

WE ARE ZION



Zion Lutheran Church

2714 James Street

Marinette, WI 54143

715-735-7898

zion@newbc.rr.com

www.zionlutheran-marinette.org

NEWS

August 2022



Zion's 2022 Congregation Council

Troy Cording — President	Dean Schoen — V.P.
Michelle Larson — Secretary	LeeAnn Martin — Treasurer
Katy Bauer	Kim Graf
Dave Johnson	Laura Rowe
Brad Nelson	Sarge Rudell
Mark Swenson	Jonah Zuehls
Elsa Limberg, Youth Member	

Zion Staff

Administrative Assistant — Marissa Tharp
 Choir Director and Organist — Ann Buscher
 Financial Secretary — Karen Houdek

Who Does What at Zion

Worship

Acolyte Scheduling — Undecided
 Altar linens (Laundering) — Shirley Swenson
 Assistants — Ann Buscher (Ushers, readers, communion assistants, set up communion)
 AV Team — Troy Cording & Jonah Zuehls
 Banners — Ann Buscher, Kathy Heimbuch and Karen Dill
 Bulletin and Newsletter Assistance — Church Secretary
 Candles (eternal and oil) Michelle Larson
 Contemporary Worship — Bill Tipple
 Hymn Selection — Ann Buscher
 Wine and apple or grape juice — Michelle Larson

Building Maintenance – Interior/Exterior

Supplies — Gary Grom provides paper and cleaning products as well as purchasing small equipment for maintaining Zion's ground such as shovels, rakes, etc.

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Who Does What at Zion

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Handyman — Jack Heimbuch — experience in plumbing and electrical. (no high ladders)

Committees/Groups

Caring Ministry Team — Karen Sylvester

Equal Exchange Items — Heidi Beland

Confirmation Classes — Pastor

Funeral Luncheon Teams — Ann Buscher/Carol Johnson and Michelle Larson/Karen Sylvester

Harvest of Hope Community Garden — John Radloff

Kitchen Supplies — Nora Plym

Mission Endowment Comm. — Troy Cording

Money Counters — Karen Dill and Bonnie Schoen

Nominating Comm — Troy Cording, meets in fall

Personnel Comm. — Troy Cording, meets in fall

Property Comm. — Mark Swenson

Sanctuary Arts — Kathy Heimbuch

Sew for Mission — Carol Magnuson

Social Ministry — Heidi Beland & Michelle Larson co-chairs

SPARK — Johanna Zuehls and Pastor

Stewardship & Generosity — Karen Sylvester

Youth Ministry Treasurer — Karen Dill

Worship and Music — Ann Buscher

Ruth Women's Circle — Jane Landenberg

Sarah Women's Circle — Lori Despins



**The Seven
Marks of
Discipleship**

#Pray

#Worship

#Study

#Invite

#Encourage

#Give

#Serve

Take a Breath

As I write this article, it is my hope that you are enjoying these lovely summer days. Summer offers us time for the r's — relaxation, recreation (or re-creation), refreshment, and renewal. In short, it is a time to step back and take a breath, breathing in the freshness of the air and the warmth of the sun.

The interim period at Zion — the time between the retirement of Pastor Kolstad and the calling of a new pastor — is also a time to step back and take a breath, to breathe in the Holy Spirit and reflect for the sake of renewal. Interim periods can be anxious times for congregations. Members wonder — When will we get a new pastor? Have we started the process yet? Will we lose members if we wait too long? Will our finances suffer? These are common concerns, but it doesn't have to be an anxious time, certainly not a time for despair. Rather, it can be a time to take a breath after a long and fruitful ministry and prepare patiently and deliberately for the next pastor who will serve Zion. It can be a time to grieve in a healthy way, and not be in a rush to fill the void. It can be a time to assess our assets (a fancy way of saying, count our blessings), to consider and affirm our lay leadership, and do prayerful visioning and dreaming about our future. It is not healthy to rush into the calling of a new pastor, especially after a long pastorate. It is beneficial to go through a process of identifying the strengths as well as the needs of this congregation and thereby determine what gifts and abilities you are looking for in the next pastor you will call. Once our fall programming is underway, the Congregation Council will actively begin this process under the guidance of Bishop Finegan and myself. They will be seeking input from the general membership in

various ways. Until that time, and through that process, we will seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Currently, 24 of the 80 congregations that make up the Northern Great Lakes Synod are vacant. Several of those congregations are part of the 2 or 3-point parishes served by one pastor. These congregations are being served by 19 interim pastors of which 8 are pastors serving their own congregations full time, 3 are retired pastors, 3 are intentional full-time interims, 2 are Licensed Lay Ministers, and 3 are students preparing for ordination. In all cases, ministry is being done by pastors and lay people. The Holy Spirit uses the gifts and abilities of many so that God's kingdom work may be done.

