

Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool



2021 July

ECHO

**101 South Railway
Mascoutah, IL 62258**

PASTOR:

- **Rev. Kirk Clayton**
Email: Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org

MUSIC DIRECTORS:

- **Josh & Nancy Peterson**

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:

- **Vikki Harms**
Email: zionpreschooldirector2020@gmail.com

CHURCH SECRETARY:

- **Robin Phillips**
Email: ChurchOffice@ZionMascoutah.org

Church: 618-566-7345
Fax: 618-566-9519
Website:
www.ZionMascoutah.org

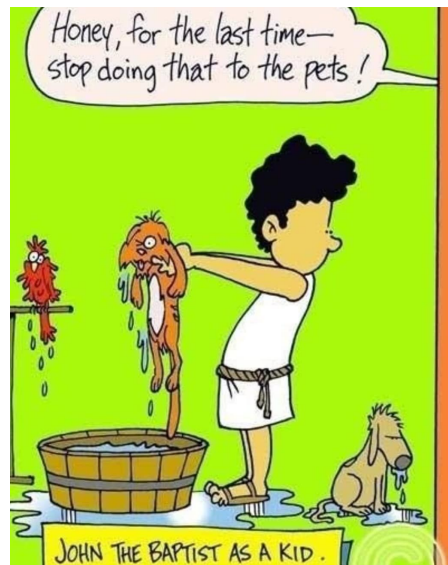
**Find us at @ZionMascoutah on
Facebook, Twitter, and
Instagram**



**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



From the Pastor

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING TOGETHER IN WORSHIP

Being together in worship is central to the Christian life. Joining in worship with our brothers and sisters in Christ is essential to our life of faith. If you are not in worship, it is highly likely that your faith is growing weaker and dying. We need to be together in worship as Christians. It is the food we eat, it is the water we drink, it is the air we breathe. Without being in worship for an extended period of time, Christian faith starves, withers, and dies.

We are now about 16 months into the Covid crisis. This has had a dramatic effect on church members around the world, across the country, and here at Zion. In the last month or so, as Zion has returned to a more normal worship setting on Sunday mornings, we have seen attendance about 2/3 of where it had been before Covid. On a more direct, personal note, before Covid, there were a number of families that were in worship together every Sunday, and now we have not seen these families at all, or perhaps only once or twice, in the past 16 months. This is not a good situation!

Continued on the next page.

From the Pastor continued from page 1

Let me say to those who have not been in church at Zion for the last 16 months, we miss you, we are concerned about the status of your faith as you have not been able to receive God's precious gifts in Word and Sacraments for over a year, and we really want you to return to worship so God can bless you and nourish you with His gifts! Come back to church! You need to be in worship as a part of your Christian life. The time is now. Come back. It has been said, "The more you miss church, the less you miss church." Think about that. The longer you stay away from being in God's house each and every weekend for worship, the more you get set in your ways, and the harder it is to get back into the habit of being in worship each weekend. You need to be in church for worship, and you need to start this weekend. There is no better time. Come back to church!

Now, let me address those who have been back in worship at Zion. It has been wonderful to see you back! It is such a joy to be together, hearing God's Word, receiving His Sacraments, rejoicing in God's forgiveness and grace being poured out on us, and joining together to sing our thanksgiving and praise. We are very glad you are back in church. However, I have a plea for you too. If you know of friends or family members that you have not seen at Zion for 16 months, please reach out and contact them. Perhaps you used to sit in the same pew with a family for years, and now their part of the pew has been vacant. Maybe your own children or grandchildren have not come back to church after the Covid scare. Perhaps you always chatted with certain friends after church, even though they sat on the opposite side of the sanctuary! In any case, I am sure you can think of people who have not been to Zion in over a year as we have struggled through the Covid shutdowns. Let them know that you miss them. Contact them, and invite them back to worship with you at Zion.

Remember God's admonition to us in Hebrews 10:25, "Do not neglect to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." Remember also the Third Commandment, found in Exodus 20:8, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." These are commands from God. Join together in worship. For a Christian, being together in worship is not an option. If you do not join together in worship, one must truly and honestly question if you are a Christian. Join together in worship!

That is the harsh admonition side. Do it. Come to worship. However, there is a softer, more encouraging side as well. God gives tremendous blessings in worship. Don't miss out on the grace God would give! In worship, God places His saving name on you. In worship, God forgives your sins. In worship, God comes to you in His Word, so we can hear of His wonderful love for His people. In worship, we hear the saving news of Jesus' death on the cross and His triumphant resurrection in the sermon. In worship, Jesus comes to you in a unique way that cannot be experienced any other place...He comes to you in His body and blood in the Lord's Supper. Even if you are watching Zion's service faithfully online each week, that does not substitute for receiving the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, along with the bread and wine, in the Lord's Supper.

