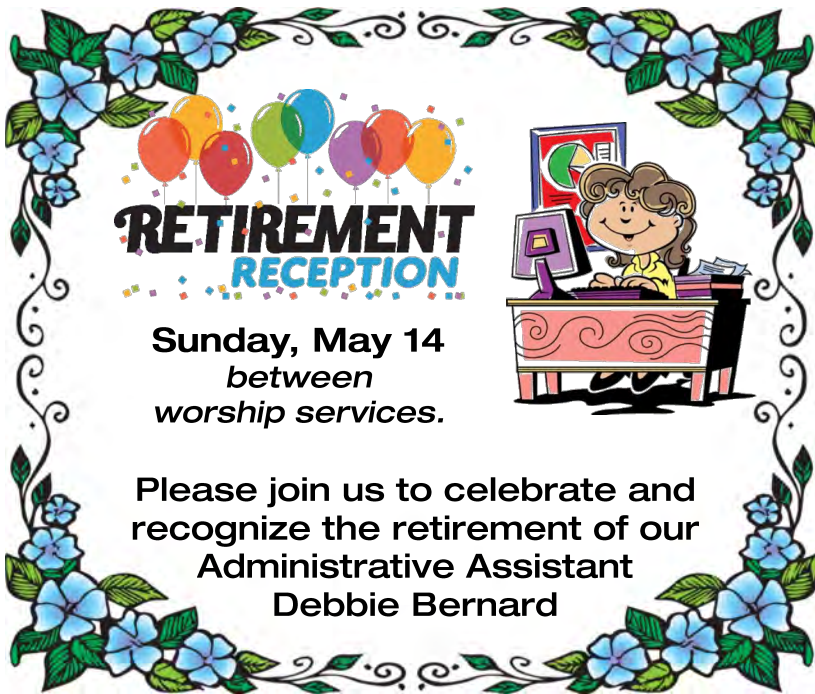


Focus

Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Shawano, WI

May 2023



**RETIREMENT
RECEPTION**

Sunday, May 14
*between
worship services.*

Please join us to celebrate and
recognize the retirement of our
Administrative Assistant
Debbie Bernard



**Sunday School
Celebration
Picnic**
Sunday, May 21
11:30 a.m. at Zion



**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 28 ~ July 2 ~ August 27



Starting May 30...
Monday thru Thursday
8am - 12pm, 1-5pm
Fridays 8am - 12pm



Ariana Albert
Jackson Boucher
Brady Glysch
Madeline Heling
Brayden Koenig
Allison Laffin
Lindsey Peters
Aidan Preston
Peyton Schultz

**Honoring them on
Sunday, May 7.**

The ZLCW Quilters will be giving
each graduate a quilt.

Financial Stewardship Update



2023 General Fund through March.

2023 Annual Budget	\$364,550
General Fund Balance Feb. 28	\$ (13,553)
March Contributions	35,772
March Expenses	(24,819)
General Fund Balance Mar. 31	\$ (2,600)

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

We had a very encouraging March! More than \$10,000 of our negative balance was eliminated!

Thank you Zion members for your continued support of Zion's ministries.



May 3 is the last Confirmation Class this spring. Ice cream day!

May 15 last day of Sunday School



S.S. Celebration Picnic Sunday, May 21 11:30am

Web Care food packs **Variety of Cookies**

Cookie of the Month Sale May 20 & 21 \$6 doz.



Baked by the Wee Care Cookie Elves!



Zion's "STELLAR" Vacation Bible School will be held **Mon.-Fri., July 17 - 21** 9:00am - 12:00pm

for children currently in 4K - 5th grade.

Adult and youth volunteers are needed.

Registration forms on literature stand and website!



The Parish Records



Deaths:

† Anita Hartman March 31, 2023
Funeral service held at funeral home on April 4.

Happy Birthday



Shawn Tonn... 40 on May 16
1016 S. Cleveland St., Shawano

Rita Trinko... 80 on May 17
104 Crestwood Ct, Shawano

Joey Bahr... 50 on May 18
204 Airport Rd, Shawano

Karla Hoffman... 60 on May 20
N7172 Cty. Rd G, Gresham

Happy birthday to 55 others in May!

