

WE ARE ZION



Zion Lutheran Church

2714 James Street

Marinette, WI 54143

715-735-7898

zion@newbc.rr.com

www.zionlutheran-marinette.org

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October 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
 Accompanist for Choir and Organist— Rachel Rosenfeldt
 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 *Continued....*

Who Does What at Zion

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cleaning products as well as purchasing small equipment for maintaining Zion's ground such as shovels, rakes, etc.

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 — Seeking new members!

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



**The Seven
Marks of
Discipleship**

#Pray

#Worship

#Study

#Invite

#Encourage

#Give

#Serve

From the Pastor's Desk

Throughout my ministry, I have heard folks refer to their church offerings as “paying their dues.” Others have made reference to their financial support of the church as that which is necessary to “pay the bills” or “keep the lights on.” These statements are most often made with good intentions by faithful church members who are dedicated in their giving.

However, I do not find such statements very motivational or joy-filled in regard to Christian stewardship. My own stewardship has been motivated by Paul's statement in 2 Corinthians 9:7-8: *“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.”*

I am grateful to have had parents who taught me the importance of Christian stewardship. I remember sitting at the dining room table with my parents before Commitment Sunday as a newly confirmed youth member with my own box of adult offering envelopes and my own pledge card. The quarter or fifty cents I pledged from my weekly allowance didn't matter much to the church, but it meant a whole lot to me. I felt that I counted, I mattered, I was valued. The joy I derived from giving probably began in the earliest years of Sunday School with the pennies I dropped in the slot in the roof of the wooden model church that served as an offering receptacle and a visual symbol of what our money was doing. But it was certainly enhanced by my post-confirmation experience of pledging and giving.

Two biblical principles have guided my stewardship. One is first fruits giving, i.e., giving to God the first fruits of my labors (the first check I write in paying my bills, or the money I dedicate to the Lord before spending it on other things). The other is proportionate giving, i.e., giving and growing in the percentage of my income. Putting these biblical principles into practice has enabled me to put my life in order and appreciate what is of true value. Marilyn and I determined to tithe at the beginning of our marriage and have never looked back. In fact, we have grown to where we see the tithe (10% of our income) as the beginning of our giving and have grown beyond that as God has blessed us.

Starting in May, Zion's Stewardship & Generosity Committee has been focusing on the Seven Marks of Discipleship for monthly emphasis. GIVE is the mark they are focusing on in September and October. During this time, I encourage you to prayerfully focus your thoughts on Paul's advice to the Corinthians. Find joy in the opportunities God gives you to be faithful stewards of his riches.

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Doug Schoen



Letter from Bishop Finegan

*"In the beginning,
God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless
void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind
from God swept over the face of the waters.
~ Genesis 1:1*



Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

Have you ever ventured down the craft aisle of some do-it-yourself store? I remember being given a make your own sand art, make your own paint by number picture, and cross stitch kits with all the embroidery floss included.

Maybe you graduated to the kits that brew your own beer or make your own birdhouse or nail together a raised garden bed.

I ordered a baker's rack once that required assembly. It was very handy to have step by step instructions paired with pictures and arrows, connecting part a to part b. Sure, I put it together wrong a few times before I got it right, but it now stands correctly assembled.

It was easy to begin these projects because I had a guide, instructions, I knew what the finished product was supposed to look like. Beginning was easy because the end was clear.

We know something about beginnings. We begin new jobs, new school years, move into a new house or apartment, welcome a new child, initiate a new ministry. Even without a kit, we know what it is to "start from scratch" when there are no pieces to put together, no foundation already laid, no past to shape the future, no ready-made mix that only needs eggs to make the cake.

Continued...

Letter from Bishop Finegan ---

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Certainly, God didn't have much to work with "in the beginning." God has a knack of how to make something from nothing. Such creative success takes a certain divine skill set. It is a God-only talent.

And yet, God shares God's own creative genius with us. And that is a good thing. Because we as congregations, we as the church, are at the beginning again. We need the creative spirit that only God can give because there are a host of things that are unclear.