God gives tremendous blessings in worship. God commands you to be together in worship. For many of you, it has been over a year since you have attended worship. That needs to change. Be a Christian. That means, come to church! We will look forward to seeing you there.

In Christ, Pastor Clayton

Membership Changes

Baptisms:

Transfer In:

VBS 2021



Jesus calls Matthew.



Moses receives the 10 Commandments on Mt. Sinai.



Lori Clayton helped with the videos and story time.



Pastor Clayton led the opening and closing devotions.

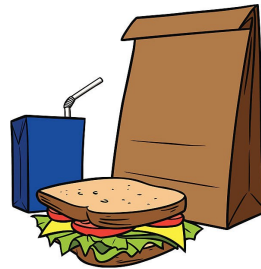
This year Zion Lutheran held its 2021 VBS over Zoom, with a theme of "Rainforest Explorers...Jesus Leads the Way." Each night consisted of an opening devotion, a Bible reading, a Bible Story session, a craft, and a closing devotion. Each night we had about 15 students participate, with a total of about 20-30 children participating at various times through the week. Thanks to Marianne McDaniel who served as the VBS Director, Alicia Suedmeyer who helped plan on behalf of the Board of Education, and to Pastor Clayton for leading opening and closing devotions, to Lori Clayton and Jeannette Schorfheide for leading the Bible Story times, to Marianne McDaniel for leading the crafts, and to Nathaniel Clayton for editing the video segments used during the Bible Story time most nights. Hopefully next year we will be back in person!



Jesus heals the 10 lepers.

VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS NEEDED FOR SUMMER SACK LUNCH PROGRAM

We are still looking for help with the Summer Sack Lunch program, for the week of July 5 through July 9. We are in dire need of cash donations and volunteers. If you wish to make a donation, there is a "Lunch Sack" near the collection plates on the table in the Narthex. We need volunteers to either fill the sacks, and/or deliver the lunches to designated drop off points. If you are able to help, please sign up on the list on the table in Narthex. You do not have to commit to all five days, you can sign up for just one day if you like. If you have any questions, call Gail Frey at 618-566-7294 or cell: 618-806-7294, or Linda Hoskins at 618-210-6987. Thank-you.

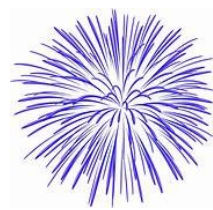
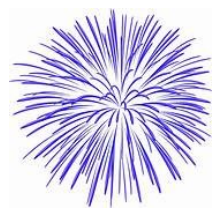


MASCOUTAH TOWNSHIP 25th ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



Last year, nearly 100 children were provided with school supplies, Backpacks, and shoes. Donations of supplies or cash need to be contributed by July 20th to 622 W. Main St., Mascoutah, or call 566-7132. See the list of items needed on the table in the narthex.





President's Page

Greetings to Zion members,

It seems that a lot of things this year are being delayed or having a significant price increase. We too are running into some of this as well. The good news is that we are mostly having delays, and no price increases, so that is helpful.

Our HVAC repairs are coming along slowly, as parts are coming in slower than expected. But...we are still moving forward, and they will install items as best as can be done when they come in.

The sanctuary painting has been postponed until late September or early October. We look forward to the new time frame and a new "look" for our church.

You will notice in the council minutes that we have a member of the congregation interested in buying/moving the house from the Holroyd property purchase pending permits and other items. It may be moved by the end of the year. We will fill in the basement once this move is completed.

The constitution review committee continues working on a revision of our constitution (mostly by-laws) and hope to present the changes at the August Voters Meeting.

Lionel Timmerman and Ray Kemezys are assisting with the Transfer the Blessing Endowment Committee for Zion. I would like two more people to assist with this activity. Please give me a call if interested. Also, if you are personally thinking about a new or a review of your personal estate planning, this is the time to look into this program. Professional leadership is available at no cost to you for a year because of the resolution passed at the last voters meeting to cover this cost by Zion. I can't predict if this will be available at no cost next year, so I would encourage all to consider this opportunity now. If you have any questions, please contact me or any member of the church council.

The summer months usually include some vacation time, so please travel safely and may God bless you and be with you each and every day.

Blessings to you!

