



Looking Up | Reaching Out

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## ***Harbinger***

**August 2021**  
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Working in our flower bed I was startled by a robin that buzzed my head. I couldn't have gotten too close to a nest, as robins don't build nests in flower gardens. It didn't make sense. I was of no threat to that bird, so what was up? I must have been mistaken, or maybe I over reacted. I turned back to my work. Then I saw the robin coming at me again but this time I could see what was really going on. The first time I only saw the robin as it passed by. This time there were two birds coming full steam. And the robin wasn't coming at me but was chasing a cowbird! It was the cowbird coming my way with a robin in hot pursuit. It was like a scene from the movie Top Gun, and I literally hit the dirt. Then they were gone. It was the robin that took the blame the first time but now I realized the culprit had not even been seen until I witnessed the full reality of the situation in their second flyby. The cowbird was the culprit and I was simply an innocent bystander who got in their way. I had blamed the wrong bird. And then it made sense. You see there is something unique about cowbirds as they have a sneaky habit of not building nests. Instead they find a nest with eggs, lay their eggs in a stranger's nest, and then disappear. They don't care where they lay eggs but allow another bird build a nest and rear the chicks. Except this time a cowbird got caught and the robin was not happy. Weird huh? The robin was defending its nest, not attacking me. I just happened to get in the way. How often have I felt I was the object of an attack that was out of the blue and undeserved? And how often have I been tempted to respond with anger or even considered revenge? And yet, upon reflection we all often discover that it really wasn't about me at all, but the frustration, grief, or defensiveness of someone else who was lashing out and I was simply and conveniently in the way? The robin was acting on instinct just as we all do. Before overreacting we often do better to take a deep breath and figure out what is really causing the pain or fear causing another to lash out. And then you can get out of the way or know how you might help. Pastor Seeber

Zion Lutheran Church  
2122 Bronson Blvd.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
Telephone: 269-382-2360  
Email: [zion@zionkazoo.org](mailto:zion@zionkazoo.org)  
[www.zionkazoo.org](http://www.zionkazoo.org)

**"We aspire to be a welcoming and growing community in Christ, providing daily opportunities to live, learn and share His love."** (vision statement for Zion)

**Beginning in September,  
Wednesday Evenings at Zion  
will again become an important part of  
our effort to live out this vision.**

Over the past year and a half the disruption of routines, assumptions, and patterns of living with a pandemic have significantly changed our culture, our priorities, and our habits.

We are planning for **Wednesday evenings** to become a very important part of our life together even more than in the past. This has always been our time for fellowship with the Wednesday dinners, confirmation and adult classes, but this year we will do more.

We have been so out of touch with each other that our **WEDNESDAY MEALS** offer a great opportunity to experience fellowship and get better acquainted with each other. This is especially important for newer members (and guests) to find a welcoming presence. Please consider joining us for meals Wednesdays. Denise O'Brien is heading up the kitchen and if you want to help setup, serve, or clean up, give her or the church office your name. This is part of the welcoming aspect of community.

The **2nd Wednesday** of the month will be our **LIFE ISSUES FORUM for ADULTS**. Following the meal we will use guest facilitators and members with training in these issues to provide information and help support each other with issues such as adult children and aging parents / access and variety of community nursing and care facilities / counseling and mental health / health issues related to aging / grief and recovery / retirement planning and wills / life stages / navigating insurance / support

groups / addiction programs and resources / parenting children at different life stages / end of life issues / grief and the like. etc.

The **3rd Wednesday** of the month will be our **MEMBER SUPPORT MINISTRY** which is an outgrowth of Stephen Ministry which was so successful here for 25 years. Once a month, we will assist those interested in caring for fellow members who are alone, grieving, or unable to get out. Our pastors and former Stephen Ministers will be active in training and coordinating such visits. Here too we will be open to potential new ministries that might develop through this effort.

**CONFIRMATION MINISTRY** also is held on Wednesday evenings and families might consider a meal here before class begins.

**ADVENT** and **LENT WORSHIP** are held on Wednesdays. We encourage all our members to join us for those special services, following the Wednesday Meals!

This leaves 1st and 4th Wednesdays open for other regular ministries or events such as small groups, concerts, guest speakers, or anything you find necessary or wish to help develop.

