

Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool



May 2023

THE 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

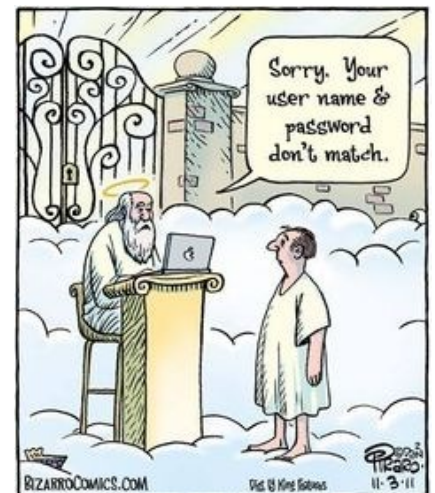
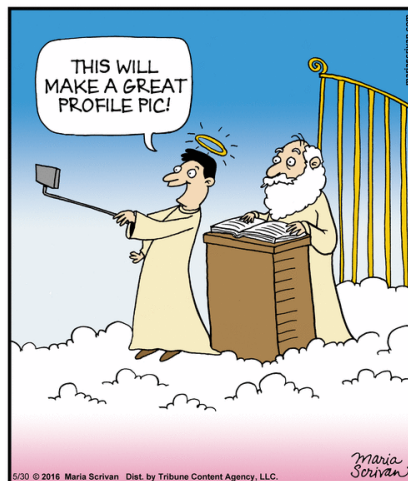
**Find us at @ZionMascoutah on
Facebook, Twitter, and
Instagram**



***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

If you have been reading the bulletin announcements at Zion lately, you have hopefully seen the announcement about the Risen Christ Hymn Festival that we are hosting at Zion on Sunday, May 7, 2023, at 3:00 PM. If you have not seen the announcement, here is a quick refresher:

One of the hallmarks of Lutheranism has been boisterous, dedicated congregational singing. The Lutheran Church has been known as the "Singing Church!" Come continue that powerful heritage! On Sunday, May 7, at 3:00 in the afternoon, Zion Lutheran in Mascoutah will be hosting a "Risen Christ Hymn Festival." This hymn festival is the book-end to the "Christ Triumphant Hymn Festival" held at Zion Lutheran in Belleville in November of 2022. We will be singing many of the great hymns of the Easter season, including "I Know That My Redeemer Lives," "Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia," "At the Lamb's High Feast," "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen," "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds," and "Abide with Me." Between the hymns, we will hear commentaries from Dr. Jon Vieker, the Dean of the Chapel at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, who previously was an assistant to LCMS President Matthew Harrison and a leader of the LCMS Commission on Worship. Come sing our joy found in Christ's resurrection!

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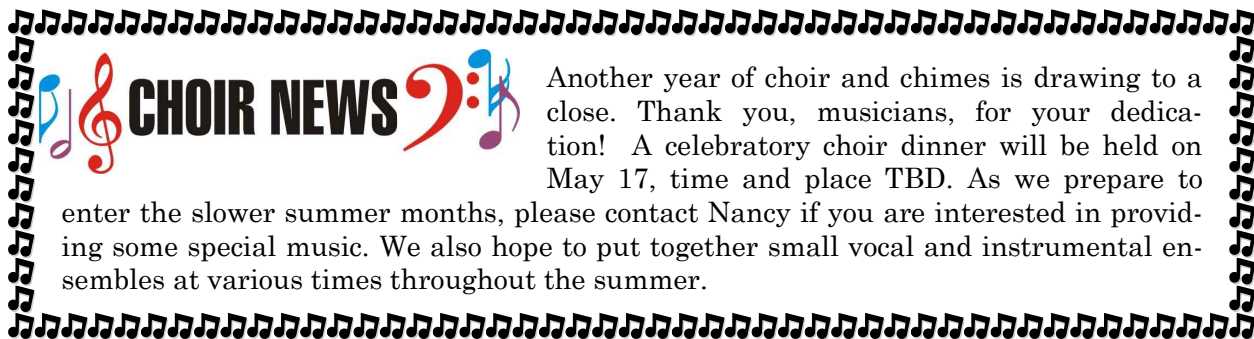
In this announcement, I mentioned that “boisterous, dedicated congregational singing” has been a strength of the Lutheran Church, and that the Lutheran Church has been known as the “Singing Church.” This is true, but it is only half the story. The fuller picture is that when we sing praise to God, we sing in response to all that God has done for us. Our life of faith, our life in the Church, our life in worship, always beings with God and His gracious work for us. This concept shapes our worship life also. Worship, at its central core, is God giving us His gifts. He gives us faith and washes away our sins in Holy Baptism. He comes to us and sends forth His Holy Spirit through the Word as it is read and preached. And, in a most precious, intimate gift, He comes to us with His very body and blood in the bread and wine of the Lord’s Supper. These are priceless gifts that God gives in worship. The action starts with God’s gifts. We then sing a response of thanksgiving and praise.

