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I am blessed with incredible cousins! One stands out for her creative annual family updates, full of self-deprecating humor. (It is so good to be related to people who know they are loved, no matter what!) She and her husband lived in an older Chicago suburb. One Monday she and her young daughters came home late to find the beloved family dog had died. With little ones sobbing, and it being bedtime, she made a pragmatic decision. She called her husband and told him it was time for him to come home from work (lest he miss out on the family experience at hand.) He arrived, and learned Cook Country requires cremation (so no digging in the back yard at 10pm.) The next few workdays would be extremely busy for both, and they realized trying to get to a vet wasn't going to be as convenient as they hoped. As her husband is as creative and decisive as she, he thought of the freezer in the garage, wrapped the dog in a garbage bag, and put her in the freezer. I still laugh in remembering this, even after thirty years! I remember trying to imagine their beloved pet, in a garbage bag, frozen, and lying on top of ice cream, pizza, and burgers. However, it was a clever solution that avoided more questions from preschoolers and delayed the inevitable. Neither was anxious to go the vet and deal with what loomed ahead. But they could not bear to park in the garage either, so after a couple days it was time to lift Bucky (the dog) out of the freezer and head to the vet. (How does one casually walking into vet's office with a frozen dog, and casually say, "guess what?") All of us who love dogs know how difficult this had to have been, and glad it was them and not us. It gets better, as the comment of the young lady at the veterinarian clinic was priceless: *"Well, we don't get many frozen ones!"* That being said, isn't it helpful to remember there aren't always perfect answers in the moment? Sometimes we simply do the best we can do, realizing it was the best we could do. Timing is everything! Sometimes all one can do is take a deep breath, see who is watching, laugh, and then move confidently forward. Never forget that second guessing is always a losing bet, while forgiveness will always free us to walk into tomorrow. That is important to remember because none of us is perfect, and guilt as a motivator is highly overrated. Life is what it is, but grace and God's love are even more so! And I am certain sainted Martin Luther would have added, "this is most certainly true!"

Pastor Seeber

**PASTOR MIKE SAYLOR HAS
ACCEPTED THE CALL TO BE SENIOR
PASTOR FOR ZION**

**A worship service to celebrate his
installation in as our Senior Pastor
will take place Sunday, June 4 at 3pm.
A reception will follow!**

We are grateful that our wait has reached such a positive conclusion, as the Holy Spirit has guided us through a process bringing us a new beginning.

Here is Pastor Saylor's letter of acceptance:

March 26, 2023

Dear Members of Zion,

Having spent these past weeks prayerfully considering and reflecting upon the Divine Call you have extended to me to serve as Senior Pastor of Zion, Kalamazoo, I feel led by the Holy Spirit to accept this Call. Laura and I are ready to start a new chapter of our life together by serving with you in the Kalamazoo community.

As I've mentioned previously while visiting with some of you, I am so very humbled to have been Called to Zion. I am humbled. I am honored. And I am in!

Thank you for your prayers and support as Laura and I work out the details of our move to Kalamazoo over these next weeks.

Please keep Redeemer, Convoy in your prayers as well. We love our brothers and sisters in Christ here in Ohio and we're grateful for the chance to say goodbye to them and wrap up things before we turn our focus toward Michigan. I am confident that the Lord will bless them with a new pastor, with just the right person, according to His timing and faithfulness.

Again, our deepest thanks for the patience you've shown us during these weeks of praying and talking and seeking God's gracious will. Laura and I know that His grace is enough, more than

enough, to give us the confidence we need as we move forward, as we move to Michigan, as we prepare to serve with you.

Sincerely, in Jesus! Pastor Mike Saylor

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR CALL COMMITTEE

Ryan Bickel (chair), Eric Carlson, Jill Hamilton, Danielle Field, Dan Buchtrup, Chrissy Brege, Ted Maxson, Helen Fierke, Steve Butt, and Pastor Larry Brelje (advisor) have served on this ministry team since March 2021. Pastor Todd Jones, from the Michigan District Office has been the liaison with the District and advisor to the call committee.