We have talked and prayed diligently over the past year about what will be the same and what will be different. We have gotten used to the phrase "new normal," but maybe it is time to bury that phrase. Change and adaption has always been the hallmark of successful ministry as well as daily living. Let's quit talking and simply commit to ministry!

It is all about gifts, opportunities and God's call for us to be loving and faithful servants responding to his love with our lives.

**Wednesdays will indeed be a big part of becoming an even more effect welcoming and growing community in Christ, providing daily opportunities to live, learn and share His love.**

### Life Together isn't always smooth sailing.

Unless one is schizophrenic, the only way you can avoid arguments and disagreements is to live alone. But life is not meant to be lived alone. Christ came to show us what that means! We know from our experiences in families, workplace, clubs, groups and teams that there are times when people who come together for a common reason but wind up in conflict. We know that some cause more problems and pain than others. And often those who cause such pain have no clue that they are hurting others. Life is like that!

No surprises there! But one thing that often comes as a surprise to some is when that happens in a Christian congregation. More people leave congregations because of conflict than because of the color of a hymnal or the programs that are offered. And when that happens, it takes a long time for such people to return to another congregation, for who wants to risk being hurt again by people who are supposed to love? Love means that I will listen to others as easily as I expect them to listen to me!

We know that forgiving and servant love is part of being a Christian, and yet we are not perfect and sometimes it is hard to love and forgive people who might not agree with me. Even Jesus struggled with complaints from his own family, and the attempts of his disciples to change the "way" he was doing ministry. Saint Paul was aware of such problems, from a very dysfunctional congregation in the city of Corinth. His letters to them were to help them stay on track and learn how to "act out what they said they believed." And that is always our issue as well. We tell our spouse or children we love them, and if that is true, we need to love them even when it isn't easy to do so. We forgive when we have been hurt, not because forgiveness is deserved but because that is how love works. Here is a portion of how Paul talked about this in 1 Corinthians 12:

*The body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body ... God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be ... God has put the body together ... so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

A toothache can make the whole body hurt, while joy can override normal body aches. Life is like that. Why should life as members of a congregation be any different? We are members of one body here at Zion, and we are here by the grace and guidance of God. He has created us and He has a purpose for us. But it is as ONE body. There should be consideration for everything we do or say as to the effect it will have on the rest of the body. If I demand that others listen to me but don't first listen to them, how can we be "one?" Even if I am convinced I am the smartest cookie on the planet, but don't have love, or my actions cause someone else pain, how smart have I shown myself to be?

Part of the life of a congregation is to learn how to live with the freeing, forgiving, and serving love of Jesus with people who all want to do that same thing, so that it becomes more natural and easy to do it in our daily lives. Practice never makes us "perfect" but it makes us "better." And if God's grace daily makes us better, we are on the right boat. How we learn to live together here makes us better in our loving, nurturing and serving love "in the real world." Life together isn't always smooth sailing, but with Jesus in the boat, it always brings the promise and the power of peace! And if we live as if we are loving and forgiving people, we already are feeling the power of that peace!

Pastor Tim

## Catechism Review: Baptism Part 2

### “A Fuller Flavor of its Freshness”

Baptism is more than an event, it is the entrance into a lifetime with God. There are so many ways to help us grow in the freedom it brings and taste the joy which it offers. For that reason, we always meet with parents before the baptism of a first child, as it is a wonderful time to review the elements of this great sacrament.

Children's Bibles and storybooks, Sunday School, Confirmation, Sermons and Bible studies are also ways of continuing to grow in the joy of this moment.

There are many Bible stories that fill the gift of Baptism with deeper meaning. Rather than something we do once, all of these gifts help us to daily grow in the relationship that Baptism begins. For instance, the story of Noah and Flood illustrates the saving power of Baptism. Just as flood waters destroyed evil that ruined God's creation, that same water lifted up the faithful and carried them into a new life. That is grace!

Exodus provides more illustrations. As an infant, Moses was saved from death by floating in a river. As an adult, he led Israel out of slavery in Egypt, through a water crossing. At the same time, the power of that water destroyed the chasing armies of death!

After forty years in the desert, it was through another water crossing (the Jordan River) that waterless life was ended and God's people entered a land of milk and honey! At the moment of Jesus' death, John 19 records that blood and water flowed from Jesus' side on the cross. And his death is referred to in John as an exodus event.