I recently came across a quote that brings this into focus. It is from a book called *The Fire and the Staff*, written by Klemet Preus, published by CPH. Preus writes,

“If the Divine Service is viewed primarily as our praising God, then you can do just that as well at home. In fact, once we have looked at the topic of vocation, you will see that we can serve God better in the world than in the church building. But if the service is understood as God giving us the forgiveness of sins, then you’ve got to be there. It is very possible that the low attendance at Sunday services seen in so many churches today is a reflection of how we define the service. If I am acting, then I can do it another time. If God is acting, I better be there. (From *The Fire and the Staff* by Klemet Preus)

We sing boisterously and boldly but first we receive the gifts that God gives graciously and generously. Worship is not about us and what we want and what we choose. Worship is about the gifts that God gives us in the Word and Sacraments. Where God pours out His blessings, we want to be there to receive them. Where God is present in His Word and Sacraments, we want to be there with Him. And when we receive God’s great blessings, we can’t help but rejoice in thanksgiving and praise. That is why we sing—because we have been richly blessed. I look forward to seeing you in worship each week at Zion to receive God’s great blessings in the Word and Sacraments. Thanks, and praise be to God!

In Christ, Pastor Clayton



Another year of choir and chimes is drawing to a close. Thank you, musicians, for your dedication! A celebratory choir dinner will be held on May 17, time and place TBD. As we prepare to enter the slower summer months, please contact Nancy if you are interested in providing some special music. We also hope to put together small vocal and instrumental ensembles at various times throughout the summer.

Membership Changes

Baptisms:

Youth Confirmation:

Transfer In:

**Daniel Bretz
Michael Ganey
Tyler Hinton
Luke Lara**

YOUTH GROUP

We had a great time at our picnic themed April meeting! We played link tag and had a potluck. The youth group is doing an escape room activity in May, and we are looking forward to it. We would also like to thank anyone who donated money to our Love Your Neighbor fundraiser. We greatly appreciate the congregation's support, and we were able to raise over \$1500!

In Him, Abby McDaniel



The Youth Group enjoying a game of Link Tag.



Pastor Clayton leading a devotion about the importance of friendship.

Board of Ed

We had a very successful Easter Egg Hunt with almost 50 children in attendance. Thank you to everyone who filled eggs with candy for the event and thank you to Youth Group members who helped. Also, thanks to the parents who stayed afterwards to help put away tables and chairs. The help was very much appreciated.

We will be sending notes and pizza gift cards to all our college students as encouragement to get through finals in May. We currently have seven college students on our list.

Plans are currently being made for Vacation Bible School to be held this summer, and kudos to Abby McDaniel for volunteering to lead the planning.

Please consider volunteering to be a part of our Board of Education. We are still in need of one more person to be on the board.

Submitted by Linda Hoskins



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me..." Mark 10:14. This has been a wonderful school year. It is hard to believe that it is almost over and many of our students will be moving on to kindergarten. It is exciting to see how much they have matured and how much they have learned. The staff and I loved our time with all the students this year. Thank you to the members of Zion, our Board of Education, and our preschool parents for your continuing support.

Registration for next year began in early March. We still have a few openings for three-year-olds. If you or someone you know would like to register your child, you can email me at zionpreschooldirector2020@gmail.com.

We will end our school year with our annual Graduation on Tuesday evening, May 16th. Our 2023-2024 school year will begin on Tuesday, September 5th. Parents will receive letters in August as a reminder. May God bless everyone with a happy, restful, and safe summer!

