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# THE ZION HERALD

## October 2023

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

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### The Pastor's Ponderings

## What Does It Mean to Be A Church That Is Always Reforming?

The legacy of Martin Luther runs deep in the Lutheran Church – from our theology to our music to our continued use of liturgical parts (the ancient words, phrases, patterns, and traditions) of our worship service. While the Lutheran tradition is rooted in tradition, we are also a church that is called to always be looking and considering where REFORMATION is needed. It was the belief of the early reformers of 500 years ago that the church should continually look to scripture in order to determine if it was on the “right path” and if we are truly teaching, preaching, and living God’s message.

What are some examples of things that have been reformed? One simple example is that at one time, the culture of the church was to celebrate Holy Communion much less often. In the Roman Catholic tradition, Mass (that is, worship with communion) is celebrated at least weekly. Luther writes in the introduction to the Small Catechism: “Whoever does not seek or desire the Sacrament at least some four times a year, it is to be feared that he despises the Sacrament and is no Christian...” Some took this to mean that we should celebrate only four times a year and with that, a tradition was formed in many Lutheran congregations. Eventually, Lutherans looked at scripture (which never places any limit on how often to receive this new sacrament, often talks about early disciples dedicated to “the breaking of bread” and Jesus’ own words calling us to remembrance) and we started to reform this tradition. It was certainly not “wrong” to celebrate communion four times a year, but the tradition did not align well with scripture or our founding theology. And so we reformed. We revised. We changed. At the same time, we stayed true to scripture and our foundational documents. In congregations where communion is celebrated often, the faithful have reported craving and yearning for communion when they haven’t been able to celebrate.

## October Readings

October 1

*A Future of Honoring the Early Church*

- Acts 4:32-37
- Acts 15:1-11
- Acts 15:12-21

October 8

*A Future of Remembering Our Legacy*

- Hebrews 12:1-3
- Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- Ezra 3:10-13

October 15

*A Future of Celebrating Our Gifts*

- John 15:5-11
- 1 Peter 4:10-11
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-13

October 22

*A Future of Big Dreams and New Member Welcome*

- Jeremiah 29:11-14
- Proverbs 16:3, 3:5-6, 16:9
- Luke 1:26-38

October 29

*Reformation Sunday - Always Reforming!*

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



A recent thing Lutherans discussed reforming: During the COVID-19 pandemic, we had discussions about what it would mean to celebrate communion while on Zoom Teleconferencing. What would it mean to consider – if a group of Christians in separate places but ‘together’ with the help of the internet – at and drank bread and wine after the communion liturgy? Certainly, this was never something that Martin Luther could have even imagined, but Lutherans across the country wondered and considered and pondered what it means to “gather in community” in online formats. The questions are still being asked and considered.

Our roots are in reforming – and our future is in reforming. We look at scripture and our world, and in prayer, conversation, study, and wondering we look for ways to live our faith. We examine our traditions, look for what continues to give life and consider changing the things that hold us back. We are always reforming. Always being made new. Always rooted in tradition, yet with curiosity and wondering moving toward the future. May we be blessed on the journey!

In Christian Love,  
Pastor Sharilyn

## October Birthdays

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Ray Stanley .....    | 10-6  |
| Kathy Sharp .....    | 10-7  |
| Edi Tarter .....     | 10-9  |
| Jody Stanley .....   | 10-12 |
| Shay Clamme .....    | 10-16 |
| 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 |





# CREATING OUR FUTURE

## Discussion Themes

- Sept 10 - Service to Others
- Sept 17 - Gathering Together in Love
- Sept 24 - Celebrating Our Baptism
- Oct 1 - Honoring the Early Church
- Oct 8 - Remembering Our Legacy
- Oct 15 - Celebrating Our Gifts
- Oct 22 - Big Ideas and Dreams  
New Member Welcome
- Oct 29 - Reformation Sunday  
Always Reforming

During September and October, our worship texts will focus on where we have been as a congregation, where we are now, and where we are looking to go. We need the help of everyone in our congregation to answer these questions - plan on joining the discussion!

## Reformation Sunday Celebration

Plan to stay after worship on Sunday, October 29 for lunch and discussion about Zion's future priorities for ministry within and outside our walls lead by Director for Evangelical Mission, Pastor Nancy Nyland.



# REFORMATION SUNDAY

Plan to stay after worship on Sunday, October 29  
for lunch and conversation!

Director for Evangelical Mission, Pr. Nancy Nyland  
will visit Zion Lutheran to lead us in discussion  
about Zion's priorities for ministry within and  
outside our walls. This will take place in Fellowship  
Hall after worship service and Zion will be  
providing lunch for everyone.

What an exciting time to be the People of God!



## WELCOME New Members

We will officially welcome Autumn Lavin and  
Jennifer Doi as members of Zion Lutheran Church  
on Sunday, October 22. Plan to join us and  
celebrate our new members!

### 2023 Council Members:

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| President & Elder      | Cindy Knotte  |
| 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](mailto: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!

