

WE ARE ZION



Zion Lutheran Church

2714 James Street

Marinette, WI 54143

715-735-7898

zion@newbc.rr.com

www.zionlutheran-marinette.org

NEWS

September 2023



Zion's 2023 Congregation Council

Troy Cording — President	Kim Graf — V.P.
Michelle Larson — Secretary	LeeAnn Limberg — Treasurer
Dean Schoen	Laura Rowe
Brad Nelson	Mark Swenson
Jonah Zuehls	
Henry Zuehls, Youth Member	

Zion Staff

Administrative Assistant and Financial Secretary — Marissa Tharp

Choir Director and Organist — Ann Buscher

Accompanist for Choir and Organist— Rachel Rosenfeldt

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

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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 begin every day by reading the devotional message in *PrayFaithfully*, the daily devotional offering of the Northern Great Lakes Synod. One can easily access these daily devotions, written by pastors and lay persons in our Synod, on the Synod's website. Recently, Nancy Heykes of Minocqua, WI and our Synod's

elected Secretary, wrote a week of devotions based on the duties of the Synod as expressed in its constitution. One day she wrote about worship, exploring the various ways we worship. She ended the devotional article with the following prayer: "Lord, draw us together to worship you in new as well as traditional worship settings. Help us to recognize that we also have so many opportunities to witness to your greatness and goodness in the beauty and awesomeness of your created world. We lift up each smile at your blooming flowers, each swelling of heart as we view your forests, each gasp as we jump into the freshness of your lakes and rivers —as continuing worship and praise to you! Amen."

Nancy makes a good point—that worship can take many forms. Whatever serves God and neighbor, whatever expresses God's love and care for all God's people, whatever lifts our spirits and fills us with a sense of God's goodness and greatness, is worship. I hope this summer has afforded you some of the very kinds of worship experiences Nancy mentions in her prayer. If you have been camping, traveling, spending time at your cabin or a favorite resort, caring for and enjoying your lawns, flowers and gardens, relaxing on your deck or patio, spending time with your family, or any of a host of activities that summer affords us, I hope you have seen them as worship experiences. God is pleased with whatever we do that blesses and builds

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up our lives and the lives of others. Anything that pleases God is a form of worship.

As people of God, we engage in worship in both formal and informal ways. It is good that we broaden our understanding of worship to realize that we worship God in many and varied ways in our daily lives, work and activities. It is also good that we hold before us the value, indeed, the necessity, of gathering together with the body of Christ for corporate worship. Our congregation constitution states, "The Church is a people created by God in Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, called and sent to bear witness to God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying activity in the world. To participate in God's mission, this congregation as a part of the Church shall worship in proclamation of the Word and administration of the sacraments and through lives of prayer, praise, thanksgiving, witness, and service." The constitution further states, "This congregation shall provide services of worship at which the Word of God is preached and the sacraments are administered."

We do many wonderful things as a congregation to witness to God's love in Christ. That witness begins and has its basis in corporate worship. When we gather for worship every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and at various special times during the year, we are most visibly the Church of Jesus Christ, his body in the world. All the ways we worship, as I have mentioned in this article, supplement the corporate worship we engage in on Sunday mornings around Word and sacrament. None of them take the place of corporate worship. Christ calls us together and the Holy Spirit inspires us to gather together to sing God's praise, receive God's grace in Word and sacrament, and lift up one another in living lives of faith and faithfulness.

It is my great joy, as your Interim Pastor, to gather with you and lead you in worship Sunday after Sunday, to preach God's Word and administer God's sacraments. I witness the vibrancy, the

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faithfulness, and the joy that characterizes Zion congregation each and every Sunday. I pray that ALL our members, and those who seek our fellowship, will hear Christ's call and be moved by the Spirit to "come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King."

I'll see you in church!

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Doug

What's Around the Corner?

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

- Sept. 3: 14th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live.
- Sept. 10: 15th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. With guest pastor Rev. Nick Johannes. Special music by Eric Breuer on the alto saxophone.
- Sept. 17: 16th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Contemporary service.
- Sept. 24: 17th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Special music by the Zion Choir.

Congregation Council Highlights

The congregational council met August 8th at 6:30 p.m.