This group developed questions for interviews, met with the District officials to better understand the process and procedures, interviewed candidates and presented what they felt were suitable names who would fit well at Zion.

They met more often than any other ministry team has been meeting, often weekly! They led the congregation through three different call meetings and two calls that were declined. They have been extremely faithful, and have served Zion well. Their task was complicated by the shortage of available pastors and the hesitancy of many to move in uncertain financial and political times.

Please take time to thank them for their tireless and responsible effort. In all of their deliberations, they prayed for God's guidance. They took this task seriously and represented Zion well!

We hope that many of you will join us in welcoming Pastor Saylor and his family as he officially becomes Zion's Senior Pastor. This day of celebration will be a wonderful time to get acquainted with him and his family and show our support for his willingness to serve as our pastor.

Mark your calendar now!

June 4 at 3pm

Festival Worship Service!

Please RSVP to Link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/88YMDN6>

CATECHISM REVIEW:**Apostles Creed (part 1)**

How do you introduce yourself to others? How do you explain who you are? Do you share age, birthplace, family affiliation, educational and vocational background, where you live and who your family is?

What about all the facts that identify you to the other organizations, such as email, cellphone number, address, social security number, place of employment, or your salary? Think about how that all makes us unique.

Now add to that your priorities. Your political views. Your recreation and exercise choices. Your favorite authors, teams, or stores. Think about all that you have to remember. Any one could tell from these facts “who” you are and the values that guide your life.

What helps you learn about people around you? What is important for you to know about them?

Any group, movement, or belief system has some sort of creed to identify similar information. The word creed comes from the Latin “credo” which means “I believe.” So, any creed is a statement of what someone believes, whether it has to do with a political party, organization, and especially what we believe God to be. What Christians believe is what makes them Christians.

The Apostles’ Creed is our basic statement of belief about faith. It identifies who we are. For each, it is more important than earthly identifiers that are fragile and corrupted by sin and death.

The Apostles’ Creed is a proclamation of how our lives are different because of faith, and how our future is different from the temporary stuff of this earthly life. That is background.

Think about how early disciples had to teach people what they believed. They had no books, handouts, colorful charts, or tracts. They had no videos or photographs. They were, for the most part, surrounded by cultures who either knew nothing about the God of Israel or believed in a myriad of gods and goddesses and influenced by all sorts of pagan rituals and rites. Everyone had different systems of values.

Early Christians wanted to learn and memorize the basic and necessary facts of Jesus’ teaching, and make certain nothing important was left out. They also wanted to be in agreement so that others didn’t ad-lib, add, or delete important information. Gradually, through consensus and practice, they were in agreement about the basics. Gradually that took the form of a creed that was easy to remember and easy to recite.

The Apostles Creed is that statement of faith. It is like our Pledge of Allegiance. The more we repeat the same words, the easier they are to remember. And in a culture that was very often illiterate, most of what was passed along was done through speaking and listening. And so the Creed had a two fold purpose of remembering the basics and having readily available the answers to people’s questions about the Christian faith.

In a world without many books, no internet, and no ability to google information all they had were words and actions. They could tell what they knew about Jesus, and others could look at how they lived and see how this was different from what the cultural norms had been, whether in Rome, Syria, Babylon, India or Greece. (See how much we take for granted!)

Gradually this became the catechism for teaching the faith, and a hymn or statement used in worship. Always, it was associated with Baptism, as a reminder or the tool for those coming into the faith to learn the basics. The earliest record we have of it in print was around the year 340 AD.

How much do you remember when someone asks “who are you?” Do you have to write all of your background information and values or can you remember the essentials.

The Apostles’ Creed is our way to remember whose we are and what we believe — not only for our own devotional and worship lives, but in order to make daily decisions or share answers with anyone who wonders what makes a Christian different than a Moslem or anyone else.

