



# Harbinger

**July 2023**  
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**Page 2**  
**Reading the Bible**

**Page 3**  
**Catechism Review**

**Page 4**  
**Youth News**

**Page 5**  
**Family Life**

**Page 7**  
**Campus Ministry/FOJ**

**Page 8**  
**Book Review**

Laura and I have been so overwhelmed by your love and support as we have made this transition to Zion and to a new home that we can't begin to adequately thank you all for everything you've done to encourage us over these past weeks. We have been so blessed by you all, and we hope to be a blessing to each of you as we invest our lives into our new church home.

And the one thought that we have kept coming back to over these weeks of packing up one home and unpacking in another is the reminder that there is no permanent home for us here on earth, no permanent dwelling on this side of heaven. We had spent 20 years in our home in Ohio. That's a long time, but it wasn't permanent. There is something better, something eternal yet to come.

Like Abraham and all who live by faith, we are strangers in a foreign country as we look for *"the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God."* (Hebrews 11:8-10)

As the people of God, we look to Jesus and to the permanent home He has prepared for us in the life to come.

One of my favorite Bible passages is John 14, where Jesus declares:

*My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going. ... I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

Laura and I love our new home and we look forward to getting to know all of you and our new community. Yet we enjoy these earthly blessings knowing that there are better things and better days to come. As the people of Zion we truly are looking up and reaching out. Let's look for Jesus' return even as we reach out to those around us with Jesus' love.

Pastor Mike

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## Reading the Bible

You cannot study the Bible unless you read the Bible. And to read the Bible you need to take time for the words to sink in and speak to you.

Bible study is essential to our understanding of faith. The following passage titled "The Bible Without Tears" offers some interesting insights that might be helpful to how you read scripture and how you allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you through the inspired words you read.

This is from Frederick Buechner's book, *"Wishful Thinking."* HarperOne. 1993.

1. Don't start at the beginning and try to plow your way straight through to the end. At least not without help. If you do, you're almost sure to bog down somewhere around the twenty-fifth chapter of Exodus. Concentrate on the high points at first. There is much to reward you in the valleys too, but at the outset keep to the upper elevations. There are quite a few.

There is the vivid, eyewitness account of the reign of King David, for instance (2 Samuel plus the first two chapters of 1 Kings), especially the remarkable chapters that deal with his last years when the crimes and blunders of his youth have begun to catch up with him. Or the Joseph stories (Genesis 39-50). Or the Book of Job. Or the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). Or the seventh chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans, which states as lucidly as it has ever been stated the basic moral dilemma of man and then leads into the eighth chapter, which contains the classic expression of Christianity's basic hope.

2. The air in such upper altitudes is apt to be clearer and brighter than elsewhere, but if you nevertheless find yourself getting lost along the way, try a good Bible commentary which gives the date and historical background of each book, explains the special circumstances which it was written to meet, and verse by verse tries to illumine the meaning of the difficult sections.

Even when the meaning seems perfectly clear, a commentary can greatly enrich your understanding. The Book of Jonah, for instance—only two or three pages long and the one genuine comedy in the Old Testament—takes on added significance when you discover its importance in

advancing the idea that God's love is extended not just to the children of Israel but to all mankind.

3. If you have even as much as a nodding acquaintance with a foreign language, try reading the Bible in that. Then you stand a chance of hearing what the Bible is actually saying instead of what you assume it must be saying because it is the Bible. Some of it you may hear in such a new way that it is as if you had never heard it before. "Blessed are the meek" is the way the English version goes, whereas in French it comes out, *"Heureux sont les débonnaires"* (Happy are the debonair). The *debonair* of all things! Doors fly open. Bells ring out.

4. If you don't know a foreign language, try some English version that you've never tried before—the New English Bible, Goodspeed's translation, J. B. Phillips's New Testament, or any other you can lay your hands on. The more far-out the better. Nothing could be farther out than the Bible itself. The trouble with the King James or Authorized Version is that it is too full of Familiar Quotations. The trouble with Familiar Quotations is that they are so familiar you don't hear them.

When Jesus was crucified, the Romans nailed over his head a sign saying "King of the Jews" so nobody would miss the joke. To get something closer to the true flavor, try translating the sign instead: "Head Jew."

5. It may sound like fortune-telling, but don't let that worry you. Let the Bible fall open in your lap and start there. If you don't find something that speaks to you, let it fall open to something else.

