

WE ARE ZION

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Zion Lutheran Church
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www.zionlutheran-marinette.org

July 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., and Judy S.

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.

Youth Ministry Treasurer — Karen D.

Worship and Music — Ann B.



Reflections

Voices of Faith: July: Disability Pride Month

By Peter Haide, originally published on July 18, 2023:

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/voices-of-faith/july-disability-pride-month/>

Editor's note: This post, written by ELCA Disability Ministries Advisory Team member Peter Heide from a perspective of blindness, was originally published on the ELCA Disability Ministries blog.

American organizations created by and for people with disabilities have existed since the 1800s. In 1921, the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) was created to help veterans who had been blinded during World War I. Through the AFB, supported by Helen Keller and the Lions Club (whom Keller called them “the Knights of the Blind”), great strides were made creating employment opportunities for the blindness community (e.g., the Randolph-Sheppard Act of 1936) and access to books through the National Library Service “Talking Book” program.

Yet, by the end of the 1930s, there was a realization in the blind community that, if blind people were going to gain parity with sighted people, blind people were going to need to advocate for themselves. In November 1940, Jacobus tenBroek and others living with blindness formed the National Federation of the Blind (NFB). Its tagline is “Live the life you want.” Through the advocacy of the NFB, progress was made in gaining better education and training for job opportunities that focused more on what blind people wished to do rather than on areas sighted people relegated them to.

Later unrest in the NFB caused a number of blind people to break with the organization. In July 1961, a new consumer group, the American Council of the Blind (ACB) was formed. It too advocates for the needs of the blind in living independent lives. ACB's tagline is “Together for a bright future.”

Accommodations for people living with disabilities make life for all

of us better.

It is little known or recognized that these organizations have not only advocated for the needs of the blind, but that they have contributed to the case of Brown v. Board of Education and the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

In the 1970s, Judith (Judy) Heumann led advocacy work for people using wheelchairs. She, with the NFB, ACB, the Deaf community and other disability advocacy groups, helped write and pressure congress to pass the Americans with Disability Act (ADA), which was signed by President George H.W. Bush in July 1990.

In recognition of the enactment of the ADA, July is designated Disability Pride Month. The continued work of advocacy by and for the disabled continues to make life for many safer and better. At the same time, the work they do adds to the lifestyles of the sighted. The availability of audio books and voice-activated hands-free phones are only two of the things that the general population benefits from. Wheelchair ramps also benefit us all by often making bicycle travel safer and easing the lives of parents pushing strollers. Accommodations for people living with disabilities make life for all of us better.

Happy Disability Pride Month!

Learn more about ELCA Disability Ministries at elca.org/disability.

***Peter Heide** is an ordained minister of the ELCA and a member of the ELCA Disability Ministries advisory team.*



Ruth Circle Group_____

The Ruth Group will meet Thursday, July 16th at 3 p.m. in the family room for their regular bible study. All are welcome.

July Eternal Light_____

The Eternal Light for July is sponsored by Deb M. and is in loving memory of Terry.



2027 ELCA National Youth Gathering

Youth who will be completing 8th -12th grade in the spring of 2027, along with their parents or guardians, are invited to learn more about the ELCA Youth Gathering taking place June 28 – July 2, 2027 in Minneapolis, MN. **An informational meeting will take place on Wednesday, July 1 at 5:00 p.m. at Zion.** In addition, there will also be a Young Adult Gathering for people ages 18-35 taking place consecutively with the Youth Gathering, and the MYLE and tAbLe experiences serve as pre-events for youth of color and youth who live with disabilities along with their caregivers. If you are interested in any of these options, please reach out to Pr. Amanda! Additional information about all programming can be found at www.elca.org/gathering.

What's Around the Corner?

- July 1: Informational meeting on the 2027 ELCA National Youth gathering, 5 p.m.
- July 5: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Special music by Barb A. on violin.
- July 8: Praise Band practice, 7 p.m.
- July 12: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Praise Band Sunday.
- July 14: Sew for Missions, 9 a.m.
- July 16: Ruth Circle, 3 p.m.
- July 19: Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Special music by Anna M. on piano.
- July 26: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m., worship with Holy Communion and via YouTube. Special music by Sophie L.
- July 28: Sew for Missions, 9 a.m.

VBS: 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. VBS will take place Aug. 3-6 from 5 to 7 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 923 5th St. Menominee. You 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 Zion and online on [our site](#). You can also scan the QR code to find the registration form. We hope you can join us! Contact Johanna (johannazuehls@gmail.com) or Pr. Amanda (pramandak3@gmail.com) with questions or to learn how you can volunteer!



Congregation Council Highlights

The Congregational Council met on June 16th, at 6:30 p.m.

Pastor's Report: May 2026 average attendance was 78. During the month of May, pastor made 6 home visits and 2 office visit.

Committee Reports

- **Mission Endowment Fund:** Don P. resigned, and Pastor Amanda nominated Brooke R. to be appointed as an interim member of the Mission Endowment Committee until the 2027 annual meeting.
- **Personnel Committee:** Discussion was held on what to do for milestone anniversaries.

