

WELCOMING ALL, GROWING & SHARING GOD'S LOVE



⁶We will recount to generations to come the power of the LORD.^{>>}

— Psalm 78:4



ZLCW

SILENT AUCTION

Fall is in the air! **November 11-19**, the ZION Lutheran Church Women (ZLCW) will be having a **Basket Raffle**



to raise money for their end of year benevolence giving. We wanted to give everyone an opportunity to think about the kind of basket they would like to donate. It could be crafts for children; assorted games for children/families; pasta basket; baking basket, etc. It's time to get creative! If you have questions, contact Karen Childs at 715.526.2445. **R**

FUNERAL MEALS

The ZLCW Executive Board have decided to begin serving funeral meals as they had done in the past. It was decided to return to serving funeral meals to help with the cost of catering a funeral meal for family and friends. Women who are members of ZION will be called and asked to donate a salad, a dessert, and/or help set up, serve and clean up the day of the funeral. We pray you will help when called. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Karen Childs or Mila Waukechon. Thank you! **R**

RUMMAGE SALE THANK YOU

ZLCW completed their Rummage Sale in August. Sixteen volunteers packed up items for various groups: St. John's Lutheran Church in Cecil; Menominee County; Goodwill; Hospital Auxiliary; and the Shawano Public Library. We thank you for your donations, the volunteers who helped unpack, sort, wash, price and organize the areas, and share their baking skills. Thank you, Melissa Schular, for your active enthusiasm and hard work. And, thank you, Donna Milbauer, for your guidance and support. A big thank you to John Phalen for transforming the Fellowship Hall into a rummage sale. Our sale profited us with \$3,522.00, which will help us with our 2023 benevolences. **R**

~ Karen Childs & Mila Waukechon, ZLCW Co-Presidents



MISSION QUILTERS

ZION'S Mission Quilters want to thank ZION members for their many contributions for personal care kits, school kits and fabric which has been made into quilts — all to be sent to **Lutheran World Relief** (LWR). We put together 43 Personal Care Kits, 50 School Kits and 203 quilts. These items will be sent all over the world, wherever the items are needed. We can always use more workers in this outreach ministry. If interested contact Karen Childs at 715.526.2445 or Dorothy Eidahl at 715.526.2650. Thank you! **R**

Over the past 25 years, Lutheran World Relief (LWR) has distributed over 9,191,127 quilts, which would cover 11 square miles or half of Manhattan <u>AND</u> 9,493,141 school bags, enough for more than one to every person in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska combined. They've been shipped around the globe where needed the most. **>>**



FINANCE

TREASURER NOTES

ZION had two great months of giving in August and September. Fund balances which compare our giving to the budget passed in January show those fund balance have gone from a -\$17,000 to -\$7,000 and now is very close to a plus dollar balance. We await the end of billing for September for exact figures. ZION can be very thankful to its members for their excellent stewardship. We look forward to this trend continuing through the remainder of 2023. Thank you ZION members. **R**

~ Mike Eidahl, Treasurer

PASTOR'S COLUMN

All who saw it began to grumble and said, ⁶⁶He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.^{>>}

Dear Friends and Members of ZION Lutheran Church,

Throughout October, we will learn about different aspects of stewardship. The freedom that living a "stewardship-filled-life," becomes an important ingredient in our life with Christ and for our faith development.

Think about a high schooler who gets a car. Wow, that sounds like freedom! You've got your own wheels. But now you suddenly need a lot more money. You've to pay for gas for your car. And you've to make the insurance payments on that car. So now, you have to get a job. And every weekend and a couple of nights each week, guess what you're driving to? Your job! It cuts into your family time, your friend time, your studying time. That car was the picture of freedom! But in the end, the car is driving you!

During ZION's recent Vacation Bible School, the students studied the story of Zacchaeus in Luke 19:1-10. The first thing I always think about Zacchaeus is that he's short. But that's not the main point of his story. Zacchaeus is a tax collector in the city of Jericho. And he's the CHIEF tax collector. Tax collectors gathered the Roman taxes on each and every person in their town. And for their efforts, they could add a handling fee of sorts to the taxes. That's how they earned their living.

