THE ZION HERALD

August 2025

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

The Pastor's Ponderings

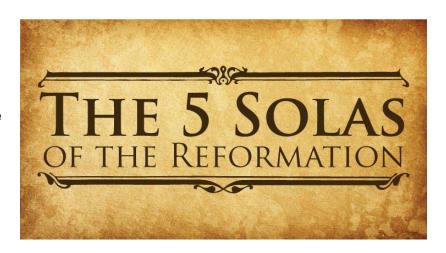
For the next few months, we will look at some core Lutheran theological ideas.

August: The Solas

September: Law & Gospel October: Theology of the Cross

These, of course, don't sum up all Lutheran ideas, but they are things that were key ideas in the Protestant Reformation and things that continue to inform ideas into the current day.

"The Five Solas" is a term used to describe some core ideas in our faith:



Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone): This is the belief that what we know about God should come from scripture. While Lutherans believe it is okay to use tradition and early church writings to help us interpret, if these contradict scripture in any way, we endorse using scripture alone to understand God.

Sola Fide (Faith Alone): This teaches that our salvation is tied to only our faith and God's grace (more on that later). Acts or good works do not contribute to our salvation – it is by our faith alone that we are saved. In fact, Luther would even say that our faith is a gift and we can't grow in faith by our own efforts.

Sola Gratia (Grace Alone): Lutherans believe that our salvation is a free, unearned gift called "grace." Our actions do not contribute to this grace or permit this grace to happen – it is a completely free, generous, and no-strings-attached gift.

Solus Christus (Christ Alone): It is through Jesus – and Jesus only – that salvation is possible. Jesus is the only way for us to achieve an enduring connection to God.

August Readings

August 3

8th Sunday after Pentecost

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

August 10

9th Sunday after Pentecost

- Genesis 15:1-6
- Psalm 33:12-22
- Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16
- · Luke 12:32-40

August 17

10th Sunday after Pentecost

- Jeremiah 23:23-29
- Psalm 82
- · Hebrews 11:29-12:2
- Luke 12:49-56

August 24

11th Sunday after Pentecost

- Isaiah 58:9b-14
- Psalm 103:1-8
- Hebrews 12:18-29
- Luke 13:10-17

August 31

12th Sunday after Pentecost

- Proverbs 25:6-7
- Psalm 112
- Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16
- Luke 14:1,7-14



Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God Alone): This goes along with the other "solas" – we can not boast of our own salvation. We can not claim glory for ourselves because of our salvation. It is God's glory and it is God's greatness that we have salvation.

What "The Five Solas" boils down to is remembering that we must – when possible – remove our own human prejudices and tendencies when thinking about God. Human instinct is to attempt to create equality in our relationships. A "you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours" type of relationship between people is normal – even healthy! Our relationship with God doesn't look like that, though. God doesn't meet us halfway - God does it all! Thanks be to God for that!

In Christ, Pastor Sharilyn



Mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 7**, as we take part in our annual God's Work – Our Hands service event! This year, we'll once again head to our local laundromat to offer free laundry to members of our community in need.

We're well stocked on soap and dryer sheets, but if you'd like to support the effort financially, please mark your donation as "God's Work – Our Hands."

Thank you for helping us share God's love in practical, meaningful ways!

HELP NEEDED: ALTAR CARE & CANDLE MAINTENANCE

We're looking for volunteers to assist with altar care! This is a simple but meaningful way to serve, and it doesn't require much time. When the church seasons change, the paraments (the cloths on the altar, lectern, and pulpit) need to be switched out. This is typically done right after worship and can be easily learned. If you're interested, please contact the church office or speak with Pat Gillis.

We also need help maintaining our oil candles. These candles provide a consistent, polished look



on our altar, but they do require occasional upkeep—about once every 3–4 weeks. There's a small learning curve at first, but it becomes easy after doing it once or twice. If you're willing to help with this task, please reach out to Pastor Sharilyn.

Thank you for considering these opportunities to serve behind the scenes and support the worship life of our church!

