



Looking Up | Reaching Out

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# **Harbinger**

**October 2022**  
**Volume 154 Number 10**

[Page 2](#)  
**What Do Lutherans  
Believe?**

[Page 3](#)  
**Catechism Review**

[Page 4](#)  
**Worship Help**

[Page 5](#)  
**Youth News**

[Page 6](#)  
**Family Life**

[Page 7](#)  
**Campus Ministry**

[Page 9](#)  
**Book Review**

A newspaper printed a provocative headline stating a plaque at the U.S. Military Academy having a hooded member of the K.K.K. In reality, the image is only 3x4 inches in size, on the bottom of one of three large bronze panels, which are each 11 feet high and 5 feet wide. The panels depict many events that shaped American history. This small image is part of the painful reality of a broken world, and a fact of our history, which includes the best and worst of who we are. Anyone who didn't read the full story or see these panels first hand, would make incorrect assumptions about West Point. How often have we made assumptions based on misleading words or incomplete information? A partial truth can only lead to mistaken and disturbing reactions. When we are so trusting of a source, we can't consider any agenda or motives behind what is shared. We see this daily in advertising, political ads, internet tweets and posts, or gossip that is embellished as it passes from person to person. As children of God, our call is to filter life through the gift of God's grace, rather than fanning the flames or stirring the pot. That was the point of Genesis, as a serpent shared half truths which led Adam and Eve to decisions from which they couldn't recover. One law from Sinai is simply, "You shall not bear false witness." There is a danger in truth that is not complete and lies that are meant to deceive. Such efforts bring devastating consequences often introducing pain, distress, and hardship into innocent lives. There is a reason Jesus spent so much teaching about love and forgiveness rather than seeking only to hurt or destroy anytime we feel we have been harmed. How often do we casually accept as "gospel truth" much that has nothing to do with the Gospel, or with complete truth. We can do better! Be careful what you say. Be careful with what you hear. Gossip and half truths are tempting, but always leave a bitter aftertaste. Appearances can be deceiving, and a false witness brings nothing but pain. Life is difficult enough, why ever go out of our way to make it even more so? With Christ, there is always a better way! Pastor Seeber

## What Do Lutherans Believe? Part 1

### (The Biblical plan: Creation and Recreation)

Genesis 1.1 – 2.4 is a beautiful hymn of praise sharing God's purpose that was perfect in all ways. Genesis shows the infinite love God revealed in the beautiful plan of creation. It reveals the purpose, plan, and relationship of all that is. From the connections of moon to tides or seasons to planting and harvesting, all are part of God's plan that was perfect!

Genesis 1:27 brings people into the mix as the culmination of that plan announcing that we are created "in image of God." This confuses some, as God is beyond the shapes, sizes, and limitations of people. But the point is for us to understand we are created to mirror God's attributes of love, light, joy, grace, and peace. This was intended to come through the harmony of being one with God and every other gift of creation. Yet, as we witness the brokenness and limitations all around, we wonder what went wrong and

Genesis 2 and 3 begin the story of how people have sought instead to shape and mold God's perfect creation into something different. Rather than mirroring God, or living in his image, sin is the code word that speaks of how the gift of free will (the ability to think and make decisions) was shifted by a dark and devilish voice into a different approach to life in God's creation. Instead of mirroring God mankind (male and female alike) keep listening to a selfish voice (like the serpent in the garden) that insists we can shape and mold creation to meet our desires and needs.

Rather than mirroring God, we have set out to limit God to our needs and create images of God that we are more comfortable with and can control, as we take the perfect gifts of creation, reshaping and remolding them for self serving and self satisfying purposes rather than using them to proclaim the glory of God and share his love in all that we do.

The account of the first parents failing to live in God's image mirrors precisely what happens in each of our lives and in the world today. Unfortunately the goodness of a creation God intended has been filled with famine, wars, selfishness, and death.

What follows in succeeding chapters and books of the Bible are accounts to further illustrate the brokenness of God's perfect creation. Adam and Eve's actions brought them into a world full of blood, sweat, and tears. The next generation introduced murder, and from then on the power of sin only grew and grew to the point of total destruction in a flood that announced we can no longer see what God called paradise.

After creation, God rested as nothing more was needed. But our failures to reflect the perfect love of God resulted in his decision to come back into creation in a different way. The remainder of Holy Scripture is the story of God's efforts to reintroduce Himself to a sinful world, and lead his children back to his call for us to live in his image.

