



# Harbinger

**July 2021**  
**Volume 153 Number 7**

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It might seem weird to talk about Christmas in July, but shouldn't that be something that colors every day? Why are we so excited to decorate in December and by January wander off back into the desert? My worst Christmas as a kid was all my fault. My younger brother was a budding cowboy, and we were both avid fans of the "westerns" of Hollywood and TV. All Donny wanted for Christmas was a plastic rifle just like he saw on "The Rifleman." His smile on Christmas as he realized he had gotten exactly what he hoped for was incredible. He was so excited and I was so jealous. The day after Christmas I wanted my turn with his rifle but he wasn't ready to let go. But my selfishness was more important than the joy on his face as he carried his special gift. We wrestled and I pulled the gun out of his hands and said "my turn!" In the process the plastic barrel cracked. Less than 24 hours from our worship of the Christ child, I had ruined his gift. Christmas was over for him, through no fault of his own. What a parable, in hindsight, for what we all know is true. We are filled with the joy and peace of Christmas while we are staring at the manger and singing "Joy to the World" but life returns so quickly to normal. It seems impossible for us to keep the Christmas spirit bubbling for more than a few days or weeks. Too often, once the gifts are behind and daily routines return we have forgotten why the message of Christmas angels was enough to get shepherds to leave fields and run through town with such joy in their hearts. As kids our selfishness took on different forms than how we exhibit as adults, but the result is the same. Gifts are broken, promises are forgotten, and love is withheld. Joy is supplanted by fear, envy, jealousy, and sadness. So easily we forget and so quickly we go back to fields and flocks as if nothing special had happened. This memory is a good one for me as it reminds me how easily that change can happen. Thankfully forgiveness can heal real brokenness. And finding time to remember the joy of a baby in a manger is a wonderful way to keep from sliding into old habits. July is a great time to remember Christmas! Pastor Seeber

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## Moving Closer to our New Normal

This past year has been incredible. What we were used to and took for granted was difficult to replicate with masks, distancing and fear of being infected by a virus. What we have had to adjust to and has forced a learning curve on us we might not have been ready for. And we made mistakes, not due to lack of care or concern, but simply due to the unique nature of all that we were dealing with for the first time.

As a result, we now have more moving pieces in our ministry plan and planning than ever. We don't want to lose what we were used to or give up what we have added. We need everyone's help and understanding as we move forward. Much will never be the same as before and yet much that we were used to will always be part of our ministry.

It has been incredibly difficult to keep in touch with each other, especially during the time we were shut down by the state, and then distanced by masks and requirements that kept many away from each other. Our families who experienced illness and death were affected more than most as the normal routines and procedures were impossible to carry out. For many, having to work from home and help with children's education made family life as complicated as congregational life. In our ministry effort, we have tried through phone calls, emails, and Facebook to reach out and share Christ's love in new ways, but the lack of physical contact, close conversation, and just seeing each other regularly took its toll.

But we have weathered the storm, learned many things, and ask forgiveness for what was missed or mistakes that were made as we all travelled a path we weren't ready for and had never seen before. And we are ready now for all to share what we have learned and come together again to help all our members remember why the family of Christ in this congregation is as helpful as our natural families and group of friends for our mutual

support and mental well being.

### Worship schedule for the summer

**Saturday 5:30pm in sanctuary** with piano

**Sunday 8am in sanctuary** with organ

**Sunday 10am in parking lot** with keyboard, musicians, lawn chairs and sunglasses

(if it rains or is too hot, we'll move inside)

As we prepare for our fall program, which will come sooner than you think, we need all of you to think about what we'll need help with (as we have gotten out of practice and into new routines ).

Sunday School and Confirmation will resume in fall (teachers, helpers, mentors are always needed ... how might you help?)

Wednesday dinners will resume (why not make this part of your weekly routine as well, both for the fellowship aspect and to help)

Worship is blessed by those who will sing in choirs or with ensembles, and help with handbell choir or other instruments.

Ushers, Altar Ministry, Communion assistants, lectors and greeters are all important and many of you are needed to help.

