

Focus

Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Shawano, WI

May 2022



The Belle Plaine 4-H Club, represented by Casey Bartz, earned money to purchase food for Wee Care by holding a box lunch social! Their boxes were decorated, packed with a picnic lunch, and auctioned off.

Pictured l-r: Casey Bartz, Wee Care Team Members Bonnie Wolf, Peggy Ray, and Eileen Ebelt.



Don Anderson presents a donation check to Wee Care Team members Bonnie Wolf and Peggy Ray on behalf of the AmVets Post 10.

This is a sampling of the food and monetary donations Wee Care has received this spring. Well done Shawano County! And thank you to the Zion Congregation for your support!

Wee Care is working on the final month of this school term. We look forward to your help in raising enough funds for the 2022-2023 school year.



Samatha Sperberg, President of SAYPro (Shawano Area Young Professionals) presents food and a check to Wee Care Team members Bonnie Wolf and Peggy Ray.

Cookies Wee Care food packs
Wee Care food packs **Cookies**

Cookie of the Month Sale

May 7 & 8

\$6 per dozen. A perfect gift for Mom!

Featured cookie will be surprise baked by the loving hands of the Wee Care Team!

Get them while they last and watch for more surprises in the months to come.



Notice..... CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, May 22

9:15 AM ~ SANCTUARY and ZOOM

Zoom information available soon.



Agenda items as of printing date:

Property Projects/Congregational Meeting:

Four projects the Property Committee feels should be addressed.

1. West entrance
2. Garage overhead and side entrance doors.
3. Wiring around the technology booth.
4. Intercom system throughout the church.

Financial Stewardship Update

2022 General Fund through April.



2022 Annual Budget	\$399,145
General Fund Balance Mar. 31	\$ (14,308)*
April Contributions	35,246
April Expenses	(24,930)
General Fund Balance Apr. 30	\$ (3,992)

This report does not include special offerings such as Building Funds, Restricted/Special Funds, memorial gifts, etc.

* March 31 ending balance was incorrect in April Focus. (My apologies. ~ Debbie)

A Note from the Treasurer: Thank you to all who have given generously to Zion this April. Our contributions covered over \$10,000 of our expenses, but we are still left with a negative \$3,992. Please prayerfully consider your gifts to Zion as we move closer to summer.

Thank you Zion members for your continued support!



Be a good steward!

The Parish Records



Deaths:

- † William R. Knuth, Jr. March 22, 2022
Graveside service held April 13.
- † Joyce H. Engel April 8, 2022
Funeral service held at funeral home April 13.



Zion's Youth Received First Communion Maundy Thursday, April 14.

Olivia Phalen Joe Felhofer Lane Laude
Kyle Huebner Nya Huntington

Happy Birthday



Eileen Ebelt... 70 on May 3
719 E Randall St, Shawano

Stuart Oestreich... 70 on May 11
N6050 Kucksdorf Ln., Shawano

Jackie Weier... 70 on May 28
340 Wallrich Rd., Shawano

Happy birthday to 59 others in May!



Youth Fundraiser!

**Car Wash Cards!
\$36 for 5-Count**



Ultimate Wash cards will be available from youth and in the church office!
Thank you for supporting Zion's youth!

Aluminum Can Collection Bin behind the garage!



The Youth would appreciate your donations—which must be bagged—as a fundraiser.

Vacation Bible School June 6-10

Monday thru Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

VBS Registration Deadline May 6

Registration & Volunteer forms at www.shawanozion.org and on the literature stand!



- ✓ Child must have completed 4K-5th grade
- ✓ Registration due May 6
- ✓ Youth & Adult volunteers needed!



God's Work, Our Hands

Garden Plot Available!



Want to eat healthier? Want to save \$? You can do both by planting a garden!!

The Dreams of Green Community Garden is located right here at Zion. It is open to everyone, so plots are available if you don't have space of your own. Each gardener has their own plot(s) and is responsible for planting, weeding, watering, harvesting and cleaning up their plot(s). Water is provided on site.