This is certainly happening here at Zion. Even as we "step back and take a breath," the work of the church is ongoing. We gather faithfully for worship with many members taking leadership roles. I have been meeting with the Stewardship and Generosity committee, the Social Ministry committee, the Caring Ministry team, and other groups and individuals who are going about their ministries. Vacation Bible School will be taking place this month. The Property committee is actively maintaining the church building and property. The new boilers are being installed. The Quilting group is meeting bi-monthly. Homebound members and those in care facilities are being visited and prayed for. In these and many other ways, God's work is happening at Zion by many hands. So, step back, take a breath, and thank God for the work that has been done, is being done, and will continue to be done at Zion.

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Doug Schoen

Letter from Bishop Finegan

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.” — Psalm 51:10-12



Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

For two and a half years, my husband and I successfully avoided contracting COVID-19. We wore masks, stayed away from gatherings, quarantined after a suspected exposure, and basically did what we were supposed to do to

avoid getting the virus. And we were successful...until this month. It started with a tickle in the throat, then came the fever and chills, then the difficult decision of whether to nap on the couch or sit in the chair or just go to bed. As of this writing, we have emerged from our COVID cave and are now back amongst the living...sort of. We are still moving slow. Processing thought or coming up with complete sentences is still a challenge. As many people who have had COVID-19 will tell you, a kind of fog settles in, like a congestion of the brain.

But enough of that. I write to share with you some wonderings about COVID-19 and the Church. It is no secret that people are tired, but until I contracted COVID, I hadn't really considered its physical toll and its impact on ministry. I believe we have all witnessed how COVID-19 has impacted our spirits, our emotions, our sense of community, and a certain heightened anxiety about what all this means. But physically...no wonder volunteerism is at an historic low! When even brushing one's teeth or making supper expends all energy reserves, I can see why there's not much strength left to lead Vacation Bible School, take a turn for the Altar Guild, or sing in the choir. Such extra activity, at least for a time, is truly beyond one's physical capacity.

Continued...

From Bishop Finegan

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And yet, this too shall pass. Energy will return. Creativity and strength and the resolve to contribute will slowly but surely gain momentum in my body and spirit. And not just for me, but for us, and our efforts together as congregations and as a synod together.

It seems to me that we are collectively in this space of healing, waiting for restoration and renewal. Whether or not you have had to deal with the physical impact of COVID-19, I think we are all painfully aware of a certain dis-ease. People continue to be polarized concerning social and political issues. Some notice that in-person worship attendance or giving has not returned to pre-pandemic levels and we wonder what that means for the future of our church. We talk about wanting to move forward and yet long to be back where we were, which if we are honest, was still a place of decline and anxiety.

So where does that leave us? In truth, I believe we are still where we have always been, invited to participate in what God is doing in the world. I remind you and myself of what intellectually we already know, but perhaps emotionally and spiritually are challenged to own, that our Church, and your church, belong to God. And the body of Christ that you are a part of lives and breathes because God would have it be so. We rely on God to put in us a new and right spirit. We rely on the Holy Spirit to show us the way, to energize our efforts, and focus our mission to further the work of Christ.

In these days of healing and discernment, as we wait for renewal and even joy, I know that momentum is building. Congregations are considering their next steps, new plans for ministry are being made, people are emerging from isolation hungry for community and meaningful spiritual connection. As the Body of Christ in the world, we have something of value to offer. Whether your con-

Continued...

