



# *Harbinger*

**October 2020**  
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**Page 2**  
**The Reformation**

**Page 3**  
**Special Messages**

**Page 4**  
**FOJ**

**Page 5**  
**Youth News**

**Page 7**  
**Catechism Review**

**Page 8**  
**Worship Help**

**Page 9**  
**Campus Ministry**

Before I had children, I never could have understood how important they would be in my life. Or how our relationships would change over the years. One Christmas Eve in Toledo, I went to church early. My wife, Suzie got there late, and said our two year old, Mark, had pulled the Christmas tree down on himself! Two year olds bring unexpected memories. Years later, having endured the death of his mother, and his Dad getting remarried, Mark prepared for his own marriage. Two weeks before the wedding I was to perform, his sister unexpectedly died. We struggled through the funeral. He insisted I still needed to be the one to perform the wedding. I wasn't sure I could and tried to back out. He was firm, saying, "Dad, I need you to do our wedding." With help from a loving God we were able to celebrate that special night. I realize now what I didn't know then. He needed his Dad to be close as he endured a terrible loss AND was filled with the joy of his marriage. He wasn't being selfish, but embracing our love. And I know now how much it meant for me to have my son stand with me as well, just as his brother Chris had driven with me to Chicago a week before, to help plan the funeral of his sister. As our children become adults, they become more like friends. Ten years later, Mark lived in Switzerland, and I travelled to visit a place where I had never been. He and Alli ferried me throughout the country, and even into Italy and France for a special family trip I will never forget. He had researched and planned all of our places to stay and translated the menus I could not read. In a way, he was doing for me what I had done when he was a child and we travelled. He was like a parent, making sure I was taken care of as love always makes certain will happen. Another stage and another reminder of how important our children are in our lives. As I reflect upon God's gifts in my life, and how my relationship with my children change and grow, I have another insight into the wisdom of God's creative love. His gifts keep opening in new and more complete ways. His love never ends! Pastor Seeber

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## THE REFORMATION of the CHURCH

Every year's celebration of "The Reformation" is an important moment in time. Martin Luther never meant to form a new denomination, but sought a conversation with religious leaders about how the Church had gotten so far off track in forgetting its scriptural basis. When he posted 95 statements on the Castle Church in Wittenberg, in October of 1517, his goal was to begin a dialog. Instead, because he was a threat to the status quo, he was branded as a heretic and an outlaw. But why does this matter today?

Because we are imperfect and tainted by the reality of sin, everything we touch is likewise imperfect and not always full of God's love. It isn't that we don't try, but we are not perfect. Being a priest or pastor or pope or faithful member of a Church does not exempt us from the frailty that sin brings upon us. And that has often led decisions and traditions of the Church, and laziness by members of congregations, to slowly pull the Church off course. By the time of Luther, forgiveness could be purchased for the right amount of money, many priests misused their authority, people of faith couldn't read the Bible, and many were guided more by superstition and fear than the love of Jesus Christ.

Eventually, Luther and others helped steer the theology and practice of the Church back to basics. Because his actions were inspired by the power of Scripture, his life was transformed and the Church was reformed in so many ways. The Bible was translated so all could read it. Christians re-learned that forgiveness is a gift of God and not a product to be purchased. Worship was understandable and used music and language that involved every member of every congregation. The forms of worship (or liturgy) became more personal and less of a mystical routine. God's grace is not dependent on our actions, but in response, our living should reflect the light of Jesus' love.

The Reformation changed the relationship of Church and State, so that the Church no longer controlled government and kings and princes did not control the life of the Church. The printing press and public education became useful tools. Public education and lifting up the role of women also became hallmarks of Luther's reform. Most important of all, faithful people learned all called to be priests and disciples and witnesses of God's love in every moment of our lives.

Today non-denominational churches are the rage, and that is OK. But there should be no embarrassment in saying "we are Lutheran" as if that were somehow a different religion. Wouldn't it be great if could learn to say we are Lutheran "Catholic" or Roman Catholic, or Reformed Catholic (as we understand "catholic" to mean "universal." We are all Christian, but have allowed different backgrounds and ways of explaining the mysteries of faith to separate and keep us apart. But that should not take away from the joy of this moment in time. We remember the Reformation as it got the Church back on track. And it is important to remember how.