Dale Wehmeyer, President

Zion's "Helping Hands" Program

Zion's "Helping Hands" is a program which seeks to join those in the congregation who love to serve others with our members who have a variety of needs. If you would like to be a part of this rewarding program, please contact any of the Helping Hands coordinators directly via email or phone. Be sure to indicate what area(s) you can help with.

Areas of service include, but are certainly not limited to:

- Transportation (medical appointments, grocery shopping, pharmacy, etc.)
- Light household cleaning
- Light cooking
- Laundry
- Light painting (indoor/outdoor)
- Yardwork (leaf/snow removal, mowing, etc.)
- Handyman jobs
- Other (please let us know what special skills you wish to share)

Our coordinators are:

Jordan Rehfeldt: high4you2001@yahoo.com, (618)980-8475

Lesley Eads: eadslesley@yahoo.com, (618)623-2360

Dan Eads: eadsdl@gmail.com, (618)623-2760



"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9



Happy Summer everyone! I hope everyone is having a fun summer and staying cool in the heat. As I sit here in my incredibly quiet office, I am missing those little voices that I love hearing throughout the school year. I am so happy to say there will be a few more little voices this coming school year than there was this past year! We are all extremely excited to be returning to a complete In-Person school year this September! I cannot wait to see all our returning Zion Preschool families and meet the many new families that will be joining us this year.

Our 4-year-old class is currently full but we do have a few spots available in our Monday/Wednesday 3-year-old class.

Currently enrolled families will receive information in August regarding the beginning of school. May God bless everyone with a fun and safe summer!

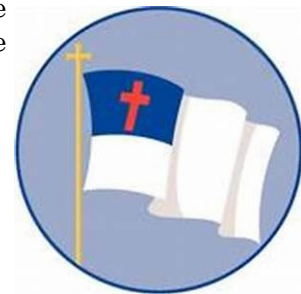
God Bless,
Vikki Harms
Preschool Director



Elders Corner

I am elder for the month of July, in which of course, we celebrate Independence Day on the 4th. I was thinking about the American flag, but instead I am going to shift gears and talk about the Christian flag. It was unofficially created on September 26, 1897 at Brighton Chapel on Coney Island in Brooklyn, New York. It was adopted in 1942 by the United States Federal Council of Churches. When sitting in our church it is on the pulpit side of the Sanctuary. The flag has a red cross surrounded by a blue box outline which would be where the stars are on the American flag. The rest of the flag is all white. The white represents purity and peace, blue indicates the waters of baptism and faithfulness, and red stands for Christ's blood sacrifice. The colors match that of the American flag. In my opinion it is sad to think how seldom you see the Christian flag flown, or even how few people know there is a Christian flag. Christ died for our sins, and we should be proud to fly this flag and be reminded daily of its meaning.

In Christ,
Tom Sax



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY



Summer Sunday School is in session! Thank you to all who have returned and those helping. It is so wonderful to see kids learning about God and hearing their excitement! We look forward to seeing more and more families attend each week.

As we look forward to Rally Day and the start of a new Sunday School year in September, we are in need of teachers! If you feel a passion for working with kids and guiding them in their spiritual growth or joyous musical celebration on Sunday mornings, please contact Alicia Suedmeyer or Candy Andres. If you feel a passion for planning and would like to help with Rally Day, please let us know.

In Christ's service, Alicia & Candy



stewardship



“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery” (Galatians 5:1).

We celebrate this month because of the freedoms and liberties our country has afforded us. We are right to do this. We should be thankful for these liberties – the freedom to gather together to worship and to live out what believe in our daily lives.

But freedom and liberty in our age have devolved. It has become a freedom from duty instead of a freedom for it. Indeed, freedom and liberty in our age has turned into licentiousness – a license to do what we want, when we want. This license is a submission again to a yoke of slavery. For freedom as license to do what we desire when we desire it means we are slaves to our desires and slaves to our passions.

Christ died to set us free from our desires. In Holy Baptism, our Old Adam is drowned and put to death along with all sin and evil desires so that a new man may arise and live before God in righteousness and purity. In Christ, we are a new creation. We are set free from the passions of the flesh so that we are free to do our duty and bear fruits of the Spirit.

Our duty is what God calls us to do as members of a family, society, and the Church. God calls us to believe in His Word and gladly hear and learn it. He calls us to pray for all people. He calls us to live in faith toward Him and in fervent love for our neighbor. He calls us to put the gifts He gives to us in His service. God calls parents provide for their children and raise them in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

And God calls children to honor their parents and provide and care for them when they are no longer able to do so themselves. God calls the government to punish those who do evil and to reward those who do good. He calls citizens to pay their taxes and honor the governing officials as God’s servants. He calls pastors to preach and teach the Gospel, repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And He calls hearers to support those who teach them with every good thing.