6. If somebody claims that you have to take the Bible literally, word for word, or not at all, ask him if you have to take John the Baptist literally when he calls Jesus the Lamb of God.

7. Finally this. If you look *at* a window, you see fly-specks, dust, the crack where Junior's Frisbie hit it. If you look *through* a window, you see the world beyond.

Something like this is the difference between those who see the Bible as a Holy Bore and those who see it as the Word of God which speaks out of the depths of an almost unimaginable past into the depths of ourselves.

**CATECHISM REVIEW: Apostles Creed (part 3)**

**The Second Article of the Creed proclaims the gift of Jesus**, an incredible miracle of grace! We do not believe in three “gods,” or one who keeps changing personalities. Instead, the God who created, also redeems this world, and daily fills it with his holy breath (Spirit.)

Every culture struggles with how to get close to God. Every religion creates rituals and physical symbols or idols to help describe God or help us “get our hands” on God.

We believe the one, true God’s love is so great that He chose to come and reveal himself to us in the Body of Jesus. He carried out his mission of mercy through His life, sacrificial death, and miraculous resurrection. We believe Jesus is both completely divine and completely human.

As God’s “Son” we confess Jesus is the earthly presence of the “DNA” of God. He was born as all humans are born, but His birth was a miraculous intervention of God in the life of Mary. She is his earthly mother, and the bringer of his human life, but Jesus is also God in the flesh.

The early disciples had a simple message that energized and changed their world. They simply told the story of Jesus — his miraculous birth, a perfect life of servant love, his undeserved death on our behalf, and the miraculous victory on Easter morning. Having accomplished his purpose on earth in that life, death, and resurrection, God withdrew his visible, physical presence from one time and place, so that He could be invisibly present in every time and every place.

In the same way that God breathed in Jesus, His breath of life now lives in each of us and breathes through the biblical witness and the life of Christ’s body on earth today, which we call “the Church.”

**Article Three is about the Holy Spirit**, the presence of God today. It literally means “holy breath.” In Genesis God created by breathing words: “Light! Sun and Moon! Fish and People!”

He breathed and creation happened. That same breath filled the life of Jesus with servant love, powerful actions, the proclamation of God’s love, and victory over sin, death, and grave. That

breath fills our lungs and life in Baptism, Holy Communion, Prayer, our reading of Holy Scripture, and the faith-filled love of those around us. That “Holy Breath” inspires us to forgive and encourages us when we are weak.

God’s Holy Spirit is the same force of Creation and Easter, and is the gift through which God shares Himself in each of our lives today.

Faith is simply a matter of letting God be our breath, our wisdom, and our strength. As people of faith, our call is to trust in that Holy breath, and share what is so freely given to each of us. Breathe in and breathe out!

The Holy Spirit comes in and the Holy Spirit is the love we exhale and share. His live is our living. Faith is simply allowing God to be the power of all that we are, and do, and say.

God’s love is so great that He will never let us go! As God lives in each of our hearts and minds in this earthly life, his promise is that we will live with Him forever. And so even when our frail and imperfect earthly breathing ceases, that Holy Spirit (that Holy Breath) will continue to be our life, and we will be one with God forever in the eternity of heavenly peace.

This is Good News for a broken world, and more. It is great news! The Creed was easy to remember, as it contains the bullet points of faith. Every time we recite it in worship we remember what we believe and who we are called to be! In the Creed, we remember and restate what we believe. This is our mission statement, and power and guide for all that life is. The Creed is common to all Christians and contains the basics of what it means to be a disciple of Christ.

Knowing who we are helps us to remember how we are to live (filled with that same servant love.) Over and over, like a steady heartbeat or the expanding and contracting of lungs, we live this faith. It comes to us as a gift and is shared in how we live as a gift for those around us. In this Creed we remember, we renew, and we proclaim what we believe.

The Apostles’ Creed proclaims God’s love, his mission, and his presence in our lives. One God, one love, one faith. It was the earliest and most essential statement of the early Church. — tws

# Youth News

## **All Youth:**

Summer Hangouts started for all Middle School and High School students. Anyone entering 6th grade all the way up through those leaving 12th grade are invited to various locations at various times this summer.

Please mail Aaron at  
dcegrube21@gmail.com  
for the schedule.