We would like to begin a form of pastoral care visitors (like Stephen Ministry) where members help visit other members who are lonely, experiencing loss, or recovering from illness. Maybe you can help with that.

Assistance with sound system, livestreaming and other new technologies will need a lot of volunteers to help grow such efforts.

Adult classes are essential to our faith growth as well. Whether via Zoom or in person or in small groups opportunities will abound.

Please let us know what you need to know!

**CATECHISM REVIEW: BAPTISM (part 1)**

We begin by understanding the origins and meaning of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

“Baptism” is from a Greek word meaning “to wash, sprinkle, or immerse with water.” Water is the essence of life, and the most natural agent of cleansing. Holy Baptism is a sacred moment in which water, the life of Jesus, and God’s miracle of grace are all in full force.

Many cultures use water as a ritual of cleansing or rebirth. In the Jewish tradition, converts to Judaism were baptized as a sign of leaving an old life behind. John the Baptist gathered his people in the Jordan River and baptized them as a sign that they were getting ready to receive and follow the Messiah. Jesus accepted that same washing, as he stood in the water, to announce the beginning of his earthly ministry of grace.

The Lutheran Church has two “sacraments:” Holy Communion and Holy Baptism. “Sacrament” is from a Latin word meaning “mystery.” Luther defined “sacrament” as having 3 elements. It is an action instituted by Christ. It uses a visible element (like water) connected to God’s Word in Scripture. It shares “grace” in a unique way.

The Biblical witness is clear: God created a perfect world, but our rebellion has broken the loving connections between us and God, as well as with our neighbors. All of creation is touched by sin, and the ultimate sign of that brokenness is death.

Baptism begins our journey back to God. It is initiated by God, not by us. In Baptism, we celebrate that God restores our relationship with Him, and destroys the power of sin and the tomb. Baptism is God’s grace on display!

As Jesus prepared to withdraw his visible, physical presence on the Day of Ascension, he shared these words: *“Go! Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of*

*the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”* (Matt. 28:19-20)

This command made Baptism the initiation rite of the Christian church.

Acts 16 records a story when Paul was imprisoned for preaching the Gospel in Philippi. While praying behind bars, there was an earthquake and prison doors were thrown open. The jailer was going to commit suicide, fearing a mass escape. Paul and Silas stayed behind and convinced the jailer God was behind this moment. The jailer asked how he could know that. Paul said, simply, “Believe!” The jailer embraced Christ, and Paul baptized him and his entire family, and then they shared a meal. From the beginning, Baptism has been the sacrament of initiation into the faith.

Baptism and faith are always connected. Baptism announces the relationship of faith. Baptism alone does not guarantee someone will always believe or that they are immunized against sinning or even rejecting God. It simply proclaims God’s will in saving rather than abandoning his people. Baptism begins a lifetime journey.

The role of the Church is to help each Christian family grow daily in understanding what the journey is all about. The role of the Church is to be the place where all the baptized gather as “one body” to worship, to support each other, and to reach out, that others might leave the darkness of life without God and know the grace which Jesus Christ has come to bring.

For this reason, Baptism is always a public moment in worship, for not only are we celebrating new life in Christ, but we are celebrating another member of a bigger family of faith. Baptism does not bring us into a solitary relationship with God but introduces us to a family that transcends all time and space. It is the Genesis of our faith journey!

## Worship Help for Parents and Children

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

### “The Creed”

“Creed” is a Latin word meaning, “I believe.” For us, it states what a Christian believes. Our “Creeds” cover basic teachings as revealed in Scripture. We believe in the Creative Plan of the Father, the Sacrificial Rescue of the Son, and God’s invisible “Spirit” Presence today. One God revealed in three ways.

Creeds were the earliest part of Christian worship, added to forms already in existence (prayers, scripture reading, a message or explanation of the readings, and psalms or hymns.) When many were illiterate, and manuscripts rare, people memorized to remember. They couldn’t download from the internet, but could download it from their memory! This allowed each generation to teach the next. It is how the faith was shared.

