

# WE ARE ZION

# NEWS



**Zion Lutheran Church**  
**2714 James Street**  
**Marinette, WI 54143**  
**715-735-7898**

**zion@newbc.rr.com**

**www.zionlutheran-marinette.org**

## June 2024



### **Zion's 2024 Congregation Council**

Laura Rowe — President	Dean Schoen — V.P.
Michelle Larson — Secretary	LeeAnn Limberg — Treasurer
Tatem Schroeder	Phil Strohl
Brad Nelson	Mark Swenson
Jonah Zuehls	
Sophie Limberg, Youth Member	

### **Zion Staff**

Office Administrator and Financial Secretary — Marissa Tharp  
 Choir Director and Organist — Ann Buscher  
 Accompanist for Choir and Organist— Rachel Rosenfeldt

### **Who Does What at Zion**

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#### **Worship**

Acolyte Scheduling — Ann Buscher  
 Assistants — Ann Buscher (Ushers, readers, communion assistants, set up communion)  
 AV Team — Troy Cording & Jonah Zuehls  
 Banners — Karen Dill  
 Bulletin and Newsletter Assistance — Church Secretary  
 Candles (eternal and oil) — Michelle Larson  
 Contemporary Worship — Bill Tipple  
 Hymn Selection — Ann Buscher  
 Wine and apple or grape juice — Michelle Larson

#### **Building Maintenance – Interior/Exterior**

Supplies — Gary Grom provides paper and cleaning products as well as purchasing small equipment for

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## Who Does What at Zion ---

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maintaining Zion's ground such as shovels, rakes, etc.  
Handyman — Jack Heimbuch — experience in plumbing and electrical. (no high ladders)

### **Committees/Groups**

Caring Ministry Team — Karen Sylvester  
Equal Exchange Items — Heidi Beland  
Confirmation Classes — Pastor  
Funeral Luncheon Teams — Ann Buscher/Carol Johnson;  
Michelle Larson/Sue Baxter; and Karen Sylvester/ Cheryl  
Maxwell  
Harvest of Hope Community Garden — John Radloff  
Kitchen Supplies — Nora Plym  
Mission Endowment Comm. — Phil Strohl  
Money Counters — Karen Dill, Bonnie Schoen and Pat Mittag  
Nominating Comm — Sue Baxter  
Personnel Comm. — Troy Cording  
Property Comm. — Mark Swenson  
Sanctuary Arts — Barb Grom, Karen Dill, Carol Johnson and Ann  
Buscher  
Sew for Mission — Carol Magnuson  
Social Ministry — Heidi Beland & Michelle Larson co-chairs  
SPARK — Johanna Zuehls and Pastor  
Stewardship & Generosity — Karen Sylvester  
Youth Ministry Treasurer — Karen Dill  
Worship and Music — Ann Buscher  
Ruth Women's Circle — Jane Landenberg



## From the Pastor's Desk



On my European trip in April, I visited some of the great cathedrals that dot the landscape of Europe. The first was the cathedral in Cologne. It is Germany's most visited landmark, attracting an average of 6 million people a year. At 515 feet in height, the cathedral is the tallest twin-spired church in the world. The exterior

length is 474 feet. Construction of the cathedral began in 1248 but was halted in the years around 1560, unfinished. Attempts to complete the construction began around 1814. The edifice was completed to its original medieval plan in 1880. Its construction is "a powerful testimony to the strength and persistence of Christian belief in medieval and modern Europe".

Another equally awe-inspiring building is the cathedral in Strasbourg, France. The construction of the cathedral, which had started in the year 1015 and had been relaunched in 1190, was finished in 1439. Its single spire reaches a height of 466'. The building is longer than a football field. The three portals by which one enters the cathedral have carvings and statuary that represent important biblical themes: the infancy of Christ, redemption in Christ, and the last judgment.

While in Strasbourg, I also visited St. Thomas Church, the main Lutheran Church of the city. It is nicknamed the "Protestant Cathedral." The church is internationally renowned for its historic and musically-significant organs. Mozart played on its original organ. In the early 20th century, Dr. Albert Schweitzer was their organist. I sat in this church for a quiet moment in prayer, reflecting on the witness of the faithful throughout the ages, how these magnificent churches, through their architectural design, statuary and stained-glass windows, have told the story of the Bible from generation to generation.