What powerful reminders of how Holy Baptism frees us from death and carries us into daily journey with a risen Savior! Each time we

celebrate a Baptism, we are reminded of our own escape, washing, and being filled with the waters of life. Baptism is a gift which announces our new life of blessing!

Baptism is not dependent on our faith, but is a powerful GIFT of grace, which means it is God's doing, not ours! (For that reason, in an emergency, any Christian can baptize!) From the beginning the Church baptized children born into Christian homes. *That commits parents to the great responsibility of teaching their children of the saving power of God in their lives. It also is a responsibilities of the congregation, to assist and support parents in nurturing each life of faith!*

The gift of the Church is that we are the Body of Christ (the family of God) in this time and place. Together we do for each other what sometimes is difficult for any of us to do alone. In other words, we are children and parents to each other and share in this joyful task of affirming our baptismal promise!

Worship and prayer, Sunday School and Bible classes, confirmation and servant events are all ways we help each other to grow in the covenant of our baptisms and into active participation in the new family that God gives us as he gathers us together.

When we remember the terrible scene of Jesus' crucifixion and death, we also remember that Jesus looked down at Mary and the disciple John. His words were, "Woman, this is your Son." And to John, "This is your mother!" In baptism, that same gift of a new family in Christ is ours as well. Our liturgy for worship is based on the belief that Baptism begins our life in Christ.

Through Baptism we are renewed, refreshed, nourished and led into a new way of living that is based on servant love. Baptism is more than something "we do." Much more! It is one of God's great gifts that changes who we are, and how we live.

## Worship Help for Parents and Children

(It is OK for everyone else to read too!)

### "The Sharing of Peace / Offering"

In Jesus' day, sacrifices were brought to the temple as a sign of people's love for God and desire to surrender something of value to show that love. Christians kept that practice and brought gifts to share in worship. Some brought bread and wine for communion, others shared to take care of the needy in their midst or in other congregations. In the "Sharing of Peace" we remember this practice and participate in our way today. (COVID has taken this away for awhile, but when we resume, what a joy that will be!)

In Matthew 5:23-24, Jesus said, "So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."

*In other words, if anything stands between you and a neighbor, something stands between you and God! If we can't "give" to each other, how can we expect our "gifts" to God to have any real meaning? If we truly love God, we will truly love our neighbor.*

As part of sharing offerings and receiving the Holy Communion, we exchange the peace of Christ with each other. This is not just to say "hello" but to proclaim *Christ has welcomed and forgiven me with his love! My response is to reach out with that same love; to be one with you and the God has made himself one with me!* So, if there is anyone in your family (whether it is your blood family or your faith family) that you have a problem with, this offers an opportunity to make peace. Better is to make peace in private and affirm that peace in public. As we gather then, we truly are one in Christ, and rejoice he has helped us regain such peace. In the sharing of peace, we are given the opportunity to make Jesus' words of forgiveness come to life.

This is what "reaching out with Jesus' love" looks and feels like. Then, we are truly ready to share gifts with God and receive His gift at the altar. This is serious business, not pretend or for show. If you are not willing to forgive and be forgiven, what meaning does God's gift of grace have for you? Christ has died to make peace! We must live in peace!

*The absence of this loving ritual over the past months, might be a blessing to make us even more aware of its beauty when we resume.*

### For Parents with Younger Children

You know how important it is to hug your kids. They need more than just words. And after moments of chastisement or critique they need even more to know you love them still! When I tell my kids I am sorry, I had better physically tell them the same thing. Words without action have a hollow ring. This is what we are doing in worship as we share the peace of the Lord. We are saying to each other, "Jesus loves me, and I want you to be touched by that same love!"

We know how tempers can flare, and voices can be raised in discipline (and then wish we had first counted to ten and maybe not been so intense.) We also know how warm and humbling it is when our little ones come back to us anyway (whether it is the next day or even years later) and say, "I love you Dad! I love you Mom!" We can learn much from them! This moment in worship is no less powerful. Just as we embrace words of forgiveness and love at home, we must learn to do that in worship and our daily living. Liturgy is often something we don't think about, but in the repetition of reaching out this becomes a more natural action of faith. (Not unlike learning to brush teeth or pick up clothes.) When we do it often and regularly, we do it as naturally as breathing. And what a "holy breath" this is!

May Christ's Peace be with you!