There is an \$8.00 fee for a basic 10ft x 10ft plot. Larger plots are available for an additional fee. The fees cover water and tilling. If you can't afford a plot, call Winnie Preston at 715-584-6416.

If you want to be part of the garden, please attend their **Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, May 3, at 5:30pm** at Zion Lutheran Church to reserve your plot(s).

Want a plot but can't attend the meeting? call Winnie Preston at 715-584-6416. See you in the garden!



April Showers Bring May Flowers



“April showers bring May flowers,” as the saying goes. Now that we have traversed into the month of

May, what does this month bring to mind in your thinking? Here at Zion, it means a multitude of activities, ministries, and remembering those who have died..., especially those who have served our country. Certainly, we will be remembering those who have died on Memorial Day Weekend as we worship Saturday/Sunday at Zion, and then again on Sunday at Shawano County Park and Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Lunds.

If you are anything like my family was growing-up, Memorial Day weekend was a time that we visited the grave sites of our family members, clean their markers and placed flowers to honor them. If you are inclined to do that this year and you happen to notice that some grave sites have small rocks placed on them, know that there is a reason for this tradition.

After crossing the Jordan River, the Jews were instructed to take 12 stones out of the middle of the river bed and placed them as a memorial marker, "... and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel forever." (Joshua 4:7) their key to success as a nation was to remember that Jehovah was their God and they were his people. To summarize, God was saying, "don't forget who I am, don't forget who you are, and don't forget where you came from. If you do you'll forget who is in charge and you'll lose your way.



Do we remember just events or do we remember people? What is the first thing we should we remember? The first thing is what Jesus did when He gave His life for us. Shed His body and Blood for our forgiveness and promise of eternal life. If we have-not come to this point in our lives where we have recognized Jesus Christ as our Savior, that's the first place to begin.

That being said, I will encourage you to take time and read through this newsletter and take note of all the opportunities for engaging in God's ministry here at Zion and in the community. Scheduled events such as the "Congregation Meeting," planned for Sunday, May 22 at 9:15 AM are important not only for the life of our faith community, but like those April Showers bringing May flowers...our individual involvement in God's ministry help grows our spiritual growth.

The lessons we learn through the placing of stones as a memorial that we find in Scripture, can be interpreted as we (God's people) place our lives in time and place to mark who our God is, who we are as followers of Christ, and where we came from. Like the bricks that build the foundation and walls of a building, by our investment of our time, talents and treasures we honor those who have come before us and prepare for those who will come after us.

I pray God's blessings for you and your family this month of May and I look forward to being with you on this exciting journey of faith building as it forms and grows here at Zion Lutheran!

In God's ministry,
Pastor Ludford



God's Work, Our Hands

"Need a Lift program"



is in need of volunteers who would be able to provide rides to doctor, therapy, appointments and church for Zion members and friends. We currently have a parishioner that would like a ride to the 10:30am service here at Zion. If interested in volunteering please contact the Parish Nurse at 715-527-2017 or nurse@shawanozion.org.

Just A Reminder – If you would like the Pastor or Parish Nurse visit when you are ill or hospitalized please contact the pastor or office to make sure your visitation request is received! Hospitals do not automatically contact the Pastor regarding hospitalization.

Please talk with your family members *now* about your wishes to inform the pastor in case your illness leaves you unable to do so.



☪☪☪ Thank you! ☪☪☪

Dear Confirmation Class,

Thank you so much for the adorable Easter baskets! We loved them!

~ Debbie Bernard, Admin. Assistant
Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse
Christie Wegner, Secretary

Dear Zion Lutheran Church and Health Ministry Committee,

Thank you for your recent donation to SAM25 of \$300 to purchase a hemoglobin POCT analyzer for the Community Health Clinic. Our work would not be possible without your support. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

~ Matt Kadlec, Executive Director
Shawano Area Matthew 25, Inc.



