

**ZION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH &
PRESCHOOL**



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ECHO

**101 South Railway
Mascoutah, IL 62258**

PASTOR:

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

MUSIC DIRECTORS:

- Josh & Nancy Peterson

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:

- Vikki Harms
Email: zionpreschooldirector2020@gmail.com

CHURCH SECRETARY:

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www.ZionMascoutah.org

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



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

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

Humor

A little boy in church for the first time watched as the ushers passed around the offering plates. When they came near his pew, the boy said loudly, "Don't pay for me, Daddy, I'm under five."

From the Pastor

After 18 full years, actually almost 19 years, as your pastor, the time has come to say goodbye. I looked back almost 19 years to the very first few Echo articles I wrote, in September-November of 2005, and I want to share some memories and reflections with you.

I started my very first Echo article in September 2005 with these words, "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus' (Philippians 1:3-6). While these words were originally intended from St. Paul to the Church at Philippi, they express the joy I have in you already, as we just barely begin our time together as pastor and people." Now, almost 19 years later, I can affirm the joy and the partnership in the Gospel that we have shared, and I conclude by saying "thank you" again, concluding as we began, with joy and thanksgiving to God for the time we have had together.

Then, after an introduction and thanksgiving, in the October and November 2005 Echo articles I posed the question, "What is the Church all about? Why does the Church exist? What is the PRIMARY PURPOSE of the Church?" The answers to those questions are as appropriate now at the end of my time with you as they were at the beginning of our time together almost 19 years ago. Here is what I wrote about the primary purpose of the Church back in 2005.

From the October 2005 Echo: "Let us turn to Scripture and see what is given there as the reason for the Church's existence. In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus states that the Apostles (the first pastors of the early Church) were to '...Make disciples of all nations, BAPTIZING them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, TEACHING them to obey everything I have commanded you...' (By the way, another way to translate that last portion of the passage is 'teaching them to cherish or treasure all I have entrusted to you.') What are the things that Jesus has commanded or entrusted to the Church that we are to obey and cherish? Let's turn again to Jesus' own words as recorded by St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11: 24-25. 'This is My Body, which is for you; DO THIS in remembrance of Me...This cup is the new covenant in My Blood; DO THIS, whenever you drink it, in remembrance, of Me.' Right away in the words of Christ, we see the

Continued from page 1.

heart and core of the Church—the Word and Sacraments. Preaching the Gospel, Baptizing, and receiving the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper—THAT is what the Church is to be about."

In the November 2005 Echo, I moved from Christ's words in Scripture to the understanding of the Church in Lutheran Confessions, specifically the Augsburg Confession. "The Augsburg Confession states that we are saved 'by grace, for Christ's sake, through faith...' (AC IV), we are not saved by our own works or merits. The document goes on to say, 'To obtain such faith God instituted the office of the ministry, that is, provided the Gospel and the Sacraments. Through these, as through means, He gives the Holy Spirit, who works faith, when and where He pleases, in those who hear the Gospel' (AC V). God gives the office of the ministry, He sends pastors to His Church, in order to preach the Word and administer the Sacraments. That is what the pastor is to do. Of course, the pastor does other things as well, but the PRIMARY PURPOSE of the office of the ministry is to preach the Word and administer the Sacraments. The PRIMARY PURPOSE of the Church is to HEAR the Word and RECEIVE the Sacraments."

"Two paragraphs later, the Augsburg Confession includes a section entitled, 'The Church.' This section says, 'It is also taught among us that the one holy Christian Church will be and remain forever. This is the assembly of all believers among whom the Gospel is preached in its purity and the holy Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel' (AC VII). What is the Church? It is nothing other than the place where the Word is preached and the Sacraments are rightly administered. No Word, no Church. No Sacraments, no Church. Put rather bluntly, if the Word and the Sacraments are not present, then the Holy Spirit is not present to create and sustain faith in those gathered. The assembly ceases to be the Church, and instead becomes a rather useless human endeavor. On the other hand, where the Word is preached and heard in its truth and purity, where children are brought to the Font of Holy Baptism, where the faithful regularly receive the true body and blood of Jesus Christ as life-giving food, there the Holy Spirit is present and active to work His miracles of faith. May this hope and promise guide our life together in Christ's Church as we focus overwhelmingly on the PRIMARY PURPOSE, and not get bogged down in the various extra details."

