

WE ARE ZION

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Zion Lutheran Church
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June 2026



Zion's 2026 Congregation Council

Laura C. — President

Troy C. — Vice President

Eric M. — Secretary

LeeAnn L. — Treasurer

Tatem S.

Phil S.

Jane L.

Kathy H.

Nik W., Youth Member

Zion Staff

Pastor — Amanda K.

Office Administrator and Financial Secretary — Marissa T.

Choir Director and Organist — Ann B.

Accompanist for Choir and Organist— Rachel R.

Custodians — Sarah S. and Gina B.

Zion Ministry Contacts

Worship

Worship Leadership Scheduling — Ann B.

Assistants — Ann B. (Ushers, readers, acolytes, communion assistants, set up/ clean-up communion)

AV Team — Troy C., coordinator

Banners — Karen D.

Bulletin and Newsletter Assistance — Marissa T.

Candles (eternal and oil) — Deb M.

Praise Band Worship — Bill T.

Hymn Selection — Ann B.

Wine and apple/grape juice — Gary G.

Building Maintenance – Interior/Exterior

Supplies — Gary G.

Handyman — Jack H.

Committees/Groups

Caring Ministry — Karen S., Judy S., Sarge R.

Confirmation Classes — Pastor

Funeral Luncheon — Ann B., Carol J., Karen S. and Cheryl M.

Harvest of Hope Community Garden — John R.

Kitchen Supplies — Gary G.

Mission Endowment Comm. — Karen D.

Money Counters — Karen D., Bonnie S. and Pat M.

Nominating Comm — Ann B.

Personnel Comm. — Troy C.

Property Comm. — Mark S.

Ruth Women's Circle — Jane L.

Sanctuary Arts — Barb G., Karen D., Carol J., Sally B., and Ann B.

Sew for Mission — Carol M.

Social Ministry — Heidi B.

SPARK — Johanna Z.

Stewardship & Generosity — Karen S., Bonnie S., John R., Joe G.

Youth Ministry Treasurer — Karen D.

Worship and Music — Ann B.



Reflections

Perspective: Mental health in a sick world

By Emmy K, originally published May 5, 2025 on <https://www.livinglutheran.org/voices-of-faith/perspective-mental-health-in-a-sick-world/>. Reprinted with permission.

Five years ago, the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic marked incredible upheaval in almost every aspect of our lives. At the time, many Christians reflected on how the pandemic was an “apocalypse,” a Greek word found in the New Testament for “revealing.” We witnessed what people will do to care for each other—but also what people will do to take advantage of others in the face of disaster.

We connected more through the internet, but we also grew more extreme and polarized on social media. The economy rose and fell and, as so often happens, the rich got richer and the poor got poorer. Those in power gained more influence, while those struggling were pitted against each other. There were new advances in mental health care—virtual resources for talk therapy and community surged, and prescriptions for necessary psychiatric medications increased—but there was also an increased need for mental health care, creating scarcity when we needed abundance most.

Christian conversations around mental health have progressed significantly in recent decades. We have come to appreciate how the brain, like all our other organs, can get sick and require medical care. Prayer and faith play a role in improving our spirits, but we also visit doctors, take medications and even undergo surgery to help us live longer and better lives. Just like the rest of the body, the brain can benefit from medication, therapy and lifestyle changes.

As we continue to learn more about how to care for our minds, let’s remember two core truths:

HEALING TAKES TIME

Antidepressants and other psychiatric medications are sometimes imagined as “magic in a bottle,” fixing problems with the first dose. In reality, finding the right medication to treat symptoms of mental illness can be a grueling process. After my daughter was born, I struggled with postpartum depression and anxiety. Between referrals, testing medications and follow-ups, it took over six months before I received the right medication and dosage.

Depictions of therapy in movies and other media can also suggest it’s a fast fix. (Recall Robin Williams undoing Matt Damon’s impenetrable defenses with the simplest “It’s not your fault” in *Good Will Hunting*.) But therapy can be another long journey, from finding an available therapist in network to balancing regular appointments against all our other obligations. Just getting to therapy is a process—and then there’s the actual work of reviewing painful memories and anxieties to uncover how we might move forward in ways that are better integrated with our core sense of self.

Our habits and behaviors also play a significant role in our mental health. Some people boost their mood through physical activity; others reconnect with nature or spend quality time with friends. But once again, this takes time—a rare commodity today. We might be trying to juggle family schedules, second jobs, and caring for children or aging parents. Those of us living with mental illness might see in the need for self-care another black mark against us: “I’d feel better if I were getting a walk in every day. Why can’t I just do it?”