The Old Testament shares a close up of God's renewal efforts through a family led by Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and how God set out to restore his plan through laws at Sinai, the message of the prophets, and finally in the most perfect way of all in Jesus!

The Gospel of John chapter 1 makes this clear and is a repeat of Genesis 1. Instead of God saying a word like "light" and having light enter into creation, he chose to reveal his word in flesh and blood, in the person of Jesus. The New Testament is the renewal of what was lost as God-in-the-flesh reveals the perfect life of servant love he calls us to embrace. In the crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God conquers what we cannot, that we can live with the forgiving and freeing love as we set out to live in his image. That is the background for those who call themselves by the name of Christ.

## CATECHISM REVIEW 10 Commandments

### What Do They Mean? Part 2

The commandments are part of a covenant between God and his people; like the terms of a peace treaty between nations. Because God is God, this is how people who accept Him as Lord really live.

The purpose of "Law" was to show how God "ordered" life. How we live shows our loving response to God. How we love God is shown in how we love those around us. So there was a two fold purpose: worship and witness. Love for God and neighbor are the new sacrifice, and a proclamation to the world of God's purpose and plan for his creation.

The last set of commandments (after our love for God) all have to do with our love for those around us. So, aren't the meanings obvious?

**Do not murder!** Because God is the Creator of life and life is God's gift, this command reminds us that life is not something we should take lightly. All life is precious and not something we should decide to end out of anger or any other reason. In Matthew, as Jesus was explaining how much deeper the meaning was he said that anger directed at a brother, insults, or verbal assaults were the same as murder! (See Matthew 5:21-22.) Jesus' point is that you kill and destroy life in many ways — and it can mean more than just by shedding blood or ending someone's breathing. If life is to be safeguarded, even our words and thoughts are part of that process. This command is about respecting life and realizing how precious a gift God breathes into each body that is alive. Each is a child of God and that should change how we treat and respect and honor God's work.

**Do not commit adultery!** While that too seems quite obvious, Jesus (Matt. 5:28) says there is more to this than just sleeping with someone's spouse. Just like the words about murder, Jesus' point is that sexuality is created

for a reason, and the honor and respect of each of God's gifts of creation is all about not doing anything to destroy the most intimate relationships of all. And so, adultery becomes any thought, desire, or distraction where someone becomes a "thing to conquer, steal, or abuse." (Remember all selfish interest is one that makes "me" more important than someone else, or God!)

Of course **Do not steal!** means not taking something that isn't yours. Luther taught it also means protecting a neighbor's property. While "don't steal" is worded negatively, it is intended to produce a positive action. And so not stealing means making sure that the property of someone else is respected and kept safe. (Which, for instance, is what copyright and plagiarism is all about.)

**Do not lie about your neighbor!** (giving a false witness or testimony.) That too is another way of protecting life by not harming or allowing a reputation to be destroyed. (How different politics would be if opponents didn't "trash talk," but simply were honest about their vision for the future. We usually don't think about this commandment in terms of not "murdering" but isn't slander another way to destroy life? And so, we begin to get the idea that all these commandments are really the same one, just phrased in different terms.

**Do not covet your neighbors property or family!** By this point, we get it. Each life is sacred. Each person's reputation, body, possessions, and family are gifts of God to be used in ways that show our love to God and those around us. If we believe that God has made me, and gifted me according to his purpose and plan, why would I not be content with who I am? Why would I even think of wanting someone else's stuff?

Here is the summary, in Matthew 5:14 Jesus said, "you are the Light of the world." That summarizes all commandments ... You are to reveal God's love and God's love, through you, is to draw the world to God. (Get it?)

## **Worship Help for Parents and Children**

While we always are looking for something new, our liturgy always brings familiar patterns that are a continued blessing to the Church everywhere. This month we focus on: “**Prayers and Hymns**”

### For Dads and Moms and other adults:

Prayers are a special connection with God. Prayer is literally a “surrender” to God. The **Prayer of the Day** is based on the readings for each Sunday, and introduces us to the theme of each time of worship. The **Prayer of the Church** literally us with Christians everywhere in sharing joys and sorrows with God. This is our response to the Sermon, reminding us that God listens and cares about all of our needs. The **Offering Prayer** is said as a blessing of the gifts we offer to God, and prepares for God’s healing touch in His gifts of bread and wine. The **Lord’s Prayer** is Jesus’ gift to teach us how to pray. By saying the same words He did, we are tied closely to his love! It is not a magic prayer but one of the oldest of all prayers.

