

WE ARE ZION



Zion Lutheran Church
2714 James Street
Marinette, WI 54143
715-735-7898

zion@newbc.rr.com

www.zionlutheran-marinette.org

NEWS

October 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
 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

"For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us."
Romans 12:4-6a

I have been serving as Zion's Interim Pastor for nearly one-and-a-half years. I provide leadership and pastoral care as best I can given the limitations of a quarter-time calling. I am very much aware that the primary work of Zion Church is done by its faithful members who give of their time and talents, and those who support them with their treasures. This is especially evident on Sunday mornings.

Two Sunday's ago, worship was led by our contemporary worship band led by Bill Tipple who puts in an enormous amount of time selecting music, preparing the music folders, and rehearsing the band. Some of its members, namely Rachel and Shawn, travel in from Oconto and Lena, respectively, for rehearsals and performances. This past Sunday, we blessed the quilts the Sew for Missions group have made for Lutheran World Relief. They gather twice a month and labor lovingly for this mission project. We also received into membership Debbie Mylener and Scott Williams who will join us in mission. This reminds us that we all have a roll in being inviting and welcoming that the body of Christ may grow and prosper. We will bless those who carry the sacrament of Holy Communion to homebound members, another vital service offered to our members.

So much more goes on behind the scenes. Opportunities for giving of time and talents get underway anew in this fall season. Zion's choir is rehearsing each Wednesday under Ann Buscher's faithful leadership. Members old and new offer their voices to sing God's praises and beautify worship. SPARK faith development classes for our children are held each Wednesday evening through the dedicated efforts of Johanna Zuehls and

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those who work with her. Confirmation classes are about the resume. Committees are active in providing leadership in their respective areas of responsibility that the church's mission is carried out. The Congregation Council, under Troy Cording's capable leadership, oversees all mission and ministry activities and functions as stewards of Zion's ministries as laid out in the budget that is approved at the annual congregational meeting.

I could go on enumerating the many ways Zion members give of their time and talents, as well as their treasures, in fulfillment of God's calling to be and do the work of the church. Suffice it to say that Zion congregation is an active, faithful, serving group of God's people. God's work is being done here!

October is a month for lifting up stewardship as our response to all that God has given us and does for us. The October 1st service will feature a panel discussion of members who will reflect on the ways they give their time and talents and the joy and meaning they derive from it. The Stewardship & Generosity Committee has been busy preparing for this emphasis and for Consecration Sunday, October 22, when we will have the privilege of presenting our pledges of time, talents and treasures in the coming year. Let us thank God for this opportunity, for those who serve faithfully in leadership, and for His abundance of gifts and grace by which we are blessed.

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Doug



Letter from Bishop Finegan



Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

I have a confession to make...I am a bargain shopper. I very rarely will pay full price for something as I first go to the clearance racks, the St. Vinny's store, or shop at Kohl's only on those days when I have a 30% off coupon on top of the clearance

price and the current sale. And then, if I receive Kohl's cash in the bargain, I'm back at the store again, in search of the best deal. My husband laments the effectiveness of their marketing strategy on me as I happily anticipate the next opportunity to save money by spending it.

Whether it's at the gas pump or with grocery store coupons, I am a thrifty shopper. After once again using my Jubilee Pump Perks to save 30 cents a gallon on gas, I wondered how much I might save over a lifetime. Wouldn't it be great, I wondered, if some angel in heaven were tasked with keeping track of the nickels and dimes that I did not spend? How fun it would be to not only enter into the presence of God's glory, but then to be told that over my lifetime I saved \$57,423.46 that could have been wasted but was instead put to good use elsewhere. All those pennies and dollars that were saved with careful attention and prudent spending, I would love to know how it might all add up.

But then, I thought, wouldn't such an angel also keep track of my excesses, the impulse buys, the times I was not careful, or too impatient, or just wanted something that I did not need?

And wouldn't such an accounting include the times I was not generous, when I could have put saved money, or more money, towards someone else's needs? Sure, I might be saving money, but to what end? Just to stretch my own dollar? As people of faith, are we not called, indeed even commanded, to more than that?