If you are 70½ or older, you can now make gifts directly from your individual Retirement Account (IRA) to charity without paying federal income tax on the withdrawal.

How it works

- You must be 70½ or older at the time the gift is made.
- You must request from the IRA plan custodian a direct transfer of fund to the charity, or use the IRA checkbook if provided, for the gift to be tax-free.
- Each person may give up to \$100,000 per year.
- Gifts can be used to satisfy your IRA required minimum distribution each year.
- **Gifts can be designated for a specific charitable organization, such as Zion Lutheran Church!**
- Funds held in other retirement plans such as a 401(k) or 403(b) plan are not eligible but may be rolled over to a standard IRA to then be used for a tax-free rollover gift to charity.

Zion Lutheran Church does not provide legal, tax, or investment advice. Individuals should consult with their own professional advisors before proceeding with this type of plan.



"I washed behind my ears, and I wiped the smirk off my face."



Memorial Gifts April 2022

Special gifts "in honor of" or "in memory of" to:

In Memory of Howard Buenting:

- **Health Ministry Fund**
by Ginny & Dick Vraney
- **Music Fund**
by Steve & Renee Elertson
Al & Marge Wichmann
- **Church in Society Fund Wee Care**
by Marlene Johnson

Library Fund

by Anita Hartman
In memory of Lois Kruse

Youth Fund

by Mike & Dorothy Eidahl
In memory of Jenny Hanson's
grandmother, Ellen G. Bjelland

☪☪☪ Thank you! ☪☪☪

Dear Pastor Scott and Zion family,

I cannot thank all of you enough for the well wishes and prayers during my recent hip replacement experience. It was so comforting and reassuring to feel the love and support that you all provided. The realities of medical technology and the amazing skills of medical providers made this such an incredible and positive experience. I am back to "better than ever." All thanks and praise to our loving God and Lord.

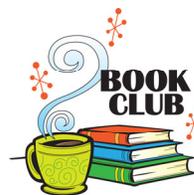
~ Michael Sleeper

Book Club's Current Read...

On May 11 we will discuss

The Book of Lost Friends
by

Lisa Wingate



Club meets the second Wednesday of each month in the commons at 3:30 p.m. Anyone interested in reading and discussing the books, please join us!

Questions? Suggestions? Contact
Joni Shebuski 715-526-6453.

From Your Parish Nurse...

2022 May is Arthritis Awareness Month

There are more than 100 types of arthritis. Specific symptoms vary depending on the type of arthritis, but usually include joint pain, swelling and stiffness. Experts don't know the cause of many forms of arthritis. Certain risk factors make it more likely that a person will develop arthritis.

Arthritis is a leading cause of work disability among adults. An estimated 58.5 million US adults have arthritis and 27.7 million adults are limited in their usual activities because of arthritis. Arthritis is common among people with other chronic conditions including obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

Early diagnosis and treatment for arthritis is essential. A healthy lifestyle and good habits can have a positive impact on arthritis. Regular exercise and maintaining ideal weight, stress reduction, being a non-smoker and getting sufficient sleep are all important for living well with arthritis.

The five common types of Arthritis are Osteoarthritis, Rheumatoid, Psoriatic, Gout, and Lupus. Osteoarthritis is a form of wear and tear that happens when your joints are overused. It usually happens with age, but it can also come from joint injuries or obesity, which puts extra stress on joints. Joints that bear weight like your knees, hips, feet and spine are the most common places it affects.

Rheumatoid Arthritis is an autoimmune disease. The immune system attacks parts of the body, especially joint. That leads to inflammation, which can cause severe joint damage if it is not treated. Rheumatoid arthritis is treated and managed with medications and self-management strategies.

Psoriatic Arthritis is a condition of inflammation of the joints and psoriasis of the skin. Psoriasis cause

patchy, raised red and white areas of inflamed skin with scales. It usually affects the tips of the elbows and knees, and scalp.

