

WE ARE ZION

NEWS



**Zion Lutheran Church
2714 James Street
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715-735-7898**

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www.zionlutheran-marinette.org

November 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

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

Committees/Groups

150th Anniversary Committee — Ann Buscher

Continued....

Who Does What at Zion

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Caring Ministry Team — Karen Sylvester, Judy Stehle, Sarge Rudell

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, Bonnie Schoen, John Radloff

Youth Ministry Treasurer — Karen Dill

Worship and Music — Ann Buscher

Ruth Women's Circle — Jane Landenberg



From the Pastor's Desk

On Tuesday, November 5, Americans will go to the polls to elect the next president of the United States along with other office seekers. Nothing stirs my patriotism more than joining my fellow Americans at the polling booth, casting my vote. This is democracy at its purist. This is the privilege for which our Founding Fathers pledged their "Lives, Fortunes and sacred Honor." This is the right that men and women in uniform have fought to preserve over the past 248 years. Let us honor their sacrifice. It is our sacred duty to cast our ballot. Nothing and no one should hinder us from voting. Most people already know who they will vote for. Some will vote along party lines. Some will vote for the individuals they feel will best serve our nation, states and communities. Some are still undecided.

Last week, Marilyn and I attended a lecture by Jim Wallis at the Mauthe Center on the UW-Green Bay campus. Wallis is a renowned evangelical theologian, writer, teacher and political activist. He has authored numerous books including God's Politics: How the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It, and his most recent book, The False White Gospel. Speaking about how we should form our political views and how we should vote, Wallis suggested, "Don't go to the Left. Don't go to the Right. Go deeper." By "deeper" he meant, go to the word of God in the Bible. He cited several passages. For example, Genesis 1:26 where God says, "Let us create humankind in our image." Notice there is no distinction, no differentiation, no separating of races. He also referenced Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan. To Jesus' Jewish audience, Samaritans were despised outsiders, considered unworthy of their acceptance or of God's favor. To them, there was no such thing as a "good" Samaritan. Yet, in Jesus' story, it was a Samaritan who risked and sacrificed much to come to the aid of a Jewish man left beaten and near death by robbers, unaided by his own people. Wallis also referred to Jesus' parable of the kingdom ...continued

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in Matthew 25, where Jesus identified himself with the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the unclothed, the sick, the prisoner, and said, "As you have served and met the needs of these, you have done so for me."

Raphael Warnock, U. S. Senator from Georgia and Senior Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, said "A vote is like a prayer for what you want the world to be." I encourage you to vote in this election. I encourage you to vote as people of faith, grounded in the scriptures. We do not use the scriptures to support our particular social or political views as in the case of those promoting Christian nationalism which is a corruption of the Gospel. We go to the scriptures to inform us and direct our values and actions. We do not believe that we have a corner on righteousness. We acknowledge that we, like all humans, are sinners in need of forgiveness and our only hope is God's grace in Jesus, our Redeemer. We acknowledge that our belonging comes first by the grace of God in baptism, not by any distinction society places on us or holds against us. We believe that we bear the image of God as do all other human beings. This should motivate us to seek leaders and legislators who respect the rights, dignity and humanity of every person without exception, who will work to build unity, not division. So, I encourage you to vote. Vote prayerfully. Let your vote be a prayer for the kind of world you want your children and grandchildren to grow up in, a world that reflects the kingdom of God on earth.

In His Service,
Pastor Doug



Congregation Council Highlights



The Congregational Council met on October 8th at 6:30 p.m.

Alexis Rosenfeldt presented the council with her Faith Statement (which can be read on page 15). A motion was made to approve Alexis for Confirmation on October 27.

Pastor's Report: September average attendance was 89. Pulpit supply for remainder of 2024 is: Oct 13th, Rev. Ken Michaels, Nov. 10, Rev. Rick DeBenedetto, and Dec. 8 Rev. Nick Johannes. The Menominee Valley Conference Fall Convention to be held at the Wickman Family Farm October 20th. Zion will host Boundaries Training November 7, 2024, for rostered clergy. Pastor Doug and Pastor Keith will operate the A/V.

September Financial Reports

- General fund decrease of \$9,749
- Large disbursements of \$16,340 for the bell repair; \$4,052 for insurance; \$915.
- Capital Improvement Fund had additions totaling \$1,570 for boiler, \$1,520 for the bell, and \$1,500 for the social hall floor.