But people could see what was going on. They just had to look at the homes these tax collectors lived in. They could see the fine clothing they wore, their silver and gold necklaces. These tax collectors were ripping them off. And Zacchaeus is the CHIEF of all of those crooks! He was quite likely one of the richest men in all of Jericho.

But Zacchaeus is also a searcher. He's searching for some "thing," something money can't buy. For as rich as he is, he's yearning for something else. He hears that this holy man, Jesus, is on his way to Jerusalem. And Jesus is going to pass right through Jericho. Zacchaeus heads down to the main street. Well, he's not the only one who wanted to see Jesus! There's a huge crowd already there. Zacchaeus' situation is complicated by his short stature. With the crowd three or four deep, he won't be able to see above their heads.

You know what happens next. Zacchaeus sees a sycamore tree along the main road. If he climbs up in that tree, he'll be able to see Jesus. So that is what he does. Imagine the picture: here is this rich guy in fancy robes, with rings on his fingers, and he's clumsily climbing his way up a tree! It's one thing to climb a tree in your old blue jeans; it's quite another to do that in a fancy robe!

But Zacchaeus doesn't care. There are things – important things – his money can't buy. 1) Stature - and I don't mean his height. I mean how he measures up in the eyes of his fellow Jews. Zacchaeus was despised. His neighbors see him as a sell-out to Rome. 2) <u>Fellowship</u> – His money can't buy him friendship. He might have a beautiful house, but who will come to visit him? No one but other lonely tax collectors. 3) Higher Purpose - His money can't buy him greater meaning to his life than just being the rich guy. What has he traded away for the wealth of Rome? What will he be remembered for when his days on this earth come to an end? What was the life purpose for this son of Abraham?

Throwing decorum aside, he climbs up that tree without a second thought. And then he sees Jesus. And unbelievably, Jesus sees him. Jesus stops and looks right at him. And Jesus knows him by name. "Zacchaeus, hurry up! I'm coming to your house for lunch!" The crowd hears it and they're not pleased. Has Jesus become a sell-out, too? Does he care only about a extravagant meal and relaxing in the expensive home of this Roman minion?

And then something remarkable happens. Zacchaeus is standing at a significant crossroad in his life. Right there, right at that time, Zacchaeus



makes a decided change in his life. Everything he had worked so hard for, everything he had formerly treasured, he lays it aside. He lays aside every weight and sin that had clung so closely to him. "Jesus," he says, "I'm going to give away half of my possessions to the poor. AND, if I've ever taken advantage of somebody in collecting their taxes, I'll give them back four times as much."

What a moment! Right there, at that spot beneath the sycamore tree, Zacchaeus decided he'd had enough of the things that bound him. More than he valued his money and possessions, he wanted to live free. Free of the guilt he'd carried from shafting people, free from his dependency on his lavish living. He cast it all aside. He was done being weighed down by it! When I consider what Zacchaeus did, I can only think, what courage! What courage it took to take his stand that day and make such a dramatic change!

What gave him the courage to live free? What happened? What liberated him? He had an encounter with Jesus. He stood face to face with the way, the truth, and the life. Jesus is all about liberation. The Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost. On that day in Jericho beside the sycamore tree, Jesus set Zacchaeus free. Zacchaeus received the life that is truly life. And when the Son sets you free, you are free, indeed!

That same liberating fullness of life has been bestowed on us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus our Lord. His desire for our freedom sets him on his course to the cross. His saving actions have liberated us from the bonds of sin and death.

Jesus invites us to live in his freedom. He invites us to cast aside every weight and the things that cling so closely to us. When we stand in the light of Christ's truth, the things that own us lose their power. We run swiftly and with perseverance the race set before us. Live courageously! Live free! **R**

In God's ministry ~ Pastor Scott



LIBRARY

NEW BOOKS

<u>A Scary Tale Wedding</u> by K.D. McCrite (Secrets of the Castleton Manor Library). Faith Newberry is in love with Wolfe Jaxon, co-owner of the manor, and she prepares to tie the knot with him. Friends and family arrive, and the staff transforms the manor into the perfect setting for a fairy-tale wedding. But before Faith can say "I do", chaos ensues when someone breaks into her cottage and destroys her beautiful wedding gown. Another shock occurs when someone is murdered. Faith, along with her friends in the Candle House Book Club, search for clues and discover stunning secrets and veiled threats. Will they close the book on this murder before the big day or will the killer strike again?

