

**ZION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH &
PRESCHOOL**



November

2024

ECHO

**101 South Railway
Mascoutah, IL 62258**

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- Josh & Nancy Peterson

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Facebook, X, 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

Why did the cranberry blush? *It saw the turkey dressing.*

What do you call a turkey the day after Thanksgiving? *Lucky!*

What's a pilgrim's favorite dance? *The turkey trot.*

Why was the turkey asked to join a band? *He could bring his own drumsticks.*

From the Pastor

Election Comfort

That title is clickbait, just to get you to read the column. This has nothing to do with the *national election* on the first Tuesday of this month, though I fully intend to discuss the *doctrine of election*, of which the Lutheran Confessions say, "election is a comforting article" (FC Ep XI 1). If meanwhile you need some consolation to get you through this political season, here's a bit.

God alone is God. (Deut. 4:35)

Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's. (Matt. 22:21)

There is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. (Rom. 13:2)

Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. (Psalm 146:3)

Trust not in princes, they are but mortal; earth-born they are and soon decay. (LSB 797)

Comforted? Now back to more eternal matters.

The doctrine of election, or predestination, flows from the doctrine of justification. God saves. Alone. Salvation is His work. Man contributes nothing—not a decision, not a prayer, not a work—to the Lord's work to save sinners.

And God delivers His gift of salvation through means, instruments. The Word preached, the water of Baptism, the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Our confidence is 100% in the Lord and His work. This is fundamental biblical, Lutheran theology.

For some reason, sometimes that theology begins to break down when we talk about predestination.

Article XI of the Formula of Concord, in both the Epitome and the Solid Declaration (short version and longer version), unpacks the doctrine of election like this.

Continued from page 1.

1. God's foreknowledge is distinct from His eternal predestination.
2. Foreknowledge means God knows all things before they happen.
3. Foreknowledge covers the godly and wicked alike.
4. God's eternal election covers only the godly, the children of God. It is the cause of their salvation. "Our salvation is founded so firmly on it that the gates of hell cannot overcome it" (FC Ep XI 5).
5. We should seek to understand this only in what the Word of God reveals to us.
6. "God's Word leads us to Christ, who is the Book of Life, in whom all are written and elected who are to be saved in eternity" (FC Ep XI 7).
7. Christ calls all sinners to Himself. He died for all sinners.
8. Reason and the Law cannot tell us about election. They would only lead to reckless confidence or despair.
9. The Gospel tells us that God does not desire any to die eternally, but that all should reach repentance.
10. St. Paul doesn't begin with the doctrine of election. He only gets there (in Romans 9-11) after he has spoken of repentance, sin, faith in Christ, and divine obedience.
11. The reason why anyone is not saved is because he rejects the Word of God, hardens his heart, plugs his ears.
12. Here is how this doctrine is comforting—"We know assuredly that out of pure grace, without any merit of our own, we have been elected in Christ to eternal life. No one can pluck us out of His hand [John 10:29]. He has not only promised this gracious election with mere words, but has also certified it with an oath and sealed it with the holy Sacraments. We ought to call these to mind in our most severe temptations and take comfort in them, and with them we can quench the fiery darts of the devil [Eph. 6:16]" (FC Ep XI 13).

Anyone who would use the doctrine of election in any other way than to comfort troubled consciences is misusing the Word of God. If anyone teaches that God does not desire all men to be saved (double predestination) or that man obtains salvation by his own works (decision theology or works righteousness), he is misusing the doctrine of election. If anyone is permitted to continue in sin ("If God does it all, then I might as well do whatever pleases me") or brought to despair ("If I cannot contribute to my own salvation, how can I ever know that I am saved?"), the doctrine of election is being misused.

How does God choose us? How does He do His work of electing and saving? Through means. Do you want to know your eternal standing before God? What does He say about you right now? Jesus died for you. He baptized you into His death and resurrection. He forgives you. He feeds you with His own Body and Blood.