## **Middle School:**

Confirmation Camp is a 2 day orientation for incoming 6th-8th graders. At “camp” we learn about the process of Confirmation as well as have some fun and get to know each other better. Camp this year takes place at Zion on August 8th and 9th from 9am-1pm. For more info, contact Aaron at dcegrube21@gmail.com

## Echoes

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

One of the most challenging outcomes of being a DCE comes with time. Students graduate and usually move on to a new location. It’s painful to see former students not involved in a faith community. It’s easy to think of all the time and experiences spent with them was useless. But everyone has a different faith journey. Many have a faith that gets stronger and many return to their walk with Christ. Some leave for good. But God is always at work, whether or not we see the results.

I have a former student who struggled most of her life. She would have a strong faith one year and then be very open about a lacking relationship with Christ the next year. As we have met up and stayed in touch over the years I have seen many ups and downs in her faith. More importantly I see God constantly at work and her willing to step back and take a look as well. We cannot control someone else’s faith. But we can teach and remind them of God’s love. We can help them see beyond themselves, beyond their circumstance and into the bigger picture. 1 Corinthians 3 reminds us that we can plant the seed, but it is God who waters it. Keep planting seeds and watch for the watering.

# Family Life

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

## Summer Fun

We take a break from Sunday School over the summer, but we plan to host these community builders as well as some other opportunities to  
gather:

**July 15: Growlers game**

**August 9: Congregation Meal Packing  
Servant Event**

**Late August/Early September: Church Picnic**

## THORNS

Over the past few months I've really been targeting the busyness in our lives. I'm afraid it's become too commonplace and even an expectation in our society. Jesus cautions us of this type of life in the Parable of the Sower. Specifically in the thorny soil. See, the sower is tossing seed all around. Each soil is an example of our relationship with God. In regard to the thorns...

The plant is actually fine! It is healthy! It grows well and has a good structure. But the thorns also grow and end up choking the healthy plant. Can you relate that to busyness? A strong "Sunday" faith is not productive when the rest of the week is full of thorns. The thorns "choke it out" meaning there isn't room for the plant, for growth, for anything healthy.

This might be hard to keep hearing but the good soil requires boundaries. It requires weeding and pruning. Faith that lasts will require God's people to look and act different than societies expectations. Faith requires an every day commitment. As your family continues to grow, make sure your family soil is "good soil."

BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT WITH...

# PRESCHOOLERS & POPSICLES

Thursday, July 6th

10-11:30 AM

Preschool-age children (and siblings) and their caregivers are welcome to join us on the playground at Zion Lutheran Church for some sunshine, playtime, and popsicles!

\*\*Weather permitting



## Congregational Servant Event!!!!



## Food Packing

Wednesday, August 9th at  
5pm

**Join us for an intergenerational congregational servant event! Let's help feed our community!!!**

**Join us at 5pm for a quick dinner and an assembly line of meal packing. Thanks to an endowment grant we will be packing and donating 25,000 meals to the Kalamazoo community and surrounding areas. All ages will have a job to do at this event that requires A LOT of helping hands. Please join us and sign up on the kiosk or call the office.**



## CAMPUS MINISTRY REPORT

WMU held 9 Summer Orientation for incoming freshmen. One of the events during each session is called the Involvement Zone.

Involvement Zone is where student organizations on campus get the chance to promote their organization and activities to the incoming freshmen. This summer, these sessions are happening on Monday and Thursday afternoons. COVID had a significant impact on Involvement Zone events last summer, there were only 20 or so student organizations that took part v. around 60 previously. Nearly two-thirds of former student organizations on campus were either disbanded or didn't have enough students to continue.

One big difference between congregations and student ministries and student organizations is that congregations were able to see members return once restrictions were lifted. The number of student organizations remains low while campus ministries and local churches are intentional on reaching students.

Thankfully, God still blessed Solid Grounds this past academic year with a number of new students and the connection with WMU staff from landscaping, maintenance and facilities.

On a different note, I have enjoyed taking over calling on the shut-in and homebound members of Zion. Since Pastor Brelje did his calls on Tuesday and Friday's, that is my plan as well. I really enjoy visiting with our members and the chance to serve them.

God's Blessings for a joyous Summer,

Pastor Mark

## FRIENDS OF JESUS

As we enter the summer months, please continue to spread the word about Friends of Jesus Preschool. Enrollment is open for our 3- and 4-year-old classes, and before and after care is available from 7 AM until 5:30 PM.

We will be hosting Preschoolers & Popsicles this summer, which is a great opportunity to meet other preschool families!

For more information or to schedule a tour please contact Jen LaPorte at 269-382-2360 or [jen@zionkazoo.org](mailto:jen@zionkazoo.org).