In the Shadow of Croft Towers by Abigail

Wilson. When Sybil Delafield's coach to Croft Towers was robbed by highway men, she should have realized that her new position as companion to old Mrs. Chalcroft would be no ordinary job. Upon Sybil's arrival, Mrs. Chalcroft sneaks into her room in the dark of night, imploring her to relay messages to town that are to stay hidden from the rest of the family. Who exactly is Sybil working for and what do the messages contain? When fellow passengers of the robbed coach are later murdered, Sybil's hunt for the truth takes on a new urgency. The only person she can rely on is Mr. Sinclair, Mrs. Chalcroft's godson, but



under all his charms he, too, leads a double life. Sybil must decide if he is the one honest voice she can trust, or if he is simply using her for his own advances. With murderers, smugglers, and spies on the loose, nothing – and no one – in Regency England is what they claim. Can Sybil even trust what she knows about herself?

<u>A Lost Cause</u> by K. D. Crite (Secrets of the Castleton Manor Library). Join Faith Newberry and her cat, Watson, in the quaint town of Lighthouse Bay on Cape Cod in Massachusetts as she marries her love of books to a penchant for sleuthing. After landing her dream job as librarian of Castleton Manor, an upscale literary retreat, Faith is forced to read between the lines and solve the mysteries she finds among the stacks. Along with the lively members of the Candle House Book Club Faith sets out to unravel whodunits that might have stopped even Sherlock Holmes. A shadow is cast over the retreat when Faith learns that her aunt's friend Louise Stitt died unexpectedly. Then other mysteries emerge. Will Faith and her friends be able to turn the page to these mysteries before it's too late? **R**

STEWARDSHIP

SHARE THE BLESSINGS

A large part of "Sharing the Blessings" is our personal decision of how we want to financially support our community of faith here at ZION. We all have been blessed this year: the beautiful color change in our trees and forests as they move into Fall; the smiles we receive in recognition by our children or grandchildren and the greetings we share as we meet our friends and fellow parishioners at church service. These blessings all have meaning to each of us in our lives, and in their own way they are priceless. Whereas many of our blessings have been provided at no cost by God, those blessings we experience at ZION have a cost. Everything from the salary of our Pastor, the music we enjoy at our services and the soap we use in the restrooms has a cost and those same costs largely go up every year for ZION, as well as yourself. We are all feeling the pinch at the grocery store and the gas pump.

Remember your blessings as you think about how much ZION means to your life and to our community as you make your personal decision on pledging; your congregation is in need of your help and your decision to pledge and support your church will allow ZION to grow and prosper. **R**

YOUTH & FAMILY

CALLING ALL YOUTH

Middle and high school youth, their parents, or any interested adults are invited to be a member of the Youth and Family Committee. The committee meets the second Monday of the month. The next meeting is **Monday**, **October 9** at **6 PM**. We're asking you to help brainstorm ideas for future youth events, activities and services. We need input on the direction of the ZION Youth program. If interested, contact Curt Preston at 715.853.4999. **R**

THANK YOUS

Dear ZION,

Thank you so much for the extremely generous scholarship. I will use the money to pay for my education at the University of Minnesota. Without this scholarship, it would be much more difficult to pay for school. Thank you ZION for not only the scholarship, but for being so influential in my growth as a person and Christian. **R**

Sincerely ~ Brady Glysch

Dear ZION Endowment Fund Committee, Thank you so much for the extremely generous scholarship. I am beyond grateful of your support of my future endeavors. I am super excited to continue my education at US-Whitewater next year. I am blessed to start this next journey and I know God will be with me every part of the way. Thank you for bringing me closer to my dreams. R

With love ~ *Maddy Heling*

Dear ZION Endowment Fund Committee,

Thank you very much for the generous scholarship. This money will be put towards my studies at the University of Green Bay and hopefully help my in my studies abroad this year. Thank you again! R

Sincerely ~ Emily Heling

Dear ZION Endowment Committee,

Thank you very much for the academic scholarship. I really appreciate the support that it will provide for me as I pursue my education. **R**

Sincerely ~ Aidan Preston

Dear ZION members.