**Silent Prayer** is always a personal time for you to open your hearts, and join in communion with the God who loves you so much. In the front of the hymnal, you can find the Prayer of the Day AND individual prayers for special needs, situations, or times when you need guidance in “how” to pray.

**Hymns** are prayers set to music! An index in the back of the hymnal lists them by themes as well as title or tune. Hymns allow us to express the emotions of faith, and teach us about faith, as many texts are mini-sermons based on scripture. Be bold in your praying and your singing, as these are gifts that connect you with God and God with you! Hymns are chosen to fit the seasons of the church year or the theme of worship.

The **Opening Hymn** is usually a hymn of praise or celebration. The **Sermon Hymn** is based on the message for the day. All **Hymns** offer a chance to reflect. The **Closing Hymn** is the “tune we carry” into daily ministry.

### For Parents with younger children:

Think about what children sing! Whether nursery rhymes or made up songs, they allow a chance for expression. They are a teaching tool to learn patterns and remember words. They are a familiar place in which our kids are secure (because they have “been there before.”) The more children sing a song, the easier time they will have in remembering it, because of the melody that carries those words. (How else did we ever learn the alphabet?) Hymns and prayers teach the “alphabet of grace!” Let the children sing!

These words imprint a message in our hearts, and the music flavors how we live. Prayers and hymns help kids to touch and be touched by God. When your children are happy or sad they sing different songs. Help them to identify happy and sad songs in worship. (Why is Christmas a happy day, and why is Ash Wednesday a sad day?) Kids instinctively can tell by the feel of the music what the mood of the day is — just as you can tell by their songs what kind of day they had in school. The more familiar hymns become, the more comfortable they will be in faith. Singing is just as much about teaching as it is expression. If you sing, they will sing. If you sit quietly, they will be quiet.

Set an example in how and when you pray and sing. Why not buy a hymnal to keep at home? Read a hymn text as a prayer, or sing a prayer just for fun! What a gift this can be to your children. Too easily we are tempted to gravitate to songs with catchy tunes, but the words are what carry the message!

Our prayers and hymns in worship are teaching tools to help your children as they live in the world. These are gifts that will carry them through life and help them to remember they are never alone. And remember, if hymns and prayers are full of love and faith, you can never be “off key.” What a gift this can be for our kids!

# Youth News

## **High School:**

### Bible Study

We continue Sunday mornings at 9:15am with our Forgiveness Challenge. After that we will begin “Darkroom Faith,” a study about questions and the truth.

### Costume Wars

October 23rd in between services we will be dressed up as Bible-themes to raise money for our summer servant event!

## **Middle School:**

### Confirmation Class

Wednesday Classes from  
6:15-7:30pm

Sunday Classes from  
9:15-10:15am

## Echoes

*God IS at work through people in our congregation...here is their story:*

Zion has been blessed with a great kitchen and an even greater kitchen crew. During the school year, every Wednesday this crew puts out a dinner. Whether the job is cooking, prepping, setting tables, or clean up, the kitchen crew does each task with a joyful heart and attitude of dutiful service. And it doesn't stop at Wednesday's! The church picnic, confirmation banquet, special events, and Advent/Lent dinners are all hosted by this amazing group, who is always more than willing to help.

How is this God at Work? Well...think of the mom who gets home from work at 5pm, gets the kids all settled after school, sends one off to a practice and another to rehearsal but doesn't have time to cook that night. Or think of the 80 year old husband who just lost his wife a few months ago and is feeling particularly alone recently. Or think of the new friendships and community building that is happening at each table.

Thanks to the dinner being completely taken care of, all of the above scenarios can happen without a second thought. Great job kitchen crew and thanks for showing God's love to others!

# Family Life

## FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

### Family Events

**Watch for information on Operation Christmas Child. We will once again be packing shoeboxes to send to those in need.**

**Sunday School will continue with a theme of “Celebration.” If you haven’t received your Sunday (at home) School packet, please let Aaron know!**

### **RIGHTNOW MEDIA**

As a follow-up to last month’s article...

RightNow Media is a fantastic resource full of Bible Studies, Bible-themed kids shows, and many other tools for spiritual growth. Thanks to an endowment grant YOU get to receive access to all this for free!

