

From Pastor's desk

AUGUST 2021

Fellow Redeemed of Zion,

Last August fades in my memory, as I am sure it does in yours as well. And yet, here we are, the 8th month of the year, a time filled with so much "stuff" it is hard to comprehend.

But, here we are, sometimes called "The dog-days of Summer." If you know any dogs, or if you have ever had one as a member of your household, you know that a dog's life, under the superintendency of proper humans, is a life of ease and leisure. Our lives have been anything but since COVID appeared, and the continuing concern over variations of the virus continue to oppress our days.

But here is good news: God is still in control! Your baptismal grace is in full force! Your redemption is a done deal! Oh, sure, there are bumps in the road, test results that indicate yet another blip in our earthly time, and the effects of life in a fallen world. But that is all worldly stuff, all of which God's people will endure along with the pagan hell-bound. "The rain falls upon the just (justified) and the unjust (unbelievers).

And so, as we enjoy the fruits of late Summer, the melons, the green beans, and the tomatoes, oh, the tomatoes, we relax in the heat, know that our redemption is secure even though our daily lives seem not to be. We have it made! No more worry about the news, or the predictions, or anything the world may throw at us, because we belong to Jesus, as the old hymn says, "Now I belong to Jesus, Jesus belongs to me..."

Blessed Dog-days!

Pastor J





Zion News...



Sunday School is returning...Plans are being made for the return of regular Sunday School classes for our youngsters in September. Final date still to be determined. Watch the Sunday bulletin for more information.

January - June Offering Statements...If you would like to receive a statement showing your offerings for the first 6 months of 2021, please see Financial Secretary, Eric Oswald.

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Jean Morgan has graciously agreed to create gift baskets to be auctioned at the Camp CILCA Chicken Fry over Labor Day weekend. To assist her with this task, see the list of items she needs later in the newsletter. Thanks, Jean!

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If your name, address, phone number or email address has changed, please be sure to notify the church office so our records can be kept up to date.

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We continue to monitor and adhere to CDC and IDPH guidelines relating to the containment of the **COVID-19** virus. At this time, our worship services continue almost at pre-pandemic normalcy. We hope that everyone is comfortable attending services in the safest manner possible.

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If you are planning to attend the Illinois State Fair, be sure to check out the Lutheran Laymen's League booth.



Camp CILCA Labor Day Chicken Fry/Auction Donation

I have been asked to head the organizing of gift baskets for Camp Cilca fund raiser being held Labor Day weekend. Below are 2 ideas for baskets, any other ideas would be welcome. If you would like to help put the baskets together or would like to donate to the effort please contact me. If you choose to donate money anything above and beyond the cost of the baskets will be donated to Camp Cilca.

Jean Morgan

217-341-5729

Mailladyjeannie@yahoo.com

Italian Dinner Basket

2 Italian Wines

2 pasta

2 Sauces

Wine opener

Pasta serving spoon

Sauce serving spoon

\$10 Hy Vee gift card (for bread)

Basket

(Hy Vee has imported pasta and sauce)

Cheese and Wine Basket

6-8 different hard cheeses wedges

Parmigiano Reggiano, Pecorino

Romano, Grana Padano are some

examples. (Must be vacuum sealed not hand wrapped)

2-3 different flavors of Bruschetta

Toast

Cheese board and cheese knife

2 Wine red and a white ?

Wine opener

Basket

I will order the cheese board, wine opener and baskets for both baskets.



Reason # 9

Tithing Is not Required, but...

God does NOT require you to tithe. We are no longer commanded under penalty of God's wrath to bring in our tithes. We live under the grace of Jesus Christ and the mercy and love of God. So if that's the case, why in the world would we ever want to give up a tenth of our incomes?

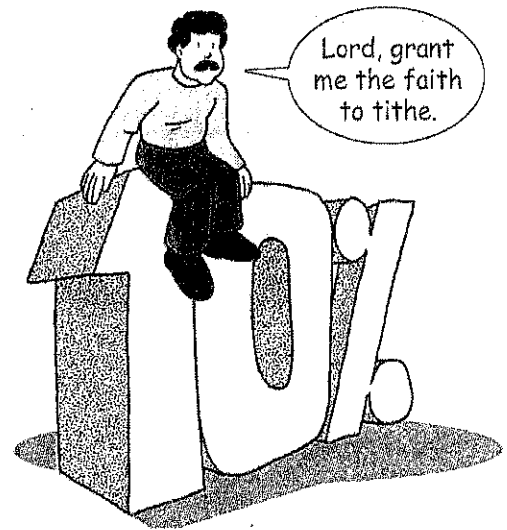
Let me ask you, are there any other things you do even though you are not required to do them? Once you grew up and left home, didn't you also escape the discipline of your parents? And couldn't you now do all of the things they told you not to do and skip all those things they nagged you to do?

Why is it that you still do those things, and even more and harder things, even though you don't have to do them? The answer is that, now that you are grown up, you can see the benefit of hard work and understand and appreciate your parents' point of view.