# Youth News

## **High School:**

### Summer Study

Aug 10 @ 6pm: Aaron's House

September 12: Sunday Bible  
Study resumes

## **Middle School Youth:**

August 10 & 11: Confirmation

Orientation Camp at Zion,

9am—1pm each day

This is the start of Confirmation! Two days of socializing, learning, and First Communion instruction for our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. If you have a student in that age group and have not received a postcard or email regarding this opportunity, please let the church office know!

## Echoes

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

Here are the numbers:

- 30 hours of cleaning the preschool and outdoor play equipment
- Over 6 dozen “t-shirt bags” created and donated to the Mattawan Food Pantry
- 50 care kits handed out to local Fire, Police, and EMS workers
- 100 families facing difficult medical situations given hope in the form of a comforting blanket
- 17 families (58 people) gathered back together at Zion
- An additional 10-12 families working on the service project at home
- 9 families dedicating time to spiritual growth and faith conversations for 3 consecutive nights

But the numbers don't provide the whole story. We were able to accomplish so much during our week in June because of committed servant leaders who stepped in and took ownership of the ministry. Our Family Ministry Team and Youth Ministry Team were vital in the success listed above. **THIS** was God at work!

# Family Life

Family Ministry News

## Calendar

**-All Families Growler's Game Saturday, August 14th, 5pm tailgate, 6:30 game. Cost is \$10/adult. Kids 18 and under are free!**

**-"Welcome Back" Picnic Sunday, August 15th.  
Games/Activities/Fellowship at 4pm  
Dinner at 5pm**

**-Education Hour resumes IN PERSON September 12th!**

### COME AS YOU ARE

One thing I often teach Middle Schoolers is this: There is nothing you can do that will make God love you less. God is always there with open arms to welcome you.

In other words, if you ever "walk away" from God, don't be afraid to come back. He hasn't changed.

As we turn our focus from wrapping up a Summer renewal and head into our Fall restart, remember that. If you haven't stepped foot on Zion property in over a year, schedule it in! We have all faltered at times but what a great time to get back into the habit of being active in the community of believers.

If crowds are still a concern for you, how might you be involved in our online community? We have plenty of opportunities to reach out to others with Christ's love.

Welcome back...however you are!

## CAMPUS MINISTRY

I want to give you an update on the status and progress of the 2 new ministry endeavors we are planning on launching when the new 2021-2022 academic year kicks off in September.

The first endeavor is the music/worship event which we are planning on calling: "The Gathering" and the second is the weekly catering event.

Since January 2021, I have been talking with a number of WMU music majors and music faculty to see about having a weekly event one evening during the week in Dalton Hall where we would gather together for music, conversation and fellowship. Initially, I was told that we would be able to hold the event in Dalton Hall.

Unfortunately, when I spoke with the facilities director and dean of the School of Music via email recently, they told me that they don't have enough space in Dalton for our weekly endeavor.

There is such a demand for space to practice and perform by the music students and all the music groups in the WMU music program that space is limited and obviously, the WMU music students and faculty get first priority for space.

So, we are now looking at an alternative location for our weekly event. We still want to involve music students as a big part of "The Gathering." If we are able to get a wide variety of music students to perform each week, we are more than likely going to need a venue bigger than the Solid Grounds living room.

I am in conversation with the director of the Wesley Foundation on campus. They have a relatively new facility on campus with ample space for what we are trying to launch. I am planning on talking with the director of the Wesley Foundation to see if this might be something that we can partner together with them and if we might be able to use their space.

We are looking at Monday evenings as the time for "The Gathering." I will also be searching out other venues on campus as well.

The second endeavor is a weekly catering event out of Solid Grounds. I have talked with the P.R. and Catering representatives from both Popeye's Chicken and Chick-fil-A about partnering with us and both organizations are excited to work with us.

The goal and vision of this weekly catering event is two-fold. First, since the vast majority of WMU students and

faculty have not been on campus for the last 1 ½ years, new routines and new normal will be established. I think this is a great time to try innovative ideas as a way to meet and interact with students, faculty and staff on campus.

The current plan and idea is to alternate weeks between Popeye's and Chick-fil-A. I am going to get as much feedback from students, faculty and staff as to which day between Monday-Wednesday would generate the most interest for our catering event. Then, we will decide which of those three days we will do our weekly catering event.