This subscription can be shared with friends and family too! You can sign up online through our website OR scan the QR code below. This app can be downloaded on any mobile device or tablet and also Roku, Firestick, or Apple TV.

Once you sign up you will go to a “Zion” page which has some suggested Bible Studies to get started as well as last year’s “Walk Through the Bible” with Pastor Tim.

Stay up to date on our page as more videos and lessons of our own content will be added, and keep exploring subjects that interest you.

If you have any questions or need help with access, please talk to Aaron!



## SPECIAL MESSAGES

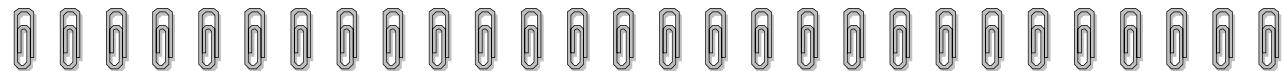
### ART IN BLENDS

October and November will feature the work of artist and Zion member, Cindy Krill. In her Vicksburg studio she creates visual art in watercolor, photography and pottery.

To help us invigorate Blends programming, Cindy will be in the gallery space to share about her work, the processes she uses and the inspirher work as a Christian artist. Grab a cup of coffee and join in this opportunity to visit with Cindy on **Sunday, October 2 between 9 and 10.**



Thank you, Zion, for your generous donations of school supplies for Community In Schools Kalamazoo. We delivered a truck load to and the people at CISK were simply delighted and said, "Perfect timing, as they were hearing of the needs of the children." They serve children from elementary to high school are smiling because of your desire to reach out with Jesus' love!!! CISK remembered our generosity from last year and were very appreciative we were again helping them. Thank you for your faithfulness in making this school collection project a success...**Jayne Mayer**



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

As we return to more church activities, volunteers are needed and greatly appreciated. Lectors, Communion Assistants, Greeters, Sound Board, Ushers, Altar Guild, Choir, Musicians help enrich our moments together. If you are interested in serving in any of these roles, please email: [zion@zionkazoo.org](mailto:zion@zionkazoo.org) or call the Office at 382-2360.



## GRATEFUL HEARTS / THANKFUL HANDS

Fall is in the air, and that means our annual bazaar will be here soon! Be sure and mark your calendar for November 19th!

You will notice a display table in the main hallway with a few of the crafts we have received. As the weeks go by, more will be added. We hope to see your contributions soon. Again, all donated items can be placed the the designated spot in the workroom.

In the next few weeks a sign up sheet will be placed on the kiosk as you enter church. Please prayerfully consider helping out. You can work an hour or two or all day. It is a fun experience!

We are still hoping more attic treasures come in. We have received many cookbooks so for now only NOVELS are needed.

We have a few canning jars left if you are in need of them.

Please help us make this our best bazaar ever! Call Jayne Mayer with any questions ~ 375-8342.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE  
SUCCESS OF OUR  
BAZAAR.**



If you're looking for a spiritual growth opportunity in the context of Christian community, we encourage you to join up with a small group Bible Study. NEW this year we are going to offer short-term "clusters" which is a version of a small group that only meets for 4-6 sessions. The facilitators, topics, and times will fluctuate throughout the year. Our first one...

## BIBLE JOURNALING—SMALL GROUP

**Begins October 5th 6:15—7:30 Rm 306B**



Bible Journaling is not just coloring. It's a time to read, reflect, and connect God's word to your present life. This is a directed, stress relieving activity; a quiet time with God.

Readings for each meeting will coincide with the Gospel reading for the week.

All supplies will be provided.

Dates:	Reading:
Oct 5th	Luke 17:1-10
Oct 12th	Luke 17:11-19
Oct 19th	Luke 18:1-8
Oct 26th	Luke 18:9-17

**Book Review.** Silence and Beauty. Makoto Fujimura. IVP. 2016,

Fujimura is a renowned artist. His parents are Japanese descent. He was born in Boston and soon after the family moved to Japan where he lived as a child, moving back to the U.S. when he was 13. After college, he returned to Japan to study in a prestigious art school specializing in traditional Japanese art which had never accepted a non-Japanese student since its beginnings in the 1500's.

A previous book of his, "Art and Faith" uses the artist's eye to bring to convert the imagery of faith into words. This book deals with his fascination of the book "Silence" by Shusaku Endo, later made into a movie by Martin Scorsese. "Silence" is a novel of historical fiction, dealing with the persecution of Christians in Japan in the 1600's. It is an incredible novel with outstanding reviews.