For 500+ years, the Church has remembered its roots in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We have been kept faithful in our understanding that faith and faith alone keeps us close to God's love. We have been encouraged, as we read scripture and join in worship, education, prayer, and acts of servant love that the Church is one, and each of us is called to be a light to the world. Our recent changes in worship online and in parking lot remind us that the essence of the Gospel is what is important, not the rules or traditions of people! Oct. 25 will be our celebration in worship at Zion. As we celebrate the anniversary of THE Reformation, we can best celebrate by making this a daily lifestyle for each and every Christian. And so:

*Faith alone! Grace alone! Scripture alone!*

## SPECIAL MESSAGES

### From Roberta Geissel and Family

We thank all in our Zion family who have prayed for George and our family during his last illness and death.

The prayers are continuing to bring comfort and healing to all of us.

Special thanks to Pastor Seeber, Rebecca and Neil for helping make George's service very special to so many family and friends.

### Mark Your Calendar



Flu shots at Zion  
Thursday, October 1st  
2:00-3:30 pm

**Flu / Pneumonia Vaccines available**

**Covered by most insurances or  
cash / check accepted**

**Sorry... No Credit or Debit Cards**

### COVID-19 Tracing:

With Zion adding a few indoor activities, we are required to comply with COVID Tracing protocols. Please, if you have been inside Zion and then learn you have been exposed, call the office and let us know the date / time you were at Zion and date / time / location where your exposure / contact occurred. Thank you!

## Friends of Jesus Preschool Update



It has been a very quiet start to the year. Since we are just beginning to open the building back up, you might not know this! Since we typically align our schedule/plan to Kalamazoo Public Schools, and because of health and safety concerns due to COVID, Friends of Jesus Preschool did not start up in September.

Our plan and hope moving forward is to have a January start date and go through May or possibly into June. We have sent packets to the families who asked us to hold their registration fee until that time and will continue to support these families as the Ministry Team makes some decisions regarding this year and next.

We thank Melissa VanderMeeden and her staff for their many years of service to the preschool. Our Ministry Team remains fully committed to serving children of Zion and children in the community with a preschool centered around Christian education and kindergarten readiness. We hope to have more news for you in the coming months. If you have any questions in the meantime, feel free to reach out to Aaron.

Thanks!



## Halloween Word Search

Q	M	T	J	V	M	P	L	P	L	S	W	R	Y	N	Y
S	B	R	L	E	F	W	H	X	B	V	C	L	P	K	W
P	H	P	Q	V	F	T	O	S	H	T	F	X	H	X	H
O	B	F	H	D	J	I	J	N	O	T	E	L	E	K	S
O	R	Q	C	A	N	D	Y	I	F	U	Q	I	O	O	B
K	G	H	O	S	T	S	L	K	J	J	E	N	D	O	S
Y	M	Z	L	G	J	F	C	P	H	E	K	Y	J	X	Y
I	T	E	C	O	S	T	U	M	E	S	L	A	H	X	A
V	G	A	X	B	K	L	M	U	M	M	Y	H	A	K	S
E	A	A	B	L	Z	S	T	P	P	I	B	U	L	H	M
D	M	W	F	I	T	P	A	R	T	Y	Q	G	L	C	U
A	E	Y	Q	N	U	G	E	S	S	L	H	Z	O	T	S
S	S	B	J	E	C	C	R	F	F	K	X	P	W	I	Y
T	R	I	C	K	U	P	T	J	A	S	L	Z	E	W	E
F	T	Z	Q	W	P	X	B	J	Q	A	B	I	E	U	W
M	T	V	C	R	J	K	U	D	T	M	U	S	N	H	O

BOO  
GAMES  
HALLOWEEN  
PARTY  
SPOOKY  
WITCH

CANDY  
GHOSTS  
MASK  
PUMPKINS  
TRICK

COSTUMES  
GOBLIN  
MUMMY  
SKELETON  
TREAT

## Youth News

**Bible study and  
Confirmation Class  
will be heading  
towards hybrid model!  
Stay tuned for more  
info!**

### **High School:**

#### Fall Scavenger Hunt

We'll meet at Zion at 4:00pm on  
Saturday, October 24th. Be  
ready to drive around town  
(teams for non-drivers!!!)