Thank you so much for all the phone calls, cards, visits and letters! I am truly blesses to be part of ZION's caring family. ~ Anita Stubenvoll

CHURCH RECORDS

WEDDING

• Adam & Tonya Konkel ~ October 7, 2023

NEW MEMBERS

- Brian & Kris Johnson, Taylor & Allison
- David & Shana Wolff, Lee, Caramia & Alexander
- Carla & James Osborne
- Richard & Lori Jacob
- Douglas Feven
- Susan Scheinert

FIRST COMMUNION

- Brvnlee Rav
- Baylee Curtin
- Kinzie & Kole Rosenow
- Myles Laude
- Addie Bernath Paul Wegner
- Levi Effenberger
- Cambrie Sparks



IN MEMORY

MEMORIALS WERE GIVEN BY: Bonnie Wolf

- Eileen Ebelt
- Mike & Dorothy Eidahl • Peggy Ray

... In Memory of Gary Svendsen, Mila Waukechon's Brother

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

At ZION, you may give a gift or memorial, or honor someone, by contributing to any of the following funds.

- General Fund
- Education Fund
- Church in Society Fund
- Health Ministry Fund
- Music Fund
- Camp Scholarship Fund • Computer Fund

• Building Fund

- Library Fund
- Undesignated Fund
- Park Sound System Fund Youth Fund
- Sound/Video Project Fund Worship Appointments

APPRECIATION

CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH



October is Clergy Appreciation Month. Pastor Ludford, we thank God for you! May God strengthen you and keep you as you endeavor to answer each day to the calling which you

have been called, "I will, and I ask God to help me." Also, wish Pastor Scott a Happy Birthday on October 14. R

HEALTH MINISTR

HELP US FILL THE BOX

The Health Ministry Committee is sponsoring a **Diaper Drive** the month of October. Please help fill the box in the Narthex with packages or boxes of baby



diapers, sizes newborn to size 7. Thanks for supporting local families in need of assistance. **R**

CPR CLASS

The Health Ministry Committee is offering two upcoming CPR classes. No card will be issued for certification; however, it's still a great tool to have and something hopefully you will never have to use

in an emergency situation. Classes will be held on Monday, October 9 and Thursday, October 26, both are at 5 PM here at ZION. R



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- Harriet Villarreal
- Barbara Resop Jason Otto

DECEMBER EVENT

This December ZION Lutheran Church is having a "**Festival of Trees**!" We are inviting individuals, families, committees, businesses and youth to start to prepare to have a themed Christmas tree on display in the Narthex. Further details of this event will be revealed in the November/December FOCUS Newsletter. But for now, start talking amongst yourselves to what you might do to make the "Festival of Trees" something special! Questions, call Karen Child at 715.526.2445. **R**

SAFETY

Whenever we deal with security at ZION, it starts with people ... from staff, worship leaders, greeters, ushers and Sunday school teachers. We are all talking about what we are going to do in case of an emergency; which we all know can come in many forms. Our local law enforcement has been using our building for training exercises and have been coaching us how we might be a safer place from Monday through Sunday.

In recent months, we have made our computers and Wi-Fi more secure and are now in the process of upgrading ZION's surveillance systems, along with a new phone system, to increase our ability to communicate throughout the church.



Further plans to secure offices, classrooms and places where we congregate, are in the works. As promised, I will continue to keep you updated. You can help in this process by attending the Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary on **Sunday**, **October 15** at **9:15 AM** to approve

the \$24,000 needed for upgrades to a "**High-Definition Surveillance System**," that the Church Council has reviewed and recommended. **R**





BLOOD DRIVE

ZION Community Blood Drive Monday, October 30 1:30-5:30 PM In the Church Narthex

Blood

You may give blood every 56 days! Save your donation gift for our Zion Drive! It's simple and easy!