This is a valuable gift, like a favorite song or a poem, that helps us remember, and ties us to every single Christian in every part of the world. This is the one thing we all have in common, and what a good thing it is to remember, for what we believe shapes what we will be. - tws

Plan ahead for our Blood Drive.... Summer is one of the greatest time of needs for blood.



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drive

Zion Lutheran Church

2122 Bronson Boulevard, Kalamazoo

Monday, June 5, 2023

12:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Please keep your **EMAIL ADDRESS** **current** with the church office.

Add zion@zionkazoo.org to your email contacts list, please. New email security is blocking many of you from receiving Church notices.

Also, if you would prefer to **receive an electronic version of Harbinger each month**, please let the church office know.

Thank You Zion

Thank you Zion, from the Kalamazoo Antique Auto Restorers Club (KAARC). Zion has granted the KAARC the use of the church building for years and for this the Club is very grateful. Our club currently has three families that are also members of Zion: The Bierleins, Vicki Holt and the Rakows are members of both organizations.

KAARC meets at 7p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month and would like any of you to join us. You do not need to restore automobiles, have an antique automobile or even own an automobile. The club does sponsor trips to automobile events and museums. Members of the club visit a museum or special automobile collection each March (March Winds Tour), visit local collections and restoration shops (Garage Hop), hold a regional parts swap meet the first weekend in February and hold an event in August at the Gilmore Car Museum that draws 700 cars and 3,000 visitors.

KAARC is charitable. Each year the club donates \$600 to Zion for use of the building. Zion does not ask for any payment, but the club makes this donation in appreciation of Zion's help. The club also contributes \$200 to Loaves & Fishes. In addition, KAARC grants \$8,000 each year in scholarships and tools to students building careers in the automobile restoration and repair fields. Club members also help train young people interested in automotive trades. This is done through Garage Works at the Gilmore Car Museum. Members also volunteer at the Gilmore Museum to instruct and coach people on how to drive a Ford Model "T". This last activity draws people from around the world.

Richard Rakow

Worship Help for Parents and Children

This month: “Worship Assistants”

Worship is “showing the worth” of our faith in God through Jesus Christ. On Saturdays and Sundays the congregation gathers as one around Word and Sacrament to give God glory, grow in faith, and share our mutual support with each other. This time of corporate worship is like a family dinner at Thanksgiving.

Liturgy means the work of the people and is our pattern of worship. Lutherans believe worship is something we participate in rather than passively watch. Worship is not a spectator sport! We are not an audience, we are all participants! Worship is a special time to celebrate the family of faith.

Seminary training helps pastors to lead worship, administer the Sacraments, and proclaim the prophetic Word in sermons. But one of Luther’s greatest gifts in better understanding worship was his writing of liturgies and hymns, as well as translating the Bible into the language of his people. Rather than worship in Latin, where only the priests understood what was happening, this brought all believers into a time of worship!

It is important for our members to all assist. This is not a time to watch but for all to be involved! In a sense we all are worship assistants, yet some have more specific roles.

Altar Ministry members set the table for the Holy Meal of Communion. They keep all the altar coverings, candles, and communion vessels clean and ready for each service. **Acolytes** assist by lighting candles, helping with baptisms, processions or whatever assistance the pastors might need. **Ushers** greet worshippers, hand out worship materials, assist in the flow of worship, and are ready to help in emergencies. **Lectors** of all ages read Scripture. **Cantors** chant the liturgy and Psalms. **Organists, pianists, choirs,** and other **musicians** lead the singing or proclaim the Word through music. Some help with **sound and lighting**. **Artists** provide banners, flowers, and other gifts to help celebrate the church year.

Every one assists by participating in song, prayer, and simply showing up to mutually support each other. We are always open to new ways to involve

more people of all ages, so the family of Zion is truly more involved in leading and supporting worship. Worship is a participatory event for all! Worship is a “team event!” What gifts, time, or energy might you bring to the table?