God Bless,
Vikki Harms, Zion Preschool Director




ELDERS CORNER

Philippians 1:3 says to us, "I thank my God every time I remember you." On May 29th we celebrate Memorial Day. On this day we honor those who gave their lives for their country. We give thanks to them for answering the call to duty. We cannot convey our gratitude to those who have died, but we can to those still alive. Several members of our congregation have served or are serving in the military. We thank God for all His blessings and for giving our country dedicated men and women who offered or offer military support.

The message of Memorial Day applies also to us as Christian citizens. We need confidence, especially in times of peril, that the work God has begun in us, bringing us to faith in Jesus Christ, He will bring to completion when we come before Him, either on the day of our death or on the day of Christ's return. As Christians, we are involved in defending and confirming the Gospel, sharing with others the peace we have with God through the reconciling work of His Son. The more we are involved in proclaiming and practicing the peace of God, the greater will be peace on earth regardless of times of peace or war.

Submitted by Jeffrey Fick






May has us all thinking about the end of school, the beginning of summer, graduations, vacations, and all kinds of things. In your planning, please think about volunteering to teach Sunday School just one day during the summer. It is such a joy to work with the kids! You can teach them, but there is so much they can teach you! It is so much fun to see their excitement!!! There is a volunteer sign up in the Narthex.

Also, save the date for VBS! This year VBS will be June 26-30.

In Christ,
Marianne McDaniel





Follow Him in Generosity

Our Savior calls us to follow Him in generosity. “For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you” (John 13:15). We cannot give our lives for the salvation of the world, of course. Praise God, that job’s already done! But with hearts full of thanksgiving for what Jesus has given us, we can follow His example of generous giving. And Jesus’ generosity is not merely an example. Our Lord also commands us to act according to our gifts: “The one who contributes, [let him give] in generosity” (Rom. 12:8).

So, when we bring offerings to the Lord, we should strive to heed His command and follow the pattern He has established for us. Jesus did not give us leftovers. He gave His best. We should not give leftovers, either, but the first and best of what He has given us. Jesus did not give as an afterthought — He gave according to the plan of salvation God established from the foundation of the world. So, when it comes to our own offerings, we should make a thoughtful plan to give generously, in proportion to the way He has blessed us. Like the Macedonian Christians, who gave according to their ability, and even beyond their ability (2 Cor. 8:3), we should honor the Lord by giving a generous portion of the income that God provides us.

We should also give freely, just as Jesus gave freely for us. There is no compulsion involved in our works of love and our offerings to the Lord. We do not give grudgingly, but willingly and cheerfully, each “as he has decided in his heart,” as the Lord says (2 Cor. 9:7). There is no New Testament ceremonial law involved here. Rather, we are free to give as generously as our Savior has given for us!

In the same way, our Lord teaches us to give generously out of our love for Him and for our neighbor. Jesus shows us that genuine love is always love “in deed” (1 John 3:18). It is love that sees our neighbor in need and gives generously to help him. It is love that hears the Word of the Lord and does what it says. If we truly love, we give generously. If we give without love, our giving is not truly following Jesus.

Finally, we follow Jesus in generosity when we support His Gospel ministry and other works of mercy. The people of Israel gave generously to construct and support the operation of the tabernacle, for that was the place where the Lord received the Old Testament sacrifices, through which He bestowed the forgiveness of sins on His people. So, they gave abundantly, so abundantly they had to be told to stop giving! (Ex. 36:5–6). In the same way, we should bring generous offerings to support the Lord’s work. We support our congregations in the preaching of His Word, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper, which bestow His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation, and we take care of those who are poor and needy.

Our Savior calls us to follow His example in generous giving. Let us then, with thankful hearts, rededicate ourselves to following Him in generosity.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

??? 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 Bloomquist, 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



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

www.lhm.org

May 7

"Sojourn"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Prosperity preachers promise health, wealth, and happiness--but that's not what Christians should expect.

(1 Peter 2:11-12)

May 14

"Reason to Hope"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A brand-new violin needs to mature through time and use. The same goes for followers of Christ.

(1 Peter 3:15)

May 21

"Responses to Suffering"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Why does God allow suffering? The answer cannot be that God is indifferent or detached from our pain.

(1 Peter 4:12)

May 28

"A Timely Invitation"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe
(John 7:37-39)



PLEASE
CONTINUE TO
SUPPORT THE
MASCOUTAH
FOOD PANTRY.