Back to our question, why give up one-tenth of our incomes? Is there some benefit to us? Giving is not like an investment in a bond that will pay back a certain guaranteed rate of return. On the contrary, we do not give for the purpose of receiving material blessings in return. Jesus said, "*It is more blessed to give than to receive*" (Acts 20:35). Yet God does promise that givers will certainly receive spiritual blessings (Proverbs 11:25). The most obvious benefit of our giving is to those receiving our gifts. Each time we use God's gifts for His work, the "dividend" is 30, 60, or even 100 times what we invest (Mark 4:20). God uses our material gifts to bring priceless eternal blessings to many others.

No, tithing is not required. Neither is there any law requiring us to give gifts to family members or friends. But we do! We give for the joy of giving. That same joy is ours when we give to the Lord, returning to Him a portion of what He has already given us. As missionary martyr Jim Elliot put it, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

Prayer: Thank You, Lord Jesus, for carrying my burden of sin for me. There is nothing I can do to repay You, but I gladly give You myself and all I have. Teach me to enjoy the warmth of Your love. Help me to be a joyful and generous giver. Amen.



Zion Lutheran Church – Voter’s Assembly Minutes
July 25, 2021

Gary Klekamp called the meeting to order. Pastor opened the meeting with the Opening Prayer for a Congregational Meeting.

Attendance: 14 members present with 3 new/returning members (Fred & Shirley Hagen and Jean Morgan). Quorum was established.

Minutes: Minutes from the April 25, 2021 meeting submitted by Sue Matzat and Stracy Stremsterfer were reviewed. Motion by Dennis Boesdorfer and seconded by Sue Matzat to approve minutes as printed, MCVV.

Treasurer’s Report: The 2021 Budget vs Full Year Budget report was passed out for review. Bank balances as of 6/30/21 were also submitted. Motion to approve Treasurer’s report by Bob TeRonde and seconded by Pastor Pritchard, MCVV.

Financial Secretary Report: Eric Oswald presented his report showing January through June 30th offerings for the past three years. Still receiving tithes through the mail from those members who have not been in attendance. Motion to approve Financial Secretary’s report by Dennis Boesdorfer and seconded by Bob TeRonde, MCVV.

Elder’s Report: Dennis Boesdorfer reported they are still assisting Pastor with services and making calls to reach out to members who are not attending church due to COVID. Motion by Sue Matzat and seconded by Frank Wallace to accept the Elder’s Report, MCVV.

Trustee’s Report: Frank Wallace reported in the absence of Dale Dobbe. The new office computer is up and running, Ryan Electric is in the process of repairing the two spotlights in Sanctuary. Sinclair Construction replaced a portion of the floor in the parsonage’s bathroom. The church sign west of town was blown down, and has been replaced, with retaining stones and bushes added.

The family of Rolland and Berneice Boesdorfer is requesting the remaining memorial for their family be sent to Camp CILCA from the church in memory of Rolland and Berneice. Motion by Trustee Wallace to send the remaining Rolland and Berneice Boesdorfer memorial money (roughly \$8,000) to Camp CILCA from the church in their memory. Seconded by Bob Teronde discussion held, MCVV. Motion by Sue Matzat and seconded by Jean Morgan to accept the Trustee’s Report, MCVV.

Education/Stewardship Report: Cindy Pritchard reported VBS - Rainforest Explorer will be held Sunday thru Wednesday. Sunday School will resume in September. No questions. No objections to accepting the report by unanimous consent.

Church Council Report: Gary Klekamp presented highlights from the Council Meetings. In May a proposal from Monica Boesdorfer concerning the financial review, discussion on church service for July 4th being held at Clayville and the Lutheran Witness magazine subscriptions needing to be paid for by those individuals requesting the publication. In June discussion about returning to regular communion and offering practices. Reviewed a proposal from Monica Boesdorfer on hiring Meyers and Meyers Accounting Services in helping the church with several financial items along with payroll services. Services would be \$300 per month with the Boesdorfer Memorial Funds being used to pay for service then it would be the responsibility of the church. Discussion was held and the motion to accept the proposal from Meyer and Meyer did not receive a second, therefore motion failed. No objections to accepting the report by unanimous consent.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Pritchard reported:

198 baptized members

162 communicant members

Attendance YTD: 48

42 Communion

Completed normal pastoral activities with home communions, member visits, preparation for Church services and Bible Study. Divine Service at Clayville on July 4th was a success with 72 people in attendance. Phone contacts/counseling and preached at LuHi Baccalaureate Service at Trinity in Springfield for Pastor Hennig. No objections to accepting the report by unanimous consent.

Unfinished Business:

Eric Oschwald gave a report on the Glenn Oschwald Memorial Scholarship Fund and a couple of items need to be addressed and voted on. Motion by Pastor Pritchard and seconded by Frank Wallace to place Dennis Boesdorfer on of the Glenn Oschwald Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee, MCVV. Motion by Bob TeRonde and seconded by Dennis Boesdorfer to add Gary Klekamp and Eric Oschwald to the Glenn Oschwald Memorial Scholarship Fund brokerage account held at LPL Financial, MCVV.

