

## The Pastor's Ponderings

**Pastor Sharilyn's cell phone—(812) 272-2936 and email address—[sharilyn.wendt@gmail.com](mailto:sharilyn.wendt@gmail.com)**

In my sermon on September 26, I introduced a new challenge to the members of Zion Lutheran Church – to recenter our life as children of God in prayer. I was inspired to do this when I read this passage from James:

*<sup>13</sup>Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.  
(James 5:13-14, NRSV)*

Speaking for myself, I know that it can be easy to “fall out of the habit” of regular prayer. I happen to be one of those people who can sometimes be fiercely independent – sometimes to a fault – and insist on doing everything for myself. While it usually shows up in being too proud (or stubborn!) to ask for help from friends and family when I need it, I also do this in my relationship with God. The truth of the matter, though, is that none of us can manage everything on our own. We human beings were made to be in relationships – with God and with one another. The times when I insist on doing things on my own, I am actually going against God’s will for creation.

It reminds me of that great hymn, “What a Friend We Have In Jesus.” I wonder how much of the turmoil and challenges I’ve faced over the years could have been – if not completely remedied – might at least have been soothed.

*What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
oh, what needless pain we bear--  
all because we do not carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!*

God is awaiting our prayers – not because God doesn’t already know our needs, but because God will use those moments to prompt us to spend time reflecting on how deep God’s love and care for us goes. How far does that love go? All the way to the cross.

Over the next months, I will be offering prompts of various sorts to encourage us to pray with, for, and alongside one another. Keep an eye out for our weekly email (if you aren’t receiving them, send an email to me at [sharilyn.wendt@gmail.com](mailto:sharilyn.wendt@gmail.com) and I’ll make sure you do!) and our bulletin inserts.

Let us Pray!



## Church Office

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Pr Sharilyn is usually in 9:00AM-Noon Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and other times by appointment. Please call to be sure she is in!

## Zion's 2021 Council Members

Elder & President.....Jody Stanley  
Elder & Vice-President..... Mark Prout  
Secretary ..... Shay Clamme  
Deacon ..... Drew Walker  
Trustee.....Scott Clamme  
Treasurer ..... Libby Stroble

## August Council Minutes

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING August 16, 2021

Present: Pastor Sharilyn Wendt, Jody Stanley, Mark Prout, Shay Clamme, Libby Stroble, Drew Walker  
Absent: Scott Clamme

Council president Jody Stanley called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Devotions were given by Jody Stanley.

Secretary's Report: Jody made a motion to approve minutes of the last Council meeting. Mark 2nd. Approved by all.

#### Correspondence:

I plan to be out of the office the week of September 12th and again beginning September 26th for three or four weeks. I will try to prepare bulletins ahead of time if no one has been hired to replace me by then. — Debbie

#### Add items to agenda:

1. Hiring Secretary
2. Covid Protocols
3. Online presence

#### Pastor's Report:

1. Meet and know members of the congregation – including shut-ins and non-attendees
  - a. Visits completed: 12 total, 6 w/ communion
  - b. Calls made/extended: 9
  - c. Mail sent: 5

Planned task: visitations and contacts with attendees/active members

2. Create and build an education program for our youth
  - a. Requested meeting for Youth & Education committee (in progress)

Planned task: (1) Begin children's sermons regularly in worship (2) Work with committee to identify needs and goals for youth ministry (and beyond)

3. Help us create an outreach program to bring in new members and reach the community
  - a. Requested meeting for Mission & Ministry committee (in progress)
  - b. Met with leadership of Community & Family Services

Planned task: (1) Identify community organizations members are involved in during member visits (see #1) (2) work with local police department for ride-along visit (in progress)

4. Get involved in community partnerships to build an inviting Christian network in the county.
  - a. Connection with Community & Family Services
  - b. Connection with the CEO and Medical Director of Cornerstone
  - c. Connection with local medial provider
  - d. Connection w/ pastor of Lighthouse Church
  - e. Left messages with all congregations with whom we have communion partnerships – PC(USA), Disciples of Christ, Wesleyan, UMC

Planned task: Meeting planned for local ministerium

5. Create a schedule that allows us to know when/how to communicate with the pastor
  - a. Schedule created and published (newsletter/bulletin)

Planned task: Revise schedule to reflect needs/time commitments more accurately.