Pastor's Report: Pastor Schoen thanked the council for hosting the coffee hour for Karen and Gary Houdek. He informed the council that he was the Bible Study Leader at the last Vacation Bible School day at Bethel in Menominee and that it was en-

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Congregation Council Highlights

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joyable. He also told the council he is preparing for Confirmation which will start in the beginning of October. There will also be a blood drive at Zion on September 22.

June Financial Report

- General Fund decrease of \$2,249.
- Payment of \$550 to Shepherd's Staff, an annual payment

July Financial Report

- General Fund decrease of \$4,444
- Payment of \$529 for worship and music licenses.

Committee Reports

- **Property:** Mark Swenson is waiting on a quote from Tri-City Plumbing for a water fountain in the Narthex. Options for a new church sign are being looked into as the current one is in need of replacement.
- **Stewardship and Generosity:** Planning is underway for the fall giving drive with an emphasize on time and talents as a part of giving.

Old Business

- Laura Rowe reported that Zion received a \$1,000 grant from the ELCA national fund to be used to upgrade the AV equipment.

The next council meeting will be September 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Ruth Circle Group

The Ruth Circle Group will meet September 21 at 3 p.m. in Zion's family room. All are welcome to join!

Becoming a Member at Zion

Several persons are currently preparing to be received as members of Zion. If you have an interest in becoming a member of Zion, or have questions about membership, please speak with Pastor Doug on Sunday or call him at 906-863-5463.

SPARK

This fall, SPARK, our elementary-aged, (3yrs – 5th Grade), education program resumes! Classes will begin on **Wednesday, September 13th starting at 5:30 p.m.** All children in our congregation, as well as friends or family of the members, are welcome to attend. Simply contact our church office, 715-735-7898, to let us know so that we can prepare the materials for the classes. SPARK classes last one hour and contain a connection with one of the Bible lessons for the upcoming Sunday. There's time for stories, prayer, crafts and music. We pray that all of it helps our young people grow in faith.

Confirmation



Our confirmation program for young people in grades 6-8 will take place on **Wednesdays at 6:30-7:30 p.m. beginning October 4th.** Once again, our confirmation program will be shared with Bethel Lutheran Church in Menominee. Pastor Scott Ehle of Bethel and Pastor Doug Schoen will alternate teaching the classes at Zion. Confirmation is a major stepping-stone in our young people's faith formation as they learn about the basic teachings of the Christian faith, informed by the Bible and our Lutheran heritage, with Luther's Small Catechism as a guide. If you have questions about our confirmation program, please contact Pastor Doug by calling the church office, 715-735-7898, or at home, 906-863-5463.

Choir Rehearsals to Start Up Again!

Zion Senior Choir will begin rehearsals on **Wednesday September 6th at 7:00 p.m.** All are welcome! The choir sings twice a month and for special occasions such as Confirmation and Christmas Eve. If you like to sing come and give us a try. If you have any questions please call Ann Buscher at 715-735-3017.



Karen Houdek Retirement



On July 30th, Zion held a celebration for Karen Houdek and her impending retirement on July 31st. There was cake, coffee, and Karen was presented with a certificate of appreciation from Zion for her longstanding commitment as Zion's financial secretary.

Currently, Karen is in a cardiac rehab center in Brighton, Michigan. Brighton is where she and her husband, Gary, now reside in. The Houdek's new home address is 2217 Cypress Gardens Drive, Brighton, MI 48114.

Lutheran World Relief Boxcar Loading

The 2023 LWR boxcar loading will be October 14 at 9 a.m. The boxcar will be located at 906 State Street, Marinette.



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

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 to Host Blood Drive

Zion is hosting a blood drive September 22nd from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the social hall. To make an appointment, people may call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or [schedule an appointment online](#).

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Fall Fest

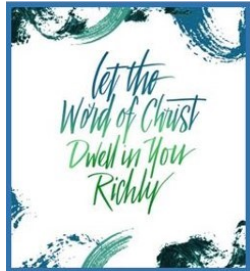
Fortune Lake's annual Fall Fest will be Oct. 7. This event features a live auction of handmade quilts, a continental breakfast, handcrafted items for sale, a



FORTUNE LAKE
A place of grace in Crystal Falls, MI

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 26. For more information can be found by calling the camp office at 906-214-2267 or emailing officemanager@fortunelake.org. People may also visit the camp's website at www.fortunelake.org.

