



Zion Lutheran Church 2714 James Street Marinette, WI 54143 715-735-7898 zion@newbc.rr.com

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www.zionlutheran-marinette.org



Zion's 2023 Congregation Council

Troy Cording — President Michelle Larson — Secretary Dean Schoen Brad Nelson Jonah Zuehls

Kim Graf — V.P. LeeAnn Limberg — Treasurer Laura Rowe

Mark Swenson

Henry Zuehls, 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 — Ann Buscher Assistants — Ann Buscher (Ushers, readers, communion assistants, set up communion) AV Team — Troy Cording & Jonah Zuehls Banners — 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

Who Does What at Zion_

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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; Michelle Larson/Sue Baxter; and Karen Sylvester/ Cheryl Maxwell 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 — Barb Grom, Karen Dill, Carol Johnson and Ann **Buscher** 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



From the Pastor's Desk

I am writing this article one day after observing the holiday known as Juneteenth Day. Although Juneteenth Day is our newest national holiday, it commemorates an event that took place 158 years ago. It is a recognition of delayed freedom. The Emancipation Proclamation, declaring freedom for slaves in the states that were in rebellion, went into effect on January 1, 1863. However, the Texas government denied liberation to its slaves until the Confederacy had lost the Civil War, and even for a while after that. On the morning of June 19, 1865, Union Army Major General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston to take command of the Union troops deployed there and announced to the slaves there that they were liberated. In essence, they had been set free by proclamation, but they didn't know it and couldn't experience it for two and a half years.

This leads me to think about people today who are liberated and don't know it. I am talking about people for whom Christ died but don't know that they have been set free. Martin Luther stated it simply in his explanation of the 2nd article of the Apostles' Creed: "[Jesus Christ] has redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being. He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and his innocent suffering and death." There is no greater bondage than to sin, death and the power of the devil. By his atoning death on the cross, Christ set us free from this bondage. Yet, there are many people who do not know that they have been set free. Some know, if for no other reason than by a guilty conscience, that they are sinful, but do not know, understand or believe that Jesus Christ died for their sins and set them free. Some do not know or acknowledge that they are sinners in need of forgiveness. The gospel (good news) has either not been proclaimed to them, or they have heard it but do not accept it.

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The primary message of the Bible (God's word that leads to salvation) is one of law and gospel. The law, summarized by the Ten Commandments, points out to us that we are sinful and incapable of keeping God's law to perfection. Paul writes in Romans 3, "For 'no human being will be justified in [God's] sight' by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes knowledge of sin." Paul goes on to say, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." The gospel is the good news that, as Paul continues to write, "they are now justified by [God's] grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." Freedom from "sin, death and the power of the devil" comes to all who take to heart both the condemnation announced by the law and the liberation proclaimed by the gospel. To not accept this truth is like being set free, yet still living in bondage.

We read in John 8:31-34, "Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' They answered him, 'We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, "You will be made free"?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed." This liberating truth is so well expressed in a prayer I happened to read in my daily devotions on June 19, Juneteenth Day. It is by John Baillie (1886-1960), a Scottish minister and seminary professor, whose book, A Diary of Private Prayer, is considered a classic. I will paraphrase the prayer in contemporary language. "O God, who sees and knows all things, give me grace, I pray, so that I may know You and see You, that in knowing You, I may know myself even as I am most perfectly known by You, and in seeing You, may see myself as You see me. Give me today some clear vision of my life as it appears to You in Your holiness. Show me my own smallness and Your infinite

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greatness. Show me my own sin and Your perfect righteousness. Show me my own lovelessness and Your exceeding love. Yet in Your mercy, show me also how, small as I am, I can take refuge in Your greatness; how, sinful as I am, I may lean upon Your righteousness; and how, loveless as I am, I may hide myself in Your forgiving love. Cause my thoughts to dwell much today on the life and death of Jesus Christ my lord, so that I may see all things in the light of the redemption which You have granted me in His name. Amen."

May this prayer be a guide & an inspiration to you as you live out your freedom in Christ each and every day. Have a blessed, relaxing and refreshing summer!