6. Other initiatives:
  - a. Bible Study at Common Grounds
7. Future initiatives:
  - a. Online presence
  - b. Online worship/services

#### Committee Reports:

No Parish Education Report

Worship/Music/Memorial - Jody

1. Working on September music now
2. On communion Sundays we will be starting to use assisting ministers. The first and the third Sundays.

Mission and Ministry –Scott

1. Laundry mat service is on hold until spring.

#### Council Reports:

Deacons:

1. Attendance and Holy Communion report—July 4, 45 attended, 42 communed; July 11, 45 attended; July 18, 46 attend ed; July 25, 53 attended, 51 communed

Elders: None

Trustees:

1. New smoke detector was installed at the parsonage.
2. Need inspection soon!
3. Order new doorbell at the church-Amazon??

Treasurer: July 2021 Treasurer's report

1. Paid roof bill- money will need to moved from money market to general fund

### August Council Minutes continued

Deacon's Fund Checking 713.68  
 Deacon's Fund Saving 66.16  
 Total General Fund, Thrivent Invested 86,075.50  
 General Fund, VIA Checking 12,048.95  
 General Fund, VIA Membership 56.20  
 General Fund, VIA Money Market 70,221.48  
 Memorial Fund, VIA Checking 16,596.42  
 Memorial Fund, VIA Money Market 5,559.26  
 Mission Invest., Memorial Fund 7,008.88  
 ZLCW Kitchen Fund Savings 1,721.56  
 ZLCW Kitchen Funds Checking 150.00  
 Total Checking/Savings 200,218.09  
 Total Current Assets 200,218.09  
 TOTAL ASSETS \$200,218.09

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Hiring Secretary
  - a. Can Debbie give us date of when she would like to retire so that we can let the congregation know and we can be prepared and ready for when that date arrives?
  - b. Discussions of possibly not having a secretary for the church any longer. How would the duties be divided among the church.
    - i. Bulletins
    - ii. Newsletter
    - iii. Financial
    - iv. So many others
  - c. Needing to make another announcement in church about the need for a secretary or we will be without one.
2. Covid Protocols
  - a. Continue mask wearing.
  - b. If the county is in red we will close.
  - c. Still singing and communion at this time.
3. Online presence/online worship
  - a. Pastor is planning to look into costs for this and will be prepared to discuss this next meeting.

Closed with all praying the Lord's Prayer at 7:35p.m.

Next meeting will be on September 20, 2021 with devotions by Scott Clamme.

Respectfully submitted, Shay Clamme, Recording Secretary

#### 19th Sunday after Pentecost - October 3

*1st Reading - Genesis 2:18-24*  
*Psalm 8*  
*2nd Reading - Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12*  
*Gospel - Mark 10:2-16*

#### 20th Sunday after Pentecost - October 10

*1st Reading - Amos 5:6-7; 10-15*  
*Psalm 90:12-17*  
*2nd Reading - Hebrews 4:12-16*  
*Gospel - Mark 10:17-31*

#### 21st Sunday after Pentecost - October 17

*1st Reading - Isaiah 53:4-12*  
*Psalm 91:9-16*  
*2nd Reading - Hebrews 5:1-10*  
*Gospel - Mark 10:35-45*

#### 22nd Sunday after Pentecost - October 24

*1st Reading - Jeremiah 7:7-9*  
*Psalm 126*  
*2nd Reading - Hebrews 7:23-28*  
*Gospel - Mark 10:46-52*

#### Reformation Sunday - October 31

*1st Reading - Jeremiah 31:31-34*  
*Psalm 46*  
*2nd Reading - Romans 3:19-28*  
*Gospel - John 8:31-36*

### October Birthdays

Ray Stanley .....October 6  
 Kathy Sharp .....October 7  
 Edi Tarter .....October 9  
 Jody Stanley .....October 12  
 Max Hile .....October 13  
 Shay Clamme .....October 16  
 Sue Rinker .....October 18  
 Ashley Digman.....October 22  
 Linda Stanley .....October 22  
 Nancy Bennett .....October 23  
 Jay Hendricks .....October 26  
 Aneta Gardner .....October 28  
 Joan Stanley .....October 28  
 Addison Clamme.....October 29

# Take it to the Lord in prayer

Prayer Instruction  
From Martin Luther's  
Small Catechism

## THE MORNING BLESSING

In the morning, as soon as you get out of bed, you are to make the sign of the holy cross and say: "God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit watch over me. Amen."