Moreover, election should comfort us in our daily callings as well. We do not save ourselves, and we do not save anyone else. God does it all. And all of His elect will be saved. But in His grace and mercy, He gives us the joy and privilege of sometimes being an instrument by which He does His work of choosing us. We may invite family and friends to come and see Jesus. Parents bring children to God in the waters of Holy Baptism. Godparents encourage their godchildren to the Sacrament of the Altar. But—and here's the comforting part—if it's God's work alone to save—and it is—we can't mess it up.

So maybe this is a column about the national election, too. In the end, it's not nearly as important as the pundits want us to think. Whatever happens in this short democratic experiment, the Lord sends rulers as He sees fit. He will preserve His Church through all ages, under all governments, despite the devil's attacks. No matter what happens on November 5th...or 6th...or 30th... God's work to save us is eternally secure and certain. No one, no circumstance, nothing can snatch the Lord's elect from His own hand.

In Christ's Service and Yours,

Pastor Hammer



The youth group had their monthly meeting in October, and it was Fall themed. They played some Fall themed games, had a devotion over the armor of God, and shared in some snacks.

For a service project leading up to the November meeting, the youth group is collecting NEW or GENTLY USED coats to send for hurricane relief in North Carolina. There will be a box under the table in the narthex for any that you would like to donate. If you would like to make a monetary donation, you can give it to Marianne McDaniel or Abby McDaniel.



CHOIR NEWS

The choir will be singing on three Sundays in November, as well as on Thanksgiving Day.

November 3: Blessed (Crescenx)

November 10: Marching to Zion (Hopson)

November 24: Glory to the King of Kings (Thompson)

Thanksgiving Day: Praise Ye the Lord (Karg-Elert)

Membership Changes

Baptisms:

Transfer Out:
Ramona Witte

Board of Ed

We had a successful Fall Fest with a good turn-out and great weather. The chili cook off and pie contest were hits, with Marlene Lockwood and Pinky Ahner winning for their chili. Lita Timmerman and Kayla Hinton won ribbons for their pies. Thank you to all who made chili or pies, and a big shout out to all those who helped in any way with the Fall Fest.

In December we will be sending gift cards to our college students. If you did not get your student signed up with us, it's not too late to add their name and address to our list! Contact Linda Hoskins if you have a name to add.

We are looking for a new board member to start in January. The Board of Education oversees the Sunday School program, Zion Preschool, and Youth Group. The board also plans and puts on the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Fall Fest. If you think this is a position you would be interested in, please contact Linda Hoskins, Cary Robinson, or Bob Eldridge. Please consider stepping up for this position.



Fall is here! We have been busy these first couple of months of school. In October we learned about Pumpkins, Fire Safety, and Kindness. We also celebrated at the end of the month by wearing costumes to school and attending a pumpkin-carving devotion.

The entire preschool staff attended the Illinois AEYC Growing Futures Conference in Springfield, Illinois. We had a wonderful time learning and meeting other Early Childhood professionals.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Butter Braid Fundraiser. We raised over \$3,400.00. We will be purchasing some new items for the gym and the classrooms. Thank you all so much for your continued support of our preschool fundraiser!

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for November 6th and 7th. Miss Amy and Miss Wendy are looking forward to talking with their preschool parents and sharing information about their children.

Our Friday PMO program is also off to a fabulous start!! If you are interested in more information, you can email me at zionpreschooldirector2020@gmail.com.