BIRTHDAYS

05/01 Jerry Phillips
 05/02 Kylie Beville
 05/03 Andrew Benner
 05/03 Debbie Root
 05/04 Dale Wehmeyer
 05/05 Emily Matthews
 05/06 Laith Fanous
 05/06 Jack Morra
 05/07 Isabella Allen
 05/08 Alaina Gryga
 05/08 Karen Haas
 05/08 Madelyn Krausz
 05/09 Lilah Fanous
 05/09 Joseph Rueter III
 05/10 Elizabeth Orr
 05/10 Isaac Robinson
 05/10 Brooke Rowold
 05/11 James Trame
 05/12 Brennen Magers
 05/12 Reagan Magers
 05/13 Nick Morra
 05/14 Meghan Hahn
 05/14 Luke Lara
 05/15 Bessie Fick
 05/17 Shirley Braeutigam
 05/17 Brennen Dunn
 05/17 Ken Frey
 05/17 Patrick Lancey
 05/19 Marsha Fulton
 05/19 Carolyn Rowold
 05/19 Kay Zimmermann
 05/20 Geoff Phillips
 05/21 Kristen Benoist
 05/23 Karl Bretz
 05/27 Amanda Bigley
 05/27 Joe Crismon
 05/27 Shea Suedmeyer
 05/28 Penny Eatherton
 05/28 Alana Fanous
 05/29 Marion Kneschke
 05/30 Kathryn Underwood

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

may



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

05/02 Edward & Joyce Linn
 05/14 Ken & Laurie Knutson
 05/22 Darren & Lindsay Murphy
 05/25 Damon & Stacey Chaffin
 05/25 Tom & Alicia Hinton
 05/25 Earl & Temple Linnertz
 05/26 DC & Joyce Hendrix
 05/27 Matt & Emily Wambold
 05/29 Bryan & Julie Benner
 05/30 Jeff & Kay Zimmermann



Flowers for
May

 7
 14
 21 Joyce Hendrix, in celebration of
 50th anniversary.
 28



LWML ~ May 18th

Devotion: "A Motley Crew"
 (Candy Andres)

Activity: Discuss possible Summer
 project.

Hostesses:
 Candy Andres & Lee Hinton



BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

05/01 Janice Conklin
 05/01 Ray Kemezys
 05/02 Dustin Pannier
 05/02 Joshua Snyder
 05/03 Jamie Wilhelm
 05/04 Taylor Crismon
 05/08 Stacia Ahner
 05/08 Erica Popp
 05/10 Ivar Peterson
 05/12 Heather Brand
 05/12 Robert Corey
 05/12 Joseph Rueter III
 05/13 Ben Eatherton
 05/14 Lionel Timmerman
 05/15 David Hinrichs
 05/17 Debbie Root
 05/19 Luke Lara
 05/20 Isabeau Harris
 05/21 Kylie Beville
 05/21 Emma Brand
 05/22 Karen Haas
 05/22 Dale Wehmeyer
 05/26 Jack Morra
 05/27 Ken Frey
 05/28 Brooklyn Baro



Altar Guild Schedule for May

14 Joyce Hendrix

28 Karen Eldridge

Council Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2023

Call to Order at 7:00 pm

Roll Call: Present – Pastor Clayton, Pastor Sedwick, Laurie Fournie, Tom Sax, Linda Hoskins, Mike Twenhafel, Jon Robinson, Dan Eads, Karen Eldridge and Ben Eatherton

March council meeting minutes: Approved via email.

Board of Finance Report:

- 2023 Budget YTD - \$72,358.52
- 2023 Actual YTD - \$67,314.34 (-5,044.18)
- MMSP for reimbursing the Youth Group for Lenten Meal expenses.

Treasurer's report:

- Bank Balance is at \$176,891.98.
- MMSP – to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Board of Education Report:

- Sunday School attendance for March was 250.
- Easter Egg Hunt was successfully held Saturday, April 1, with 43 in attendance.
- Youth Group
 - Planning an Escape Room event.
 - T-shirts will be ordered for students to wear to events.
 - Goal is almost met for "Love Your Neighbor" fund-raiser.