Then, kneeling or standing, say the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you wish, you may in addition recite this little prayer as well:

"I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and danger. I ask that you would also protect me today from sin and all evil, so that my life and actions may please you. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen."

After singing a hymn perhaps (for example, one on the Ten Commandments) or whatever else may serve your devotion, you are to go to your work joyfully.

## THE EVENING BLESSING

In the evening, when you go to bed, you are to make the sign of the holy cross and say: "God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit watch over me. Amen."

Then, kneeling or standing, say the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you wish, you may in addition recite this little prayer as well: "I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected me today. I ask you to forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously to protect me tonight. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen."

Then you are to go to sleep quickly and cheerfully.

## TABLE BLESSINGS

The children and the members of the household are to come devoutly to the table, fold their hands, and recite: "The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature."

Then they are to recite the Lord's Prayer and the following prayer: "Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Similarly, after eating they should in the same manner fold their hands and recite devoutly: "Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, for God's mercy endures forever. God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry. God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner, but finds pleasure in those who fear the Lord, in those who await God's steadfast love."

Then recite the Lord's Prayer and the following prayer: "We give thanks to you, Lord God our Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord for all your benefits, you who live and reign forever. Amen."

*In the words of Martin Luther, "What does this mean?"*

- (1) Prayer ought to be a regular part of our day.*
- (2) Prayer can be simple and straightforward.*
- (3) Getting up, going to bed, and eating meals is a perfect time to pause and pray*
- (4) There's no need to worry whether our prayer is "good" or if we have prayed "correctly" - we are to simply go about the remainder of our day in joy and gratitude.*

*Pr. Sharilyn*

# October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30-Sunday School 10:30 Worship with Communion	4 8:00 - Bible Study (Common Grounds)	5 9-11AM Piecemakers IK Professional Leaders Conference	6 6:00PM - Prayer Call	7	8	9
10 9:30-Sunday School 10:30 Worship	11 8:00 - Bible Study (Common Grounds)	12 9-11AM Piecemakers	13 6:00PM - Prayer Call	14	15	16
17 9:30-Sunday School 10:30 Worship with Communion	18 8:00 - Bible Study (Common Grounds) 6:00 - Council Meeting	19 9-11AM Piecemakers	20 6:00PM - Prayer Call	21 9:30-12:30 - Second Harvest Food Bank Tail-gate Distribution	22	23 <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>
24 9:30-Sunday School 10:30 Worship	25 8:00 - Bible Study (Common Grounds)	26 9-11AM Piecemakers	27 6:00PM - Prayer Call	28	29	30
31 9:30-Sunday School 10:30 Worship with Communion & Service of Installation		<b>ALSO: 10/5/2021:</b> National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding				

# The Zion Herald

## October 2021

*"Happy are those whose strength is in God, in whose heart are the highways to Zion." (Psalm 84:5)*

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
**308 S. Monroe Street**  
**Hartford City, IN 47348**



✠ Serving the Lord in Gladness ✠

**Sharilyn Wendt, Pastor**  
**Church Office: 765-348-3157**  
**zionluth.hc@gmail.com**  
**www.zionhc.org**

**Worship at 10:30 a.m.**

## October 2021 Ministry Servers

### Assisting Minister

Oct. 3 - Mark Prout  
Oct. 17 - Linda Walker

### Acolytes

Oct. 3 - Clamme Family  
Oct. 10 - Walker Family  
Oct. 17 - Clamme Family  
Oct. 24 - Walker Family  
Oct. 31 - Clamme Family

### Lectors

Oct. 3 - Paige Walker  
Oct. 10 - Neil Strobel  
Oct. 17 - Cindy Knotte  
Oct. 24 - Jody Stanley  
Oct. 31 - Paige Walker

### Head Usher

October - Drew Walker

Please speak with Drew if you can serve in October!