

# **Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool**



2021  
August

# ECHO

**101 South Railway  
Mascoutah, IL 62258**

**PASTOR:**

- **Rev. Kirk Clayton**  
Email: [Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org](mailto:Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org)

**MUSIC DIRECTORS:**

- **Josh & Nancy Peterson**

**PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:**

- **Vikki Harms**  
Email: [zionpreschooldirector2020@gmail.com](mailto:zionpreschooldirector2020@gmail.com)

**CHURCH SECRETARY:**

- **Robin Phillips**  
Email: [ChurchOffice@ZionMascoutah.org](mailto:ChurchOffice@ZionMascoutah.org)

**Church: 618-566-7345**  
**Fax: 618-566-9519**  
**Website:**  
**[www.ZionMascoutah.org](http://www.ZionMascoutah.org)**

**Find us at @ZionMascoutah on  
Facebook, Twitter, and  
Instagram**



***A Congregation of  
The  
Lutheran Church  
Missouri Synod***

**Mission Statement: "Zion is God's family of faith in Christ serving our communities, our country, and our world".**

## *Humor*

A Sunday School teacher decided to have his second grade class learn Psalm 23, one of the most quoted texts from the Holy Bible. He gave the kids a month to memorize the whole chapter. One of the girls was really excited about it, but she simply couldn't memorize the Psalm. Although she practiced hard, she could hardly get past the first few lines. So the day came for the children to recite Psalm 23 before the school board and that little girl was nervous. When her turn came, she stepped up to the microphone and proudly said, "The Lord is my Shepherd and that's all I need to know!"

Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt." Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."

## *From the Pastor*

As many of you are aware, I have received a call to serve as pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Osmond, Nebraska. I would like to share some thoughts here about the call process...not about the congregations and the details of each congregation, but about the deeper question of where to serve for the good of God's kingdom.

My first sermon at Zion, 16 years ago, was based on 1 Corinthians 1:20-25, "Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men." I focused specifically on verse 23, "But we preach Christ crucified."

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*From the Pastor continued from page 1*

The first and foremost consideration for a pastor is that the Word of God is to be preached rightly and fully, and that God's gifts in Word and Sacraments are given to God's people regularly. Needless to say, both congregations also focus on this same area. Preaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments are the top priorities, but they are a bit less prioritized in considering a call, because they will happen at either congregation.

While I did not focus on it in my first sermon at Zion 16 years ago, I would also say that a strong priority of ministry is rooted in Luke 22:24-27, "A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves."

For me, the heart of the question of a call is where can I best serve God's people and help them face the challenges the congregation experiences. It is not about which salary and benefits package is better, it's not about which house is nicer, it's not about which seems more peaceful and comfortable. In a strange way, it is almost the opposite. The question for me is closer to asking where are the challenges greater. That does not mean that the problems are greater. Challenges are not necessarily problems. Challenges also include unique opportunities for ministry that will require a lot of time and effort to get off the ground. Challenges include opportunities for growth and learning as a pastor and as a congregation.

Let me stress again, the primary question for me in considering a call is not where can myself and my family be the most comfortable, have the easiest path, or have the greatest support and compensation. The question instead is where can I be of most help to a congregation in building the Kingdom of God in that location. It may seem to be the harder, more difficult position is the one that most needs a pastor at that time, so that would be where I may well feel led. A pastor should not say "I am among you as one who profits" but as Jesus said in Luke 22:27, "But I am among you as one who serves."

I have written about the human consideration that goes into deciding about a call. Of course, there is another, extremely important aspect of a call, namely the working and guidance of the Holy Spirit. As we ask for His wisdom and clarity, the Holy Spirit works subtly and quietly to give insight and ultimately to bring peace and confidence in a decision. We commend this process and consideration into God's care, and ask that He would lead all things to work for the good of His Church in every place, including Zion, Mascoutah, Illinois and Immanuel, Osmond, Nebraska.

To that end, I ask for your continued and ongoing prayers that the Holy Spirit would open doors where needed, close doors where necessary, and give peace in a decision to come. I would also value your thoughts and input about the question of challenges, opportunities, and the ways I could serve in the future of the congregation at Zion. If you have thoughts and ideas to share, please reach out to me soon so I can consider them carefully in the decision making process.

Thank you for your love and prayers during this process. We seek for God's will to be done in all things.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Kirk Clayton

# President's Page

Greetings to Zion members,

I hope your summer is going well. August is coming up quickly, and the Homecoming event has returned to Mascoutah after a year of being absent. We have been asked and council has approved, to have Zion serve food in the fish stand at the pole barn on Friday evening, August 6<sup>th</sup>. Please consider a time that is good for you to help! We will probably set up one hour shifts so we can be flexible with your time and still have enough help to work each shift adequately.