Committee Reports

- **Property and Safety Committee:** Johnstons Heating was called for check up on furnace and thermostats. The flooring project for the social hall now includes the hallway in front of the offices. Pane to Clean was contracted to clean interior and exterior windows for \$935 which was to be done October 17, 2024. Verdin Bell Company will inspect the Bell Tower to make sure the structure is sound; Drees Electric will check electrical components.

Old Business

- **AV Equipment:** At the time of the meeting, AV was still waiting for the new screen and Pastors wireless mic.

The next council meeting will be November 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Bell Project Update!!



Zion recently received a generous bequest from the estate of Bill Boerner with the request that it be used for the repair of the bell and bell tower. This bequest, added to the existing balance in the Bell Fund made possible by the generosity of others, will enable us to move forward at this time in bringing the bell back to working condition. The Congregation Council approved a contract with the Verdin Bell Company of Cincinnati,

OH, to oversee the project. They did the original installation of the bell and bell tower and have serviced it over the years. The bell was forged in 1888 and has called people to worship for most of Zion's history, both at the former Terrace Ave, location and at the present location.

The bell, the yoke that supports it and the wheel that turns it will be retained. All other parts of the mechanism will be newly forged. The current analog operating system will be replaced with a digital system. This will allow for different kinds of tolling for the beginning of worship, daily noon hour, and other special occasions. The Verdin Company has already made their first visit to remove the parts that need replacement and examine the condition of the tower and its foundation and prepare it for the installation of the new parts once forged.

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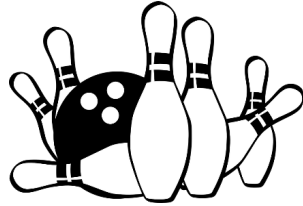
Bell Project Update!!

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A final visit will be scheduled upon completion of the parts and pending weather conditions for installation, hopefully in early 2025. The cost of the project will be \$32,680 plus some local electrical work. The Bell Tower Fund currently stands at \$26,500. We are deeply grateful to Carole Boerner and the Boerner family for their gifts that are making the bell restoration project a reality sooner than expected. We are equally grateful to those who have generously contributed to the Bell Fund in recent years. Additional gifts to the Bell Fund will be welcomed. The bell tower is a distinctive feature of the church campus. To have the bell tolling again will be a blessing to our congregation and the surrounding community.



November Youth Event



Menominee Valley Conference Youth between 6th - 12th grade are invited to go BOWLING on Sunday, November 17. We will meet at the Dome Lanes (801 University Ave. in Marinette) from 4:00 – 6:00 pm for bowling, pizza, fellowship, and fun! Football games will be playing on the TVs so you can keep tabs on your favorite teams. There is no cost to attend but reservations are needed. Please RSVP to Stefanie at youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org by November 15.

150th Anniversary Save the Date

Sunday, August 24th, 2025 will be when we hold our special 150th anniversary service. When we get closer to the anniversary date, you will 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.

A Note From The Financial Secretary

If you have changed your donation for 2024 make sure you go to the VANCO website and change it there. You can make a new entry but make sure you have it start 1/1/24 and stop this years by entering 12/31/23.

If you have questions please call our office at 715-735-7898, and I will call you back as soon as I can! This will alleviate any issues for next year. Thank you for your help!

Marissa Tharp, Financial Secretary

Volunteers Needed!

Zion needs your help. We are looking for people who are willing to be trained to set up and clean up communion. Due to surgery and snowbirds, there are not enough volunteers to fill the slots for this winter. Please contact Ann Buscher at 715-735-3017 if you are interested or to make sure your name is on the list.

NGLS Dungeons & Dragons Club Seeking 6th-12th Graders!



The NGLS Youth Ministry Team is looking for young people between 6th-12th grade to join a Synod-Wide Dungeons and Dragons Club.

WHY? Dungeons and Dragons (D&D) is one of the most popular and well-known table-top roleplaying games in the world! **It is a great game for anyone interested in using their imagination for a shared story, while building up social and critical thinking skills.** D&D is a roleplaying game in which players create their own characters and progress them through a story.

Pastor Jack Busche of Grace Lutheran, Gwinn will serve as our Dungeon Master and is excited to introduce this game to interested youth, and use the storytelling, creativity, and teamwork inherent in D&D as a way to have meaningful faith conversations. The club will primarily meet online, with in-person retreat dates determined by club members.

Youth (or parents) are invited to complete this survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LP78WPC> to help determine a date and time for an Interest Meeting. You may also email youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org for more information.

