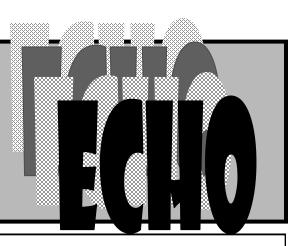
# **Zion**Lutheran Church & Preschool







# 101 South Railway Mascoutah, IL 62258

#### **PASTOR:**

Rev. Kirk Clayton
 Email: Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org

#### **MUSIC DIRECTORS:**

Josh & Nancy Peterson

#### PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:

Vikki Harms
 Email: zionpreschool director2020@gmail.com

#### **CHURCH SECRETARY:**

Robin Phillips
 Email: ChurchOffice@
ZionMascoutah.org

Church: 618-566-7345 Fax: 618-566-9519

Website:

www.ZionMascoutah.org

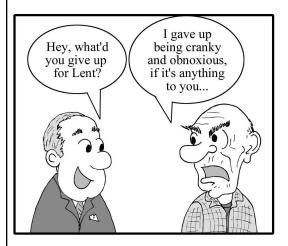
Find us at @ZionMascoutah on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram



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

MISSION FESTIVAL AT ZION IN APRIL

Zion Family, while it is still almost two months away, I want to let you know about a very special and exciting event coming up on Sunday, April 30, 2023. Under the leadership of the Evangelism Committee, we will be holding a "Mission Festival" to support the work of Concordia el Reformador (Concordia the Reformer) Seminary that was opened in 2017 in Palmar Arriba, Santiago, in the Dominican Republic, and serves all of the Caribbean, Latin America, and South America.

At our Southern Illinois District—LCMS District Convention one year ago, the SID entered into a mission partnership with the Seminary in the Dominican Republic. In the year since then, a Mission Task Force has been formed, and several members of Zion Mascoutah have joined that group to help support the work of training pastors for the Lord's mission fields throughout Central and South America. The District Mission Task Force is encouraging all SID congregations to have various events and fundraisers to support our partnership in the Lord's work in the Dominican Republic.

Continued on the next page.

#### Continued from page 1.

The District would like to send \$10,000 in financial aid to the Seminary in the Dominican Republic each year.

In order to support this District project, Zion Lutheran in Mascoutah will be holding a Mission Festival on Sunday, April 30, 2023. This will include a special meal and presentations in the gym after church. We will enjoy a Central American themed meal together, and hear about the ways we can support and partner with our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Dominican Republic as the share the Lord's Word and work there.

At this Mission Festival on April 30th, we also hope to have several members of the Concordia Seminary, St. Louis community with us as well. In late January of 2023, a team of students and wives from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis traveled to the Dominican Republic, led by Mrs. Tori Egger, the wife of Seminary President, Dr. Tom Egger. Hopefully, several members of this mission team will be able to be with us at Zion to share their experiences and help us to see what the needs and opportunities are for sharing in the Lord's work through Concordia el Reformador Seminary there. We can also be blessed by strengthening our connection with Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, and seek to find ways to grow in our support of both institutions as they train faithful men to preach God's Word and administer His Sacraments in the Lord's Church throughout the Americas.

While it is still almost two months away, please place April 30th on your calendars already, and begin prayerfully considering how you can support our mission partnership with both Concordia el Reformador Seminary in the Dominican Republic and with Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. I personally (Pastor Clayton) would love to see Zion provide an offering of \$1,000 or more at the April 30th Mission Festival in order to support the Seminary in the Dominican Republic. A free-will offering will be collected at the meal that day, so please consider how you can become a blessing to God's people throughout Central and South America by supporting the training of pastors to go out into these mission fields with the love of Christ and the message of His salvation.

We look forward to hosting this Mission Festival on April 30th after church, and we look forward to seeing you there. Gods' peace and blessings be with you!

In Christ, Rev. Kirk M. Clayton





## On Sunday, February 5, 2023, Zion enjoyed hosting the Children's Choir from Immanuel Lutheran School in Okawville, IL.





#### **Membership Changes**

Reaffirmation of Faith: Transfer In: Baptisms:

Rebecca Wachtman

# NEEDED: GOUND TECH AND VIDEO TECH

Within the next several months, Zion will need help with the sound board and with the Facebook video feed each week. If you are interested in learning these positions, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex and we will schedule a training session so everyone who volunteers feels comfortable in the positions. Thanks in advance for your engagement to serve in this way!

# MIDWEEK LENTEN MEAL SCHEDULE

Meals will be served before each Midweek Lenten Service on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM.