DEJA BREW - WEDNESDAYS 5-7PM



# ASK A PASTOR

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



## **Zion Lutheran Church Congregational Council Meeting August 15, 2023**

**Present:** Cindy Knotte, Mark Prout, Neil Stroble, Libby Stroble, Paige Walker, Pastor Sharilyn

**Absent:** Scott Clamme

### **A. Opening**

1. Call Meeting to Order – Cindy at 7:00pm
2. Devotions by Neil

### **B. Secretary's Report**

1. Amend/Approve minutes from last Council meeting
  - a. Motion to approve by Mark, 2nd by Paige, Approved by All
2. Correspondence
  - a. Letter of thanks from baptism
  - b. Letter of thanks from Synod for mission support
3. Add Items to Agenda
  - a. None

### **C. Pastor's Report for July 2023**

1. Meet & Know Members
  - a. Pastoral Care Visits: 8
  - b. Pastoral Acts: S.Rinker Funeral (7/3), V.Hiatt Funeral (7/15)
2. Youth Education Program
  - a. Confirmation planning is underway for Fall/Spring semesters. We will start meeting on September 17.
3. Outreach Program
  - a. Ask-A-Pastor: Available at Deja Brew for questions/concerns/etc – open to community
  - b. Jail Ministry (once a month)
  - c. Worship Service at Envive Nursing Home (once a month)
4. Community Partnerships
  - a. Worship at Weiler – Zion hosted July 30
  - b. Worship at Weiler – Zion will host August 27
    - i. Need Volunteers: Readers (8), Vehicle to assist with audio equipment, Ushers/Greeters (2-4)

### **D. Committee Reports**

1. Parish Education & Youth - Scott
  - a. None
2. Worship/Music/Memorial - Libby
  - a. Meeting scheduled for next week
3. Mission & Ministry - Cindy
  - a. Meeting scheduled for next week

## E. Council Reports

### 1. Deacon

#### a. Attendance and Holy Communion Report

1. July 30 – 31

2. August 6 – 39, Communion: 35 (Baptism)

#### b. Assistance Requests

1. None

### 2. Elders

a. None

### 3. Trustee

a. None

### 4. Treasurer

#### a. Report (as of August 10)

|                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Deacon's Fund Checking          | 648.56     |
| Deacon's Fund Saving            | 66.41      |
| General Fund, Thrivent Invested | 80,458.87  |
| General Fund, VIA Checking      | 3,036.48   |
| General Fund, VIA Membership    | 56.42      |
| General Fund, VIA Money Market  | 44,686.70  |
| Memorial Fund, VIA Checking     | 27,081.42  |
| Memorial Fund, VIA Money Market | 2,995.63   |
| Mission Invest., Memorial Fund  | 7,066.73   |
| ZLCW Kitchen Fund Savings       | 2,243.67   |
| ZLCW Kitchen Fund Checking      | 150.00     |
| TOTAL ASSETS                    | 168,490.89 |

## F. Business

1. Annual Picnic on Sept 17 – hamburgers/hot dogs, condiments, and drinks provided by Zion, will as members to bring sides and desserts.
2. Synod Visit on Oct 29 – Pastor Nyland will lead discussion after worship. Zion will provide lunch.
3. Cemetery Trustees – Would like to increase cemetery lots for non-members. Currently lots are \$200, recommending increase to \$700 for non-members effective January 1. Lots would remain at \$200 for members. Currently in county \$500-\$800 per lot. Council states that cemetery trustees can make their own decisions, but agreed to plan to move forward.
4. Sanctuary A/C – Neil will ask congregation to make donations toward fund if they are inclined and see where it goes from there.

## G. Closing

1. Lord's Prayer at 8:21pm
2. Next Meeting: September 19, 2023 at 7:00pm with devotions by Mark



# October

2023



SUN

MON


TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

|   |  |   |   |    |    |   |
|---|--|---|---|----|----|---|
| Education Hour 9:30am<br><br>Worship & Communion 10:30am<br><br>1           | Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am<br><br>Mental Health Support Group in Library 6:30pm<br><br>2  | 3   | Ask A Pastor at Deja Brew 5-7pm<br><br>4  | 5  | 6  | 7   |
| Education Hour 9:30am<br><br>Worship 10:30am<br><br>8                       | Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am<br><br>Mental Health Support Group in Library 6:30pm<br><br>9  | Piecemakers in Fellowship Hall 9:00am<br><br>10 | Ask A Pastor at Deja Brew 5-7pm<br><br>11 | 12 | 13 | 14  |
| Education Hour 9:30am<br><br>Worship & Communion 10:30am<br><br>15          | Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am<br><br>Mental Health Support Group in Library 6:30pm<br><br>16 | Council Meeting in Library 7:00pm<br><br>17     | Ask A Pastor at Deja Brew 5-7pm<br><br>18 | 19 | 20 | 21  |
| Education Hour 9:30am<br><br>Worship & New Member Welcome 10:30am<br><br>22 | Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am<br><br>Mental Health Support Group in Library 6:30pm<br><br>23 | Piecemakers in Fellowship Hall 9:00am<br><br>24 | Ask A Pastor at Deja Brew 5-7pm<br><br>25 | 26 | 27 | 28  |
| Education Hour 9:30am<br><br>Worship & Communion 10:30am<br><br>29          | Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am<br><br>Mental Health Support Group in Library 6:30pm<br><br>30 | 31  |   |    |    |  |



**308 S Monroe St  
Hartford City, IN 47348**

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

**Education Hour/Confirmation at 9:30am  
Worship at 10:30am**

## September 2023 Sunday Servants

### Greeters:

October 1 - Dorothy Hale  
Peggy Willmann  
October 8 - Ray & Linda Stanley  
Edi Tarter  
October 15 - Eldon Willmann  
Steve & Viola Willmann  
October 22 - Claretta Dutro  
Gene & Aneta Gardner  
October 29 - Claretta Dutro  
Lewis & Joyce Willmann

### Assisting Minister:

October 1 - Mark Prout  
October 15 - Linda Walker  
October 29 - Michelle Walker

### Lector:

October 1 - Sandy Langdon  
October 8 - Cindy Knotte  
October 15 - Linda Walker  
October 22 - Linda Baker  
October 29 - Michelle Walker

### Acolyte:

October 1 - Walker  
October 8 - Clamme  
October 15 - Walker  
October 22 - Clamme  
October 29 - Walker