

From Pastor's desk...

July 2021

Dear Saints of Zion,

“Oh, When the Saints, go Marching in, oh, when the Saints go Marching in.....” What a jubilant spirit is expressed in this old favorite spiritual!

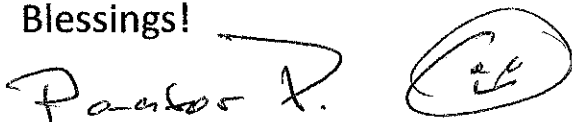
I want to be in that number. Don't you? Of course! But there is no doubt about it. Baptized, believing Christians are saints, and they will surely go marching in!

One of the things that I have been thinking of lately is our Offertory: “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and restore a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with thy free Spirit...” What a wonderful plea to God these words are from Psalm 51!

We have a clean heart by Baptism, but one that is subject to the pull of the world, the devil, and our own flesh. Asking for a clean heart is a plea for baptismal purity, and it has already been answered in the positive. A “right spirit” is something we surely need on a daily basis, a sort of spiritual attitude check.

And then comes: “Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with thy free Spirit.” How glorious is this plea! The “joy of our salvation” can become dulled out by many things. But I want to experience the joy of knowing I am saved from sin, death, and hell. So, as we begin a new month of God's freedom in Christ, let us rejoice in the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation, freely given in Jesus!

Blessings!

Pastor T. 

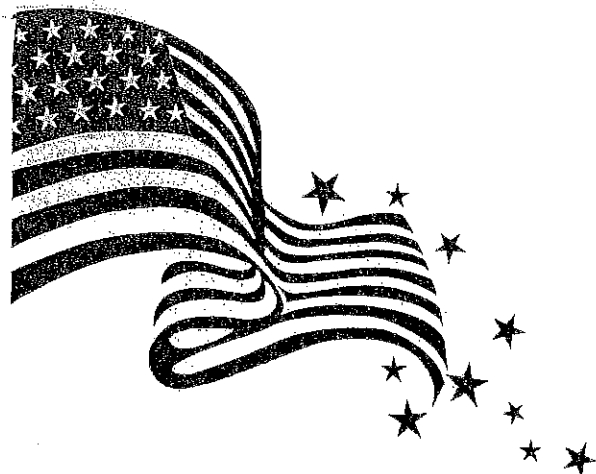
Sunday, July 4

Join us at the **Clayville Historic Site**, east of Pleasant Plains, for our **Adult Bible Study (9:00 A.M.)** and **Divine Service (10:15 A.M.)**.

(no services will be held at the church)

Our Divine Service will include familiar **patriotic hymns** as we praise God and celebrate our nation! No fussing with hymnals, everything will be included in your bulletin.

Fellowship and potluck luncheon to follow - Fried Chicken, drinks and table service provided. Side dishes and desserts needed to complement our meal.





Celebrations



Birthdays

Katrina Mahler	7/1
Monica Boesdorfer	7/2
Abe Bruce	7/2
Carl Hermes	7/2
Fred Hagen	7/2
Lee Stremsterfer	7/2
Nathan VanZeLe	7/3
Bridget Wieland	7/4
Shirley Patrick	7/5
Brad Mahler	7/6
Carolyn Greer	7/7
Joyce Fraase	7/9
Kevin Hecht	7/12
Shari Morgan	7/12
Luke Oschwald	7/12
Kristi White	7/17
Jordan Pearson	7/20
Bob TeRonde	7/20
Ted Mahler	7/22
Colton Stremsterfer	7/24
Joann DeCroix	7/26
Alison Hermes	7/26
Trenton Anderson	7/27
Karen Lockeby	7/29
Jeff DeGeal	7/30
Shirley Theilen	7/31

Baptism Birthday's

Mary Seipel	7/1
Billie Miner	7/12
Brad Mahler	7/13
Hope Debowey	7/13
Stacy Stremsterfer	7/18
Selina Pritchard	7/21