It's no secret that many are in need. As we continue to recover

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Letter from Bishop Finegan

Continued...

from pandemic disruption, as inflation continues to have an impact, the demands on food pantries and feeding programs has increased. We are asked to give to a host of worthy causes: our own congregation, Lutheran Disaster Response, Feeding America, and so much more. I am grateful to the generosity of so many who continue to give to Lutheran Campus Ministry, our Equipping the Saints Endowment Fund and how many other Synod ministries. Thank you! Thank you!

We are indeed blessed to give – whether it is out of our own abundance, or from the savings carefully and intentionally carved from careful spending and good stewardship of a stretched dollar.

And the good news is that there is no heavenly record-keeping of our failures. Psalm 103 proclaims,

¹⁰[God] does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹²as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

I can live off the joy of a good bargain for some days. But life extends into eternity because of God's steadfast love and mercy. I am thankful that I can enjoy both bargains in this life and God's promises for the next life while still responding to God's call in Christ Jesus to be generous and to put those unspent nickels, dimes, and dollars to good use for needs other than my own. After all, when we all give, nickels and dimes and dollars add up to quite a sum, a sum that can make a difference to the work of Christ in and through our congregations and our partnership as a Synod together.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan

What's Around the Corner?

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

- Oct. 1: 18th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Special music by Zion's choir.
- Oct. 8: 19th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. With guest pastor Nick Johannes. Special music by Zion's choir
- Oct. 15: 20th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Contemporary service.
- Oct. 22: 21st Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Coffee hour after service.
- Oct. 29: Reformation Sunday and Rite of Confirmation, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Special music by Zion's senior choir.

Congregation Council Highlights

The congregational council met September 12th at 6:30 p.m.



Pastor's Report: Pastor Schoen participated in the installation of Pastor David Murphy at Our Saviors on September 10, 2023; Pastor Murphey is also the Pastor at Good Shepard . Pastor also reported that there are three candidates for confirmation on October 29: Anna Marzahl, Adison Rosenfeldt and Nik Williams. They will present their Faith statements to council on October 10th. Confirmation classes will resume in October with Pastor Schoen and Pastor Scott Ehle of Bethel in Menominee.

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Congregation Council Highlights ---

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August Financial Report

- General Fund: Decrease of \$2,094
- Large disbursement of \$3,141 to Wisconsin Public Services.

Committee Reports

- **Youth Ministry:** A canoeing/kayaking trip on the Peshtigo River was held September 23 and the youth are invited to the LWR Box Car loading on October 14
- **Stewardship and Generosity:** A panel discussion is planned for October 1, at the beginning of worship, focusing on Time and Talents

New Business

- **Water Fountain in Narthex:** Quotes were received from Tri-City. More research will be done on possibly purchasing a water cooler and getting a quote from another plumbing place and Culligan.
- **COVID best Practices:** Cold/Flu/Covid season is here and Pastor Schoen will refrain from shaking hands. We will continue to do a touchless sharing of peace

The next council meeting will be October 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Ruth Circle Group ---

The Ruth Circle Group will meet October 19th at 3 p.m. in Zion's family room. All are welcome to join!

Zion to Honor Septuagenarians, Octogenarians & Nonagenarians on October 22nd ---

The Social Ministry Committee will host a coffee hour following worship on Sunday, October 22nd to honor all of our members who are 75+ years old. Please plan to attend (no matter what age you are!) to help us celebrate & honor our elders and thank them for the love and devotion they've demonstrated over the years. They have been leaders in, and supporters of this congregation and have carried on the legacy of Zion Lutheran Church in the world. Please join us to thank them!

Our Christian Sympathy

We are saddened by the sudden and unexpected death of Bryan Gutknecht to a heart attack on September 12. Bryan worshiped and communed with us the preceding Sunday as was his custom every Lord's Day. A memorial service for Bryan will be held at Cadieu Funeral Home in Menominee on October 28 when his family was planning to gather here for what would have been his 80th birthday on October 31. While we will miss Bryan's presence with us in worship and fellowship, we thank God for Bryan's life and faith and for the promise of eternal life God offers to Bryan and all who live and die in Christ.

An Update From Zion's Treasurer

Recently I was asked if I could provide a quick update on some financials for the monthly newsletter to members. I am just providing a few highlights here. If ever you have any questions, please reach out to me.

LeeAnn Limberg.

General Fund:

- Year to date general fund balance has a \$3,015 increase.