Do we have all the pieces we need? I say yes. I believe God provides the resources, the people, and the way forward for whatever God would have happen in and through your congregation.

Are we starting from scratch? Not really. There is recent and a collective memory of the way things used to be, not only pre-pandemic, but pre-eighties. Whether these expectations, or even hopes, will be a help or a hindrance to new efforts remains to be seen.

Do we have clear instructions? I say no. This is where we need the collective wisdom of the body of Christ listening intently to the Spirit and finding a way forward together. The goal is not to recreate the church of the past but to lean into the future church that is becoming. The Church is being transformed. Our job is to be faithful in this moment of history that will last years. Keeping the witness of Jesus of Nazareth as the lens through which all else is considered, we can't go far wrong.

Are we clear on what the finished product will be? Maybe a little, but not really. The Church, capital C, is timeless. God will always call people to faith in Christ. The Spirit will always gather

Continued...

Letter from Bishop Finegan ---

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believers together. The Bible will always be treasured and provide an inspiring word to proclaim Christ. But what the Church looks like, how it sounds, where it gathers, the liturgy, traditions, music, language, rhythms, might all be reshaped and reformed. The wind of God is sweeping over the face of the Church. We may not be a formless void, but our shape is being re-formed, slowly but surely, and yet certainly faster than anyone is comfortable with.

As Congregations are investing energy into new or resurrected ministry efforts, we are beginning again in a new set of circumstances. It feels both familiar and foreign. It is both exciting and overwhelming, hopeful and anxious.

I pray God's blessings upon your efforts. You're not creating something from nothing, but I think it can feel like that.

God is with you, inspiring, energizing, and speaking the Word Christ into any darkness, saying, "Let there be...Church!"

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Katherine Finegan

Honoring our Veterans and First Responders; we need your help! ---

Do you know of anyone who is a veteran or a first responder that is a member of Zion?

We are trying to make a list and honor them in November.

Please call the church office at 715-735-7898 and let us know!

For a veteran: What branch of service, rank, years served, and what wars.

For a first responder: what branch (police, fire, rescue squad?) and how many years. Thank you for your help!

What's Around the Corner?

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

- Oct. 2: Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live.
- Oct. 9: Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. With guest pastor Gene Wickman. Temple Talk by Karen Dill. Coffee hour to follow worship.
- Oct. 16: Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Contemporary service.
- Oct. 23: Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Baptism during worship
- Oct. 30: Reformation Sunday, 9:30 a.m., indoor worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Conformation Sunday. Coffee hour to follow worship.



Menominee Valley Conference October Youth Event

Youth between 7th-12th grade are invited to help load quilts onto the boxcar for Lutheran World Relief on Saturday, October 22. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. just behind the Menominee Railroad Depot located at 335 4th Avenue in Menominee to help unload the semi-trucks coming from Iron Mountain and Gladstone. (You may also arrive before 10:00 a.m., as churches from Marinette and Menominee have earlier loading times beginning at 9:00 a.m.) After the boxcar is loaded, we will enjoy pizza, a corn maze, and fall fun at Hofer's Pumpkin Patch in Wallace. Please contact Stefanie (youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org) if you would like to join us!

Congregation Council Highlights



COUNCIL UPDATES

The congregational council met September 13th, 2022 at 6:30 pm.

Pastors Report: Confirmation classes started September 14 and there are 7 students from Zion and 2 from Bethel. Pastor Schoen and Pastor Ehle will be alternating teaching the classes.

Vision statements will be presented at the October Council meeting for this year's confirmation students. A request was made by Stephanie Klein to transfer membership to Gesthamane Lutheran in Wallace.

August Financial Report:

General Fund decreased by \$6,194; there were notable payouts for insurance and yard care. The Capital Improvement Fund increased by \$3,411.

Committee Reports:

There was a \$300.00 quote to bring electricity to the shed. The new heating system will be running by the end of September or by early October.

