

# From Pastor's desk...

June 2021

Dear Members of Zion,

June is a terrific month! The crops have spiked upward, lawns are luscious, (with the exception of a few dandelions), flower pots are prospering, and gardens are bringing forth the fruits of the earth for us to enjoy.

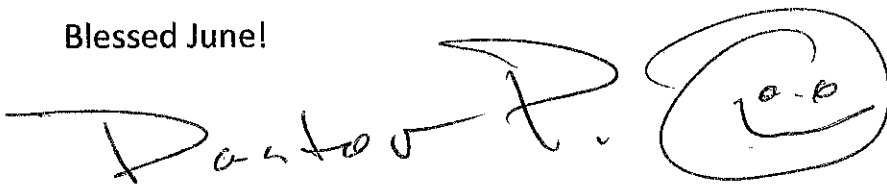
Confirmants learn that there are two general seasons of the Church Year: The Festival half, which includes Advent, Easter, Lent, and Pentecost; and the Non-Festival Half, during which the paraments turn as green as the lawns, flowers, and crops.

The key is, of course, growth, encouraged by timely rains and temperatures. The key to the "non-festival half" of the Church Year is also growth. The observances, readings, and messages are more oriented to "the saved."

Who are the saved? You, saved by grace through faith, nourished by Word and Sacrament, and encouraged by the fellowship of the fellow-redeemed!

So, as we see the paraments of the church change to green for this half of the Church Year, may we remember to be fed with Word and Sacrament, so that the faith life signified by the color green may grow ever stronger as we anticipate the joys of Summer! The Gospel of Jesus is often referred to as a "refreshing rain." In these days of recovering from the oppression of the Pandemic, may we also be refreshed together by the Gospel, in the Faith and Fellowship life of our congregation. Summer picnic, anyone?!

Blessed June!

A handwritten signature that reads "Pastor P." followed by a simple line drawing of a smiley face with two dots for eyes and a curved line for a mouth.

# News at Zion...

Returning to 'normal'??... With the recent updates from the CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health, we are taking 'baby steps' in our path toward returning to 'normal'. If you are fully vaccinated (two weeks after your final shot), face masks are no longer recommended. If you are not fully vaccinated, or not comfortable removing your face mask, please feel free to continue wearing one. Masks can be found on the counter in the All Saint's Addition.

All pews are now accessible for seating - feel free to find your favorite pew again..

We suggest placing your tithes and offerings in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary as you enter. Those offerings will be brought to the altar at the appropriate time in the service. Attendance cards and additional offerings may be placed in the second plate as you depart.

The procedures (limited numbers and kneeling) for receiving Communion will not be changing at this time, but hopefully in the near future.

\*\*\*\*\*

Video recordings of the Divine Service are now available on Zion's website. After a bit of 'technical difficulties', the recordings are now posted weekly. Check them out at: [www.Zionpp.net](http://www.Zionpp.net) Thanks to Stacy Stremsterfer and Dale Dobbe for their determination in overcoming the challenges.

+++++

July 4 Divine Service will be held at Clayville Historic Site. Watch the bulletins and website for more information.

Glenn Oswald Memorial Scholarship Fund Applications can be found later in the newsletter. This scholarship is available to Zion members and their families who are attending a LCMS accredited Grade School, High School, Prep School, College or Seminary. We are implementing a slight procedure change this year as only the current application will be considered. Deadline to submit to the church office is July 30.

&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&&

Attention parents, grandparents, children and friends: Please Save the Date for this summer's VBS, Sunday, August 1 - Wednesday, August 4. Evening times to be determined. Our VBS theme this year is "Rainforest Explorers - Jesus Leads the Way." More information to follow.

#####

More exciting news....The Board of Education is hard at work planning the resumption of Sunday School Classes this fall for our younger members. Stay tuned for further updates..

@ @ @ @ @ @ @ @ @ @ @ @ @ @ @ @

Summertime services are the time when we rely on 'volunteer' acolytes and ushers. If you've served in the past, but it's been a while, or haven't served but are willing to learn, please consider helping out this summer!!

## Reason # 7

### Tithing Expresses Our Love

God wants us as His redeemed children to give from loving hearts. *"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7). However, Old Testament Law taught that, even without a loving heart, the people were obligated under the Law to tithe. In addition to the required giving, they were also encouraged to give freewill offerings. Whether given grudgingly or cheerfully, the tithe was to be given, whereas offerings were to be given from loving and cheerful hearts.



Under the New Covenant, we are no longer required to give under the Law, but God still desires us to give. For Christians, giving has never been an option. Prompted by love for the One Who loved us so much that He Himself was willing to be obedient, even obedient to death on a Cross, we joyfully exercise our opportunity to give. Because Jesus has reconciled us through His blood and freed us from bondage to sin, we now give with the freedom Jesus has won for us. By grace, we are given a wonderful privilege to give first and foremost out of love rather than out of duty. Although our duty to give still exists, it is overshadowed by our desire to give. Love displaces duty as our primary motivator to be obedient and to give joyfully and generously.