We're asking for your help!



Friendly Visitors is not always aware of your needs or concerns. If you or someone you know would like communion, a visit, a phone call, someone to read to you, or something else we could help you with, please reach out to us. We would love to help. You may call Zion's Office or leave a written message there, or call/email Marah, 715-526-8058; mnnelson2@charter.net and she will locate someone to help. We believe it is extremely important for a Congregation to reach out to members. If you have ideas to share, we'll take them!

We're in the process of re-organizing—trying to reach out to you all—in ways we can. If you want to be a part of this group let me know. You don't have to do everything listed, just let us know what your interests are. Prayers for all. ~ Your Friendly Visitors Team

Aluminum Can Collection Bin behind the garage!

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



Shawano high school students awarded *Dollars for Scholars*. Zion members L-R: Brady Glysch, Peyton Schultz, Aidan Preston, Maddy Heling, Alison Laffin and Ariana Albert



“For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore, all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them .”

- 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

We will be in the Easter season until May 28, when we celebrate the Day of Pentecost. The Apostle Paul, moved by the Holy Spirit wrote a powerful truth that should govern the lives of all Christians who desire to be anointed to proclaim the “Ever-flowing Life of Easter.” I would propose that Easter has a whole lot more for us than just a special Sunday for family meals. Resurrection Sunday is about thriving not just surviving.

The heart that understands what Jesus accomplished on the first Easter births forth a “Life Filled with Meaning,” and is “Empowered by Grace.” We can enjoy this because the Easter story for Spirit-filled Christians is this: “If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.” (Romans 8:11) Do our lives reflect a life that is surrendered to the same Holy Spirit whom raised Jesus from the dead?

The Easter Story is God taking a life which was being spent on self, the pleasures of this world and was blinded by the devil, and turning it around to achieve all of His good purposes. Paul’s prayer for the Ephesians is also for us today, “I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. (Eph. 3:16-17) One of the secrets to finding meaning in this life that satisfies the soul is to understand what God means in regards to having Christ dwell in your hearts. To “dwell” means to give Christ full permission to take up full residence by His Spirit in your spiritual heart.

The idea is of letting Christ come into our hearts and life that he may be a ruling master, so that he may take every part of our body and life and use it for his Father’s purposes. Our first and most im-

portant meaning of being created is that we become an inhabitation of the Lord, reflecting the likeness of Christ through all we do. We are created for His glory not our own.

What God is saying, “Let Me tell you what your purpose for living is and then you can start to enjoy your life.” This is why the Holy Spirit moved the apostle to write, “And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.” (2 Corinthians 5:15)

Heart probing questions are: Does our lives have eternal meaning? Are we living for self, chasing the world or being deceived by the devil? Do our lives reflect a heart that is seeking God’s will for us? Are we enjoying all the spiritual blessings that are found in Christ Jesus?

Christians find their meaning when they allow the Lord to show them their Holy Spirit given gifts and use those gifts through sacrificial love. They sacrifice time, self and the pleasures of this world to develop their gifts and to exercise their gifts for the benefit of Jesus Christ, the Body of Christ whom are the children of God and all of mankind.



Once we are living a meaningful life in Christ - we can live a life which is empowered by Grace. God is willing and wanting to give us His grace. The Holy Spirit moved the apostle Paul to write about this powerful truth, “And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” (2 Corinthians 9:8)

May God bless you this Easter season and keep you in His grace!

In God’s ministry,
Pastor Ludford



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.



Our Goggle calendar is available via our website.

You can always stay up-to-date!
www.shawanozion.org



Keeping You the Members of Zion Informed!

March 27, we heard once again of another tragedy as a lone shooter entered the Covenant School in Nashville, Tennessee and took the lives of six people.

These senseless acts against people are a great concern to houses of worship, schools, businesses and anywhere that people gather. As promised in worship, that I would try to keep you informed to what our leadership is doing to make our congregation safer when you are at Zion. This is the first segment of reporting to you and I will continue to do so throughout the next monthly newsletters.