Normally we recite the Apostles’ Creed. The written form is from the 3rd century AD. It came from the teachings of the Apostles (their “sermon notes?”) and was used as the Baptismal liturgy. As we recite, we proclaim, *“THIS is what I believe! God is my loving Father! Jesus (God in the flesh) lived, died, and rose for me! The Holy Spirit (God’s breath in me) makes me part of the Body of Christ (the Church) forever!”*

As we repeat those words, we remember what we believe, and “teach the faith” to children and even visitors who maybe have no faith background. Wherever Christians gather, this celebrates that even with many denominations, there is only ONE CHURCH! Every Sunday, throughout the world, Christians ALL proclaim this one, true faith!

When we say “holy catholic Church” the word “catholic” means “universal.” (That means there are Roman Catholics, Lutheran Catholics, Methodist Catholics, but only ONE

Christian Church! Despite differences in practice, we are all part of ONE Church.

The Nicene Creed developed in response to false teachers who said Jesus was “only a good man.” It dates from the Council of Nicea in 325. We use it on Festival Sundays. The Athanasian Creed was likely developed during the 5th or 6th century, and named for Athanasius (a staunch defender of the deity of Christ during some of the heresies of the 4th century.) It’s length keeps its usage rare, but you should read and use it as a devotional and great guide for prayer.

### For Parents with Younger Children:

As parents, much of our time is teaching our kids to believe the right things (“stoves are hot, look twice before crossing a street, we will always love you, AND God loves you!”)

*Repetition and love are always the key!*

Have your kids follow the words when the Creed is spoken — they will learn it quickly. Take time to ask your kids what they believe (about the weather, your love for them, their favorite foods, about anything.) Then ask what they believe about God. Show them our stained glass window and point out the three “CREDOS” (I believe!) The window celebrates God as Father (all-seeing eye), Son (lamb), and Holy Spirit (dove.) Help your children understand how the Creed “reminds and teaches” so we will never forget.

Show them a family picture or a sports team photo — talk about how so many different people are tied by something they have in common. Remind them the Creed is a similar “reminder” and “shows” who we are and what we look like as Christians, Don’t wait for Aaron to “spring” this on them in confirmation class ... they are ready to hear you tell them now! Explain in your words what this means to them. Take time, phrase by phrase, week by week, season by season. Help your kids learn more about what their Baptism means!

- Pastor Tim

## Our Board of Directors for 2021-2022

Garr Gast (President Elect)

Dave Aslvig (President)

Rick Wordell (Past President)

Dana Butt (VP Personnel)

Joni LaPointe (VP Finance)

Todd Schierbeek (VP Property)

Judy Adlam, Fritz Klug, Helen Fierke, John DuBois, Adam Brege, Lynne Gerfen (Directors at Large)

### The responsibilities of the Directors in terms of the administration and operation of our ministries are as follows:

Be a spiritually growing and supportive resource for the entire congregation.

Provide administrative leadership for the encouragement and support of the Staff and Ministry Teams so ministry develops quickly and is supported fully.

Serve as communication link between Congregation and Staff.

Annually present to the congregation a financial plan for ministry, engage in good stewardship of congregational resources, administer legal matters on behalf of the Congregation, and be responsible for the process of calling, hiring, and annually evaluating Staff.

Support and engage in an ongoing, long-range planning process, which assesses the needs and gifts of congregation and community, so that ministry planning is constant and informed.

Actively support and encourage the Staff and Ministry Teams, and assist the Staff in the

resolution of any conflicts or misunderstandings.

### The responsibilities our ministry staff are to:

Provide spiritual guidance and leadership for the congregation and lay leaders.

Provide guidance, support, training, and encouragement for Ministry Teams.

Serve as a communication link between Ministry Teams and Directors.

Assist in the development of new ministry teams, upon recommendation from Directors, Congregational members or existing Ministry Teams.

Support, encourage and assist Ministry Teams in their efforts.

### Our ministry teams are the members of Zion who are involved in the actual programs and efforts of ministry. Their role is as follows:

In response to the Congregational vision and strategy for ministry, plan, execute, and evaluate a specific ministry program.

