

# WE ARE ZION

# NEWS



**Zion Lutheran Church**  
**2714 James Street**  
**Marinette, WI 54143**  
**715-735-7898**  
**zion@newbc.rr.com**

**[www.zionlutheran-marinette.org](http://www.zionlutheran-marinette.org)**

## September 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**

Worship Leadership Scheduling — Ann Buscher  
 Assistants — Ann Buscher (Ushers, readers, acolytes, communion assistants, set up/ clean-up communion)  
 AV Team — Troy Cording, coordinator  
 Banners — Karen Dill  
 Bulletin and Newsletter Assistance — Marissa Tharp  
 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  
 Handyman — Jack Heimbuch

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## Who Does What at Zion

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### 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  
 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



It is wonderful to be prayed for. As it is my “job” to pray for and with people, I continually have the blessing of seeing how prayer can calm anxiety, allay fears, feed the soul and draw people closer to God. On the occasions that I have been the recipient of others’ prayers, either directly or just being told I am being prayed for, it has lifted my spirits. Perhaps that is one reason I have been drawn to prayers in scripture. The Bible is full of prayers, by the psalmists, Jesus, and other biblical writers. One such prayer that I consider one of the most uplifting in scripture, was part of the epistle reading a few weeks ago. It is Paul’s prayer to the Christians in Ephesus (Ephesians 3:14-19). As the Bible is a living word for all who read it in faith, it is also Paul’s prayer to you and me.

“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

Paul knew that the needs of the early Christians were great. They desired what we desire today—peace, prosperity, food, shelter, good health, safety and security—the basic needs and desires in life. Yet, what Paul prays for here are the things that transcend human needs and desires, the things that give life meaning and purpose and enable people to live with hope. He prays for the Holy Spirit to dwell within us and be the source of our strength. He prays that we have faith by which we invite Christ to occupy our lives that we may experience

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the full measure of his love and be inspired to love in the fullest meaning of that word. Of all the things we may desire to be filled with, Paul prays that we may be “filled with the fullness of God.”

As a new school year is about to begin, I also want to share with you a prayer by Marcie Kaven in a devotion written for PrayFaithfully, our Synod’s online daily devotional resource. It is a prayer for parents, parents-to-be, empty nesters, and adults with no children, but who care for children. I think it is a beautiful prayer worth sharing.

“Dear Creator and Parent of all,  
You hold each of us as children and care for our wellness and fullness. You know all our needs and the seasons in which those needs are best met. While we may feel alone in our struggles, we are not. You accompany us in all seasons of life and we can turn to you for strength and assurance. And yet, we often do not. We attempt to influence the courses of our lives without seeking your intention or blessing. We presume we know best and choose paths which may drive us further from you. Forgive us for being influenced by the world and provide us gentle nudging toward you. Accompany those who are parents, those who are not parents, and those who are yet to be parents. Reassure those who are without hope and energize those who are in celebration of blessings to care for the former. Praise and thanks to you for giving us this magnificent journey of suffering and redemption as a reflection of your ultimate parental gift of salvation in the sacrifice of your Son. Amen.”

Dear reader, I, too, pray that every day you will remind yourself that you are a child of God in need of your heavenly Father’s wise and loving parenting. Call upon him in prayer, seek him in the scriptures, and experience him in the fellowship of believers as we gather each Sunday in worship to hear his word read and preached and receive his living presence in Holy Communion. May your days subsequently be filled with grace and peace.

In Christ’s Service,  
*Pastor Doug*

### **What's Around the Corner?**

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Zion is buzzing with worship, service, and fellowship opportunities coming up at Zion! Below is a brief outline of what is "around the corner".

- Sept. 1: 15th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. With guest pastor Rev. Rick DeBenedetto.
- Sept. 2: Office closed for Labor Day!
- Sept. 8: 16th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with special music, Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. With guest pastor Rev. Ken Michaelis.
- Sept. 10: Sew for Missions, 9 a.m.; Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 11: SPARK, 5:30 p.m.; Choir, 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 15: 16th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Contemporary service.
- Sept. 18: SPARK, 5:30 p.m.; Choir, 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 19: Ruth Circle Group, 3 p.m.
- Sept. 20: Blood Drive, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sept. 22: 17th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Youth campfire from 5 to 7 p.m.
- Sept. 24: Sew for Missions, 9 a.m.
- Sept. 25: SPARK, 5:30 p.m.; Choir, 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 29: 18th Sunday after Pentecost, 9:30 a.m. worship with Holy Communion and via Facebook Live. Hymn sing. Coffee hour.