Tabled Business

- Waiting on pricing for handicap accessible doors.
- Social Hall Chairs: Council approved purchase of chairs with the donation that was given.

New Business

- Next Council Meeting: Aug. 11th meeting will take place at the DAR Boys and Girls Club at 6 p.m.
- College Scholarship: Council discussed the college scholarship nominees. Pr Amanda sent email to council admin to look over and approve.

The council will meet again August 11, 2026 at 6 p.m., potentially at the DAR Boys & Girls Club in Menominee.

GreenTip: The problem with toxic gardening chemicals



Insect pests are often listed along with diseases, climate change, toxic chemicals, and human encroachment on pollinator habitat as a major factor in the loss of over 700 North American bee species,

90 percent of Monarch butterflies, and 1/3 of North American birds. But 40 percent of all wild insect pollinators (such as dragonflies and damselflies) have also been destroyed, and these

species are necessary not only for pollination, but for sustaining bird populations that depend on insects to nourish their young.

A key factor in the nationwide collapse of bees and other pollinators is the use of neonicotinoids (neonics), the world's most widely used insecticide. Chemicals such as neonics not only destroy pollinators, but also likely harm up to 80 percent of all threatened and endangered species. Neonics are turning up in our food and drinking water, and are implicated in increased risk for birth defects like malformations of the developing heart and brain.

Solutions for dealing with toxic gardening chemicals

Avoid the following chemicals when purchasing products for home and garden:

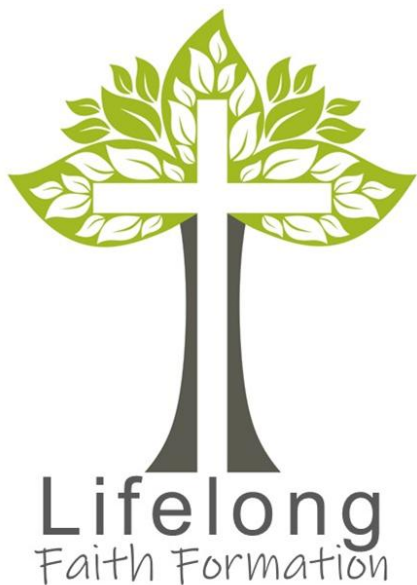
- Acetamiprid, Clothianidin, Dinotefuran, Imidacloprid, Thiamethoxam, all of which are hidden in many popular brands.
- Look for products with an OMRI label (Organic Materials Resource Index) or the USDA organic certification when buying packaged soil, compost, or fertilizers.
- Ask retailers who sell plants and gardening supplies to eliminate neonics from the plants they sell. When we support the restricting of bee- and butterfly- killing pesticides, suppliers will take notice and start producing products that are better for bees, better for the planet, and better for us.
- Contact the EPA and your public representatives and tell them to push for neonic bans at the state level (some states have already done so).
- To treat harmful pests, try the following: 1) Neem Oil, from the neem tree, can be sprayed when you see the first adult bug; 2) Insecticidal Soaps, either commercial or make your own with 1 TBSP dishwashing soap in 1 quart of water.

Laura R.

EcoFaith Network NE MN Team

Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa, MN

Northeastern Minnesota Synod



Fall Lifelong Faith Formation Classes

Registration is open for the 2026 Fall Lifelong Faith formation classes.

- **The Church's Role in a Divided Society: Public Deliberative Dialog:** with Rev. Sharolyn S. and Rev. J. Michael M. One Session on Sept. 24, held in-person at Bethany, Ishpeming, Mich., with Zoom curated space also available from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- **Encountering God in the Modern Middle East:** with Todd H., Sept. 21, 28, and Oct. 5, 12 from 6 to 7 p.m.
- **Lutheranism 101: Lens, God's Grace, and Essentials:** with Bishop Katherine F., Rev. Tim J. and Rev. J. Michael M. from 6 to 7 p.m. Oct. 29, The Lutheran Lens; Nov. 4, God's Grace; Nov. 11, Essential Lutheran Tidbits.
- **The Pollinator Garden:** with members of the NE MN Synod Pollinator Plot Steering Committee and Good Shepherd, Peshtigo. One Session on Sept. 17 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.
- **The Prophets: Their Voice, Context, and Significance:** with Rev. Philip J., Oct. 20, 27, and Nov. 3, 10 from 6 to 7:15 p.m.
- **Walking through Mark: Preparing for Year B:** with Rev. Nicole H.-L., Sundays, Sept. 20 to Nov. 15 from 6 to 7 p.m.

For more information about the classes or to register, people may visit <https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation/>. People may also contact Sister Noreen Stevens with questions at 651-815-1145 or nstevens@nglsynod.org.

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 Meno Keno Ma Ge Wen Powwow **August 21-23 at the Ka Kew Se Gathering Grounds: 3912 Ferry Ranch Ln., Wabeno, WI 54566.**

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

Our Christian Sympathy

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Linda C. and her family with the passing of Mike C. 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.