Vikki Harms
Zion Preschool Director



Elders Corner

Physical Elements Point Us to Christ and His Means of Grace

In 2007, the year before I retired from the Air Force, I had to go on the most difficult deployment of my career --- to Patch Barracks near Stuttgart, Germany. Amid this terrible hardship, I broke away from work for a day to visit Ulm Minster, the famous church in Ulm, State of BadenWürttemberg, which has the world's tallest church spire. Although it is home to a Lutheran congregation, the church was initially designed to be a Roman Catholic cathedral. Its foundation was laid in 1377, but construction was not completed until 1890, 513 years later! (1)

I thought of Ulm Minster as I listened to a recent episode of "Issues, Etc." on Lutheran Public Radio, which included an interview with Dr. Laurence White titled, "Church Architecture and Confessing Christ." (2) This led me to seek out more information on what might make a church building "Lutheran." What I learned is that the most important consideration of Lutheran church design is not so much the external appearance, shape, or style, but rather an emphasis within the building on gathering around the Word and Sacraments, teaching and pointing the congregation to God's means of grace that are central to our worship.(3) Think of how the baptismal font is front and center, together with the altar, table, and pulpit, all at the foot of the cross. These physical elements point us in worship every Sunday to the risen Savior and His gifts.

The Rev. James Wetzstein, liturgical design advisor for the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), said, "Sacramental Christians, like Lutherans, view the Sunday event as primarily an encounter with the risen Christ, who is present in the Lord's Supper. So, the communion table, the altar, the baptismal font and the pulpit are prominent. There is priority on the places where the means of grace are distributed." (3) Take a moment this week to think about the church, the means of grace, and the physical and visual elements that are integral to Lutheran worship. Check out the LCEF article and the Issues Etc. episode, cited below.

In Christ, Dan Eads, Elder

1. "Ulm Minster." Ulmer Münster, Ulm/Neu-Ulm Touristik GmbH, tourismus.ulm.de/en/discover/ulm-and-neu-ulm/sights/historical-sights/muenster-ulm. Accessed 8 Oct. 2024.
2. Dr. Laurence White. "Church Architecture and Confessing Christ." Issues Etc., Lutheran Public Radio, hosted by Rev. Todd Wilken, Episode 2783, 10/4/24, issuesetc.org/2024/10/04/2783-church-architecture-and-confessing-christ-dr-laurence-white-10-4-24/. Accessed 8 Oct. 2024.
3. "How Architecture Serves the Lutheran Church." Interest Time.org, M. Douglas Peters, Rick Lueb, James Wetzstein, Scott Bruzek, Randy Asburry, interesttime.org/how-architecture-serves-the-lutheran-church/. Accessed 8 Oct. 2024.

Do you get excited about Sunday School too? We will be looking for an Assistant Sunday School Superintendent. The majority of this job can be done on Sunday morning. We get the attendance books to the teachers, count the attendance and offering, and are there for any odd jobs the teachers need done. The assistant is also in charge of putting small items in the lunchbox for the devotional a couple of times a month. It is a 2-year position. One year as assistant and the next as the Superintendent. If you have a passion for Sunday School, please talk to Anna or Dawn about it. Please don't wait to be asked if this is a place you could help.



Anna Pannier & Dawn Corey

ZION PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are excited to share an update from your Pastor Call Committee. Recently, we invited the congregation to participate in a congregational goal survey, and we are grateful to report that we received 53 responses. Your input is invaluable as we seek to align our future with God's will for our church.

The survey results highlighted several key goals for our congregation moving forward:

- **Stronger Youth Program:** Developing our youth's faith and community engagement.
- **Servant Events:** Opportunities for service that nurture our congregation's spirit of giving.
- **Community Outreach:** Expanding our presence and impact on the local community.
- **Expand Preschool:** Increasing our educational offerings for young families.
- **Support for Young Families and Older Adults:** Creating programs that cater to the needs of all age groups.
- **Adherence to the Truth of God's Word:** Ensuring that all activities and programs reflect our commitment to Scripture.

Among the strengths identified in our congregation, many of you emphasized our music program, worship practices rooted in the rich history of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), and the strong sense of fellowship that exists within our community. These elements not only enhance our worship experience but also reinforce our commitment to supporting one another in faith.

The survey also revealed some of the qualities that you believe are essential for our next pastor to possess. These include:

- Preaching Content and delivery
- Enthusiasm and a gentle nature
- Good listening skills and compassion
- Empathy for others and integrity
- Strong faith and leadership
- Humility and a servant's heart
- Excellent interpersonal skills and a deep love for God and His people

As we move forward, we are reminded of the words of Jesus in Matthew 9:37-38: "Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.'"

