

Focus

Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Shawano, WI

May 2021



Worship Schedule Change for Sunday, May 16

We have a change in how we are worshipping at Zion Lutheran Church on Sunday, May 16. Due to the ongoing pandemic precautions the East Central Synod of Wisconsin—of which we are a member— will be assembling for our Annual Synod Assembly virtually. Our synod consists of 126 congregations and 97,000 baptized members.


During the Synod Assembly there are three worship services that are a part of the two-day gathering. Zion was asked if we would host these worship services as we have one of the finest (*if not the finest*) ability to record and share worship by way of the internet of any congregation in the E.C.S.W. By the time you read this newsletter, two of those worship services have been pre-recorded and ready to be shared in the morning and evening of the Assembly.

That leaves one live worship service to be held on Sunday, May 16 at 10:30 AM in our sanctuary

there Pastor Asher O'Callaghan will be installed as the Assistant to the Bishop.

This creates a problem for us in that we normally worship at that time as a congregation and will not be able to be in the sanctuary during the synod's worship service. If you have family and friends outside of Shawano you already may know that there are many congregations who still are not worshipping person-to-person and certainly are not worshipping in their sanctuaries. For the sake of caring for our fellow sisters and brothers in Christ and their pastors we will change the way we worship that weekend.



 East-Central Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

We will have our regular worship service at 5:00 PM Saturday and live stream that service. Sunday morning we will have one worship service at 8:00 AM in the north parking lot as we did on Christmas Eve. If the weather is bad, if it is cold and rainy you are invited to come! We will have the FM radio station for you to stay in your vehicles and stay comfortable. Sunday school will follow this parking lot service and you will be able to return to your homes to view the Synod's worship service through Facebook.



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 30 ~ July 11 ~ September 12



