



# Good News From Zion

Connecting People with God's Grace...

August 2020

## A Message from Pastor May

### A Month of Prayer

Within this newsletter, you are receiving from your Congregation Council an invitation to participate in a survey. This is the first step in the next phase of the calling of a pastor for Zion. Please help to shape the future of Zion by completing it with careful and prayerful deliberation.

As we gather for a celebration of our anniversary as a congregation on August 2nd (7 pm worship outside the CEB followed by socially-distanced fellowship with ice cream and s'mores), I invite you to make August a month of prayer for your church, for Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. May it help us discern what God has in store for our future together.

Here are 12 ways to pray for your church:

1. Pray for unity. Use Psalm 133
2. Pray for God's will to be done, not ours. Use the Lord's Prayer.
3. Pray for Zion to place our trust in the LORD God.
4. Pray for the Holy Spirit to intercede for us.
5. Pray for our oldest members, that they might impart wisdom.
6. Pray for our youth, that they might spark creativity and innovation among us.
7. Pray for our children, that they might inspire us with hope and trust.
8. Pray for our congregation to understand the changes we face.
9. Pray for our community, that its needs might be made known and we might respond.
10. Pray for Bishop Tracie Bartholomew to lead us faithfully.
11. Pray for the next Pastor of Zion, though she or he be yet nameless.
12. Pray that each of us may know God more fully.

Pray.



## Congregation Council Highlights



The Council met via Zoom conference call on July 16. Below are the highlights of that meeting.

- In-person Sunday morning communion services are being well-received, and online worship services continue to be viewed by many. Pastor May recommends continuing with this model of worship for the time being.
- New carpet has been installed at the church. All are invited to stop in and take a look.
- Virtual Vacation Bible School will be held August 3-7.
- The Parish Life Committee continues with plans to hold Zion's Got Talent once COVID restrictions are lifted. This event is the Confirmation Project of Kailey Bredeson.
- An outdoor Socially-Distanced Anniversary Party (Zion's 106th) will be held outdoors at the CEB on August 2. Pastor May will lead a time of worship, followed by roasting marshmallows for s'mores and a visit from the ice cream truck. Please see page 3 for more information.
- The Shepherding Committee has compiled a list of names of those who are willing to provide meals to members and friends who are in need. Meals were recently provided to Betty Lanka following her return home from in-patient rehab.
- The Council discussed the next step in the Pastoral Call Process, which is for the congregation to complete a survey which will inform the Ministry Site Profile. (Please see the article below from President Leah Wintemute.)
- The Youth & Family Ministry Team has received six applications for the position of Director of Youth & Family Ministry and will be conducting interviews with the two candidates who met the criteria .
- Thank you to:
  - \* Pastor May for his tireless efforts during COVID-19 in preparing and leading daily Facebook events, weekly online worship, and Sunday morning in-person communion services.
  - \* Meghan Stanski for setting up weekly communion.
  - \* All who provided meals for Betty Lanka — Karen Jennison, Debra Kaufman, Joanne Rupp, Carolyn Schroeder

The next meeting of the Congregation Council is scheduled for Thursday, August 20. Meetings are open for all to attend.

## Pastoral Call Process — The Path Forward

On Thursday, July 16th, the Church Council took on the task of creating a congregational survey to allow all the members of Zion to have a voice in our Pastoral Call Process. The survey is included inside this newsletter. Please fill it out and drop it off or mail it to the Parish Office at P.O. Box 41, Oldwick, NJ 08858.

The purpose of the survey is to assist us in developing the Ministry Site Profile which must be submitted to the Bishop before a Pastoral Call Committee can be established. Once we have the results of the survey, we will also set up a series of cottage-style Zoom meetings so that more personal discussions can take place. The Council is excited to be moving forward along the path and hopes to hear from every member of Zion.

Leah K. Wintemute, Council President



## Sign up for Zion's Socially-Distanced Anniversary Party!

Please join us for our first-ever "Socially Distanced Anniversary Party" to celebrate Zion's 306 years as a congregation! We will gather outdoors at the CEB on Sunday, August 2. Plans are as follows:



- 6:45PM - Please arrive and set up your lawn chairs or blankets behind the CEB
- 7:00PM - Service begins
- 7:40PM - Service ends
- 7:45PM-9PM - Enjoy treats from the ice cream truck and roast marshmallows by the fire

We will be following current New Jersey guidelines for the COVID pandemic, so please bring a mask to wear when in line for ice cream, the restroom, etc., and at other times when it's not easy to socially distance effectively.

If it rains, we will celebrate "drive-in movie style" from our vehicles and pipe the sound in through car radios.

Please sign up to let us know you are coming. Visit [signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com) and click the magnifying glass at the top of the page to "search by creator's email" ([parishadministrator@zionoldwick.com](mailto:parishadministrator@zionoldwick.com)). Please call Shellie Evers at 804.678.8993 with any questions. We look forward to seeing you!