From Bishop Finegan

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gregation provides an opportunity for deeper engagement or simply gives permission to be still and receive a word of hope and healing, the Church, your church, is meant to be a blessing. May God bless you with the joy of salvation and sustain you with a willing spirit.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan



ELCA Churchwide Assembly

Embody the World will be the theme of the ELCA Churchwide Assembly that will meet August 8-12 in Columbus, Ohio. Hold in prayer Bishop Elizabeth Eaton as she presides, and Bishop Katherine Finegan and other elected pastors and lay members who will represent the Northern Great Lakes Synod as delegates. As the date of the Assembly approaches, consider offering the following prayer in your daily devotions: By your word, eternal God, your creation sprang forth, and we were given the breath of life. By your word, eternal God, death is overcome, Christ is raised from the tomb, and we are given new life in the power of your Spirit. May we boldly proclaim this good news in our words and our deeds, rejoicing always in your powerful presence. Direct the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by your Word, as this church gathers in assembly. May your Spirit guide Bishop Eaton and all the delegates representing the synods and congregations of our church, that all they do may be an expression of your good and gracious will. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Stay Up to Date with Zion

Are you on Zion's email list? If not, would you like to be? To be included on our email list, please send an email to: zion@newbc.rr.com requesting to be added to our emailing list. The emails consist of weekly announcements, important reminders, sign-ups for distribution of Holy Communion and the monthly newsletter (just to name a few)!

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is back! VBS will be held August 8-11 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Henes Park, 100 Henes Park Drive, Menominee in Pavilion #3. The theme for this year is: **Waves of Mercy**.

Kids from preschool through 6th grade are invited to play games, create arts and crafts, sing songs, and hear Bible stories that connect water with God's word.

Sack lunches will be available free of charge to campers and their families at 5:00 pm and small groups will rotate between stations throughout the evening.

Registration is encouraged! Registration forms are available on the table in Zion's lobby and office and on [Zion's website](#). Fill it out and leave it in Zion's office today!



Congregation Council Highlights

The Congregation Council did not meet in July. Their next meeting is scheduled for August 9. Watch September's newsletter for updates!

Outdoor Worship!

Mark your calendars & grab your lawn chair! Zion will hold outdoor worship (weather permitting) on August 7th. We look forward to worshipping with you! WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US!

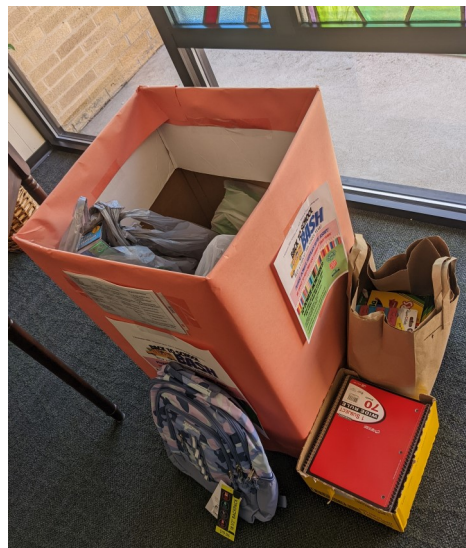


Altar Flower Sponsorships

Zion has altar flower sponsorships available. The cost of sponsoring the flowers for one week is \$15.00. Dates are reserved on a first come first serve basis. To reserve a date, please call or email Zion's office at 715-732- 7898 or Zi-on@newbc.rr.com.

Back to School Bash!

The M & M Community Annual Back 2 School Drive this year was hosted by the St. Joseph Conference of St. Vincent de Paul, the Salvation Army, and the Menominee County Health and Human Service. Thank you to all who donated!



Join us in lifting up our brothers and sisters in Christ, in prayer as we remember their Baptism

August 7th, Pastor Schoen will begin recognizing those members who were Baptized in that particular month.

August 1: Michael Jagelski

August 2: Rosalie Settersten

August 7: Mary Bodam, Dale Lueskow and Greg Peanosky

August 11: Brian Swenson

August 13: Traci Olson

August 16: Fyfe Thill

August 19: Mason Krah

August 20: Sam Gressel, Sarah Jagielski

August 21: Allyson Knopik

August 23: Aiden Bailey, Laura Peanosky

August 24: Sally Broetzman

August 25: Jacob Ehle

August 27: Debra Strohl

August 29: Delanie Schroeder



Hospitalization Notifications

If you or a member of your family should become a patient at Aurora Medical Center Bay Area and would like a visit from Pastor Schoen, please state that you are a member of Zion when you check in. Pastor Schoen will then be notified by the hospital chaplain. You may also call the church office to notify us, request a visit, or simply to ask for prayers. If you are hospitalized in Green Bay or elsewhere, please notify the church office directly.