Since I was looking back to the first Echo articles I wrote, I also came across the last Echo article that Pastor Schrader wrote, in August of 2005. He focused on "Delivering the Goods." He said that pastors "are to 'deliver the goods.' By that he meant the Gospel and the Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. Those are the 'goods' that every pastor is to 'deliver.' That is to be the focus of every pastor—to proclaim God's Word in its truth and purity and to faithfully administer the sacraments."

What I wrote almost 19 years ago in my introductory Echo articles, and what Pastor Schrader wrote in his farewell Echo article, is just as true today as it was then. Joining together in the Divine Service to receive God's gifts in Word and Sacraments is the primary purpose of the Church. May God continue to bless Zion in the years to come as you continue to treasure the gifts that God has entrusted to You, given in His Word, in Baptism, and in the Lord's Supper. Make it the ongoing priority of the Church to receive these gifts, and be strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

And, to conclude as we started, thank you for the joy we have shared for almost 19 years in partnership in the Gospel. I have shared God's Word and God's Sacraments with you. I have prayed with you and for you, I have shared laughter and tears with you, I have shared good times and tough times with you. I have been with you at Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings, Funerals, and everything in between. We have been truly blessed to share almost 19 years of life together. For this we thank you, and give thanks and praise to God.

From my heart, hear the words of Numbers 6:24-26, "The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace." Amen.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Clayton

Giving Thanks for All of You

Dear Zion Family,

As Pastor already mentioned in his article on the previous pages, so also I would like to echo Paul's words in Philippians 1:3 "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now." I give that thanks for all of you. Our family has been tremendously blessed to be part of the Zion family these past 19 years. You are all very dear to us. As God is calling us to new places, I also echo Paul's words in Philippians 1:6 "And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." May our Loving Lord continue His good work.

In Jesus, Lori Clayton

VBS 2024

July 8-12

**Dinner will be served
at 5:30 PM.**

**VBS will run from
6-8 PM.**



CHOIR NEWS

Even though it is summer, we will have two opportunities to join together as a choir in July! The choir will sing on Sunday, July 21 and Sunday, July 28. For July 21, the choir will not rehearse during the previous week, choir members are simply asked to be in the balcony at 9:30 AM on Sunday, July 21 to run through the piece to be ready to sing it later that morning. Then, the choir is invited to meet for a special rehearsal on Wednesday, July 24 at 7:00 PM to rehearse music for Pastor Clayton's Farewell Service, which will be on Sunday, July 28. Please join in to make wonderful music of praise to God with the choir on July 21 and 28!

Membership Changes

Baptisms:

Transfer In:

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are still in need of a Sunday School teacher for the school year beginning 8/25/24 and running through the end of May next year. This teacher is for the kindergarten through 2nd grade class. This class averages about 8-10 students each week and the curriculum is provided. In the past, we have had some members join forces to share the responsibility for the year, teaching classes on a rotating schedule. If interested, please contact Anna Pannier or Dawn Corey.

Summer Sunday school is off to a great start! Children are learning about how sweet Jesus' love is. We have a 12 week curriculum and each week a different candy is used in the lesson. Below are some pictures of the bulletin boards that we put together to go with the curriculum. They have gotten a lot of attention from the kids.



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 cannot wait to see all our returning Zion Preschool families and meet the many new families that will be joining us this year.

