
THE ZION HERALD

October 2022

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

The Pastor's Ponderings



In recent months, we have been looking at the social statements of the ELCA – examining them as a way to help us live in the world using the lens of our faith and the promises of God as a guide. So far, I have outlined the social statements on Church in Society (July) and Abortion (August). You may have found yourself agreeing or disagreeing with ideas put forward in our social statements, and that's okay. Our social statements are not designed to describe the beliefs of every ELCA Lutheran but are intended to be a scriptural, theological, and spiritual guide along with a place to start conversation. If you would like to talk about any of them, let me know and I'll be happy to sit down with you.

This month, I have been doing additional reading on the ELCA Social Statement, "Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice." This was developed in 1993 and you can read the entire statement on the ELCA Webpage: <https://www.elca.org/faith/faith-and-society/social-statements/caring-for-creation>

The social statement makes two primary assertions: (1) God created a perfect world – including the natural world – but sin corrupts that perfection. (2) God has given us the gift of creation to use for our needs. God also gives us the responsibility to care for, safeguard, and respect the natural world as God's loving creation.

We are called to action on an individual, local, national, and global scale to reduce the negative impact human beings have on creation. Human beings impact the natural world negatively in two ways: (1) Overuse or misuse of the natural environment and natural

October Readings

October 2
Seventeenth Sunday of Pentecost

- Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
- Psalm 37:1-9
- 2 Timothy 1:1-14
- Luke 17:5-10

October 9
Eighteenth Sunday of Pentecost

- 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c
- Psalm 111
- 2 Timothy 2:8-15
- Luke 17:11-19

October 16
Nineteenth Sunday of Pentecost

- Genesis 32:22-31
- Psalm 121
- 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
- Luke 18:1-8

October 23
Twentieth Sunday of Pentecost

- Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22
- Psalm 84:1-7
- 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
- Luke 18:9-14

October 30
Reformation Sunday

- Jeremiah 31:31-34
- Psalm 46
- Romans 3:19-28
- John 8:31-36

resources and (2) Unsustainable population growth. As Christians we are called to live in ways that promote and protect our natural world. Some possible ways that we can do this are:

- Finding ways to reduce our own contributions to waste and landfills by using sustainable, reusable, or recycled products.
- Reducing our “carbon footprint” by lowering our use of fossil fuels on an individual level (ex: fuel efficient cars) and collective level (ex: clean/cleaner energy).
- Using and advocating for sustainable agriculture and forestry practices at home and abroad while supporting economic alternatives for those who over-tax the environment to escape poverty.

• Advocating for policies that protect the environment and encourage conservation efforts while using our wealth to support companies dedicated to good environmental practices.

As with so many things in our world, we are not able to “fix” these problems on our own. We are also called to pray that God work through leaders, policy makers, scientists, and others to protect the natural world.

As always, if you have questions or want to discuss any of the Social Statements of the ELCA, just let me know.

In Christian Love,
Pastor Sharilyn

SHARE YOUR FAITH STORY

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. Thank you to Clara Willmann who was the first to share a Faith Story with us! We are looking for more willing to share their story with our congregation. 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!





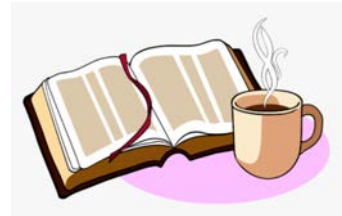
REFORMATION Sunday

We will celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 30th, 2022. Everyone is encouraged to wear red that Sunday – the liturgical color to indicate The Holy Spirit. Also planned for that Sunday is a “reunion” for our confirmation classes from 1972 (50 years) and 1997 (25 years). Plan to attend!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR REFRESHMENT HOSTS NEEDED

We need additional volunteers to be Education Hour Hosts. Responsibilities include bringing and setting out refreshments before Sunday School and light cleanup after worship. Store-bought, homemade or just some fruit – all are possibilities.

Please sign up in the fellowship hall if you are able to serve!