Martin Scorsese was so fascinated by "Silence" he bought the rights and waited thirty years to make the movie. When he read "Silence and Beauty" he shared the following comments: "Makoto Fujimura is a remarkable artist and writer, and his engagement with the writings of the great Shusaku Endo — and Silence in particular — is deep and impassioned, as you will discover on every page of this book. By way of response to a great artist, Fujimura has created a quietly eloquent meditation on art and faith, and where they converge."

After Catholic missionaries started coming to Japan, there were at one time over 300,000 Christians in a land of Buddhism and Shintoism. Although quite a minority, they were seen as a threat and the movement to drive out Christianity, under threat of death, is what the book Silence was all about.

Fujimura's references to Silence make this a wonderful explanation of the book, but it is so much more. It is a springboard to discussions

about faith, persecution, and what we would do if we are forced to deny our own beliefs under the threat of persecution. In many ways that is not as farfetched as it once might have seemed.

For an artist to use words as well as he is able to utilize paint as a mode of expression is a rare find. Throughout his book which combines references to "Silence," his own journey of art and faith, and how art brought Endo (the author of "Silence") to faith is an interesting blend of different pathways to and from God. And the insights and witness of someone so versed in another culture is helpful to our own spiritual growth.

Japan, like China, uses ideograms (symbols) rather than words to write their language. Here is a sample of how he explains theology by the use of such symbols:

"The Japanese word for beauty is composed of two Chinese ideograms: [the symbol for] 'sheep' on top and [the symbol for] 'great' on the bottom. One of the paradoxes of Japanese culture is its focus on an overlap of sacrifice with natural beauty: decay with permanence, death with life. This aesthetic link between beauty and sacrifice may be one reason that the Japanese could plumb the Christian gospel's narrative of sacrifice and redemption, even very early in their history." [p. 65]

Because sacrifice was so important to the Japanese culture, the idea of such a powerful sacrifice being connected to the idea of beauty gives a sense of why the sacrifice of Jesus became such a powerful draw to the people of Japan.

My words cannot do justice to the gift of this man's writing about his journey of faith, through art, and the work of another artist named Endo. Read "Silence" by Endo, and then read this book as well. It is a journey worth taking!

Pastor Seeber



# October BIRTHDAYS

- 10/1 Erin Shiltz
- 10/2 Olivia Leitz, Terry Nelson
- 10/3 Sarah Skuratowicz, Ryan Tomer,  
Lindsay VanderVeen
- 10/4 Vicki Gilbert
- 10/5 Vickie Asaro
- 10/6 Melody Couch, Kathleen Frank ,  
Matthew Mayer, Andrew Niedbala,  
Karleton Woodford
- 10/7 Shirley Ponte, Melissa VanderMeeden
- 10/8 Andrew Bickel
- 10/9 Judith Finnegan, Evangeline Grube
- 10/10 Siarha Tangeman
- 10/11 Kelly Bowes
- 10/12 Vanessa Burnard, Aiden Gogan
- 10/13 Denise O'Brien, Liz Powell
- 10/14 Jennifer LaPorte
- 10/15 David Hampshire
- 10/16 Linda Mayer, Mark Schoonbeck
- 10/17 John DuBois, Alexander Kiessling,  
Chuck Wendling
- 10/18 Barb Nutsch, Barbara Phillips,  
Monica Slesinski
- 10/19 Charlotte Green, Erin Harding,  
Julie Ream, Amy Wilkins
- 10/21 Cameron Brege, Kaleb Fill, Lisa Frazier,  
Joey Rehkopf
- 10/23 Jennifer Squiers, Chris Wilkins,  
Thomas VandenBerg
- 10/24 Neloise Vliestra
- 10/25 Peter Fager, Mark Hampshire,  
Stephen Kiefer
- 10/26 Landon Ewers, Lori Doorlag,  
Adam Hay
- 10/27 Max Geib, Linda Stieve, Kenneth Toy
- 10/28 James Mayer
- 10/29 Julie Woods
- 10/30 David Borak,

## Elsie Autry Memorial Service At Zion

Friday, October 21st  
10:00a Visitation; 11:00a Service  
Luncheon to Follow



## Zion Women's Book Group

Zion Women's Book Group is Back!

