
THE ZION HERALD

July 2022

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

The Pastor's Ponderings

Patriotism and Christianity. How do they work together, how do they work against one another, and how do we follow Jesus in the midst of it all?

The month of July is a good month to talk about patriotism since Independence Day celebrations are common this time of year. One of the complicated aspects of Christian living is how we accomplish being "in the world, but not of the world." This concept comes from the Gospel of John. Jesus prays: "I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world." (John 17:15-16) In other words, the goal for Christian living is not to be completely removed from the world or totally isolate ourselves, but to not let the wickedness of the world influence our actions or God's call for us to love our neighbor.

When it comes to patriotism, this can be a challenging line to walk. Jesus, after all, tended to be anti-establishment, anti-government, and didn't seem to have a great deal of respect for the maneuverings of political figures and divisions of nations. Patriotism in and of itself implies feelings of fierce devotion, admiration, and vigorous support. There is nothing wrong with admiration of one's country – but we do need to take care not to make our nation into an idol.

When we make our nation an idol, we run the risk of seeing our nation as somehow favored by God. We also run the risk of entertaining ideas of religious intolerance of the faith of our fellow citizens. We run the risk of believing that critique of our nation or its history is akin to an offense to God.



July Readings

July 3

Fourth Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 66:10-14
- Psalm 66:1-9
- Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16
- Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10

Fifth Sunday of Pentecost

- Deuteronomy 30:9-14
- Psalm 25:1-10
- Colossians 1:1-14
- Luke 10:25-37

July 17

Sixth Sunday of Pentecost

- Genesis 18:1-10a
- Psalm 15
- Colossians 1:15-28
- Luke 10:38-42

July 24

Seventh Sunday of Pentecost

- Genesis 18:20-32
- Psalm 138
- Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]
- Luke 11:1-13

July 31

Eighth Sunday of Pentecost

- Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14;
2:18-23
- Psalm 49:1-12
- Colossians 3:1-11
- Luke 12:13-21

How, then, do we combine our love for our nation along with our love for God? I encourage you to consider how you can pray for our nation. How can we pray for our elected leaders? How can we encourage our elected leaders to love our neighbors? As Christians, we know that God loves us despite our sins and failings – and we can recognize that we love our nation despite its failings.

In short, it is a beautiful thing to love our country. We are just called to love God more fully and completely.

In Christian Love,
Pastor Sharilyn

Sharing Our Faith Stories

On May 15, we gathered for a potluck and talked about Sharing our Faith Stories. Some of you even shared a few times when you'd had "God Sightings" or had recognized God working in your life. We are called as members of the Body of Christ to share these experiences with others –to inspire and encourage our own faith, to support the faith of believers, and to introduce and share the faith with those who are seekers or not yet believers. By doing this, we have the privilege to share God's love with our neighbor.

Would you be interested in sharing your faith story with others at Zion Lutheran Church? This could take many forms: writing a brief article for the newsletter, speaking briefly during the announcements at worship, or joining a group of other members to share your stories and pray together. Contact Pastor Sharilyn if you are interested in finding a way to share your faith story!

Adult Sunday School

Nolan Willman has long been the primary facilitator/leader of our adult Sunday School forum. After many years of service with this, he has asked to step down from this role and we are looking for volunteers to lead Sunday School! Pastor Sharilyn will be leading confirmation classes during that hour, and unavailable to lead for that reason. Could God be calling you to help facilitate this learning for your fellow members? You can volunteer for a short-term or longer-term Bible Study (anywhere from a single week to a 12-week series or more!) Pastor Sharilyn is happy to help identify resources and partner with leaders to prepare lessons. Contact Pastor Sharilyn for more information!

Parsonage Updates

There is construction happening at the parsonage! Thank you to the members of Zion Lutheran Church for investing in the parsonage by transitioning the half-bath in the lower level to a full bathroom. As I write this (June 21) there are new walls, a new tub, and a garage full of supplies to complete this project including an updated bathroom sink/vanity. It's looking beautiful! Even better, while there is some reduction in the size of the kitchen, very little of the cabinet space needed to be sacrificed and there's still plenty of room for a two-person table in the room. Look for pictures after the project is completed in our next newsletter!

JUNE 12TH
Lighthouse Church
JULY 10TH
Zion Lutheran Church
AUGUST 14TH
Three Trees Church
SEPTEMBER 11TH
Apostolic Tabernacle
OCTOBER 9TH
Heartland Bible Chapel

2nd
sundays

July Birthdays

Ashley VanDevender.....	7-1
Linda Walker.....	7-1
Debbie Walker.....	7-5
Eldon Willmann.....	7-5
Tryce Hendricks.....	7-7
Kevin Miniear.....	7-8
Merrill Nottingham.....	7-8
John Hendricks.....	7-9
Paige Walker.....	7-15
Trenton Grile.....	7-21
Nancy Cortwright.....	7-21
Alison McCammon.....	7-21
Kim Winningham.....	7-22
Bill Hiday.....	7-23
Jessica Avant.....	7-30
Kean Coy.....	7-31
Sandy Langdon.....	7-31



Congregational MEETING

We will hold our semi-annual meeting on July 17, 2022 immediately following worship. Please plan to attend!



Service of Installation

Pastor Sharilyn's long-delayed service of installation is scheduled for July 31 at our regular 10:30 worship service. Join us for light refreshments afterwards in Fellowship Hall.



July 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Worship & Communion 10:30am	4 Bible Study at Amazing Glaze 8:00am	5	6	7	8	9
10 Worship 10:30am Sunday on the Square 6:00pm	11 Bible Study at Amazing Glaze 8:00am	12	13	14	15	16
17 Worship & Communion 10:30am Semi-Annual Meeting	18 Bible Study at Amazing Glaze 8:00am Council Mtg 7:00pm	19	20	21	22	23
24 Worship 10:30am	25 Bible Study at Amazing Glaze 8:00am	26	27	28	29	30
31 Worship & Communion Installation Service 10:30am						



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

Worship at 10:30am

July 2022

Council Members

President & Elder	Mark Prout
Vice President & Elder	Cindy Knotte
Secretary	Paige Walker
Treasurer	Libby Stroble
Deacon	Drew Walker
Trustee	Neil Stroble

Pastor Sharilyn's Information

Cell Phone: 812-272-2936
Email: sharilyn.wendt@gmail.com

Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9am-Noon
Other Times by Appointment
Please call first to be sure she is in!

Sunday Servants

Lector:

July 3 - Paige Walker
July 10 - Linda Baker
July 17 - Kathy Sharp
July 24 - Linda Baker
July 31 - Cindy Knotte

Acolyte:

July 3 - Clamme Family
July 10 - Volunteer Needed
July 17 - Clamme Family
July 24 - Walker Family
July 31 - Volunteer Needed

Assisting Minister:

July 3 - Michelle Walker
July 17 - Mark Prout
July 31 - Jody Stanley