Old Business:

Property Insurance Quote: We were joined by Zoom with Jeff LaBelle from Brotherhood Mutual Insurance to go over options to try and lower costs. Motion made by Mark Swenson and Laura Rowe to go with options #5 and 6 (decrease church building limit and raise deductible) for a savings of \$609 a year.

Safety and Security task force: The new group met in September, will be implementing locking the doors after service starts and re-key the church.

New Business:

Marissa will be trained on the VANCO financial system.

The next council meeting will be October 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Fall Events

The annual Fall Fest will be Oct. 1. This event features a live auction of 90 beautifully made quilts, a continental breakfast, a country store with handcrafted items, a bake sale, and a drawing-raffle. The event starts at 9:30 a.m. with breakfast and the auction will begin at 11. You can also join in online for the virtual auction, which will open September 21. More information about the virtual auction can be found at www.fortunelake.org

The Fall Youth Retreat for kids in grades 3-6, will be held October 14 and 15. Participants will enjoy outdoor activities, camp songs, bible studies, and crafts! Registration is open and is \$70 per person. To register or find more information, you can visit their [website!](#)

October Eternal Light

The Eternal Light for the month of October is in honor to the glory of God and is sponsored by Karen Sylvester.



Boiler update!

Lots of work is being done on the new boiler and it's going to be ready soon. But bring your jackets with you on Sunday just in case it's not ready yet!



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.

Our "Give" stewardship emphasis is seven weeks in duration, culminating on October 23rd with "Faithful Blessings Sunday and the Stewardship Pledge Drive. In September, we were blessed to have Michelle Larson and LeeAnn Limberg give thoughtful Temple Talks. Some of you may not have heard them, and for that reason I am including them in their entirety in this article. I loved them when I heard them, and it was great for me to read them again. I hope you feel the same.

Here are Michelle Larson's words about the Treasure of Time.

"This was a tough one, I have never really thought about how the giving of my time made me feel. To me the giving of my time is the easiest thing I do. So, after much thought and struggles, I will try to put it into words.

"When I can do something for someone it makes me happy! It is satisfying. It is a boost to my self-esteem. It makes me want to do more. I understand why they say it is better to give than to receive. From working in the garden, getting to hang out with two incredible young ladies on Wednesday nights, to serving on a committee, to even taking out the trash on Tuesday mornings; there was a need for someone's time, and I am full of gratitude that I was able to fill that need.

"Gandhi said, 'The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.' I will certainly say yes when asked to do something - it may not always be perfect, but it will always be done from my heart!"

Here are LeeAnn Limberg's words about the Treasure of Talents.

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The Stewardship and Generosity Corner _____

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"I was asked by Pastor Schoen on behalf of the Stewardship Committee to speak to you about the joy, meaning, and satisfaction I receive from giving of my talents. My first question to Pastor was, of course, 'Why?' I think we all ask ourselves that when we are asked to tell someone else about our own talents.

"For those of you that don't know me, I am the treasurer for Zion, and I am a math teacher at Marinette High School (this is the start of my 28th year teaching). In my classroom I sometimes use 'getting to know you' activities and one is to have students turn to the person next to them and tell them what they do well. Some say sports, singing, or sleeping. But a lot of them will not say anything or will specifically say I'm not good at anything.' But I believe everyone is good at something. And, all of us are talented at something that others are not so good at. Also, Sometimes we have hidden talents that no one knows we are good at. And, some of our hidden talents are valuable in ways we don't know.

"My thoughts about a Temple Talk about 'my talents' led me in many directions. But I think those last 4 statements drove my thoughts the most. Even more than a live demonstration of my many talents.

