

Focus

Monthly Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Shawano, WI

February 2019

Love Our Youth



Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, February 9 ~ 6:00 pm

Meal includes: meat sauce, pasta, bread sticks, salad, deserts, beverage (punch, coffee, milk) & a gift from the Youth to all purchased tickets.

**Must purchase tickets in advance. On Sale now!
\$8.00 per meal; Kids 5 and under free**

All youth involved in the meal will eat for free after all have been served.

*Open to the entire congregation
to support the Youth. Come & enjoy!*



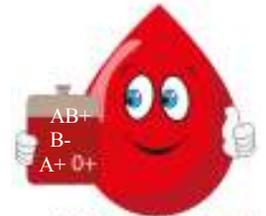
**Ash Wednesday
March 6
and
all Lenten services
11:30 am & 6:00 pm
in the Sanctuary.**



† Please join us for a light lunch in the Fellowship Hall following the 11:30 am services.

† Come for a light supper beginning at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall each Wednesday.

**BLOOD
DONORS
NEEDED!**



Blood Center of Northcentral Wisconsin

Blood Drive

Monday, February 18

2:00—6:00 pm.

Fellowship Hall

You can safely donate blood every 56 days. You're never too old to donate blood as long as you are in good health. You must be 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds.

So, mark your calendar to donate blood and come and save a life.

Reserve your time on the sheet at the Information Desk. Walk-ins welcome!

Give the gift of life!



We are expecting an infectious outbreak of laughter and fun...

Bring your games, bring your neighbors and friends, and join us on the long, cold, Sunday afternoons this winter! (Adults only)

- Cards • Board Games • Sheephead
- 500 Rummy or ??

1st and 3rd Sunday afternoons
1:00—4:00 p.m.
February 3 & 17

Sponsored by
Church in
Society



Book Club's Current Read...

Firefly Lane by Kristin Hannah.
 Club meets **Wednesday, February 13** in the church library at 3:30 p.m.
 Anyone interested in reading and discussing this book, please join us!

Questions? Suggestions? Contact Joni Shebuski
 715-526-6453 or Sharon Erickson 715-524-4280.

♦ March: *The Sycamore Tree* by John Grisham.



Tuesday,
February 26
5:30 pm

Church in Society is sponsoring the dinner held at the First Presbyterian Church

- We need volunteers! Please sign up to**
- ▶ **set-up at 3:00** ▶ **donate food items**
 - ▶ **serve and** ▶ **clean-up at 5:30.**

Sign up sheets on the Church in Society bulletin board.

Thank you!

Contact CIS members with your questions.

Loud Offering February 23 - 24

Sunday School Loud Offering last weekend of the month!

Please keep all your loose change and bring it in for our collection.



Walkers Wanted!

Please join the Zion Walkers team at this year's American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

Saturday, March 30 ~ 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
 at Shawano High School.

Contact Kathy Beyer at mrs.kathybeyer@gmail.com.



KOZ (Kids of Zion)
After-School Program

Grades 3-4-5

Meet After school 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 6 & 20

Grades 6-7-8

Meet 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

After school 3:45 - 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 13 & 27



Youth Fundraisers!



Kwik Trip Car Wash Cards

We have cards available for sale!

\$36 for 5-Count Card. Save \$2.60 per car wash with the Kwik Trip Ultimate Car Wash Card!
 Contact or Stop in the office weekdays.

Love Our Youth Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, Feb. 9 ~ 6:00 pm



Advance ticket sales only! Adults \$8.00. Kids under 5 free. On sale now! All youth involved in the meal will eat for free after all have been served.



God's Work, Our Hands

Happy
Birthday



Eva Buhrandt... 70 on February 7
 1514 E Lieg Ave., Shawano

John Hay... 65 on February 7
 912 S. Main St., Shawano

Debi Schmidt... 55 on February 24
 120 River Pine Dr., Shawano

Happy birthday to the 61 other members celebrating in February!