President Timothy Scharr, Southern Illinois District – LCMS, is scheduled to meet with the committee members and elders on **November 4, 2024**. This meeting will be an important step as we discern God's direction for our congregation and the next pastor, He has already chosen for us.

As we work through this process, we invite you to reach out to any committee member (Jeff Fick, Lionel Timmerman, Harry Bailey, Josh Peterson, Jennifer Lara, Glenda Pike, Lee Hinton, Bob Eldridge, Mark Krausz, Lindsay Murphy, Tom Sax, Linda Hoskins, Alan Kneschke or elder (Joe Bloomquist, Geoff Phillips, Dan Eads, Ray Kemezys) with your questions or comments. We value your thoughts and prayers as we seek God's guidance. Thank you for your patience as we work through this process.

Members who wish to suggest names of pastors to be considered for our call list may complete a form which is available on the table in the Narthex. Prior to submitting the nomination, it would be helpful for you to contact the individual to see if he would be open to a Call at this time. The nominations deadline is November 10, 2024. Forms are to be placed in a sealed envelope and submitted in the nomination box in the Narthex. The name of the person making the nomination must be printed at the bottom of the form to be recognized as valid.

In closing, we pray:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the faithful members of our congregation and for the opportunity to serve You. We ask for Your guidance as we seek our next pastor, trusting that You have already chosen the right person for this role. Help us to remain united in purpose and spirit as we move forward in faith. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

In His Service,
Jeffrey A. Fick
Zion Pastor Call Committee Chair



MARION MEDICAL MISSION

**Team One verified and dedicated 1506 wells (a record).
1907 wells are built and waiting for pumps.**

Marion Medical Mission built 4280 wells last year. 400,000 of the extreme poor with a sustainable source of safe drinking water last year. Impossible.

Our goal this year...4,550 wells. Impossible!

The struggles and battles Marion Medical Mission has faced year after year after year are unreal. Floods, earthquakes, famine, fuel shortages, material shortages, gun fire, death. The obstacles should have stopped us time and time again, but every year we have exceeded our impossible goal. It is the light shining in the darkness to show the way.

There are those who push to move MMM towards the reasonable, the rational, the logical, the secular. But the reasonable, the rational, is not where the fire is, and I need the fire; the fire that burns but does not consume. That's where I find the Master Christ and He calls me, He calls us, He calls MMM. The rational, reasonable, logical are of the secular world and we are following the Master from the other world.



We have faced such impossible and difficult problems year after year, every year. Why? So that our Master's light can better shine and be seen in this troubled world. We believe in God and His son, and this belief does not fit rationally, reasonably, or logically into the secular world. A distinction must be drawn, and it must be clear, or we are just fooling ourselves with bunch of polite, socially correct, platitudes. When we take away or allow others to take away and rationalize the impossible, we extinguish the Master's light. When we move MMM into the rational and reasonable secular world instead of the Master's world...what are we about? What are we doing?

We are Christians. We share the love of Christ. We follow our Master. It's not so much what we say as what we do. How we let the Master's light shine through us. We build wells because God's people need and should have safe drinking water. We build the wells whether there are storms, fires, fuel shortages, gunfire, etc. We are followers of the Master Christ...and He has shown us the power of His light over and over and over again in the impossible. And we have been blessed to be a part of it each and every time.

Sharing this impossible story provides a way for our Master's light to shine so others can see it. Yes, the money must be used carefully; we are to be good stewards, we must protect our Master's money. If we don't, we should not have it. We are to push the envelope; we are to step out beyond reason and the rational and logical of the secular world; we are not to count our troops. We are to do the best we can, where we are, with what we have, and then purposely step out beyond what we can do by ourselves to where we must rely on God. We are to let His light shine through us so bright that even the secular world will see it. But it is dangerous!