August Birthdays

Kaylın Clamme	8-2
Kolby Tallintire	8-4
Tom Armstrong	8-10
Judy Clamme	8-15
Gene Gardner	8-16
Roger Willmann	8-16
Claretta Dutro	8-18
Libby Stroble	8-22
Louis Willmann	8-23



VBS THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who assisted with our VBS at the 4-H Fair this year! We had a great turnout this year - we hope to have even more kids next year!

Special recognition to our church secretary, Paige, for her gifts in graphic design, Max and Sandy Langdon for the use of their wagon for the parade, Michelle Walker and Larry Hile for their help at the auction, and all those

who wore VBS shirts to advertise for us at the fair.

Thanks to everyone for your help - we look forward to a successful fair next year!



Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting May 20, 2025 Minutes

All were in attendance. President Paige Walker opened the meeting. Neil Stroble moved to accept the minutes from the April meeting. Sandy Langdon seconded the motion. The motion passed. Items added to the agenda included outdoor worship and a shared ministry report.

The Pastor's report included: 8 pastoral care visits in April, there will be four congregations collaborating for VBS again this year. We will be at the 4-H Fair on Monday – Thursday and information is in the fair program. Ministry and Outreach will be asked to allow funds from the Clamme Estate to be used for promotion. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday were both collaborative services. The local ministerium group is considering doing Sundays at Weiler Plaza. Graveside services were conducted for Mr. Richard Kinney. As of Thursday, May 15, Patricia, from the synod office, has indicated that additional conversation needs to take place within possible partnership congregation before having a joint meeting.

Matt Clamme gave the only committee report. Worship/Music/Memorial met and selected music and liturgy through September. Deacon Drew Walker reported attendance has been in the mid 40s through April. There were two requests for assistance in April for gas money and to pay a water bill. Trustee Neil Stroble cleaned out the flower beds and replanted with roses. Treasurer Matt Clamme gave the following report as of May 17:

Deacon's Fund Checking \$996.93

Deacon's Fund Savings \$66.76 Thrivent Invested \$88.895.59

General Fund Checking \$12,372.97

VIA Membership \$48,872.99 General Fund Money Market \$107.19

Memorial Fund Checking \$10,639.44

Memorial Fund Money Market \$16,506.07

Memorial Fund Mission Investment \$7,113.93

ZLCW Kitchen Fund Savings \$2,344.70

ZLCW Kitchen Funds Checking \$150.00

TOTAL ASSETS \$186,003.12

The outdoor worship and picnic will be June 22 at the home of Ray and Linda Stanley. Members of First Presbyterian will be invited. Council will provide meat, drinks, condiments, and utensils. It was decided to not have a meeting in June.

The meeting closed with all praying the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be July 22 and Sandy Langdon will have devotions.

Respectively submitted, Sandy Langdon

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Worship & Communion 10:30am	Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am					2
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Worship 10:30am	Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am					
10	1)	12	13	14	15	16
Worship & Communion 10:30am	Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am	Council Meeting in Library 7:00pm				
17	18	19	20	21)	22	23
Worship 10:30am	Bible Study at Deja Brew 8:00am					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Worship & Communion 10:30am						



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

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!

2025 Council Members

President & Elder
Vice President & Elder
Secretary
Treasurer
Deacon
Trustee
Paige Walker
Mark Prout
Sandy Langdon
Matt Clamme
Drew Walker
Neil Stroble

August Sunday Servants

Greeters

Aug 3 - Buck & Kathy Sharp

Aug 10 - Tom Armstrong; Neil & Libby Stroble

Aug 17 - Gene & Aneta Gardner

Aug 24 - Steve & Viola Willmann

Aug 31 - Peggy Willmann; Joyce Willmann

Lector

Aug 3 - Kathy Sharp

Aug 10 - Neil Stroble

Aug 17 - Cindy Knote

Aug 24 - Paige Walker

Aug 31 - Michelle Walker

<u>Assisting Minister</u>

Aug 3 - Linda Walker

Aug 17 - Michelle Walker

Aug 31 - Mark Prout