### **Middle School Youth:**

#### Pumpkin Carving Contest

Sunday, October 25th at  
11:30am

Bring your own pumpkin!!!

## Echoes

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

What are people going through?

-A young lady in front of me at the bank  
was called to the next teller. She  
immediately broke down crying because  
someone was making charges on her  
account. The teller adjusted  
sympathetically, reassuring her they  
would look at the account. He also  
grabbed her a box of tissues from the  
back.

-A family finding out their child is sick...  
really sick. They take their 9 month old  
to the emergency room. After a long 3  
week stay in the hospital, they receive a  
blanket, made by a member of Zion, 2  
years ago. They reach out and are ever  
so grateful someone cared.

-A parent facing a decision: do I quit my  
job and teach my child or....

The decision made easier when  
grandma makes a choice to move closer  
and teach the grandchild every day.

Sometimes it's easy to make snap  
judgments. When we do that we give up  
our lens of seeing God at Work. Look  
deeper, care more, and seek out  
opportunities to love and to serve.

## OLD AGE

(I found this to be a very interesting and thought provoking article worthy of sharing. It is from a passage from Frederick Buechner's book "*Whistling in the Dark.*" )

OLD AGE IS NOT, as the saying goes, for sissies. There are some lucky ones who little by little slow down to be sure, but otherwise go on to the end pretty much as usual. For the majority, however, it's like living in a house that's in increasing need of repairs. The plumbing doesn't work right anymore. There are bats in the attic. Cracked and dusty, the windows are hard to see through, and there's a lot of creaking and groaning in bad weather. The exterior could use a coat of paint. And so on. The odd thing is that the person living in the house may feel, humanly speaking, much as always. The eighty-year-old body can be in precarious shape, yet the spirit within as full of beans as ever. If that leads senior citizens to think of all the things they'd still love to do but can't anymore, it only makes things worse. But it needn't work that way.

Second childhood commonly means something to steer clear of, but it can also mean something else. It can mean that if your spirit is still more or less intact, one of the benefits of being an old crock is that you can enjoy again something of what it's like being a young squirt.

Eight-year-olds, like eighty-year-olds, have lots of things they'd love to do but can't because they know they aren't up to them, so they learn to play instead. Eighty-year-olds might do well to take notice. They can play at being eighty-year-olds, for instance. Stiff knees and hearing aids, memory loss and poor eyesight are no fun, but there are those who marvelously survive them by somehow managing to see them as, among other things and in spite of all, a little funny.

Another thing is that, if part of the pleasure of being a child the first time round is that you don't have to prove yourself yet, part of the pleasure of being a child the second time round is that you don't have to prove yourself any longer. You can be who you are and say what you feel, and let the chips fall where they may.

Very young children and very old children also have in common the advantage of being able to sit on the sideline of things. While everybody else is in there jockeying for position and sweating it out, they can lean back, put their feet up, and like the octogenarian King Lear "pray, and sing, and tell old tales, and laugh at gilded butterflies."

Very young children and very old children also seem to be in touch with something that the rest of the pack has lost track of. There is something bright and still about them at their best, like the sun before breakfast. Both the old and the young get scared sometimes about what lies ahead of them, and with good reason, but you can't help feeling that whatever inner goldenness and peace they're in touch with will see them through in the end.

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<https://www.frederickbuechner.com/my-buechner/>

## Catechism Review for Adults (continued)

### “ABSOLUTION”

After Confession, we hear the good word of “Absolution.” To “absolve” means to free someone from the results of their action. That might happen in court when a judge decides to waive a sentence that is deserved. That is “absolution!” Every child knows how good this feels when a parent forgives a temper tantrum or a bad report card. Every parent knows how good this feels when a child forgives us for our own moments of anger or ignoring the ones we love so much. Absolution feels great! And means we can move forward without the weight of what we can’t go back and change.