Recruit volunteers for this specific ministry, and communicate closely with the Staff as to ministry goals and needs.

Prepare and deliver to the Directors an annual report of ministry, with goal setting and budget requests for next fiscal year.

Develop training and recruitment necessary to maintain this ministry. Provide regular communication with the Congregation.

### Annual Report Coming Later This Summer

We will prepare an annual report of ministry of the past year that will be available near the end of summer. If you would like to assist in ministry, on one of our teams or in any way, please let us know what you would like to assist with. Thanks so much!

# Youth News

## **High School:**

### Summer Study

July 12 @ (TIME CHANGE)2:30pm:

Culver's (Gull Road)

July 28 @ 11am: Panera (W. Main)

Aug 10 @ 6pm: Aaron's House

**Please keep our  
servant event team in  
your prayers the week of  
July 18-24**

Claire Alsvig, Andrew Bickel, Ben Bickel,

Audrey Dorman, Riley Eastman, Bella Frazier,

Sarah Neifert

## **Middle School Youth:**

July 13 (Tuesday) from  
6:30pm—8:00pm

Ice cream and Hangout Night at  
Zion!

## Echoes

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

Every church is different. The way each church is structured is different too. At Zion we have a Board of Directors who works in conjunction with staff to oversee Ministry Teams. Ministry Teams are made up of congregation members and meet regularly to work in specific ministry areas and carry out the functions of that specific ministry.

Examples: Finance Ministry Team, Property Ministry Team, Personnel MT, Solid Grounds MT, Friends of Jesus MT, Youth Min, Small Group Bible Study, etc. If you add up all the people currently on these teams or those who have served in the past, you would be well into the hundreds! These are people who shape the ministry at Zion and keep answering the Holy Spirit's call to expand our reach and effectively minister to many different people. A lot of times these people and efforts go unnoticed, or staff gets the recognition instead of the team. These servant leaders work hard behind the scenes! Thank you for all you do! If you would like more information on our Ministry Teams, or where you might help out, ask Aaron!

# Family Life

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

## Calendar

**-Beach day on July 31st at Fort Custer**

**-All families Kalamazoo Growlers Game**

**August 14th at 5pm**

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## Save-the-Date

**August 10 –11 9:00am to 1:00pm**

**What: Confirmation Orientation Camp**

**Who: All students entering 6th — 8th Grades**

**Where: At Zion**

**Why: Get to know other students and become familiar with the year's materials. 6th Graders will receive First Communion instruction from Pastor Tim**

## GOODNESS

What "goodness" of God have you noticed or experienced lately?

Maybe you've seen a certain blessing really clearly like family, friends, or relationships. Or maybe you've had encounters with grace—both His and from others. Maybe you recognize the goodness of His control or power.

Do you stop and take notice of God's goodness?

Oftentimes I usually focus more on running back to God or going to Him with my list of grievances. Thanksgiving is on my list but the "praise, adoration, exalting" usually needs intentionality. But when I think about His goodness, I usually end up noticing my problems or issues aren't so important after all.

God wants us to come to Him with anything on our hearts and minds. That includes those things listed above! But sometimes we forget we're talking to the CREATOR of the universe! Sometimes we don't remember the sacrifice of His Son. Try it out...where do you see God's goodness?

## **CAMPUS MINISTRY REPORT**

At our June 14<sup>th</sup> campus ministry team meeting, one of the things I shared with the team is that since the majority of the students have not been on campus since March 2019, they will have been out of any routine or habit for the past 18 months in terms of their life on campus, so we have no idea what trends and patterns will emerge when they return in September.

That is both exciting and frustrating! One of the things I have been trying to do during these past number of months is pray and ask God what it is He wants us to do when the new school year starts.

I told the ministry team that I think this year will be a great year to try new things, as students and faculty will be returning to a new normal. There are a couple of “new” ministry things I am planning on trying this upcoming school year.