Men's Club: Tacos March 1:

March 8: Hoskins, Claytons, & Friends: Soups

March 15: **Timmermans** March 22: Youth Group

March 29: Elders: Loaded Baked Potatoes

April 5: Holy Week, no Wednesday service, no meal.

### ..............................



HOST FAMILIES AND DONATIONS

NEEDED FOR

CUC CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

For the Concordia Chicago Chamber Orchestra concert at Zion, Mascoutah on Sunday, March 26, we could still use about 5 more host families, and we are still seeking significant donors to help offset the concert in advance. Due to the Door Offering to help with earthquake relief in Syria, please do not put concert donations in the jars by the sanctuary doors. Instead, give them to Pastor Clayton or a Board of Finance member directly. To volunteer to be a host family, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. If you have any questions about being a host family, please talk with Pastor Clayton. Thanks! 



String quartet playing during the youth-led service on Feb 11th.



This month, the youth of the congregation held their annual formal dress sale fundraiser, which was a huge success. Over the two days of Feb. 18th and 19th, almost \$2,000 was raised and 75 dresses sold! The money will go towards conference fees for the youth this summer as they plan to attend Higher Things in Carbondale. Thank you to everyone who helped make this sale such a success, whether by donating or buying dresses, helping with the set-up or tear-down, working the fundraiser, organizing the event, or just spreading the word. It would not have been such a success without all the help.

Many of the youth also participated in the youth-led service on Feb. 11th which was another big success. The youth helped in various ways during and before the service, such as greeters, musicians, ushers, and bellringers. As the future of the congregation, it was good for the youth to help lead a service and see how they can use their abilities to further the church.

Last month, the Youth Group started their year off with the annual Christmas party! At the event, held on Jan. 8th after church, youth members had a blast participating in a white elephant gift exchange, having drinks from a hot chocolate bar, learning about Christmas through a devotion led by Pastor Clayton, doing a nativity-themed escape room in the church basement, and fellowshipping with other youth. Although pictured in last month's Echo, this explanation did not get in. Sorry:)

Coming up, the Youth Group will be helping serve the Lenten meal before the midweek service on March 22nd.

Finally, the Youth Group will be going through a leadership change as members graduate and move on. Abby McDaniel will be the president, Jake Lara will be the vice-president, and Abigail Clayton will become the secretary.

In Christ,





Dresses set out for the sale on Feb. 18th and 19th.



Lily and Abby McDaniel setting out dresses.



In February we sent Valentine cards with Subway gift cards to seven of our college students. We will be sending out special gifts in May before the finals, so if you did not get your college student on our mailing list, you can still add names and addresses by reaching out to me.

With Easter coming soon, we are beginning to make plans for an Easter Egg Hunt. Details will be coming soon.

We are still in need of someone to fill our vacant spot on the Board. Please consider volunteering to be a part of our board. We have monthly meetings and I promise to try to keep them short! If you are interested or have questions, please reach out to me or to Jordan Rehfeldt. Thank you.

Linda Hoskins



February is always a short month but packed full of fun and learning. We had a great time at our Valentine's Day Parties! Our main focus for the month was LOVE, especially the love God has for all of us and that He loves us so much He sent Jesus to be our Savior.

We are in the middle of 2023-2024 priority preschool registration for returning students and their siblings, Zion church members, and previous Zion Preschool families. We will begin open registration to the public on March 1st. Tell your friends



and neighbors. If you are interested in registering a preschooler, you can contact me at <u>zionpreschooldirector2020@gmail.com</u>. I can answer any questions you may have and I would be happy to schedule a time for you to come and tour our facility.

Our activities during March will include leaving winter behind and heading into spring! We will have parent/teacher conferences this month and begin our journey of following the events of Jesus' death and resurrection.

God Bless, Vikki Harms Zion Preschool Director



# Elders Corner

With the warmer months and Spring approaching people tend do some Spring cleaning, or maybe just talk about doing it. Perhaps it's cleaning out drawers or closets, vacuuming behind and under furniture, and sweeping down cobwebs and dusting. Of course, there are many other things associated with Spring cleaning. You can choose to do as little or as much as you feel. We can do the same thing in our spiritual lives. We can take action or just think and talk about it.

Spring is a good time to renew your life. Sweep out the bad thoughts in your mind and take a good look at your life. Wash out any evil or deceit. Straighten up a bad relationship or reconnect with someone you've neglected. This can bring peace and comfort to you both. Dust off your Bible, read devotions, have daily prayers. Attend Sunday School, Bible classes and Sunday services.

