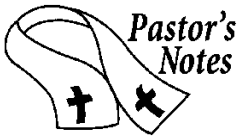


The Pastor's Ponderings

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

Thou Shall Tattle on Thy Neighbor



Pastor's
Notes

The Eighth Commandment
You shall not bear false witness
against your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We are to fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray, or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead, we are to come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the best possible light.

Luther's Small Catechism

When we were children, we were often told not to tattle. When a sibling or a schoolmate broke a small rule, it wasn't your place to go and tell the teacher or a parent. "Don't be a tattle-tale!"

I think that as adults, we continue to use this sense of how to manage things. We often don't want to intrude in another person's life and even more – we don't want to spread news or gossip around. And that's a good thing – Luther's explanation to the eighth commandment tells us it isn't enough to simply not tell lies

about others, but that we should speak highly of others. We are to come to the defense of others, not slander them. But one thing I have also learned from growing up in a small town: sometimes people don't ask for something when they might need it.

With that in mind, I encourage you to do something that I think our eighth commandment would encourage: "Tattling" on your neighbor when they are in need.

We are all called to care for one another – our siblings in Christ. We are called to support, love, and be there for one another. Sometimes we are also fiercely independent and hesitant to ask for things. And, beloved people of God, sometimes these don't work together very well! If you notice that someone in our faith family could be helped with some extra prayer, a little help, a visit from a friendly face, or anything else – tattle on your neighbor! Contact me by phone, email, or stop into the office. I can assure you that you won't be scolded for your tattling.

Grace and Peace, *Pastor Sharilyn*

Pastor Sharilyn's Office Hours

As Pastor Sharilyn has learned more about the needs of the congregation and time needed in the community, it has been clear her office hours need to change. Pastor Sharilyn will *generally* be in the office

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursday mornings. You will also see her in the office other times, but it is always best to contact her for an appointment if you would like to see her.

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

July Council Minutes



Congregation Council met on July 19, 2021.

Vice president Mark Prout called the meeting to order at 6:03p.m. and gave the devotions.

Present: Pastor Sharilyn Wendt, Mark Prout, Shay Clamme, Libby Stroble, and Scott Clamme

Absent: Jody Stanley and Drew Walker

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed.

Correspondence: God's peace to you all and welcome Pr. Wendt!!! —*Pastor Erik Grayvold*

Donations to ELCA Ministries

Jennifer, a coordinator for Life Line Screening called. They would like to hold a screening at Zion in November on either the 18th, 20th, or 22nd.

Motion made by Libby to approve, Scott 2nd, all approved.

Items to add to agenda: Nothing to add right now

Pastor's Report: Pastor has felt welcome and is enjoying the parsonage.

She is looking for a list of those who will need to be visited and where.

Her ordination is this coming weekend.

Committee Reports: No report from Parish Education & Youth.

Worship/Music/Memorial: Nyla is still choosing songs as needed for the services.

Mission and Ministry: Maybe looking at doing the laundry project again this fall? Possibly looking to do this for God's Work Our Hands in September. This committee needs to meet and work on this project. Scott will make an announcement in church on Sunday regarding the need for this project.

Council Reports: No report from the Elders.

Deacons: Attendance and Holy Communion report— June 6, 59 attended, 51 communed; June 13, 58 attended; June 20, 40 attended, 40 communed; June 27, 41 attended, 39 communed

Trustees: Is the faucet in the pastor's bathroom going to be replaced? This will be cleaned and fixed. If the pastor sees the need for a new faucet she will let Scott know.

Air conditioning troubles at pastor's house. PK was called and they fixed the issue, but it will probably need to be replaced soon. Scott will be speaking with PK soon and finding out more about the need, costs and how soon it will need to be replaced.

Parsonage roof is complete and we are waiting on a bill.

Kitchen lighting issues

New lighting fixtures have been purchased and Scott is installing these tomorrow.

Yard day to volunteer to help with clean up at the parsonage will be July 27th and Scott will announce in church on Sunday that we will be doing this.

We need the list of everything that needs to be completed in the parsonage and we will come up with a timetable next meeting.

Housing inspection- Scott needs to find someone to do this.

Appliances? Anything broken - Pastor sees nothing now.

Replacing ceiling tiles?

Painting walls?

Convert half bath into the full bath downstairs.

Convert dining room into bedroom.