Dwelling in the Word



You are invited to join the whole Northern Great Lakes Synod in Dwelling in the Word. Starting in September, our whole synod will dwell in the same scripture readings for each month. You are also welcome to join a Zoom Dwelling in the Word the first Thursday evening of every month beginning September 7 at 6:30 p.m. If you would like the Zoom link, please contact Zion's office at zion@newbc.rr.com. Let us Dwell in the Word together!

The passage for September is Matthew 5:1-16 "The Beatitudes"
Questions to keep in mind while reading are:

- 1.) What catches your attention
- 2.) What questions does this passage raise for you?
- 3.) Where might God's Spirit be nudging you in this passage?

RCCA Memberships Available!

Have you purchased your River Cities Concert membership?

A 2023-2024 RCCA membership includes tickets to all four shows as well as one in Green Bay. Just \$60 for adults, \$20 for students, and special prices for families — get yours today!

Brochures are available in the narthex at church or your local libraries.

Tickets are available for purchase at Peshtigo Pharmacy, Lithocrafters Printing, and Heritage Hearing Care.

For more information, people may visit their website at rccconcerts.com or call Ann Buscher at 715-735-3017.

The first concert is:

**Phat Cat Swinger - Hip Swinging 11 – Piece Band
Monday, September 11, 2023**

Phat Cat Swinger is a West Coast “little-big” band that specializes in high-energy music with that classic Hollywood touch. Phat Cat Swinger regularly performs at a variety of Los Angeles hotspots, including festivals and Disneyland. Founded in 2002, the band is known for its clever programming, including Sinatra, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, traditional big band swing, Disney, and a few originals. No matter what this band plays, you’ll be smiling almost instantly.

Our Christian Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Barb Baumgarten at the death of her daughter, Mardee Thomas, at the age of 59 after a long battle with cancer. She was nurtured in the faith at Zion through baptism, Sunday School and confirmation. Mardee resided in Nashville, TN.

“If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.” 1 Corinthians 15:19-20

Lifelong Faith Formation Classes to begin!

Registration is quick and easy for the classes offered by the Northern Great Lakes Synod. Join the bible studies and conversations on topics that are important to your congregation, your community, and the church. Beginning in September and October, Lifelong Faith Formation courses will meet online via Zoom. Two of them are also meeting in-person. Go to the synod website -- <https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation> -- for details and to sign-up for classes by September 15. Contact Deacon Lori Ward at 615-519-1969 or lori.ward@nglsynd.org if you have any questions.

- **Christ's Kaleidoscope**
A focus on resources that educate and deepen cultural competency regarding racial equity, our indigenous neighbors, and the LGBTQIA+ community.
with Samuel Brink, Fortune Lake Lutheran Bible Camp, and Pastor Bruce J. Thorsen, Faith, Okemos, Michigan
- **Who are the Evangelicals? A former evangelical pastor turns whistleblower (without being mean).**
with Dr. Lon Hider, Christ the King, Escanaba, in-person with Zoom option
- **Embracing God's Future without Forgetting the Past: A Conversation about Loss, Grief, and Nostalgia in Congregational Life** by Michael Girlinghouse
a book study with Bishop Katherine Finegan, Northern Great Lakes Synod
- **Stewards of Children: The movement to make your faith community a safe space**
with Pastor Kari Vadis, Trinity, Rhineland
- **Stewardship of Animals**
with Cindy Sjoquist, First, Gladstone, in-person with Zoom option
- **The Gospel of Mark: It's Story and Meaning**
with Pastor Phil Johnson, Ascension, Minocqua
- **That's Not in MY Bible: a survey of the Apocrypha**
with Pastor Tommy Richter, Zion, Manistique

