

Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool



**September
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".**

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WILL YOU PLEASE PICK UP ALL YOUR
CLOTHES?

Humor



From the Pastor

School has started up again, the time for summer vacations has ended, and we are starting to get back into a regular routine of family life. Let's make sure that regular routine includes being in God's House at every opportunity for Sunday School, Bible Class, Confirmation Class, and Worship.

We read in Psalm 122:1, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" Why are we glad to be in the Lord's House? Because that is where He richly blesses us! In Holy Absolution He forgives our sins. In the Word He reveals His grace to us. In Holy Communion He comes to us with His physical presence and strengthens our faith for life everlasting. When we are not in the Lord's House receiving His gifts, we are missing out. We need the grace that He gives us in worship! (If you are unable to make it to church physically, please let myself or an Elder know so that we can make arrangements to bring the Word and Sacrament to you at home.)

In addition to the Divine Service, where God comes to us to bless us in the Word and Sacraments, Bible Study is also vitally important for our Christian life and growth. Our world is filling us with messages that are in conflict with the Word of God, and we need to be strengthened at every opportunity to stand fast against the attacks of the world. Starting on September 10, the Adult Bible Class meeting in the Church Basement will be walking through the historical books of the Old Testament, to hear again the wonderful stories of Gideon, Samson, Samuel, Saul, David, Solomon, and the other Kings. If you are a bit fuzzy on these names and what these men did, please come to Adult Bible Class at 8:45 every Sunday morning.

We look forward to seeing you for Bible Class, Sunday School, Confirmation Class, and the Divine Service each week as we get back into, or establish, a regular routine, being glad to go to the house of the Lord!

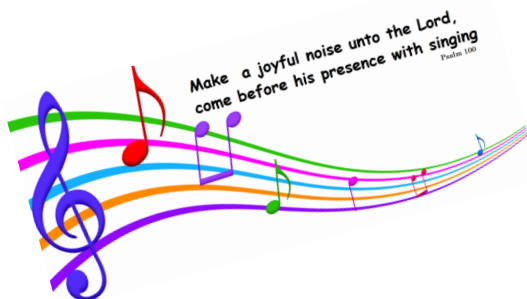
Zion's Ladies Aid singing MarKa



ZION'S LADIES AID SINGS AT AREA CARE CENTERS

On Thursday, August 17, 2023, members of Zion's Ladies Aid sang at Bria, Brightly, and MarKa, and then enjoyed a very pleasant supper together at the Mascoutah Steakhouse.

Zion's Ladies Aid singing Bria.



Zion's Ladies Aid
enjoying dinner at
Mascoutah Steakhouse
after singing on
August 17.

PRESCHOOL STAFF ATTENDS SID DAY OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

On Thursday, August 10, 2023, the entire staff from Zion Preschool attended the Day of Spiritual Renewal sponsored by the SID, held this year at St. John's Lutheran Church and School in Red Bud. This was a wonderful day together, including worship, excellent teaching from Dr. Bev Yahnke (formerly a professor at Concordia University Wisconsin, now Executive Director for Christian Counsel at "Doxology."



L to R Pastor Clayton, Amy Benjamin, Christy Reese, Wendy Schultz, and Vikki Harms. (Becky Barnes also attended, but had to leave for another appointment before we remembered to take a picture!)

Helping Hands is a group of church volunteers ready to help you with your needs. Do you need a ride to the doctor's office or to the grocery store? Do you need help with simple housekeeping tasks? You can reach out to me at 618-210-6098, and I will do my best to get one of our volunteers for you.

I would like to update my list of volunteers. If you are interested in being able to help out as one of our "Helping Hands", please let me know. Even if you signed up before, let me know so that I can have a current list. This is a great way of being able to help someone in need that won't require a lot of your time or expense! Thank you.

Linda Hoskins 618-210-6987

HELPING HANDS



LifeLight In-Depth Bible Studies

We will resume LifeLight Bible Study on September 11, 2023. Join us in the church basement at 7 p.m. on Monday evenings as we study *Selected Psalms*. LifeLight provides a regular program of in-depth personal and group study of Scripture so Christian adults may grow their personal faith in Jesus Christ.

Call or text Lionel (618-806-8993) NLT September 1st to join.

CHOIR NEWS

A new choir season has begun, and we are still welcoming new members! Rehearsals are at 7:00 PM each Wednesday in the choir loft, and warm-ups are on Sundays at 9:45 AM in the church basement.