In Christ, Pastor Doug

What's Around the Corner?_____

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

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship
with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live.
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship
with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live.
With guest pastor Rick DeBenedetto. Featuring
Barb Akins on the violin.
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m.
worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook
Live. With guest pastor Gene Wickman. Coffee
hour to follow worship!
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship
with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live.
Contemporary service.
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship
with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live.
Hymn Sing. Coffee Hour to follow worship.
Recognition for Karen Houdek.

Karen Houdek To Retire

Karen Houdek will be retiring at the end of July as Zion's Financial Secretary. Karen has served faithfully and skillfully in this capacity for the past fifteen years. We want to thank Karen for her loyal service to Zion and extend God's blessing on Karen and Gary as they will be moving to lower Michigan to be closer to family there. For this purpose, the Congregation Council will host a coffee fellowship following the worship service on Sunday, July 30. Please join us in thanking Karen on this day.

Congregation Council Highlights

The congregational council met June 11th, 2023 at 6:30 pm., at The Dome in Marinette.

Pastor's Report

 Attendance for May 2023 was an average of 94



May Financial Report

• The general fund had an increase of \$3,141 and the yearto-date was increased by \$12,011

Committee Reports

- Property Mark Swenson thanked Dean Schoen for his help in getting A/C installed in offices. The sink in Men's room has broken brackets and Tri-City plumbing will have to fix. Waiting on quotes from Tri-City for a new water cooler for the narthex area. The frame on the church sign outside is rotting and will be addressed. A motion was made to have Affordable Tree Service remove, dispose of, grind and fill a stump of a dead ash tree on the south side of the property. The tree removal will be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund. The urinals in men's room leaking and Tri-City will fix it.
- Mission Endowment Committee Report the committee met on June 5, 2023, and the following disbursements were recommended: Menominee Animal Shelter \$250; Cans of Hope, \$300; A Place for Max, \$650; Beihl Bridges, \$1000; Abundant Life, \$2,300; Sew for Missions, <u>...continued</u>

Congregation Council Highlights

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\$100; NGLS Youth Ministry, \$1,000; Synod Ministry Fund, \$1,000; Zions Capital Improvement Fund for A/V, \$1,000. A motion was made to approve the recommendations of the committee.

New Business

- Karen Houdek is retiring and will be done in July. An ad was placed in bulletins and newsletter.
- Approval of Ed Rowe's reception into membership.
- Approved a transfer of membership of Pastor Keith and Karen Kolstad to St. Johns Lutheran in Little Suamico.
- An ad will be placed on placemats through the DAR once it is proofed by Pastor Schoen.

The next council meeting will be August 8 at 6:30 p.m.

VBS Save the Date!



Bethel Lutheran, Zion Lutheran, St. James Lutheran, and Peace United churches will again join together to host Vacation Bible School for kids of all ages. We know families are busy throughout the summer so instead of one week of fun, we are having VBS activities for <u>4</u> <u>Saturdays in July (July 8, 15, 22, and 29)!</u>

Campers are invited to Bethel Lutheran Church, 1309 14th Ave, Menominee, between 9 and 11:00 a.m., for a morning full of games, songs, snacks, crafts, and Bible Stories about Jesus.

Registration forms are available on our table of resources in the Narthex. We hope you can join us at all or some of the Saturdays for Jesus in July!

Contact Stefanie Ehle (<u>sehle@uwalumni.com</u>) or Johanna Zuehls (<u>johannazuehls@gmail.com</u>) with questions or to learn how you can volunteer!

School Food Pantry Collection

We're collecting food items to stock the school pantries as they start a new year. The kind of items that can be sent home with even the youngest kids to



prepare for themselves. Your Social Ministry Committee will split the food between the Marinette and Menominee School Districts at the beginning of September.

Please donate items that can be eaten as is or can be prepared using only water.

Microwavable meals are good. Place your donations in the narthex by the collection baskets between July 2nd and August 27th.

Here are some suggestions:

- Meals that are ready to eat such as Chef Boyardee; Dinty Moore; Spaghetti O's; canned fish, chicken, ham; cracker or pretzel snack packs; Pop Tarts; granola bars; breakfast bars, fruit roll ups; beef jerky; trail mix; nuts; dried fruit; and fruit and vegetable juices.
- Meals that just need water and a microwave: soups, cereals, oatmeal cups. Many companies make individual serving cups like: A Taste of Thai Noodles, Rice-A-Roni, Idahoan potatoes, Minute Rice.

