

# Focus

Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Shawano, WI

July 2021



## Zion Walkers are hosting an American Cancer Society Fundraiser

**Saturday, July 31 at Zion Lutheran Church**  
9am–noon (rain or shine)

**Survivor Recognition, Neighborhood Walk,  
Basket Raffle, Food, Music, Fun, and More**

Questions? Call Kathy 715-854-2464 or Dolly 715-799-4029

Please make a donation to support *Relay for Life's* mission and raise money to help the American Cancer Society make an impact on fighting cancer. Make checks payable to the **American Cancer Society**.

Or cash or you may donate directly to our Relay efforts via website:  
<http://www.relayforlife.org/shawano-menomineeewi>  
then select team: Zion Walkers.

**Thank You So Much for Your Contribution!**



We thank Randy Steffen (left) and the other members of the Revised Edition Quartet for their musical gifts at the June 27 outdoor Park worship service!

**Annual ZLCW RUMMAGE SALE IS BACK!**

**Wednesday, Sept. 22 ~ 8am-7pm**

**Thursday, Sept. 23 ~ 8am-4pm**

**Friday, Sept. 24 ~ 8am-12noon**

**A few changes to this year's sale! Due to Covid-19 the focus will be only on BASIC FAMILY NEEDS.**

Basic household items including linens, towels, rugs, small furniture, clothing of all sizes, shoes and boots.

**Rummage donations may be brought to Zion's fellowship hall starting Monday, August 1st.**

*Last day of receiving donations  
Friday, Sept. 17th.*

**No electronics, toys, craft items, or seasonal decorations accepted!**

Please do not bring computers, monitors, TVs, fax machines, VCR players, radios, etc.

Direct questions to Donna Milbauer 715-851-5490 or Karen Childs 715-526-2445.



## Financial Stewardship Update

*2021 General Fund through May.*



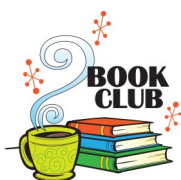
2021 Annual Budget	\$379,631
General Fund Balance Apr. 30	\$ 9,135
May Contributions	24,866
May Expenses	(25,448)
<b>General Fund Balance May 31</b>	<b>\$ 8,553</b>

The year began with a positive balance of just over \$14,000. We ended the first quarter at a positive balance of about \$7,500. May expenses exceeded contributions, but we are still on the positive side.

*Thank you Zion members  
for your support!*



*God's Work, Our Hands*



## Book Club's Current Read...

♦ July 14 book:

*To Kill a Mockingbird*  
by Harper Lee

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 or Sharon Erickson 715-524-4280.



*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!

## ZLCW News...



The Quilters are hard at work making quilts for LWR and have made nearly 200 quilts. To continue this mission, funds are needed to purchase sheets for backs, thread, fabric, and other supplies.

**You may contribute by writing a separate check to ZLCW, put "Quilters" on the memo line.**

*Thank you!*



## Happy Birthday



**Linda Burrack... 70 on July 11**  
212 S. Bartlet St., Shawano

**Marah Nelson... 75 on July 11**  
351 Channel Trace, Shawano

**Bob Steichen... 70 on July 21**  
N6402 Bahr Estates Dr, Cecil 54111

**Harold Burrack... 70 on July 22**  
212 S. Bartlet St., Shawano

**Mary Martin... 90 on July 25**  
1129 S Main St, Unit 36, Shawano

**Mary Ann Rudie... 85 on July 25**  
1429 Lincoln St, Shawano

*Happy birthday to 57 others in July!*

## Electronic Giving



Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account! Offering you convenience and much-needed consistency for our congregation.

An authorization form and a "Frequently Asked Questions" flyer are available at the Church Office or [www.shawanozion.org](http://www.shawanozion.org).

## Aluminum Can Collection Bin behind the garage!

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



## Shawano-Menominee Relay for Life Friday, July 30

from 6:00-9:00  
at the Shawano County Fairgrounds.