Gout is caused by a condition known as hyperuricemia, where there is too much uric acid in the body and form crystals which can build up in joints, fluids, and tissues within the body. Most of the time, it is in your big toe. Avoiding foods that may trigger a gout flare, include foods high in purines, like red meat, organ meat, and seafood and limiting alcohol in your diet improves quality of life.

Lupus also called SLE or systemic lupus erythematosus is an autoimmune disease which attacks its own tissues, causing widespread inflammation and tissue damage in the affected organs. It can affect the joints, skin, brain, lungs, kidneys and blood vessels. There is no cure for lupus, but medical interventions and lifestyle changes can help control it.

There are many more types of Arthritis that affects adults and children. Treatment options from your Rheumatologist or family doctor can help manage pain, control arthritis symptoms, slow disease progression, and reduce joint damage. For more information on different types of Arthritis go to www.everydayhealth.com/rheumatoid-arthritis/rheumatoid and www.webmd.com/rheumatoid-arthritis/quide/most-common-arthritis

ROMANS 8:18 Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.

~ Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse

Health Ministry Committee
will meet via ZOOM and in Room 101
on Monday, May 2 at 12:00 pm.
New members are always welcome!



Help Fill Our Cupboard!



Church in Society is asking the congregation to support SAFPARC and "fill the cupboard."

The cupboard is located in the Commons.

Pork & beans, kidney beans, tuna, cereal, tomato sauce, mac 'n cheese, hearty soups, peanut butter and a special call for ketchup and mustard.

Please bring a non-perishable food item to help feed God's people!

SAFPARC is also in need of paper grocery bags.



Thank you so much for supporting the Relay For Life for supporting the Relay For Life this past Saturday! There were 25 members walking during the relay "Run for the Roses and Find A Cure for Cancer." Our team, Zion Walkers, raised an all time high of \$8,158. Thank you so much Zion for donating!
~ Zion Walkers



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.

Visit Zion's Library!

Not My Daughter by Barbara Delinsky. When Susan Tate's 17-year-old daughter, Lily, announces she is pregnant, Susan is stunned. A single mother, she has struggled to do everything right. She sees the pregnancy as an unimaginable tragedy for both Lily and herself. Then word comes of two more pregnancies. The emotional ties between mothers and daughters are stretched to breaking in this story of love and forgiveness. What does it take to be a good mother?

The Secret Sun A Novel of Japan by Fred Hiatt. There was a Japanese atomic-bomb project going on during World War II, and had it been successful, we might be mourning the destruction of San Francisco instead of Hiroshima. A young American reporter stumbles upon the shrouded history of Japan's pursuit of an atomic bomb, and discovers that some of the forces involved in the original plan are still very much alive. This is a masterful, fast-paced, stylish novel, an imaginative juggling of fact and fiction in the best tradition of the modern masters of the thriller that brings alive a place and time while holding the reader in the thrall of a great story.

Sandcastles by Luanne Rice. Painter Honor Dillon has made a life for herself and her three daughters – Regis, Agnes, and Cecilia – at Star of the Sea Academy on the Connecticut shore. Here she teaches art at the convent school's seaside campus. No one could have foreseen the day rebellious Regis would come home with the news that she was getting married. Nor could anyone have guessed how that announcement would change their lives forever. Eleven years ago, Honor thought she had the perfect life. Then her husband left her, brilliant photographer and sculptor John Dillon, broke her heart – and tore their little family apart. Now, hearing of Regis's impending marriage, John returns to the family he's always loved. Some things, like sandcastles, don't survive the changing tides. But love, family, and friendship – just as fragile – have a way of standing against anything.

The Happy Camper by Melody Carlson. At least, that's what Dillon Michaels is hoping as she leaves her disappointing career and nonstarter love life behind to help her grieving and aging grandfather on his small Oregon farm. The only problem? Her eccentric mother beat her there and has taken over Dillon's old room. Dillon receives a gift – her grandfather's run-down vintage camp trailer, which she quickly resolves to restore with the help of Jordan Atwood. But just when things are finally beginning to run smoothly, Dillon's non-committal ex-boyfriend shows up with roses. . .and a ring.