The first thing is the new worship/music outreach that I have shared with you over the past few months. One thing I have learned recently is we might not be able to hold this weekly event in Dalton Hall. A faculty member in the Music program reached out to see about having a worship experience in Dalton and said we might not be able to hold the event there. I’ve reached out to the Facilities manager at Dalton Hall to reconnect with him and find out what we need to do to rent a classroom/space in Dalton Hall and I have not heard from him.

Instead of speculating the reasons we may not be able to hold the service in Dalton, I am waiting to hear from the facilities director as to whether or not we can hold the event there. If not, then we go to Plan B, which is to find another location on campus.

The more time I think about the essence of what I want to do in this weekly event, the things that jump out are to have great music, conversation and fellowship. An idea is rather than calling it a worship service, we call it “The Gathering.”

The goal and vision is to “gather” together to glorify God through great music, whether singing songs/hymns or instrumental music; “gather” together for conversation around the Word of God; and “gather” together to develop community with one another.

Waiting for the best location is the next step.

Another new outreach I want to launch in the Fall semester is to cater Chick-Fil-A out of Solid Grounds one day a week during the lunch hour. Tentatively, we are thinking either Tuesday or Thursday would be the day for the weekly event.

The goal and vision of this would be: a) Outreach to students and faculty on campus and also b) Outreach to the Kalamazoo community.

Because students and faculty have been gone from campus the past 1 ½ years, it has been hard to make connections. I see catering Chick-Fil-A once a week, starting in September as a way to meet and interact with both WMU students/faculty & staff, get to know them and where they are at in their lives, and then respond to their needs, interests and struggles as they share with us. For those that stop by to get food and ask about getting involved with Solid Grounds, I will let them know about our weekly Bible study, invite them to the “Gathering” and let them know about outreach events we will be doing.

One of the draws we want to have with a weekly Chick-Fil-A catering event is to let it be known that any “profits” will go back to the Kalamazoo community to help feed and care for the hungry and hurting in our community.

I have reached out to the catering and marketing directors of Chick-Fil-A to get their advice, feedback and help, and also plan on reaching out to a couple of WMU students that I think would help us promote this event on campus.

Another vision and plan from both of these new ministry/outreach events is I would like to start a weekly Podcast series where I talk with and interview WMU students/faculty about issues in their life, faith, hopes, fears, struggles and joys.

Please pray the Lord will continue to lead and guide our efforts on campus and for me to “be still and listen” as God leads and guides.

God’s blessings and peace to you all!

Pastor Mark

**Book Review.** In the Beauty of Holiness; Art and the Bible in Western Culture. David Lyle Jeffrey. Eerdmans. 2017.

For those interested in Christian art in the western tradition, this is a remarkable book, tracing the development of art from early to modern times. It explains how theology influenced the style of art that was used. For instance, in discussing how the cross became not only an important symbol of our faith, but an object of art, here is a passage:

*“[Augustine] argued the cross is no longer a symbol of shameful death, nor even just a permissible sign of the religious crucis; it is the very signature of divine beauty. He asks his fellow Christians to see the cross not just through the eyes of faith, but especially through the eyes of love — the eyes of the church as bride of Christ .... His revolutionary characterization of the cross as the supreme expression of divine beauty made visible was transformative for Christian art and worship space for more than a millennium.”* {54.58}

David Jeffrey, understands both art and theology, making for a practical approach and explanation of the message in the art of the Church. His explanation of works of art is enlightening and the theological reasoning for each work helps to better understand many famous works of art from a new perspective. Whether as a text book, coffee table book, or an occasional inspiration, this book has many uses. He divides the book into two sections dealing with art before and after the time of the Reformation. And his explanation of much of the art during our most recent history of a lack of belief in the culture is interesting as well.

He deals with topics such as sacred space, to better understand the architecture of the church and how that was just as much a form of art as any painting, fresco, or gold chalice.

He deals with the intent of the artists and the response of one who views the art. The book

is full of full color works of art that are very well known. His explanations of the use and purpose of some of those paintings brought to light some things I had never heard before.

Having just finished my own study of John's Gospel and its focus on the light of creation and Jesus being the Light of the world his section on the importance of light in the cathedrals of Europe is fascinating.