Stop and think about how much "Cleaning Up" God has done for us. He sent His Son to die for us. He has already accomplished the deep-down cleaning we need. Now you and I need to continue to do the prep work.

"Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a steadfast spirit within me." Psalm 51:10

In Christ, Tom Sax, Elder



As I write this, we are about to start Lent. Abby has made me her partner in giving up sweets for Lent—and for those of you who know me, this will be a big sacrifice! The Sunday School children were all given a Lenten activity called Run and Tell. Each day there is an activity for them to do to tell the good news of Jesus. If your child didn't get one, please let me know and I will get them one.

Our Sunday School mission this quarter is the Mosaic Pregnancy Center.

See you in Sunday School!!!!

Marianne McDaniel Sunday School Superintendent





#### Lenten Discipline: Denying the Self

We are at the beginning of Lent. During the Lenten season, the church calls to our attention the sufficiency of what God gives. It points to the sufficiency of God's grace in the atoning work of Jesus. It shows us the sufficiency of faith in Jesus' work for us. It makes known the sufficiency of God's Word in faith and life.

But Lent doesn't just remind us of the sufficiency of God's spiritual gifts — the gifts that pertain to our redemption and salvation. Lent also reminds us of the sufficiency of the physical, temporal gifts of God which pertain to this body and life. In other words, it reminds us of the importance of godly contentment and of outward discipline and training of the body.

This outward training of the body teaches us not to give in to every desire of our flesh, but to learn to say no to them. And it does this in such a way that if you fail, it is no sin. It is a way to practice without putting yourself into a compromising situation.

Fasting is a good example of this outward training. When you fast, you are practicing saying no to the desires of your body. But if you fail in this, if you break your fast, you have not sinned. But you have learned something about how your flesh works, how difficult it is to fight against it, and how you need help from above to discipline the desires of your body.

Another example is almsgiving. An increase in giving to the church and its mission during Lent is also a form of outward training. We all know that our flesh finds security in money and stuff. By committing to give more to the church, you are training your flesh. You are, by this outward discipline, training yourself to be content with what God gives. You are practicing saying "no" to your desires. Again, if you fail, you have not sinned. But you've learned just how powerful your flesh is — it leads you instead of you leading it. You've learned how you need help from above in being content with what God gives.

This is why St. Paul instructs young Pastor Timothy in this way:

But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. (1 Tim. 6:6–10)

Our sufficiency is not of ourselves; it is in God. Let us learn this without sin by training our flesh this Lenten season.

- LCMS Stewardship Ministry: <u>lcms.org/stewardship</u>

# ??? Who Do I Contact???

#### ADULT NEW MEMBER/INSTRUCTION

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

#### **ALTAR GUILD**

Lita Timmerman 618-806-2617

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Linda Hoskins 618-210-6987 Jordan Rehfeldt 618-980-8475

#### **BOARD OF FINANCE**

Jenny Kneschke 618-566-9919 Karen Eldridge 618-580-5914 Amy Kolweier 314-766-6870

#### **CHURCH BUSINESS**

President — Mike Twenhafel 618-363-1955 V. President — Ben Eatherton 618-900-4291

#### **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

#### **EVANGELISM QUESTIONS**

Bessie Fick 515-230-9937 Joe Bloomguist, Elder 618-954-9462

#### **HELPING HANDS**

Leslie Eads 618-623-2360 Jordan Rehfeldt 618-980-8475 Linda Hoskins 618-210-6987

#### 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 Pastor Clayton at Pastor @ZionMascoutah. org

#### **PRESCHOOL**

Director - Vikki Harms 618-334-2261

#### **SOCIAL MINISTRY QUESTIONS**

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306 Tom Sax, Elder 618-401-3490

#### SPIRITUAL CONCERNS/QUESTIONS

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

#### **Board of Elders:**

A-G: Tom Sax 618-401-3490 H-L: Geoff Phillips 618-978-2616 M-R: Jeff Fick 515-230-6459 S-Z: Joe Bloomquist 618-954-9462

#### STEWARDSHIP QUESTIONS

Geoff Phillips, Elder 618-978-2616

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Superintendent— Marianne McDaniel 618-789-1602 Assistant Superintendent— Anna Pannier 618-409-5193

#### **THRIVENT**

Eldon Ahner 618-588-4215 Lionel Timmerman 618-806-8993 Glenda Pike 618-806-3656

#### TRUSTEES/BLDG. MAINTENANCE

Trustees@ZionMascoutah.com Dan Eads 618-623-2360 Greg Hoskins 618-210-6987 Mark Hatcher 618-409-8848