We do have one spot open in our 4-year-old class and few spots open in our 3-year-old preschool class. In addition to our preschool classes, we have our PMO program which is open to all children ages 2 to 5 years old. This is a great play with a purpose program as it is a gentle introduction to preschool. PMO meets twice a month on Fridays. If you or someone you know is interested in more information you can contact me at zionpreschoolmascoutah@gmail.com.

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

The Power of the “Press”

(By Dan Eads)

Have you ever stopped to consider the power of the press? That is, the printing press?

I recently watched “Luther,” a 2003 film about Martin Luther’s life starring Joseph Fiennes. (1) This movie got me thinking about the printing press, its effect on the world and on the Church, and the wide variety of other tools we have available today for learning and spreading knowledge of God and His gifts.

Johannes Gutenberg’s printing press appeared in Europe in the 1450’s and is commonly understood to have been a key tool in accelerating the Protestant Reformation. Ironically, some of the first items to be printed with it in large quantities were Roman Catholic indulgences. Indulgences and their abuse were, of course, the primary issue that Luther wished to engage in scholarly debate about with his Ninety-Five Theses -- which were themselves printed and distributed throughout Europe. (2)

As a relatively new Lutheran, I’ve found several tools that have helped me discover, understand, and absorb Lutheran teaching and doctrine. Whether you’re a new Lutheran or a seasoned veteran, you also might find these helpful and enjoyable in your walk with God and in your understanding of Lutheranism.

KFUO Radio (AM 850):

The official broadcast voice of the LCMS, KFUE was my first exposure to Lutheranism. I credit it (as a tool of the Spirit) with prompting our move out of (Baptist) evangelicalism and into the LCMS.

Programs found under the KFUE umbrella (www.kfuo.org):

These are my favorites. You can listen to these as scheduled radio programs, directly on the web, or download using your favorite podcast player. “Thy Strong Word.” <https://www.kfuo.org/category/thy-strong-word/> “Sharper Iron.” <https://www.kfuo.org/category/sharper-iron/> “Wrestling with the Basics.” <https://www.kfuo.org/category/wrestling-with-the-basics/> “Concord Matters.” <https://www.kfuo.org/category/concord-matters/>

Mobile device resources:

“Luther’s Small Catechism.” Concordia Publishing House. - This is a mobile app available in your favorite app store. Easy to navigate and read. “The Lutheran Study Bible.” Concordia Publishing House. - Another wonderful app available in your mobile device app store of choice.

Other online resources:

“The Book of Concord.” bookofconcord.org. - Everything Lutheran in one place: the Ecumenical Creeds, the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, the Small and Large Catechisms, the Formula of Concord, and more. “The Word of the Lord Endures Forever.” <https://thewordendures.org/>. Pr. Will Weedon. - Check out the links on this website for Pr. Weedon’s three-part YouTube interview with a non-Lutheran, “An Outsider Visits a Lutheran Church”. These were very helpful to me, personally.

1. Luther. Directed by Eric Till, produced by Nikon Film & NFP Teleart Berlin, 2003.

2. <https://www.worldhistory.org/article/2039/the-printing-press--the-protestant-reformation>

CHRISTMAS IN JULY OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Dear Zion Family,

I thought it would be fun to start early in hopes of getting Christmas boxes out in the congregation before all of our own Christmas business takes hold of us.

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to Children in need around the world, and together we can share the GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST.

Please feel free to take a box and fill it with items that will make a difference in a child's life. If you don't have time to fill a whole box, leave an item and I will happily put it together for you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to text me. It is the fastest way to reach me.