Church in Society Committee
Needs Your Help
Assembling Bags!

Would you be willing to join an e-mail group through which we will contact group members when we need help assembling bags for the Wee Care program?

For info contact Debbie in the office at
zion@shawanozion.org
 or Mitzi Moesch 715-526-2952.



Several weeks ago I found myself in a boat of strangers as we headed out into the Pacific Ocean to scuba dive on a WWII plane wreck. Now the conditions weren't the best as the wind and waves were starting to build. At one point the captain called out, "We're taking on water... I need everyone to move to the back of the boat so I can break through the waves." I can't say that I was scared, at least not in the way I was when this happened to my cousin and me when we were thirteen and found ourselves marooned on an island in Lake of the Woods because of a storm and dangerous waves.

But now as I sat at the stern of the boat and watched our captain negotiate the waves my mind went back to the disciples and Jesus as they too found themselves in the same predicament. The story is told in Mark 4:35-41. Verse 37 & 38 reads, "A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he (Jesus) was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?'"

Perhaps I've succeeded in stirring up memories of similar experiences. If not, maybe a dark night watching an old Alfred Hitchcock movie would put you in that frame of mind. We all know that the world can be a very scary place without looking for something to scare us..., moments when our fears can immobilize us.

The time old question stands before us, "Where is God in those moments?" These are the times when it seems that God has abandoned us, doesn't care, or is asleep at the back of the boat. The burden of this passage from Mark's gospel is that God never abandons us, no matter how much we may feel God's absence.

Sometimes we can be very much like the disciples in this Biblical story who are notoriously slow learners. They somehow keep missing the point of who Jesus is. They have to keep learning the same lesson over and over again. Perhaps that's why essentially this story is repeated only two chapters later in the same gospel. We, too, keep asking, "Teacher, do you not care if we perish?"

Or we can be like Job. In the body of the book of Job, the main character doesn't get rewarded for living through all that he lives through. In the midst of his world falling apart and being consumed by his misery Job does acknowledge the magnificence of God. Chapter 38 begins God's answer to Job in a scathing reminder who we are as humans and who God is. The following chapters will boil down to, can we quiet our thinking long enough to hear the voice of God?



I'm not suggesting that we shouldn't be afraid or that somehow being Christian we are magically immune to being seized with terror in times of danger. It is precisely in those times that we must hold to our conviction that God is with us; that God is for us. Our ultimate confidence is that God has made us into a new creation, to use the words of Paul (in 2 Corinthians 5:14-21), that God has entrusted us with a mission as ambassadors of reconciliation, the human and divine harmony that we celebrate week by week through the Lord's Supper. The love of Christ impels us to hear that same voice that the disciples heard, "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Scott Ludford

The Parish Records

Deaths:

† Joseph S. Quinn* January 27, 2019
Memorial service held February 2 at funeral home.

*Non-member.

Baptism:

† Ellie Mae Zahn January 26, 2019
Daughter of Brandon James & Kristin Nicole Zahn
Sponsors: Lindsay Zahn and Justin Henrichs



God's Work, Our Hands



Zion's Prayer Chain

If you have a telephone prayer chain request, please call
Co-Chairs, Winnie Preston 715-851-9576 or
Eileen Ellertson 715-526-3500.

From Your Parish Nurse...

February is Heart Health Month and Blood Donation Month at Zion

This is a good time to learn more about how important good heart health is and take the necessary steps towards a healthier lifestyle. If you didn't already know, heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women.

Everyone is at risk for heart disease. But you are at higher risk for heart disease if you have high cholesterol or high blood pressure. Other factors are smoking, being overweight or obese, not getting enough physical activity, unhealthy diet, and family history also, affects your risk for heart disease.

When people talk about heart disease they are usually talking about coronary heart disease (CHD) this is the most common type of heart disease. This is when the coronary arteries become narrow or blocked. This happens when cholesterol and fatty materials called plaque buildup inside the arteries.