We are also still seeking two more members for hand chimes. Youth and adults with some music reading experience should consider this enjoyable opportunity! Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 8:00 PM in the choir loft.

Membership Changes

Baptisms:

**Cormac Patrick Laird
Zion Malachi Harris
Indie Nicole Harris**

Transfer to Heaven:

Deloris Bramstedt

Board of Ed

We are excited about the beginning of the new school year, and with that, we plan to send notes and small gifts to all our college students. So please let us know the addresses of your college students so we can include them all. There will be a sheet on the table in the narthex, or you can e-mail the addresses to Hosklin81@gmail.com.

We are starting to make plans for the annual Fall Fest. Details and date coming soon!

Linda Hoskins



We are excited about our 2023-2024 preschool year! Our school year will begin with parent orientation sessions on Thursday, August 31st. This is a great opportunity for preschool parents to meet the staff, receive information for the new school year, and ask questions. This will also give students and parents the opportunity to see the classrooms.

Our first day of class will be Tuesday, September 5th. Classes run from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

Miss Amy (Benjamin) and Miss Christy (Reese) will be returning to the four-year-old classroom and Miss Wendy (Schulz) and Miss Becky (Barnes) will be returning to the three-year-old classroom.

We look forward to another year of fun serving families of Mascoutah and the surrounding area. We thank God for the continuing support of our preschool parents, Zion's Board of Christian Education, Church Council, and the wonderful congregation.

Zion Preschool's Parent's Morning Out Program is returning for its 3rd year! Zion PMO is open to all children ages 2-5 twice a month on Friday. For more information or to register your child, contact Vikki Harms at zionpreschooldirector2020@gmail.com

Our preschool fundraiser this year is once again Butter Braids, Cookie Dough, and Pizzas. Who doesn't love a good butter braid?! These products arrive frozen and can be prepared for the coming holidays. The order forms will be in the Narthex every Sunday after church and during the week through Wednesday, September 27th. You can also order online at: <https://store.myfundraisingplace.com/6912d36a-ee54-4984-bdf3-7f0dd3b231b5> or check out our Zion Preschool Facebook page for a direct link to the website. All orders will be available for pick-up on Saturday, October 7th at 9:30 a.m. at the Preschool South Street doors. The money we raise will help us purchase additional toys and equipment for the gym. Thank you to everyone for helping to support our program.

God Bless,
Vikki Harms
Zion Preschool Director



ELDERS CORNER

Finding the Calm in the Storm

Think of the last storm that raged in your life. It may have been in your family, an illness you never saw coming, or any situation. Crisis comes. Storms will come. Every one of us have been tossed and turned by anxiety at some point in our life.

Adam and Eve faced a crisis when the serpent encouraged them to eat the forbidden fruit. That day, they made a critical choice and gave in, and the world has paid for their sin ever since. Moses had a time of crisis when the Lord called him to become leader of His enslaved people. For the next 40 years Moses proved himself to be courageous when faced with a crisis. King David's anxiety and fear lead him to have a man murdered on the battlefield.

God is all-knowing, which means you are never out of His sight. God is all-present which means you are never out of His reach. God is all-loving and all-powerful, which means you are never out of His care. When Jesus comes to us in our crises and tells us not to be afraid, we can believe Him. He will provide comfort, guidance, and strength.

The Apostle Paul tells us that the Son of God became a curse for us. God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us. God abandoned Jesus on the cross, so that we might see the empty tomb, the risen Jesus, and hear the words of the angel: "He is not here, He has risen from the dead, just as He promised." His death and resurrection from the grave are a statement of God's love for His most precious creation.

If the stormy waves of anxiety and fear want to control your day, take the advice of the Apostle Paul. "Be anxious for nothing but with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God." And the peace of God will calm the storm. Take a moment to count your blessings. What good is still happening in the midst of the storm? Remember your God is all-knowing. He knows your situation.

Respectfully submitted by Jeffrey Fick



I want to start by saying thank you to the people who have agreed to teach Sunday School this year. Preschool: Katie Crimson, 1st and 2nd grade: Amanda Ganey and Sharon Morris, 3rd and 4th grade: Joe Crimson, 5th and 6th grade Confirmation: Lori Clayton and 7th and 8th grade Confirmation: Pastor Clayton. At this time, we do not yet have a teacher for our High School Youth. If you feel called to do this, please let me know! Here's to a great year! If you would be willing to sub on a Sunday that a teacher needs to be out, please let Marianne McDaniel or Anna Pannier know so that we have a list of people we can go to. Please thank these people that have agreed to teach our children not only with words, but also by making the commitment to bring your child to Sunday School every week. They spend a lot of time preparing and I know it brings them joy to have a full class.