Konya Bloomquist
618-954-9483
Samaritanaspurse.org



My SHOEBOX Prayer

THIS CHRISTMAS WILL BE DIFFERENT
THAT'S WHAT I TOLD MYSELF,
I'M NOT BUYING ANY TRINKETS
THAT WILL COLLECT DUST UPON A SHELF.
I'M STORING UP MY TREASURE
IN A PLACE IT CAN'T BE DESTROYED.
THIS SEASON WILL BE A MEASURE
REACHING OUT TO GIRLS AND BOYS
SHOEBOXES IN THE COLORS
THE BOXES RED AND GREEN,
WILL BE SENT TO A CHILD FAR AWAY
TO A CHILD I'VE NEVER SEEN
I ENVISION THEIR TINY FACES
I IMAGINE THAT I'M THERE,
I WATCH THEM OPEN UP A GIFT
A GLIMPSE OF HOPE IN A LIFE OF DESPAIR
HOW WILL THIS TINY SYMBOL
CHANGE LIVES, LORD, WHAT WILL IT DO?
IT IS MY PRAYER THAT EACH GIFT
WILL LEAD THEM STRAIGHT TO YOU!

Laura LeBlanc

Operation Christmas Child Ideas:

Pencils, colored pencils, and sharpener
Erasers
Pencil case
Crayons
Pens
A personal letter and photo
Ruler
Glue stick
Safety scissors
Coloring book
Markers
Notepads
Stickers
Self-inking stamp
Tennis shoes
Socks
Water shoes
Flip flops
Hand held toys
Plush small animals
Balls: Tennis balls, bouncy balls, Wiffle balls
Jigsaw puzzle
Finger puppets
Silly Bands
Sunglasses
Scarves
Bandanas
Gloves
Small flannel throw (*Roll it up! It will fit!*)
Necklace
Watch
Hat
Shoelaces
Bean bag
Hacky sack
Small dry erase board and markers
Teddy bear
Inflatable balls
Legos
Solar-powered flashlight
Harmonicas
Recorder
Jump rope
Paddle ball
Yo-Yo's
Handheld Etch A Sketch
Small board books
Slinky
Flash cards
Miniature checkerboard and checkers
Plastic poncho in packet
Drawstring bag

Balloons
Crafting kit (beads, etc.)
Toy toolkit set
Plastic eating utensils
Sippy cup/cup with a lid

Grooming and Hygiene Items for Christmas Shoeboxes:

Comb
Brush
Dental floss
Mild soap (Please put in plastic bag or travel container.)
Toothbrush (NO TOOTHPASTE! IT WILL BE THROWN AWAY)
Colorful bandages
Hand wipes
Small pack colorful tissues
Emery board

Operation Christmas Child Ideas for Girls:

Package of multi-colored Sharpies
Travel sewing kit (10-14 girl)
Fat Quarter bundles (10-14 girl)
Hair ribbons
Ponytail holders
Barrettes
Small pots/pans with spatula
Bangle bracelets
Clip-on earrings
Doll
Pom poms (like the ones used at football games)
Purse
Hand mirror (unbreakable)

Operation Christmas Child Ideas for Boys:

Ball cap
Soccer ball with pump
Cars
Trucks
Kazoos
Compass
Hammer (10-14 boy, must be in original packaging)
Screwdriver (10-14 boy, must be in original packaging)
LED keychain (10-14 boy)
Duct tape (10-14 boy)
Tape measure (10-14 boy)

stewardship

The Rewards of Godliness

It's no secret that you can't bribe your way into heaven. No amount of good works will impress God enough to open heaven's door for their sake. "For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23) and the person who "keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it" (James 2:10). Rather, salvation is "the free gift of God ... in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:23).

So, your good works won't earn you the reward of heaven. But does that mean that there are no rewards at all? Consider what the Small Catechism says in the "Close of the Commandments": What does God say about all these commandments?

He says, "I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments." (Ex. 20:5-6)
What does this mean?

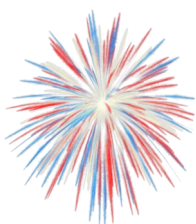
God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands. (SC II)

God promises to bless you in keeping His commandments. What might these blessings be? Well, consider what Paul says about keeping the Fourth Commandment: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother' (this is the first commandment with a promise), 'that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land'" (Eph. 6:1-3).