A heart attack happens when blood flow to the heart is suddenly blocked. Part of the heart may die if the person doesn't get help quickly. Some common signs of a heart attack include pain or discomfort in the center or left side of the chest or a feeling of pressure or squeezing in the chest. Pain or discomfort in the upper body, arms, back, shoulders, neck, jaw or upper stomach. A feeling of short of breath and light-headed can happen. Not everyone who has a heart attack will have all the signs. Don't ignore changes in how you feel. Call 911 right away if you or someone else has signs of a heart attack.



Taking these steps can lower your risk for heart disease. Control your cholesterol and blood pressure. It is important to get your cholesterol checked and blood pressure checked by your doctor. Know your family health history. Eat a heart-healthy diet which includes foods that are low in saturated and trans fats, added sugar and sodium. Get active by walking fast, dancing and biking. Adults need at least 2 hours and 30 minutes of moderate aerobic activity each week. For more information on heart diseases go to <https://healthfinder.gov/HealthTopics>.

February 18 Zion is hosting the Blood Center of Northcentral Wisconsin from 2:00pm 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. During the donation process, only one pint of blood is drawn. In average adults, there can be between eight to twelve pints of blood. Your blood donation saves lives. People are in need of blood now. Donations traditionally slump during the Christmas holiday season, as colleges, schools and businesses that normally host blood drives close and families take vacations. An outbreak of influenza and bad weather also can affect donations.

Maintaining an adequate amount of blood for surgeries, trauma victims and treatment of diseases can be difficult. Every day about 38,000 units of red blood cells are given to Americans. By giving blood you will be helping children and adults. Each donation can save the life of as many as four people.

John 15:13 There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friend.

~ Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse

Health Ministry Dates At A Glance...

Tuesdays & Thursdays: Exercise Class 4:00-5:00 pm.
Fellowship Hall. *No registration required!*

**Thursday, Feb. 7: Healing Touch Ministry
4:00-7:00 pm. By appointment... 715-584-7080.**
Provided by JoAnne Bartz in the Nursery.

Wednesday, Feb. 13: Book Club 3:30 pm. Library

Monday, Feb. 18: Blood Drive 2:00-6:00 pm
Fellowship hall. Appointment appreciated. Sign up at information desk. Walk-ins welcome!

**Blood Pressure Checks: Saturday, March 2 after
service and Sunday, March 3** between services.
Free screening! Everyone welcome!

**Monday, Mar. 4: Health Ministry Committee
1:00 p.m.** Room 101. New members welcome!



**Coaching & Counseling To Clear
Your Home, Head & Heart**

*Take the first step toward clearing
your home, head and heart at this
Health Ministry sponsored program*

on

Thursday, April 25 at 5:30 pm.

Presented by

Pamela K. Hertel, MS, LCSW, LPC
Professional Organizer & Psychotherapist

Mark your calendars!



Let Us Discover the Joy in Giving!

As I write this message we are but a few days away from the Super Bowl being played in Atlanta, Georgia. Quite some time ago I had a confirmation class who taught me an important lesson about stewardship. They had been working on a special project several weeks before the Super Bowl it was called, “Souper Bowl Sunday.” Their goal was to raise both awareness and food for those in the community who needed help to feed their family. They truly understood why as Christians we invest ourselves in such efforts. Laughter and joy filled the room as they worked in teams to make their advertising posters. **Ah, Pastor... Take note and learn!**

You see, there are those who look at the church from the outside and conclude that we are a cheerless people, not very happy. They view our “solemn assemblies” and see little joy (Amos 5:21). In some ways they may have a very good point. Worldly worries hang over us and an inventory of our individual performances would probably not thrill us either.

But joy is possible! Paul tells us, “rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4). How can we but rejoice when we remember that we are created to be God’s children, that in Christ, we are reclaimed and forgiven, that God protects us from all danger and guards and keeps us from all evil. To rejoice in God and God’s gifts is to know real joy.