This past August, Zion's Health Ministry Committee arranged for our congregation to participate in A.L.I.C.E. training with the Shawano Police Department. Since then, law enforcement agencies in our county have used our church as a training facility to prepare for an active shooter alert both with and without their police dogs. Three of our local schools have also used Zion for safety drills this year in case there is a situation that arises with their respected buildings.

Previously, the Health Ministry Committee with church council members drafted a comprehensive plan to prepare for a multitude of emergency situations we as a congregation might encounter. Since the plan was put to paper, they were placed at many doorways throughout the church and the task force who created

them have provided yearly instruction to our membership. Our congregation provides the means for any person who has an interest to receive C.P.R. training to be prepared if needed.

Zion has in place, outside lights through the night that are intended to discourage problems. We have camera systems in place to monitor the outside and inside of the church entrances 24/7 and records 365 days out of the year who enters and leaves our facility. All but one entrance to our church are secured during the week, providing some measure of control to who is in the church. Electronic locks on main entrances are in place to help provide some further means of safety. Placed in undisclosed places we have panic buttons that will aid us in alerting the Shawano Police and Sheriff's Departments of an emergency.

Know that we will be vigilant in coming months to advance our preparedness for all emergencies! President of the congregation, Bob Haas and I attended the "House of Worship Safety and Security Symposium," in Green Bay on March 13 and 14. On the evening of March 13, the property committee met with an officer from the Shawano Police department to evaluate our church facility for safety. In the June newsletter, I will report on some of what we learned.

Pastor Scott Ludford

Visit Zion's Library!

Signal by Patrick Lee. FBI agent Marnie Calvert is called to a horrifying crime scene in the Mojave Desert. When the investigation leads Calvert to Dryden, the two find themselves caught up in a generations-long conspiracy. Now they must face down a phantom network whose technology can affect events before they even happen. . .and is bound to result in the deaths of millions. And time is running out.

Comanche Woman by Joan Johnston. (Large Print Romance) Born to a white father and his Indian bride, Long Quiet believed his destiny lay with his Comanche brothers. But his heart secretly belonged to Bayleigh Stewart, daughter of the richest cotton planter in Texas, who'd been abducted by a marauding brave and sold to the highest bidder. For years he'd searched for the violet-eyed beauty. Long Quiet found her and had to convince this woman – *his* woman – that her true home was with him. . .as together they would fight for a love strong enough to bridge two worlds.

God's Little Devotional Book for Women Peggy was nervous about the dinner party she and her husband were about to host. It was their first time to have guests for dinner since the birth of their son. The guests included her husband's new supervisor. Sensing the tension in his parents, the baby became irritable and 'fussy' which only added to Peggy's frustration. In an attempt to comfort little Pete, Peggy picked him up and raised him high over her head, and kissed his bare tummy. To her surprise, he smiled and giggled – the first genuine laugh she had heard from her young son. In an instant, Peggy relaxed and the dinner party was a great success. When you're feeling stressed, don't allow yourself to explode in anger. Get alone if you have to, but find a reason to laugh. . .and watch the stress melt away.

Open during business hours weekdays and Sunday mornings.





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

Make checks payable to
Zion Lutheran Church.

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 is posted
near the office.
Or contact the office.



Book Club's Current Read...

On May 10
we'll discuss

The Dressmaker's Dowry
by Meredith Jaeger

On June 14 we'll discuss

The Hope Chest
by Viola Shipman

Club meets in the commons at 3:30
p.m. Interested in reading and dis-
cussing the books, please join us!

Questions? Contact Joni Shebuski
715-526-6453.