Thank you to four members who have agreed to serve on the Transfer the Blessing Endowment Fund Team. Ray Kemezys, Lionel Timmerman, Ted Ahner, and Matt Krausz will lead the activities for Zion as the need arises from year to year.

Interest continues in the personal side of the Transfer the Blessings Program. I encourage you to consider looking into this if you are personally considering financial planning for yourself. These professional planners can help you develop a plan that meets your personal goals and identifies ways to also remember your church family. The cost is covered by Zion until next July, when the agreement ends as it is presently set up.

Our second Voters Meeting of the year will be August 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. We look forward to your attendance.

We bid farewell (for a while) to our Sem student Josh and wife Sarah Makey as they leave for their vicarage year. We welcome back Seminarian Don and Emily Stein and family as they return from vicarage and enter the final year at the seminary. We look forward to Beth, Lily, and Penny being in our midst again!

Have a great summer!

Blessings to you, Dale Wehmeyer, President

## CHOIR NEWS

Ringers needed!

Last year, we were blessed to hear beautiful chime music each month. As our hand chime ensemble enters its second year, we have space for three new members! Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays at about 8:15 PM, and we will play monthly at the Sunday service. Ringing chimes is easy, but basic music reading ability is helpful. Please contact Nancy Peterson ([joshandnancyp@gmail.com](mailto:joshandnancyp@gmail.com) or 618-973-8169) if you are interested in joining.



### Membership Changes

Baptisms:

Transfer In:

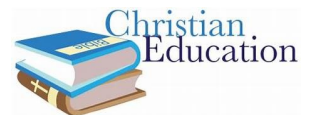
# Board of Ed

We had a really successful virtual VBS. We had between 13 and 18 kids who enjoyed hearing the Bible stories told by Lori Clayton and Jeanette Schorfheide. They shared their crafts with us each night led by Marianne McDaniel. A big thanks to Pastor Clayton for doing the opening and closing each night. Thanks to all who helped and participated.

We are looking forward to Sunday School starting up in the fall. If you would be willing to teach a class this fall please contact Alicia Suedmeyer at [suedz2@yahoo.com](mailto:suedz2@yahoo.com). We need several willing teachers!!!

God's blessings to all of you going back to school to teach or to learn!

Marianne McDaniel



Things are gearing up for the beginning of our 2021-2022 preschool year. We still have a few openings in our Monday/Wednesday 3-year-old class.

I am happy to announce that both of our age groups will be meeting in person this year! Things are going to look a little different at the preschool this year. Jen Dinkelman, who taught our virtual class this past year, has accepted a Preschool Director position, and we wish her the absolute best!! She will be missed, but I know there are great things in store for her. I am excited to announce that we have hired Emily Stein, as our 3-year-old lead teacher for this coming school year. Emily and her family are returning to Zion Lutheran Church after a year in Iowa City. We are excited to have her join our Zion Preschool family.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

God Bless,  
Vikki Harms



# Elders Corner

Welcome back!

That opening sentence may elicit a reaction such as, "Welcome back from what?" Zion has been "reopened" for at least two months since public health restrictions and guidelines have allowed for greater attendance numbers.

However, I want to encourage more Zion members to consider returning to in-person attendance. Your health and safety, including your comfortability in returning to in-person attendance, is very important to Zion's Elders and a topic that we have always taken into significant consideration.

It's a very uplifting sight and sound to have more members fill the pews for in-person attendance. Should any Zion member have questions, please don't hesitate to contact any Elder or Pastor Clayton if you have any questions.

Additionally, as the calendar tells us that we're fast approaching the time of year where Zion will be coordinating fellowship activities (Rally Sunday, Friendship Sunday, etc.), please consider attending those events to "rejoin" your Zion family.

There are a variety of opportunities for members of all ages to rejoice in God's presence in (and around) His house in congregational fellowship at Zion - so please take prayerful consideration.

Always know that you're "Welcome back!"

Randy Schorfheide, Elder



## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School has been having fun learning how to Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks! Please find us in the basement fellowship room each Sunday at 9:45 AM to join in the fun!

Fall planning has begun and we need teachers!! We are in need of all new/returning teachers to contact Alicia Suedmeyer as soon as possible. Classes need to be set up or combined and materials ordered.

If you are interested in planning/running Rally Day, please let me know!!

In Christ's service,  
Alicia Suedmeyer & Candy Andres  
618-741-3337







When it comes to stewardship, a favorite Bible verse is the account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4). It's a moving account. Our Lord praises the seemingly small gift of two copper coins given by a poor widow above the abundance of gifts given by the rich, saying, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them" (Luke 21:3). And that is usually where we stop. But the text goes on. "For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on" (Luke 21:4).