This brings us to our second core truth:

HEALING TAKES COMMUNITY

Five years ago, we learned how much we need each other. We need intentional time together, whether in-person or virtual, when we feel that others see and value our presence. We need compassion and kindness, where others witness our hurts and necessities. And we need the opportunity to care for and act on

behalf of others, giving our own lives purpose. All these things create support systems for mental health, providing space and time for healing to occur without isolation or despair.

It's no surprise that God knew this about us long before COVID-19. People of God have come together for millennia, not just for worship or Scripture study but also to listen to each other's stories and experiences. In most Bible story settings, communal living is assumed, with multiple generations in the same tent, house or close-knit tribe. From the Israelites' first steps into the wilderness with Moses to our church today, the people of God are commanded to care for the sick, the poor, the widowed, the orphaned and the oppressed.

Acts of communal meaning-making are essential for living out our faith. When we know and are known by others, we embody God's welcome to us just as we are. When we reflect on our own needs and ask for help, we honor the image of God in us. And when we care for those in need and advocate for change, we follow Jesus' command to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Our Christian Sympathy_____

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Joni R. and her family with the passing of Sarge. We thank God for these people's life and faith, and for the promise of eternal life God offers to them and all who live and die in Christ.

A Blessed Father's Day_____

Gracious God, we come from different spaces and places on this day. Thank you for the gift of caring fathers and father figures. Thank you for the gift of your companionship which comes through other people and creation when we don't have those nurturing bonds with our fathers due to abuse or death. And thank you for the gift of your fatherly presence and consolation to those of us who have ached to be fathers, but cannot for one reason or another. Amen.

What's Around the Corner?

Zion is buzzing with upcoming worship, service, and fellowship opportunities! Below is a brief outline of what is coming up!

- June 7: Second Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube.
- June 9: Sew for Missions, 9 a.m.; Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- June 14: Third Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Praise Band Sunday.
- June 21: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Father's Day. Coffee Hour after worship.
- June 23: Sew for Missions, 9 a.m.
- June 24: Ruth Circle, 1 p.m. at City Park in Marinette. Brown bag picnic.
- June 28: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube.

Vacation Bible School: Risen and Renewing: Jesus Makes All Things New



Bethel Lutheran, Zion Lutheran, First Presbyterian, and Pioneer Presbyterian churches of Marinette and Menominee are working together to plan Vacation Bible School for kids and helpers of all ages.

Vacation Bible School will take place Aug. 3-6 from 5 to 7 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 923 5th St. Menominee. Campers are invited to join us each evening for a free family supper, games, songs, crafts, and Bible stories to learn how Jesus makes all things new. Registration is encouraged to help us secure enough supplies. Registration forms are available at the congregations listed above. We hope you can join us! Contact Stefanie (sehle@uwalumni.com), Johanna (johannazuehls@gmail.com) or Pr. Keith (keith@keithschroeder.net) with questions or to learn how you can volunteer!

Congregation Council Highlights

The Congregational Council met on May 12th, at 6:30 p.m.

Pastor's Report: April 2026 average attendance was 86. During the month of April, pastor made 6 home visits and 1 office visit.

Financial Report: LeeAnn pointed out the College Scholarship Fund dollar amount that is perpetual and what is for operating and granting; there are still a number of questions need to be answered for the college scholarship fund prior to awarding any money. The Youth Ministry CD has matured. Additional discussion by Troy regarding the idea of a previous Capital Campaign which the church underwent in 2007 to raise a large sum of money. Discussion about what could the church do to raise money, evolve, grow, in the future. No decisions were made, but the seed has been planted that the council will be willing to explore options.

Committee Reports

- **Property and Safety Committee:**
 - Social Hall Floor: Floor project mostly done. Maccos mistakenly did not order enough for the hallway. We will see how they handle this as it sets the project back a couple weeks.
- **Mission Endowment Fund:** Meeting June 10
- **Social Ministry:** Will be donating \$7942 for World Hunger. A coffee hour will be hosted to celebrate and our delegates to Synod Assembly will bring the check with them to Gethsemane Church.

Tabled Business

- Handicap Accessible Doors: Mark is getting prices
- Social Hall Chairs: Jane and Kathy are working on prices, there has been an anonymous donor for the cost of the chairs.
- Social Hall Fans: Troy and Kathy are looking at commercial fans.
- Adult Day Services: More will be discussed later in the year.

- Vanco App & Online giving: Waiting on more information will be discussed later this year.

New Business

- DAR Duck Race Ad: Council approved supporting the DAR with a placemat ad for \$125.
- Directional Street Sign: On March 14, our directional sign located at the west end of Edwin, near the watertower, was struck by a car and damaged. Laura will ask Mark to follow-up with the City of Marinette or the police to work with the person's insurance and get the sign replaced.
- Salvation Army: Laura attended the Salvation Army Volunteer Recognition picnic last night and accepted an award on behalf of Zion for recognition of our participation in the Angel Tree program. Laura will pass the certificate along to Marissa, along with a picture to be shared with the congregation as a point of celebration and pride.