Treasurer's Report: June 2021

Deacon's Fund- \$713.68

Total General Fund Thrivent- \$86,075.50

Total Checking/Savings- \$206,783.08

Libby plans to help set up Pastor's pay and insurance in the next 2 weeks.

Old Business: ELCA World Hunger mailing. Discussion: This information was tabled until the July meeting to possibly have more discussion with new pastor or just the council in how to proceed. We may just put the information in the bulletin and/or newsletter on how to contribute. Response is to do nothing right now, but Mission and Ministry should discuss this for pre-planning and helping with this in the future.

Letter from Synod verifying how much we contributed during the first quarter of 2021. In addition, it mentioned a small program called *Beginning Anew*, which is to help churches start to return to normal after the pan-

(continued on the following page)

July Council Minutes continued

demic. We have also tabled this to the July meeting. Pastor explained what this program actually is and how it works. This helps with strategic planning. Mark stated that if Pastor is interested in this we can support it. It would be up to her as she sees the need. She did not see the need right now.

New Business: After 28 years of working in the church office and just turning 65 two weeks ago, Debbie Walker is ready to retire and travel. Thankfully, Julie Prout is ready to quit working full-time and switch to part-time, so she is very interested in taking over the position as Zion’s new secretary. We both hope that all of the council members agree with our plans.

Council feels this needs to be announced and presented to the congregation before the council will vote. We all feel the position should also we posted to see if

any other people would be interested in this.

Mark will talk to Debbie to get a timetable on when Debbie will retire. And when an announcement in the bulletin could be posted for the congregation.

Once the congregation is made aware, we will see who all is interested in the position and council will look at all individuals interested.

Will we be having a Summer Picnic? Not this year.

Parsonage phone number is listed on the stationary. We need new updated stationary. Maybe also have a digital stationary.

Closing by all praying the Lord’s Prayer at 7:12 p.m.

Next meeting will be August 16, 2021 at 6 p.m. with devotions by Jody Stanley.

Respectfully submitted,

Shay Clamme, Recording Secretary

Sunday School for Children and Youth — Who is God?



One of the biggest and most important questions in the world: Who is God?

Starting September 12, 2021, the children and youth of Zion Lutheran Church will be tackling this question

through scripture, conversation, and some added fun. Children of all ages are invited to attend Sunday School from 9:30-10:15 on Sunday mornings. Children are invited to bring a friend to Sunday School as well – just let your teachers know. There’s always room for more around the Sunday School table!

Pastor Sharilyn

Let’s Do Sunday School

Just a few Sundays ago after the service, one of our young Lutherans asked me, “When can we start Sunday school again?”

I was caught a bit off guard. I had been thinking that our young people probably liked sleeping in an extra hour on Sunday mornings. But evidently I was wrong. “Well,” I said, “we usually start the Sunday after Labor Day. We could begin then. Would that work? And do you still want all of us to be together in one big group from kindergarteners to seniors?”

“Oh, yes!”

And there you have it: our youth are young Christians ready to grow stronger in their faith in the company of other young Christians.

So, the Parish Education committee has made plans

for a new start for Sunday school. We figured out a way to have small group, age-appropriate discussions that include Pastor Sharilyn each Sunday. We brainstormed ways our congregation can support our young people in their everyday lives. . . and we ordered a new year of the *Dig In* curriculum that our students have loved during our past two years of study.

On any given Sunday morning, we begin the week’s lesson with an activity that will hook kids’ attention followed by a Bible study. Then our lesson might go into a video segment, a music segment, or a game that reinforces the lesson takeaway. Finally, comes our favorite part—a science activity, most often, that provides an experi-

(continued on the following page)

Let's Do Sunday School continued

ence related to the point of the Bible lesson or a visual metaphor depicting the point of the lesson. That's the part of the lesson that has us running pitchers of water to and from the kitchen or that sends loud noises echoing down the stairs.

Do stop in to see us and share one of our activities for a few minutes. On September 12th near the end of the lesson, for example, we will be testing our memories.

Volunteers Needed

There are many opportunities to serve our congregation! Would you like to visit our members who are unable to attend church regularly? Could God use your skills to serve on the Church Council or on one of our standing communities? How about volunteering to usher, help with maintenance needs, or assist with office duties? Please talk with a member of your church council or Pastor Sharilyn to find the best place for you to serve your church!

COVID-19 Plans and Safety

As we are learning more about the Delta Variant of COVID-19, the congregational council has identified some safety measures to have in place to prevent unnecessary risk of COVID-19 spread.