And think about what your life would be like if you went around stealing (breaking the Seventh Commandment), telling lies about people (breaking the Eighth Commandment), and generally being cruel to those around you (breaking all the commandments!). That is obviously not a blessed way to live. In fact, you'd be miserable living that way.

And Jesus says more about what is in store for those who make sacrifices for His sake: "Jesus said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for My name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life'" (Matt. 19:28-29).

So don't grow impatient in doing good. Follow the Lord who has freely given you everlasting life.



??? 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

Bob Eldridge 618-566-4841

Cary Robinson 618-420-7276

BOARD OF FINANCE

Karen Eldridge 618-580-5914

Cheryl Sax 618-806-7290

Deb Heck 618-792-0723

CHURCH BUSINESS

President — Mike Twenhafel 618-363-1955

V. President — Jon Robinson 618-420-6978

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 618-971-8691

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 MEDIA

Kayla Hollenkamp 618-367-5177

kayla_hollenkamp@hotmail.com

SOCIAL MINISTRY QUESTIONS

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

Geoff Phillips, Elder 618-978-2616

SPIRITUAL CONCERNS/QUESTIONS

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

Board of Elders:

A-G: Ray Kemezys 618-971-8691

H-L: Geoff Phillips 618-978-2616

M-R: Dan Eads 618-623-2760

S-Z: Joe Bloomquist 618-954-9462

STEWARDSHIP QUESTIONS

Ray Kemezys, Elder 618-971-8691

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent— Anna Pannier

618-409-5193

Assistant Superintendent— Dawn Corey

619-995-2401

THRIVENT

Lionel Timmerman 618-806-8993

Glenda Pike 618-806-3656

TRUSTEES/BLDG. MAINTENANCE

Trustees@ZionMascoutah.com

Mark Hatcher 618-409-8848

Lionel Timmerman 618-806-8993

Andy Sax 618-530-7294

Carl Sherrill 618-409-3321

WORSHIP QUESTIONS

Pastor Clayton 618-447-1306

Dan Eads, Elder 618-623-2760

YOUTH GROUP



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

www.lhm.org

July 7

"My Pastor"

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Like sheep that need a shepherd, followers of Christ need pastors who will come looking for them when they stray.

(Acts 20:28)

July 14

"Words of Grace Build Us Up"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

The gracious words of God change our lives for the better, tell us of our inheritance, and remind us that we are part of a much larger family. (Acts 20:32)

July 21

"Unhindered"

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Dr. Jeff Gibbs and podcaster Jessica Bordeaux join Dr. Michael Zeigler to talk about St. Paul's harrowing journey to Rome.

(Acts 27 & 28)

July 28

"Thus and So Spoke the Girl from Israel"

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Jesus is making His people into a light for a world that's crying for help. He came to make God's light shine on us so that all people might see the face of God. (2 Kings 5:4)



God Bless



land that I love...

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 Nora Bigley
 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 Ryan Hinton
 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
 07/28 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

7 Lita Timmerman's birthday.
 14 Kemezys family, in celebration of Amanda's birthday.

Flowers needed

21
 28

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 Miles Krausz
 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
 07/26 Joyce Hendrix
 07/27 Mike Twenhafel



ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE FOR JULY

7 Abigail Clayton
 21 Lita Timmerman
 28 Dawn Corey & Phoebe Corey



LWML: July 18th

Activities:
 Lunch at Silver Creek Saloon,
 Belleville 12:00 PM



**Council Meeting Minutes
Zion Lutheran Church
June 6, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. (Jon Robinson)

Opening prayer and devotion by Pastor Clayton.

Roll call: Joe Bloomquist, Pastor Clayton, Karen Eldridge, Laurie Fournie, Mark Hatcher,
Linda Hoskins, Jon Robinson, Mike Twenhafel, Jean Kemezys

Minutes from May Council meeting approved by email.