A Rare Opportunity

By: Chuck Thomas, NGLS Vice President

As one of the smaller synods in the ELCA, the people of Northern Great Lakes Synod generally have few opportunities to converse with ELCA Churchwide leadership. A chance to do so is coming on September 14. We will have the rare opportunity to meet with, listen to, and have discussion with Imran Siddiqui, the ELCA Vice President! I hope that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity and join us for the NGLS Leader's Workshop at 6 p.m. Central on Thursday, September 14, 2023. Here is the Zoom link for the workshop:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89752983072?pwd=NDZBRHB0YmpETWtRbEYvSTVwdlNYUk09>
Meeting ID: 897 5298 3072.
Passcode: 695443

At our workshop Imran plans to speak about various topics, including ideas about equipping local lay leaders, explaining what a Churchwide VP does, and how Churchwide works for and with local congregations and synods. We will have ample opportunity for discussion and questions. So, come prepared to meet Imran, hear what he has to say, and ask questions about anything you want to know.

September Eternal Light_____

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



Sister Congregation Celebration_____

We celebrate with our sister congregation, Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Marinette, at the installation of Rev. David Murphy on Sunday, September 10 as their new pastor. Rev. Murphy will continue to serve Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Peshtigo where he has been the pastor for more than a decade. The two congregations have entered into an agreement to share a pastor.

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.

From September 17th through October 22nd, Zion's stewardship focus will be "Give" as it pertains to time, talents, and finances.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 – *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.*

I have been thinking about the many people who have utilized their God-given talents and their time to enrich the life of this congregation and make it what it is today. There are so many people that came before us who felt God's call to be of service.

Several weeks ago, I ran into Pastor Keith at Luther Home, and I mentioned this article to him. He told me about a lady at a former congregation who talked about "***the voices in the walls.***" I love that! It is most certainly meaningful especially when we stop to think about all those dear hearts who came before us, who worked so diligently, who cared so deeply. Let's look at the good people who came before us, and those still with us but retired who deeply loved the Lord and this congregation, and gave of their time, talents and the abilities God richly blessed them with.

This list is by no means exhaustive. It contains information gleaned from three Zion commemorative booklets, three pictorial directories, and the memory of five of Zion's members. If I failed to mention anyone, I am very sorry; it certainly was not intentional.

- Jack and Annette Anderson, Renee Burkhalter, Claire Eastman, Debbie Harding, Pr. Paul Holmstrom, Dorothy Kitzinger, Pr. Keith Kolstad, Nila Krenos, Elmer Magnuson,

Continued...

The Stewardship and Generosity Corner_____

Continued...

- George (Dotzi) & Leona Minzloff, George & Lucille Mueller, John Radloff, Violet Redemen, Pat Rondeau, Diane and Bill Tipple, and Shirley Winter - Choir
- Viola Anderson, Hilma Backman, Millie Camp, Bernice Forslund, Ron & Shirley Lueskow, Roberta Krantz, Alice Limberg, Bernice Magnuson, Pat Schultz, Lillian Settersten, Alice Stromer, Georgiana Veriha. (Current long-time members - Carol Magnuson, Kathy Heimbuch, Karen Dill, Ruth Olson, Jackie Hamer) - Sew for Missions
- Yulia Barstow, Thelma Laabs, Pat Rondeau, Marilyn Schoen, Bill Tipple – Youth & Adult Choir Directors (now Ann Buscher)
- Nancy Benchley - Card Ministry
- Bradley Behrendt and Fran Lebeck – Custodians
- Phyllis Brown – Treasurer 1990-2000
- Millie Camp - Librarian
- Dick Ellis – donated chicken for Zion's Soup Suppers for many years
- Ron Fischer – painting
- Bernice Forslund - Soup Suppers & Keeper of the Kitchen
- Don Hruska- Youth Ministry, Teacher-Confirmation Classes, and organized and made the soup for Soup Suppers from 1988-2000
- Marion Hubert – Sunday School Superintendent
- George Krenos – Zion's Historian
- Alice Limberg - Keeper of the Kitchen
- Shirley Lueskow- Church Secretary and Financial Secretary from 1966-1986
- Forbes McDonnell - Treasurer from 1956-1989
- George Mueller - Confirmation teacher
- Barb Neverman -wrote monthly newsletter articles, donated a collection of crosses to Zion, which are currently framed and displayed in Zion's lobby.
- George Nyman - Permanent Usher

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The Stewardship and Generosity Corner_____

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- Colleen Krantz, Linda Lueskow, Kristine Ludvigson, Magnhild Olson – Organist
- John Radloff – Treasurer from 2001-2018
- Violet Redemen – Sunday School Historian
- Rosalie Settersten- Sunday School Superintendent, VBS coordinator & made Baptismal banners for each child and many other of the banners currently used.
- Roger Utke- bequeathed \$150,000 to Zion which was used to establish Zion's Endowment Fund.

