
THE ZION HERALD

August 2023

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

The Pastor's Ponderings

What does the ELCA teach about... Faith, Sexism, and Justice?



You might be surprised that the social statement on Faith, Sexism, and Justice was not adopted in the ELCA until 2019! The ELCA and its predecessor bodies have been ordaining women (arguably an office that indicates equality of women in the church and the world) for over 50 years. However, in both the church

and wider society there is still a need for greater gender equality.

The ELCA teaches that all humans are in God's image. While tradition often has us using male terms for God (Father, Him, etc.) this reflects our own limitations of understanding God rather than any particular male-ness to God. While Jesus was embodied as a male human, his maleness is not what is important – it is the fact that he is human.

The ELCA teaches that patriarchy (where men are seen as absolute authorities over women) and sexism are both sins that limit God's work in the world.

The ELCA also recognizes that in order to experience a world of greater equality, we must recognize that sexism is influenced and tied to other oppressive frameworks – such as racism, classism, discrimination based on sexuality and gender expression, etc. In order to effectively address issues tied to gender equality and sexism, we must also address issues tied to race, class, etc.

The ELCA also recognizes that sexism includes discrimination based on sex (male or female) and gender (masculine and feminine). What is meant by this? One example is that in the United States, professions that are often seen as “female” work (elementary education, nursing home care, childcare workers, etc) are devalued whether they are performed by men or women. They often are lower pay, or seen as somehow “less than.” It is important for us to work toward valuing professions that have previously been seen as “women's work” or “female” careers if we want a world of greater justice.

August Readings

August 6

10th Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 55:1-5
- Psalm 145:8-9,14-21
- Romans 9:1-5
- Matthew 14:13-21

August 13

11th Sunday of Pentecost

- 1 Kings 19:9-18
- Psalm 85:8-13
- Romans 10:5-15
- Matthew 14:22-33

August 20

12th Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 56:1,6-8
- Psalm 67
- Romans 11:1-2a,29-32
- Matthew 15:10-28

August 27

13th Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 51:1-6
- Psalm 138
- Romans 12:1-8
- Matthew 16:13-20



It is not only women and girls who are harmed by sexism – boys and men are also harmed. Men and boys are sometimes expected to be masculine to the point where they are not permitted to show natural human emotions or weaknesses. This sometimes leads to violence toward one's self or others, alcohol and substance abuse, depression, and even suicide.

Beyond the impact of sexism in the United States, there are challenges on a global scale. While we should do our best to understand how different cultures may experience life different than us, as the people of God, we should always advocate for a world that reflects the words of St. Paul in his letter to the Galatians: There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. Before God we are all equally loved, equally welcomed, and equally called into service to Christ. Amen!

In Christian love,
Pastor Sharilyn

VBS AT THE 4H FAIR

Thank you to those who volunteered to assist in putting together materials and helping at VBS at the 4H Fair! Please be thinking about if you would like Zion Lutheran to continue to

offer an event at the 4H Fair in future years. As you can expect, VBS takes a great deal of effort and organization but is an excellent opportunity to share the love of God with our community. How

can you be God's Hands in the world by sharing Jesus with children in and around Hartford City?





PRIORITIES OF THE CONGREGATION

When paperwork is submitted to the synod office to offer a call for a pastor, each congregation is encouraged to identify five priorities for their congregation. Included in this are priorities for the pastor as well as corresponding responsibilities of the congregation. You will find the priorities of the congregation submitted in our most recent call paperwork below – please be praying about if these are what you continue to see these as the priorities of the congregation to be and how you will support the work of Zion Lutheran!