For Parents with young children: We have many ways to involve children in worship. Simply by being here, they are learning the liturgy and getting used to the flow of worship. And it is always surprising how much they hear and understand! At Baptism, parents accept this as a role in mentoring the faith of their children. They can be special worship assistants for their family.

Children’s activity pages share the themes adults are considering and singing about on any given Sunday. When a child comes up and receives a blessing at Communion, they are showing other children, by their example, that worship is a place for children to participate in also. This is not just to make them feel good but a reminder they belong as much as anyone else.

When a youngster shouts “amen” maybe when others are quiet, or continuing singing when everyone else has stopped — so what?! This is the Spirit moving them and their way of helping us to remember that we once were young as well. Remember what Jesus said about welcoming little children! That is at the heart of the kingdom and at the heart of our worship.

Even when your children put your offering envelope (or their own nickel or dime) in the offering, they are learning about stewardship, and they are assisting in the life of our worship. *Don’t ever be embarrassed by your kids! They are God’s gifts entrusted to you and they are as much a part of our family here as anyone else. If worship is important for any, it is important for all — especially kids!*

We have placed windows, rocking chairs, and speakers behind the sanctuary, so if little ones get too restless or noisy, you can have a brief time out, but you (and they) can still see and hear what is going on! If you have other ways that you would like to be involved as a worship assistant, or have ideas for our children, please pass them along. Every time we gather to celebrate Easter, there is some way all assist in making that meaningful and full of joy!

Summer Fun

Our last week of Sunday School is May 21st!
We also plan to host these events as well as
some other opportunities to gather:

June 26-28: VBS/Week of Service

July 15: Growlers game

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

Family Life

Family Ministry News

FAITH AS A TREE

If you missed the drawing of a large tree in the hallway over Confirmation weekend, you missed out on a great analogy for our faith...thought up by 8th graders!

Roots of a tree are below ground. You don't see them but they provide nourishment and vital nutrients to the tree. If the roots are unhealthy, the tree doesn't produce fruit. Next is the trunk of the tree. The trunk is the support as it bears much of the load. The trunk is thick and is a conduit for the nutrients from the roots to the leaves. The leaves and fruit of the tree are most visible. They fulfil the purpose of a tree: produce fruit/seeds/leaves.

Our personal faith life/relationship with God is portrayed as the roots. Others do not see our spiritual disciplines yet those are what provide the ability to share our faith with others. The congregation or faith community is that support conduit of the trunk. Strength is found in a healthy and active faith community. Finally we get to the fruit. In this case, the fruit of the Spirit is how we share our faith with others. What a fantastic analogy 8th graders!!!

Youth News

High School:

Bible Study

Sundays at 9:15am

The last study before summer is

May 21st!

All Youth:

Canoe Trip

Date TBD, hopefully the second weekend in June (10th/11th) OR a weekday during break

Middle School:

Confirmation Class

Our last Sunday before summer break is at 9:15am on May 21st!

Class Party

May 3rd at 6pm (pizza party!)

Echoes

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

What happens when you announce the words: “Chainsaw Party?” You get quite a response from chainsaw enthusiasts who want to cut!

For 2 or 3 weeks after the ice storm in February, a group of Zion servants went to 7 different houses to assist residents in clean up efforts. Most properties had multiple limbs down that needed to be cut and hauled. Thanks to the efforts of about a dozen Middle School through 50+ year olds, we were able to be God at work for just a handful of people.

One comment at the end of our project was something like this: “This is what a church should be—coming together to accomplish a project that’s helpful.”

SO, this summer, particularly the week of VBS/Service June 26-28, the congregation is invited to ‘come together’ and accomplish some projects at houses or on our own church property. If you are interested in being God’s hands and feet, please let Aaron know. If you have a project you simply cannot do or need help with, please let Aaron know. Together we can live out an example of what it means to be the Church.