Memorial Gifts April 2023

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

In Memory of Woody Davis:

- **Building Fund**
by Sandra Rhode
- **Church in Society: Wee Care**
by Tom & Faith Webster
Russ & Nancy Wise
- **General Fund**
by Marlene Johnson, Mary Haasl
Jerry & Donna Milbauer
Ginny & Richard Vraney
Dejon Polzin, Elsie Greenhill
Michael Sleeper, Joni Shebuski
Linda & Larry Trevarthen
Lon & Ellen Swedberg
Steve & Renee Elertson
Barbara Karlen, Sandy Waelchi
Ted & Mary Ann Rudie
Dejon Polzin & family
Family and Friends
- **Endowment Fund**
by Maralyn Steffen
- **Worship & Music Fund**
by Lorin & Winnie Preston
Diane Rugalski, Karen Childs
Zion Choir
Al & Marge Wichmann
Gene & Barb Hoppe
Mike & Dorothy Eidahl
- **Youth Fund**
by Harold & Linda Burrack

Church in Society Fund Wee Care
by Ted & Mary Ann Rudie
In memory of Dorothy Hagemann

In Memory of Mitzi Moesch:

- **Church in Society: Wee Care**
by Debbie & Bart DeFere
Al & Marge Wichmann
Diane Rugalski
Family and Friends

In Memory of Anita Hartman:

- **Church in Society: Wee Care**
by Audrey Hoppe, Karen Childs
- **Education Fund**
by Jean Broder
- **Endowment Fund**
by Maralyn Steffen, Helen Kaurala
Ted & Mary Ann Rudie
- **General Fund**
by Linda Wussow, Dejon Polzin
- **Sound/Video Fund**
by Mike & Dorothy Eidahl
- **Worship & Music Fund**
by Dennis & Nancy Schultz
Al & Marge Wichmann



Thank you!



Thank you to all who brought in supplies for the
Personal Care Kits to be sent to Lutheran World
Relief warehouse in Minneapolis in October 2023.
The ladies who come weekly to Mission Quilting
put together 32 kits from the supplies we received.

We enjoyed the time spent together doing something for others who will
find the items useful. Thank you!!!

The Zion Lutheran Church Women Quilters have
been receiving many donations of items to be used
for quilting. We are very appreciative of these dona-
tions of fabric, sheets, and lightweight blankets for our quilting
use. Without it, we would be purchasing these things. Thank you very
much for remembering the Quilters and sharing them with us. Please
continue this process as we go ahead with our quilt projects. It helps so
many people who are in need. ~ ZLCW Board



The Shawano-Menominee Relay for Life was held April 1st at
Shawano Community High School gym. Despite the snow and
ice, Zion Walkers had 25 members plus friends participate in
the event. Zion Walkers raised over \$7,584. Our theme was

"Each Step Brings Hope." *A special thank you to those who donated to
the event and to those who walked with the team.*

Summer Vacation for the Elves!



The maple cookie sale was a great success.

A total of 69 dozen cookies and 36 loaves of banana and pumpkin bread sold out. Thank you to all who purchased our baked goods. Again thank you to Gary & Cindy Dalke and Bob & Ginny Hass for donating the maple syrup. A frosted cookie was a new experience and we had to call in a few extra elves, but they did a good job of baking and frosting all 69 dozen.



As the school session is drawing to a close, we are micro managing our food inventory. With a total of 72 bags being packed each week, our food supply is dwindling. However, the Belle Plaine 4-H came in with a substantial load of food. **These kids have done a great job!**

Thank you Belle Plaine 4-H.

May 20 & 21
we will be offering
a variety of
COOKIES



We will be making a variety to use up ingredients on our shelves as the elves will be taking a much-needed vacation for the summer.



Wee Care will be doing Charlie's Red Barn July 13, 14 & 15.

We need volunteers to staff the Red Barn for 2, 3, or 4-hour shifts. This is a major fund raiser for Wee Care. Please mark your calendars and let us know if you can help.

Sign up at the information desk!



May 3 is the last Confirmation Class this spring. Ice cream day!

May 15 last day of Sunday School



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

715-526-2017

zion@shawanozion.org

www.shawanozion.org

Pastor Scott.....sludford@msn.com

Debbie / Officezion@shawanozion.org



Office Closed
Friday, May 26 and
Memorial Day
Monday, May 29

MEMORIAL DAY



Thank you to all the blood donors for making Zion's Blood Drive with the Community Blood Center a big success!

~ Health Ministry Committee