SUMMER HOURS
for
CHURCH OFFICE

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

~~~~~  
Office Closed  
Friday, May 28 &  
Monday, May 31

## Financial Stewardship Update

2021 General Fund through March.



|                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2021 Annual Budget                  | \$379,631       |
| General Fund Balance Jan. 31        | \$ 7,936        |
| February Revenue                    | 23,369          |
| February Expenses                   | (28,209)        |
| March Revenue                       | 33,381          |
| March Expenses                      | (29,030)        |
| <b>General Fund Balance Mar. 31</b> | <b>\$ 7,447</b> |

The year began with a positive balance of just over \$14,000. We end the first quarter at a positive balance of about \$7,500. We have lost ground but remain with a positive balance which speaks well for our giving efforts. April is looking good and will keep us on that positive side.

*Thank you Zion members for your support!*

## These Zion Youth have participated in their First Communion this April:



|                 |                     |              |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Cooper Boucher  | Morgan Boucher      | Collin Olson |
| Peyten Boucher  | Erin Felhofer       | Blake Otto   |
| Kavion Franklin | Leah Hanson         | Callie Otto  |
| Ethan Heling    | Brooklyn WhiteHorse |              |

## Aluminum Can Collection Bin behind the garage!

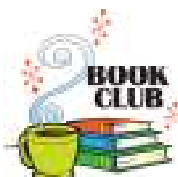


The Youth would appreciate your donations—which must be bagged—as a fund raiser.



**WOW! Three trips were needed to take the aluminum cans to Green Bay for recycling! Your donations earned \$457.20 for the Youth Fund! Thank you!!**

## Book Club's Current Read...



◆ **May 12 book:**  
*Midwives*  
by Chris Bohjalian.

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.

◆ **June 9 book:** *Butterfly Girls* by Rene Denfeld.

## Sunday School Ends May 16



✓ 3 year-old thru Kindergarten in Room B24.  
✓ Grades 1 thru 5 meet in the Fellowship Hall.



**May 26 is the last Confirmation Class this spring.**

## The Parish Records



### Deaths:

- † Patricia M. Raasch, March 9, 2021  
Funeral service held at Zion March 16.
- † Leah-Rae Seehafer, March 26, 2021 (non-member)  
Service held at funeral home on April 3.

### Baptism:

- † Emery Louise Delchambre March 21, 2021  
Daughter of Dominic W. & Natalie P.R. Delchambre  
Sponsors: David & Tabitha Schultz, Jennifer Tingle, and Jeramie Lefebber
- † Estelle Christine Holtz April 18, 2021  
Daughter of Caden J. & Chelsea A. Holtz  
Sponsors: Jordon Rusk and Jeremiah Rusk

### Members Transferred Out:

- † Howard & Roberta Buenting  
Gethsemane Lutheran, Mapelwood MN
- † Matt & Katie Frank and Jocelyn  
Christus Lutheran LCMC, Clintonville WI



Roberta Buenting  
1200 Lakewood Dr. N. #320  
Maplewood MN 55119  
Phone: 651-773-7320

*Happy Birthday*

**Carla Ebert... 70 on May 5**  
PO Box 66, Shawano

**Michael Sleeper... 70 on May 20**  
W7424 River Bend Circle, Shawano

**Joy Fritz... 50 on May 21**  
W8934 White Oak Lane, Shawano

**Guido Furloni... 80 on May 23**  
815 Oak Street, Shawano



*Happy birthday to 56 others in May!*



## “A Mother’s Day Message”

**Luke 2:41-52**

The Gospel writer, Luke shares the story where Jesus is left behind when the family had visited Jerusalem. Both Joseph and Mary thought Jesus was with the company of family members but not so. Mothers carry a special burden for their children. We call it a maternal instinct as a child I called it a sixth sense. Mothers seem to know intuitively when their children are in trouble or making trouble or are dealing with a trial be it emotional, academic, or spiritual. Moms just seem to know what we are thinking. Scary isn't it?

But in the above scripture passage we find that Mary is astonished at what she finds Jesus doing. I also find it interesting to see that it is Mary and not Joseph who is correcting Jesus for wandering off. Moms have a way of disciplining in love that really gets to our hearts; by the tone of voice, the look in her eyes, the hand gesture...all in love.

It is Jesus answer to Mary’s question that causes Mary to realize her little boy is indeed that special little boy that God promised He would be. She explains how anxious they all were as they looked for the missing Jesus. Jesus in reply told her plainly in Luke 2:49: *“He [Jesus] said to them, “Why are you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”*

How many mothers are like Mary? How many mothers would gladly trade their concern for a child that they think is lost for the peace of knowing that their child has found their place with their Heavenly Father? Is this not one of the greatest accomplishments of a mother to lovingly care and raise their child to know the Lord?

That assurance is a better reward than any lead role in an elementary school play or sports trophy they could win. That blessing is better than any academic achievement or scholarship that they could earn. Such salvation is even better than seeing your child marry that special someone in their lives. Did I take it too far? You get the point.

For a mother to see her child come to the saving knowledge of the Lord has to be a special treasure just as Mary treasured the truth of who Jesus was. I realize it is not easy to dress a three year old boy or girl and to brush their hair and keep them clean until they make it into the church door.