CAMPUS MINISTRY REPORT:

A couple of weeks ago, a friend of mine, who is a Sociology professor at WMU, invited me to her class to share with them the volunteer work we are doing with the YWCA. The class she is teaching is on child abuse and one of the resources she shares with the students is the work of the YWCA.

So, I had a chance to share with her class that we volunteer on Tuesday evenings with the kids at the YWCA whose mom's are at the shelter as victims of domestic violence. I invited them to join us in our volunteer efforts and there were two students in her class that signed up and have joined us on Tuesday evenings at the YWCA.

There's a perception that public universities are hostile to Christianity, and while there are elements and faculty members that do have an unfavorable opinion of Christianity, there are also WMU faculty and staff members that are open and welcoming of our efforts, especially when it comes to serving in the community.

Over the years, I have been on call lists to serve as campus pastor at the University of Central Florida, Florida Gulf Coast University, and Florida State University. Even though the intrigue of being back in Florida, especially in the winter, was there, I never felt strongly tugged or led to be open to a call to any of those locations. A big part of that was all of the opportunities that the Lord opened up to us to do ministry with international students, student athletes, as well as connections that have been made with numerous WMU faculty members, and most recently, with WMU staff members in landscaping, facilities and maintenance.

This Spring semester is almost over. Finals week was April 24-28. The new ministry events that we started this year, ranging from our Monday evening Dinner and Discussion events, to our Tuesday evening volunteering at the YWCA, as well as our Thursday efforts at Maple Street Middle School from 11AM-1PM, and our lunches at Solid Grounds for WMU staff members have all been received well. The students and staff members have all expressed the desire to continue these efforts when the Fall semester begins.

In addition to serving on campus, Pastor Tim has provided me with the opportunity to call on some of

Zion's more recent shut ins. I have found spending time with them to be very rewarding and look forward to continuing in those efforts as well.

God's peace and blessing to you all!

Pastor Mark



FRIENDS OF JESUS

Friends of Jesus Preschool is continuing to accept enrollments for the 2023-2024 school year. We are offering full-time care from 7 AM until 5:30 PM as an add-on to our 3 and 4-year-old preschool programs. Tours can be scheduled by contacting me at 269-382-2360 or jen@zionkazoo.org. If you would like to help spread the word about Friends of Jesus Preschool, please stop by the preschool office to pick up a yard sign, flyer, or business card. You can also follow and share our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofJesusPreschoolatZion>.

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 or drop it off at the office.

Jen LaPorte, Director

Book Review. “Rembrandt is in the Wind; Learning to Love Art Through the Eyes of Faith.” Russ Ramsey. Zondervan. 2022.

This book, written by a pastor, discusses the lives and works of artists such as Vincent van Gogh, Michelangelo, Caravaggio, Rembrandt, Vermeer, and a few others. Together, their work spans four hundred years of western history.

The names are familiar, but what do we know about how their lives and art were inspired by their faith or the facts of their daily lives? Who taught them? Why did they choose to paint what and how they did? And why does any of this matter? Interesting facts emerge such as the fact that Rembrandt’s famous painting (on the book cover) “The Storm of the Sea of Galilee” was stolen in 1990 and has never been recovered.

We are so accustomed to browsing quickly through the internet, accepting Wikipedia as the best answer, and paying attention only to what seems most important in the moment, that we risk losing the ability to discern fact from fiction and truth from emotion.

We are so used to seeing everything in segments or bits and pieces rather than the whole. We separate science from faith, art from writing, and so on and so forth. That causes us to miss the depths of what is real.

As one considers the life story of any artist, whether writer, painter, or musician, whatever gifts they share will be understood in a new light that will be much more complete than if you were unaware of what is behind the colors, sounds, or words they share. When that happens, each of us grows with the impact of a renewed and deeper perspective.