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Consider the church buildings and congregations in Marinette and Menominee. They are expressions of the faith of the immigrants who came to this country primary from Germany and Scandinavia. Our Savior's was organized in 1872 predominantly by Norwegians. Zion was established in 1875, primarily by Swedes. St. James was organized in 1918 as a field mission to Lutherans not connected with a church as well as unchurched people. Bethel in Menominee was founded in 1885 by Swedish Lutherans. Norwegian Ev. Lutheran Church (later Central) was established in 1888. Emmanuel was chartered in 1913 by a group of members who split from the Norwegian Lutheran Church. From 1930-1946, Emmanuel was served by the pastors of St. James. Danish Lutherans also established churches in Marinette and Menominee. Lutherans of German descent established Christ in Menominee and Trinity and First Trinity in Marinette.

Few, if any, of these churches are in their original buildings or locations. Most of their memberships have become far more diverse and inclusive than their original, ethnic-based memberships. Other changes have taken place with the passage of time. The Danish Lutheran churches closed their doors by the early 1960's. Central disbanded a couple of decades ago. St. James completed their mission to the community on April 14 of this year. It is important to note that the faithful witness of these congregations did not come to an end. Their members affiliated with neighboring congregations where they have continued to worship, witness and serve in vital ways. This gives witness to the fact that we are one family of believers in Christ, called in baptism to be the church in whatever form and place we find ourselves.

As Lutherans, we are a church of the Reformation, constantly reforming and adapting to changing times and conditions. Change continues to take place in the local Lutheran community as it does in other denominations. Our Savior's in Marinette and Good Shepherd in Peshtigo have recently become a two-point congregation served by one pastor. Emmanuel and Zion are en-  
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*Continued...* tering their third year being served by interim pastors as they look forward to calling new fulltime pastors. Beaver and Porterfield parish has been in an interim period and is now being served part time by Don Moschea, a relatively new member of Porterfield who is pursuing a seminary education.

As Bob Dylan said decades ago, “The times, they are a-changing.” Change can be unsettling and discouraging. Change can also be revitalizing and renewing. Bishop Finegan, at our recent Synod Assembly, spoke at length about the changing times and challenges that affect the church, with churches in decline, mergers taking place, clergy shortages, and the like. She concluded with this most important directive: Whether our churches (congregations) are thriving, struggling, or somewhere in between, it is vital that proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ remain central to our existence. This is our mission. This is our purpose. This is our hope for the future of the church. The church in the future may look different from the church of the past. It may take different forms and function in different ways to meet the needs of an ever-changing society. Let us be a people in prayer that the Holy Spirit will move us in ways that continue to fulfill the mission to which God has called us.

In Christ’s Service,  
*Pastor Doug*

### **Anniversary Committee Needs to be Formed** \_\_\_\_\_



Zion congregation has much to be thankful for and to celebrate as we approach our 150th anniversary next year. We need to get going on planning a significant celebration. If you are willing to serve on the 150th Anniversary Committee, please let Pastor Doug or our office administrator, Marissa, know as soon as possible so planning can get underway.



## Congregation Council Highlights

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# COUNCIL UPDATES

The congregational council met May 14th at 6:30 p.m.

**Pastor's Report:** April average attendance was 78. Special prayer requests for Karen Sylvester and LeAnn Limberg. Zion hosted the hybrid Synod Assembly on

May 18 for the Menominee Valley Conference. Zion delegates for the assembly were Troy Cording and Laura Rowe.

### April Financial Report

- General Fund \$132,595
- Capital Improvement \$79,032
- Boiler Loan Balance: \$32,476

### Committee Reports

- **Property:** Mark Swenson reported Key Box installed and the Marinette Fire Department has the key for Key Box. Church Sign is being worked on and will be completed soon. Social Hall Floor will be a priority for 2025. Lawn Care will continue with Mark Shallow LLC. Leaky faucet in Sacristy fixed. Storage Closet going according to plan.
- **Mission Endowment:** Phil Strohl reported 8 requests. Three are repeats from previous year; two requests from Zion groups. \$7000-\$7500 will be awarded. Possibility that some Endowment Funds could be used toward the Social Hall Floor.
- **Social Ministry:** Will present a check for \$5000 to World Hunger at Synod Assembly. Food items collected will be distributed to local agencies.

### New Business

- **AV Equipment:** An anonymous gift of \$15,000 given towards AV Equipment. Mark Swenson made a motion to

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## Congregation Council Highlights ---

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replace existing screen with high contrast screen and a new computer for operating the system with costs not to exceed- ing \$9034.84.

- **Application for FLC Scholarship:** Mark Swenson made a motion to award the Tafelski Family \$500 for Fortune Lake Camp from the Agnes Bennett Memorial/Christian Education Fund.