"Pastor's response to my question of "Why?" was about the use of my ability with figures, math, and finance. He mentioned that some people had musical talent. I don't think he meant to imply I DIDN'T have musical talent but let me tell you. I played trumpet and euphonium in high school. I tried to learn guitar and I took piano lessons for years. I was in choir, and I love to sing. I was not outstanding at any of them, but our band was amazing. The group effort produced some great tunes. Pastor, of course, wasn't implying that I don't have talent, but I don't think he knew how much music was a part of my life. Now I'm

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The Stewardship and Generosity Corner_____

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not in choir for Zion or the contemporary band, but I know I have something to contribute if the time is right for me. We can't do it all. We can't expect that someone does it all. But if we have a talent to share, it makes the whole congregation of Zion better if we do.

"Now let's talk about math. I do our finances for Zion. As a math teacher, I believe anyone can learn math. I was not born with math skills, but somehow, I was interested in numbers. There's something peaceful and rewarding about solving a long-complicated math problem for me. (Weirdo... right?) I think people get certain rewards from using their talents and that is why they become more talented at them. I did not know how to 'do the books' when I started working with John Radloff to take over the treasurer duties, even though I had an accounting degree. John was patient and continues to help me whenever I need some guidance. The interest in math made me perhaps a better candidate for the job, but the practice and effort has made me what you might refer to as 'talented' at it. The job can be stressful but the goal of 'balancing the books' is so rewarding. It's like solving a puzzle.

"Acting as the treasurer of Zion has been a great experience for me. Using my 'talent' for numbers has given me the opportunity to interact more closely with many of the other members of our congregation like Karen Houdek our financial secretary and the many members of council over the years. Getting to work more closely with those that I worship with has built friendships. I think 'using my talent' is just another way of saying that I'm getting involved in helping my church grow. I think I'm developing talents. Always learning. I get a sense of pride and belonging that I am able to contribute.

Continued...

The Stewardship and Generosity Corner _____

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"Other ways I have shared my talents include reading lessons in church and helping serve communion. Both can be rather nerve-wracking for me leading up to the day, but no one here has been judgmental when I mispronounce a word. And so far, I haven't poured wine on anyone during communion. I've gotten a lot of 'Good Job's' and 'Way to Go's' from my fellow worshippers. I have felt pride and ownership in a place that has given me a lot since I became a member some 15 years ago.

"My message of using my talents is that everyone's talents are different, and all needed. There is something that each of us likes to do that could help Zion. And you don't need a professionally honed talent to want to get involved, you just need to want to get involved. And maybe you have a talent that someone doesn't know about. Share it so we can all benefit from it. That's what sharing of my talents does for me. It makes me feel good, useful, and productive. And it brings me closer to the people of Zion I get to share it with.

"Aren't these wonderful presentations? I sure think so. On October 9th we will have our third and final Temple Talk on Sharing your Treasures presented by Karen Dill. I know you won't want to miss it.

"This congregation is certainly blessed to have so many willing to share."

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



Stewardship Initiative

September just whizzed by and here comes October – ready or not! Temps are falling as are the leaves, but with fall comes God’s grace of abundant color. This is also the month when congregation households make their financial pledge so that God’s work through Zion can go on through 2023. Each household should expect an uplifting and heartfelt letter from Pastor Schoen sometime during the week of October 10th. Please take the time to read it and respond.

There will also be one more Temple Talk on Oct. 9th, when Karen Dill will be present on giving of her Treasures. You certainly don’t want to miss this one!!

The culmination of the GIVE initiative will be held at the Sunday, October 23rd, worship service with the Faithful Blessings Celebration and Pledge Drive response.

Luke 12:34 “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

We offer the following prayer to begin this month’s step in your faith journey through GIVE.

Lord God, Heavenly Father, I continue to struggle with my growth in faith. I ask you Lord, to send your Holy Spirit to help and show me the way to be the Christian that you want me to be. I ask you Lord to provide me with the desire to have a closer walk with you day in and day out. Help me to grow in my faith toward you, to trust in you, and to know how you want me to put to use the blessings you’ve given to me and my family to do your kingdom work for the benefit of others. All this I pray in my loving Lord and Savior’s name. Amen.