"She ... put in all she had to live on." She gave everything. She held nothing back. She trusted that the Lord who made her and all creatures; who gave her everything she had; who redeemed her from her own sin, from death, and the power of the devil; who called her by the gospel and enlightened her with His gifts of Word and Sacrament; would continue to do this. He would provide her with all that she needed for this body and life because that is the character of the God she had.

But this is not why we give small gifts. Her gift, though it appeared small, was actually large. When we are tempted to give small gifts, it is precisely because we want them to be small! We don't trust the Lord to provide for us. We give small gifts because we lack faith in the One who created us, redeemed us, sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith. We give small gifts because we doubt that God will really give us what we need and desire. We give small gifts because we are not content with what God has already given.

We are not slaves, children of the slave woman, under the Old Covenant (Galatians 4). We are adopted sons of the free woman. And since we are sons, we are also heirs. And heirs receive the inheritance. For everything is already ours in Christ. And thus, moved by the willing spirit of adoption, we do the will of God in financial matters far beyond all that done by those under the Old Covenant who were forced by legal demands.

So, what have you decided to give? How do I decide what to give? Let the Scriptures be your guide.

We are to give proportionally to what we have received from God's giving to us (Luke 12:48; 1 Corinthians 16:1–2, 2 Corinthians 8:12). But you have not been set free to give nothing. See that you excel in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7)!

We are not free to live selfishly outside the Gospel, without regard for God who gives us all good gifts, without generosity for our neighbor who needs us and our gifts, without supporting the community of faith in which we live, without care for our spiritual fathers and those who teach and help raise our children in the faith, and without resources for the poor and needy.

In short, we are not free to live unto ourselves, hoarding what God has given us only for us. For love is the fulfillment of the law (Romans 13:10). And the sum of the law is this: Love God and love your neighbor (Matthew 22:34–40). We love because He first loved us. We give because He has given to us.

Luther once said, "Possessions belong in your hands, not in your heart" (LW 14:240). There is a reason your 10 fingers spread apart. With your hands you catch God's gifts for what you need and let the rest fall through your fingers to your neighbors – your family, your friends, your community, your church.

# ??? Who Do I Contact ???

## **ADULT NEW MEMBER/INSTRUCTION**

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

## **ALTAR GUILD**

Lita Timmerman 618-806-2617

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Marianne McDaniel 618-789-1602

Amanda Ganey 618-789-3157

Jeannette Schorfheide 618-304-5405

## **BOARD OF FINANCE**

Lionel Timmerman 618-806-8993

Deb Heck 618-792-0723

Jenny Kneschke 618-566-9919

## **CHURCH BUSINESS**

President — Dale Wehmeyer 618-566-8114

V. President — Ben Eatherton 618-203-0053

## **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

## **EVANGELISM QUESTIONS**

Bessie Fick 515-230-9937

Tony Lara, Elder 618-530-8886

## **LADIES AID/LWML**

Pinky Ahner 618-698-0555

## **MEN'S CLUB**

Ray Kemezys 618-624-6625

Joe Crismon 270-762-6618

## **MUSIC**

Choir/Organ- Josh & Nancy Peterson

618-973-8169

## **PRAYER CHAIN**

Prayer requests - Contact Church Office

To be added to prayer chain please

contact Marlene Lockwood @ 618-566-4597

## **PRESCHOOL**

Director - Vikki Harms 618-334-2261

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY QUESTIONS**

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

Elder

## **SPIRITUAL CONCERNS/QUESTIONS**

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

### **Board of Elders:**

A-G: Tom Sax 618-401-3490

H-L: Randy Schorfheide 618-304-4422

M-R: Jeff Fick 515-230-6459

S-Z: Tony Lara 618-530-8886

## **STEWARDSHIP QUESTIONS**

Randy Schorfheide, Elder 618-304-4422

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Superintendent— Alicia Suedmeyer  
618-944-9631

Assistant Superintendent— Candy Andres  
618-566-8019

## **THRIVENT**

Eldon Ahner 618-588-4215

Lionel Timmerman 618-806-8993

Glenda Pike 618-806-3656

## **TRUSTEES/BLDG. MAINTENANCE**

Trustees@ZionMascoutah.com

Gadge Corey 618-477-2716

Mike Twenhafel 618-363-1955

Kurt Bretz 618-558-6747

Alex Tubbs 618-610-1089

## **WELCOME COMMITTEE**

Lionel Timmerman 618-806-8993

## **WORSHIP QUESTIONS**

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

Elder

## **YOUTH GROUP**

Lindsay Murphy 618-530-7297



"Archives August" begins with a classic message from Pastor Ken Klaus in which he contrasts popularly-held urban legends with the unchanging truth of God's Word.  
(Ephesians 4:14-16)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer "Archives August" (Ephesians 4:26)

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann "Archives August" (Ephesians 5:8)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer "Archives August" (Ephesians 5)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz "Archives August" (Ephesians 6:10-17)