School Aid Collection



We're collecting items to stock the school pantries as they start a new year. The kind of **food items** that can be sent home with even the youngest kids to prepare for themselves and the kind of **personal care items** that teens need but often can't afford. Your Social Ministry Committee will split the collection between the Marinette and Menominee School Districts and deliver them at the beginning of September.

Please donate only new, unopened items. Place your donations in the narthex by the collection baskets between July 5th and August 30th.

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.
- Personal hygiene items such as: shampoo, body wash, deodorant, toothpaste, disposable razors, shaving cream, tampons & pads.



Youth Ministry Leader Retreat



Adults who work or volunteer with youth in the Northern Great Lakes Synod are invited to a 3-day, 2-night, August. 13-15, retreat at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp to

experience how Jesus' story of radical love helps shape and influence how we lead young people to grow in their faith. The retreat will include workshops, storytelling, music, worship and time to network with peers. All experience levels are welcome to participate.

A nonrefundable registration fee of \$25 per person includes lodging, meals and programming. Registration deadline is July 31 and people may do so by going to <https://nglsynod.org/youth/>.

For questions, people can contact NGLS Youth Ministries Coordinator Stefanie at youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org.

July Birthdays

- July 1-4: Diana H. and Madelyn K.
- July 6-12: Sarah J., Rita K., Dale L., Candace M., Jonah Z., Jacob E., Peter J., Sarah M., Michael G.
- July 13-19: Brian S., Alexa O., Robert B., William M., Traci O.
- July 20-26: Samantha O., Ann B., Mason K., Kensley R., Leah R.
- July 27-31: Pastor Rick D., Duane C., Michael C., Michael M., Jacki R., Cynthia S.



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

- July 1-4: Victoria J. and Sandra T.
- July 6-12: Jacob B., Nick K., Tayler E., Wendy I.
- July 13-91: Shirley E., Peter J., Matthew S., Tyler L., Katelyn S., Jakob C.-R., Hannah O.
- July 20-26: Charlotte B., Mary B., Al P., Steve B., Diane L., Richelle V.
- July 27-31: Jonah Z., Lanse D., William T.

Funny Corner!



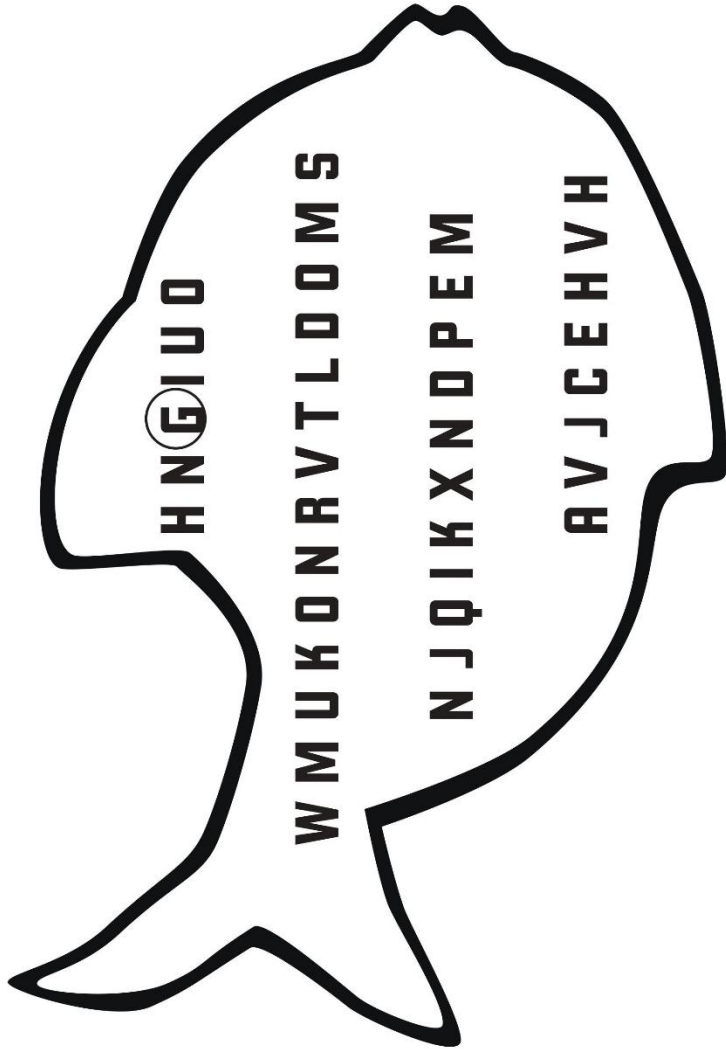
Independence Day Prayer

Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all living beings, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



God's Fishy Directions

Circle every third letter to reveal a key phrase from today's story! The first one has been circled for you.



Kid's Activity!

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Going Where Jesus Leads



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