As beneficiaries of God's great love and tremendous sacrifice, we are empowered to share His love with others. Because we are forgiven and redeemed people, we are compelled to give. *"For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that One has died for all, therefore all have died; and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him Who for their sake died and was raised"* (2 Corinthians 5:14-15).

**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, thank You for loving me so much that You bore the cross with joy (Hebrews 12:2) so that I might live as a forgiven and saved person. Help me to show my love in thoughts and deeds, especially in my giving. In Your name I pray. Amen.

**GLENN OSCHWALD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
APPLICATION**

**Application deadline: July 30, 2021**

(Only applications received in the church office by this deadline will be considered)

**Eligible Schools: "LCMS Accredited Grade School, High School, Prep School, College or Seminary"**

**Student's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent(s) Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**Name of School attending (LCMS Accredited)** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code)** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Year** \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Tuition** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**Date Application Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee Use: Approved** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Year** \_\_\_\_\_

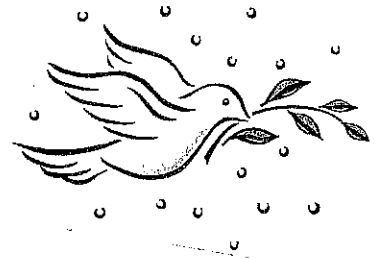
**Committee Member Signature** \_\_\_\_\_



## June Celebrations

### Birthday's

Sharon Krohe	6/1
Elliott Schneider	6/6
Hope Debowey	6/12
Darrel Patrick	6/18
Mary Seipel	6/18
Selina Pritchard	6/20
Eva Chipol	6/23
Kris Cowhick	6/24
Amy Wendling	6/25
Billie Miner	6/27

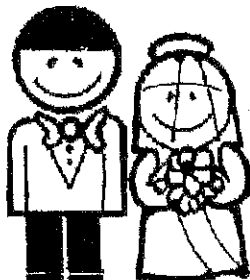


### Baptism Birthday's

Raleigh Rennecker	6/2
Blake Hermes	6/3
Madison Maro	6/5
Brooklyn Wieland	6/10
Amaya Shull-Pernell	6/11
Dana Greene	6/16
Sharon Krohe	6/17
Shannon Sparling	6/19

### Wedding Anniversaries

David & Lea Manuel	6/24
Steve & Peggie Jurgens	6/26



# CHURCH EXTENSION FUND, INC.

## CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT-LCMS

1850 North Grand Avenue West  
Springfield, IL 62702-1626



May 18, 2021

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
525 N CARTWRIGHT PO BOX 167  
PLEASANT PLAINS, IL 62677

Dear Crusader for His Kingdom,

God's Grace and Peace to you from the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund!

Through its Growth Bond Program, the Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund (CID-CEF) has encouraged the young members of our congregations to save up their treasures while supporting the growth of the LCMS and God's Kingdom in the Central Illinois District. Many of our youth have taken advantage of this program, but the time has now come to bring the program to an end.

The CID-CEF will initiate the following steps to bring the Growth Bond Program to a close:

- All unused stamps not yet in booklets will be refunded at stamp face value upon presentation.
- All stamps in booklets, partial or full, will be refunded at stamp face value upon presentation.
- Growth Bonds that have not yet reached maturity will be allowed to reach maturity value. At that time, the Growth Bond will be redeemed, or the owner may have the option to reinvest in a CID-CEF Flexible Savings Account or Investment Certificate where qualified and permissible to do so.
- Growth Bonds that have matured will, after a 60-day notification period, be redeemed at their current value, or the owner may have the option to reinvest in a CID-CEF Flexible Savings Account or Investment Certificate where qualified and permissible to do so.

*Please submit all unused stamps and stamps in booklets to us for redemption by December 31, 2021. We ask churches and schools to please communicate this request as necessary to members of their congregations and schools.*

Communications regarding redemption of Growth Bonds already purchased will be sent 60 days in advance of their maturity or redemption as a reminder of this change and to allow reinvestment, where qualified and permissible to do so.

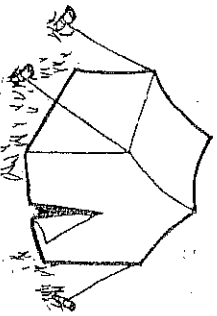
We thank you for participating in the Growth Bond program and pray that you have likewise grown spiritually from the knowledge that you have assisted with reaching souls by providing the use of your treasures to build and grow our churches and schools in the Central Illinois District.

May God's guidance and blessings be with you as you continue on life's journey as His Crusader!

Blessings,

Christine Anderson - Executive Director  
CID - Church Extension Fund

# June 2021



# SUMMER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	Notes Elder Bob Teronde Mark your calendars - Divine Services on July 4 will be held at Clayville Historic Site. More details will follow.				



## Happy Father's Day

Zion's Newsletter  
June, 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](mailto:zionpp@casscomm.com)

Website: [www.zionpp.net](http://www.zionpp.net)