Rally Sunday, the start of our Sunday School year, was celebrated with donuts and some get to know you games.

I am also encouraging parents to come into the church with their children during the Sunday School hour. Adult Bible class meets in the basement fellowship hall, and we are also going to have an adult fellowship hour with coffee and donuts in the gym for those who would like to get to know other parents better. Your children watch what you do as well as listen to what you say. They notice if you do not come into church during Sunday School. Please help your child see how important hearing the word of God is!

In Christ, Marianne McDaniel, Sunday School Superintendent





Stewardship in the First Commandment

The greatest gift that Martin Luther gave to us was his Small Catechism. The word “enchiridion” is part of the original title of this work. This is the Greek word for “handbook.” The Small Catechism is a handbook of the Bible. All the basic knowledge that a Christian needs to understand the faith and live a godly life has been taken from the Bible and distilled into this beautiful little book of Christian piety.

Luther starts with the Ten Commandments.

The First Commandment:

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (SC I)

We have a God above us. He is the Lord God and we are not. He is Almighty and in control. He is righteous and good. And therefore, we should fear Him.

This God is also our heavenly Father. He wants us to be saved. He does not want us to suffer His just wrath. He has provided salvation for us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And therefore, we should love Him.

Our heavenly Father will never leave us nor forsake us. He has promised as much — and the Bible shows us that He always keeps His promises. So, we should trust Him.

In the Large Catechism, Luther explains how money and possessions form one of the greatest temptations against the First Commandment:

This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the most common idol on earth. He who has money and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of Paradise. On the other hand, he who has none doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave. (LC I 5–9)

These words of Dr. Luther should call us to repentance; sometimes, we live and act like we don’t have a Father in heaven. We seek our comfort and peace outside of His gracious promises. But we do have a Father in heaven. He does love us. All His promises are true. And the Lord will surely provide. If that is our belief, then our outward lives will reflect our belief in our acts of generosity and mercy. We will see money and possessions not as gods but rather as tools for doing God’s work.

– 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

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

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

September 3

"Entryway"

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The Psalms are God's words, given to us as an entryway into His presence.

(Psalm 26:8)

September 10

"Not Just a Formality"

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

After trust has been broken, forgiveness is more than a mere formality.

(Psalm 32)

September 17

"The Problem of Praise"

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Psalm 103)

September 24

"High Ground"

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Psalm 27)



A Prayer for Labor Day

Lord on this Labor Day,
we thank You for the blessing of work.
We ask for strength to complete each day.
We ask for rest when we are weary.
We ask Your guidance
for everyone seeking employment,
and we ask that
You be with those whose faces
we might never see
but who work tirelessly each day
for the good of us all.
Amen.

Please
continue to
support the
Mascoutah
Food
Pantry.





SEPTEMBER



Birthdays

09/01 Tom Heck
 09/03 Reese Roehrig
 09/04 Beatrice Lockwood
 09/05 Christelle Bretz
 09/06 Wyatt Bigley
 09/08 Grant Ahner
 09/08 Dan Eads
 09/09 Ken Knutson
 09/10 Jon Robinson
 09/12 Mark Hatcher
 09/14 Ian Hutchinson
 09/15 Garrett Sax
 09/15 Adam Twenhafel
 09/15 Grace Wambold
 09/17 Joe Lancey
 09/17 Amy Lin
 09/18 Ahren Kneschke
 09/21 Zackery Schreiber
 09/22 Danny Trout
 09/22 Angie Walter
 09/26 Mike Rehfeldt
 09/27 Jordan Rehfeldt
 09/27 LaVonne Evers
 09/30 Zachary Hinrichs
 09/30 Jeff Zimmermann



Wedding Anniversaries

09/04 Dustin & Anna Pannier
 09/05 Andy & Rhea Sax
 09/06 Mike & Angie Twenhafel
 09/22 Danny & Joyce Trout
 09/23 Mike & Jordan Rehfeldt
 09/30 Geoff & Robin Phillips