Priorities for the Pastor

- 1) Meet and know members of the congregation – including shut-ins and non-attendees
- 2) Create and build an education program for our youth
- 3) Help us create an outreach program to bring in new members and reach the community
- 4) Get involved in community partnerships to build an inviting Christian network in the county
- 5) Create a schedule that allows us to know when/how to communicate with the pastor

Responsibilities for the Congregation

- 1) We will schedule carry-in dinner for fellowship, small group gatherings
- 2) We will provide resources for multi-level education with teachers and an education committee
- 3) Our members will volunteer to support community projects
- 4) Members are involved in many organizations – we will utilize those relationships to include pastor
- 5) We will work with pastor's defined hours and try not to take advantage of their personal time

ALTAR CANDLES

The Worship-Music-Memorial Committee has been considering what Zion could invest undesignated memorial funds. You may have noticed some changes on the altar as we have replaced our candles with oil candles! In coming weeks, the side candelabras will also have oil candles. While they require an initial investment, oil candles tend to be neater, burn cleaner, and over time are less expensive compared to traditional candles. Our Pascal Candle and Eternal Candles will continue to be traditional beeswax. If you are interested in helping to maintain the altar candles and other altar items, let Pr. Sharilyn know – we always have need for additional helpers!



Maybelle Ann Glancy, daughter of Autumn Lavin and Brody Glancy will be baptized at Zion Lutheran Church on August 6. Please be praying for Maybelle, her parents, her sponsor (Evelyn Calhoon), and all of Maybelle's family as they prepare for her Baptism!



August Birthdays

Kaylin Clamme.....	8-2
Kolby Tallintire.....	8-4
Tom Armstrong.....	8-10
Judy Clamme.....	8-15
Gene Gardner.....	8-16
Madeline Lennon.....	8-16
Roger Willmann.....	8-16
Claretta Dutro.....	8-18
Libby Stroble.....	8-22
Louie Willmann.....	8-23



DEJA BREW - WEDNESDAYS 5-7PM

ASK A PASTOR

QUESTIONS, DOUBTS, DECONSTRUCTING, AND "WHY?" ARE ALL WELCOME!

2023 Council Members:

President & Elder	Cindy Knote
Vice President & Elder	Mark Prout
Secretary	Paige Walker
Treasurer	Libby Stroble
Deacon	Scott Clamme
Trustee	Neil Stroble

Pastor Sharilyn's Information:

Cell Phone: 812-272-2936

Email: sharilyn.wendt@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Monday: 2:30pm-5:30pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 9am-Noon

Other Times by Appointment

Please call first to be sure she is in!

Worship at Weiler



Due to popularity last year, Hartford City churches will again be hosting services on Sunday evenings throughout the summer. This is an excellent opportunity to experience other denominations and worship as a community! Bring a lawn chair and meet at Weiler Plaza at 6pm!

Schedule:

- August 6 - Trinity United Methodist
- August 13 - Three Trees
- August 20 - Lighthouse
- August 27 - Zion Lutheran



Congregational Council Minutes – June 20, 2023

Present: Paige Walker, Mark Prout, Cindy Knot, Pastor Sharilyn, Libby Stroble

Absent: Neil Stroble, Scott Clamme

A. Opening

1. Call Meeting to Order – Cindy at 7:02pm
2. Devotions by Libby

B. Secretary's Report

1. Amend/Approve minutes from last Council meeting
 - a. Motion to approve by Mark, 2nd by Libby, Approved by All
2. Correspondence
 - a. Letter of thanks from Wernle
3. Add Items to Agenda
 - a. Goals & Priorities

C. Pastor's Report for May/June 2023

1. Meet & Know Members
 - a. Pastoral Care Visits: 9
2. Youth Education Program
 - a. Confirmation on hold until Fall 2023. Next year will focus on Biblical Literacy, Lutheran Theology, and Discipleship.
 - b. VBS at the Fair – Most of the planning is completed and materials ordered. First Presbyterian is interested in joining us. Craft Kits and Take-Home Kits are still to be assembled. **Need a pop-up canopy.**
3. Outreach Program
 - a. Ask-A-Pastor: Available at Deja Brew for questions/concerns/etc – open to community
 - b. 4-H Parade – July 17
 - i. Langdon's have agreed to let us use their wagon and will it for us.
 - ii. Candy is on order, but primarily will give out icepops. Plans are in place for the leftovers. **Need some coolers.**
4. Community Partnerships
 - a. Mental Health Walk was successful. Thank you to the council for being willing to offer a donation – it means that with the donations at the event there will be enough to purchase a few things that can be used yearly (banners/tablecloths/etc)
 - b. Sundays on the Square – Zion Lutheran will be providing worship on July 30 and August 27. Please plan to attend these as well as some others during the summer.
5. Other Initiatives
 - a. Prayer Service for J. Clamme