Let me be clear; we should not climb up on the roof, as I have said many times, and jump off, expecting God to catch us. We need to climb up on the roof, look for the ladder that is somehow gone, search for other ways to get down, search again and again with all our earthly powers and resources. If it is not there, walk to the edge of the roof and jump.

We want to follow the Master; we want our Master Christ to live in us. Yet, we want to do it in a rational, logical, reasonable way where everything is in its proper place and order. The two don't readily mix; they

don't completely match. The two don't and won't always work together, and when they don't, that's when the Master's light shines brightest. And we need to make sure we let it shine.

The world needs to see the Master's light shining through MMM in Africa, in the USA, in the Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, our churches, and our homes. Not the bland, logical, reasonable, tone-deaf darkness of the secular, but the fire that burns but is not consumed.

"... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

\$475 funds one well for an entire village. Any amount helps. Every penny counts!

Marion Medical Mission | 1412 Shawnee Dr. Marion, IL 62959 | 618.997.5365 |
www.mmmwater.org





The consequences of shallow thankfulness

Can you imagine a Thanksgiving dinner without turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy and pumpkin pie? I know I can't! To not have these on the menu, or worse, to run out of them with the family around the table, would be a culinary sin of epic proportions. An attempt to serve bratwurst and hamburgers in place of the standard fare would ring hollow and seem totally inappropriate and out of place. It isn't that the food would be bad; brats and burgers are pretty tasty. But not for Thanksgiving — they just don't go together!

This month, as we continue to walk through the stewardship hymn, "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness" (LSB 788), we turn our attention to verse three. Here, William Watkins Reid, Sr., the man who penned this text, draws attention to some things that do not go along with faithful, thankful stewardship.

Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise ...

We see this often with small children. They greedily snatch the candy out of a grandparent's hand, savagely destroy the wrapper, and attempt to stuff the entire delicacy in their mouth in one bite, only to have a parent say, "Tell grandma thank you." This is followed by the pro forma thanks that is uttered between chocolate chews. It isn't really thankfulness; it is simply checking a box to keep mom or dad off their backs.

We never really outgrow this either. Our shallow thankfulness takes the form of feigned humility when praise is being offered. We are thankful that our admirers noticed and called us out: "Look at me! Aren't I special?" No thought at all is given to the fact that the Lord was the One who gave us the ability and opportunity for accomplishment. Our false blush is really only masking our selfish, credit-seeking gain. Once again, we find ourselves idolatrously thanking ourselves.

For words that speak at variance with deeds ...

What carries more weight: words or action? The steward who gives voice to the Gospel in the Divine Service but then lives like a pagan in the world does great damage, not only to others but to the Gospel itself! This is the consequence of failed stewardship. It is idolatry that separates the steward from the Lord.

Worse yet, it also impacts others negatively. When the failed steward is the reference point outside the Christian community, there are those who want no part of being Christian or

following the Christ they claim. We see this play out in the impact of overt political activity among Christians based on governing policy as opposed to fidelity to the Word of God. When our lips and our lives are out of sync, like what used to happen with old movie projectors, the impact isn't funny — it obscures the Gospel!

*Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways
unmindful of a broken brother's need ...*

Our creature comforts often become an obstacle to faithful stewardship. This is true of both individual and corporate stewardship. Financial stewardship is often limited by our desire to be comfortable and have the latest toys and gadgets. Congregational stewardship is often limited by the desire to focus on what is best for the congregation as opposed to how resources might be best stewarded to reach the community with the Gospel.

When we see someone in need, or broken by the world, we often look at them as freeloaders. We admonish them to get a job. We insist that they learn our language, learn our customs, and make them their own. But this gets in the way of seeing every human being the way that Jesus sees them. Remember, that broken person is one for whom Jesus went to the cross to die and rise. When we are unmindful of these needs, our shallow thankfulness also stands in the way of the Gospel.

