



# Zion Lutheran Church

## The Tidings September 2021

### *Inside this Issue*

Pastor's Message  
September Birthdays & Anniversaries  
Zion & Community Articles  
August Council Minutes  
Calendar  
Worship Servers  
Finances

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## Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

“God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday is September 12th, 2021. After church, volunteers are needed to make blessing bags for the workers at Oak Knoll Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. There will be a few stations in the Upper Room and/or hallway where we can form a socially-distanced assembly line to make the bags and complete any unfinished signs of encouragement and inspiration.



**Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>**

# Past, Present, Future

The past five years certainly have not been how I envisioned my future. In the summer of 2016, I came here to do supply preaching, but God had a different plan.

Here we are! My history at Zion is split into two parts: 1.) the time from 1964–1988 (interrupted for three years on the East Coast), and 2.) the last five years. Together, we've accomplished a lot, and for me, it's been a very personal journey. Five years ago, I stood here as a Parish Ministry Associate (PMA), then I became your Interim Pastor for a year and a half, and today, I am here as your called, ordained pastor, looking at an exciting five-year plan for our future. We've accomplished all of that together! It hasn't been easy, but we've persevered.

And you know what? If we can accomplish what we've accomplished together in the last five years, we can do the same in the next five! My plan (God and Zion willing) is to be standing here on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, 2026, and to retire. I say that knowing that God is in control of everything, and specifically, my body and my brain. Maybe, just maybe, in five years, I'll be feeling as good as I do now, we'll see.

A few weeks ago, a number of us saw the White Sox play the Yankees in a re-enactment of the movie "Field of Dreams" from 1989. I noted in a devotion to you that I too had a dream, a dream of the rest of my life being "friction free with harmony everywhere." I still have that dream for our future. My hope is that as we go forward, we go forward together in harmony as we follow our Lord and Savior into that future.

James 1:22 states, "Be **doers** of the word, not just **hearers**." As you may recall, the Epistle of James has an interesting history. It took a while for it to be accepted into the New Testament, and Luther didn't help it much by calling it an "Epistle of Straw." He thought it was long on law and short on Gospel. It clearly – just by the words I pulled out for us, "Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers," – is one of James telling us what we should be *doing*.

Having said that, you will remember that one of our favorite passages comes from Ephesians 2:8-9 and Ephesians 2:10:

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9. This is *hearing* the word.

"For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." Ephesians 2:10. This is *doing* the word.

The reason I brought up these two passages in Ephesians is to point out what we Lutherans have been charged with over the years, and that is to make a big deal

out of “we are saved by grace through faith and it is not our good works but a gift from God.” And then we kind of stop there and forget what verse 10 says, “For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”

And so, what we have done with this Ephesians text is pretty much what James said, “We are saved by grace through faith to serve,” or we *could* say, “We are to be doers of the word, not merely hearers.”

What I love about the Ephesians text is the last phrase in verse 10, “to be our way of life.” Being “doers” is to be our way of life! That is what it is going to take for us to launch our four goals as we go into the next five years of Zion’s life!

It is an exciting time! Please join us as we embark on a new chapter in the life of Zion Lutheran Church. And remember, you can volunteer for as many of these teams as you would like. And in closing...

On Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, our brother from Luther Seminary said this about the James text:

*Wisdom is indeed an ‘implanted word’ which has power to enable us to be both hearers and doers...to be ones whose words and actions are in harmony. Most importantly, when our words and actions are in harmony, it is our neighbors who benefit. For when we know who we are, the gifted children of God’s creation, our hearing and doing come together and conform in care and service for those most in need of our love.*

*Prayer: God of Wisdom, continued to mold and shape us by your perfect gift and purpose, that we may be shaped in such a way that our hearing and doing conform, and that our lives may ring true in love and service to our neighbor. Amen.*

And we pray for our future, and my dream of living the rest of my life being “friction free with harmony everywhere.”

God is good and full of GRACE!

Peace & Blessings,  
Pastor Larry

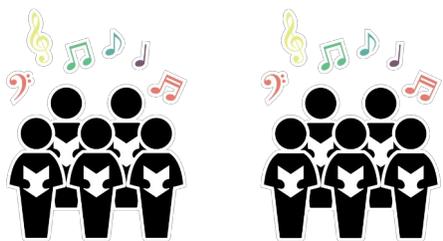


## September Birthdays

- 1<sup>st</sup> Eugene Pfitzinger
- 7<sup>th</sup> Leo Calhoun
- 10<sup>th</sup> Alyssa Locastro
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Emma Kinney
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Doris McCall
- 24<sup>th</sup> Nathaniel Moseley
- 27<sup>th</sup> Kimberly Malin
- 28<sup>th</sup> Jay Martin

