

WE ARE ZION



Zion Lutheran Church

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NEWS

July 2024



Zion's 2024 Congregation Council

Laura Rowe — President	Dean Schoen — V.P.
Michelle Larson — Secretary	LeeAnn Limberg — Treasurer
Tatem Schroeder	Phil Strohl
Brad Nelson	Mark Swenson
Jonah Zuehls	
Sophie Limberg, Youth Member	

Zion Staff

Office Administrator 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. — Phil Strohl

Money Counters — Karen Dill, Bonnie Schoen and Pat Mittag

Nominating Comm — Sue Baxter

Personnel Comm. — Troy Cording

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



It has been called one of the greatest sentences ever written. It appears in *Confessions*, the autobiographical book by St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo in North Africa in the late 5th century. Speaking for himself and all people, Augustine wrote, "You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our

heart is restless until it rests in you." This marvelous statement has its place in history because it expresses the very meaning and purpose of human life. We may seek to find meaning in life and fulfill our purpose apart from God, but to do so leaves a void that cannot be filled by anything else.

Social psychologist Jonathan Haidt gave this thought a modern twist and application when he wrote, "There's a God-shaped hole in every human heart. If it doesn't get filled with something noble and elevated, modern society will quickly pump it full of garbage." I'm sure that Augustine would agree. Before his conversion to Christianity, Augustine lived a wild, self-serving life, "pumped full of garbage." He was all about filling his life with pleasures and pursuits he thought would be fulfilling but left him with an empty void. It was only when he turned his life over to God and Christ took up residency in his heart that Augustine experienced fulfillment.

Jesus told a parable about an unclean spirit that left a person and wandered about looking for another resting place. Finding none, the unclean spirit returned to the "house" where it had previously dwelt. It found the house "empty, swept and put in order." Not only does it reenter the house, but "brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and live there." The point Jesus is making is that unless that which is not good and healthy for a person is replaced with something positive, the person will be worse off than before.

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Our world is full of messages and influences that can be distracting and misguiding, leading us to seek fulfillment, meaning and purpose in things that ultimately leave us unsettled and unfulfilled. At the end of the day, we come to realize that the “God-shaped hole” that is our heart needs to be filled with the presence of God, the love of Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit if our lives are to be truly complete and fulfilled. This is why connection with God and with God’s people, the body of Christ, the church, is so vital. Here is where we hear the word of God read and preached for our instruction, edification and inspiration. Here is where we receive the real, living, forgiving and renewing presence of Christ in holy communion. Here is where we are prayed for and we pray for others, lifting our vision above and beyond ourselves. Here is where we greet one another with the peace, love and acceptance of Christ. In the fellowship of the church, our house is filled with positive things and our hearts (souls) will find their rest. Keep in mind that this happens not only when we gather at the church for corporate worship. As the baptized people of God, we are the church at home and in society, as well. The same benefits can be derived from reading the Bible and other devotional materials at home, as well as in prayer with others or privately. We also benefit from associating with people who encourage us and lift our vision toward values that are consistent with the word and will of God for us and for the world in which we live.

I encourage you to adopt the spirit of St. Augustine’s classic statement as your own. Consider beginning each day with this thought in your mind and prayer on your lips: “You have made me for Yourself, O Lord, and my heart is restless until it rests in you. Come into my heart anew today and dwell there that I may enjoy the peace and joy of your kingdom.”

In Christ’s Service,
Pastor Doug

upcoming events

What's Around the Corner? _____

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

- July 4: Office Closed! Happy Fourth of July!
- July 7: 7th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Special music by Matt Hellerman.
- July 9: Sew for Missions, 9 a.m.
- July 14: 8th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Special Music by Anna Marzahl. With guest pastor Rev. Rick Debendetto
- July 18: Ruth Circle, 3 p.m.
- July 21: 9th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Contemporary service.
- July 23: Sew for Missions, 9 a.m.
- July 28: 10th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Special music by Rick DeBenedetto and Barb Bereza

Anniversary Committee Needs to be Formed _____



Zion congregation has much to be thankful for and to celebrate as we approach our 150th anniversary next year. We need to get going on planning a significant celebration. If you are willing to serve on the 150th Anniversary Committee, please let Pastor Doug or our office administrator, Marissa, know as soon as possible so planning can get underway.

Congregation Council Highlights



COUNCIL UPDATES

The congregational council met June 11th at 6:30 p.m.

Pastor's Report: May average attendance was 95. Everything went well at the Synod Assembly on May 18th; there was about 25 in attendance, Troy Cording and

Laura Rowe were this years delegates from Zion, Carol Johnson took care of donuts, coffee and juice, Michelle ordered lunch from Cousins and Laura took care of getting that set up. Zion was nominated for the Big Bear Award the work with the World Hunger Drive and the monthly collections for various organizations and received the award.