In dealing with a famous chapel in Paris, which is surrounded by more color and glass than I have ever seen. He writes: *“One not only sees the dramatic refraction of light into its seven prismatic colors, but one feels it falling across one's body as one moves through the space. When one looks up to the windows themselves, so vast an expanse of glass in relation to the surrounding stone tracery and buttresses, tinted with blue, red, and gold, the effect is mesmerizing ... the upper part of Sainte Chappelle is a vast net spread out to trap light in its meshes, and the walls vanish into thin air, so the whole interior is flooded with the radiance more evenly distributed than ever before ... like the light inaugurated by the Creator on the first day.”* [99-100]

Understanding the development of visual art in the life of the western Church is an interesting journey. This is a remarkable affordable book for what it contains. For anyone interested in this topic, Here is a concluding paragraph:

*“What the annals of Western art teach us is that to want the gift without the Giver is ingratitude; to elevate the gift and not the giver is idolatry. Happily, Scripture itself abounds with better choices, none more apt to our reflection the prayer of the poet David: One thing I have asked of the Lord .. To gaze upon the beauty of the Lord, and to meditate in his sanctuary (Ps.27:4)”* [p.367]

This book is a gem. Pastor Seeber



- 7/1 Elsie Autry, Andrea Glass,  
Marshall Hay, Derek Ketchum,  
7/2 Keith Kenter,  
7/5 Thomas Bremer, Sarah Van Alsten  
7/6 Judith Erdmann, Rebecca Miller  
7/7 Dick Coffinger  
7/8 Steve Emig, Sergey Madison,  
Sondra Phillips, Jack Sauer  
7/9 Larry Brelje, Aidan Brennan,  
Mary Sperti  
7/10 Terry Adlam  
7/11 Brent Butler, Michelle Larason  
7/12 Eloise Powell  
7/13 Don Griesbach, Corey Hendricks,  
Lachan Jaarda, Sydney Ketchum  
7/14 Lucy Maxson  
7/15 David Dorman, Indy Linebaugh,  
Jeannine Longjohn,  
Craig Van Alsten  
7/20 Katie Freudenburg,  
Gabriel Hampshire  
7/21 Mary Besser, Jeremy Klein  
7/22 Shirley Rohrer, Lindsay Scheffers,  
Adrianna Schoonbeck, Greg Schurig  
7/23 Jacob Gumbleton, Glen Kellam,  
Sean Skuratowicz  
7/24 Daniel LaPorte  
7/25 Erin Emig, Oliver Emig, Shea  
LaPorte, Kelly Thiede,  
Nathan Woodford  
7/26 Joseph Stoner  
7/27 Laura Maxson, 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

## Parish Report

### Baptism

Emilia Claire Krill

6/20/2021

## IT'S COMING !!!

After a long wait,

### Grateful Hearts, Thankful Hands Bazaar

**Saturday, November 20**

Just 4 months remaining; we pray  
as you sew, craft, can and sort, you  
will keep the bazaar foremost in  
your minds.

Over the past few months, we've  
collected donations. However, we  
still need MORE to make this the  
best bazaar, yet!

Donations are now being accepted  
in the church workroom during  
normal office hours or on Sunday  
morning.

### 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!



# JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 5:30 Worship																																																																																				
<b>4</b> Independence Day 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>5</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 1:00 Aaron Devotion	<b>8</b> Noon Finance	<b>9</b> Pastor T Devotion	<b>10</b> 5:30 Worship																																																																																				
<b>11</b> 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>12</b> Pastor T Devotion 1:00 HS Study @ Culvers Gull Rd 6:30 Endowment 6:30 Personnel	<b>13</b> 6:30 Sml Grp Zoom 6:30p MS Ice Cream	<b>14</b> 1:00 Aaron Devotion	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Pastor T Devotion	<b>17</b> 5:30 Worship																																																																																				
<b>18</b> 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>19</b> Pastor T Devotion 6:30 BOD	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 1:00 Aaron Devotion	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Pastor T Devotion	<b>24</b> 5:30 Worship																																																																																				
***** High School SUMMER SERVANT EVENT 7/17 thru 7/24 *****																																																																																										
<b>25</b> Parents' Day 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship	<b>26</b> Pastor T Devotion	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 11:00 HS Study @ Panera W. Main 1:00 Aaron Devotion	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Pastor T Devotion	<b>31</b> 5:30 Worship																																																																																				
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**Financial Report for May 31, 2021**

**ZION:** May Giving is over budget by \$1,329. Expenses are over budget by \$21,218.

May ended with a Net Loss of \$27,844. YTD Net Income Gain is \$8,145, over budget by \$5,662.

