

7/11 email to congregation

**10:00 Outdoor service is planned to continue through Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>; we'll return inside on Sept 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**HELPING OTHERS MINISTRY SCHOOL DONATIONS starts this month.** Please look for the display table in the hallway. These donations benefit schools in the Kalamazoo area as well as our Friends of Jesus Pre-school. The sales are starting now! The items are: spiral bound notebooks, 2 pocket folders, scissors, rulers, pencils (regular and colored), pencil sharpeners, mechanical pencils, erasers, crayons, washable markers, glue (sticks and bottles), Kleenex, construction paper, gallon Ziploc bags, and watercolor paint sets.

Feel free to also donate items that are not on this list if you see good deals. If you have any questions, please contact Jayne Mayer at 375-8342

Our next congregation service project will take place **August 9th (Wednesday) at 5pm.** We will be packing 25,000 meals for local food pantries!

Sign up on the kiosk or call the church office!

**REMINDER:** members can turn in donations at any time for Helping Hands / Grateful Heart Bazaar. This can include garage sale items or craft donations. Also, regarding book donations, this year we are only accepting novels.

**"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 at [jen@zionkazoo.org](mailto:jen@zionkazoo.org) or drop it off at the office."

**Friends of Jesus Preschool is now offering wraparound childcare beginning Fall 2023.** As an addition to its preschool programs, Friends of Jesus will now offer before care beginning at 7 AM and after class care until 5:30 PM. For more information, contact Director Jen LaPorte at [jen@zionkazoo.org](mailto:jen@zionkazoo.org).

**Food Gathering for LOAVES and FISHES!** We continue to feed the hungry in our community through Loaves and Fishes. Any canned and boxed food items are accepted. **July is canned fruit no sugar added. THE NEED IS GREAT..... this is snippet from a recent Loaves and Fishes article....**"We are seeing families where one or two people in the household are working, but they are falling into that ALICE population, the individuals who are employed, but not making enough to cover a barebone household budget," Faworksi said. Right now, Loaves and Fishes is seeing a 16% spike in people needing grocery assistance. In addition to historic inflation, COVID-related SNAP benefits expired March 1. In the months that followed, Faworksi says Loaves and Fishes registered **1,500 new households, more than half with children.** "It's really depressing, and I feel like it should be a priority. I feel like it's a human right to have food to sustain yourself. Food assistance programs can offer a crucial lifeline."

**Thank you for your continued financial support.** Any additional, regular support would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you also for your prayers and the many other ways you are involved in and support our ministry!

**To make an online donation, or to set up regular online giving, follow this link:**

<https://www.kindridgiving.com/app/giving/zionkazoo>

**SYMBOL IN THE WINDOW:** In the center of the Window, the ascended Christ is depicted as the Lamb of God, sitting upon the book of the seven seals. He is the center of the window as well as the center of our faith. Note the radiant, brilliant colors that surround the Lamb.

**Weekly meditations** continue to be posted Mondays and Fridays on Zion's Facebook

**WKZO radio ministry / Sundays 9:30am / WKZO**

**Pastor Mike's Bible Study** – Wednesday nights at 6:30p

**Church Office hours:**

Mon - Thurs 9am to 4pm

382-2360 / [zion@zionkazoo.org](mailto:zion@zionkazoo.org)

**For pastoral assistance:**

Pastor Mike 419-203-6770 / Pastor Couch 598-8167 / Aaron 271-2848

**REMINDER: LCMS radio broadcasts**..... for the week of July 16:

**KFUO Radio**, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: **@KFUOradio** on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kfuoradio), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/kfuoradio), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kfuoradio).

**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org:** Begin studying the book of Acts on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), study the Psalms in July on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and dig into Augsburg Confession Articles 6 & 7 on The Church on Concord Matters (7/22 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or the KFUE Radio app!

**If you have been hospitalized, are newly confined to home or a residence facility, or have a new address or phone number, or email address, please call the church office and let us know!**

**Weekly Ministry: Kalamazoo Gospel Mission** - is committed to serving those in the community who are homeless and in financial crisis. They provide night shelter for men, women and children in need of emergency shelter, food, clothing and a safe place to stay. They also run the Discipleship Program which offers individual, family and group counseling to overcome issues of substance abuse, negative self-worth and childhood abuse.