Our Christian Sympathy_

Bob Hamer came to the end of his earthly life and passed into eternal life on June 18 at Luther Home where he has resided for the past several months. Bob lived a fulfilling life of 92 years. He was a dedicated worker, a loving and supportive husband, father and grandfather and a faithful member of Zion. We thank God for Bob's exemplary life and faith and pray that Bob's wife, Jackie, their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren be comforted by God's abiding presence and the hope of the resurrection to eternal life in Christ.

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 is Zion's Vision Statement for INVITE. "In light of the many unique gifts that God has graciously entrusted to Zion, we envision a congregation that: INVITES others to participate in the life of the congregation by training its members to actively encourage those who are not connected with a congregation to participate in what Jesus is doing through Zion, warmly welcoming them and enthusiastically involving them in the mission work we do together as God's children."

This is God's vision for Zion's mission – God's dream of what "going where Jesus leads" will look like within our congregation. "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, "Here I am! Send me.'" — Isaiah 6:8.

How many times a year do you get invited or do you invite someone to do something or to go somewhere? Does it cause you anxiety and dread? I'm betting it doesn't. It's wonderful when people think enough of us to include us. It tells us they like us and that they care.

The same holds true when you invite people to participate in the life of your congregation. It doesn't matter if that invitation involves attending worship services, helping with projects the congregation undertakes, or asking someone to sit on a committee.

This year a lot of people have been busy inviting people. Here are just a few examples of things that come to mind.

The congregation is invited to participate in worship each week as acolytes, ushers, readers, Communion assistants and setting up and taking down Communion. While we have participated,

10

The Stewardship and Generosity Corner

Continued...

Ann Buscher could really use more people coming forward to relieve the regulars. It really isn't hard, and there will be training.

Jonah, Henry and Daniel Zuehls, three of Zion's teens, are fabulous about manning the AV system at worship, but I'm sure they would welcome a weekend off. They are assisted by other individuals who have accepted the invitation to help, but they could easily use additional assistance. If technology doesn't intimidate you, please consider helping here. Training is offered.

The Praise Band is just fantastic, and is loved so very much, but Bill Tipple, who is in his 80's, wants to retire. If you have a passion for music and feel you could participate, Bill invites you to step forward and give it a try. What a blessing you would be to him and the entire congregation.

Many in this congregation have been invited to prepare food for funeral luncheons and Coffee Hours. We all love to eat, especially on any given Sunday after worship. The Social Ministry Committee does a phenomenal job, but would like to invite everyone to consider participating.

Zion's Community Garden continues to grow. Members of Zion and the community are planting, weeding, picking, and delivering produce for their own use, and St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. There is still room for you to have your own little patch. Consider this your invitation.

Not for Profit organizations and other community programs were invited to apply to Zion's Endowment Committee for funds to assist their programing. The deadline for submission has come and gone and at this writing funds have yet to be awarded.

The dedicated men and women of the Sew for Mission group have invited the congregation to donate clean but still in good condition top sheets for the quilts they sew. They have also

The Stewardship and Generosity Corner_

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asked for fabric you may want to get rid of should you be downsizing, and of course, they'll happily take cold hard cash.

Helping people is especially close to the heart for the Social Ministry Committee. This year they have invited the congregation to bring donations for various charitable organizations in the tri-city area. This is something each of us can easily do, so please accept their invitation.

I hope I haven't missed anything, but if I have, I'm sorry. It's amazing the number of times and the number of people who have invited us multiple times to participate in various activities. What a blessing it is to have members who feel compelled to do so. Where would we be without all of them?

Lastly, the Stewardship and Generosity Committee will be emailing invitations and handing out printed invitations at Sunday worship starting in July. We ask that you give this invitation to someone you would like to invite to worship on any Sunday of your choosing. Please share the love of God and be blessed beyond measure.

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

Exciting Recognition for Fortune Lake!_

Fortune Lake is thrilled to share that we have been included in Newsweek's list of best summer camps in America! Help us to spread the word that Fortune Lake is being recognized as one of the best places to get your summer camp experience. According to the article, "Newsweek and Plant-A Insights Group have partnered to determine the 500 best summer camps in the U.S. 'America's Best Summer Camps 2023' recognizes the top summer camps in the United States, categorized by state, based on social media reviews and a comprehensive survey of 15,000 parents." <u>Visit the Newsweek website</u> to read the article and see the full list of camps.