BLESSED

Altar Guild Schedule for September

10 Joyce Hendrix &
Becky Wachtman

24 Lesley Eads

Baptismal Anniversaries

09/01 Amy Lin
 09/02 Parker Roehrig
 09/03 Dawn Corey
 09/06 David Rowold
 09/10 Johnathan Clayton
 09/12 Nathan Schreiber
 09/15 Alaina Gryga
 09/17 Isabella Allen
 09/17 Candy Andres
 09/17 Kynan Drinnon
 09/18 Cierrah Lovett
 09/18 Daniel Mileur
 09/18 Ella Sax
 09/22 James Barnard
 09/22 Shannon Barnard
 09/24 James Rehfeldt
 09/24 Larry Richards
 09/27 Lauren Twenhafel
 09/28 Brennan Magers
 09/29 Connor Hatcher
 09/?? Tom Heck



Flowers for September

3 LaVonne Evers, in memory of Marcella Kniepkamp's birthday.
 10 Cary Robinson, in celebration of Jon Robinson's 50th birthday.
 17
 24 Geoff and Robin Phillips, in honor of their 30th wedding anniversary.



Fall
FOR
Jesus
HE NEVER LEAVES

LWML ~ Sept. 21st

Devotion: "Got Food?" (Bessie Fick)

Activities: Surprise Auction
LWML Sunday, October 1st

Hostesses: Laurie Knutson & Bessie Fick

**Council Meeting Minutes
Zion Lutheran Church
August 3, 2023**

Call to Order at 7:00 pm.

Roll Call: Present – Pastor Clayton, Laurie Fournie, Joe Bloomquist, Mark Hatcher, Mike Twenhafel, Jon Robinson, and Linda Hoskins

June council meeting minutes: Approved via email.

Board of Finance Report:

- 2023 Budget YTD - \$172,547.24
- 2023 Actual YTD - \$151,162.92 (-21,384.32)

Treasurer's report:

- Bank Balance is at \$176,342.49.
- MMSP – to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.
- MMSP – to pay Pastor Sedwick \$400 for four Sundays of work.

Board of Education Report:

- All Fall Sunday school teaching positions are filled.
- VBS, June 26-30, was a great success under the leadership of Abby McDaniel with 62 children in attendance.
- Two members are needed to serve on the board.

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor Sedwick provided pastoral services during the month of July.

Board of Elders' Report:

- June and July worship attendance numbers were consistent.
- Communion survey to be reviewed at the next Elder's Mtg.

Board of Trustees Report:

- HVAC filters were changed out.
- Priorities are Wifi/network hardening and utility lights on the generator.

President's Report:

- There is an anticipated 11 positions open on the 2024 board starting this December.
- Voters meeting will include discussion regarding the property across the street.

Old Business:

- Nothing new to report.

New Business:

Linda Hoskins volunteered to revive the Helping Hands Group due to a continued need.

Continued from previous page.

Next Meeting – September 7, 2023 @ 7:00 pm; Voter's Mtg is August 10, 2023 @ 7:00 pm.

Adjournment - MMSP to adjourn at 8:28pm.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Jon Robinson, Council Secretary



Southern Illinois District attendees at the Higher Things Youth Conference in Carbondale.

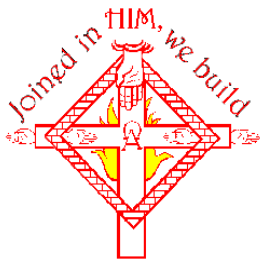
Thank you to everyone who has supported us through our fundraisers. We really appreciate all of your support. Thank you especially for your support with our mum fundraiser. Our youth group attended the Higher Things Youth Conference at SIU Carbondale. Attending this conference was an amazing time of fun and fellowship with other Lutheran youth as well as enrichment through worship and breakouts.



At daily worship services at the Higher Things Youth Conference.



Zion youth and adults at the Higher Things Youth Conference at Carbondale from July 18-21.



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

Sept. 3 — 13th Sunday after Trinity — Luke 10:23-37

— “Who Is My neighbor?”

Sept. 10 — 14th Sunday after Trinity — Galatians 5:16-24

— “Very Varied Fruit”

Sept. 17 — 15th Sunday after Trinity — Matthew 6:24-34

— Sem. Moellenhoff to Preach

Sept. 24 — 16th Sunday after Trinity — Luke 7:11-17

— “The Only Son”

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