Joy is not complete when only receiving. We give because God first gave. The Lord’s loving and giving is contagious. We become caught up in response. We then know the double joy of receiving and giving.

If we don’t have fun as Christians and appear to be stodgy and dull, it is probably because we let fear and anxieties keep us on the borders of the kingdom. We don’t plunge into the deep. We are like swimmers who have ventured

continued...

Memorial Gifts

Jan. 1-27, 2019

Special gifts “in honor of” or “in memory of” to:

Church in Society Fund

By: John & Dejon Polzin

In memory of Idabelle Zahn

Endowment Fund

By: Bill & Jill Grosskreutz

In memory of Pete Waupoose

By: Helen Kaurala

In memory of Idabelle Zahn

Sunday School Fund

By: Kal & Cheryl Boettcher

In memory of Pete Waupoose

Worship Appointments Fund

By: Lon & Ellen Swedberg

In memory of Jack Swedberg

By: Mike & Dorothy Eidahl

In memory of Harold Burrack’s Mother



A Wee Care Cookbook makes a great gift! \$10 each

Stop in the office during regular business hours!

☪☪ Thank you! ☪☪

Dear Members of Zion Lutheran Church Women,

Thank you for your \$200 check to Homme Youth and Family Programs. On behalf of the residents and staff of LSS/Homme, I would like to thank you for this donation. We are so grateful you support our services and ministries.

~ Monte Smith, Spiritual Counselor/Chaplain
Lutheran Social Services of WI and Upper Michigan

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

What a gift you’ve given! Thank you for your \$550 gift to ELCA Good Gifts! You are equipping God’s people—around the world and around the corner—with what they need to live abundant lives.

~ Christina Skelton, Executive Director
ELCA Churchwide, Chicago IL

Dear Health Ministry Committee,

We want to thank you for making a comprehensive First Aid kit for use in the kitchen. It has been placed on a pantry shelf in the back room of the kitchen. Contact Mila with any questions.

~ ZLCW Executive Board



Aluminum Can Collection Bin behind the garage!

The Youth would appreciate your donations—which must be bagged

Stewardship Message continued.

into the lake, wading out with caution, testing the waters, standing there up to our knees, looking back longingly at the people basking in the sun on the beach, or looking wistfully to the real swimmers who are rollicking in the deep.

The widow with her two small copper coins (Mark 12:42) had fun. Jesus implied that in giving her little gift out of her poverty she had more joy than those who gave only what they could spare. Zacchaeus made the plunge (Luke 19:1-10). "Lord, look – half of my possessions, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." And Jesus commented, "Today salvation has come to this house." Zacchaeus was frolicking in the deep! The cluster of early followers found a new joy. They held all things common and "distributed to the poor" (Acts 2:44-45).



Letting go is the clue. By letting go, a person is freed. Money and things may be more important to us than God. Yet when we put things in God's hands, it is God who frees us. To be free to give is a joyous discovery. "Lord, teach us to give; free us to give."

~ Pastor Ludford



**The complete 2018 Financial Report
is available in the Annual Report.**
Copies on the literature cart near office.

Fill the Cart Weekend February 16-17



**Church in Society is
asking the congregation
to support**

**SAFPARC and
"fill the cart."**

The shopping cart is located in
the Commons.

**Pork & beans, kidney beans,
tuna, cereal, tomato sauce,
mac 'n cheese, hearty soups,
and peanut butter.**

Please bring a non-
perishable food item
to help *fill the cart!*



Visit Zion's Library!

Amish Christmas at North Star by Cindy Woodsmall. Four short books by four different authors.

Guiding Star by Katie Ganshert Curiosity gets the best of Englischer Chase Wellington when he investigates the twenty-five-year-old disappearance of an Amish baby. When he finds adventurous Elle McAllister in Iowa, will her revelations upend her world?

Mourning Star by Amanda Flower Eden Hochstetler slips from her parents' shop to investigate the death of her friend Isaac. Who is guilty? Isaac's handsome great-nephew Jesse, an angry Englischer, or someone else?

