the old Ferguson Optical building. The city told them that it was a good idea to get any churches nearby to sign a letter that they did not oppose the business.
  - Council discussed and agreed that we don't want to hinder the growth of the community so agreed to not oppose the new business.
- **Space Sharing Update**
  - Discussion of lease agreement (sent out with agenda on 6/1/21)
    - Copy of the lease agreement was supplied for the council to review before the meeting
    - One-year lease that automatically extends for another year with the understanding that you can change the rent price and the space usage from year to year as needed (\$2,500 rent). Lease can be terminated with notice at the end of any lease term.
    - Lease covers quilters and fish fries being a permitted use and the playground and patio being shared space.
    - Moved to accept lease as written and recommend to the congregation that it be approved, seconded, and approved
  - Schedule congregational Voters' meeting – Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup>
    - To include Council's recommendation to the congregation to

- approve the lease with Woke Bridge
  - Voter's Meeting Agenda
    - Lease agreement
    - Team reports and property update
    - Funding reports and minutes from previous meetings
  - Large Bluetooth Speakers
    - One person willing to pay the \$75 for the speaker
    - The other one is in the finance office until find someone who wants to purchase it
    - One will remain with the church
- **Team Reports**
  - Worship Team – Pr. Larry
    - Met this month and has recommendations about changing current COVID guideline practices
      - Recommends not requiring masks for vaccinated members; unvaccinated members still required to wear masks
      - Continuous communion also to be available from Pastor and Communion assistant - maintain social distance with marks on the floor and use chalices to be left on the tray at the front end of the church – those unable to come forward will receive communion in the pew or if the member prefers to take communion in the pew, they can use the kit.
      - Maintained designated pews for social distancing – families and friends may sit in the same pew
      - Annette and Jack do not have to move when the lector reads but the Lector will continue to come in from the office and leave through the office
      - Communion assistant will sit in the front row to help with social distancing
      - Collection basket will remain in the back
      - Children will be invited to come to the front pew and sit for the children's message – this will be up to the parent's discretion
      - Council made a motion to accept the recommendations as set forth by the worship committee, seconded, approved by the majority
  - Member Care Ministry – Doris
    - Nothing major to report about members who have health issues
    - Continuing to have meetings and reach out to members as needed

- Property – Pam/ Johnnie
  - Contracted with soft wash company (cost covered by a donation). Soft washing will happen on Thursday (6/10/21). Sidewalks, retaining walls, stairwell, and building will be washed.
  - The paper recycling dumpster was removed. Trash had been put in the dumpster several times, contaminating the paper.
- Treasurer Report – Bill
  - Everything seems to be holding steady
  - Results for May was a positive \$3,590
- **Strategic Goal Reports**
  - Financial Sustainability – Pam
    - Working on report for the congregation and working on an investment policy
  - Community in Unity (Partnership / Outreach) – Stacey
    - Meeting scheduled for 6/10 to summarize what has been discussed over the last few months to discuss where we want to go with ministry options
    - Will discuss outreach opportunities as well
  - Education and Faith Formation – Jason
    - Nothing new to report
  - Alternative Worship – Pr. Larry
    - Team met to discuss plans for alternative worship on the patio where we plan to hold alternative worship
- Synod Assembly
  - Attended by Pam Statler, Larry Lemke, and Bill Budenholzer
  - \$150,000 surplus for the Central States Synod for 2020 which is impressive for it being the middle of the pandemic – surplus set aside in restrictive funds
  - Had good speaker on racial justice and equality as well
- Shout Out
  - Pam Statler for all her hard work as President and member of the congregation and helping with treasurer and other duties as well
  - Doris McCall and Dorothy Kaiser for all their hard work downstairs
  - Stacey Miller who has taken over Community in Unity and does all she can for the members and their families
- **July 13<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting**
- **Closed in prayer – Prayer for Zion’s future**
- **Meeting Adjourned at 7:55**