## **TEACHER & TEACHER ASSISTANT**

Friends of Jesus Preschool is hiring!

If you or someone you know has a background in education and experience working with children and would like to be a part of our team, send us your resume to [jen@zionkazoo.org](mailto:jen@zionkazoo.org) or drop it off at the office.

**NOW HIRING**

**Book Review. The Luminous Dusk; Finding God in the Deep, Still Places.”** Dale C. Allison Jr. Eerdmans. 2006.

Dale Allison offers an insightful book that one must read slowly and thoughtfully. It consists of a series of essays dealing with our search for God in thoughtful reflection, daily living, and prayer.

The title is fantastic. Dusk is the time of day when the light is fading and darkness is approaching, and yet there is a special light that is difficult to miss. Photographers and sunset gazers love this special time of light, as it reveals much that is missed in the stark brightness of the midday sun.

So it is with our search for God or plea for him to answer prayers or make himself known in the midst of the hustle and bustle or noise and bright lights of daily living. Too often we are blinded by our culture, our schedules, traffic, and failure to find quiet places of shadow where we have a better chance of hearing God’s voice and call.

Consider what contributes most to our attitudes, hopes, fears, and dreams. It is what we see. It is what we fear. It is what is loudest and most persistent, whether at work, on the tube, or in our internet and Facebook searches. We are surrounded by bright lights and powerful voices and that affects us in powerful and daily ways.

How often in our daily moments, however, do we hear the voice of God or feel his gentle presence? We ask God for what we need when we pray. In worship or Bible study we seek guidance and hope to feel his presence. But for most waking hours (if we are honest) we are swept along with the tides and currents often beyond our control. We say we believe, but what is it that we really believe and what is it we have trouble believing? These are important questions. Allison writes”

*What accounts for the medieval tendency to believe, or for the modern tendency to disbelieve? [Our] seeming secularization correlates directly with a growing physical separation for the so-called natural world. IN other words, the more we have moved indoors, the less some of us have been inclined to believe. Socrates maintained that philosophy has no foundation other than the feeling of wonder. Aristotle later concurred and in doing so went on to instance, as the chief objects of wonder, the moon, the sun, and the stars. Now it could also be said that religion, like philosophy*

*being with wonder, or at least that religion without wonder is dead. [7]*

(I told you this book must be read slowly!) in his opening chapter he reminds us how much time the ancients spent watching the stars at night (which our artificial and abundant light obscure.) They saw stars as glimpses into the place of the Creator and watched them night after night for hints of divine presence and answers.

Such a primitive view is dismissed easily, and yet the world around us is a gift of God and each and every part of it contains the life of God. To ignore the obvious is to miss the most important. We find our efforts so often engaged in how to use or protect what we call nature, but we do so because of laws or public pressure and outcry and lose the sense of the holy presence that is not only created but controlled by God ... not by us!

Even in our study of scripture we miss the obvious as we race from passage to passage or don’t slowly consider the full impact of stories we already know so well (just as we assume there are stars at night which the abundance of street lights prevents us from seeing.)

He takes, for instance the feeding of five thousand in Mark 6. Mark’s Gospel contains only the basics, unlike the artistic details of John. Mark seldom mentions color, sound, or light. And yet, almost incidentally, mentions Jesus had the crowd sit down on “green” grass. Allison writes:

*We are given an equation to be solved: shepherd + green grass + having no lack + being beside the water = reclining = the Twenty-third Psalm. “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want ...” But how many modern readers see this? [105]*

This book is one to be read a chapter or page at a time as an aid in remembering what we take for granted and how the bright lights of a busy world overshadow the subtle shades of God’s presence and power. It can help you to slow down and find ways to look, even in the darkness, to find the light of God’s loving presence, power, and peace.

We need to find quiet places, like the facing light of dusk, or a time of quiet prayer (with more listening than speaking) to better see the glory of the Lord and the powerful loving presence of faith.