October Birthdays

Ray Stanley.....	10-6
Kathy Sharp.....	10-7
Edi Tarter.....	10-9
Jody Stanley.....	10-12
Max Hile.....	10-13
Shay Clamme.....	10-16
Sue Rinker.....	10-18
Ashley Digman.....	10-22
Linda Stanley.....	10-22
Nancy Bennett.....	10-23
Jay Hendricks.....	10-26
Aneta Gardner.....	10-28
Joan Stanley.....	10-28
Addison Clamme.....	10-29

TIME & GIFTS SURVEYS

Thank you to all who took the time to complete a Time & Gifts Survey! If you weren't able to, you can still complete one through the Zion webpage: <https://zionhc.org/time-gifts-survey/> or scan the QR code here. If you need a paper copy, there are extras in the back of the sanctuary.



Time & Gifts Survey

MIDWEEK

-WORSHIP SERVICE-

LENT AND ADVENT SPECIAL WORSHIP

Thank you to those who shared what they preferred for our mid-week worship during Lent and Advent on our Time & Gifts Survey. The significant majority indicated that they preferred an evening worship service rather than noon. Stay tuned for more details on plans for these special seasons of the church year! If you are unable to attend the 7PM services because you don't like to drive at night, let the church office know. There are members who are often happy to share a ride.

SUMMER HYMN REQUESTS

Thank you to everyone who gave us hymn requests for our summer season! Before we enter Advent, we will have been able to use *most* of the hymns at least once in worship depending on things like availability of the song, copyright, etc. We will keep the list on file as "favorites" of the congregation and future suggestions. If you would like to be a part of the Worship/Music/Memorial Team that chooses music year-round, we are always open to new members. Contact Pastor Sharilyn or any other member of the committee to get information.



Volunteers Needed!

Friday, October 28, the community is hosting a Trunk-or-Treat event around the Square from 7-8:30pm. First Presbyterian has asked us to join them in hosting a "get warm" room with hot chocolate and light refreshments.

Saturday, October 29, there is a 4-H Open House and Trunk-or-Treat at the Fairgrounds from 5:30-7:30pm. Since so many of our youth are involved in 4-H, we would like to show our support to them by having a trunk.

Please sign up in the narthex if you can help.



- BREAKING THE MENTAL HEALTH STIGMA -

Disney PIXAR
INSIDE OUT



Join us for a free family movie night!!

~ popcorn included ~
~ bring your own blankets or chairs ~

October 8th @ 7 PM
Weiler Plaza
Watching: Inside Out

help4hoosters.com



sponsored by: MERIDIAN  

Congregational Council Minutes - August 15, 2022

Present: Mark Prout, Drew Walker, Cindy Knote, Pastor Sharilyn, Paige Walker

Absent: Neil Stroble, Libby Stroble

A. Opening

1. Call Meeting to Order - Mark Prout at 7:01pm
2. Devotions by Mark Prout

B. Secretary's Report

1. Amend/Approve minutes from last Council meeting
 - a. Motion to approve by Cindy, 2nd by Drew, Approved by All
2. Correspondence
 - a. Letter of thanks from Community and Family Services for Laundry Kits
3. Add Items to Agenda
 - a. Council Meeting day

C. Pastor's Report

1. Meet & Know Members
 - a. Membership/Mailing List: We have a "voting membership" of 100 individuals. We have a "baptized membership" of an additional 25. The membership lists are available to review.
 - b. Pastoral Care Visits: 5
 - c. Pastoral Acts: 1 (Funeral-Nyla Hile)
 - d. New Membership Welcome: September 11 (Matt & Jennifer Clamme Family)
2. Youth Education Program
 - a. Confirmation to start September 18
3. Outreach Program
 - a. Food Packing at Second Harvest (August 6) - no signups?
 - b. God's Work, Our Hands (September 11) - Free Laundry Day at Laundromat
 - c. Reformation Sunday 2022 - "Homecoming" Sunday
4. Community Partnerships
 - a. Ongoing local ministerium
 - b. Performing hospital rounds at IU Blackford once a week
 - c. Rotating jail ministry (1 worship service in August)
 - d. Upland University Nursing Center (1 worship service in July)
5. Other Initiatives
 - a. "Tell Your Story" (Spring/Summer/Fall 2022) - ongoing. I still need additional volunteers to be willing to share.
 - b. Time & Talents (September 11)
 - c. Mental Health Ministry: Living Grace Mental Health Support Group starting September 12