All can appreciate the beauty of the Northern Lights or the complexity of a colony of bees. We are mesmerized by the ever-changing colors of a beautiful sunset, or the sound of crashing waves along an ocean coast. Yet, one who sees that hand of God in such moments thinks in terms of miracle while others see only the science or feel only the emotion.

Helpful in this book is the author’s time in explaining the culture and values of each artist, which in turn gives insight into why they used the

style, colors, and subject matter they did. Understanding their cultural background and training gives additional help in interpreting meaning behind the purpose and passion of their artistic efforts.

Words are the colors of my palate when I write. My values and beliefs help guide my brushstrokes as I think and speak. As I communicate (or attempt to) I use the same words millions of others utilize in basic communication, but who I am and the experiences I have been gifted with bring specific definition to the words I use.

Photography is an artistic hobby which captures the shapes and light of the creation that surrounds me, allowing me to keep from walking away and failing to pay attention to what I might have missed at first glance. As I edit a photograph, or remember the moment it was taken, all of the emotion and reality of that instant in time returns as if I am still there.

That is how art works, whether on a stage, in a book, or as a photo or painting in a gallery. The background information that is part and parcel of whatever I see, feel, touch, or hear brings more clarity, beauty, power, and meaning into what someone else might just walk by with a glance or not even pay attention to.

As consumers, we take for granted the effort that goes into providing our basic needs such as food, shelter, and health care. We know what we want and where to get it. Art calls us to slow down, pay better attention, and consider the complexity that is behind and within such creation.

The final section in this book provides a practical guide to different periods and style of art, some suggestions on how to best experience an art gallery, and practical advice on how to view a work of art. Sometimes the basics are what we need to be reminded of more than anything else!

This book can assist in remembering such basics. In doing so, we are helped in our need to appreciate and learn from, rather than just glance at works of art. And then, in turn, we have been taught to do the same thing whether we are dealing with daily bread or the miracles God places in our lives such as sunsets, families, and the lives that surround us. This is an easy read and worthy of at least a glance. Pastor Seeber



BIRTHDAYS

5/1	Rhenda Pease
5/2	June Schurig
5/3	Mandy Scheffler
5/4	Thomas Cooper, Kayla Eichaker, Meredith Freeby, Shawn Schipper, Paul Vickery
5/5	Judith Adlam, Crosby Field, Hunter Laurin, Daniel Phillips,
5/6	Eli Frazier, Kevin Morrison, David Ostrem
5/7	Matthew Folck, Carter Simmons,
5/8	Bruce Huston
5/10	Scott Adams, Diane Alsvig, Karen Stokes Chapo, Marti Nuyen, Steve Slesinski, Zoey Soppelsa
5/11	Myles Ream, Jacob Waterlander
5/12	Celia Schipper, Jeffrey Thiede
5/13	Steven Glascock, Amy Hendricks, Aiden Woods
5/14	Thuy Martin, Parker Wagner
5/15	Zoe Tinigin, Aaron Whittaker
5/17	Wanda Jewett,
5/18	Jill Koning, Kurt Weber
5/20	Steven Stokes
5/22	Christopher Glasser, Robert Klein,
5/23	Carrie Chapman, Sue Ann Coffinger, Laine DeMorrow
5/24	Donald Klug
5/25	Eliza Grube, Eleanor Hayward, Riley Ketchum, Diane Koning, Samantha Leitz
5/26	Patricia Langworthy
5/27	Greggory Dinda
5/28	Don Eastman, Nicole Greene
5/29	Laurel Cullimore, Kirk Decker, Hannah Laurin
5/31	Brandon Hamilton, Linda Hoepfner, Paul Maier

PARISH REPORT

Deaths

Marvin Rutgers

4/5/2023

May / June Art Exhibit

"When In Our Music God is Glorified"

In an effort to reconcile an interest in music and visual art, I gave myself an assignment to visualize some songs and pieces.

During a Gilmore piano concert in 2015, a performance of Robert Schumann's *Waldszehnen* (Forest Scenes) suggested images recalled from a week I had spent at Beaver Island. A series of paintings came about.