In relationship with God, there is nothing we can ever do to make things right. There are no circumstances that free us from the obligation to love God and neighbor. When we sin (break the trust or relationship we have as a gift) we are “guilty as sin.” Period! That is it! Confession is being honest with ourselves and God; owning up to what we have done (and know better than to have done.) Absolution is never deserved but is a gift! And it comes from the One who has control over the deserved punishment. There is no escape from guilt. However, there is a gift called grace — undeserved love that says “even though you are guilty, I forgive you!”

That might not seem like a big deal, but it really is. Every time we “sin” we are rebelling against God. He has created us to live in a perfect relationship of love and praise for the wonder of his creative love. Every time we break that relationship, it is an attack on God and creation. Every lie, every time of gossip, every moment of using God’s name inappropriately, every time of saying “my time is more important than time with God” tears at the fabric of the seamless creation God intended from the beginning. To say that sin “grieves” God is an understatement. Sin is rebellion, and rebellion deserves death.

But God’s love is greater than his desire to punish; the point of Jesus’ becoming a living “absolution.” John 3:16-17 shares Jesus’ words on this matter: *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Jesus is ‘absolution-in-the-flesh!’”*

We know how good it feels when someone we have embarrassed or hurt says “I forgive you.” That doesn’t take away the pain we have inflicted, but means we don’t have to live with guilt hanging over us. The Bible is full of stories of absolution. One of the greatest was the story Jesus told about a wasteful son who came home to accept the punishment he deserved. His father raced out to welcome him home, and said “you are still my son!” That is “absolution” just as Jesus showed to sinners he invited to dinner and wayward disciples he continued to love.

When we confess our sins in worship, a Pastor speaks for God saying “I forgive you!” It isn’t the pastor’s forgiveness but God’s! Likewise, in private confession the words come as if from God himself. Confession and Absolution is a sacred time, whether it is on a Sunday morning in worship, in a confessional booth with a pastor or priest, or when a loved one or stranger says “you are forgiven!”

There is no greater gift than the “Resurrection Life itself.” In fact, absolution IS like Easter because life is returned and guilt is erased. Every time of absolution is a time of new beginnings — a fresh start. Luther understood how important these liturgical and loving actions were. This is the only way to begin worship, or a new day, or a new relationship. This is the heart of law and Gospel; a broken world and God’s gift of restoring what is lost. Absolution IS the Gospel “in the present” announcing that God’s love is greater than our selfishness or sin. What a wonderful gift!



## Worship Help for Parents and Children

This continues our discussion on liturgy and worship in the Lutheran Church. This month we focus on **“Worship Postures.”**

Do you sit or stand to read a book? Do you have a certain seat at the table for dinner? How do you greet a stranger? What do you do when you approach a long lost friend. What is your facial expression when you are confident, and how could someone look at you and know you are worried or afraid?

Posture is something we do without thinking, and yet our posture betrays our emotions, our innermost feelings, and our needs. To accentuate praise we might stand, or raise our arms. If we desire to stress humility or reverence before God, we might kneel. We sit to listen, or merely to take a rest. Visual elements of worship are as necessary and

important as verbal. We participate in worship with our body, as much as with our hymns of praise or the silence of prayer.

People stand and people sit. We walk to receive communion and close eyes in prayer. We reach out to share Christ's peace and smile as a way to welcome. Pastor faces the altar and faces the people. Hands reach out in greeting or are folded in prayer. The sign of the cross is lifted over bread and wine, in baptism, or in benediction as we go into the world. Posture is very much a part of worship.

The hymnal gives directions or “rubrics” that suggest what posture we might adopt. The point of our actions is to involve our entire body in the act of serving God in worship — different postures denote different feelings (much like a frown or a smile.) And we do them together because we are “one body.” For instance, when our legs start running our hands and heart usually follow along. And yet (like our parking lot worship now) sometimes our postures change. These “rubrics” are suggestions to aid in worship. Whether we bow our heads or not in prayer is

not what determines whether heaven will be our home. All these suggestions are colored by reality and experience. For instance, some love to stand for prayer, and others can't because of the pain of arthritis or the reality that their four year old keeps trying to wander away. And so, what's a mother to do??? I guess the most important thing for all is to seek to understand “why” a particular posture is suggested. And, at the same time reflect upon what postures in worship are distracting and hamper worship.