### Tabled Business

- Update Requirements for Fortune Lake Camper Fund.

The next council meeting will be June 11th at 6:30 p.m.

## June Eternal Light ---

The Eternal Light for the month of June is sponsored by Dave and Lori Despins and is praising God and honoring all children

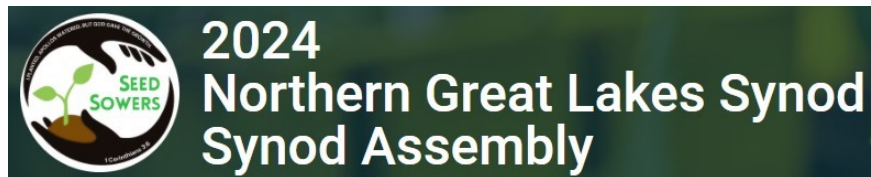


## Created in God's Image VBS August 19-22 ---



Bethel Lutheran, Zion Lutheran, and Peace United churches are working together to plan Vacation Bible School for kids and helpers of all ages. This year, Vacation Bible School will take place **August 19-22 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church.**

Campers are invited to join us each evening for a free family supper, games, songs, crafts, and Bible stories to remind us that we are all **Created in God's Image**. Registration forms are available at the congregations listed above. We hope you can join us! Contact Stefanie Ehle ([sehle@uwalumni.com](mailto:sehle@uwalumni.com)) or Johanna Zuehls ([johannazuehls@gmail.com](mailto:johannazuehls@gmail.com)) with questions or to learn how you can volunteer!



### **2024 Synod Assembly Notes**

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Troy Cording & I had the honor of representing Zion at the recent Northern Great Lakes Synod (NGLS) Assembly on May 18. Zion was chosen, because of our spectacular AV equipment, to host other representatives from parishes within the Menominee Valley Region.

The theme for the event was “Seed Sowers.” It uses Bible stories of planting seeds to guide Synod work both at the Assembly and throughout the year. As each parable is unraveled, it can take on many meanings. In particular, Bishop Finegan focused on the idea that, as members of the faith community, we are all called to plant the seeds of faith in ways that will touch the lives of others. We may not know which of our scattered seeds will take root, but as the seed sowers, our job is to spread the message as prolifically as possible with the hope of planting a flourishing faith community.

While we help others grow in faith, we are also enriching our own. In that way, we can be “self” seed sowers by taking every opportunity to learn and grow in our own faith. This growth can occur by attending worship, participating in Lutheran Hour after the service, reading the Bible, subscribing to the Synod newsletter and its faithful teachings, by visiting the ELCA website for social teachings, and many more.

There are endless opportunities to be “Seed Sowers” both in our own lives as well as in the lives of those around us.

We are grateful for the opportunity to represent Zion. Thank you!

Laura Rowe  
Troy Cording

## Letters From Fortune Lake

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### **Building Bridges**

*A story from Henry Zuehls,*

*written by Amanda Rasner, Camp Director*

Last summer Henry Zuehls came to camp as a Sr. High Night Owl camper. Upon arriving, he noted that he wasn't feeling great about the week ahead. Many of the other campers seemed "weird" singing songs and acting silly. Henry admitted that he was feeling a bit "judgy."

However, he knew he was here for the week, so Henry committed to making the most of it. Before long, he found himself right in the mix. The songs, games, and activities had convinced him that some of the "weird" stuff was actually pretty fun. By embracing the experience, Henry quickly built abiding friendships and ended up having one of the most memorable weeks of his summer. He learned that instead of judging others because they appeared to be different from him, it was better to get to know them for who they are.

Henry has taken the important life lesson that he learned at Fortune Lake and applied it to his everyday life. As a high school student, he now strives to be a bridge builder and a peacemaker. Instead of making snap judgements, he makes an effort to get to know others who are different from him. He even has worked to break up arguments and fights amongst his peers, encouraging them to try to communicate and get to know each other instead of jumping to conclusions.

God worked in such a transformative way during Henry's week at camp that Henry has chosen to come back and serve as a Leader-in-Training (LIT) for the coming summer. After participating in High School Week and some intentional training and preparation, Henry will practice his leadership skills as he works alongside the young adult staff throughout two weeks as a volunteer. Henry hopes to continue to encourage others to build relationships and trust, and camp is the perfect place for that. Henry inspires great hope - both for this upcoming summer and for the future!