We met in September to select the books for the calendar year. The group will meet at **2:00pm on the 3rd Tuesday** of each month. Upcoming books to discuss:

Oct 18th - "Before We Were Yours" -

By Lisa Wingate

Nov 15th—"A Woman of No Importance"

By Sonia Purnell

We are thrilled to have the Book Group back and welcome previous members back along with hopes others will come grow with us.

## KALAMAZOO LOAVES & FISHES

The wish list item for **October is Soups & Stews.** Please place donations in the gray tubs under the Office windows. Thank you!



# Costume Wars... Season 10

**Join us for year ten of our High School Costume Wars! Support the youth as they start fundraising for the summer servant event. As in past years we are asking you to bring spare change and paper money to donate/vote for your favorite costume! This year you'll also be able to donate online! We hope you'll support us and interact with the students as they dress in Bible themes on Sunday, October 23rd in between services. If you cannot be here but would like to donate, check out our online giving and select "Youth." Thanks!**



**Need a break? Want some support? Do you miss community?**

Come on over for a relaxing morning, conversation, playtime, and of course coffee and treats!

We are a group of moms, dads, grandparents, or any caregivers of newborns through five year-olds (and siblings!) to find some support, socialize, and just have some fun opportunities you might not regularly have.

Join us October 4th and 18th for some fun!

Stop on over anytime between 9am-11am.

Program typically begins at 9:30am.

You can register at <https://forms.gle/waYucZyeArtSVK5A8> or



or just stop on over!

Zion Lutheran Church is located at 2122 Bronson Blvd in Kalamazoo



Zion Lutheran Church  
Board of Directors Meeting  
August 15, 2022

*We aspire to be a welcoming and growing community in Christ, providing daily opportunities to live, learn, and share His love.*

At the August Board of Directors Meeting, the following were discussed and acted upon:

**Continuing Business:**

**Call Committee Update:** The Committee will meet tomorrow to discuss list received from District and next steps. The process was reviewed, the delay over the summer while waiting list from the District, and the communication path between the Call Committee and the Board of Directors.

**New Business:**

**Communion and Worship Service Practices:** Pastor Tim sent a letter to the congregation members regarding the return to more normal or traditional liturgy Communion practices in September. With this return, more Communion Assistants, Musicians, and Cantors are needed. Safety protocols will remain and use of individual cups. Contact Pastor Tim and/or Marta to assist.

**DCE Intern/Staffing Discussion:** Aaron shared the recent history filling the position of Preschool Director. The Board discussed staffing needs and how they may be best addressed. The top three needs from the most recent study were seen as Music, Children's Ministry, and Preschool. There was discussion of how to best address these needs with staff - called or hired, how the vision of the new Pastor might impact any decisions, and the impact on the budget. It was felt that Children's Ministry and Music are the greater needs. Aaron will meet with Don to work on job descriptions for two options: Children's Ministry/Preschool and Children's Ministry/Music.

**Endowment Ministry:** The Directors approved the following grants:

22-5 RightNow Media Subscription \$ 1,860.00 22-6 ; Solid Grounds Living Room Improvements \$ 2,056.63  
22-7 Solid Grounds Kitchen Improvements \$ 681.42 ; 22-8 Campus Dinner / Discussion Ministry\$ 600.00

**Reports - Highlights**

**Campus:** Pastor Mark shred the Living Room and Kitchen at Solid Grounds are updated and thanked the Buchtrups for their help. Pastor Mark explained the rationale for the Dinner & Discussion Ministry in lieu of traditional Bible study sessions.

**DCE:** Aaron shared RightNow Media access will be available to all congregational members through the Endowment Grant. This includes Bible study options, films, videos for families and kids, and so much more.

**Finance:** The financial report was shared at the meeting. Don shared Bookkeeping Monica is retiring and the job will be posted..

**Personnel:** Personnel's report was sent electronically. Dana stated they would be working on the Bookkeeper position and the DCE Options Job Descriptions.

**Property:** Property Board's recent work included the following:

- a. Work on Zion Haus is almost completed with some flooring to be done.
- b. Options for updated signs on Bronson Blvd were discussed.
- c. IT needs were discussed as well as the need for tech savvy members for this ministry.
- d. Next month they will discuss the need for continued Safety/Security training for Ushers and others at Zion.

**Ministry Focus:** Joe met with Lynne and Rita on Ministry Teams and how to raise engagement. Bringing back the "Temple Talks" format and other practices used in the past to publicize opportunities to serve at Zion were discussed as well.

# OCTOBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS, Bible Study 10:30 Worship	3 8:00 P. Brejje Bible Study 9:15 SS, Bible Study 10:30 Personnel	4 10:00 P. Brejje Bible Study  4:15 Dessert First 5:15 Dinner 6:15 Confirmation Class	5  6  7			8 8:00a Mens Study  5:30 Worship
9 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS, Bible Study 10:30 Worship	10 Columbus Day  11 10:00 P. Brejje Bible Study	12  13 Noon Finance  14				15 8:00a Mens Study  5:30 Worship
16 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS, Bible Study 10:30 Worship	17  18 10:00 P. Brejje Bible Study  2:00 Women's Book Grp	19  20 4:15 Dessert First 5:15 Dinner 6:15 Confirmation Class		21		22 8:00a Mens Study  5:30 Worship
23 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS, Bible Study 10:30 Worship Costume Wars b/w Services	24  25 10:00 P. Brejje Bible Study	26  27 4:15 Dessert First 5:15 Dinner 6:15 Confirmation Class		28		29 8:00a Mens Study  5:30 Worship
30 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS, Bible Study 10:30 Worship	31 Halloween  September 2022					November 2022 S M T W T F S 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30



**Zion Financial Report for August 31, 2022**

**ZION:** August Spending exceeded Giving by \$11,254.  
 YTD Giving is under by \$4,626; YTD Spending is over by \$3,462.

Questions? Please email Don Klug at [dakdwk@msn.com](mailto:dakdwk@msn.com)

**Solid Ground:** August Spending exceeded Income by \$3,348.  
 YTD Income over by \$947; YTD Spending over by \$1,747.

<b>ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH</b>	<b>Current Month</b>			<b>Year-To-Date</b>		
	Budget	Actual	Over/Under	Budget	Actual	Over/Under
<b>INCOME</b>						
Zion Giving & Misc.	52,891	46,150	-6,741	152,674	148,048	-4,626
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Zion Staff Support	30,874	32,633	-1,759	92,603	95,206	-2,603
Office Operations	1,155	1,046	109	3,616	3,764	-148
Church Property	7,732	6,291	1,441	22,470	24,156	-1,686
Education Ministry	1,270	1,335	-65	1,270	3,331	-2,061
Evangelism/Missions	50	0	50	50	11	39
Worship Ministry	550	300	250	1,350	1,235	115
Other Ministries	510	722	-212	780	1,429	-649
Music Ministry	1,720	2,170	-450	5,365	5,815	-450
Finance Ministry	9,365	9,379	-14	28,100	28,111	-11
Zion Haus Ministry	1,133	381	752	3,399	1,219	2,180
Missions - General	5,000	3,147	1,853	15,270	13,458	1,812
Total Expenses	59,359	57,404	-1,955	174,273	177,735	-3,462
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-6,468</b>	<b>-11,254</b>	<b>-4,786</b>	<b>-21,599</b>	<b>-29,687</b>	<b>-8,088</b>
<b>SOLID GROUND</b>						
Solid Ground Income	11,192	6,724	-4,468	29,576	30,523	947
Solid Ground Expenses	9,369	10,072	-703	27,656	29,403	1,747
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,823</b>	<b>-3,348</b>	<b>-5,171</b>	<b>1,920</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>-800</b>
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>						
	5/31/2022		8/31/2022		YTD Change	
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Cash	70,269		45,715		-24,554	
Investments	189,391		189,725		334	
Other Assets	3,430		-17,146		-20,576	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>263,090</b>		<b>218,294</b>		<b>-44,796</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Payroll	2,616		3,762		1,146	
Dedicated Funds	121,187		104,912		-16,275	
Unrestricted Funds	139,287		109,620		-29,667	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>263,090</b>		<b>218,294</b>		<b>-44,796</b>	
<b>MORTGAGE LOAN</b>						
Balance 8/31/2022	\$548,657.00					
Monthly Payment	\$6,350.00					
Additional Principal	\$4,909.78					
Congregation Donations	\$5,000.00					
<b>Dedicated Accounts with Balances over \$3,000</b>						
Besser Benevolence	\$5,129		Ins. Claim Water		\$3,537	
New Staff	\$50,000		FOJ Fundraising		\$11,326	
Ins. Payments	\$7,717		Future Debt		\$17,188	

Monthly Publication of

Zion Lutheran Church

October

2122 Bronson Boulevard, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 479  
KALAMAZOO, MI

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



October 30th