April Financial Report

- General Fund \$133,850
- Capital Improvement \$71,355
- Boiler Loan Balance: \$31,478

Committee Reports

- **Property:** Mark Swenson reported that the spotlight above alter is going bad, Scott Williams will take care of that. Dean Schoen and Mark painted the flagpole and put up a new flag. The thermostat in the preschool room went out in the last storm, Johnstons was called. Pastors' desk chair needs a replacement part.
- **Mission Endowment:** The committee met on June 3 and a distribution of \$7,600 was agreed upon by the Endowment Committee and a motion was made to accept the recommendations by the Mission Endowment Committee to disperse the following funds:
 - ♦ Pioneer Presbyterian Church (Baby Care): \$1,000
 - ♦ Beihl's Bridges (Overdose Awareness Day): \$1,000
 - ♦ Northern Great Lakes Synod (Youth Ministry Training): \$1,000
 - ♦ Good Shepherd Lutheran in Houghton, Mich., Campus Ministry (Feed My Sheep food campaign): \$1,000

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Congregation Council Highlights ---

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- ♦ Sew for Missions: \$500
- ♦ Zion Capital Project (Social Hall Floor): \$2,100
- ♦ Town of Peshtigo Fire Dept. (Search Lights): \$700
- ♦ Camp Ruby (Food for camp): \$300

Old Business

- **AV Equipment:** Additional equipment ordered

New Business:

- A Thank You letter was received from the Tafelski Family for the \$500.00 towards Fortune Lake for their 3 children (from Agnes Bennett Memorial Fund).
- \$125.00 for advertising on placemats for the DARs duck races.

The next council meeting will be August 13th at 6:30 p.m.

Ruth Circle Group ---



The Ruth Group will meet Thursday, July 18, in the family room at 3 p.m. for our monthly Bible study. All are welcome to attend!

Created in God's Image VBS August 19-22 ---



Bethel Lutheran, Zion Lutheran, and Peace United churches are working together to plan Vacation Bible School for kids and helpers of all ages. This year, Vacation Bible School will take place **August 19-22 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church**. Campers are invited to join us each evening for a free family supper, games, songs, crafts, and Bible stories to remind us that we are all **Created in God's Image**. Registration forms are available at the congregations listed above. We hope you can join us! Contact Stefanie Ehle (sehle@uwalumni.com) or Johanna Zuehls (johannazuehls@gmail.com) 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 7th and August 25th.

Here are some suggestions:

- Meals that are ready to eat such as Chef Boyardee, Dinty Moore, SpaghettiOs, 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, 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.

July Eternal Light

The Eternal Light for the month of July is sponsored by Jack and Kathy Heimbuch and is for the glory and honor of God.

2024 Synod Assembly Offerings



Thank you for everyone's generosity during our Synod Assembly gathering. Together we were able to raise the following:

- World Hunger- \$17,361.66
 - Lifelong Faith Formation - \$1,668.21
- \$5,000 of the total from World Hunger is from Zion!

Notes of Thanks!

Dear Funeral Committee,

The family of Joyce Anderson thanks you so much for the lovely funeral lunch you provided to all of us after the service for Joyce. Having the lunch provided us time to sit down to visit with family and friends and to continue celebrating Joyce's life.

Zion Lutheran Church played a huge part in Joyce's life as she was a lifelong member of the church. Again, a big thank you to the committee for your hard work and effort to providing and preparing a wonderful meal for us.

We greatly appreciate all that you did for family and friends.

Sincerely,

The Family of Joyce Anderson

Dear People of Zion,

Zions's Social Ministry committee thanks everyone who donated housekeeping supplies in June for Rainbow House.

Sincerely,

The Social Ministry Committee

Dear 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 so much for your donation to our program. Your donation of \$330.89 will allow us to continue serving the 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, DAR Boy's and Girls Club

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

July 1: 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 Lebeck
 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



FLLC Summer Camp Registration is Open!

Registration for Summer Camp 2024 is now open! There are so many exciting program options for people of all ages. Register early for the best prices and best selection. Visit Fortunelake.org for more information or registration!