Zion received the following thank you notes:

NGLS Youth Ministry Team:

Dear Zion Endowment Committee,

Thank you for your generous allocation of \$1,000 to support the purchase of workbooks for our Darkness to Light child protection course. We believe these will be important tools to help ministries throughout the synod have resources and tools to help end child sexual abuse and help our communities be safer spaces. Thank you for the work that you do!

In ministry together, Stefanie Ehle and the NGLS Youth Ministry Team

Zion's Social Ministry Committee:

Dear Friends,

Zions's Social Ministry committee thanks everyone who donated housekeeping supplies in June for Haven of Hope Homeless Shelter.

Thank you, Zion's Social Ministry Committee

Sue and Mark Shallow:

Dear Zion Members,

Thank you for sharing your church for (Pastor) John's celebration of life. It was a wonderful space for the many persons who attended. The music was wonderful as was the service. And thank you to all of the persons who set up, prepared food, served food and cleaned up. The tables looked very nice. Also, a special thank you to Pastor Schoen and Ann Buscher for all of your preparations.

Thanks, also for the memorial gift for Fortune Lake. We are very grateful.

Sue and Mark Shallow



Kathy and Jack Heimbuch:

A heartfelt thank you to our Zion family for all the prayers, cards, calls, emails, and food during my recent operation and home recovery. It meant so much to Jack and I that so many cared and helped us through this very trying time.

Kathy and Jack Heimbuch

July Eternal Light_

The Eternal Light for the month of July is sponsored by Jim Cook and is in memory of Elaine and Si Saxton.

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

- July 1: Richard Francour and Donald Schutt
- July 3: Victoria Johnson
- July 4: Sandra Tessmer
- July 6: Jacob Buenning
- July 9: Nick Kehoe and Patricia Rondeau
- July 10: Tayler Ehle and Wendy Ihler
- July 11: Shirley Lebick
- July 14: Shirley Enderby, Peter Jensen and Matthew Swenson
- July 16: Tyler Lund
- July 18: Katelyn Sylvester
- July 19: Jakob Callaway-Ross, Hannah Oleson
- July 20: Charlotte Bauer
- July 21: Donald Limberg and Al Peterson
- July 23: Steve Bromund
- July 25: Diane Lynch and Richelle Vincent
- July 27: Jonah Zuehls
- July 30: Lanse Dill and William Tipple



July Birthdays

- July 3: Diana Harper
- July 4: Madelyn Krah
- July 6: Sarah Jagielski
- July 7: Rita Kehoe, Dale Lueskow, Candace Minzlaff and Jonah Zuehls
- July 8: Jacob Ehle
- July 9: Peter Jensen
- July 11: Sarah Marzahl
- July 12: Michael Goes
- July 13: Brian Swenson
- July 16: Alexa Oleson
- July 17: Robert Baxter
- July 18: William Magnuson
- July 19: Traci Olson
- July 21: Samantha
- Schroeder
- July 24: Ann Buscher
- July 26: Mason Krah, Kensley Renne and Leah Rose
- July 27: Pastor Rick DeBenedetto
- July 30: Duane Clarke, Michael Cook, Michael Minzlaff and Jacki Renne

Accurate contact information?



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!

Letter from Bishop Finegan

Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ~John 15:4



Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod, In early December of 2017, I was out in our front yard wrapping Christmas lights around a limb of a tree. The limb was about 10 feet off the ground, and I was standing on a ladder, perhaps the third step down, in order to stretch the lights over and

under the branch that extended horizontally. Finished with that particular section, I took one step down, but instead of the ladder remaining firmly stationary, it moved toward me. If I did nothing, I would fall to the ground from a painful height on my back. So I grabbed the limb of the tree and pulled toward it, thinking that this would stabilize the ladder and bring us both back upright.

No such luck. Instead of righting itself, the ladder fell away beneath me leaving me to cling briefly to the limb before falling to the ground. In my mind, in that slow motion moment, I felt like I could actually choose where I fell, like a kind of gymnastic dismount from the parallel bars. But in reality, I dropped like a bag of potatoes. And somewhere in the confusion of lights, ladder, and branch, the two fingers of my right hand were caught and pulled out, down, and around with a distinctive crunching sound that made me think of someone snacking on a mouthful of potato chips.