So many people have not been mentioned in this article but that doesn't diminish in any way the contributions they made over the years. All these people did the small daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly tasks that got done to educate our children and one another, and to keep our building in tip top condition these many years. We are indeed blessed to have learned from their example of what a servant of God looks like - what they do, and how they act. Let's all of us try to carry their legacy forward each in our own way.

1 Peter 4:10-11 – *“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.”*

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





Zion received the following thank you notes:

Sew For Missions:

To the congregation,

Thank you all for your recent monetary and material donations! It is all greatly appreciated and the group is happily trucking along with making quilts for local nonprofits and for the Lutheran World Relief boxcar in October. Again, thank you for your generosity!

Sincerely,
The Sew For Missions Group

Don Schutt:

Dear Friends of Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you to everyone for their concern, calls, cards and prayers during my time of recovery. It was much appreciated!!

Sincerely,
Don Schutt

Elsa Limberg:

Dear Zion,

Thank you for the gift you have given me! The graduation card was very sweet and thoughtful of you. Thank you for the key-chain! I really like the quote from Jeremiah and the 2023 charm. I plan to make you, the church council, and the congregation proud of me and my future, Thank you for every opportunity Zion has provided me with. Especially my time on the church council, SPARK, and allowing me to be a part of the church community. I will not let you down.

Thank you!
Elsa Limberg

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THANK YOU!

Continued...

Troy Cording:

Dear friends,

Thank you Zion for your thoughts and prayers during the time of my mother's passing. Especially thank you for the peace lily that was sent for her funeral.

Sincerely,
Troy Cording



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

September 1: Gary Houdek

September 2: Allie Buenning, Elsa Emler, Skyler Emler, Andrew Hubbard, Patricia Peterson

September 4: Jacki Renne

September 6: Sarge Rudell

September 7: Roxanne Bowdin

September 11: Vern Cramer

September 13: Brooke Rose

September 14: Brittany Renne

September 16: Joanne Rudell

September 17: Richard DeBenedetto, Alexander Gressel, Sandra Gressel

September 18: William Magnuson

September 19: Dennis Mullen

September 22: Keaton Emler, Joe Griffiths

September 27: Jared Johnson

September 28: Lori Despins, Larry Nelson, Linda Walker



September Birthdays

September 1: Karen Dill
 September 2: Thomas Kaufman
 September 4: Diane Beattie
 September 7: Bruce Oleson
 September 10: Seth Kuhn, Bradley Nelson
 September 12: George Olson
 September 13: John Powilaites, Jacob Rose
 September 16: Vicki Guay
 September 20: Amanda Ross
 September 21: Donna Dietrich, Joe Griffiths
 September 25: Mary Bodam
 September 26: Dorothy Bretl, Addalynn Brown, Godfrey Heitmeier, Daniel Johnson, Kaya Lebick
 September 29: Kathi Gutknecht



Lutheran Disaster Response for Maui Wildfires

Multiple wildfires have broken out on the Hawaiian island of Maui. Exacerbated by strong winds, wildfires on Maui have claimed dozens of lives and have destroyed homes, businesses and lines of communication. Thousands of people are under evacuation orders, some moving to other Hawaiian islands. Wildfires have also affected the Big Island of Hawaii, and the islands remain vulnerable to more fires this season. Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires.

Gifts given to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to this, and other disasters, whenever and wherever they strike. Gifts given specifically to "U.S. Wildfires" will be restricted to, and used in full (100%) for those affected by wildfires.

People may donate online through the [ELCA](#) or checks and money orders can be sent to:
 Lutheran Disaster Response
 P.O. Box 1809
 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

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Going Where Jesus Leads



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Equipping the Saints for Ministry



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God's work. Our hands.