### **150th Anniversary Save the Date**

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Sunday, August 24th, 2025 will be when we hold our special 150th anniversary service. Receive a booklet and learn about the history of our church. A catered dinner to follow in the fellowship hall. To join the committee please call Ann Buscher or Sharon Powilaites.

## Congregation Council Highlights



The Congregational Council met on August 13th at 6:30 p.m.

**Pastor's Report:** June average attendance was 90 and July average attendance was 90.

There is a tentative coffee hour scheduled for October 6th to receive new members. Pastor

Schoen discussed his vacation plans and a pulpit supply with Rev Gene Wickman leading service on August 25th; Rev. Rick DeBenedetto on September 1; and Rev. Ken Michaelis on September 8. Pastor was also approached about a memorial gift to repair the bell tower. Zion was named a beneficiary from the Barton Lee Stehle estate; Zion received \$33,030.60 and will be out in an unrestricted memorial fund.

### June Financial Reports

- General fund increase of \$180; balance, \$137,853.
- Capital Improvement Fund balance, \$72,399
- Large disbursement of \$575 for annual payment for Shephard's Staff payment.

### July Financial Reports

- General Fund increase of \$24
- Capital Improvement Fund increase of \$2,801; balance, \$75,200.
- Boiler Loan Balance as of July 31 is \$29,210
- Large disbursement Sundays and Season's annual subscription. \$1095 for yard care and extra clean-up in the parking lot.

### Committee Reports

- **Mission Endowment:** Phil Strohl reports that Thank you notes have been received from all recipients and the committee will be reaching out to a few to come speak.

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## Congregation Council Highlights ---

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- **Property:** Mark Swenson completed a repair to the pastor's office chair. Zion's new sign is complete; thank you Schroeder Construction for the sign. Scott Williams is looking for a replacement bulb for the sanctuary.
- **Anniversary:** The committee will be doing a temple talk and members have met and started coming up with ideas for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, which will be held August 24, 2025, at Zion.

### Old Business

- **AV Equipment:** AV is waiting on delivery of a new screen.

The next council meeting will be September 10th at 6:30 p.m.

## The Lutheran Hour ---



While this group has continued to meet throughout the summer, we are hoping to entice new people to join. We offer lively conversations based on the scripture readings and the sermon we just

heard at Sunday worship. Sometimes the conversations go afield, we get off topic, but all in all, we have open and honest conversations that many times end in lots of laughter. There is no prep involved except to listen to the sermon, and if you like, jot down questions or comments you might like to talk about. Please come. Give it a try. You just might even enjoy it. We do!

## Choir to Start Practicing Again! ---

Zion Senior Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 11 at 6:30 p.m. We will sing twice a month beginning in October and on Christmas Eve. Rehearsals are only an hour. We would love to have you join us! If interested please contact Ann Buscher at 715-735-3017.



## Confirmation

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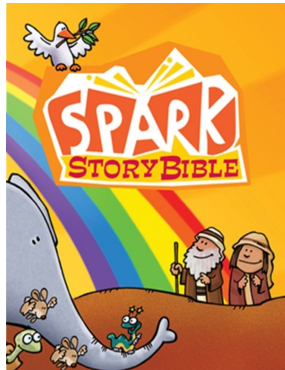


Confirmation classes for 6th, 7th and 8th graders will be held on Wednesdays at 6:30-7:30 p.m. beginning **October 2**. Confirmation classes will continue to be a shared ministry between Bethel and Zion congregations with classes held at Zion. New 6th graders who would like to be in confirmation will please contact the church office at 715-735-7898. A registration form will be sent to you, or you may pick one up at the church office.

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## SPARK

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This fall, SPARK, our elementary-aged, (3yrs – 5th Grade), education program resumes! Classes will begin on **Wednesday, September 11th starting at 5:30 p.m.** All children in our congregation, as well as friends or family of the members, are welcome to attend. Simply contact our church office, 715-735-7898, to let us know so that we can prepare the materials for the classes. SPARK classes last one hour and contain a connection with one of the Bible lessons for the upcoming Sunday. There's time for stories, prayer, crafts and music. We pray that all of it helps our young people grow in faith.