The plan is to sell a Chicken sandwich, bag of chips, and bottled water for \$7. All of the profits from the sales will go to the Kalamazoo YWCA and their work with victims of human trafficking. The Kalamazoo YWCA has a shelter at an undisclosed location in the Kalamazoo area for victims of human trafficking. We will be advertising that all of the profits will go to help victims of human trafficking. Representatives of both Chick-fil-A and Popeye's will help with promotion of this event as well.

At each weekly event, we will have several bean bag toss stations, music, tables and chairs set up outside, and some promotional materials with Solid Grounds information to give out as well to help draw and keep students around for conversation and fellowship.

My hope is that during these interactions and conversations with the WMU campus community, we will be able to connect students who want to get involved with Solid Grounds in our Bible studies, The Gathering, and servant projects, and also as a way to listen and learn where students, faculty and staff are in their lives, and then meet them where they are at in their lives with the love of Jesus.

I've also reached out to Thrivent Financial (formerly Aid Association for Lutherans), to see if they might be willing to provide matching funds from each weekly event.

One other event that I would like to try again is to have a tail-gating event at Solid Grounds one morning/afternoon for members of Zion before a WMU home football game. We did this several years ago and I would love to try it one Saturday before a WMU football game again this Fall.

God's blessings and peace to you all.

Pastor Mark



## GLORIA DEI Singers

SINGERS: Zions adult choir, the Gloria Dei singers, will begin fall rehearsals again on Thursday, September 9th from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

We all know that this has been a difficult time to gather and especially to sing. Depending on the number of people and voice parts, the look of the choir may vary.

Past and new members are welcome! Please come and share your voices with Zion.

Any questions, please call or text Wanda Jewett at (269) 327-9873. Thank you.

## Lutheran World Relief Sewing

If you have new or slightly used colored sheets, our Sewing Ladies would greatly appreciate them for quilt backing. Please leave in the

## Putting a Smile on A Child's Face

Getting new school supplies is always a fun experience and we can give children this joy by donating items for those in need. Sales have already started, so be watching for them. You may bring your items to church and put them in the containers in the hallway. We will be donating our supplies to **Community In Schools Kalamazoo**. This organization provides materials to needy children throughout the year. If you have any questions, please call Jayne Mayer 375-8342

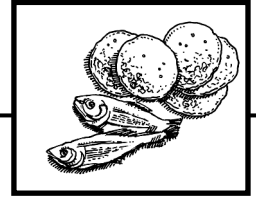
Items needed:

- \*spiral bound notebooks
- \*2 pocket folders
- \*scissors
- \*rulers-12 inches
- \*pencils, (regular and colored)
- \*erasers
- \*crayons/washable markers
- \*glue-sticks and bottles
- \*dri erase markers and dri erase erasers
- \*regular boxes of Kleenex
- \*assorted band aids
- \*Play-Doh

## KALAMAZOO LOAVES & FISHES

The wish list item for **August is Whole Grain Pasta**. Please place donations in the gray tubs in the Lobby

Thank you!



## WELCOME - ADMINISTRATIVE

## ASSISTANT

CHRISTA QUANDT



Christa comes to Zion with many years of business experience. She is a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church on West Main and volunteers at Loaves and Fishes. She has a heart for serving others and walking with those in grief. Lake Michigan is her favorite place to be. Reading, theater, music, and art are her passions when she has free time. Her parents live in Chelsea, MI and her brother and his wife live in Hale, MI. Christa is excited to be working in the front office.

**Book Review.** "Saint Francis." Nikos Kazantakis. Loyola Press. 2005.

Nikos Kazantakis is best known for "Zorba the Greek." He was raised in the Orthodox Church and spent a lifetime wrestling to understand his relationship with God. He is an incredibly gifted and thought provoking writer who committed his life to public service.

He was always fascinated by St. Francis. It might be the struggles of Francis reminded him of his own, which might explain the intensely personal style of writing in this novel.

*"Kazantzakis's unique take on Francis helps the modern reader see with great clarity certain elements of the story that we have forgotten; the great suffering that Francis endured, the sacrifices and made, and the truly radical nature of his life."* [page x]

As with many of the great lights and saints of the past, there is a comingling of history and legend. Sometimes it is difficult to separate them. Kazantzakis has a unique style in that this is not a strict biography and not really historical fiction, but somewhere in between.