Christ died to set us free from the works of our selfish flesh, giving us the freedom and liberty to do our duty. Stand firm, then, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.



??? 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



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

www.lhm.org

July 4

"Clearly Christian: Scientific"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Christians are not against science. They just don't expect science to answer questions beyond its reach.

July 11

"Inheritance as Intended"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

An inheritance that's more than places, property, and possessions-the inheritance God intended for His people.

(Ephesians 1)

July 18

"The Problem and Promise of Deathbed Conversion"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Is a last-minute conversion cause for joy or an insult to lifelong believers? Dr. Michael Zeigler explores both the problem and the promise of deathbed conversions.

(Ephesians 2)

July 25

"The Peace Child"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Ephesians 3)



Mascoutah Food Pantry
items needed for July

*Dish Soap, Liquid Hand Soap, Powdered Tang,
Pineapple, Canned Sauerkraut, Flour, Sugar, Oil,
Egg Noodles, White Vinegar, Apple Cider Vinegar,
Taco Dinner Kits, Boxed Au Gratin Potatoes*

July

Birthdays

07/04 Aidan Bloomquist
 07/04 Mollie Mileur
 07/06 Alex Tubbs
 07/09 Jennifer Biebel
 07/09 Mike Twenhafel
 07/10 Eliza Timmerman
 07/11 Hadley Sax
 07/12 Ava Sax
 07/11 Lita Timmerman
 07/12 Alan Kneschke
 07/13 Laura Duffie
 07/14 Amanda Kemezys
 07/14 Brianna Clark
 07/15 Jenny Lorton
 07/15 Joyce Linn
 07/16 Parker Roehrig
 07/19 Helen Sauerhage
 07/21 Austin Murphy
 07/21 Temple Linnertz
 07/21 Kennedy Underwood
 07/22 Cheryl Sax
 07/22 Joyce Hendrix
 07/23 Edward Linn
 07/23 Gabriel Lockwood
 07/24 Angie Twenhafel
 07/25 Nathaniel Clayton
 07/25 James Rehfeldt
 07/26 Elma Bramstedt
 07/28 Earl Linnertz
 07/29 Sherrie Knutson
 07/31 Beth Twenhafel



Wedding Anniversaries

07/02 Kent & Brenda Snyder
 07/07 Brad & Melissa Kohnen
 07/07 Joe & Katie Crismon
 07/11 Tommy & Marsha Baro
 07/16 Dale & Lisa Wehmeyer
 07/17 Torri & Alicia Suedmeyer
 07/31 Ernie & Marlene Lockwood



FLOWERS FOR JULY

11 Timmerman family, for Lita's birthday; Kemezys family, for Amanda's birthday.
 18 Joyce Hendrix, in honor of shared birthdays.

Baptismal Anniversaries

07/01 Michael Ganey
 07/01 Rylan Ganey
 07/01 Chris Hatcher
 07/02 Madelyn Krausz
 07/06 Alex Tubbs
 07/07 Courtney Pike
 07/11 Lita Timmerman
 07/14 Mollie Mileur
 07/15 Hope Biebel
 07/16 Jerry Phillips
 07/17 Alana Fanous
 07/20 Zachary Hinrichs
 07/25 Shea Suedmeyer
 07/25 Payton Barnard
 07/25 Adrianna Biebel
 07/25 Nathaniel Clayton
 07/27 Mike Twenhafel



Altar Guild Schedule for July

11 Jordan Rehfeldt
 25 Mary Kay Krausz



LWML ~ July 15

Lunch at
 The Weingarten
 11:30 AM

**Council Meeting Minutes
Zion Lutheran Church
June 1, 2021**

Call to order.

Opening prayer/devotion: Pastor Clayton

Roll call: Present – Pastor Clayton, Ben Eatherton, Laurie Fournie, Marianne McDaniel, Lionel Timmerman, Mike Twenhafel, and Dale Wehmeyer; Absent – Rachel Bretz and Tony Lara.

Approval of May council meeting minutes – MMSP to approve minutes as amended:

- Tuition offset opportunity for Thor Peterson. Cedarville University, Cedarville, **Ohio** [vs Iowa], discounts tuition by \$500 if student's home church **matches discount** [vs provides] **with** \$500 donation. Discussion re providing donation for Thor and/or future students to other institutions with same policy.