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## Upcoming Coffee Hour

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Barb Grom is having a coffee hour on Sunday September 29th to celebrate her mom Annette Anderson's birthday. Coffee Hours are held directly after service but are only held if someone sponsors it. If you would like to sponsor or hold a coffee hour, call the office at 715-735-7898 to reserve a date!

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## **The Stewardship and Generosity Corner**

*The goal of Zion's Stewardship and Generosity Committee is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances God has entrusted to them.*

I can hardly believe it; another summer has flown by and already we're in September and going back to our normal routines of living. This summer, I hope you took the time for refreshment and renewal, for all those things that are stewardship of self – your body and your spirit. They have better prepared you for the stewardship of daily living - jobs, school, family, a jam-packed schedule of after school activities, and many other responsibilities.

All of this makes for a hurried life. We begin to feel stressed and weighed down. We need to relax and fill ourselves up again, and what better way to do that than to attend Sunday worship. It offers us a chance to pray, sing, listen to an inspiring faith-filled sermon, receive Holy Communion, reflect, and share time with fellow Christians seeking peace, acceptance, comfort, and love.

It was for this reason that Zion adopted this vision for worship: *We envision a congregation that worships enthusiastically and is so hungry to praise and worship God that at least half of its baptized members are present for worship on a weekly basis.*

Through the years, I have discovered that the hard times will come, but with Christ's love and our faith in him, we humans can find peace, comfort, and contentment even in the worst of times. Christ set us free. Free from the burdens in our life, family relationship problems, ill health, financial concerns, etc.

But saying this, we need to remember to cultivate that faith, so that it remains growing and strong. One of the ways we can do that is through worship. The act of worship offers us an opportunity to gather with fellow Christians and to submit and surrender all our cares to God – our priorities, plans, hopes, dreams, and especially our fears.

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## The Stewardship and Generosity Corner \_\_\_\_\_

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Growing in faith through worship helps us to understand that God is at work. All we need to do is put our trust in God. He is always there for us, just open the door.

In God's love, peace, and grace,  
Karen Sylvester

## Mark Your Calendars For Our GWOH event! \_\_\_\_\_



of easy to prepare foods for kids in our schools. Please keep bringing food, plus you might consider adding personal hygiene items such as shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, hairbrush, comb, and feminine hygiene products.

We'll need folks to stay after worship on September 8th to load these items into vehicles and bring them to Bethel where they will be added to the collections from Bethel & Emmanuel. Your help is needed at Bethel too, to sort and separate all of the things. After our work is done, we'll have a time of fellowship with a lunch provided by Thrivent Financial.

This is another opportunity to engage in service work right here in our community. We are one of over 8,700 congregations participating in "God's work. Our hands." on Sept. 8th. Across the country, thousands of members will work to make a positive change in our communities, build and deepen relationships and share God's love. Join us as we do God's work with our hands!

## Lifelong Faith Formation Classes to begin! \_\_\_\_\_

Join the conversation, fellowship, and fun with your friends in Christ across the synod and beyond. Grow in faith as you learn more about the Bible, church history, and Christian mission. Beginning in September, classes meet online via Zoom for two to ten sessions.

Go to the synod website — <https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation> — for details and to sign-up for classes. Contact Deacon Lori Ward at 615-519-1969 or [lori.ward@nglsynd.org](mailto:lori.ward@nglsynd.org) if you have any questions.

- **Beyond the Policy: Equipping the faith community to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.** Instructor: Rev. Kari Vadis, Trinity Rhinelander. Meeting weekly, Thursday evenings, September 19-26.
- **The Book of Proverbs Two: Donning A Foreigner’s Clothes.** Instructor: Rev. Tommy Richter, Zion, Manistique. Meeting weekly, Thursday evenings, September 19-November 21.
- **Kaleidoscope Challenge**, exploring the ELCA social statement “Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity and Culture” along with the ELCA social message on Human Rights and remembering Christ's love for humanity in a world that often feels broken. Instructor: Rev. Jared Howard, Faith, Calumet. Meeting weekly, Sunday evenings, September 15-October 20.
- **Connecting through Prayer:** expanding the definition and understanding of prayer by practicing different weekly prayer exercises together with a group to discover new ways to connect to God and to the Spirit’s action in the world. Instructor: Rev. Christine Olson, Emmanuel, Menominee. Meeting weekly, Monday evenings, September 30-November 18.
- **Earth's Climate Crisis**, using the excellent, comprehensive study guide on the 2023 ELCA Social message, led by Chuck Thomas, Northern Great Lakes Synod Vice Presi-

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## Lifelong Faith Formation Classes to begin! \_\_\_\_\_

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dent. Meeting weekly, Wednesday evenings, September 18-October 23.