And then, we might well remember that we are only speaking of our formal worship service — what postures will our worship of God take on at work, or home, or play? In those settings you and not the pastor are the “worship leader,” and your “posture” there is just as important as when we are here at Zion.

### For Parents with young children:

You spend a lot of time at home helping your children to learn through practice and the formation of good posture. There are certain places to sit and stand. There are times to touch and times not to touch. There are times to say thank you and times to sit quietly in a corner. Posture is part of all that you do.

Having children fold hands and close eyes in prayer is not the only way a prayer “works” but it is good practice to teach how not to be distracted when praying. Standing and sitting in worship when mom and dad stand or sit helps them to learn what is going on and why. You can use each moment in worship as a teachable moment, if you remember that everything that we do is happening for a reason. Readings, hymns, bread and wine, water of baptism, and yes, even posture, all are part of responding to God's love and sharing that love with each other. Your kids want to know “why” we do what we do ... don't be afraid to think about how you can help them to learn — even through our posture in worship.

Blessings! Pastor Tim



## CAMPUS MINISTRY

I am very excited about the panel discussion and forum that we have been working on to address the issues of racial inequality and injustice from a Biblical perspective. The date for the panel discussion and forum will be on Thursday October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Bernhard Center will allow up to 50 people for the event, which will take place in the South Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. We will also simulcast/live stream the event.

The WMU faculty and staff that have been so integral in helping plan this event and who are part of our planning committee are:

**Dr. Luchara Wallace:** Director of the Lewis Walker Institute on Race and Ethnic Relations.

**Dr. Charles Crawford:** Director of the Criminal Justice Program at WMU.

**Mr. Chris Sligh:** Direction of Student Engagement at WMU.

The Bible passage that will serve as the focus for our panel discussion event will be the Parable of the Good Samaritan. The planning committee suggested that we have as diverse of a panel as possible. We are hoping to have 4 people on the panel. I will be the moderator. So far, we already have two that have agreed to serve on the panel. They are...

**Pastor Mo Brooks:** Mo is one of the pastors of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Kalamazoo

**Dr. Bernice Patterson:** Director and CEO of Infinity Consultation Services.

We have also asked Pastor Chris Gentz of H2O Church on the WMU campus, and also reached out to St. Thom's Moore Catholic Parish. If they are able to serve as panelists, we will have a diverse mix of both black and white Christian men and women on the panel.

Our Sunday outdoor worship services at 12 noon at Solid Grounds have had 9 WMU students at the first two services, but only 4 at service yesterday. There are 2 WMU freshmen that have attended. We ordered a big banner for the front lawn of Solid Grounds to advertise the service and hope that

draws some students for the remainder of our Sunday outside services.

In talking with a few other campus ministers, they are not getting much interaction with new students. The normal hustle and bustle of students walking around campus is not happening this year. Since students are required to wear face masks at all times on campus and maintain social distancing, it is hard to interact face to face and make connections.

Our Tuesday evening Bible study is currently meeting outside at Solid Grounds. There are about 4-5 students coming to Bible study.

Our Thursday evening men's study, called Living Free has 3 WMU students. This group is a continuation from the Conquer's series we started last year for students struggling with addiction to pornography. This group of young men has been a wonderful blessing. The Living Free series is a much more in-depth study of the Conquer series and each of these 3 young men have grown and are finding freedom and healing!

One other idea that we are working on is having someone from the WMU Counseling Center come and talk with students about emotional and mental health and well being. Students are struggling with a variety of issues and we think that having a trained counselor come and talk with students about how to cope and deal with issues such as anxiety, stress, frustration, loneliness, etc could be a way to reach students and provide an opportunity for them to have a safe place to share and learn.

God's peace and blessings to you all!