I realize that you mothers do much, pretty much all of these unseen tasks as you ready your children and family for church and other special moments of celebration. You want to display your children and family in the

best possible light because you love them and want others to see why that is so.



Despite your great love and example to your children they do not always follow you. There are times when children will wander off into the world around them and seem to get lost in it. They begin to exercise their free will. How it must break a mother's heart to see that precious child wander so far away from the godly things that she had hoped they would take hold of. The weight of the burden of prayer placed on a mother's heart is so great that at times it must seem as if it can never be lifted. But a child that is lost is never out of a mother's reach when she prays. And that child is lifted before the throne of grace by that Mother’s love.

This Mother's Day let us remember all the nurturing, nursing, mending of our clothes and hearts that mothers undertake. Let us remember the ministry that motherhood is and truly show our appreciation for their role in our lives and the lives of our children. Our Heavenly Father has uniquely equipped the Mother's heart for her role. You may not receive the thanks or praise that is due you here on earth for all you sacrifice and for all you give in order to be a mother but one day you will celebrate Mother's Day in heaven and you will know that it has all been worth it.

Until that day arrives continue to be a living example of Jesus Christ to your children and your family. Radiate the love of God from your heart and your lips. Be like the mothers of the bible who trusted God with the lives of their children while continuing to pray for them. Know that your child is never truly lost to you as long as you are given over to prayer for them.

Our God reaches from heaven to earth in order to give you children. Touch the children with your gentle love and care until God calls them back to Himself. Mothers, treasure in your heart the million special moments that being a mother is all about. Our Heavenly Father has identified you as a mother, be a godly mother and your children will follow your example. – Amen.

In God’s ministry,  
*Pastor Ludford*



## Memorial Gifts March 1—April 25, 2021

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

### Health Ministry Fund

By: Joni Shebuski  
in memory of Sharon Erickson’s brother

### Music Fund

By: Sharon Erickson  
in memory of her brother, Steve Skalet  
By: Helen Kaurala  
in memory of Harvey Stubenvoll

### In Memory of Diane Rugalski’s Uncle Ted Frank:

- **Library Fund**  
by Joni Shebuski, Helen Kaurala
- **Youth Fund**  
by Mike & Dorothy Eidahl  
Karen Childs

### In Memory of Carey Grieves father, Robert Bubolz:

- **Education**  
by Karen Childs
- **General Fund**  
by Renee & Steve Elertson
- **Health Ministry Fund:**  
by Bob & Dolly Burdick
- **Music Fund**  
by Dawn Brock
- **Youth Fund:**  
by Al & Marge Wichmann  
Dejon Polzin, Kathy & Fred Beyer



### In Memory of Debra Ludford’s mother, Nancy Davidson:

- **Building Fund**  
by Sandra Rhode
- **Education Fund**  
by JoAnne Horn
- **Library Fund**  
by Marcy Rosenow
- **Music Fund**  
by Dawn Brock
- **Worship Appointments Fund**  
by Karen Childs
- **Youth Fund:**  
by Al & Marge Wichmann  
Marlene Johnson

### In Memory of Al Wichmann’s mother, Gladys Wichmann:

- **Church in Society Fund:** *Wee Care*  
by Bonnie & Ken Wolf
- **General Fund:**  
by Ted & Mary Ann Rudie
- **Health Ministry Fund:**  
by Ginny Vraney, Joni Shebuski  
Fred & Kathy Beyer
- **Music Fund:**  
by Dawn Brock, Jill & Sam Sousek  
Harlan & Mary Martin
- **Sound & Video Fund:**  
by Christie & Doug Wegner  
Bruce & Linda Beyer
- **Worship Appointments Fund**  
by Mike & Dorothy Eidahl  
Karen Childs, Diane Rugalski

## ☪☪ Thank you! ☪☪

Dear Zion,

Thank you everyone for the prayers, cards, and food that was shared with Debra and I during my knee replacement recovery and her mother’s death. Your kindness and understanding was a tremendous help in a very challenging time. I would also like to thank everyone who filled in for me at church and kept the ministries of our congregation going in my absence. The healing of the knee has gone extremely well and I’m very pleased to have lost the pre-surgery pain that had become debilitating.

~ Pastor Ludford

Dear Zion,

Thanks for all the prayers. Now that I am on hospice I would still appreciate your prayers—for my wife, Susan, and family also! Thank you to Scott Glysch for bringing us communion and support.

~ Dennis Draper

## Our Cupboard is bare! Fill the 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, and peanut butter.

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



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.

## From Your Parish Nurse...

### 2021 Stress Awareness

Stress is your body's way of responding to any kind of demand or threat. When you sense danger, whether it's real or imagined, the body's defenses kick into high gear in a rapid, automatic process known as the "fight or flight reaction or the "stress response."

The American institute of Stress reports that 83% of U.S. workers suffer from job-related stress.