Please contact Kathy Beyer at 715-853-2464 or [www.relayforlife.org/shawano-menominee](http://www.relayforlife.org/shawano-menominee) to be one of our

Zion Walkers this summer!  
**Pre-registration required!**



## Summer Worship Schedule



- ~ Saturdays 5:00 pm at Zion
- ~ Sundays 8:00 am at Zion
- ~ Sundays 9:30 am at the Shawano County Park

*Worship Services at Jerusalem, Lunds*  
**Sundays at 11:00 a.m.**  
**July 11 ~ September 12**



## I'M DONE. I'M THROUGH. IT'S OVER.

We find in 1 Kings 19:1-21 the Prophet Elijah is running for his life, frightened, trying to hide from the fears that haunt him. Suddenly, in the thick of his escape attempt, "The word of the Lord came to [Elijah]!" Now if that's not enough to frighten someone, the question the Lord asks him should. God asks Elijah, "What are you doing?" Then God adds another word to that question, a word that should make Elijah break out into a cold sweat. God asks, "What are you doing HERE?" God asks that because

Elijah was running away in fear, trying to escape from King Ahab's wife, Jezebel. Elijah rebuts, "I've been faithful, but Your people haven't. I'm the only one left who still worships You. I'm done. I'm through. I quit." God says, "You're not done. I still have more for you to do. Now get moving; your playtime is over."

God's ways don't always make much sense to us, do they? His delight in working through weakness usually messes with our minds. For us, that just looks like one divine folly headed for another, one disappointment nipping at the heels of another. But God does His work in His own way. He delights in creating our salvation through the Word of the cross. God rescues us through the preaching of Christ crucified, which is His power and His wisdom. That's how God is saving those who believe--through what we would consider weakness and folly.

It's easy for us to see in hindsight how shortsighted Elijah was. But if we were there, we'd probably be doing the same thing--running in fear for our lives. We are just as shortsighted: Like Elijah, the fallenness of this world also frightens us. Like Elijah, we want God to amaze us all the time, like fireworks on the 4th of July. But that's not our God. He chooses if, when, and where He's going to have His fireworks. God's normal way is working through weakness.

If you recall some of Elijah's life, you know that God did some incredible stuff. First, Elijah saw God miraculously replace oil and flour at an elderly widow's house. Second, Elijah saw God raise her son from the dead--even using Elijah to do that! And third, Elijah saw the one, true God put that false-god Baal in his place. He saw the Lord overthrow the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel with a fire that "consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, the dust, and even the water that was in the trench" (18:38). And "when the people saw what had happened, they fell flat on their faces and cried out, 'The LORD is God! The LORD is God!'" (18:39).

The problem with fireworks and dazzle, however, is if the dazzle doesn't keep coming, your faith deflates. Look at Elijah. Elijah experienced all that. But what does he do after God puts Baal in his place? Elijah's gets intimidated. Despite God's in-your-face

demonstration of His power, as soon as that finishes, Elijah runs for his life from Jezebel.

Thank God that He also came to us in weakness. God came in the Person of Jesus, not as the supreme Creator to destroy us with "wind, earthquake, or an all-consuming fire." No, He came to save us. He came as a humble man, veiling His glory just as He did with Moses and Elijah. Jesus stood silently, not even whispering, before a judge and jury filled with creatures of His own creation. And then--not in power--but in seeming weakness, in seeming helplessness, He let those same sinful creatures kill Him. He did all this to extend His eternal saving grace to us in our helplessness, our weakness, all to forgive our sin, so we *could* live in His unveiled glory for all eternity.

We have even more for which to thank God. Today, even here and now, He still comes to us in weakness. God hides Himself in the water of holy baptism, forgiving sins and bringing people into his kingdom. God hides Himself in words of forgiveness, words He gives the pastor to speak, words He gives you to speak. Of course, we speak these words differently, in the places where God has put us to serve. God hides Himself in bread and wine, so that you can "taste and see that the LORD is good" (Psalm 34:8).