Pastor Mark



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/1	Catherine Griesbach, Debra Jorae, Erin Shiltz
10/2	Olivia Leitz, Terry Nelson
10/3	Jack DeVries, Sarah Skuratowicz, Ryan Tomer, Lindsay VanderVeen
10/4	Vicki Gilbert
10/5	Victoria Asaro
10/6	Melody Couch, Kathleen Frank , Matthew Mayer, Karleton Woodford
10/7	Shirley Ponte, Melissa VanderMeeden
10/8	Andrew Bickel
10/9	Judith Finnegan, Evangeline Grube
10/10	Siarha Tangeman
10/11	Kelly Bowes
10/12	Vanessa Burnard, Veryl Cutler, Aiden Gogan
10/13	Denise O'Brien, Elizabeth Powell
10/15	David Hampshire
10/16	Linda Mayer, Mark Schoonbeck
10/17	John DuBois, Alexander Kiessling, Charles Wendling
10/18	Barbara Nutsch, Barbara Phillips, Mark Seeber, Monica Slesinski
10/19	Charlotte Green, Erin Harding, Elizabeth Perry, Julie Ream, Amy Wilkins
10/21	Cameron Brege, Kaleb Fill, Lisa Frazier, Joanne Rehkopf
10/22	Kathy Solberg
10/23	Jennifer Squiers, Christine Wilkins, Thomas VandenBerg
10/24	Neloise Vliestra
10/25	Peter Fager, Mark Hampshire, Stephen Kiefer
10/26	Landon Ewers, Lori Doorlag, Adam Hay
10/27	Max Geib, Linda Stieve, Ruth Stoeffler, Kenneth Toy
10/28	James Mayer
10/29	Julie Woods
10/30	David Borak, Carlton Rink
10/31	Frank Bell

## Parish Report

### Deaths

George Geissel	08/26/2020
Joanne Smith	08/26/2020
Tom Bernhardt	09/10/2020
Bill Cook	09/24/2020

## KALAMAZOO LOAVES & FISHES

The wish list item for **October is Soups & Stews.** When COVID19 restrictions relax we will again take your donations in the gray tubs under the church office window. Until then, please help Loaves & Fishes as you are able. Thank you!




## Religious Humor

Our fourth grader celebrated his birthday on crutches, so he couldn't carry the cupcakes into school without help. I asked our sixth-grader, Noah, to help his brother carry them in. "I could," he said, "but I'd prefer not to." Spotting a teaching moment, my husband asked Noah, "What would Jesus do?" Noah answered, "Jesus would heal him so he could carry his own cupcakes."



# OCTOBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 2:30 Aaron Fb Devotion	2 Pastor Tim Fb Devotion	3
4 8:00 Indoor Service 9:30 Parking Lot Worship	5 Pastor Tim Fb Devotion	6	7	8	9 Pastor Tim Fb Devotion	10
		1:00 Aaron Fb Devotion		2:30 Aaron Fb Devotion		
11 8:00 Indoor Service 9:30 Parking Lot Worship	12 Pastor Tim Fb Devotion	13 Noon - Finance 1:00 Aaron Fb Devotion	14 8:30 Clean-up Crew	15	16 Pastor Tim Fb Devotion	17
				2:30 Aaron Fb Devotion		
18 8:00 Indoor Service 9:30 Parking Lot Worship 10:30 Confirmation Ceremony 6:30 BOD	19 Pastor Tim Fb Devotion	20	21	22	23 Pastor Tim Fb Devotion	24
		1:00 Aaron Fb Devotion		2:30 Aaron Fb Devotion		
25 8:00 Indoor Service 9:30 Parking Lot Worship	26 Pastor Tim Fb Devotion	27 1:00 Aaron Fb Devotion	28 8:30 Clean-up Crew	29 2:30 Aaron Fb Devotion	30 Pastor Tim Fb Devotion	31
				2:30 Aaron Fb Devotion		
			September 2020 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		November 2020 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	
						

# Financial Report for August 2020

**ZION:** August Giving was over budget by \$7,238. Expenses were under budget by \$7,395.

August ended with a Net Gain of \$7,721. YTD Net Income gain was \$16,553, over budget by \$19,354.

**FRIENDS OF JESUS PRESCHOOL:** Income was under budget by \$12,275. Expenses were under budget by \$5,167. August Net Loss was \$55. YTD Net Income Gain was \$343, under budget by \$2,738.