## June Monthly Collection

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Zion is Called to Go  
Where Jesus Leads and  
our Social Ministry  
Committee is  
committed to showing  
our congregation ways  
to live out that calling in  
our community. During the month of June, we will be collecting  
items for Rainbow House.



# Rainbow House

*"Empowerment Beyond Abuse"*

### Always Welcome:

Gift Cards for Walmart, Amazon, Jack's, Aldi; Gas Cards; Postage Stamps; Envelopes; 1-ply Toilet Paper; Paper Towels; 13 & 30 Gallon Garbage Bags; Copy Paper; Post-It Note Pads.

### Immediate Needs:

- SMALL CONTAINERS of Laundry Soap / Pods
- Dryer Sheets
- All-purpose Cleaner/ Toilet
- Cleaner / Glass Cleaner
- Dish Soap / Dishwasher Tablets
- Mops / Pails / Buckets / Laundry Baskets / Garbage Cans
- Bath Towels / Hand Towels / Wash Cloths
- Baby Wipes / Shower Gel or Bar Soap
- Deodorant / Razors / Shaving Cream / Toothpaste (NOT brushes)
- Zip Top Bags, all sizes (regular & freezer)
- Kitchen Dishcloths
- Paper Bowls & Plates (NOT Styrofoam)
- Aluminum Foil / Plastic Cling Wrap

You are also invited to view their website which gives other needed items as well as a list of things that they are not currently able to accept. Go to [therainbowhouse.us](http://therainbowhouse.us), select Give Help, then select Current Wish List.



**Notes of Thanks!**

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Dear Pastor Doug and the people of Zion, Marinette,

Thank you so much for serving as the host site for the Menominee Valley Conference for our Hybrid Synod Assembly. I appreciate all that was required of you and your conference to make this work. From tech support to lunch, from elections teams to check-in people, thank you for all that you did to pull the details and the people together. We expect to gather by hybrid again in 2026, so please take notes for what worked well and what needed improving. Blessings on your efforts!

Bishop Katherine Finegan



Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift(s) given to your synod, received by ELCA World Hunger in March 2024.

Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States. It provides access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, and education, and it advances peace and justice. Through your gifts you join the whole church in working toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. I give thanks to God for you.

In Christ,

Amanda White

Director, Congregational Generosity, ELCA

***Join us in lifting up our brothers and sisters in  
Christ, in prayer as we remember their Baptism***

June 1: Roger DeGroot

June 2: Macy Bodam and Jacob Marzahl

June 4: Lisa Knopik

June 6: Sharon Powilaites

June 13: Adam Thill

June 16: Robert Lund

June 18: Bruce Oleson

June 20: Diana Harper

June 21: Joan Nowakowski



**June Birthdays**

June 4: Matthew Swenson

June 6: Brittany Renne and Delanie Schroeder

June 9: Victoria Johnson

June 14: Daniel Lemire

June 15: John Bowdin, Robert Lund and Patricia Rondeau

June 18: Keaton Emler and Richard Francour

June 20: Allyson Knopik

June 22: Gloria Breuer and Greg Peanosky

June 23: Rosalie Settersten

June 26: Donald Schutt



## Altar Flower Sponsorships



Zion has altar flower sponsorships available. The cost of sponsoring the flowers for one week is \$15.00. Dates are reserved on a first come first serve basis. You can take the flowers home after service! To reserve a date, please call or email Zion's office at 715-735-7898 or [Zion@newbc.rr.com](mailto:Zion@newbc.rr.com). Flower dates that need sponsoring are June 9, 23, and 30.

## World Hunger Drive!

Thank you to everyone who donated monetarily, donated food items, or both! We have reached our goal of \$5,000 and have 1,271 food items! Thank you so much for your generosity!

The food was divided between shelters in Marinette & Menominee and the money was given to ELCA World Hunger at the Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly held May 18th at Zion.

## FLC Summer Camp Registration is Open!

Registration for Summer Camp 2024 is now open! There are so many exciting program options for people of all ages. Register early for the best prices and best selection. Visit [Fortunelake.org](http://Fortunelake.org) for more information or registration!