This stanza reminds us of the challenge we face. Our hearts are master idol-makers. Our shallow thankfulness threatens our souls and hinders others from seeing Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Stewardship is serious business. It is a task for which we were created. In our sinful failings, we are never relieved of these duties. In our Baptism, we are restored to be stewards of the Gospel. Our faithful stewardship is all about that Gospel.

Forgive us when our thanks are shallow, O Lord! In this month of Thanksgiving, grant us the grace to offer heaping helpings of this stewardship so that others may see Jesus!

??? Who Do I Contact ???

ADULT NEW MEMBER/INSTRUCTION

Pastor Hemmer 618-946-6465

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 Hemmer 618-946-6465

EVANGELISM QUESTIONS

Bessie Fick 515-230-9937

Joe Bloomquist, Elder 618-954-9462

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 Hemmer at

Pastor @ZionMascoutah.org

PRESCHOOL

Director - Vikki Harms 618-334-2261

SOCIAL MEDIA

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kayla_hollenkamp@hotmail.com

SOCIAL MINISTRY QUESTIONS

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Geoff Phillips, Elder 618-978-2616

SPIRITUAL CONCERNS/QUESTIONS

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Board of Elders:

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H-L: Geoff Phillips 618-978-2616

M-R: Dan Eads 618-623-2760

S-Z: Joe Bloomquist 618-954-9462

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

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618-409-5193

Assistant Superintendent— Dawn Corey

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THRIVENT

Lionel Timmerman 618-806-8993

Glenda Pike 618-806-3656

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Lionel Timmerman 618-806-8993

Andy Sax 618-530-7294

Carl Sherrill 618-409-3321

WORSHIP QUESTIONS

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Dan Eads, Elder 618-623-2760

YOUTH GROUP

Kris Huth 618-267-3951

Jen Lara 618-530-8827

Marianne McDaniel 618-789-1602

Rhea Sax 618-558-0515



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES
www.lhm.org

November 3

"Working the System"

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God's Law--a "system" that keeps the world from flying apart while it also shows us we need the Savior Who came to live, suffer, and rise for us. (Genesis 33:8)

November 10

"My Name Is Now Yours"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

God comes to renew us with His forgiving love, rename us in Baptism, and remain with us through His Word. (Genesis 35:10-11)

November 17

"Album-Worthy"

Lutheran Hour Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

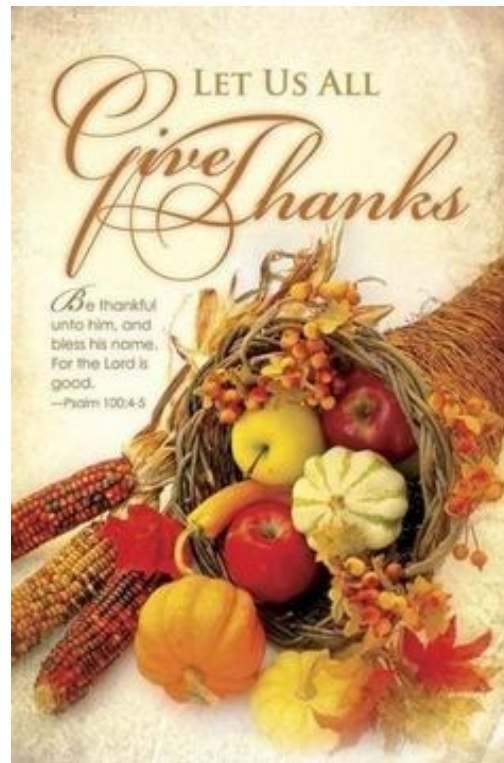
If everything you've ever thought or done was captured in a photo, how many of them would you save for all to see? Hear how God redeems all our snapshots--even those that don't seem "album-worthy." (Genesis 35:3)

November 24

"Jesus Sees What's in the Heart"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe

Jesus sees what's in our hearts. What's in His heart? God saw that we needed a Savior. (Mark 12:41-44)