The council will meet again June 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Salvation Army Angel Tree Recognition

The Salvation Army recently presented Zion with a certificate to thank us for our continuous help with buying gifts for children in need in our community for their Angel Tree program.





2026 Northern Great Lakes Synod Synod Assembly

2026 Synod Assembly Overview

By Karen S.

This is the fourth Synod Assembly I have attended over the years, and it was vastly different from last year's in-person Assembly. For one thing it was at Gethsemane in Wallace, Michigan rather than Marquette, and it was only 6-1/2 hours long gathering versus 2 days. I'm going to present a brief overview of what transpired.

- Pastor Christine O. of Emmanuel Lutheran in Menominee was recognized as having been ordained 25 years.
- The death of Rev. George O. at 100 years of age was acknowledged. Pastor George was an ordained in 1955, retired in 1986 and became a member of Zion Lutheran shortly thereafter.
- The Synod voting members adopted the recommended 2027 compensation guidelines at 3% increase, approved the 2027 minimum salary for first call pastors at \$50,760, and accepted a 12-week parental family leave as recommended by the ELCA.
- Pastor Terry F. term as Synod Treasurer ended. Vicor Sarah S. has assumed that position.
- Pastor Scott E., Bethel Lutheran in Menominee continues to serve as our District 5 Menominee Valley Conference President. In his Synod Report he recognized the many retired ministers and lay leaders in our conference who have stepped into positions of leadership in crucial times of transition.
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Encountering God

“Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.” (Gen 1:26a) We are reminded here, and throughout scripture, that the Creator designed diversity. Throughout my lifetime I have discovered God again and again in other cultures, as well as had my faith and life enriched by people who look and live differently than me. It is one of the reasons why I’m part of the NGLS team, Walking With Our Indigenous Neighbors.

This team seeks...

- To affirm and advocate for tribal sovereignty.
- To support Indigenous people in their processes of healing and development.
- To develop relationships with Indigenous people that are based on equity and mutual respect.
- To celebrate the diverse expressions of God’s creation in Indigenous peoples and cultures
- To educate people from our communities about the history, culture, and lives of our Indigenous neighbors
- To show up and be present with tribal communities in activities and advocacy

With that action statement in mind, we developed a list of local Powwow events. The closest one to us is the Forest County Potawatomi Powwow **July 31-August 1**.

I highly encourage you to attend with me to learn more about our neighbors and to experience the God who breathed diversity into life.



Ruth Circle Group

The Ruth Group will meet Wednesday, June 24, 1 p.m., at City Park in Marinette for their annual brown bag picnic.

WELCA Triennial Gathering

July 16-19, 2026 in
Des Moines, IA. The
theme is "I Am
Worthy," based on



Psalm 139:14: "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." If looking for transportation, you're in luck!

"My name is Marilyn Q., & I live in the Green Bay area. I have been asked to coordinate a bus for the trip to the Triennial Gathering in Des Moines in July. The bus I am considering is from Marinette." If you are interested in traveling on this bus to the event, please contact the office & we will give you Marilyn's number. If she doesn't answer when you call, please leave a message and she will call you back. To learn more about the event, visit www.womenoftheelca.org/new-triennial-event-page

June Eternal Light

The Eternal Light for June is sponsored by Jim C. and is in memory of Elaine and Si S.

2027 ELCA National Youth Gathering

"Every three years, thousands of high schoolers and their adult leaders from across the ELCA come together for the ELCA Youth Gathering. It's not just an event but a movement in which faith ignites and community comes alive. Through inspiring speakers, experiential learning and transformative connections, young people experience the church in bold, unforgettable ways. Each night, participants share a unique faith experience through high-energy worship and powerful storytelling. The Gathering is an opportunity to ask big questions, grow in faith and be part of something bigger than yourself." Questions and/or if interested, please talk with Pr Amanda. Please let her know asap if you or a youth you know is thinking about attending. For more info, check out: <https://www.elca.org/gathering-2027/about-what-is-the-gathering>.

June Birthdays

- June 1-7: Matthew S., Brittany R. and Delanie S.
- June 8-14: Victoria J., Emma W. and Dan L.
- June 15-21: Robert L., Randall S.r III, Mary B., Keaton E., Allyson K.
- June 22-28: Gloria B. and Greg P.



Join us in lifting up our siblings in Christ, in prayer as we remember their baptism

- June 1-7: Roger D., Macy B., Jacob M., Ellen B., Lisa K. and Sharon P.
- June 8-14: Adam T.
- June 15-21: Robert L., Diana H. and Joan N.