Pastor's report:

- Official Acts
 - Visits: 45 (42 members and 3 non-members)
 - Congregational Meetings and Activities: 14
 - Circuit/District/Synod Events: 24
 - Community Contacts: 6
- Vacation Plans— following July Higher Things Youth Conference in Colorado. The following will cover services during Pastor's absence:
 - July 10/11—Chaplain Sedwick
 - July 17/18—Sem. Moellenhoff
 - July 24/25—Chaplain Sedwick
 - July 31/Aug 1—Sem. Moellenhoff
- Zion's Evangelism Committee to host a workshop called "Serving our Communities Seminar: Congregational Engagement for Community Renewal" on Saturday, Sept 11, 2021. Speakers will highlight mission work being done in the SID. Pastors and lay representatives from SID congregations will be invited.

Treasurer's report:

- There was no report as Laurie was unable to access data due to computer changeout – can access April data if logging on from home, May data if logging on in the church office, but cannot access data from both months at the same time. She is working with Church Windows to try to resolve problem.
- Pastor suggested switching to Shepherd's Staff software from LCMS. Laurie will check to see if this software is more user friendly than Church Windows, data from Church Windows can be transferred easily.

Board of Finance Report:

- Lionel reported problems accessing monthly reports due to computer change. Based on receipts of \$19,445.35 during May, he reported the following:
 - 2021 Budget YTD – \$126,492.00
 - 2021 Actual YTD – \$109,506.35 (-\$16,986.65)

Board of Elders Report: No report.

Board of Education Report:

- Summer Sunday School will begin June 6.
 - Preschool through 7th grade will meet in preschool gym.
 - Youth Bible classes will meet in basement.

Continued on next page

- VBS – June 21-25, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.
 - Board packed bags with snack and craft-in-box to take home; ready for pick up.
 - Each session will be recorded and available via email for students missing a session.
- Youth Group
 - New officers elected May 16.
 - Planning fall activities.

Board of Trustees Report:

- Paint Sanctuary – committee has chosen colors; painting to begin in next couple weeks; due to addition of third color, may cost \$500 more.
- Replace sanctuary lighting - \$1,500 – awaiting ACE Hardware grant.
- Meditation Garden sinkhole – began work, need additional dirt, expect completion by end of month.
- HVAC Repair – Weeke will install dampers in next couple of weeks, work other issues as parts arrive.
- New Property:
 - Member of congregation interested in buying/moving house contingent on obtaining necessary permits, waivers to move; if everything works out, house should be moved by end of year.
 - Dale suggested that Mike contact Mark Krausz to determine what paperwork is necessary for sale.
 - Mike will turn off utilities after coordination with buyer; we will maintain insurance on house until it is removed from property.
 - Mike has begun getting bids to backfill basement; will try to schedule within day or two of house's removal.

President's report:

- Committee Reports:
 - Evangelism – Bessie Fick chair; see Pastor's report re September workshop.
 - Constitution – Alan Kneschke chair; will report at August Voter Meeting.
 - Strategic Planning – Geoff Phillips chair; developing questions to interview directors of other Preschools.

Old Business:

- Transfer the Blessing: Scott Radden is financial advisor for congregational members needing assistance; working with church to establish endowment fund – contract from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.
 - Dale is establishing permanent committee to plan, develop, and manage fund.
 - Ray Kemezys and Lionel Timmerman agreed to serve; seeking two more members.
- Esther 4:14 grant for sound system upgrade: Pastor noted Swing City had received power conditioner; Mark Hatcher will pick up and install. Esther grant will be used to purchase stereo condenser microphone for recording (\$1,543.98) once power conditioner is installed.

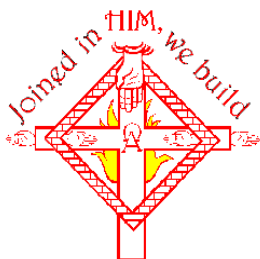
New Business: None

Next Meeting – Thursday, July 1 @ 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment – MMSP to adjourn.

Closed with Lord's Prayer.

Lionel E. Timmerman, Acting Secretary



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

July 4— Fifth Sunday after Trinity — Luke 5:1-11

— “Please Leave a Message”

July 11 — Sixth Sunday after Trinity — Matthew 5:17-26

— Chaplain Sedwick to preach

July 18 — Seventh Sunday after Trinity — Mark 8:1-9

— Sem. Moellenhoff to preach

July 25— Eighth Sunday after Trinity — Matthew 7:15-23

— Chaplain Sedwick to preach

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