Mascoutah Food Pantry  
items needed for August

Lemonade, Beef Broth, Flour,  
Sugar, Pancake Syrup, Jelly,  
Canned Sweet Potatoes, Creamed  
Corn, Microwave Popcorn,  
Thousand Island & Italian  
Dressing





## Birthdays

08/01 Rainer Bretz  
 08/01 William Bretz  
 08/02 Peggy Lange  
 08/02 Daniel Mileur  
 08/02 Benjamin Pannier  
 08/03 Karen Harstick  
 08/04 Makenna Gryga  
 08/06 Gianna Sink  
 08/06 Daryl Underwood  
 08/07 Ramona Witte  
 08/10 Michael Chaffin  
 08/11 Samer Fanous  
 08/11 Cary Robinson  
 08/12 Claire Harlan  
 08/13 Kynan Drinnon  
 08/13 Sylvia Phillips  
 08/15 Cindy Seering  
 08/16 Lucas Orr  
 08/17 Maggie Harlan  
 08/17 Josh Peterson  
 08/17 David Rowold  
 08/20 Stacey Chaffin  
 08/21 Derek Schanz  
 08/25 Gloria Peterson  
 08/25 Hunter Phillips  
 08/27 Lauren Twenhafel  
 08/28 Jadon Lorton  
 08/29 Johnathan Clayton  
 08/29 Chloe Pannier  
 08/29 Larry Richards  
 08/30 Justin Linn  
 08/31 Ella Sax



## AUGUST



## Wedding Anniversaries

08/03 Tony & Jen Lara  
 08/05 Kirk & Lori Clayton  
 08/08 John & Sylvia Phillips  
 09/09 Ralph & Jennifer Biebel  
 08/12 Lee & Kelly Harlan  
 08/14 Mark & Mary Kay Krausz  
 08/17 Gary & Marsha Fulton  
 08/27 Ray & Jean Kemezys



## Flowers for August

- 1 For a warm "welcome back" to the Claytons and Steins.
- 8 In celebration of Mascoutah's Homecoming. May we at Zion also begin to celebrate the "homecoming" of many of our parishioners to enjoy the fellowship of believers in person.
- 15 In celebration of back-to school time.
- 22 Ray & Jean Kemezys, in honor of their anniversary.



## Baptismal Anniversaries

08/03 Phoebe Corey  
 08/03 Rhiannon Corey  
 08/04 Laura Duffie  
 08/04 Ainsley Fournie  
 08/04 Gary Fulton  
 08/07 Abigail Benner  
 08/08 Alan Kneschke  
 08/09 Karen Harstick  
 08/10 Angie Twenhafel  
 08/11 David Hutchinson  
 08/11 Sarah Hutchinson  
 08/11 Cheryl Sax  
 08/12 Gianna Sink  
 08/15 Ian Robinson  
 08/16 Amanda Kemezys  
 08/16 James Trame  
 08/20 Rick Meredith  
 08/21 Austin Murphy  
 08/21 Geoff Phillips  
 08/23 Peggy Lange  
 08/25 Beth Twenhafel  
 08/26 Claire Harlan



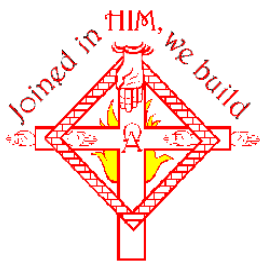
## LWML ~ August 19th

Sing at Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Centers 4:30 PM;  
 Dinner at Mascoutah Steakhouse afterwards



## Altar Guild Schedule for August

8 Lita Timmerman  
 22 Shirley Braeutigam & Lita Timmerman  
 29 Lita Timmerman



**Zion Lutheran Church**  
**101 S. Railway**  
**Mascoutah, IL 62258**

**Address Service Requested**

**BIBLE STUDY**

Sunday 8:45 to 9:30 AM In-Person  
and on Zoom

**SUNDAY SCHOOL &  
YOUTH BIBLE CLASS**

Sunday 8:45 AM

**WORSHIP SERVICES**

Saturday 7:00 PM In-Person

Sunday 10:00 AM In-Person  
and on FaceBook

**Worship Topics This Month**

**August 1 — Ninth Sunday after Trinity — Luke 16:1-13**

**— Sem. Moellenhoff to preach**

**August 8 — Tenth Sunday after Trinity — Luke 19:41-48**

**— “Finding Peace”**

**August 15 — Eleventh Sunday after Trinity — Luke 18:9-14**

**— “Pride Goeth Before the Fall”**

**August 22 — Twelfth Sunday after Trinity — Mark 7:31-37**

**— “That’s Gross”**

**August 29 — The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist**

**— Mark 6:14-29 — “Speak the Truth!”**

**Please join us in worship to hear more about the Good News!**