#### **WELCOME COMMITTEE**

Lionel Timmerman 618-806-8993

#### **WORSHIP QUESTIONS**

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306 Jeff Fick, Elder 515-230-6459

#### **YOUTH GROUP**

Lindsay Murphy 618-530-7297



March 5

#### "An Arresting Encounter"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: <u>Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler</u>

A devoutly religious person has an arresting encounter with Jesus and learns what it means to be "born again." (John 3:16)

March 12

#### "Thirsting for Life"

Guest Speaker: <u>Rev. Dr. John Nunes</u> Jesus gives living water to those who are spiritually dehydrated. (John 4)

March 19

#### "Bad Karma vs. Good Creator"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

When bad things happen in our lives, is it "bad karma" or--an opportunity for our good Creator to be doing a greater work? (John 9:3)

March 26

#### "Is God Missing in Action?"

Guest Speaker: <u>Rev. Dr. John Nunes</u> Is God "missing in action?" Not if we see things from God's eternal perspective. (John 11)





MASCOUTAH
FOOD PANTRY
ITEMS NEEDED
FOR MARCH

Ranch Dressing,
Hamburger
Helper,
Mandarin
Oranges,
Ketchup, Oil,
Beef Ramen
Noodles,
Pop Tarts, Tang,
BBQ Sauce



- 03/01 Jeff Fick
- 03/03 James Barnard
- 03/03 Matthew Clayton
- 03/03 Sharon Hosler
- 03/04 Joe Haas
- 03/05 Leslev Eads
- 03/05 Sue Kandler
- 03/05 Ivar Peterson
- 03/07 Joyce Hutchinson
- 03/08 Julie Benner
- 03/09 Paul Seering
- 03/10 David Hatcher
- 03/10 Jenny Kneschke
- 03/11 Christian Drinnon
- 03/12 Dalton Wambold
- 03/14 Eldon Ahner
- 03/14 Mary Kay Krausz
- 03/14 Camryn Walter
- 03/14 Sydney Walter
- 03/15 Lionel Timmerman
- 03/15 Terry Twenhafel
- 03/16 Kara Simon
- 03/17 Laquitta Gibson
- 03/18 Pinky Ahner
- 03/18 Payton Barnard
- 03/18 Abigail Clayton
- 03/18 Kyle Manera
- 03/20 Gary Fulton
- 03/20 Solomon Hatcher
- 03/20 Noah Overmyer
- 03/20 Brenda Snyder
- 03/24 Miles Krausz
- 03/25 Ruth Klingelhoefer
- 03/25 Nathan Schreiber
- 03/26 Daniel Bretz
- 03/26 Patrick Lange
- 03/27 Marsha Baro
- 03/28 Taylor Crismon
- 03/29 Olivia Begley
- 03/31 Janice Conklin
- 03/31 Blake Twenhafel





03/17 Kenny & Robyn Rakers 03/26 Jacob & Erin Beville



Ahners, in celebration of their new great-granddaughter, Ava Louise.

12 Timmermans, for March birthdays.

26 Kemezys, in celebration of Taylor Crismon's birthday.





03/04 Evangeline Duffie

03/04 Joe Haas

03/04 Luke Morra

03/05 Deloris Bramstedt

03/05 Kathleen Eldridge

03/11 Amy Kolweier

03/11 Jessica Pettis

03/12 Carolyn Overmyer

03/15 Aileen Malcharek

03/16 Matthew Clayton

03/16 Mackenzie Krausz

03/16 Mary Kay Krausz

03/17 Barbara Bretz

03/17 Leif Peterson

03/17 Doug Sax

03/18 Bristol Sax

03/18 Tom Sax

03/20 Jeff Fick

03/20 Marianne McDaniel

03/20 Lola Simon

03/21 Julie Benner

03/22 Reed Hollenkamp

03/24 Dick Bogue

03/26 Kyrielle Corey

03/27 Liam Hatcher

03/30 Abigail Clayton

03/31 Christian Drinnon



# LWML ~ March 16th

**Devotion:** "Your Wish is My Command"

(Laurie Knutson)

**Activities:** Spring Retreat, Mar. 4 at Our

Savior Lutheran Church/Lutheran

Student Center, Carbondale

Hostesses: Glenda Pike & Lori Clayton



12 Jenny Kneschke Jordan Rehfeldt

26 Joyce Hendrix Lita Timmerman





#### Council Meeting Minutes Zion Lutheran Church February 2, 2023

#### Call to Order.

Roll Call: Present – Pastor Clayton, Jenny Kneschke, Jeff Fick, Laurie Fournie, Mike Twenhafel, Jon Robinson, and Ben Eatherton

January council meeting minutes: Approved via email.