**Solid Grounds:** Income was over budget by \$4,649. Expenses were under budget by \$518.

August Net Gain was \$3,517. YTD Net Income gain was \$3,938, over budget by \$1,262.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH	Current Month			Year-To-Date		
	Budget	Actual	Over/Under	Budget	Actual	Over/Under
<b>INCOME</b>						
Zion Giving & Misc.	52,925	60,161	7,238	167,375	162,657	-4,718
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Zion Staff Support	28,072	27,895	-377	84,798	84,807	9
Office Operations	1,435	1,508	71	4,305	3,964	-341
Church Property	10,373	8,751	-1,622	23,118	16,460	-6,658
Education Ministry	1,335	533	-802	1,335	797	-538
Evangelism/Missions	0	0	0	100	0	-100
Worship Ministry	450	300	-150	1,500	1,464	-36
Other Ministries	150	0	-150	650	209	-441
Music Ministry	2,000	1,000	-1,000	5,450	2,500	-2,950
Finance Ministry	10,340	6,384	-3,956	31,020	19,120	-11,900
Zion Haus Ministry	400	270	-130	1,200	783	-417
Missions - General	5,280	6,001	721	16,700	16,000	-700
Total Expenses	59,835	52,440	7,395	170,176	146,104	-24,072
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-6,910</b>	<b>7,721</b>	<b>-14,631</b>	<b>-2,801</b>	<b>16,553</b>	<b>19,354</b>
<b>FRIENDS OF JESUS PRESCHOOL</b>						
<b>INCOME</b>						
FOJ Income	12,836	561	-12,275	16,886	4,805	-12,081
FOJ Staff Support	4,233	404	-3,829	9,757	3,737	-6,020
FOJ Operations Expenses	1,550	212	-1,338	4,050	725	-3,325
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>7,053</b>	<b>-55</b>	<b>-7,108</b>	<b>3,079</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>-2,736</b>
<b>SOLID GROUND</b>						
Solid Ground Income	7,652	12,301	4,649	29,631	30,637	1,006
Solid Ground Expenses	9,302	8,784	518	26,955	26,699	256
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-1,650</b>	<b>3,517</b>	<b>5,167</b>	<b>2,676</b>	<b>3,938</b>	<b>1,262</b>
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>						
	6/1/2020	8/31/2020	YTD	Change		
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Cash	78,336	213,131	134,795			
Investments	137,222	137,543	321			
Other Assets	10,944	-109,516	-120,460			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>226,502</b>	<b>241,158</b>	<b>14,656</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Payroll	5,829	4,357	-1,472			
Dedicated Funds	87,136	86,368	-768			
Unrestricted Funds	133,537	150,433	16,896			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>226,502</b>	<b>241,158</b>	<b>14,656</b>			
<b>MORTGAGE LOAN BALANCE</b>						
	\$772,530					
Dedicated Accounts with Balances over \$3,000						
Youth Ministry	\$8,784	FOJ Estate Gift	\$4,005			
New Staff	\$50,000	FOJ Fundraising	\$12,010			

## The 150th Anniversary Book

Available within the next few weeks.

Each Member Household will receive one copy.  
Additional copies will be available for \$7.50.

See Order Form below:

This is a story about 150 years of Days in the Life of Zion, beginning when our church was founded in 1868, to the present when we celebrated our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018. This story, in four sections, flows through the themes of our Anniversary celebration: **REMEMBER, REFLECT, RECONFIRM, RENEW.**

When we celebrated our Anniversary on Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 we added the word **REJOICE** to crown our Anniversary themes as an expression of the joy that we, as a congregation, felt on that day.

*This story is dedicated to the generations of saints upon whose shoulders we stand today; and equally importantly, to all of the saints who will follow us and continue our work to grow and shape Zion for generations to come.*



**DAYS IN THE LIFE OF ZION,  
PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE  
150 YEARS**

### 150th Anniversary Book Order Form

Household Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$7.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to: Zion Lutheran Church

Email form to: [zion@zionkazoo.org](mailto:zion@zionkazoo.org) or Mail to: Zion 2122 Bronson Blvd Kalamazoo MI 49008

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**October**

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