

# ZION NEWS

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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## AUGUST 2021



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## AUGUST 2021

Dear friends in Christ Jesus,

I *DON'T* remember ***EVER*** asking this question on a Saturday when I was a kid: ***“Mom, Dad, are we going to church tomorrow?”***

**“Mom, Dad, are we going to church tomorrow?”**

Why did I NEVER ask that question?

Part of the answer was because I didn't feel like wasting my breath! Why would I *bother* to ask a question, the answer to which, I *already knew*? “OF COURSE we're going to church tomorrow!”

Another reason that I didn't ask that question was because there was a distinct possibility that by asking that foolish question, that I'd “bring the heat” of my parents upon me! I *knew* that—at a minimum—such a question would elicit a roll of the eyes from my parents; or, far worse, that same foolish question would provide me with a mild scolding!

They'd scold me for forgetting what we – as a family – ***do*** every week! We worshipped together with other Christians in our little country church each week! Period. End of story.

We children first attended Sunday School (with my mother serving as a teacher) and then we all gathered with my father to sit in “our” pew in church.

In late June I recorded a midweek devotion from the church of my youth when Karen and I were in Kansas on vacation. That church means soooooo much to me because I have soooooo many fond memories formed in that place! Memories of my youth with my parents and siblings sweep upon me whenever I get to enter that gorgeous little church! And those great memories were formed by a repeated, consistent worship habit instilled by my parents.

You, too, can have that. Regardless of how consistent (or inconsistent) your worship life has been in the past; *today, now*, you can change that and/or resolve to stay the course! Truly, by being

in God's house with one's family (and Christian family) is where fond and lasting memories are made!

Getting back to the devotion that I recorded in my childhood church, it was a joy to show that place to you. I hope that you've seen it by now. I didn't know until it was broadcast that the microphone didn't pick up my voice as I panned the church so the viewers could see it. But, as I described the church while panning the camera, my voice was cracking with emotion – that wonderful church means THAT much to me!

Conversely, it's hard for me to imagine anyone wanting to record such a thing from their childhood ball field, fishing spot, duck blind, lawn or garden, *or anything else of this earth*. That's because none of those "spots" have anything to do with life after one's life on this earth has been completed!

You see, that little country church "connects" me with fond memories of my youth with my family; but it ALSO literally "connects" me to be with them forever in heaven! No ball field, no fishing spot, no duck blind, nor anything else on earth will allow great memories of one's childhood to continue forever! Only through faith in Christ Jesus, our Savior, can great memories continue throughout eternity. Period. End of story, **or rather, BEGINNING of story!**

If you have allowed the bad habit to develop where you don't or inconsistently worship the Lord Jesus week by week, you can change that easy enough. Simply pray that the Holy Spirit will work within you to break such habits that keep you away from Christ and His Means of Grace in Word and Sacrament. Call your friends who do go to church. Perhaps ask them if you can sit with them while you get re-accustomed to a good habit of a faithful worship life.

With the pandemic still seemingly very dynamic and volatile, perhaps our opportunities to freely and safely gather in God's house might be diminished or curtailed in the future. Come to church NOW while the opportunity is yours! Come to church NOW and rejoice in God's grace to you through Jesus who reaches out to you in love, forgiveness, and eternal life! See you in church! (I *really* hope so!)

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Pastor Rock

Watch your thoughts, they become your words;  
Watch your words, they become your actions;  
Watch your actions, they become your habits;  
Watch your habits, they become your character;  
Watch your character, it becomes your destiny.

**SENIOR WORSHIP**  
Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am



**Volunteers Needed!**

**“ZION FELLOWSHIP COFFEE HOUR”**

In order to continue, we will need volunteers to help out once a month. Setting up includes making coffee, tea water, putting out the food, and clean-up (*only takes about 30 minutes of time before church and 30 minutes after everyone is done to clean up*). So ideally we will try to have 2 people on each week. If you like to bake, we would welcome any baked goods to share with our members. **(A sign-up sheet is in the narthex on the goodie table.)** Please contact Pat Dermody (708) 845-9642 if you can help or have any questions.

**BEECHER COMMUNITY  
LIBRARY**

**(708) 946-9090**

P.O. Box 818 • 660 Penfield Street • Beecher, IL

**BEECHER COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

*Open House and Meeting  
Room Dedication*

Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021  
2pm

Refreshments will be served.