Later, hymns and other songs entered the pictures.

In my work, I may start with an idea, but quickly it becomes a problem-solving adventure. Many years ago, when I encountered many solutions to one problem, my mentor, Donald E. King wisely said with a wink, "There is more than one problem.

It may take years to arrive at a solution. In this exhibit, three paintings were gathering dust, in need of addressing or hitting the trash bin. A muse of sorts arrived and bailed me out. That's how it works if one can only learn to pay attention.

Judy Finnegan

KALAMAZOO LOAVES & FISHES

The wish list item for **May is Canned vegetables, low-sodium**. Please put your donations in the gray tubs under the church office window. Thank you!

MAY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 10:00 P. Brelje Bible St	3 9:00 Sewing	4	5	6 8:00 Men's Bible Study
7 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS; Bible Study 10:30 Worship	8 6:30 Endowment	9 10:00 P. Brelje Bible St	10 9:00 Sewing 6:00p Class Pizza Party	11 9-11 Play Date Noon - Finance	12	13 8:00 Men's Bible Study
14 Mother's Day 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS; Bible Study 10:30 Worship	15 6:30 BOD	16 10:00 P. Brelje Bible St 2:00 Book Group	17 9:00 Sewing 6:00 Property	18	19	20 Armed Forces Day 8:00 Men's Bible Study
21 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS; Bible Study 10:30 Worship 11:30 Congregational Meeting	22 Victoria Day (Canada)	23 10:00 P. Brelje Bible St	24 9:00 Sewing	25	26	27
28 Pentecost 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship Time Change	29 Memorial Day Office Closed	30	31 9:00 Sewing			
		Notes				

MAY 2023 WORSHIP LEADERS

	May 7	May 14	May 21 Congregational Meeting @ 11:30	May 28 Time Changed to 10:00a.m.
Acolytes 8:00am	Emma Hendricks	James Mayer	Nikko Quezada	n/a
Acolytes 10:30am	Gabe Hampshire	Mark Skuratowicz	Sarah Skuratowicz	n/a
Head Ushers 8:00am	Dave Mayer Mark Schoonbeck	Brian Bauer John DuBois	Fred Bierlein Dave Newman	Matt Simmons Alan Sarver
Head Ushers 10:30am	Joe Zerbel Garr Gast	Ken Lundquist Dave Borak	Steve Nuyen Dennis O'Brien	Joe Zerbel Garr Gast
Communion Assistants Saturday 5:30pm	Kathleen Jordan	Roxanne Seeber		
Communion Assistants 8:00am			Jim Mayer	Matt Simmons
Communion Assistants 10:30am	Dana & Steve Buft		Sue Bickel	Garr Gast
Lectors 8:00am	Dave Mayer	Andrew Niedbala	Jayne Mayer	Carol Daenzer
Lectors 10:30am	Rollie Preuss	Chris Wilkins	Alison Carlson	
Cantor 8:00am	Karen Stokes Chapo	Vicki Holt		
Cantor 10:30am		Danielle Fields		
Altar Ministry Saturday 5:30pm	1. 2.	1. Mary Lou Wright 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.
Altar Ministry 8:00am	1. Linda Mayer 2.	1. Carol Daenzer 2. Jayne Mayer	1. 2.	1. 2.
Altar Ministry 10:30am	1. Dee Wentzel 2.	1. Melissa Noseworthy 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.

Please note: Grayed areas reflect assistance needed. Please contact the office if you are available to assist with any of these open dates

Sunday, May 21st, 2023

Worship at 10:30am, Luncheon at Noon

Party Time!

Join us in recognizing and celebrating Pastor Timothy Seeber and his 36+ years as Senior Pastor at Zion! He has made a huge impact on so many people and we want him to know! His last worship service as Senior Pastor will be at 10:30am on May 21st and we will have a luncheon to follow, starting at Noon. We hope you can join us!