A Child's Garden of Bible Stories by Arthur W. Gross. Remember when you read your first Bible storybook? It may have been this volume. Written in 1948, this book has been enjoyed by generations of children. Today's classic version offers 60 Bible stories in updated language for readers ages 6 to 8. Together you can read the timeless biblical accounts of God's faithfulness, grace, and mercy as He interacts with His people.

**Open during business hours
weekdays, before & after
Saturday evening service
and Sunday mornings.**



**Have a special event
or anniversary,
or would you like to
honor someone's
memory?**

Chancel flowers

are a wonderful way to share your celebration with our congregation! A sign-up flower calendar has been posted near the office.

Sponsor a worship bulletin

*in honor or
in memory of someone!*



The \$20 sponsorship fee goes into the General Fund to offset the bulletin cost.

Contact the office to reserve your sponsor date!

Our Goggle calendar is available via our website.

You can always stay up-to-date!



www.shawanozion.org



Gifts & Memorials

At Zion you may donate a gift or memorial—or honor someone—by contributing to any of the following funds!

General Fund
Building Fund
Sound/Video Project Fund
Camp Scholarship Fund
Church in Society Fund
Computer Fund
Health Ministry Fund
Library Fund
Music Fund
Park Sound System Fund
Education Fund
Worship Appointments Fund
Undesignated Fund
Youth Fund
Endowment Fund

**Make checks payable to
Zion Lutheran Church.**

*Questions?
Contact the church office.*



Zion's Health Ministry 100 Mile Spring Walk Ends May 20!

**On Sunday, May 22 join us for a
healthy celebration between services!**

~ Health Ministry Committee



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
Email: zion@shawanozion.org
Website: www.shawanozion.org

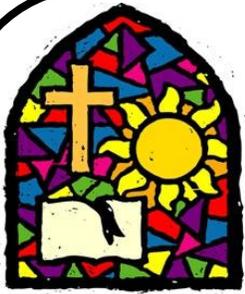


Email address:

Pastor Scott..... sludford@msn.com
Debbie / Office zion@shawanozion.org
Jennifer Greiert..... nurse@shawanozion.org



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



Worship Schedule for the Summer

Beginning Memorial Day Weekend...

- ~ Saturdays 5:00 p.m.
at Zion
- ~ Sundays 8:00 a.m.
at Zion
- ~ Sundays 9:30 a.m.
at the Shawano
County Park

Worship Services at Jerusalem, Lunds

Following Sundays at 11:00 a.m.
May 29 ~ July 10 ~ September 11



SUMMER HOURS
for
CHURCH OFFICE

Starting June 3...

Monday thru Thursday
8am - 12pm, 1-5pm

Fridays 8am - 12pm

Please check the calendar for
Fridays! I will be taking some
vacation time. ~ Debbie



**May 11 is the last
Confirmation Class
this spring. Ice cream time!**

**May 15
last day of Sunday School**



**Office Closed
Friday, May 27 and
Memorial Day
Monday, May 30**

- What you do:**
1. Place cookie cutter on a plate. Spoon in yogurt, spreading it to the edges of the cookie cutter.
 2. Add toppings, making a nice design. Remove cookie cutter.
 3. Drizzle syrup around the edge of the plate.
 4. Serve to your mom on Mother's Day!

What you need:

- Large heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Greek yogurt (any flavor)
- Toppings (mini chocolate chips, granola, shredded coconut, chia seeds, oats, slivered almonds, blueberries, sliced strawberries, raspberries, bananas)
- 2 teaspoons maple syrup



Treat Mom with this yummy, beautiful
yogurt parfait.

♥♥♥♥♥
**HEART-
SHAPED**
breakfast
♥♥♥♥♥