The Stewardship and Generosity Committee

John Radloff

Bonnie Schoen

Karen Sylvester

October Birthdays

October 3: Annette Anderson, Joyce Anderson
October 4: Norah Derby, Kathy Saxton
October 5: Pam Goes
October 6: Al Peterson, Timothy Saxton
October 7: Chad Francour
October 8: Sandra Zylkowski
October 9: Anna Marzahl, Ethan Schomaker
October 10: Nila Krenos
October 11: Nora Plym
October 13: Lynn Francour
October 15: Gary Grom, Mark Swenson
October 17: Megan Buenning
October 18: LouAnn Bates
October 19: William Beattie
October 20: John Heimbuch
October 21: Ainsely Emler, Nicole Oleson
October 22: David Depsins
October 23: Kurt Breuer
October 26: Carole Boerner, Belinda Lemire
October 28: Alexandria Cording
October 29: Melanie Bennett
October 30: Randall Schroeder II
October 31: Bryan Gutknecht, Laura Rowe



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

October 1: Godfrey Heitmeier, Kimberly Swenson

October 8: Allie Greenlund

October 9: George Olson

October 10: Katy Bauer

October 12: Sally Peterson

October 14: Madelyn Krah

October 15: Dakota Lueskow

October 21: Ann Buscher, Daniel Johnson

October 23: Bradley Nelson

October 24: Candace Minzlaff

October 26: Annette Anderson, Joyce Anderson

October 30: Samantha Schroeder

October 31: Jacob Cording



Lutheran World Relief Boxcar Loading

The 2022 LWR boxcar loading will be October 22 at 9 a.m. The boxcar will be located at the Escanaba/Lake Superior Railroad — large parking lot located at 335 4th Ave., Menominee.

People who are packing boxes are reminded to label each box with the church name and address along with the contents of the box and to keep the boxes under forty pounds.

Volunteers are needed to welcome people and help them park in convenient locations, as well as assist donors in transferring boxes from their vehicle to the boxcar. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Extra assistance is needed between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., as that is when the semi-trucks from Gladstone and Iron Mountain arrive full of materials that need to be put onto the boxcar.

If people have any questions they may call or email Rev. Brenda Greenwald at 720-989-8218 or pastor@gsslutheran.org



Zion received the following thank you notes:

Sue and Bob Baxter:

To our Zion family,

Thank you all so much for your payers, cards and calls during Bob's treatment and transplant surgery. You have given us so much encouragement and we are truly grateful.

Sue and Bob Baxter

The DAR Boys and Girls Club:

Dear Friends at Zion Lutheran Church,

You have a heart of gold! Thank you for believing in the children in our community. Your passion to give them a fun and safe place to receive a healthy meal, learn new life skills, and enjoy time with friends and adult mentors does not go unnoticed. Thank you for trusting the DAR Boys & Girls Club to be that place for the Club children and their families.

Thank you so much for your donation towards our program. Your donation of \$256.70 will allow us to continue our mission during this trying time. You are helping make futures a reality for the next generation of youth in our community. It is generosity and devotion that helps us do whatever it takes to meet the needs of any child who walks through our doors.

Sincerely,
Koreen Gardon, CEO



Join the AV Team! _____

We are in need for volunteers to help our AV team. The hope is with enough people, volunteers would only have to be available once a month. If people have any questions, they can reach out to Troy Cording or Jonah Zuehls. Thank you for your consideration!

Sanctuary Arts Committee Seeks New Members _____

The Sanctuary Arts Committee is looking for new members who would enjoy decorating the church for special occasions. It is a fun group and the committee can certainly use new ideas to make the church beautiful. If you would like to join the committee, please contact Zion's office.

Worship Assistant Opportunities _____

If you'd like to volunteer to serve as lector, usher, communion assistant, or would like to help set up and take down communion, sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary. If you have any questions or would like to ask about certain days, people may 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. Thank you for your consideration!



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.