# Zion Lutheran Church

## July Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 9:30am- Worship	28 Office Closed	29 6:30pm-Strategic Plan Zoom	30 10am-Bible Discussion	1 10am-Member Care	2  A Fink	3  S Miller
4 <b>Happy 4th!</b> 9:30am-Worship 	5 <b>Office Closed</b>	6	7 10am-Bible Discussion 6:30pm-Alternative Worship Zoom	8 6:30pm- Community in Unity	9	10 11am-Marty Steinbach Memorial at Blessed Savior  A&C Copeland
11 9:30am-Worship  E Voss	12 1pm-Worship Team  R&E Negwer	13 6:30pm-Council	14 10am-Bible Discussion	15	16	17 1pm-Elizabeth Schluemer Memorial Service at Zion
18 9:30am-Worship	19	20	21 10am-Bible Discussion	22  J Kinney	23	24
25 9:30am-Worship	26 <b>Tidings Deadline</b> 12pm-Finanical Sustainability	27  M Hickman	28 10am-Bible Discussion	29  A Tucker	30	31  R Negwer

# *Zion Lutheran Church*

## **Serving on Sundays in July**

	<b>Jul 4</b>	<b>Jul 11</b>	<b>Jul 18</b>	<b>Jul 25</b>	<b>Aug 1</b>
<b>Pastor</b>	L Lemke	L Lemke	L Lemke	L Lemke	L Lemke
<b>Music Accompanist</b>	C Rock	A Mayhew	C Rock	A Mayhew	C Rock
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	N Wolz	R Schademann	P Herrmann	P Statler	N Wolz
<b>Lector</b>	D Balestier	Li Lemke	S Miller	N Wolz	R Schademann
<b>Children's Message</b>	N Wolz	L Lemke	G Voss	N Wolz	L Lemke
<b>Ushers</b>	G Voss J Roevekamp	Li Lemke J Tucker	D Kaiser L Wolk	G Voss J Roevekamp	Li Lemke J Tucker
<b>Altar Guild</b>	J Stoverink T Harkins	J Stoverink T Harkins	J Stoverink T Harkins	J Stoverink T Harkins	D Balestier
<b>Video Streaming</b>	B Budenholzer	B Budenholzer	B Budenholzer	B Budenholzer	B Budenholzer

\* 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  
123 Carson Road  
Ferguson, MO 63135  
314.522.0100 Office  
office@zionferguson.com  
www.zionferguson.com



**Celebrating  
God's Grace**

**July 2021**

## Zion Leaders

### Congregation Council

Pastor	Larry Lemke
President	Pam Statler
Vice President:	Stacey Miller
Secretary:	Kristen Kinney
Treasurer:	Bill Budenholzer
Member At-Large:	Jan Roevekamp
Member At-Large:	Johnnie Tucker
Member At-Large:	Jason Martin
Member At-Large:	Fannie Cole
Member At-Large:	-

### Member Care Ministry

Doris McCall\*  
Carole Herrmann  
Dorothy Kaiser  
Richard Schademann  
Deborah Balestier  
Carol Tillmann

### Committee Chairs

Finance	Pam Statler
Property	Johnnie Tucker
Stewardship:	Pam Statler/Gail Voss
Personnel	Ara Tess
Nominating	-

### Organizations

Fellowship:	Robert Negwer
Altar Guild:	-
Hospitality	Doris McCall

### Team Leaders

Worship	Gail Voss
Service & Community	Stacey Miller
Education	Jason Martin
Alt. Worship	Deb Murrish

### Team Members:

#### Worship Team

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

#### Community in Unity Team

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

#### Education Team

Jason Martin\*  
Norma Wolz  
Stacey Miller  
Carol Linhorst  
Andi Martin

### Financial Sustainability Team

Pam Statler  
Bill Budenholzer  
Paul Herrmann

### Alternative Worship Team

Deb Murrish\*  
Andi Martin  
Jason Martin  
Kristen Kinney  
Christine Walters  
Bill Budenholzer  
Pam Statler  
Gail Voss