Boiler Loan:

- Each month our scheduled loan payment is \$1,105. Any donations received are paid on the principal in addition to this amount.
- Boiler Loan Balance as of September 1, 2023: \$41,310

Capital Improvement Fund balances:

- AV materials: \$27,455
- Bell repairs/replacement: \$4,954
- Unrestricted Capital Improvement funds: \$48,417

October Eternal Light

The Eternal Light for the month of October is sponsored by Dona and Judy Limberg and is in loving memory of Walter and Alice and Limberg, Julietta Wilbert, Richard and Ken Jaeger.



October Donation Collection

Zion is Called to Go Where Jesus Leads and our Social Ministry Committee is committed to showing our congregation ways to live out that calling in our community. During the month of October, we will be collecting items for Rainbow House.



Always Welcome:

Gift Cards for Walmart, Amazon, Jack's, Aldi; Gas Cards; Postage Stamps; Envelopes; 1-ply Toilet Paper; Paper Towels; 13 & 30 Gallon Garbage Bags; Copy Paper; Post-It Note Pads.

Immediate Needs:

- Laundry Soap / Pods & Dryer Sheets
- Bathroom / Toilet Cleaner / Toilet Brushes / Glass Cleaner
- Dish Soap / Dishwasher Tablets
- Mops / Pails / Buckets / Laundry Baskets / Garbage Cans
- New White Sheet Sets (Twin & Double size)
- New Pillows
- Bath Towels
- Shower Curtains
- Baby Wipes / Tampons / Shampoo / Conditioner
- Allergy Medicine / Cough Medicine (for Adults & Children)
- Zip Top Bags (regular & freezer)
- Coffee – generic is fine / Coffee Creamer (regular & sugar-free)
- Kitchen Dishcloths
- Paper Bowls & Plates (not Styrofoam)
- Pots / Pans / Baking Sheets

You are also invited to view their website which gives other needed items as well as a list of things that they are not currently able to accept. Go to therainbowhouse.us, select Give Help, then select Current Wish List.

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.*

We've all heard the story of Saul; the great persecutor of the Christian church, until that one eventful day on the road to Damascus where he encounters Jesus, and his world is quite literally turned upside down.

For years, I have felt a kinship to Saul. While my personal encounter with Jesus is not as awe inspiring as Saul's, to me it was as significant. In 1995, after seeing my OB-GYN in Green Bay, every month for six months, I still was not getting an answer as to why I was feeling so utterly horrible. On my last visit to him he went so far as to suggest I was psychosomatic. In desperation, I telephoned Marshfield Clinic, and described my symptoms. I was given an appointment for 7:00 a.m. the next day, October 10, 1995, which coincidentally was our 26th wedding anniversary. My husband and I arrived not knowing what lay ahead, but we were very optimistic about finally getting answers. I was put through a battery of tests and by days end, I was so utterly exhausted I was in a wheelchair when I arrived to see another doctor, a Gynecological-Oncologist. He explained I had advanced Ovarian Cancer and probably had two years. He said, if I was agreeable, I could have surgery on October 13th and begin chemotherapy while still in the hospital. Of course, we agreed.

This was not what I expected to hear. I never considered cancer, especially Ovarian Cancer. I had heard of it because

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The Stewardship and Generosity Corner_____

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Gilda Radner, a well-known comedian whom I loved died of it in 1989 at age 42. The weird part of all this is, on hearing I had advanced Ovarian Cancer, I wasn't afraid. I didn't break down into tears then or later. While the doctor was talking to us, I felt a blanket of peace descend on me, and God's warmth penetrate me. I knew right away I would be just fine, and I was.

It's now twenty-eight years later. I still have Ovarian Cancer. I still undergo treatment every month, and I still feel blessed beyond measure. Ovarian Cancer changed my life and in so many good ways. I will never understand why God's spirit descended on me at the doctor's office, but it did. I cannot describe to you the peace I felt because of that act. I'm just extremely thankful for it.

But what does any of this have to do with the connection I feel to Saul who later became the Apostle Paul? Unlike Saul, I've never persecuted the church, but I most certainly wasn't a good Christian. I went to worship service when I wanted, which wasn't often; I didn't participate in the life of the congregation in any way; and I certainly didn't feel it necessary to support the church financially other than a few dollars a month.