**Next “Drive-Up” Communion**

(after the 9 am service)

Sunday, **August 1<sup>st</sup>**

*Please call or email if you plan to come.*





**MEMBERSHIP CHANGES AT ZION** Recent new members of Zion include the following: Ignacio (Nacho) & Megan Zepeda and children, Eleanor and Andrew, transfer from Immanuel Lutheran, Steger; Jim Kvasnicka, Kimberly Chandler, reaffirmation of faith.

Transition of members out of Zion: Sarah Macari and sons, Rickey & Hunter to St. Paul Lutheran, Bourbonnais; Shirley Niemeyer & Kate Hickey, moved from area and joined other churches.

Please look for our new members so that you might become acquainted with them as they join us on our mutual journey to the "Heavenly Jerusalem!"

Revenue & Expense Report Recap Month – June 2021	This Year	Last Year
Beginning Balance	<b>\$82,929.42</b>	<b>-\$3,417.05</b>
+Receipts	39,513.78	125,228.35
-Expenses: Payroll, Taxes	34,099.90	37,291.93
Bills Paid	18,881.69	19,723.30
Ending General Fund Balance	<b>\$69,461.61</b>	\$64,796.07
<b>Loans, Payables Due</b>	0	0
Current Status of General Fund	<b>\$69,461.61</b>	\$64,796.07



**WORSHIP TIME CHANGE COMING**

The last Monday evening worship service for the summer will be held on Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. We will resume our Saturday 5 pm worship service on September 11<sup>th</sup>. *Please note that on Labor Day Weekend, only the Sunday 9 am service will be held.*

Support Zion Lutheran Church & School when you shop online with Amazon Smile. [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

**Your unique charity link:**

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2480851>





Outdoor  
Worship  
Service

### SAVE THE DATE!

After a year's hiatus (because of you know what!) we will once again worship together with our two Lutheran sister congregations of Beecher. The service will be held at Fireman's Park in Beecher on Sun., Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10 am. It will be a "Service of the Word"

without the Lord's Supper. Following the worship service, a meal will be served. Also, members of the Beecher Fire Protection District will be present with some of their equipment on display. Plans are also being made to have a few "Comfort Dogs" from Lutheran Church Charities present for all of us to see, pet, and enjoy! At the time of printing this newsletter, details for the gathering were still coming together. We hope to have more information in the news portion of our upcoming weekly bulletins. **We are hoping that many of our community will join us that day, so please spread the word to your friends and neighbors to join us!** So... please plan to attend on **Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM.** (Incidentally, we WILL have our last Monday evening service of the summer the next day at 7 pm if you wish to attend that service.) Lastly – bring a blanket to sit on, or better yet, lawn chairs.

(By the way, Pastor has some very comfortable Green & Yellow chairs available for use.  Just ask!!! ☺ )

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm.



### VOTERS MEETING

Sunday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> after the 9 am service.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

Zion's Board of Parish Education will re-start our Sunday School classes for our youth – age 3 and up this fall. We had suspended our Sunday School classes in March of 2020 with the onset of the Covid



outbreak. Last fall, in an effort to help our Christian Day School operate with as high of a degree of safety as possible, we elected to not offer Sunday School classes. (This sacrifice of our Sunday School helped our Day School honor their commitment to school parents to keep the classrooms as clean as possible – that is, the only students using the classrooms were ZLS students.)

However, as we put this newsletter together, a degree of “normalcy” is now present and we no longer see the urgent need to cancel our Sunday School classes in deference to the need to keep those same classrooms as germ-free as possible.

We plan to hold our first Sunday School classes the Sunday after Labor Day Weekend – **Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 8 am.** Please pray that our resumption of classes will go smoothly and that the parents of many children will take advantage of this Christian education opportunity.



### **PASTORAL CALL COMMITTEE**

The first step that needed to be done to issue a Call to our next pastor has been completed. In late spring, many members provided input regarding various aspects of Zion's present ministry. Those results

were compiled and are available on the shelves near the water fountains at the west entrance to the narthex.

We have now entered the second step of the process. Now members may submit the names of pastors who they know or are familiar and seek to have those men considered to be Zion's next pastor. If you have a name to submit for consideration, please email or call Ron Janota with the pastor's name and the congregation he is presently serving. Ron's email address is: [rgjanota@aol.com](mailto:rgjanota@aol.com) Telephone #708-814-2905. Please continue to pray that the Holy Spirit blesses this effort.