YTD Contributions are under budget by \$52,287.

**FRIENDS OF JESUS PRESCHOOL:** Income is under budget by \$7,628. Expenses are under budget

by \$12,789. May Net Gain is \$255. YTD Net Income Gain is \$3,862, over budget by \$3,821.

**Solid Grounds:** Income is over budget by \$460. Expenses were under budget by \$2,539.

May Net Gain is \$1,808. YTD Net Income Loss is \$2,504, under budget by \$5,439.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH	Current Month			Year-To-Date		
	Budget	Actual	Over/Under	Budget	Actual	Over/Under
<b>INCOME</b>						
Zion Giving & Misc.	52,125	53,454	1,329	712,500	660,213	-52,287
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Zion Staff Support	28,072	22,952	-5,120	344,165	337,182	-6,983
Office Operations	1,215	1,204	-11	17,400	14,991	-2,409
Church Property	10,363	8,048	-2,315	93,405	81,084	-12,321
Education Ministry	1,335	876	-459	13,500	6,827	-6,673
Evangelism/Missions	200	0	-200	750	100	-650
Worship Ministry	400	603	203	6,800	5,980	-820
Other Ministries	175	58	-117	2,975	1,564	-1,411
Music Ministry	2,375	1,625	-750	31,525	20,305	-11,220
Finance Ministry	10,345	40,367	30,022	124,097	114,502	-9,595
Zion Haus Ministry	400	82	-318	4,800	4,649	-151
Missions - General	5,200	5,483	283	70,600	64,884	-5,716
Total Expenses	60,080	81,298	-21,218	710,017	652,068	-57,949
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-7,955</b>	<b>27,844</b>	<b>19,889</b>	<b>2,483</b>	<b>8,145</b>	<b>5,662</b>
<b>FRIENDS OF JESUS PRESCHOOL</b>						
<b>INCOME</b>						
FOJ Income	8,124	496	-7,628	127,425	9,401	-118,024
FOJ Staff Support	11,595	0	-11,595	110,449	3,737	-106,712
FOJ Operations Expenses	1,435	241	-1,194	16,935	1,802	-15,133
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-4,906</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>5,161</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>3,862</b>	<b>3,821</b>
<b>SOLID GROUND</b>						
Solid Ground Income	7,525	7,985	460	116,819	111,479	-5,340
Solid Ground Expenses	8,716	6,177	2,539	113,884	113,983	-99
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-1,191</b>	<b>1,808</b>	<b>2,999</b>	<b>2,935</b>	<b>-2,504</b>	<b>-5,439</b>
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>						
	6/1/2020		5/31/2021		YTD Change	
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Cash	78,336		86,737		8,401	
Investments	137,222		188,271		51,049	
Other Assets	10,944		8,046		-2,898	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>226,502</b>		<b>283,054</b>		<b>56,552</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Payroll	5,829		5,030		-799	
Dedicated Funds	87,136		102,481		15,345	
Unrestricted Funds	133,537		175,543		42,006	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>226,502</b>		<b>283,054</b>		<b>56,552</b>	
<b>MORTGAGE LOAN BALANCE</b> \$729,504						
Dedicated Accounts with Balances over \$3,000						
Youth Ministry	\$10,762		FOJ Estate Gift	\$3,592		
New Staff	\$50,000		FOJ Fundraising	\$11,518		
Ins. Claim Water Damage	\$7,137		Benevolence/Wise	\$4,476		
Future Debt	\$30,000					



Monthly Publication of

Zion Lutheran Church

July

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