Workplace stress leads to one million employees missing work every day, and it results in \$190 billion in healthcare costs annually. Most employees report their main stressors at work include having too heavy of a workload, juggling a work/life balance or worrying about job security.

Adding to the normal daily stressors, the recent coronavirus pandemic has turned the lives of millions of Americans upside down. Many people feel unsettled, anxious and even fearful during these uncertain times. Additionally, so many individuals are dealing with a new way of life, such as working from home, helping kids with schoolwork, and adhering to social distancing rules, as well as constantly worrying about the health of their family and friends.

No matter the situation, whether it's due to the workplace, COVID-19 or other sources, stress can have a negative effect on our lives. High levels of stress are linked to high blood pressure, heart disease and even a weakened immune system. Chronic stress can cause musculoskeletal disorders, as muscle tension is a common reaction to stress. Stress can also negatively affect the respiratory, gastrointestinal and nervous systems.

Stress can cause the following: Feelings of fear, anger, sadness, worry, depressed, and frustration. Changes in appetite, energy, desires, and interests. Difficulty concentrating and making decisions. Difficulty sleeping or nightmares. Increased use of tobacco, alcohol, and other substances. Stress can cause socially with-

drawing from friends and loved one or activities you once enjoyed.

Stress management techniques for the coronavirus pandemic and beyond according to the Center for Disease are to establish a healthy routine. Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including those on social media. Take care of your body: Take deep breaths, stretch or meditate. Try to eat healthy, well balanced meals and exercise regularly. Make sleep a priority. Stress levels increase when you're not sleeping well. Take time to wind down every evening by creating a nighttime routine. Connect with others: The social distancing rules put in place can make it challenging to see coworkers, friends and love ones, but you can keep in touch by calling on your phone, text, FaceTime or video chats can help you and your loved ones feel less lonely or isolated.

Try something new like learning a new skill or hobby. Staying focused on a challenge, like cooking a meal you've never made before, trying your hand at painting or practicing a foreign language can keep your mind off the stressors for a while.

Take a few moments to breath. It is vital to take a break and simply just breathe. Allow yourself time to disconnect from new sources or your workload every once in a while. Stress relief techniques like meditating, deep breathing exercises or yoga can be highly beneficial in allowing you to let go of some of the anxiety and tension in your life.

If you are struggling to cope, call your healthcare provider if stress gets in the way of your daily activities for several days in a row. This information can be found in [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019) and <https://amtrustfinancial.com/blog/small-business/stress-awareness-month>.

Mathew 6:34 "So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today."

~ Jennifer Greiert, Parish Nurse



### 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, May 12 due to schedule changes.**



**God's Work, Our Hands**



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



On March 21 Ann Steffen presented Rev. Phil Bogen with a Thank-You gift basket from Zion! We thank Rev. Bogen for filling in for us during Pastor Ludford's recovery.

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

***Zion's Quilters would like to thank***  
**all those who have brought in sheets, blankets,**  
**and fabric to be used making quilts for Lutheran**  
**World Relief (LWR). We especially remember**  
**Lois Kruse, who for many years purchased**  
**batting for the middle of our quilts. Thank you**  
**everyone for supporting this important mission.**

There is still a need for large pieces of fabric, twin flat sheets in dark colors (no twin fitted sheets please); queen flat and/or fitted sheets, also dark colors. When you are cleaning out closets or replacing sheets, think of the needs of the quilters. Please no fleece! This is because of the particles from the fleece that get in the water.

If you have any questions, call Karen Childs at 715-526-2445 or Dorothy Eidahl at 715-526-2650. If you would like to help in this mission, we meet Tuesday mornings from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. You do NOT need to know how to sew! We have five stations where quilts are layered. Two ladies work at one station layering the quilts, pinning the sides, and tying the quilt. The quilt then is taken to the two tables where two ladies sew the edges. We all wear masks! At this time, we do not have coffee or snacks but we do take a break about 15 minutes. We'd love to have you join us!

**Some of the Quilters are still meeting every Tuesday through the last Tuesday in June! Join us if you can!**



*Happy Mother's Day*



*Our Church's Graduates*

Matthew Bohm  
Emily Heling  
Lance Huebner  
Kendra Kristof  
John Rhode  
Zachariah Rusch  
Calvin Schultz  
Morgan Weinig

**Congratulations!**