## RANDOM NOTES FROM VARIOUS BOARDS



- ✓ **Board of Christian Day School** Zion's Board of Christian Day School met with our new principal, Mrs. Kelly Henning, on July 26th. Time was spent getting to know one another. Mrs. Henning brought some excellent ideas to the board for their approval. One such idea was a curriculum for each age group in our school to help any students adjust to school -- especially in light of the pandemic. (Studies show that many American youth have concerns with many things as a result of the endless negative news reports that they have been hearing for so long.) We look forward to establishing a strong working relationship with Mrs. Henning and our entire staff! Please pray for them as they and our students return to the classroom later this month.
- ✓ **Board of Trustees** We continue to be quite busy! Many maintenance projects have been done. Although relatively small, nonetheless, they still demand attention and time. The repair of two of our air conditioners is presently in process. Hopefully that will be completed very soon. We are also securing bids to replace the cement sidewalks on the east side of the church that run along Oak Park Ave. as well as the sidewalk that leads into the church past the bell tower. We are also receiving bids to restore our parking lot beginning from the entrance on the south side of the church, going around the church and school, and ending where the north entrance connects with Oak Park Avenue on the northeast edge of the property. This must be done due to normal deterioration of the asphalt. We hope to launch that project in the summer of 2022. As always we eagerly look for assistance with our never-ending work!
- ✓ **Board of Elders** As this newsletter is being assembled, the Elders are planning to meet in early August. Among their agenda items will be consideration of reverting back to our former distribution methods for Holy Communion. Please see

your elder if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas regarding this. Please keep in mind that we must consider several hundred member's thoughts and ideas about what is "the best way" to faithfully conduct our services. Thank you.

- ✓ **Stewardship/Outreach** The "**4th in the Fall Festival**" is right around the corner! It runs through Labor Day weekend - September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, & 6<sup>th</sup>. That means **BINGO!** We will be looking for ticket sellers and table runners. Shifts run between 2 - 2 1/2 hours. Make it a family time. Older kids are welcome to help. This is a great way for Zion to be present in the community! Any questions they can call Margie Cook @ 708-805-1440, or Debbie Falaschetti @ 708-252-0095

#### **FAITHFUL WORSHIP OPTIONS OFFERED BY ZION:**



- **"Old Fashioned" IN PERSON Worship** We have seen a marked increase of people attending our Sun. & Mon. services in the past few weeks. Please consider attending in person if that is a viable option for you. Certainly, if your health dictates that you cannot yet personally attend, please take advantage of our "electronic options" for worship shown below.
- **"Livestream" Using Facebook & YouTube** Utilize Facebook or YouTube to watch when Zion "goes live" for either Sun. morning worship or midweek devotions. Requires internet access. Here are the links: Facebook: [Zion's Facebook Page](#) YouTube: [Zion Lutheran YouTube](#)
- **"PhoneLiveStreaming" When Zion "Goes Live"** This option is mostly for those who do not have internet capability. Call (toll free) 1-844-806-7617 to register your phone (landline OR cell) to automatically receive a call when Zion "goes live" for our Sunday worship service or Midweek Devotions (see below). You may also call this number anytime during the week to listen to a recording of the last time that we "went live" at Zion.
- **Midweek "e-Devotions"** Pastor Rock tries to provide a midweek devotion each week. Through August, the devotion will be available on Wednesdays before noon. The devotions are "livestreamed" onto our three media channels: Facebook,

YouTube, and the PhoneLiveStreaming application. Each devotion is from 8-15 minutes in length.

### Options for Faithful Worship Other than Zion:

#### ➤ Lutheran Hour Ministries

<u>Station</u>	<u>City, State</u>	<u>Freq</u>	<u>Band</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
WGN	Chicago, IL	720	AM	Sun	6:00 AM
WRMN	Elgin, IL	1410	AM	Sun	9:00 AM
WKEI	Kewanee, IL	1450	AM	Sun	9:00 AM
WJOB	Hammond, IN	1230	AM	Sun	10:00 AM