God's Work. Our Hands Sunday

God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

GWOHSunday is observed by ELCA congregations across the country on the Sunday after Labor Day each year but this year our congregation and Bethel's will hold a month-long (September) collection of items that we will sort and pack at **Zion on Sunday, October 9th**. The items we collect will be given as a gift of thanks to our local Police, Fire and Rescue Squad – the people in our community who are first to come to our aid in an emergency. That is approximately 375 people plus 3 K9s, from about 12 different departments spread across three cities and two counties.

A collection box will be in the narthex throughout September where you can bring your donated items. We are requesting the following which the recipients can grab and go as needed: lunch-box size bags of chips, nuts, crackers and energy bars; packs of hot drink mixes like hot chocolate or coffee; packets of cold drink mixes like Propel or Gatorade; candy & gum; hand warmers; travel size hand sanitizers, wipes, and hand lotions; Chapstick or Carmex –type lip balms. (Shopping lists will also be available by the collection box for your convenience.)

Zion's Social Ministry Committee invites you and our friends from Bethel to join us for coffee, treats and fellowship **after worship on Sunday, October 9th** while we work together to sort and pack up these gifts.



Lutheran Disaster Response
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

Dear friend,

Over the weekend, several disasters made the news. Here are some of the biggest ones:

- **In Puerto Rico and the Caribbean**, Hurricane Fiona brought torrential rainfall and devastating flooding to the islands. Almost exactly five years after Hurricane Maria, Puerto Rico is again experiencing an island-wide blackout and damaged buildings and infrastructure. Lutheran Disaster Response is working with the Caribbean Synod to develop an immediate response in impacted communities.
- **In Alaska**, the remnants of Typhoon Merbok have caused widespread flooding along the state's western coast. This was one of the worst storms in recent decades in Alaska, with strong waves and heavy rainfall damaging homes, seawalls, roads and other infrastructure. Officials are planning a quick relief period before the water freezes. Lutheran Disaster Response is working with the Alaska Synod to address the needs of those impacted by the storm.
- **In Japan**, Typhoon Nanmadol hit Kyushu, the country's southernmost main island. At least two people were killed and dozens more injured in the storm, which moved northward over Honshu. Wind gusts of over 145 mph and heavy rainfall caused at least one landslide and damaged homes and businesses. We have been in touch with the ELCA's global personnel in Japan.
- **In Papua New Guinea**, a 7.7 magnitude earthquake hit on Sep. 11, with ensuing aftershocks. At least three people died, and many buildings and roads were impacted. There is a strong Lutheran presence in the impacted area, including a Lutheran nursing school connected to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea (ELCPNG) that was damaged in the earth-



Lutheran Disaster Response
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 God's work. Our hands.

quake. We have been in contact with the ELCPNG to discuss a possible response.

- **In Pakistan**, the summer monsoon flooding is causing a widespread humanitarian crisis. The flooding has killed 1,500 people and up to 7 million people may be displaced. Lutheran Disaster Response is contributing to an ACT Alliance appeal that addresses the needs of flooded communities. Through the appeal, local partners will provide food, temporary shelter and bedding, rebuilding materials and psychosocial support.

These are just the disasters that made the biggest headlines. There are countless smaller disasters that don't make the news. With your gifts to the [Lutheran Disaster Response general fund](#), we can respond to as many as possible – whenever and wherever they strike.

Again and again, you show up for our neighbors impacted by disasters in the United States and around the world. Thank you. Please join me in prayer and partnership to support all those impacted.

In Christ's service,
 The Rev. Daniel Rift
 Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response
 Fund Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Additional Ways to Give

Checks or money orders can be sent to:
 Lutheran Disaster Response
 P.O. Box 1809
 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Zion Lutheran Church
Rev. Doug Schoen, Interim
2714 James Street
Marinette, WI 54143
zion@newbc.rr.com
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Going Where Jesus Leads



Northern Great Lakes Synod
Bishop Katherine Finegan
1029 N. 3rd St. A
Marquette, Michigan 49855
www.nglsnod.org
Equipping the Saints for Ministry



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
8765 W Higgins Road
Chicago, Illinois 60631
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God's work. Our hands.