I had broken the bone in my hand that was connected to the ring finger and disrupted the surrounding bones and soft

Letter from Bishop Finegan_

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tissue. After several weeks in a splint and then cast, I was given my hand back, only to realize that in that brief time, my brain had decided that my hand no longer belonged to my body. It was still attached of course, but not in a way that gave it life and function. The physical therapist called it Chronic Reactive Pain Disorder. In short, my hand could no longer work as a hand should. I could not write or type, play piano or grab hold of things. It was a swollen useless thing. My brain, and my hand, needed to be retrained and reconnected to meaningful communication with the body, so that the brain would tell the body to send healing and reconnect the signals to the muscles of my hand.

So, what about meaningful connection in the body...the BODY... of Christ? What needs to be retrained? What needs to reawakened for life and increased function as we are Church together?

My hand was brought back to life as I watched the 2018 Winter Olympics. While watching gymnasts who actually knew how to land a dismount, I put my hand in hot water for two minutes and then in ice water for 30 seconds – back and forth, night after night. Then exercises, and physical therapy, and more tricks on the brain to get my hand to function in a way that was useful to the body.

Jesus, thankfully, does not suggest that we all dunk ourselves in tubs of hot and cold water to be reconnected as a body. Rather, Jesus talks about connectedness as abiding in him in order to bear fruit. And the way that we abide is by being in relationship with him. And that relationship is conveyed to us in at least two ways: through study of scripture and through relationship with each other as the body of Christ. Again...BODY.

When the Synod Council met in retreat June 9 -10, we agreed to

Letter from Bishop Finegan

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initiate an effort for us to abide, as a whole Synod, as 79 congregations spanning hundreds of miles and in a variety of communities and contexts, by dwelling on the same passages of scripture over a 12-month period.

We will abide with Jesus by dwelling in the Word. Each congregation will receive 12 different passages of scripture, one for each month. And at each council meeting and quilter group, at each Sunday School and youth group meeting, at each and every gathering that month, people from across the synod will dwell with the same text. No preparation is needed. No theological degree is required. Very simply:

- 1. Invite one person to read the text aloud.
- 2. Consider silently the following:
 - a. What do you notice?
 - b. What questions do you have?
 - c. Where might the Holy Spirit be leading us?
- 3. Then have another person read the text aloud again.
- 4. Share your thoughts about the questions with each other.
- 5. Close with prayer.

That's it.

We shall abide. And in abiding, in dwelling with the presence of Christ in the word, and considering the work of the Spirit with each other, we will connect with the one who makes us one, who gathers us as a BODY to embody the love of Christ in the world and for the world.

In addition, all are invited to join the Synod Council as we dwell in the word, via Zoom, the **first Thursday of the month**, starting Thursday **September 7 at 7:30 pm ET / 6:30 pm CT**. The Zoom link will be available on our website and in E-Notes and you can add it to your online calendars.

Letter from Bishop Finegan

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The impact of being disconnected, of having the body forget who it is connected to and why, cannot be overestimated. We need each other to be the body of Christ, and we need the Holy Spirit of Christ to clarify our mission and purpose as that Body. By dwelling in the word together, we shall abide...in Christ, in the Word, in the presence of Christ in each other.

Yours in Christ, Bishop Katherine Finegan

Donate to Zion



Did you know that you are able to contribute to Zion via the website? Simply to go: <u>http://</u>

www.zionlutheran-marinette.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!

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. You can take the flowers home after service! To reserve a date, please call or email Zion's office at 715-735-7898 or Zion@newbc.rr.com. <u>Current dates that need sponsoring are:</u> <u>August 6th, 20th and 27th!</u> Zion Lutheran Church Rev. Doug Schoen, Interim 2714 James Street Marinette, WI 54143 zion@newbc.rr.com Phone: 715.735.7898 <u>www.zionlutheran-marinette.org</u> Going Where Jesus Leads



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



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Bishop Elizabeth Eaton 8765 W Higgins Road Chicago, Illinois 60631 <u>www.elca.org</u> God's work. Our hands. 20