**Please
continue
to support the
Mascoutah
Food
Pantry.**



Birthdays

11/01 Katie Crismon
 11/01 Max Lara
 11/01 Sven Peterson
 11/02 Lily McDaniel
 11/03 Nicholas Linnertz
 11/04 Emma Brand
 11/05 Dianne Helbig
 11/05 Melissa Kohnen
 11/05 Matt Krausz
 11/05 Andy Sax
 11/07 Gadge Corey
 11/07 Ernie Lockwood
 11/09 Mateo Hernandez
 11/10 Joseph Rueter IV
 11/15 Dan Morra
 11/18 Kirk Clayton
 11/19 Gatlin Jeffries
 11/22 Kenny Rakers
 11/24 Steve Hollenkamp
 11/26 Leif Peterson
 11/26 Robyn Rakers
 11/27 Nathan Stangle
 11/26 Michelle Underwood
 11/28 Viktor Hatcher
 11/29 Roy Klingelhoef
 11/29 Ami Linnertz
 11/29 Marlene Lockwood



November

Wedding Anniversaries

11/21 Todd & Laurie Fournie
 11/28 Dick & Elizabeth Bogue



Baptismal Anniversaries

11/02 Glenda Pike
 11/02 Sharon Weier
 11/04 Ahren Kneschke
 11/04 Max Lara
 11/06 Rebecca Allen
 11/07 Hannah Drinnon
 11/07 Jordan Rehfeldt
 11/07 Aspen Sax
 11/08 Emerson Segelhorst
 11/10 Kim Drinnon
 11/10 Dawson Rowold
 11/12 Jen Lara
 11/14 Ian Hutchinson
 11/15 Brady Twenhafel
 11/15 Grace Wambold
 11/16 Cohen Merrill
 11/17 Savannah Murphy
 11/19 Darla Lancey
 11/19 Zackery Schreiber
 11/21 Alexander Allen
 11/22 Jessica Hatcher
 11/23 Rosie Hatcher
 11/23 Lee Hinton
 11/23 Benjamin Pannier
 11/23 Jennifer Trame
 11/25 Dianne Helbig
 11/25 Hunter Phillips
 11/26 Jerry Purdin
 11/26 Garrett Sax
 11/28 Sven Peterson
 11/30 Andrew Dunn
 11/30 Brennen Dunn
 11/30 Cadence Dunn
 11/?? Pat Meier



Flowers for
November

 * 3 In honor of All Saints Day.
 * 10
 * 17
 * 24

Flowers
needed



LWML: NOV 21ST

Devotion: "Show Me"
 (Lisa Wehmeyer)

Activities: Secret Pal Program
Know Your Neighbor Activity

Hostesses: Pinky Ahner &
Lisa Wehemeyer



Altar Guild
Schedule for Nov.

3 Dawn & Phoebe Corey
 10 Gail Frey
 24 Lita Timmerman

**Council Meeting Minutes
Zion Lutheran Church
October 3, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. (Jon Robinson)

Opening prayer and devotion (Pastor Hemmer)

Roll call: Joe Bloomquist, Karen Eldridge, Laurie Fournie, Pastor Hemmer, Linda Hoskins,
Jon Robinson, Lionel Timmerman, Mike Twenhafel, Jean Kemezys

September Council meeting minutes approved by email

Pastor's report: (Pastor Hemmer)

- 4 Divine services and 1 Prayer service
- 4 Catechesis classes
- Visits: 1 shut-in visit and 5 hospital visits
- Brightly service
- 2 meetings with members
- 3 other meetings

Board of Finance report: (Karen Eldridge)

- Budget YTD: \$220,233.00
- Actual YTD: \$199,382.27

Treasurer's report: (Laurie Fournie)

- First Federal Savings Bank: \$109,844.31
- First Federal Savings Bank – Money Market: \$40,251.37
- Edward Jones account: \$72,472.80
- General Fund: \$44,341.99

Laurie gave an update on the Zion Music Academy and how the funds from that will be handled through our Board of Finance. Council acknowledges and agrees to have \$1000.00 moved from Music Equipment and Supplies Fund to the Zion Music Academy Fund. The church retains 15% of the lesson fees to go towards administration.