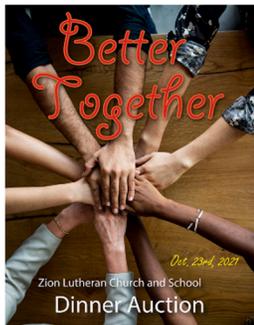
#### ➤ Worship Anew

DIRECTV - Sunday at 10:30am - channel 377

Comcast Cable - Sunday at 11:30am - channel 138

WPWR50 (CW) - Sunday at 8:00am – (antenna 50)

(Online viewing at [www.worshipanew.org](http://www.worshipanew.org))



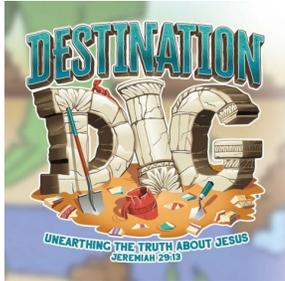
### “BETTER TOGETHER” ZION DINNER AUCTION Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>

**11<sup>th</sup> Zion Lutheran Church and School Dinner Auction** Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Glenwoodie Golf Club, 19301 State Street, Glenwood, IL. Scrementi's Banquets will cater the event. **Ticket sales begin August 1<sup>st</sup>** following church. Tickets are \$50 each.

Purchase a table of 10 tickets to sit with your friends! Purchase your tickets early to receive a free drink ticket. A Silent Auction is being planned and Kraft Auctions will again be leading our live auction! Ways you can help are: get a group of friends together to attend, donate items for the silent &/or live auction (forms are in the narthex), help on Oct. 23 w/set-up, and/or join the committee. *Next Dinner Auction Committee Meeting is Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm. (All are welcome to join!)*

### 2021-2022 FINAL REGISTRATION

Zion Lutheran School final registration is **Wednesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> 7am-noon & 1-7 pm**. Appointments are not required – the process will be on a “first come, first served” basis. If unable to register on August 4<sup>th</sup>, please call Ms. Lucy (708-946-2272) to make alternative arrangements.



### DESTINATION DIG – ONE DAY VBS

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

330 Highland Drive

Chicago Heights, IL 60411

Sat., August 14, 2021 – 10am to 3pm

Children PreK – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

VBS Director – *Liz Bellamy* 708-772-0640 or 708-754-4493

### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>

during the 9am Divine

Worship Service

(see list of officers/boards below)



### ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Beecher, Illinois

Boards & Committees

2021-2022 (approved May 23, 2021)

<b><u>Chairman</u></b>	<b>2 Years</b>
Will Strenge	7/31/23
<b><u>Vice Chairman</u></b>	<b>2 Years</b>
Robert Barber	7/31/22
<b><u>Secretary</u></b>	<b>2 Years</b>
Margie Cook	7/31/22
<b><u>Treasurer</u></b>	<b>3 Years</b>
Arlene Leodler	7/31/23

**Elders – Minimum 10 (to vote 4) 3 Years**

John Engstrom 7/31/24  
Ron Janota 7/31/24  
Michael Rivas 7/31/24  
Kevin Daugherty 7/31/24  
Tom Jansma 7/31/22  
Mark Svenningsen (Secretary) 7/31/22  
Jim Dermody 7/31/22  
Adrian Adam ` 7/31/22  
David Mills (Chair)7/31/23  
Chuck Krug 7/31/23  
Adam Miller 7/31/23  
Jerry Storbeck 7/31/23

**Trustees - Minimum 5 (to vote 3) 3 Years**

Mike Boudreau 7/31/24  
Ben Mills 7/31/24  
Elliott Pequette 7/31/22  
Bill Shapkauski 7/31/22  
Paul Eggert 7/31/22  
Tony Triola 7/31/23  
Landis Wehrmann 7/31/23

**Finance- Minimum 5 (to vote 3) 3 Years**

Rhonda Campbell 7/31/24  
Bill Shapkauski (Chair) 7/31/24  
Arlene Leodler (Secretary) 7/31/24  
Ron Stluka 7/31/22  
Donna Barber 7/31/22

**Christian Day School- 3 Years**

**Minimum 5 (to vote 3)**  
Kim Daugherty 7/31/24  
Vacant 7/31/24  
Greg Hammer (Chair) 7/31/22  
Laura Mills 7/31/22  
Roger Phillips 7/31/22  
Brad Johnson 7/31/23  
Janice Boicken 7/31/23