What to do Before:

- 1. Eat iron rich foods for many days in advance.
- 2. Receive a call for an appointment time from us or sign up at the Info Desk.
- 3. Hydrate and eat well on the day of the drive before arriving.

Appointment (takes about 1 hour or less)

- 1. Bring ID.
- 2. Answer questions and check medication list.
- 3. Temperature, blood pressure and hemoglobin get checked.
- 4. Give blood. (Takes 10-15 minutes.)
- 5. Drink juice and eat snacks for 15 minutes before leaving to make sure you are OK to leave.

Give the Gift of Life! ZION members, give a pint of blood to help save up to three lives! There is a nation-wide blood shortage right now! All blood drawn stays in our surrounding community! <u>Be a hero and help save lives</u>! **R** We thank you! ~ *ZION's Health Ministry Committee*



WEE CARE

COOKIE SALE

The Wee Care elves are back on duty planning and getting ready for a **Cookie Sale** on **October 21-22**. Featured cookie of the month will be peanut butter. Mark you calendars. **R**

SOCKOTBER

SOCKOTBER is back **October 1-31** as ZION collects socks for both SAFE HAVEN and SAM25! **New socks** are needed for women, men, boys, girls and infants. Please help us fill our bin by the Info Desk during October. The Health Ministry Committee thanks you! **R**



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:3 CC CC 2 CC CC 2	2 8:30 AM -Strong Bodies 12:00 PM -Health Ministry Committee - Rm 101 5:00 PM -Worship & Music Committee - Library	3 7:30 AM -Strong Bodies 8:00 AM -Men's Breakfast - Shawano's Cafe 9:00 AM -LWR Mission Quiting 7:00 PM -AA & AL -Anon	4 8:30 AM -Strong Bodies 5:00 PM -Bell Rehearsal 6:00 PM -Confirmation Class	5 7.30 AM -Strong Bodies	6 8:00 AM -LWR Ingathering-parking lot	7 1:00 PM -Konkel Wedding 5:00 PM -Worship Service
	9 8:30 AM -Strong Bodies 5:00 PM -CPR Class 5:00 PM -Stewardship Committee Meeting-Library 6:00 PM -Girl Scouts Leader's Meeting 6:00 PM -Youth & Family Committee Meeting	10 7:30 AM -Strong Bodies 8:00 AM -Men's Breakfast - Shawano's Cafe 9:00 AM -LWR Mission Quiling 6:00 PM -Property Committee 7:00 PM -AA & AL -Anon	11 8:30 AM -Strong Bodies 1:00 PM -ZLCW Board Meeting 5:00 PM -Bell Rehearsal 6:00 PM -Confirmation Class	12 7:30 AM -Strong Bodies 6:30 PM -Girl Scouts #4717	13	14 5:00 PM -Worship Service
	16 8:30 AM -Strong Bodies 3:30 PM Women's Evening Bible Study - Library Focus Deadline	17 7:30 AM - Strong Bodies 8:00 AM -Men's Breakfast - Shawano's Cafe 9:00 AM -LWR Mission Quiting 6:00 PM Council Meeting 7:00 PM -AA & AL-Anon	18 8:30 AM -Strong Bodies 5:00 PM -Bell Rehearsal	19 7:30 AM -Strong Bodies	20 9:00 AM -Library Committee Meeting	21 5:00 PM-Worship Service Wee Care Cookie Sale
	23 8:30 AM -Strong Bodies	24 7:30 AM -Strong Bodies 8:00 AM -Men's Breakfast - Shawano's Cafe 9:00 AM -LWR Mission Quiling 10:00 AM -Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 PM -AA & AL-Anon	25 8:30 AM -Strong Bodies 5:00 PM -Bell Rehearsal	26 7:30 AM -Strong Bodies 5:00 PM -CPR Class 6:30 PM -Girl Scouts #4717	27 9:00 AM -Library Committee Meeting	28 5.00 PM - Worship Service
	30 8:30 AM -Strong Bodies 1:30 PM -5:30 PM Blood Drive	31 7:30 AM - Strong Bodies 8:00 AM -Men's Breakfast - Shawano's Cafe 9:00 AM -LWR Mission Quiling 7:00 PM -AA & AL-Anon				