So, when you're fed up, discouraged, and ready to quit, when you whine and complain to God, "I'm done. I'm through. It's over," don't lose it when God says: "No you're not. It's not over until I say it's over. I will still come to you in my hidden and seemingly weak ways to strengthen you. So, keep coming to receive Me. Keep doing what I've given you to do--and leave the results to Me!"

God is saying, "Come, live with Me, and I'll show you. Don't be afraid. For I love you and you are mine. Keep doing the work I've given you to do, where you are now, where you live, and where you work. Don't make the mistake of thinking of what you are given to do is weak, useless, insignificant. Your work will do what I want it to do for my kingdom--and even in your life. You'll see. Now let's get going! We've got work to do"

In God's ministry,  
*Pastor Ludford*





## From Your Parish Nurse...

### 2021 Summer Safety

As COVID-19 vaccinations rates rise, many people look forward to returning summer activities. The reality is that the pandemic is far from over. While recent data shows that fully vaccinated people can begin to resume some normal activity, many people remain unvaccinated, and a vaccine for children younger than 12 has to be authorized for use. It is so important to keep public safety measures in mind when making summer plans.

According to the CDC's most recent travel guidelines say it is safe for fully vaccinated people to travel within the United States without testing or self-quarantining. Fully vaccinated individuals can resume activities without a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance. If you travel by planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation within, or out of the United States, you will be required to wear a mask.

If you plan to travel you can reduce your risk of covid-19 infection by choosing short road trips in a private vehicle with only members of immediate household or fully vaccinated people. Bring your own food for fewer stops along the way. If you are traveling by plane, try to take a flight with no layovers, and go straight to the gate. Avoid long-distance bus trips and cruises. If possible, choose a private rental home over hotels and motels. Consider visiting a fully vaccinated family or friend's home.

When deciding whether play dates are appropriate for your child, keep the total number of contacts your child has outside of your immediate household small. Keep play dates outdoors if possible. Encourage activities that require kids to move around and support physical distancing, such as bike rides with a friend.

Swimming in a backyard pool with siblings or a few close friends is safer than a large community pool. Sprinklers are another fun option for kids to cool off.

Summer camp is an important experience for many children. This summer, it may be particularly important because children have experienced a profound disruption in their social, developmental and educational experiences. When considering summer camp for your child keeps the CDC's guidelines in mind. In general, camps are less likely to pose significant risk of infection if they have small groups of campers that stay together throughout the day and over the course of the camper's experience. Encourage children to clean their hands frequently. Minimize the use of shared equipment and frequently clean equipment that must be shared. Avoid large group gatherings and field trips and hold activities including meals outside if possible. Follow the camp rules and regulations they will have in place. For more detailed information go to [www.chop.edu/news/health-tip/tips-safe-fun-summer-during-covid-19-pandemic](http://www.chop.edu/news/health-tip/tips-safe-fun-summer-during-covid-19-pandemic) and [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019),

PSALM 4:8 In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, O Lord, will keep me safe.

~ Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse

### SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 27

**The Health Ministry is hosting a blood drive with The Community Blood Center September 27 from 2:30 - 6:00PM.**



**The Blood Mobile will be parked by the East side of the church under the overhang.**

You can donate whole blood every 56 days between

donations. Platelet (apheresis) donors may donate more frequently (because the body replenishes platelets more quickly than red cells). When donating blood this summer consider keep within the 56 day rule and space your blood donations out to donate blood in September and support Zion Lutheran Church Blood Drive.

*The Health Ministry Committee thanks all of you for donating blood. Have a safe and fun summer.*



### Join Health Ministry Committee!

The mission of Health Ministry is "To share Christ with others through loving care, inspiration and encouragement" by working to promote wholeness of body, mind and spirit in the congregation and the community.