Motion by Frank Wallance the cash collected at the Clayville Church Service on July 4th be donated to Clayville in the amount of \$295.00. Seconded by Pastor Pritchard. MCVV.

New Business:

Letter from Monica Boesdorfer was read concerning the Audit. Gary Klekamp asked if anyone who would like to volunteer for the Auditing Committee to contact him. The church is looking for two people to carry out this role.

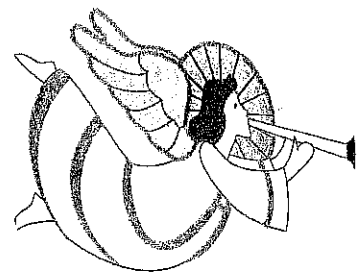
Motion by Dennis Boesdorfer and seconded by Frank Wallace to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned with Pastor Pritchard leading the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by: Stacy Stremsterfer



August Celebrations



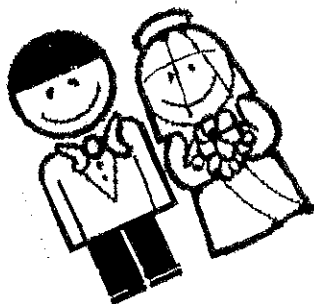
Birthdays

Kristin Irlam	8/1
Courtney Wieland	8/2
Clifton Mahler	8/7
Mary Curry	8/8
Andrea Marvel	8/9
Larry Schone	8/11
Frank Wallace	8/11
Dawson Manuel	8/12
Shane Van Veldhuizen	8/12
Gary Klekamp	8/14
Ron Jurgens	8/15
Holly Van Veldhuizen	8/16
Karl Carter	8/18
Fallyn Shull-Pernell	8/18
Bill LaMarca	8/19
Amanda Wieland	8/20
Margaret Oswald	8/21
Bob Ruble	8/22
Robert Bernoteit	8/24
Heather Gleason	8/24
Evelyn Thomas	8/25
Megan Clark	8/27
Michelle Clark	8/27

Baptism Birthdays

Kristi White	8/1
Bridget Wieland	8/2
Eva Chipol	8/6
Dean Kindhart	8/6
Fred Hagen	8/11
Joann DeCroix	8/13
Abe Bruce	8/15
Joyce Fraase	8/17
Lee Stremsterfer	8/21
Heather Gleason	8/25
Larry Schone	8/26
Alison Hermes	8/27

Wedding Anniveraries



Shane & Holly Van Veldhuizen	8/1
Dale & Cathy Dobbe	8/5
Gary & Pasty Klekamp	8/9
Chris & Lisa Carter	8/14
Dean & Alberta Kindhart	8/19
Dennis & Monica Boesdorfer	8/21
Michael & Dana Greene	8/23

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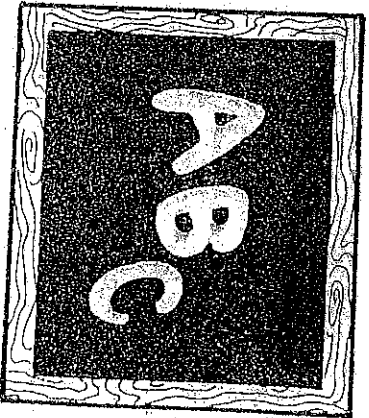
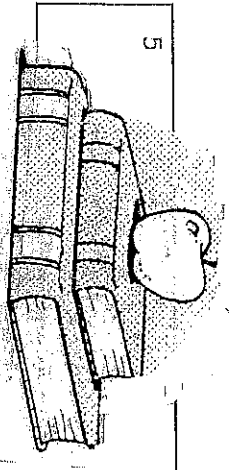
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AUGUST




Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Adult Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Divine Service 10:15 A.M. Vacation Bible School 6:00 - 7:45 P.M.	2 Vacation Bible School 6:00 P.M. - 7:45 P.M.	3 Vacation Bible School 6:00 P.M. - 7:45 P.M.	4 Vacation Bible School 6:00 P.M. - 7:45 P.M.	5	6	7
8 Adult Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Divine Service with Communion 10:15 A.M.	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Adult Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Divine Service 10:15 A.M.	16	17	18	19 First day of school - Pleasant Plains	20	21
22 Adult Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Divine Service with Communion 10:15 A.M.	23	24	25	26 Church Council 6:45 P.M.	27	28
29 Adult Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Divine Service with Communion 10:15 A.M.	30	31	1	2	3	4

Notes: Elder Dennis Boesdorfer



Zion's Newsletter
August, 2021

Zion Lutheran Church
Rev. Don Pritchard
525 North Cartwright
P.O. Box 167
Pleasant Plains, IL 62677
(217) 626-1282

Adult Bible Class 9:00 A.M.
Divine Service 10:15 A.M.

LCMS

Email: zionpp@casscomm.com
Website: www.zionpp.net