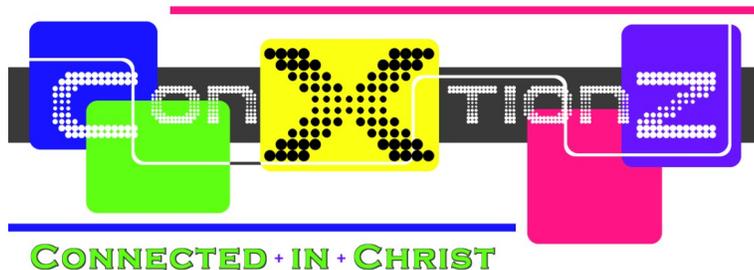
## September Anniversaries

- 7<sup>th</sup> Stephen & Emily Voss-Light
- 17<sup>th</sup> Elliott & Hannah Devenport
- 27<sup>th</sup> Jason & Andi Martin



## “I Love to Tell the Story” aka Favorite Hymn Sunday

Are there some “old favorite” hymns that you love? Let’s sing some of them in our Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> worship service. The Worship Team needs to hear from you since we don’t have the gift of prophesy! Please make your requests either by calling the church office or by writing the titles on your worship slip. Last day to submit is September 19<sup>th</sup> to give us time to plan.



When you read this, ConnectionZ will have met for the first time. If you were able to participate, you probably can’t wait to be there again. If you were not able to join us, you probably are hoping to get another chance. You are in luck! ConnectionZ will gather twice in September on the patio on September 10th and 24th at 6:30 pm.

This is truly a worship opportunity for everyone. It is for those who are unable to attend regular Sunday morning worship. It is for those who need to connect with Christ at the end of a rough week. It is for those who are not comfortable in a traditional worship setting. It is for all of us who need to connect more with Christ and with others.

So, please join us and invite family members, neighbors, and friends. We would love to connect with you! If you are interested in helping to plan or lead worship, let us know!

## Financial Presentation

Stephen Phelps, ELCA Foundation Central States Synod Representative is coming to present information to the congregation on the importance of having your own personal will and potential investment options. All are invited including friends and family on Sunday, 9/26 after worship.

# A Message from the President

Dear Zion Family,

What a journey we've been on these past five years since Pastor Larry joined us in our ministry here at Zion!

We did the work congregations normally do during transition and completed a Ministry Site Profile. That led us to explore the option of sponsoring Pr. Larry in the TEEM (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries) program. We followed that path and through a lot of hard work, especially by Pastor Larry, we celebrated an ordination and a call in January 2020! God's hand was definitely leading us as our "Prayer for Zion's Future" has reminded us of each week.

There are so many other things we accomplished over these last five years. For example, we:

- stepped out in faith and ended up with the "little church" being put to use in a wonderful way, alleviating our concerns about an empty building.
- focused on Service, Community, and Worship and filled up the east wall of the sanctuary with pictures of the many things we did (and enjoyed doing).
- celebrated Reformation in a vibrant way that included looking outside our church walls and sharing God's word with the "By Heart" study course
- formulated a mission statement, values and a vision for our future
- managed through a pandemic and immediately found ways to worship without being together and then how to worship together safely but also still share the worship experience remotely.
- formed a strategic planning team and set four goals to lead us into the future based on prior discussions as a congregation.
- started implementing our four strategic goals, including a Friday evening outdoor worship service just last week.

There are so many more things I could mention. We celebrate how focused we have been on moving forward these past five years. Our journey is not complete! We have laid the groundwork for the path going forward. Let's keep serving our Lord and loving each other and our neighbors!

Yours in Christ,

Pam



# Zion Council Meeting Minutes

## Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 6:30pm (Zoom)

**In attendance:** Pam Statler, Kristen Kinney, Jan Roevekamp, Pastor Larry Lemke, Doris McCall, Stacey Miller, Bill Budenholzer, Johnnie Tucker

**Excused Absence:** Carol Linhorst, Jason Martin

**Absent:** Fannie Cole

- **Welcome and Devotion**
  - Proverbs 2
  - “For the Lord gives Wisdom...”
- **Confirm approval of meeting minutes from July 2021 meeting**
  - Motion made to approve minutes, seconded, approved
- **Pastor’s Report**
  - Lutheran High Association is celebrating 75 years of ministry – September 5<sup>th</sup> service at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Olivette
  - Ferguson Ministerial Alliance
    - Lots of people attended including the Mayor, the police chief, and fire chief
    - Nothing major to report – Looking ahead to the Saint Louis County Council Meeting
- **Space Sharing Update**
  - Card from Zion to Woke Bridge – Bill
    - Sending them a message of Welcome or Congratulations – bringing a card on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> to have the members of council and congregation members to sign
  - Do we want to consider a joint fellowship event sometime this fall, if possible?
    - This sounds good based on weather and pandemic situations
  - Room 1
    - Have contacted other daycares in North County and several people have come and taken things
    - Andi has taken pictures and will be putting things on Facebook marketplace and other ads - this will last for about two weeks
    - After two weeks, organizations will be contacted, and items will be removed to donate with the use of Richard Schademann’s truck
    - Will need some boxes to help load some things up
- **Constitution and By-Law update?**
  - Pam will reach out to Jason to see if he’s willing to review any recent updates by ELCA and recommend whether we need to do any updates to our constitution and by-laws
- **Formation of Mission Team to direct mission support budget in 2022?**
  - Pam is following up to try to figure out the best way to get this team gathered