YOUNG MARRIEDS

Wedding Anniversaries

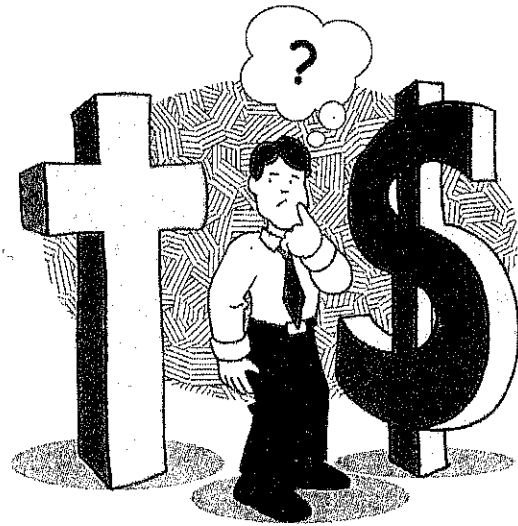
Robert & Mary Bernoteit	7/16
Jon & Hope Debowey	7/20
Jeff & Debby DeGeal	7/24
Ben & Aimee Pritchard	7/25
Bob & Joyce TeRonde	7/29
John & Shari Morgan	7/31



Reason # 8

Tithing Helps Us Overcome Selfishness

By nature, we are selfish people. Because of our selfishness, we look at life in terms of our money, our things, and our achievements. We focus on ourselves and give little thought to those around us.



A selfish attitude is obviously not conducive to giving. Believing that we need and deserve all we have, we have little desire to give generously. Because of our sinful, self-oriented natures, we fail to exercise generosity in our daily lives. The Bible depicts our fallen condition: “...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). We want to accumulate things only for ourselves, and our society does little to redirect our focus. The media rarely applaud selfless acts of giving. Instead, admiration is saved for men and women who have attained power, prestige, and material wealth.

By the working of the Holy Spirit through His Word, God can remove our selfishness. No longer is selfishness an obstacle to our giving. With hearts right with God, we acknowledge God as the owner of all things and trust in Jesus rather than our money for our sense of self-worth, our security, and our salvation.

Because of God’s grace given freely to us, we don’t have to continue living as selfish people. We can become detached from our money. By God’s grace, appropriated to us through Word and Sacrament, we are transformed in our thinking. “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come!” (2 Corinthians 5:17). God transforms us from selfish people who hoard our blessings to generous people who give freely. Only God is capable of removing the hindrance of selfishness to our giving so we can give our tithes week after week.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, I thank You for the power of Your Word that changes me from a selfish to a generous person. Help me to stay motivated to read and meditate continually on Your Word. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.

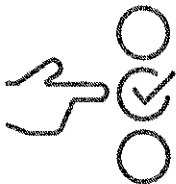
You're Invited!

To learn more or to register for the following free events hosted by the Thrivent Member Network, visit <https://bit.ly/TMNheartland> or <https://bit.ly/KSMOTMN>.



The Power of Action Teams

Action Teams are a fun and rewarding way for Thrivent members to live generously while taking a hands-on role in impacting their communities. Join us to learn about one of our most utilized member benefits and how you can use it to make an impact where you live, work, and worship.
Wednesday, July 7, 12:00 PM and 6:30 PM CT



Savvy Social Security

Careful planning can help you get the most out of your Social Security benefits. This webinar will help attendees determine the ideal time to apply and ways to maximize Social Security benefits while minimizing taxes on those benefits.
Thursday, July 8, 12:00 PM CT



Batter Up – A Virtual Evening at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

Join us for an encore on-demand visit to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. Noted baseball historian and Museum President Bob Kendrick sits down for an exclusive interview to share the story of the Negro Leagues and their role in American history.
Friday, July 9, through Sunday, July 11 on-demand



5 Keys to Retiring Fearlessly

After years of hard work, the retirement of your dreams may finally be in sight. But what steps should you take next? Join us as John Estes offers insights from his 32-year career in finance and explains the 5 keys to unlocking a retirement where you can be confident in your ability to live out your dreams.
Wednesday, July 14, 6:30 PM CT



Retirement & Taxes with IRA Expert Ed Slott

Join us for an exclusive online event with guest speaker Ed Slott. Named "The Best Source for IRA advice" by *The Wall Street Journal*, Ed will share his expertise in this unique webinar that turns advanced tax strategies into understandable, actionable, entertaining advice for anyone thinking about retirement.
Wednesday, July 21, 7:00 PM CT



State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health

COVID-19 Protect Yourself

Appointments Available

No Appointment Necessary!