**Our committee meets the first Monday of each month at 12:00 pm via Zoom and in Rm 101.**

***Please note... our next meeting will be Monday, July 12***



**God's Work, Our Hands**



**Parish Nurse Office Hours**  
Mondays, Tuesdays,  
and Wednesdays  
8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

## Memorial Gifts June 1—June 28, 2021

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

### In Memory of Bob Voss:

- **Building Fund:** *West Entrance Project*  
by Sandra Rhode, Paulette Greene  
Doug & Christie Wegner, Lee Lemke  
Nancy & Rodney Jensen, Mary Teppo  
Jeff & Jenny Ballwahn, Ken Schoenick  
Charles & Judith Kesler  
Stephen & JoEllen Ham  
James & Judith St. Vincent  
Dennis & Nancy Schultz  
Al & Marge Wichmann  
Duane & Virginia Federwitz  
Russ & Nancy Wise  
Woody & Donna Davis  
Dixon & Jan Kuchenbecker  
Brian & Jenny Hanson  
Harlan & Mary Martin  
Staff at Jon Aumann—Edward Jones
- **General Fund**  
by Marlene Johnson
- **Endowment Fund**  
by Lorin & Winnie Preston
- **Health Ministry Fund**  
by Ginny & Dick Vraney  
Mike & Melody Boyd  
Ted & Mary Ann Rudie
- **Youth Fund**  
by Mike & Dorothy Eidahl  
Fred & Kathy Beyer, Diane Rugalski  
David & Vera McAow  
Richard & Barbara Ausick

### In Memory of Dale Konkell:

- **General Fund**  
by Mike & Dorothy Eidahl  
June Peters, Marcalene Rosenow
- **Church in Society Fund:** *Wee Care*  
by Ken & Bonnie Wolf



## 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.*

## Our Cupboard is bare! Fill the Cupboard



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

The cupboard 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 feed God's people!



**God's Work,  
Our Hands**



Our Goggle calendar is available via our website. You can always stay up-to-date!



In the third chapter of Philippians, the Apostle Paul uses the Greek word, dioko, (dee-o-ko, "to pursue") to describe the nature of his spiritual development. In the sixth verse, he

says that he pursued Christians in an effort to protect Judaism. In verse twelve, Paul says that he pursued Christ because he wanted to lay hold on the One who ultimately had a hold on him. Finally, in verse fourteen, Paul says that he was pursuing the goal of being successful in his ministry. Therefore, from the death of Stephen until his own death, Paul's experience with God can be accurately described as a series of pursuits.

Like Paul, we of Zion Lutheran Church also are "in pursuit"; we must:

- pursue new people for Christian witness and membership

- pursue more people for Christian service
- pursue the improvement of our facility and grounds
- pursue new goals for worship
- pursue a powerful, unique, essential, irreplaceable ministry in this community that extends beyond the walls of Zion.
- pursue a legacy that claims there are whole generations waiting to be touched by our mission

Your church needs you, no matter the size of your gift, to fulfill our ambitious mission as a faith community in the world. If you have not done so, please take the time today to make a pledge toward the financial support of the church. Our giving represents the primary funding for the ongoing operation of God's ministry through our congregation. Please do your best in giving of your resources and yourselves, as we engage in these pursuits.

~ Pastor Ludford

## We are Children of God in Pursuit!

## The Parish Records



### Baptism:

- † Andrew Lee Pludeman June 13, 2021  
Son of Danny Lee & Angela Kate Pludeman  
Sponsors: Brian A. Morlock and Lynette C. Timmers
- † Reagan Nicole Kubiak June 20, 2021  
Daughter of Kyle Anthony & Ashley Nicole Kubiak  
Sponsors: Heather M. Bartz and Wes R. Kubiak
- † Ellis Christian Gilling June 27, 2021  
Son of Aaron Christopher & Amanda Christine Gilling  
Sponsors: Chelsea & Justin Gilling and Sarah Stewart

### Deaths:

- † Robert Voss June 10, 2021  
Funeral service held at Zion June 16.
- † Dale L. Konkel June 18, 2021  
Funeral service held at Zion June 25.