The Stewardship and Generosity Corner

The goal of Zion's Stewardship and Generosity Committee is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances God has entrusted to them.

This month's article will focus on "Serve", another of Zion's Seven Marks of Discipleship. Zion's Vision Statement for "Serve" is - We envision a congregation that serves by employing innovative ways to assist children and their families in our community as well as around the world.

Did you notice in the July newsletter, as well as this one, a listing of Zion's Council and staff? There is also a list of "Who Does What at Zion." It's a long list of people who have graciously stepped up to give of their time, talents, and resources to further Zion's congregational life and its ministries. Behind the group leaders listed on the "Who Does What at Zion" document are many more people involved in each committee. Just as it takes a village to raise a child, so too it takes a village to maintain a viable congregation which has chosen to "Go Where Jesus Leads".

There are people busy doing, and no one knows about it except for Marissa Tharp, Zion's Administrative Assistant, and the person doing whatever they are doing. Sometimes even Marissa isn't aware.

A couple of weeks ago, I was leaving Zion and saw a car parked down by the garden. I decided to take a walk over to see who was toiling away in the dirt. I found Michele Larson and Heidi Beland on hands and knees planting seeds that will ultimately grow and provide food to the needy through the St. Vincent De-Paul Food Pantry.

We have several people in our congregation, and some who are

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The Stewardship and Generosity Corner_____

...continued

not in our congregation, who offer their God-given musical talents in the band, as well as play and/or sing at the worship services throughout the year. I'm sure these personal musical offerings are preceded by hours of practice, so that what they do is pleasing to the congregation and gives glory to God.

For events, funerals, or meetings, Barb and Gary Grom often set up tables and chairs and afterward put everything back to normal.

Ann Buscher has been busy opening the stained-glass windows and wiping them down.

Don Schutt installed the air conditioners in both offices so that our staff doesn't broil while they toil.

One Sunday, I found Michelle Larson sitting on the ground over by the garden and the picnic table. I walked over. She has a paintbrush in hand and a gallon of teal paint and was busily painting the picnic table. Michelle also went to Drees Electric and picked out a new refrigerator for Zion's kitchen as the other one was malfunctioning.

In late June, I found out that Dean Schoen and once again, Michelle Larson, had cleaned out the boiler room in anticipation, I assume, of the boiler work soon to be completed. In doing that, they found unexpected treasures which we hope to utilize in the near future.

Prior to Zion's annual fire inspection, Jack Heimbuch ordered and then installed emergency lights throughout Zion. He will soon paint the exterior doors at Zion for a second time. He's also the token male in the Sew for Missions Group, boxing and making ready the quilts for shipment.

Continued...

The Stewardship and Generosity Corner_____

...continued

So many people do ordinary little things around Zion which go unheralded. One of these unsung heroes is Johanna Zuehls, who has almost single-handedly, taken on SPARK and the children's Christmas Play for the last several years. I'm not saying that others don't help her because I'm sure they do, but as far as I know, she is the force behind both programs. As I write this, Johanna is working diligently on Vacation Bible School and seeking volunteers to assist her and children to attend.

This congregation is blessed by these women and men, and many others, who come forward to serve in God's name. But Zion could use more volunteers just as so many not-for-profits could in our area. As Pastor Rick recently said in a sermon, "Pray that God will send more people".

The summer of 2022 is almost over, and September is quickly approaching. This is the month you could look around at your church, and community, and ask if there is something you could be doing to help enrich someone's life by volunteering. Trust that what God has given you is enough. Try one new thing and if after trying you find it isn't for you, try something else. Volunteering is very rewarding, you can learn a lot, and meet new friends in the process, and who doesn't need new friends?