No Insurance Necessary!

No cost to you!

WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

All Illinois residents age 12 and older.

Note: Only the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is available for those 12 years of age and older.

State mass vaccination clinics are open to all Illinois residents, regardless of where you live.

LOCATIONS:

There are over 1,000 COVID-19 vaccination locations currently available across the state of Illinois.



If you need assistance, contact your local health department or visit coronavirus.illinois.gov

Hotline: 1-833-621-1284

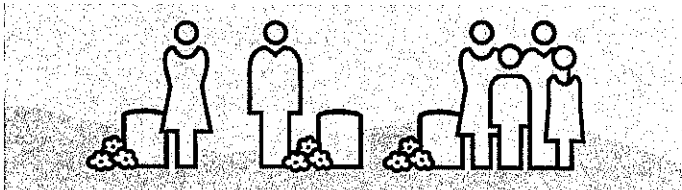


Questions about COVID-19?
Call 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov
Illinois Department of Public Health - www.dph.illinois.gov

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Funeral Assistance

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. At FEMA, our mission is to help people before, during and after disasters. We are dedicated to helping ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the virus.

FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.



To be eligible for funeral assistance, you must meet these conditions:

- The death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
- The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to or caused by COVID-19.
- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after January 20, 2020.
- There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien.

Which expenses will qualify for reimbursement?

Examples of eligible expenses for funeral services and interment or cremation may include, but not limited to:

- Transportation for up to two people to identify the deceased individual
- The transfer of remains, a casket or urn
- A burial plot or cremation niche
- A marker or headstone
- Clergy or officiant services
- The arrangement of a funeral ceremony
- The use of funeral home equipment or staff
- Cremation or interment costs
- Costs associated with producing multiple death certificates

What information do I need to provide to FEMA?

Please have the following information before contacting FEMA to apply:

- Your name, social security number, date of birth, mailing address and contact phone numbers.
- The name, social security number and date of birth for each deceased individual.
- The location or address where the deceased individual passed away.
- Documentation and receipts for any assistance already received from other sources, including burial or funeral insurance, donations, voluntary agencies, other government programs or non-profit organizations.
- If you and another person both incurred funeral expenses for the same deceased individual(s), you can also provide that person as a co-applicant — include their name, social security number and date of birth on the application.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR THIS ASSISTANCE?

Call FEMA's COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Helpline at 1-844-684-6333 (TTY: 800-462-7585) from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET, Monday – Friday and begin the application process.

For fastest service following your application, you can begin submitting documentation online through [Disasterassistance.gov](https://disasterassistance.gov), by fax 855-261-3452.

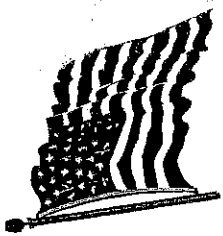
Documents may also be mailed to:
COVID-19 Funeral Assistance
P.O. Box 10001
Hyattsville, MD 20782

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

You can also visit us online at FEMA.gov/funeral-assistance/faq. Information is provided in several languages both by telephone and the website.

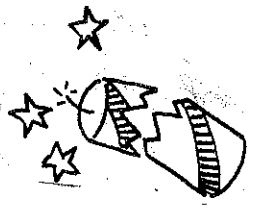


FEMA



JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Zion at Clayville Historic Site Adult Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Divine Service 10:15 A.M. Potluck						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Adult Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Divine Service with Communion 10:15 A.M.						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Adult Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Divine Service 10:15 A.M.						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Adult Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Divine Service with Communion 10:15 A.M. Quarterly Voter's Meeting			August Newsletter Articles Due			
1	2	Notes: Elder Brad Mahler Quarterly Voter's Meeting - July 25 immediately following Divine Service				



Zion's Newsletter
July, 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