MMSP to accept Treasurer's report.

Board of Education report: (Linda Hoskins)

- **Preschool:**
 - Three-year-old class is full on Tuesday/Thursday, with a few openings for Monday/Wednesday, with a total of 17. Four-year-old class has 16 total students.
 - Current balance is \$55,656.50
 - Lunch Bunch is doing great, with 8 students and more planning to join.
 - Three parent orientation sessions held with good attendance.
 - Butter Braid/Pizza/Cookie dough sale has begun and runs to Oct. 7. Pick-up is Oct. 19.
 - Parents Morning Out has 13 students.
 - Spring Fundraiser: Pay/Pick a Day/Date. Will most likely be held in March.

Continued from previous page.

- Sunday School:
 - September attendance was 256. Offerings \$182.00.
 - Quarter 3 mission total: \$172.69 to Lutheran Heritage Foundation.
 - Robert Corey filled the vacant Sunday School teacher spot.
- BOE:
 - Plans are going well for Fall Fest. Good number of entries for chili cook-off and pie contest.
 - Various games for entire family will be available along with photo booth, balloon animal twist and face painting for kids.
 - Letters with Bible verses of encouragement were mailed to six college students. We will be sending gift cards in December.

Elder's report: (Joe Bloomquist)

- SID Circuit Forum coming up and Joe Bloomquist will be attending. Dan Eads will be covering the Apologetics Workshop. Encourage as many as possible to attend the Workshop.

Trustee's report: (Lionel Timmerman)

- Church & Preschool janitorial positions: Hunter and Melissa are doing a good job.
- Senior youth room leak: No change
- Security monitor in choir loft: No change
- Smart Boards: No change
- Routine Maintenance:
 - Priority on Preschool: Replaced several light bulbs, cleaned janitor's room.
 - Sanctuary light still out over altar.
 - General cleanup of parsonage grounds (downed branches/weeds)
- Tech Electronics reported several "cell trouble" alerts; reported twice to fix problems, updated firmware, adjusted power supply, but problem remains unresolved – tech says they may have to replace equipment.
- Priorities:
 - Preschool girl's restroom: need to install additional flushometers, paint peeling stalls.
 - Preschool boy's restroom: 1 toilet inop; need to install flushometer.
 - Re-tile stairway landings.
 - Parsonage walk-through.

President's report: (Mike Twenhafel)

- Getting close to end of year and election of officers in December so everyone needs to look for replacements if their term is expiring.

Old Business: No update on moving the brick house next to east church parking lot. Mike will follow up on this.

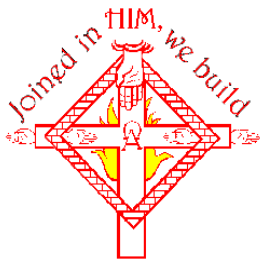
New Business: None

Next Council meeting – November 7, 2024, 7 p.m.

MMSP to adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

In His Service, Jean Kemezys



Zion Lutheran Church
101 S. Railway
Mascoutah, IL 62258

BIBLE STUDY

Sunday 9:45 to 10:45 AM

**SUNDAY SCHOOL &
YOUTH BIBLE CLASS**

Sunday 9:45 AM

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday 11:00 AM In-Person
and on FaceBook

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Sunday 12:30 PM

Address Service Requested

Worship Topics This Month

Nov. 3 — All Saints' Day — Matthew 5:1-12

Nov. 10 — Third-Last Sunday in the Church Year

— Matthew 24:15-28

Nov. 17 — Second-Last Sunday in the Church Year

— Matthew 25:31-46

Nov. 24 — Last Sunday in the Church Year — Matthew 25:1-13

Nov. 28 — Thanksgiving Day — Luke 17:11-19

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