Altar Flower Sponsorships

Zion has altar flower sponsorships available. The cost of sponsoring the flowers for one week is \$15. 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. **Flower dates that need sponsoring are June 21st and 28th and July 26th!**

June Collection



Zion is Called to Go Where Jesus Leads and our Social Ministry Team is committed to showing our congregation ways to live out that calling in our community. During the month of June, we will be collecting items for our local St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantries.

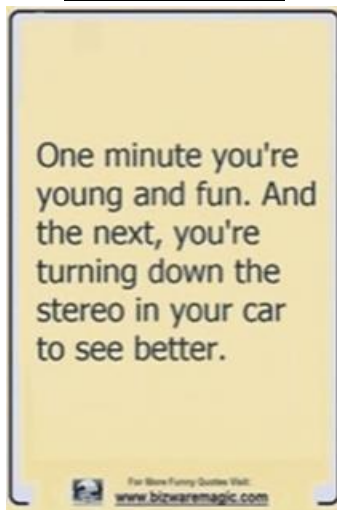
St. Vincent de Paul Society has food pantries located in Marinette and Menominee. They serve both Marinette & Menominee counties.

The pantries is always happy to gain new volunteers. Stop by either location to learn more about service opportunities here in the Twin Cities.

What We're Collecting This Month:

- Paper products (toweling, toilet paper, tissues, plates, bowls, cups (for hot & cold beverages)
- Dish soap (for hand-washing)
- Any non-perishable foods that can be used alone or together to make meals

Funny Corner!



Greetings Friends of Fortune Lake!

I am thrilled to inform you of an exciting opportunity for Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp: The Prepare the Way campaign! You're invited to participate!

Here at Fortune Lake, people of all ages grow in faith, deepen their commitment to caring for God's Creation, and experience time set apart in this beautiful Northwoods. I invite you to join in this important mission with a special gift as we Prepare the Way for the present and future ministry of Fortune Lake! Already donors like you have pledged more than \$272,000 towards our goal of \$400,000. Can you help us in this next phase by making a gift to the campaign?

All donors of \$100 will receive a custom Fortune Lake collapsible tote. It's perfect for your summer beach days, your trips to visit the grandkids, as an environmentally friendly shopping bag, or for your next stay at camp! Please indicate whether you would like it mailed to you, or if you prefer to pick it up at camp.

Grace and Peace
Amanda R., Camp Director
campdirector@fortunelake.org.

Pledge cards for this campaign are available on our table of resources in the narthex and online at:
fortunelake.org/files/2026-Campaign-Pledge-Form.pdf.

To learn more about Fortune Lake's capital campaign, you can check out their website, fortunelake.org/support/capital-campaign/.



FORTUNE LAKE
A place of grace in Crystal Falls, MI

Note of Thanks!

Dear friends at Zion Lutheran Church,

We're thrilled to share that you are among the congregations most generous to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response! We're so glad to have this opportunity to thank you directly for going above and beyond with your giving and for being one of the most faithful supporters of these ministries.

Generous congregations such as yours enable [World Hunger] ministries to reach millions of our vulnerable neighbors across the globe. In the face of uncertainty, our work together as a church - and our presence in caring for people in crisis around the world - is more important than ever. Thank you.

Thank you for your dedication to working toward a just world where all are fed. I give thanks to God for the faithful generosity of members of your congregation as you make an impact now and inspire hope for the future.

In Christ's service,

Rev. Daniel R., Director, Congregational Generosity
Daniel.Rift@elca.org



Rain and Promises

God used a beautiful rainbow to make a promise. Draw a rainbow over this picture of Noah and the animals. Then write a promise you have made or want to make underneath it!



My promise:

Noah's Ark



God painted a rainbow and promised, "Never again."

Where to find Zion's Information_____

Zion has a gauntlet of places where you can stay current with the happenings within Zion!

- ⇒ We publish a weekly Announcement sheet that includes, but is not limited to: the schedule of events for the upcoming week, Birthdays, special announcements and members to lift up in prayer.
- ⇒ Zion has a Google calendar! You can view it by going to our website and clicking the "Calendar" tab.
- ⇒ Zion also has a Facebook page, that contains pictures of various activities, events that will take place (Sew for Missions & Blood Drives—just to mention a few).
- ⇒ We also publish a monthly Newsletter; you're reading it right now! It is available in print, on the website, and via email. If you have not received a notification via email and would like to, please email your request to:
Zion.lutheran.marquette@gmail.com
- ⇒ Occasionally reminders and/or the weekly announcement sheet is sent via email. If you have not received any of these messages and would like to, please email your request to:
Zion.lutheran.marquette@gmail.com

If you have information to be shared with Zion, please submit it to: Zion.lutheran.marquette@gmail.com. The submission deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 21st of every month. The submission deadline for the weekly announcements is every Monday.



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Going Where Jesus Leads



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God's work. Our hands.