November Eternal Light

The Eternal Light for the month of November is in honor of Don and Judy Limberg.



Ruth Circle Group



The Ruth Group will meet Thursday, November 21st, in the family room at Zion at 3 p.m. for our monthly Bible study. All are welcome to attend!

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.

During October and November, Zion's stewardship focus will be GIVE. The Vision Statement for GIVE reads as follows: "In light of the many unique gifts that God has graciously entrusted to Zion, we envision a congregation that GIVES generously of time, talents, and treasures for the work of Jesus in our community and around the world and encourages other to be generous with their gifts as well."

Each month Zion's Social Ministry Committee puts the name of an organization before the congregation. It's wonderfully rewarding to know that out of our bounty, we can help others who need assistance. In October, the focus will be on "Dorothy's Haven of Hope", a homeless shelter that offers a safe temporary transitional home environment for individuals in need. The Stewardship and Generosity Committee will be helping them in this endeavor.

In November, the focus is on St. Vincent de Paul Society's Food Pantry, which has a new location on Cleaveland Avenue! They are the largest pantry that serves both Menominee and Marinette counties.

On Sunday, October 27th, the "Giving and Growing Wagon" will be making its first appearance. With assistance from Zion's kids, the "Giving and Growing Wagon" will be pulled up and down the aisles to collect coins in support of Dorothy's Haven of Hope. So, please fill your pants pocket, a handbag, a jar, or even a bowl full of coins and bring them with you on Sunday, October 27. We will be dumping them into the wagon and making a joyful noise unto the Lord!! We know that our contributions will make a difference to Dorothy's Haven of Hope and in our joyful giving hearts!

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The Stewardship and Generosity Corner _____

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November 10th is designated as Zion's "Giving and Growing Sunday" Zion's annual stewardship drive will kick off during the week of October 27th when a letter, pledge cards, and a return envelope will be mailed to congregational family units, and will culminate when pledge cards are returned on Giving and Growing Sunday. In the weeks leading up to that Sunday, we ask that you offer prayers of thankfulness for all that God provides and in reflection of your giving. How will you grow in your giving?

Luke 11:13 – "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Dear Lord, we rejoice in our gratitude for the gifts you have given us today that enrich our lives beyond measure. We thank you for the love you show us and the blessings you provide each and every day. Amen

In God's comfort, love, and mercy,
Karen Sylvester

Our Christian Sympathy _____



With Sincere Sympathy

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Congregation Council President Laura Rowe at the death of her mother, Vicky Chaltry, on October 14. Vicky died shortly after being diagnosed with an aggressive form of lung cancer. A visitation and funeral service for Vicky will be held on Saturday, November 2, at Faith Lutheran Church in Marinette where she was a member for 30 years. May Vicky's faith in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior and our hope in the resurrection provide comfort and assurance for Laura and her family.

November Donation Opportunity!



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 November, we will be collecting items for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

St. Vincent de Paul Society's food pantry is up and running in their new location at 2000 Cleveland Ave (formerly Scoop's). They are the largest pantry in our area and serve both Marinette & Menominee counties. They are open for distribution on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 am to 4 pm.

The food pantry is hoping to gain new volunteers too. Volunteers are needed to check in guests or walk with them through the distribution line. The schedule is VERY flexible. You can learn more about our local St. Vincent de Paul Society and how to volunteer by calling the pantry (715.201.3510) or by going to their website: <https://svdpmarinette.org/volunteer/>

Most Needed SHELF STABLE Items leading up to Christmas are:

- Instant Potatoes
- Stuffing Mix
- Biscuit Mix
- Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Yams
- French Fried Onions,
- Pie Filling
- Shelf Stable Pie Crust
- Shelf Stable Milks such as Almond, Rice or Soy
- All other non-perishable food items such as canned vegetables, fruits and proteins are certainly appreciated also!

Confirmation Statement

Alexis Rosenfeldt will be confirmed on October 27, Reformation Sunday. She is the daughter of David & Rachel Rosenfeldt and sister to Adison who was confirmed last year. Alexis is a 9th grader at Oconto Middle School. Having completed three years of confirmation instruction, Alexis presented her faith statement to the Congregation Council at their October meeting and was approved for confirmation. Here is her faith statement:

My name is Alexis Rosenfeldt. I have been coming to Zion for a long time.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son. I am connected to God and believe that He made me special. I am lucky to have Him in my life.