RSVP by May 7th at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W8B3X7W>. If you are unable to be present this day, please leave a video message or share a story by going to <https://videobooth.app/pastorseeberscelebration>

OR send one to the church office at

marta@zionkazoo.org by May 14th.

Zion Lutheran Church
2122 Bronson Blvd
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

269-382-2360



Virtual Video Contributions



RSVP

Sunday, June 4th, 2023

3pm Installation, reception to follow

Party Time!

Join us as Pastor Michael Saylor is installed as Senior Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church. At 3pm on Sunday, June 4th we will have an installation service followed by a reception. This will be a great opportunity to welcome Pastor Saylor and his family to our congregation.

RSVP by May 21st at
[https://
www.surveymonkey.com/
r/88YMDN6](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/88YMDN6) or use the QR
code



You may also call the church
office to RSVP.

Zion Lutheran Church
2122 Bronson Blvd
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

269-382-2360

Zion Financial Report for March 31, 2023

ZION: March Spending exceeded Giving by \$6,612

YTD Giving is under by \$35,745; YTD Spending is under by \$25,436

The 14,541 YTD extra in Finance Ministry is a result of not being able to pay extra on mortgage principle as originally budgeted

Questions? Please email Don Klug at dakdwl@msn.com

Solid Ground: March Giving exceeded Spending by \$2,337

YTD Income over by \$1,467; YTD Spending over by \$2,748

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH	Current Month			Year-To-Date		
	Budget	Actual	Over/Under	Budget	Actual	Over/Under
INCOME						
Zion Giving & Misc.	74,092	51,273	-22,819	600,240	564,495	-35,745
EXPENSES						
Zion Staff Support	31,416	29,817	1,599	315,031	313,246	1,785
Office Operations	1,156	1,754	-598	12,959	17,327	-4,369
Church Property	8,782	9,428	-646	82,892	87,475	-4,583
Education Ministry	1,270	1,227	43	10,160	10,153	7
Evangelism/Missions	50	0	50	400	352	48
Worship Ministry	550	936	-386	5,150	5,071	79
Other Ministries	135	505	-370	2,625	2,692	-67
Music Ministry	3,590	2,850	740	25,965	21,801	4,164
Finance Ministry	9,370	6,363	3,007	93,665	79,124	14,541
Zion Haus Ministry	1,083	279	804	11,180	2,610	8,570
Missions - General	5,770	4,727	1,043	59,699	54,438	5,261
Total Expenses	63,171	57,885	-5,286	619,725	594,290	25,436
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	10,921	-6,612	-17,532	-19,485	-29,794	-10,309
SOLID GROUND						
Solid Ground Income	11,992	11,935	-57	100,040	101,507	1,467
Solid Ground Expenses	9,655	10,624	-970	96,120	98,868	2,748
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	2,337	1,310	-1,027	3,920	2,639	-1,282

BALANCE SHEET	5/31/2022	2/28/2023	YTD Change
ASSETS			
Cash	70,269	75,426	5,157
Investments	189,391	160,547	-28,843
Due To/From SG & Endow	3,430	-24,761	-28,191
TOTAL	263,089	211,212	-51,877
LIABILITIES			
Payroll	2,616	4,059	1,444
Dedicated Funds	121,187	97,640	-23,546
Unrestricted Funds	139,287	109,513	-29,774
TOTAL	263,089	211,212	-51,877

MORTGAGE LOAN

Balance 2/28/2023	\$471,591
Monthly Payment	\$6,350.00
Additional Principal	\$0.00

Dedicated Accounts with Balances over \$3,000

Zion Haus	\$8,589		
Midweek Dinner	\$3,058	Youth Ministry	\$8,435
FOJ Fundraising	\$8,779	New Staff	\$48,744

Monthly Publication of

Zion Lutheran Church

May

2122 Bronson Boulevard, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE

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KALAMAZOO, MI

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

May 21st at 11:30 a.m.