- (1) In line with recommendations from the CDC, if the transmission risk in Blackford County is "substantial" or "high" masks will be required inside the building for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.
- (2) If the "advisory level" for the county (per Indiana Department of Health measures) is RED, we will cancel services for that Sunday. The advisory level is updated weekly on Wednesdays.

Would you be willing to contact members by phone who do not have access to email about changes in COVID-19 worship schedule or masking updates? Please let Pastor Sharilyn know.

We are going to discover why we store certain memories and not others and how God used our human brain processes for his own purposes in Moses's encounter with the burning bush.

As teachers for Sunday school this year, Pastor Sharilyn, Judy Clamme and I are re-energized, eager to grow ourselves as we study the Bible again, this time through the eyes of our young people.

Linda Walker

Debbie's Retiring

Dear member's of Zion,

I will be retiring as your church secretary on September 11, 2021. I have enjoyed more than 28 years as Zion's secretary and working with five different pastors.

We're going to travel! As most of you know, Dennis and I enjoy driving the mountain roads out west and next summer we will attempt for the 3rd time to be able to drive to Alaska and also to the Arctic Ocean.

Blessings to all of you,
Debbie Walker

Support Our National and International Lutheran Ministries

The Lutheran church has a long history of national and international relief ministries. Lutheran Disaster Response is working with agencies in California and other western states to address the needs brought about by wildfires there. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service is mobilizing to bring food, clothing, and basic necessities to those suffering in Afghanistan. If you feel called to give to either of these causes you may donate online or designate your offering for these causes.

Bowling with the Muncie Mission



Men of Zion Lutheran are invited to join with other congregations for the Muncie Men's Church Bowling League! The league starts Tuesday, September 7. Contact Trey Gourley at 765-717-4903 or treygourley@gmail.com for more information.

September Lectionary Readings

Pentecost 15 - September 5th

1st Reading - Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalm 146

2nd Reading - James 2:1-17

Gospel - Mark 7:24-37

Pentecost 16 - September 12th

1st Reading - Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 116:1-9

2nd Reading - James 3:1-12

Gospel - Mark 8:27-38

Pentecost 17 - September 19th

1st Reading - Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 54

2nd Reading - James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a

Gospel - Mark 9:30-37

Pentecost 18 - September 26th

1st Reading - Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalm 19:7-14

2nd Reading - James 5:13-20

Gospel - Mark 9:38-50



**WITH
YOUR**

September Birthdays

Don Goetz	9-9
Tanner Hendricks	9-11
Barbara Schoel	9-15
Tom Willmann	9-15
Viola Willmann	9-19
Dennis Walker	9-23
Iris Johnson	9-25
Orville Uggen	9-27
Gene Banter	9-28
Max Langdon	9-28
Autumn McCammon	9-29



September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 Pentecost 15 Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.	6 The church office is closed for Labor Day.	7 Piecemakers 9:00 a.m. - 11 a.m.	1 Bible Study 8:00 a.m. at Common Grounds	2	3	4
12 Pentecost 16 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	13 Bible Study 8:00 a.m. at Common Grounds	14 Piecemakers 9:00 a.m. - 11 a.m.	8 15	9 16	10 17	11 18
19 Pentecost 17 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.	20 Bible Study 8:00 a.m. at Common Grounds Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.	21 Piecemakers 9:00 a.m. - 11 a.m.	22	23	24	25
26 Pentecost 18 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	27 Bible Study 8:00 a.m. at Common Grounds	28 Piecemakers 9:00 a.m. - 11 a.m.	29	30		

The Zion Herald

September 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

Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. followed by Worship at 10:30 a.m.

September 2021 Lay Ministry Servers

Ushers

Sept. 5 Drew Walker
Sept. 12 Drew Walker
Sept. 19 Drew Walker
Sept. 26 Drew Walker

Lectors

Sept. 5 Nolan Willman
Sept. 12 Sandy Langdon
Sept. 19 Carolyn Goetz
Sept. 26 Kathy Sharp

Assisting Ministers

Sept. 5 Michelle Walker
Sept. 19 Mark Prout

Acolytes

Sept. 5 Reece Walker & Keaton Walker
Sept. 12 Addison Clamme & Ryne Clamme
Sept. 19 Keaton Walker & Reece Walker
Sept. 26 Ryne Clamme & Addison Clamme