D. Committee Reports

1. Parish Education & Youth - Drew
 - a. None
2. Worship/Music/Memorial - Libby
 - a. Music chosen through close to Reformation Sunday. Almost all requests will be met.
3. Mission & Ministry - Cindy
 - a. Michelle Walker is working on getting a Thrivent Action Team for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. Cindy will work on community publicity (Senior Center, CFS Food Pantry, etc).
 - b. Beginning work on Trunk or Treat.

E. Council Reports

- 1. Deacon
 - a. Attendance and Holy Communion Report: low 40s
 - b. Assistance Requests: 3 requests for grocery help, part of hotel room
- 2. Elders
 - a. None
- 3. Trustee
 - a. Check on making sure the boiler is in working order.
- 4. Treasurer

a. Report (as of August 7)

Deacon's Fund Checking	610.93
Deacon's Fund Saving	66.24
General Fund, Thrivent Invested	76,982.75
General Fund, VIA Checking	9,300.14
General Fund, VIA Membership	56.28
General Fund, VIA Money Market	55,384.07
Memorial Fund, VIA Checking	17,121.42
Memorial Fund, VIA Money Market	4,096.02
Mission Invest., Memorial Fund	7,038.60
ZLCW Kitchen Fund Savings	1,723.07
ZLCW Kitchen Fund Checking	150.00
TOTAL ASSETS	172,529.52

F. Business

- 1. Blackford County/Reliant Healthcare Initiative: Pastor Sharilyn will ask for some help and guidance from Synod to come talk to council.
- 2. God's Work, Our Hands Review
- 3. Council Meeting Day: Due to Mental Health Group meetings on Mondays, council meetings need to change days. Agreed to change them to third Tuesday of the month.

G. Closing

- 1. Lord's Prayer at 8:01pm
- 2. Next Meeting: September 20, 2022 at 7:00pm with devotions by Neil Stroble





October 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Education Hour 9:30am Worship & Communion 10:30am	3 Coffee & Jesus at Deja Brew 8am Living Grace Mental Health Support Group 6:30pm	4	5	6	7	8 Family Movie Night at Weiler Plaza 7pm Movie: Pixar's Inside Out
9 Education Hour 9:30am Worship 10:30am 2nd Sunday on the Square 6pm	10 Coffee & Jesus at Deja Brew 8am Living Grace Mental Health Support Group 6:30pm	11 Piecemakers 9am	12	13	14	15
16 Education Hour 9:30am Worship & Communion 10:30am Mission & Ministry 5pm	17 Coffee & Jesus at Deja Brew 8am Living Grace Mental Health Support Group 6:30pm	18 Council Meeting 7pm	19	20	21	22
23 Education Hour 9:30am Worship 10:30am	24 Coffee & Jesus at Deja Brew 8am Living Grace Mental Health Support Group 6:30pm	25 Piecemakers 9am	26 Worship, Music, & Memorial 7pm	27 Hartford City Ministerium 8am	28 Community Trunk-or-Treat with First Presbyterian 7-8:30pm	29 4-H Open House and Trunk-or-Treat at Fairgrounds 5:30-7:30pm
30 Education Hour 9:30am Worship & Communion 10:30am	31 Coffee & Jesus at Deja Brew 8am Living Grace Mental Health Support Group 6:30pm					



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

Christian Education Hour 9:30am
Worship at 10:30am

October 2022

Council Members

President & Elder	Mark Prout
Vice President & Elder	Cindy Knot
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

October 2 - Kathy Sharp
October 9 - Sandy Langdon
October 16 - Cindy Knot
October 23 - Libby Stroble
October 30 - Paige Walker

Acolyte

October 2 - Clamme Family
October 9 - Volunteer Needed
October 16 - Clamme Family
October 23 - Walker Family
October 30 - Walker Family

Assisting Minister

October 2 - Linda Walker
October 16 - Mark Prout
October 30 - Linda Walker