2024 SCHEDULE	FORTUNE LAKE LUTHERAN CAMP				More info at Fortunelake.org
	WEEK	DATES	CAMP PROGRAM & AGE/GRADE COMPLETED	COST	
	Week 1	June 9-14	Victory Camp (Adult 18+ with disabilities)	\$625	
	Week 2	June 16-21	Intergenerational Week (all ages) <i>New!</i> Treehouse Adventures (Grades 7-12)	See website \$475	
	Week 3	June 23-28	High School Week (Grades 9-12) LIT Training Week (Grades 10-12)	\$475	
		June 30-July 2	Mighty Ones (Grades 1-2)	\$225	
	Week 4	June 30-July 3	Mini Camp (Grades 2-3) MashUp (Grades 4-8) LIT #1 Option (*No charge)	\$305 No charge	
		July 7-10	*Mini Camp (Grades 2-3)	\$305	
	Week 5 <i>+Outdoor Week!</i>	July 7-12	*Villager (Grades 3-4) *Vagabond (Grades 5-6) *Venturer (Grades 7-8) Camp ACTS (Grades 3-12) LIT #2 Option (*No charge)	\$445 \$475	
	Week 6	July 14-17	<i>New!</i> Evergreen Camp (Adults 55+)	\$260/\$305/\$405	
		July 21-26	LEGO® Camp (Grades 3-9) Jr High Night Owl (Grades 6-8) Art Camp (Grades 3-9) LIT #3 Option (*No charge)	\$445 \$475	
	Week 7	July 22-25	Onsite Day Camp (Grades K-5)	\$130	
		July 28-Aug 2	Intergenerational Week (all ages) Vagabond (Grades 5-6) LIT #4 Option (*No charge)	See website \$445	
		July 30-Aug 2	Intergenerational Half Week (all ages)	See website	
	Week 9 <i>*Water Week!</i>	August 4-7	*Mini Camp (Grades 2-3) *Villager (Grades 3-4) *Vagabond (Grades 5-6) *Venturer (Grades 7-8)	\$305	

*LIT program requires an application process. Week #1 has a fee; subsequent weeks do not.

Scholarships Available

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
July 31: Cynthia Schoen



ELCA Mission Support Memo: June 2024

Congregation With Birch Trees and Squawking Geese *A story from the Northern Great Lakes Synod*

Do you feel a deeper connection to God when you're outdoors? People in the town of Marquette, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, have been inspired by the stunning nature that surrounds them to create U.P. Wild Church, an exciting movement of "wild" outdoor worship communities. The church holds its worship and prayer services outdoors and hosts nature walks, wilderness reflections and field trips to explore God's creation amid the scenic beauty of the peninsula. Started in 2019, U.P. Wild Church is an ecumenical ministry of the Northern Great Lakes Synod (NGLS) and the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan. Initially created to gather younger people and those not engaged in traditional church, it has grown into a ministry that fosters deep spiritual connection within God's great outdoors.

The NGLS recently held its synod assembly and, through mission stories, shared how U.P. Wild Church has staked its claim on the peninsula as a "church outside the box." The mission story for U.P. Church on the Episcopal Asset Map describes it as "a means of encountering the actively Living God, based on shared values of faith, connection, and nature. Deep within the Christian tradition there hides a wealth of wisdom on how to cultivate a culture of compassion." The U.P. Wild Church site calls it a community for everyone: "You are welcome whether you are a part of a Christian faith community already, questioning your faith, in recovery from wounds inflicted by religious trauma, simultaneously receiving nourishment from other faith traditions, or simply seeking to go deeper."

The movement is growing, and through dedicated efforts U.P. Wild Church has a new branch in the Keweenaw Peninsula. Rob Bishop, an assistant dean at Michigan Tech University, shares his experience with the ministry:

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ELCA Mission Support Memo: June 2024

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“In October of 2022, I saw an announcement for a nature hike and prayer service that was being put on by a group called U.P. Wild in the Keweenaw. It piqued my interest because I have always found a closer connection to God when I am in the outdoors.

"I saw that the group was connected to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. I immediately reached out to the Rev. Bucky Beach, a retired pastor in the synod, and asked him about the group. He was familiar with Lanni Lantto, who was leading the U.P. Wild Church in Marquette. He said it looked like it would be a perfect opportunity for me to get reconnected to my faith.

In January of 2023, I was invited to a Zoom meeting for those interested in starting the branch in the Keweenaw. A launching team was formed, and I volunteered to be in charge of communications. We agreed [that] our first official U.P. Wild in the Keweenaw would be Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at the [Nara Nature Park, in Houghton, Mich.]. Fast-forward to the last day of February 2024. We have held eight services in eight different locations across the Keweenaw, with eight different service leaders. I have been fortunate to have attended seven out of eight services. Each one has connected me closer to my faith in God and my love of the outdoors. I have found a new calling and look forward to continuing my journey.”

U.P. Wild Church wants to share this space with others, so feel free to explore virtual walks and a cemetery stroll, to pray by the beach, to follow deer tracks, to find Christ in the compost, and so much more at upwild.org.

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Going Where Jesus Leads



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Equipping the Saints for Ministry



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