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In God's peace, grace and love,
Karen Sylvester

August Birthdays

August 3: Andrew Hubbard
August 6: Jackie Hamer
August 7: Dakota Lueskow, Kathleen Lueskow
August 9: Bill Boerner, Jacob Cording, Laura Peanosky
August 10: Gage Schutt
August 13: Sally Broetzman, Joan Nowakowski
August 15: Fay Brummond, Larry Melgary
August 16: Linda Walker
August 17: Joni Rudell
August 18: Sarge Rudell
August 20: Brooke Rose
August 22: Gary Houdek, Stephanie Klein
August 25: Jordan Lueskow, Tim Marzahl
August 29: Barb Grom, Jared Johnson, Gail Melgary
August 31: Katy Bauer



August Eternal Light

The Eternal Light for the month of August is sponsored by Joan Nowakowski.



Accurate contact information?

Have you or a family member recently had a change of address or phone number? Have you or a family member moved? Not sure if Zion has accurate information on file (mailing address, phone number, email)? Zion is striving to have current information on file. Please call or email Zion's office to verify what is on file (715-735-7898) or zion@newbc.rr.com). Thank you for your assistance!

August Stewardship Initiative

As we move through 2022, the Stewardship and Generosity Committee will continue the yearlong "Stepping in Faith" stewardship initiative. This month, from August 7-28th our focus will be on another Mark of Discipleship – SERVE. As we've done in previous months, we will be handing out the Steps in Faith Through Serve suggestion list August 7th. For the remaining Sundays of the month, the list and the "Next Step" magnets will be on the side table to the left of the sanctuary door. If you are unable to attend worship and would like the magnet and list, please reach out to any committee member. We pray that your life in serving will grow by using one or several of the suggestions on the list. In addition, please choose to use the following prayer to begin this month's steps in your faith journey through Serve.

Lord God, Heavenly Father, give me a heart like the heart of Jesus, a heart more ready to serve than be served, a heart moved by compassion for the weak, needy, and oppressed, a heart that is willing to reach out to all those who are lonely, depressed, or isolated. Lord, you have fully loved and forgiven me, help me to share your love and forgiveness with others. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

Blessings!

The Stewardship and Generosity Committee

John Radloff 715-732-0161

Bonnie Schoen 715-923-8182

Karen Sylvester 715-587-4206

What's Around the Corner?

Zion is buzzing with worship preparations! Below is a brief outline of what is "around the corner".

- August 7: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., outdoor worship and via Facebook Live. Be sure to bring your lawn chairs!
- August 14: Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. With guest pastor Nick Johannes.
- August 21: Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Contemporary service.
- August 28: Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live.

Worship Assistant Opportunities

If you'd like to volunteer to serve as lector or usher please contact Ann Buscher at 715-735-3017. The readings for the particular Sunday will be shared with you days in advance and a copy will be printed for you to use that particular Sunday. We are also looking for people to set up and take down communion and be communion assistants with Pastor Doug. Directions have been posted in the sacristy. Thank you for your consideration!

Donate to Zion



Did you know that you are able to contribute to Zion via the website? Simply to go: <http://www.zionlutheran-marquette.org> and in the far right margin of the page is a nice purple rectangle button that reads: Donate. Click it and

follow the steps to donate. If you have questions, please call Karen Houdek. She'll help you through each step of the way. You may also click on the "Shop Now" button on Zion's Facebook page!



Zion received the following thank you notes.

ELCA:

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift(s) given to your synod, received by ELCA World Hunger in May 2022.

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God (Romans 5:1-2).

It makes a difference in our lives. Through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, you are sharing this amazing grace with others. You are helping people around the world feel the transformational power of God's love.

Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries including the United States. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Through your gifts, you are joining with the whole church as we work toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God is shining through you.

In Christ, Daniel Rift
Director, Mission Funding, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response



Northern Great Lakes Synod:

Dear People of Zion Lutheran in Marinette:

Thank you so much for your financial support of the work of Christ that we do together. While our Lutheran accent is that we are saved by grace through faith, the words from James also ring true. Faith inspires action which in turn nurtures faith.

I am grateful that the work we do, we do together, putting our faith into action for the sake of the church, our communities, and meeting the needs of our neighbors - locally and globally.

Thank you for your special gifts received by the Synod through June 2022:

- Disaster Relief, Ukraine: \$1,775
- World Hunger: \$5,550
- Fortune Lake Camp: \$1,060.06
- Lutheran World Relief: \$50

Thank you for your partnership!

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan



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Going Where Jesus Leads



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God's work. Our hands.