- Reached out to Pr. Larry, Bill, and Paul about ideas
- If someone has a passion and wants to offer up ideas for places for the support to go, let Pam, Larry, Bill, or Paul know
- Bill is more than happy to collect comments or opinions and answer questions about what we are doing now
- **Nomination Committee**
  - Need to start working on finding people to work on the positions that are up for re-election next year
- **Stewardship**
  - Starting to gather ideas about what to do and who to add to the team
- **Team Reports**
  - **Worship Team – Pr. Larry**
    - COVID – Stay the course and keep doing what we are already doing
    - Pam has been working with Bill to learn how to live stream - anyone is welcome to learn. Bill has organized it very well and it is easy to pick up.
    - Adding small presentations from the Strategic Planning Teams to make shout outs and look for more volunteers
    - Had a call from someone wanting to rent the sanctuary on the Saturday December 25<sup>th</sup>. Recommendation from Worship Team is to decline the request since worship would be both the day before and the day after and cleaning would be a concern.
      - Council made a motion to accept the recommendation from the worship team – seconded – approved
  - **Member Care Ministry – Doris**
    - No meeting in August
    - Encouraged member care ministers to keep up with people in their district
    - Discussed members in the congregation that are having health issues
  - **Property – Pam/Johnnie**
    - Striping and sealing has been done on the lower level
    - Hole in the parking lot on the lower level will need to be looked at and filled
    - Working on getting hold of Unique to get an electronic switch for the HVAC
  - **Treasurer Report – Bill**
    - Church in the red for \$1,885 for July.
    - Re-did locks to accommodate space sharing
- **Strategic Goal Reports**
  - **Financial Sustainability – Pam**
    - Have been meeting
    - Investment Policy statement is close to being done – drafting the financial report
    - Working on what can be done for the launch

- **Community in Unity (Partnership/Outreach) – Stacey**
  - Working on strategic launch plans – discussing more at meeting on 8/12
  - God’s Work Our Hands was discussed as well – with plans to get it underway – signs for the grass and kits for the staff at Oak Knoll
- **Education and Faith Formation – Jason**
  - Jason absent: Stacey discussed
  - Ideas were brought forward with ideas for Education and Faith Formation
  - Another Meeting planned for August 19<sup>th</sup>
- **Alternative Worship – Kristen**
  - First worship will be August 27<sup>th</sup>
  - Promotions are in full swing – post cards have been mailed out and are available for members in the back of the church to take and give out
  - Still planning a short service and fellowship or games after
  - Working on ideas for the strategic plan launch
- **Shout Outs**
  - Larry Wolk for all the work he has been doing with the HVAC to make sure that it works for both Zion and Woke Bridge
  - Linda Lemke who’s birthday is coming up and her hard work for everything she is doing for Community in Unity
  - Pam Statler for all the plates she is juggling
  - Kristen Kinney for the minutes and how quickly she gets them out and how nice they are put together
  - Bob Kemper for coming and helping us with worship on Sundays
- **New Business**
  - Bill will be putting together a statement for the next meeting – Central States Synod is putting together grants for technology – wants to expand the sound system around the piano to help with live streaming
- **Next Meeting Date – September 14<sup>th</sup>**
- **Closing Prayer**
- **Adjourned 7:45**



# Zion Lutheran Church

## September Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 9:30am- Worship & Launch	30	31	1 10am-Bible Discussion  E Pfitzinger	2 10am-Member Care	3	4
5 9:30am-Worship w/ guest Pr. Beins	6 Labor Day Office Closed	7  L Calhoun  S&E  Voss-Light	8	9 6:30pm-Community in Unity	10 6:30pm-Alternative Worship Service  A Locastro	11
12 GWOH 9:30am-Worship & God's Work Our Hands	13 2pm-Worship Team	14 6:30pm-Council	15 10am-Bible Discussion	16 12pm-Financial Sustainability	17  E&H Devenport	18
19 9:30am-Worship	20	21	22 <b>Tidings Deadline</b> 10am-Bible Discussion  E Kinney	23  D McCall	24 6:30pm-Alternative Worship Service  N Moseley	25
26 9:30am-Worship & ELCA Speaker	27  K Malin  J&A Martin	28  J Martin	29 10am-Bible Discussion	30 6:30pm-Education & Faith Form.	1	2

# *Zion Lutheran Church*

## **Serving on Sundays in September**

	<b>Sep 5</b>	<b>Sep 12</b>	<b>Sep 19</b>	<b>Sep 26</b>	<b>Oct 3</b>
<b>Pastor</b>	P Beins	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	P Herrmann	R Schademann	P Statler	J Martin
<b>Lector</b>	S Miller	R Schademann	P Herrmann	N Wolz	L Moore
<b>Children's Message</b>	N Wolz	G Voss	L Lemke	N Wolz	G Voss
<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>	G Voss A Martin	G Voss A Martin	G Voss A Martin	G Voss A Martin	D Kaiser L Moore
<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.

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**Celebrating  
God's Grace**

## September 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  
Linda Lemke  
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