**Parish Education- 3 Years**

**Minimum 5 (to vote 3)**

Dan Bockelmann (Chair) 7/31/24  
Jana Hopper 7/31/24  
Vacant 7/31/22  
Bev Cooper 7/31/22  
Kay Bunte 7/31/23

**Board of Stewardship/Outreach- 3 Years**

**Minimum 5 (to vote 3)**

Vacant 7/31/24  
Margie Cook (Chairman) 7/31/24  
Rhonda Campbell 7/31/22  
Debbie Falaschetti 7/31/22  
Jacob Mills 7/31/22  
Janice Brands 7/31/23  
Pat Dermody 7/31/23  
Karen Rock (Ex-Officio)

**House/Endowment- Fund**

Greg Hammer - Treasurer/Chairman  
Donna Barber  
Wendell Wehling  
John Wunderlich

**Teller Committee**

Robert Barber – Chairman

**Capital Projects Fund**

Bill Shapkauski – Treasurer

**St. Paulus Cemetery Board**

**Zion Members                      St. Paul Members**

Gerald Bachert	Fred Hoffmeyer
Tim Ohlendorf	Stan Weishaar
Doug Short	Steve Weishaar
Steve Squier	

**Wil Gronewold Scholarship Fund Committee**

Art Blum  
Principal  
Pastor Ron Rock

**Good Samaritan Committee**

Roy DeGroot

Ron Stluka  
David Mills  
Kay Bunte

**Dorcas Society**

Kay Bunte, President  
Debbie Falaschetti, Vice President  
Janice Streng, Secretary  
Rhonda Campbell, Treasurer

**Christian Growth**

Janice Streng

**L.W.M.L.**

Rhonda Campbell

**Altar Committee**

Peggy Stoeven (Chair)

**Senior Choir**

(none)

**Adult Handbells**

Jessie Svenningsen-Vales

**Banner Committee**

Kay Bunte

**Audit Committee**

Margie Cook (Chair)  
Janice Streng  
June Becker

**Call Committee 2021**

Christa Adam  
Kay Bunte  
Paul Eggert  
Greg Hammer  
Ron Janota (Chair)  
Brad Johnson  
Dave Mills  
Mindy Nykaza  
Will Streng



## **YOU'VE GOT MAIL!**

[Note – Correspondence addressed to our congregation-at-large periodically is delivered. Shown below are two letters that recently

arrived.]

### **From the Brandmahl Family (our “adopted” seminary family)**

July, 2021

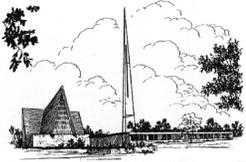
Dear Zion Congregation,  
Thank YOU for your continuing support for us as we continue making our way through the seminary and vicarage years! Our vicarage year was completed on Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. We are now in the process of moving back to Ft. Wayne so that Joshua can complete his final year of academic instruction. We are very anxious to return and compare notes with the other families who also were “on vicarage” this past year! Attached is our most recent “newsletter.” [Zion members – you may find that newsletter posted on the bulletin board in the hallway outside of the Conference Room. Note that they have some exciting news in that letter!]

/s/ Joshua & Ashley Brandmahl



The faculty & staff of **Zion Lutheran School**, in grateful thanksgiving to our loving and merciful Savior, is looking forward to another school year with your family! In the midst of world uncertainty, we claim God’s promise of Jeremiah 29:11 – *For I know the plans I have for you, “declares the Lord,” plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.* We will begin our school year with the **Faculty Rededication on Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the 9am Worship Service** and an **Opening Worship Service at 1pm**. An ice cream social will be hosted by Zion PTL after the 1pm service. There is no better way to start our year than to worship together!

**FROM:**



**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
540 Oak Park Ave., P.O. Box 369  
Beecher, IL 60401  
Rev. Ronald D. Rock, Senior Pastor  
Mrs. Kelly Henning, Principal

Church 708-946-2271

[Zionbeecher@comcast.net](mailto:Zionbeecher@comcast.net)

[www.zionbeecher.net](http://www.zionbeecher.net)

School 708-946-2272

[Zionbraves@comcast.net](mailto:Zionbraves@comcast.net)

FAX 708-946-2611

**To:**



**ZLS – FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL**

8/24 K-8 8:10am-11:10am

8/25 First full day of school for K-8 & first day for 4yr PreK

8/26 First day for 3yr Preschool