I believe that God keeps me safe, protected and loved forever. I have family to guide me and faithful friends from Zion that walk with me in faith.

I believe God is with me every day and loves me. I will follow Him every day. I believe God took our sins away, forgives our sins and will come again to take us to heaven someday.

I love being part of the church family. I like to help the congregation by being an acolyte, helping with coffee time, helping with the offering and sometimes ushering.

I love how God knows when things are tough and helps me. I can turn to God when there is rough stuff, or when I am crying, confused or when things get complicated. He is always there for me. Every time when I have hard things, God tells me and helps me to understand when I am confused.

I believe God helps everybody to get better when it is time, even me when I was a baby. I am happy God takes care of everybody in the world.

I am happy we have music about God and I love hearing the band.

I believe in God and I am grateful for the sacrifice He made for us and that He forgives all our sins.

November Birthdays

November 1: Georgann Griffiths
November 2: Jaclynn Knopik, Phillip Strohl
November 3: James Jagielski, Joanne Schutt
November 4: Hope Goes
November 5: John Kloida, Wendy Strutz
November 6: Henry Zuehls
November 7: Niklas Williams
November 9: Sharon Schmidt, Mary Thielen
November 10: Michael Harding
November 12: Lisa Cook, Carol Magnuson
November 18: Kenny Sallee
November 19: Barbara Baumgarten
November 21: Jane Landenberger
November 24: Naomi Dumke
November 25: Susan Fischer
November 26: Bethany Emler
November 27: Karen Sylvester
November 28: Lanse Dill, Alex Gressel
November 29: Carissa Kempka, Sydney Lund, Travis Lund



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

November 1: Carole Boerner, Daniel Lemire, Laura Rowe, Kathi Gutknecht.

November 2: Michael Cook, Georgann Griffiths, Timothy Saxton

November 3: Kensley Renne

November 5: Leah Rose

November 7: Beckham Betts, Donna Dietrich

November 9: Mark Swenson

November 10: Vicki Guay, Jack Heimbuch

November 11: Alexa Oleson

November 12: Barbara Grom

November 13: Nora Plym

November 15: Chad Francour

November 16: Megan Buenning

November 18: Gary Grom

November 26: Thomas Kaufman, Kaya Lebeck

November 29: Kaitlyn Francour, Sharon Schmidt, Joanne Schutt



From Our Families To Yours, Happy Thanksgiving! _____

From all of us in and
around Zion; we wish all of
you a happy
Thanksgiving!

Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Doug, Michelle,
Gina, Ann,
Rachel and Marissa



Local Author to Host Discussion

All are welcome to join author Jennifer Flatt for a discussion of the themes of her book, *Ungrieving: A Memoir of Emotional Abuse, Loss, and Relief* at Bethel on Monday, November 25 at 6 p.m. and/or Thursday, December 5 at 6 p.m..

Themes of Jennifer's memoir, published in August 2024 through Mission Point Press, include the complexity of grief, verbal abuse within relationships, religion and mental health, and changing between organized religions. Through paired, small-group, and large-group discussion, participants will explore questions such as:

- How does grief influence our relationship with spirituality and religion?
- How does grieving a person who has been emotionally or verbally abusive change the grieving process?
- How can religion play both a positive and a negative role in mental health?
- How can setting limits and boundaries with loved ones be empowering and healthy?
- Looking back over your childhood and life, what experiences with religion shaped your spirituality?
- What experiences with spirituality shaped how you view organized religion?

Memoirs explore one person's journey and are not meant as self-help books or advice manuals. This conversation will also not provide direct guidance, but instead encourage and guide individual reflection. Participants will benefit more from the discussion if they have read the book in advance. The book is available at The Book Nook in Menominee, via online retailers like Amazon, and directly from Jennifer. Copies will be available for sale at the discussion.

There is no charge for participation and no need to pre-register. Participants need not be a member of any specific religious organization, so please invite others who you feel might benefit from participation.

To learn more about *Ungrieving*, visit jenniferflatt.com.



GOD'S WILL

God wants us to follow his will, but how can we know what that is?

Directions: Write the letters on each vine in the correct order on the lines provided to complete 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV.

e
7 2 4 1 c j
6 3 i
w y l a s
3 5 2 4 6 a
1

continually,

p y r a
1 4 2 3

e g v i
4 1 3 2

in all circumstances; for this
is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

h n t a s k
2 4 1 3 6 5

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18, NIV

Answer: rejoice, always, pray, give, thanks

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Going Where Jesus Leads



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