- **Growing Younger -- Sharing Ideas and Strategies to Engage Young People in our Congregations.** Presenters: Stefanie Ehle, Northern Great Lakes Synod Youth Coordinator, and members of the NGLS Youth Ministry Team. Meeting monthly, on the third Thursday, October 17, 2024 -May 8, 2025.
- **Introduction to Biblical Greek.** Instructor: Rev. Nicole Hanson-Lynn, Salem and Zion, Ironwood. Meeting weekly on Sunday evenings, beginning on September 15.
- **"Raising Kids Beyond the Binary: Celebrating God's Transgender and Gender-Diverse Children,"** a discussion on Jamie Bruesehoff's book, led by Amanda Rasner, Director, Fortune Lake Lutheran Bible Camp. Meeting weekly on Tuesday evenings, September 15-October 8.

## Congregational Resource Fair offered! \_\_\_\_\_

The NGLS is offering two congregational resource fairs, one is at Emmanuel Lutheran, Menominee 2901 13<sup>th</sup> St., 906-863-3431 on October 12th. The other is at Bethel Lutheran, Ishpeming 333 East Ridge St., 906-485-5533 on October 19th. People may go to <https://nglsynod.org/events/congregational-recourse-fair/> to register.

### **SCHEDULE – All Times Local**

9:30am	Coffee and Registration
10am	<i>All Creation Sings</i> Workshop, Faithful Finances Workshop & Lay Preaching Workshop
11:30am	Festival Worship
12	Lunch
1pm – 3pm	Resource Fair & Workshops

**COST: \$25** - Includes Lunch, All Workshops, and a copy of *All Creation Sings*. This event made possible by a generous grant from the NGLS *Equipping the Saints* Endowment Fund.

## October Zion News Deadline



Please note, the deadline for submitting articles, information and all tidbits to be published in the October issue of the Zion News (letter) is Saturday, September 21st. Thank you for your assistance!

## September & October Conference-Wide Youth Events!

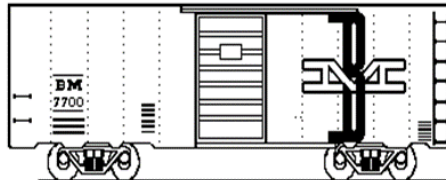
### Youth Campfire



The Menominee Valley Conference will be having Campfire on **Sunday, September 22 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.** All youth between 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade, youth group leaders, and pastors are invited to Zion in Marinette for a campfire, hotdogs, and s'mores. We will get to know each other, share a devotion, play some games, brainstorm future activities, and cook over a campfire! Friends are welcome, too! Please RSVP to Stefanie Ehle at [youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org) or (810) 881-2669 to help us have enough supplies.

### Boxcar Loading for Lutheran World Relief

Youth between 6th-12th grades and adults are invited to help with Boxcar loading on Saturday, October 19. We will be loading quilts, school supplies, and baby kits onto the boxcar for Lutheran World Relief between 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. The morning will include a Blessing of the Hands, and donuts will be available for the down time between truck arrivals. Please bring a water bottle. The boxcar will be stationed in Marinette across from Perfect Paws Grooming Salon (906 State Street), just south of Walgreens. Contact Stefanie Ehle at [youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org) or (810) 881-2669 with questions or to RSVP.



## 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). Dates that need sponsoring are September 8th, and 15th; and October 6th, and 13th.

## Ruth Circle Group



The Ruth Group will meet Thursday, September 19th, in the family room at Zion at 3 p.m. for our monthly Bible study. All are welcome to attend!

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

September 1: Gary Houdek

September 2: Allie Buenning, Elsa Emler, Skyler Emler, Andrew Hubbard, Patricia Peterson

September 4: Jacki Renne

September 6: Sarge Rudell

September 7: Roxanne Bowdin

September 11: Vern Cramer

September 13: Brooke Rose

September 14: Brittany Renne

September 16: Joanne Rudell

September 17: Richard DeBenedetto, Alexander Gressel, Sandra Gressel

September 18: William Magnuson

September 19: Dennis Mullen

September 22: Keaton Emler, Joe Griffiths

September 27: Jared Johnson

September 28: Lori Despins, Larry Nelson, Linda Walker



THANK YOU!