## JULY 2023 WORSHIP LEADERS

	JULY 2	JULY 9	JULY 16	JULY 23	JULY 30
<b>Head Ushers 8:00am</b>	Steve Weber Mark Schoonbeck	Stan Leitz John DuBois	Fred Bierlein Dave Newman	Matt Simmons Alan Sarver	Dave Mayer Mark Schoonbeck
<b>Head Ushers 10:00am</b>	Steve Nuyen Dennis O'Brien	Joe Zerbel Garr Gast	Ken Lundquist Dave Borak	Steve Nuyen Dennis O'Brien	Joe Zerbel Garr Gast
<b>Communion Assistants Saturday 5:30pm</b>	Judy Adlam	Ted Maxson	Kathleen Jordan	Joanne Bowes	Mike Schlack
<b>Communion Assistants 8:00am</b>	Jim Mayer		Mike Schlack	Matt Simmons	Ted Maxson
<b>Communion Assistants 10:00am</b>	Steve Nuyen	Garr Gast	Sue Bickel	Steve Butt	Dana Butt
<b>Lectors 8:00am</b>	Jayne Mayer	Andrew Niedbala	Carol Daenzer	Jayne Mayer	Dave Mayer
<b>Lectors 10:00am</b>	Jon Tomer	Alice Tomer	Chris Wilkins	Alison Carlson	Erin Hampshire
<b>Altar Ministry Saturday 5:30pm</b>	1. Arlene Masek 2. Mary Lou Wright	1. Mary Lou Wright 2. Lucy Maxson	1. Arlene Masek 2. Melissa Noseworthy	1 2. Dee Wentzel (?)	1. Dee Wentzel (?)
<b>Altar Ministry 8:00am</b>	1. Nicki Klein 2. Jayne Mayer	1. Larry & Joe 2. Zerbel	1. Nicki Klein 2. Larry & Joe Zerbel	1. 2.	1. 2.
<b>Altar Ministry 10:00am</b>	1. Melissa & Paul 2. Noseworthy	1. Melissa & Paul 2. Noseworthy	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. Nicki Klein 2.

Note: Grayed boxes reflect volunteers needed. Please contact the office if you're able to assist.

# JULY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b>  5:30 Worship
<b>2</b> 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>3</b> Office Closed	<b>4</b> Independence Day Office Closed	<b>5</b> 9:00 Sewing  6:30 Pastor Mike Bible Study	<b>6</b> 10-11:30 Preschoolers and Popsicles	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  5:30 Worship
<b>9</b> 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>10</b>  6:30 Endowment	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00 Sewing  6:30 Pastor Mike Bible Study	<b>13</b>  Noon - Finance	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  5:30 Worship 6:35 Growlers
<b>16</b> 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>17</b>  6:30 BOD	<b>18</b> 2:00 Book Group	<b>19</b> 9:00 Sewing  6:30 Pastor Mike Bible Study	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  5:30 Worship
<b>23</b> Parents' Day 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:00 Sewing  6:30 Pastor Mike Bible Study	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  5:30 Worship
<b>30</b> 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>31</b>	Notes				

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 7/1 Derek Ketchum,  
7/2 Keith Kenter,  
7/5 Thomas Bremer  
7/6 Judith Erdmann, Rebecca Miller  
7/7 Dick Coffinger  
7/8 Steve Emig, Sam Madison,  
Sondra Phillips, Jack Sauer  
7/9 Larry Brelje, Aidan Brennan,  
7/10 Terry Adlam  
7/11 Michelle Larason  
7/12 Eloise Powell  
7/13 Corey Hendricks, Lachan Niedbala,  
Sydney Ketchum  
7/14 Lucy Maxson  
7/15 David Dorman, Indy Linebaugh,  
Jeannine Longjohn,  
7/20 Katie Freudenburg,  
Gabriel Hampshire  
7/21 Mary Besser, Kyle Fill  
7/22 Shirley Rohrer, Lindsay Scheffers,  
Adrianna Schoonbeck, Greg Schurig  
7/23 Jacob Gumbleton, Wil Kellam,  
Sean Skuratowicz  
7/24 Daniel LaPorte  
7/25 Erin Emig, Oliver Emig,  
Shea LaPorte, Kelly Thiede,  
Nathan Woodford  
7/27 Amanda Militzer  
7/28 Lydia Decker, Mark Sperti  
7/29 Troy Cosgrove, Cheryl Roggow,  
Mark Schwerin  
7/30 Luke Johnston, Arlene Masek,  
Dennis O'Brien  
7/31 Michelle Devine, Laura Saylor

### KALAMAZOO LOAVES & FISHES

The wish list item for **July is Canned Fruit-no sugar added**. Please put your donations in the gray tubs under the church office window Thank you!