Here is the author's comments in his prologue:

*"While writing this legend, which is truer than truth itself, I was overwhelmed by love, reverence, and admiration for Francis, the hero and great martyr. Often large tears smudge the manuscript; often a hand hovered before me in the air, a hand with an eternally renewed wound: someone seemed to have driven a nail through it, seemed to be driving a nail through it for all eternity."*

*"Everywhere about me, as I wrote, I sensed the saint's invisible presence; because for me St. Francis is the model of the dutiful man, the man who by means of ceaseless, supremely cruel struggle succeeds in fulfilling our highest obligation, something higher even than morality or truth or beauty: the obligation to*

*transubstantiate the matter that God entrusted to us and turn it into spirit."* [p. 3-4]

Just as everyone, whether a believer or not, celebrates and loves Christmas, so Saint Francis is one of those figures who is admired and revered by people everywhere. The fact that someone like Francis whose faith changed his life into a commitment of servant love for the risen Christ has become so famous in a secular world is amazing.

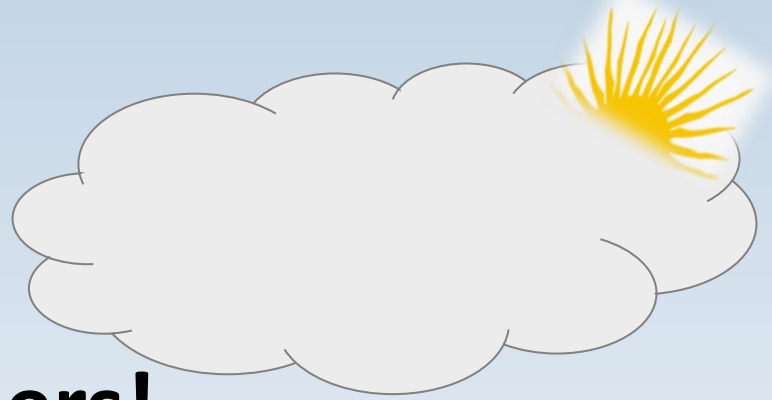
Kazantzakis was fascinated by that reality even as he wrestled with his own spirituality and God's presence in his life. His incredible gift of language and the art of writing has given life to many of the legends about Francis. This is a most satisfying book. It contains imagined dialog between Francis and a traveling companion, Brother Leo, which allows for much of the dialog.

In one section, as Francis and Leo are struggling to figure out their purpose in God's world, Francis asks Leo what he thinks. Leo shares the following words:

*"Me? I believe I'm a caterpillar buried deep down under the ground. The entire earth is above me, crushing me, and I begin to bore through the soil, making a passage to the surface so that I can penetrate the crust and issue into the light. It's hard work boring through the entire earth, but I'm able to be patient because I have a strong premonition that as soon as I do issue into the light I shall become a butterfly." "That's it!" Shouted Francis joyfully. "Now I understand. We are two caterpillars and we want to become butterflies. So...to work! Mix cement, bring stones, hand me the trowel."* [p. 92]

This is a powerful and thoughtful book. It is Kazantzakis's inspired imagining of how Francis came to become a saint; how he might have wrestled with God in his own life and come to the point of surrender called faith and discipleship. Pastor Seeber

- Meeting times and study content will vary. Please consider joining a group. It is a great way to get to know other members at Zion and grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ.



# Kalamazoo Growlers!

**Saturday, August 14th at 6:35 pm (Food starts at 5:00pm)**

**Tickets are only \$10/adult! Kids 18 and under are FREE!**

Join other Zion families and friends on the annual trip to the Growlers!

Family Ministry is covering the cost of kids 18 and under, so they are free! Tickets are first come/first serve and we only have 40 tickets this year. This event is open to everyone in Zion's congregation, Friends of Jesus Preschool, and family/friends. Ticket includes access to the tailgate area (unlimited food) which is open prior to the game (5pm). To sign up, contact Aaron at [dcegrube21@gmail.com](mailto:dcegrube21@gmail.com) or visit the sign up: <https://signup.com/go/VdTKPmz>