WEEK	DATES	CAMP PROGRAM & AGE/GRADE COMPLETED	COST
Week 1	June 9-14	Victory Camp (Adult 18+ with disabilities)	\$625
Week 2	June 16-21	Intergenerational Week (all ages) <i>New!</i> Treehouse Adventures (Grades 7-12)	See website \$475
Week 3	June 23-28	High School Week (Grades 9-12)   LIT Training Week (Grades 10-12)	\$475
Week 4	June 30-July 2 June 30-July 3	Mighty Ones (Grades 1-2) Mini Camp (Grades 2-3)   MashUp (Grades 4-8) LIT #1 Option (*No charge)	\$225 \$305 No charge
Week 5	July 7-10	*Mini Camp (Grades 2-3)	\$305
Week 5 <i>+Outdoor Week!</i>	July 7-12	*Villager (Grades 3-4)   *Vagabond (Grades 5-6)   *Venturer (Grades 7-8) Camp ACTS (Grades 3-12)   LIT #2 Option (*No charge)	\$445 \$475
Week 6	July 14-17	<i>New!</i> Evergreen Camp (Adults 55+)	\$260/\$305/\$405
Week 7	July 21-26	LEGO® Camp (Grades 3-9)   Jr High Night Owl (Grades 6-8) Art Camp (Grades 3-9)   LIT #3 Option (*No charge)	\$445 \$475
Week 7	July 22-25	Onsite Day Camp (Grades K-5)	\$130
Week 8	July 28-Aug 2	Intergenerational Week (all ages) Vagabond (Grades 5-6)   LIT #4 Option (*No charge)	See website \$445
Week 8	July 30-Aug 2	Intergenerational Half Week (all ages)	See website
Week 9 <i>+Water Week!</i>	August 4-7	^Mini Camp (Grades 2-3)   ^Villager (Grades 3-4) ^Vagabond (Grades 5-6)   ^Venturer (Grades 7-8)	\$305

\*LIT program requires an application process. Week #1 has a fee; subsequent weeks do not.

2024 SCHEDULE

More info at [Fortunelake.org](http://Fortunelake.org)

*Scholarships Available*

## Letter from Bishop Finegan

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*Very truly, I tell you,  
unless a grain of wheat  
falls into the earth and dies,  
it remains just a single grain;  
but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ~John 12: 24*

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,

The season of gardening is almost upon us. When I was a child, my mother would cajole, plead, and bribe me and my siblings to take a turn weeding in the garden. I always resisted, disliking not only the bending in the hot sun, but the time away from play, even as I had just complained that there was nothing to do.

After my family and I moved to Republic, my husband and I agreed to try gardening. As we planned and planted, I regretted not having paid more attention to all the wisdom that I know my mother had about gardening, but I was too reluctant a student.

It was a surprise to me then, as I weeded the garden, when I unintentionally uprooted a green bean seed that had already sprouted, and what surprised me was how the seed was literally disappearing into the sprout. As I held this disturbed sprout in my dirty hand, I could see that the seed had been split open by the urgent growth of this little tendril shoot that sprung from the mysterious depth of the center of this seed, no bigger than....well....a bean seed. The two halves of the seed that flanked the sprout were pushed to the sides, up and away, and they were getting smaller as the sprout gathered what remained of the seed into itself for upward growth.

I had never seen a seed sprout, not that I could remember, not that I had ever paid attention. And I was newly in awe of the miracle that God provides with seeds and dark earth, water and sun. And then to think that this small sprout would, and indeed did, grow into a bush full of green beans, despite all the weeds

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## Letter from Bishop Finegan

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that surrounded it. One small seed was transformed into a gallon freezer bag full of long and plump green beans, beans that graced our table at more than a few meals, where my children could count on me to say, just as my mother had, “These beans are from the garden.”

God is in the business of new life and transformation, most particularly, transforming death into life. And we are both privileged and burdened to witness the current and ongoing transformation of the Church. Death is hard. We suffer it. We would rather not die. And yet, there is no Easter without Good Friday.

This Spring, in this Easter season of new life, the congregation of St. James in Marinette, WI will give new life to the Church as their church closes. Its end will also be a beginning as it loses itself in support of other ministries and participation in other communities of faith. And yet, St. James will never be lost. It will be remembered and honored as any beloved whose life we celebrate. As in all things, it had a beginning and it will have an end, that God transforms into beginning again.

Just as Jesus the Christ was transformed. Through the open and empty tomb, we are given the clear message that death is not the final word. The grain that was buried for three days is still bearing fruit – as the faithful gather, as they are equipped, as they are sent to plant seeds of faith – seeds that lose themselves in new growth and yield a harvest to a world hungry for the presence of God in Christ Jesus.

May God bless your seed sowing efforts, both in the dirt of your garden and in the world.

Yours in Christ,  
Bishop Katherine Finegan



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**Going Where Jesus Leads**



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**Equipping the Saints for Ministry**



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**God's work. Our hands.**