### Notes of Thanks!

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Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the recent grant gifted to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church & Campus Ministry. We are so grateful for your donation toward our Feed my Sheep Campaign. With your help, we will meet our \$20,000 goal and continue this vital student ministry into the next academic year. Your generosity is making a difference! We give God thanks for you.

In gratitude and peace,

Rev. Sarah Semmler Smith

Pastor

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, ELCA

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Dear Rev. Schoen,

On behalf of the Town of Peshtigo Fire Department and all of our members, I would like to thank you and the Zion Lutheran Church Community for the generous award of \$700 from your Mission Endowment Fund. We have just received two Sterling SearchLite rope kits and will place them into service immediately. We appreciate your support!

God Bless,

Mike Folgert, Chief.

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Dear Zion,

Thank you for contribution towards Camp Ruby. We appreciate your support.

*(The card was signed by all staff members and campers of Camp Ruby)*



# THANK YOU!

## Notes of Thanks!

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Dear Endowment Committee,  
 Thank you for the financial support of \$500 for Zion's Sew For Missions quilting. The monies will be put toward rolls of batting for our quilts. Your kindness is a generosity!

Sincerely,  
 Sew for Missions Group

## September Birthdays

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September 1: Karen Dill  
 September 2: Thomas Kaufman  
 September 4: Diane Beattie  
 September 7: Bruce Oleson  
 September 10: Bradley Nelson  
 September 12: George Olson  
 September 13: John Powilaites, Jacob Rose  
 September 16: Vicki Guay  
 September 20: Amanda Ross  
 September 21: Donna Dietrich, Joe Griffiths  
 September 25: Mary Bodam  
 September 26: Dorothy Bretl, Addalynn Brown, Godfrey Heitmeier, Daniel Johnson, Kaya Lebick  
 September 29: Kathi Gutknecht



## **Lutheran World Relief Boxcar Loading**

The 2024 LWR boxcar loading will be October 19 at 9 a.m. The boxcar will be located at 906 State Street, Marinette.

People who are packing boxes are reminded to label each box with the church name and address along with the contents of the box and to keep the boxes under forty pounds.

Volunteers are needed to welcome people and help them park in convenient locations, as well as assist donors in transferring boxes from their vehicle to the boxcar. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Extra assistance is needed between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., as that is when the semi-trucks from Gladstone and Iron Mountain arrive full of materials that need to be put onto the boxcar.

If people have any questions they may call or email Rev. Brenda Greenwald at 720-989-8218 or [pastor@gsslutheran.org](mailto:pastor@gsslutheran.org)



# LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

## **September Eternal Light**

The Eternal Light for the month of September is sponsored by Jim Cook and is in memory of Elaine and Si Saxton.



## **Zion to Host Blood Drive**



Zion is hosting a blood drive Friday, September 20th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the social hall. To make an appointment, people may call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or [schedule an appointment online.](#)

## Where to find Zion's Information \_\_\_\_\_

Zion has a gauntlet of places where you can stay current with the happenings within Zion!

- ⇒ We publish a weekly Announcement sheet that includes, but is not limited to: the schedule of events for the upcoming week, Birthdays, special announcements and members to lift up in prayer.
- ⇒ Zion also has a Facebook page, that contains pictures of various activities, events that will take place (Sew for Missions & Blood Drives—just to mention a few).
- ⇒ We also publish a monthly Newsletter; you're reading it right now! It is available in print, on the website, and via email. If you have not received a notification via email and would like to, please email your request to:  
Zion@newbc.rr.com
- ⇒ Occasionally reminders and/or the weekly announcement sheet is sent via email. If you have not received any of these messages and would like to, please email your request to: Zion@newbc.rr.com

If you have information to be shared with Zion, please submit it to: Zion@newbc.rr.com The submission deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 21st of every month. The submission deadline for the weekly announcements is every Monday.



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**Going Where Jesus Leads**



**Northern Great Lakes Synod**  
Bishop Katherine Finegan  
1029 N. 3rd St. A  
Marquette, Michigan 49855  
[www.nglsnod.org](http://www.nglsnod.org)  
**Equipping the Saints for Ministry**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
Bishop Elizabeth Eaton  
8765 W Higgins Road  
Chicago, Illinois 60631  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)  
**God's work. Our hands.**