At that significant event in the Oncologist's office, and after I got home from an extensive stay at St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield, my Christian transformation began. I didn't understand why God sent that feeling of care and wellbeing to me. What I did know is that I had to go to worship service every Sunday to thank him for his generosity. Over the years, I felt God calling me to participate in the life of the congregation. First it was small things like using my voice in the choir, being a reader, and serving on a committee or two. As time went by, he called me to do things that terrified me. I did them anyway. I figured if he called me, he'd help me, and he has. I always pray for guidance - he always answers, and it seems to be working. This monthly newsletter, which I've written since 2012 is just one example.

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The Stewardship and Generosity Corner_____

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Do you feel God calling you? If you do, step out in faith knowing that God will support, you especially if you are doing it to his honor or glory. If you're nervous, pray to him, asking him to guide you. He will listen to you and guide you just as he does me. 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

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 received the following thank you note:

Karen Houdek

My dear Zion family,

I can't thank you enough for the wonderful retirement party that you gave me. I'm sorry I didn't get to talk to everyone. Thanks for the cards and best wishes. I was proud to be your Financial Secretary for so many years but, you will be in good hands with Marissa taking over.

Thank you so very much for the gift card, I will use it to buy something special for my new house to remember you by.

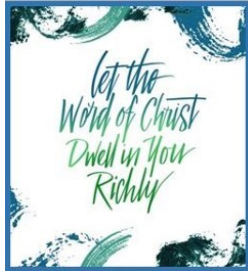
Unfortunately as you may know by now I had a heart attack on our way out of town. I don't remember anything but, I guess all of a sudden I couldn't breath and was coughing. Thankfully Gary took me to the hospital & I was taken by ambulance to Green Bay where they saved my life. God was not ready for me yet. I still have not been to our new house because I am in a rehab facility in Brighton hopefully getting out this week. I have a cardiology appointment on the 13th and will have to have a defibrillator put in. Until then I have to wear what they call a life vest that will shock me if my heart stops. I would like to thank you for all your prayers because they do work!!

Miss you all and I hope you stay healthy and happy.

God's blessings to everyone!



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 at 6:30 p.m. If you would like the Zoom link, contact Zion's office at zion@newbc.rr.com. Let us Dwell in the Word together!

The passage for October is Ezekiel 37: 1-14 "Dry Bones"

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?

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.

Why Do We Fill Out Worship Attendance Cards?

Zion does this because it is important on a synod and national level for congregations to keep a somewhat accurate record of attendance on a yearly basis. It's also important to use them when wanting to request prayers, change of address, or a pastoral visit, and it helps to keep track of who does/doesn't attend for membership purposes. So please, take the time to fill them out. Thank you!



Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Fall Events _____

Fall Fest

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

Senior Days

Fortune Lake has announced their 2023-2024 Senior Day schedule. There will be a Senior Day on November 13, January 15th, March 11th, and May 13th!

Each Senior Day begins at 10 a.m. and wraps up by 2 p.m. The program varies but generally includes the following:

- 10:00 a.m. – Arrival and check-in, coffee and fellowship time
- 10:15 a.m. – Devotion & announcements
- 10:30 a.m. – Presentation morning session
- 12:00 p.m. – Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. – Presentation afternoon session

A \$10 donation per participant is requested and attendees are asked to RSVP by the Friday before the event to (906) 214-2267 or hospitality@fortunelake.org.

Solid as a Rock: Fall Retreat for Grades 3-6

Fortune Lake is excited to invite all current 3-6 graders to our youth retreat this fall! This year's theme of "Solid as a Rock" invites us to explore God's strength and the possibilities that open up to us when we rely on them fully. Campers will enjoy camp favorites like games, songs, campfire, Bible Study, outdoor play, camp-style worship, and more! To register or find or more information, people may visit Fortune Lake's website, fortunelake.org. Registration deadline is October 13th.

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 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



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. 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. 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. Current dates that need sponsoring are: October 15th and November 26th!

October Birthdays

October 3: Annette Anderson, Joyce Anderson

October 4: 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

October 28: Alexandria Cording

October 29: Melanie Bennett

October 30: Randall Schroeder II

October 31: Laura Rowe



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Going Where Jesus Leads



Northern Great Lakes Synod
Bishop Katherine Finegan
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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
www.elca.org
God's work. Our hands.