### Members Transferred In:

- † Danny & Angela Pludeman by  
reaffirmation of faith.  
W4444 Cty. G, Black Creek 54106



### Members Transferred Out:

- † Roy & Lacey Wilson and children  
St. James LCMS, Shawano

CS Thank you! CS

Pastor Ludford and Staff,

Thank you for baptizing Andrew and being a part of his special day! We enjoyed the service—our parents did as well. Thank you and your staff for the generous gift items, all appreciated.

~ Angie & Danny Pludeman  
and Andrew

Dear Zion Friends,

Special thanks to Pastor Scott and Debbie Bernard for sharing their time with us on my 81st Birthday and our anniversary. Thank you all for the cards, letters, and gifts. They made the day more special than we thought possible. Thank you for your prayers that keep us lifted to the Lord.

~ Dennis Draper



**CROSSWAYS**  
CAMPING MINISTRIES

[www.crosswayscamps.org](http://www.crosswayscamps.org)

## Visit Zion's Library!

**A Love Transformed** by Tracie Peterson. When her husband dies suddenly, Clara Vesper is stunned. For years she designed the sapphire jewelry that made her husband's company a fortune, but she has little money in her own name and has inherited nothing. Fearing for the welfare of her two small children, she decides to take them to her aunt and uncle's ranch in Montana. But much has changed since she has visited the ranch, both for Clara and for those she was forced to leave behind. And when dangerous secrets from her late husband's past threatens everyone she loves, Clara must fight to remain where she can fulfill her destiny.

**The Lost City of the Monkey God** by Douglas Preston. For five hundred years, legends have told of an ancient, lost city hidden in the Honduran rainforest – a place so sacred that those who dared disturb it would fall ill and die. In 2012, Douglas Preston joined a team of scientists on their quest to find the White City, climbing aboard a rickety plane whose historic flight would change everything. Using a space-age technology that could map terrain under the densest jungle canopy, that flight revealed tantalizing evidence of not just a city but an entire lost civilization. But when the expedition finally reached the ruins, battling torrential rains and venomous snakes in the world's densest jungle, tragedy struck: Preston and others contracted a mysterious – and incurable – disease. This is a true, eyewitness account of one of the great discoveries of the twenty-first century – a story of ancient curses, modern technology, a vanished culture, and a stunning medical mystery.

**The Girl from the Train** by Irma Joubert. As WWII draws to a close, Jakob fights with the Polish resistance against forces of German and Russia. Spared from the concentration camp, the orphaned German Jew finds herself lost in a country hostile to her people. When Jakob discovers her, the young man and little girl form a bond over the secrets they must hide from his Catholic family. But she can't stay with him forever. Jakob sends Gretl to South Africa. Separated by continents, politics, religion, language, and years, Jakob and Gretl will likely never see each other again. But the events they have both survived and their belief that the human spirit can triumph over the ravages of war have formed a bond of love that no circumstances can overcome.



**Open during business hours weekdays and Sunday mornings.**





## Zion Endowment Fund Grant/Scholarship Applications available!

Forms are available in the church office or at [www.shawanozion.org](http://www.shawanozion.org). Click *Outreach*, then *Endowment Fund* for information and forms to apply for scholarships and grants.

**Return completed application to the church office  
by Wednesday, August 4,  
2021, 12:00 p.m.**

*Incomplete or late applications  
will be regarded as invalid.*

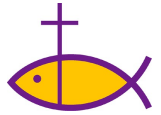
Zion Lutheran Church  
1254 S. Union St., Shawano WI 54166-3461

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

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### E-mail address:

Pastor Scott..... [sludford@msn.com](mailto:sludford@msn.com)

Debbie / Office ..... [zion@shawanozion.org](mailto:zion@shawanozion.org)

Jennifer Greiert..... [nurse@shawanozion.org](mailto:nurse@shawanozion.org)



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



**The Community Garden at Zion is growing  
beautifully! *I can almost taste the tomatoes!***



"I assure you Ms. Beasley, we are not about to be sucked up in a whirlwind like Elijah. Our custodian is just working to reverse and adjust the ceiling fan speed!"