Board of Finance report: (Karen Eldridge)

- Budget YTD: \$118,587.00
- Actual YTD: \$ 109,327.52

Treasurer's report: (Laurie Fournie)

- First Federal Savings Bank: \$ 112,499.90
- First Federal Savings Bank – Money Market: \$ 40,165.22
- Edward Jones account: \$ 69,710.71
- General Fund: \$ 54,768.16

MMSP to approve Treasurer's report.

Board of Education report: (Linda Hoskins)

● **PRESCHOOL:**

- The 4-year-old class is full with one on waiting list. The 3-year-old class has 4 openings.
- Current bank balance is \$72,271.87, but this will go down over the summer as the staff is paid over 12 months.
- PMO had 20 students attend.
- End of year program was held with great attendance.
- All current staff returning for next year.
- Vikki is in process of becoming exempt from state licensing.
- Vikki exploring options for a spring fundraiser, in addition to the fall fundraiser of selling Butter Braids.
- Vikki is looking at hosting Parent's Night events and creating a Preschool Summer camp program to start next year.

● **SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

- Total offering for May was \$174, with attendance of 218.
- We are still needing volunteers to teach summer Sunday School, and to teach Sunday School starting in the fall.
- Board of Ed looking at how to attract more people to the Fall Fest and not just families with young children. Discussed lots of ideas but have not decided on anything.

Continued from previous page.

Pastor's report: (Pastor Clayton)

- Official Acts:
 - Baptism of Mateo Hernandez – May 12, 2024
 - Installation of Rev. Paul Pater, Trinity Iuka – May 12, 2024
 - Funeral of Greg Hoskins – June 4, 2024
- The Numbers:
 - Visits: 34 (29 members and 5 non-members)
 - Congregational Meetings and Activities: 10
 - Circuit/District/Synod Events: 6
 - Community Contacts: 3
- Zion Youth are attending Higher Things Conference in Mequon, Wisconsin – June 25-28

Elder's report: (Joe Bloomquist)

- Pastor Jeff Hemmer will be our vacancy Pastor.
- Call Committee is scheduled to meet next week.
- Lenten offerings for Benevolence will be divided among the following three funds:
Church Sign, Member Needs, and Professional Church Worker.

Trustee's report: (Mark Hatcher)

- Smart Boards: No update but projector has been getting use in Sr. Youth room.
- Parsonage:
 - We have the keys from the Lairds.
 - Gutters were cleaned.
 - Minor drywall/plaster work needed (upstairs closet).
 - Need to do a walkthrough.
- Mechanical room:
 - Hot water pump failed – located replacement on Amazon.
 - Turned off basement hot water heater and pump.
 - Likely leads to HVAC – no errors noted on HVAC.
- Routine Maintenance:
 - Purchased more lightbulbs for the Sanctuary.
 - Seibert Electric performed routine maintenance on the generator, changed oil, adjusted a linkage, starting fine now.
 - Priorities: Replace hot water pump.
 - Girl's toilet – need to purchase additional flushometers.
 - Power washing building and sign.

President's report: Will provide Pastor Hemmer access to the Church Directory app.

Old Business: None

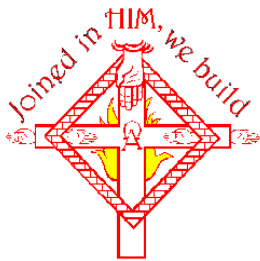
New Business: None

Next Council meeting – Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at - 7:00 p.m.

MMSP to adjourn at 7:53 p.m.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer

In His Service, Jean Kemezys



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

July 7 — Sixth Sunday after Trinity — Matthew 5:17-26

— “Uh-Oh!”

July 14 — Seventh Sunday after Trinity — Mark 8:1-9

— VBS Closing Service

July 21 — Eighth Sunday after Trinity — Matthew 7:15-23

— “I Never Knew You”

July 28 — Ninth Sunday after Trinity — Luke 16:1-13

— “We Preached Christ Crucified”

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