D. Committee Reports

1. Parish Education & Youth - Scott
 - a. VBS plans moving forward
2. Worship/Music/Memorial - Libby
 - a. Memorial - looking into changing to oil candles – cleaner, less mess, less expensive over time. Also looking into cushions for altar rail.
 - b. Music – planned through summer, including request hymns
3. Mission & Ministry - Cindy
 - a. None

E. Council Reports

1. Deacon
 - a. Attendance and Holy Communion Report
 1. May 21 – 43
 2. May 28 – 45
 3. June 4 – 43
 4. June 11 – 41
 - b. Assistance Requests
 1. 1 for \$100 (food)
2. Elders
 - a. None
3. Trustee
 - a. A/C Proposals - \$52K (Coovert), \$18K (Bollinger). Will bring to semi-annual meeting.
4. Treasurer

a. Report (as of June 14)

Deacon's Fund Checking	866.06
Deacon's Fund Saving	66.36
General Fund, Thrivent Invested	79,697.53
General Fund, VIA Checking	7,440.66
General Fund, VIA Membership	56.38
General Fund, VIA Money Market	49,643.23
Memorial Fund, VIA Checking	24,566.42
Memorial Fund, VIA Money Market	3,272.86
Mission Invest., Memorial Fund	7,064.42
ZLCW Kitchen Fund Savings	2,243.50
ZLCW Kitchen Fund Checking	150.00
TOTAL ASSETS	175,059.16

F. Business

1. Semi-annual meeting on July 16
2. July Council meeting is Fair Week – reschedule? July 25
3. Goals & Priorities – Ask Pastor Nyland about a Sunday in August/September, combine with annual picnic

G. Closing

1. Lord's Prayer at 7:48pm
2. Next Meeting: July 25, 2023 at 7:00pm with devotions by Scott



August 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Worship, Communion & Baptism 10:30am	7 Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am	8	9	10	11	12
Pastor Out-of-Office						
13 Worship 10:30am	14	15 Council Meeting in Library 7:00pm	16 Ask-A- Pastor at Deja Brew 5-7pm	17	18	19
Pastor Out-of-Office						
20 Worship & Communion 10:30am	21 Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am Mission & Ministry 7pm - ZLC Library	22	23 Ask-A- Pastor at Deja Brew 5-7pm	24 Worship/Music/ Memorial 7pm - ZLC Library	25	26
27 Worship 10:30am Worship @ Weiler hosted by ZLC 6:00pm	28 Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am	29	30 Ask-A- Pastor at Deja Brew 5-7pm	31		



308 S Monroe St
Hartford City, IN 47348

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

Worship at 10:30am

August 2023 Sunday Servants

Greeters:

August 6 - Max & Sandy Langdon
Gene & Aneta Gardner
August 13 - Mark & Julie Prout
Gene & Aneta Gardner
August 20 - Dorothy Hale
Lewis & Joyce Willmann
August 27 - Eldon Willmann
Neil & Libby Stroble

Assisting Minister:

August 6 - Linda Walker
August 20 - Mark Prout

Lector:

August 6 - Sandy Langdon
August 13 - Julie Prout
August 20 - Paige Walker
August 27 - Neil Stroble

Acolyte:

August 6 - Clamme
August 13 - Walker
August 20 - Clamme
August 27 - Walker

SAVE THE DATE
GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 10, 2023