**HELPING OTHERS MINISTRY...** Coming Soon Collection school items for Community in Schools Kalamazoo; watch Hallway for more information

### Our Board of Directors for 2023-2024

Joe Zerbel	(President)
Greg Gerfen	(President Elect)
Garr Gast	(Past President)
Dana Butt	(VP Personnel)
Rhonda Newman	(VP Finance)
Ron Masek	(VP Property)
Judy Adlam	(Director at large)
Fritz Klug	(Director at large)
Joe Moulton	(Director at large)
Shelby Waterlander	(Director at large)
Jason Woods	(Director at large)
Sue Bickel	(Director at large)

### GRATEFUL HEARTS/THANKFUL HANDS

Our mission statement, Reaching Out With Jesus Love. Grateful Hearts/Thankful Hands bazaar does just that! YOU are a part of this mission group. All who knit, sew, crochet, craft, can, bake, donate in any way or, most importantly, PRAY for our bazaar are reaching out in Jesus love! As well as our many volunteers who participate on bazaar day ~ NOVEMBER 18th this year ~ with their bright smiles and kind words show and reach out with Jesus love to the many community guests who attend the bazaar.

The monies are distributed between Zion ~ the youth group and Friends of Jesus preschool ~ as well as the community with Sparrow and Nest and the Deacon's Conference. Various items leftover from the bazaar are donated to mission places. Again, reaching out with Jesus love.

Please continue to support this mission as you have so generously in the past. Garage sale season is in full swing and we gratefully accept whatever you don't sell. As your vegetable and fruit gardens prosper, please consider setting a few of your canned goods aside for us. We gladly accept novels, kitchenware, bakeware, household items, linens and holiday items.

If you have any questions, please contact Jayne (375-8342) or Linda (375-1241) Mayer.

Zion Financial Report for May 31, 2023

ZION: May Giving exceeded Spending by \$80,415

YTD Giving is over by \$15,577; YTD Spending is under by \$36,665

Dedicated accounts from anyonmus donor (83K) and future debt (13K) were transferred into envelopes for a postive year end \$ 50,212

Questions? Please email Rhonda Newman at mewmancpa@sbglobal.net

Solid Ground: May Spending exceeded Income by \$1,456

YTD Income is under by \$87; YTD Spending is over by \$4,112

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH	Current Month			Year-To-Date		
	Budget	Actual	Over/Under	Budget	Actual	Over/Under
<b>INCOME</b>						
Zion Giving & Misc.	62,894	135,833	72,939	740,025	755,602	15,577
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Zion Staff Support	31,416	29,893	1,522	377,362	373,502	3,861
Office Operations	1,155	4,482	-3,327	15,270	22,623	-7,353
Church Property	6,682	4,935	1,747	96,355	99,001	-2,646
Education Ministry	1,270	540	730	12,700	10,715	1,985
Evangelism/Missions	50	0	50	500	778	-278
Worship Ministry	500	320	180	6,150	7,536	-1,386
Other Ministries	510	143	367	3,270	2,945	325
Music Ministry	2,240	1,810	430	31,755	26,591	5,164
Finance Ministry	9,370	6,808	2,562	112,400	92,541	19,860
Zion Haus Ministry	1,137	558	579	13,400	3,308	10,092
Missions - General	6,129	5,930	199	72,893	65,851	7,042
Total Expenses	60,458	55,418	-5,040	742,055	705,390	36,665
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,436</b>	<b>80,415</b>	<b>77,979</b>	<b>-2,030</b>	<b>50,212</b>	<b>52,242</b>

**SOLID GROUND**

Solid Ground Income	7,772	8,838	1,066	117,704	117,617	-87
Solid Ground Expenses	9,223	10,294	-1,072	114,897	119,009	4,112
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-1,451</b>	<b>-1,456</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>2,807</b>	<b>-1,392</b>	<b>-4,199</b>

**BALANCE SHEET**

	5/31/2022	5/31/2023	YTD Change
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash	70,269	120,658	50,390
Investments	189,391	160,547	-28,843
Due To/From SG & Endow	3,430	-13,330	-16,759
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>263,089</b>	<b>267,876</b>	<b>4,787</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Payroll	2,616	5,850	3,234
Dedicated Funds	121,187	72,507	-48,680
Unrestricted Funds	139,287	189,519	50,232
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>263,089</b>	<b>267,876</b>	<b>4,787</b>

**MORTGAGE LOAN**

Balance 5/31/2023	\$462,039
Monthly Payment	\$6,350.00
Additional Principal	\$0.00

**Dedicated Accounts with Balances over \$3,000**

FOJ Fundraising	\$7,930
Youth Ministry	\$8,876
New Staff	\$43,734

Monthly Publication of

Zion Lutheran Church

July

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