#### **Board of Finance Report:**

- •2023 Budget YTD \$27,830.20
- •2023 Actual YTD \$25,448.12 (-2,382.08)

#### Treasurer's report:

- •Bank Balance is at \$174,734.94.
- •MMSP to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.
- MMSP have President (Mike Twenhafel), Vice President (Ben Eatherton), and Treasurer (Laurie Fournie) added as signatories on the First Federal Zion Mascoutah Operating Account and removal of all previously designated signatories.

#### **Board of Education Report:**

- •Sunday School attendance for January was 276.
- Preschool bank balance was \$73,395.80, paid \$22,296.10 to the church, leaving current balance at \$51,099.70.
- •The BOE will send out Valentine cards with Subway gift cards to college students.
- February 12th will be the Youth-Led Church Service.

#### Pastor's Report:

- •The Numbers:
  - •Visits: 30 (22 members and 8 non-members)
  - Congregational Meetings and Activities: 15
  - Circuit/District/Synod Events: 15
  - Community Contacts: 4

#### For Your Information and Discussion:

- •Importance of prioritizing God's will in all of our decisions and actions.
  - oCentrality of being together in Worship and Bible Class.
  - •Be in prayer for one another.
- Chamber Orchestra from Concordia University, Chicago—Update
  - •We are about halfway on host families.
  - oLadies Aid has volunteered to coordinate the meal.
  - o"Major Donors" request has brought in about \$450 so far.
- Children's Choir from Immanuel Lutheran School will sing here Sunday, Feb 5, 2023.

#### Continued from previous page.

- •Adult Bible Class from February through April will be led by Jeff Fick, Mark Krausz, Lionel Timmerman, and Dale Wehmeyer using a Bible Study from CPH on the Gospel of Mark.
- •Lent Round Robin will include myself, Pastor Keseman, and Pastor Lukomksi.
- •Lent Meals—signup is in the Narthex, about half the meals are covered so far.
- Easter Hymn Festival on May 7, 2023, at 3:00 PM. Dr. Jon Vieker, the Dean of the Chapel at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis will be the speaker.

#### **Board of Elders' Report:**

- •The Evangelism Committee is planning an Apologetics Workshop for October 7, 2023. Final plans will be set in place by April 2023.
- •Dominican Republic: Seminario Concordia El Reformador. The SID Convention adopted the partnership with the Seminary in the Dominican Republic assisting the training of men who will establish congregations throughout Latin America. All members, congregations, and schools of the SID are encouraged to promote the ministry with prayers and financial support. We welcome additional members on our newly formed committee to promote the mission. If you or someone you know are willing to serve on the committee, please speak with Jeff Fick.

#### **Board of Trustees Report:**

•Planning for elevator, phone system, and sidewalk repairs.

#### President's Report:

- Evangelism Committee No updates.
- •Strategic Planning No updates.

#### **Old Business:**

•Digital Media – Focusing on updating Facebook and website with events.

#### **New Business:**

No updates.

**Next Meeting** – March 2, 2023 @ 7:00 pm.

**Adjournment** - MMSP to adjourn.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Jon Robinson, Council Secretary



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

**Address Service Requested** 

#### **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Sunday 8:30 to 9:45 AM

#### BIBLE STUDY

Sunday 8:45 to 9:45 AM

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL &

#### YOUTH BIBLE CLASS

Sunday 8:45 AM

#### WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday 10:00 AM In-Person and on FaceBook

# **Worship Topics This Month**

Mar. 1— First Lent Midweek — Luke 23:25-34—"Father Forgive Them"

Mar. 5— Second Sunday in Lent—Matthew 15:21-28—"The Blessing of Challenges"

Mar. 8— Second Lent Midweek — John 19:16b-27—"Mother, Behold Your Son"

Mar. 12— Third Sunday in Lent—Luke 11:14-28—"What Fills You?"

Mar. 15 — Third Lent Midweek — Luke 23:35-43—"Today You Will Be with Me in Paradise"

Mar. 19— Fourth Sunday in Lent—John 6:1-15—"Always There"

Mar. 22 — Fourth Lent Midweek — Matthew 27:45-54

— "My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?

Mar. 26— Fifth Sunday in Lent—John 8:42-59—"Paternity Test"

Mar. 29 — Fifth Lent Midweek — John 19:28-37 — "It Is Finished"

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