In the Starts by Cindy Woodsmall Heartbroken Kore Detweiler avoids North Star after Savilla Beiler rejects his love. But when he is unexpectedly called home, he and Savilla must join forces to keep a family together.

Star of Grace by Mindy Starns Clark and Emily Clark Andy Danter left North Star to join a new Amish settlement in Mississippi. His little brother devises a scheme to ring Andy home for Christmas and unwittingly unleashes the power of forgiveness in a reclusive widower's life.

New DVDs...

To Dance with the White Dog is a celebration of a marriage that would last a lifetime and a love that would live an eternity. After 50 years of marriage, Sam loses his beloved wife, Coca, and no amount of fussing by his overprotective kids is going to ease Sam's loneliness or his own failing health. Then one day, a beautiful white dog comes out of nowhere to change Sam's life and heart...filling his empty hours, reviving his faded dreams, and ultimately showing Sam the power of everlasting love.

Little Boy Believe the Impossible A powerful, moving, and heartwarming film about a little boy who is willing to do whatever it takes to bring his father home from World war II. Little Boy will capture your heart and lift your spirits. This instant cinematic classic captures the wonder of life through the eyes of a seven-year-old child and reminds us of the power of faith, hope and love in the face of adversity. 1 hour, 47 minutes

Open during business hours weekdays, Saturday evenings, and Sunday mornings.



Zion's Elected Officers, Council Members, and Committees

President	Mike Eidahl (2021)
Vice-President	Al Wichmann (2020)
Secretary	Carey Grieves (2021)
Treasurer	Gordon Holten (2021)

Council Members:

Church in Society	Tammy Huebner (2021)
Education	Betsy Henning (2020)
Health Ministry	Ginny Vraney (2021)
Life & Growth	Rita Lemke (2020)
Property	Russell Wise (2021)
Stewardship	Scott Glysch (2020)
Worship & Music	Dawn Brock (2021)
Youth	Sharie Schultz (2020)

Committees:

Endowment Fund	Karen Preston (2022) Brian Grieves (2022) Anita Hartman (2020) Kathie Schutt (2020) Mary Ann Rudie (2021) Sharon Erickson (2021)
Personnel Comm.	Renee Elertson (2022) Nancy Syndergaard (2020) Mike Heling (2021)
Homme Home Rep.	Mike Boyd (2020) Faith Webster (2020)

Zion Lutheran Church
1254 S. Union St., Shawano WI 54166-3461

Rev. Scott Ludford, Senior Pastor
Debbie Bernard, Administrative Assistant
Jill Sousek, Organist and Music Director
Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse

Phone: 715-526-2017
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E-mail address:

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Mike Eidahl.....	president@shawanozion.org
Debbie / Office	zion@shawanozion.org
Jennifer Greiert.....	nurse@shawanozion.org
Education.....	education@shawanozion.org



To connect with our youth visit
[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/ZionYouthShawano)
ZionYouthShawano



Our Goggle calendar
available via our website.
Stay up-to-date!

www.shawanozion.org



***Our thanks to St. Martin Lutheran
School in Clintonville for packing
Wee Care bags in January!***



Pictured: Teacher Amber Krause-Johnston, Principal Mark Moran, and students Levi, Brady, McKenzie, Brooke, Riley, and Hailey

East Central Synod of Wisconsin's

EPIC 2019

Equipping People in Congregations

**Sat., March 9 8:30am-3:45pm
at Zion!**

Take part in the 3rd Annual EPIC event... a day of workshops for all congregational leaders and members. Michael Binder, guest speaker, will talk about being Church in the 21st century. There will also be a host of workshops and presentations designed to equip you with skills and information in various areas of ministry which you can bring back to your Congregation. Workshop topics range from communication ideas to developing the youth in your congregation.

\$25 per person
Registration Deadline February 26

More info and online registration:
ecsw.org/event/equipping-people-in-congregations/

*Paper brochure/registration form on
literature stand near office.*