# AUGUST 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<b>1</b> 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>2</b>  6:30 Personnel	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 1:00 Aaron Devotion	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  5:30 Worship																																																																																				
<b>8</b> 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>9</b> Pastor T Devotion	<b>10</b> 9 - 1 Confirmation Camp 6:00 HS Study @ Aaron's	<b>11</b> 9 - 1 Confirmation Camp 1:00 Aaron Devotion	<b>12</b> Noon Finance	<b>13</b> Pastor T Devotion	<b>14</b>  5:30 Worship 5:00 Tailgate Growler 6:35 Growlers Game																																																																																				
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<b>22</b> 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>23</b> Pastor T Devotion	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 1:00 Aaron Devotion	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Pastor T Devotion 4:15 Rehearsal 5:30 Rehearsal	<b>28</b> 1:30 Wedding 4:00 Wedding 5:30 Worship (in Blends)																																																																																				
<b>29</b> 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>30</b> Pastor T Devotion	<b>31</b>																																																																																								
<div><div>July 2021</div><div><table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>Sa</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr></table></div><div>September 2021</div><div><table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>Sa</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div></div>							S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
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# Financial Report for June 30, 2021

**ZION:** June Giving is over budget by \$4,573. Expenses are under budget by \$2,013.  
June ended with a Net Gain of \$11,971. YTD Net Income Gain is \$11,971, over budget by \$6,586.  
YTD Contributions are over budget by \$4,573.

**FRIENDS OF JESUS PRESCHOOL:** Income is under budget by \$296. Expenses are under budget by \$2,945. June Net Gain is \$319. YTD Net Income Gain is \$319, over budget by \$2,649.

**Solid Ground:** Income is under budget by \$3,077. Expenses were over budget by \$285.  
June Net Loss is \$380. YTD Net Income Loss is \$380, under budget by \$3,362.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH	Current Month			Year-To-Date		
	Budget	Actual	Over/Under	Budget	Actual	Over/Under
<b>INCOME</b>						
Zion Giving & Misc.	61,825	66,398	4,573	61,825	66,398	4,573
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Zion Staff Support	31,421	29,685	-1,736	31,421	29,685	-1,736
Office Operations	1,602	1,246	-356	1,602	1,246	-356
Church Property	5,725	6,720	995	5,725	6,720	995
Education Ministry	0	735	735	0	735	735
Evangelism/Missions	0	139	139	0	139	139
Worship Ministry	488	369	-119	488	369	-119
Other Ministries	155	239	84	155	239	84
Music Ministry	1,250	1,875	625	1,250	1,875	625
Finance Ministry	9,370	9,366	-4	9,370	9,366	-4
Zion <del>Haus</del> Ministry	259	216	-43	259	216	-43
Missions - General	6,170	3,837	-2,333	6,170	3,837	-2,333
Total Expenses	56,440	54,427	-2,013	56,440	54,427	-2,013
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	5,385	11,971	6,586	5,385	11,971	6,586
<b>FRIENDS OF JESUS PRESCHOOL</b>						
<b>INCOME</b>						
FOJ Income	615	319	-296	615	319	-296
FOJ Staff Support	2,575	0	-2,575	2,575	0	-2,575
FOJ Operations Expenses	370	0	-370	370	0	-370
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	-2,330	319	2,649	-2,330	319	2,649
<b>SOLID GROUND</b>						
Solid Ground Income	12,137	9,060	-3,077	12,137	9,060	-3,077
Solid Ground Expenses	9,155	9,440	285	9,155	9,440	285
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	2,982	-380	-3,362	2,982	-380	-3,362
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>						
	6/1/2021	6/30/2021	YTD Change			
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Cash	86,738	111,150	24,412			
Investments	188,271	188,356	85			
Other Assets	8,046	-6,231	-14,277			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>283,055</b>	<b>293,275</b>	<b>10,220</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Payroll	5,030	4,870	-160			
Dedicated Funds	132,481	130,572	-1,909			
Unrestricted Funds	145,544	157,832	12,288			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>283,055</b>	<b>293,274</b>	<b>10,219</b>			
<b>MORTGAGE LOAN BALANCE</b>						
Dedicated Accounts with Balances over \$3,000						
Youth Ministry	\$11,632	FOJ Estate Gift	\$3,592			
New Staff	\$50,000	FOJ Fundraising	\$11,518			
Ins. Claim Water Damage	\$6,546	Benevolence/Wise	\$4,476			
Future Debt	\$30,000					



Monthly Publication of

Zion Lutheran Church

August

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Trust in the LORD with all your heart;  
do not depend on your own understanding.  
Seek his will in all you do,  
and he will show you which path to take.

Proverbs 3:5-6