Pastor's Report:

- **The Numbers:**
 - Visits: 60 (53 members and 7 non-members)
 - Congregational Meetings and Activities: 23
 - Circuit/District/Synod Events: 12
 - Community Contacts: 1

For Your Information and Discussion:

- Chamber Orchestra from Concordia University, Chicago—Wonderful Event!
 - About 185 in attendance.
 - Meal hosted by Ladies Aid was wonderful.
 - Offering exceeded the \$2000 request.
 - Host families all seemed to have a wonderful time.
- Youth Confirmation on Sunday, April 23, 2023.
 - Daniel Bretz, Michael Ganey, Tyler Hinton, and Luke Lara.
 - Questioning will be Saturday, April 15 at 4:00 PM, not on Sunday morning.
- Mission Festival to support Seminary in Dominican Republic on Sunday, April 30, 2023.
- 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.

Continued from previous page.

Board of Elders' Report:

- The Evangelism committee met with Kayla Hollenkamp who has volunteered to be the Social Media Coordinator. We need someone to help work the sound board and video feed each week. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex.
- Communion frequency surveys will be handed out on May 21 and 28.
- The Elders approved that Rob and Annie Laird, and their children take residence of the parsonage around June 1. He retired from the Navy after 20 years of service, will now be a field worker for us and is attending Concordia in St. Louis.

Board of Trustees Report:

- Repairs were accomplished on the elevator, and it passed inspection. The grinder pump was inspected and repaired. Further repairs are planned with the phone system and sidewalk repairs.

President's Report:

- Evangelism Committee – No updates.

Old Business:

- The new church directory is being edited prior to completion.

New Business:

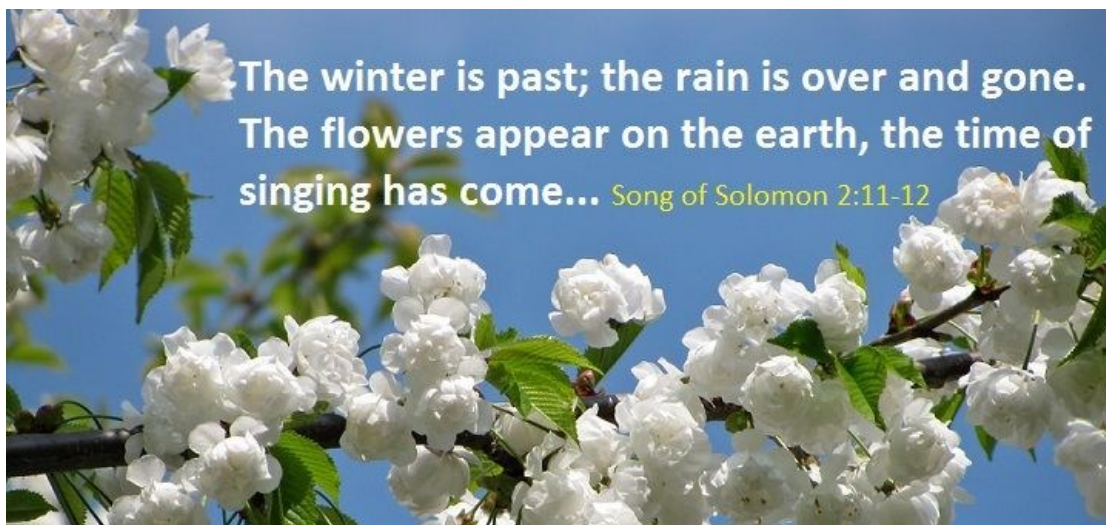
- Edwards Jones accounts/ signatures.
- Voters Mtg Prep.
- No new voting members to approve.

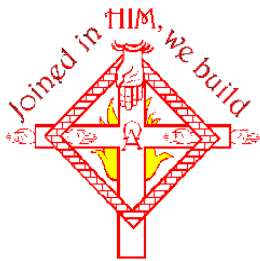
Next Meeting – May 4, 2023 @ 7:00 pm; April Voter's Mtg – Thursday, April 13 @ 7:00 pm.

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

May 7 — Fifth Sunday of Easter — John 16:5-15

— “Sin”

May 14 — Sixth Sunday of Easter — John 16:23-33

— “The World Was Not Worthy”

May 21 — The Ascension of Our Lord — Luke 24:44-53

— “Ascended, Not Absent”

May 28 — The Day of Pentecost — John 14:23-31

— Pastor Tony Troup to Preach

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