Hi Zion Family,

The words "thank you" don't nearly seem enough to show my appreciation for your support during the past five weeks while I was in the hospital, rehab, and since I've been home. Your cards and meals helped lift my spirits, but most of all appreciated were your prayers. That tick bite left me with two blood infections--anaplasmosis and Lyme disease plus multiple internal problems that hopefully with time will be resolved.



I am so grateful that Pastor May has kept us connected to Zion via our computers. That has and will be my only way of attending church for quite a while. However, I do plan to celebrate Zion's anniversary from my car in the CEB parking lot on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Wave as you go by. Thanks again!

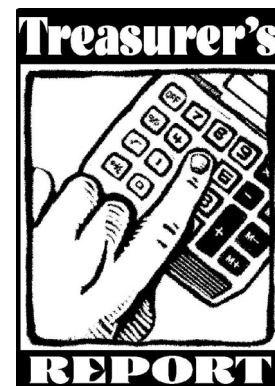
With much love,  
Betty Lanka



Margaret and Steve Griggs would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of love and prayers you have extended to us and our grandson Nathaniel Gilmartin. At the end of July, we will celebrate the one-year anniversary of his discharge from 9 months of hospital care. He has thrived being cared for at home and is continuing to improve in all aspects. He is now 21 months old (adjusted to 17 months to account for his prematurity) and is a laughing, playing, curious, crawling incredible bundle of joy and proof that miracles do indeed occur. Your prayers played a significant role in this outcome and we can't thank you all enough!

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY - YTD 2020

GENERAL FUND	INCOME	EXPENSE	DIFFERENCE
January	\$34,281.28	\$29,374.56	\$4,906.72
February	\$35,792.05	\$31,658.08	\$4,133.97
March	\$25,760.26	\$30,965.46	-\$5,205.20
April	\$32,263.96	\$27,259.26	\$5,004.70
May	\$27,194.61	\$30,039.33	-\$2,844.72
June	\$23,131.66	\$23,059.62	\$72.04
<b>Year To Date Total</b>	<b>\$178,423.82</b>	<b>\$172,356.31</b>	<b>\$6,067.51</b>



TD BANK FUNDS	BALANCE		
Checking Account	PPP \$37,065.00	\$90,506.60	7/3/2020 Bank Statement
Money Market Plus		\$152,677.26	6/30/2020 Bank Statement
<b>Cash On Hand</b>		<b>\$243,183.86</b>	
Directed Funds		\$145,125.11	6/30/2020
Operating Funds		\$98,058.75	6/30/2020
<b>Cash On Hand</b>		<b>\$243,183.86</b>	

ENDOWMENT FUNDS	BALANCE	
CFNJ	\$427,636.04	(3/31/20)
THRIVENT	\$313,991.71	(6/30/20)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$741,627.75</b>	

ENDOWMENT MISSION OUTREACH		
2020 Available Funds	\$22,776	
<b>Available Funds for 2020</b>	<b>\$22,776.00</b>	
Faith Kitchen	-\$1,000.00	Approved 5/20
Crossroads Camp and Retreat Center	-\$2,500.00	Approved 6/20
<b>2020 Endowment Funds Remaining</b>	<b>\$19,276.00</b>	

## DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

*Saturday, August 1*  
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21  
Isaiah 44:1-5  
Matthew 7:7-11

*Sunday, August 2*  
Isaiah 55:1-5  
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21  
Romans 9:1-5  
Matthew 14:13-21

*Monday, August 3*  
Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29  
Deuteronomy 8:1-10  
Romans 1:8-15

*Tuesday, August 4*  
Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29  
Deuteronomy 26:1-15  
Acts 2:37-47

*Wednesday, August 5*  
Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29  
Exodus 16:2-15, 31-35  
Matthew 15:32-39

*Thursday, August 6*  
Psalm 85:8-13  
1 Kings 18:1-16  
Acts 17:10-15

*Friday, August 7*  
Psalm 85:8-13  
1 Kings 18:17-19, 30-40  
Acts 18:24-28

*Saturday, August 8*  
Psalm 85:8-13  
1 Kings 18:41-46  
Matthew 16:1-4

*Sunday, August 9*  
1 Kings 19:9-18  
Psalm 85:8-13  
Romans 10:5-15  
Matthew 14:22-33

*Monday, August 10*  
Psalm 18:1-19  
Genesis 7:11—8:5  
2 Peter 2:4-10

*Tuesday, August 11*  
Psalm 18:1-19  
Genesis 19:1-29  
Romans 9:14-29

*Wednesday, August 12*  
Psalm 18:1-19  
Job 36:24-33; 37:14-24  
Matthew 8:23-27

*Thursday, August 13*  
Psalm 67  
Isaiah 45:20-25  
Revelation 15:1-4

*Friday, August 14*  
Psalm 67  
Isaiah 63:15-19  
Acts 14:19-28

*Saturday, August 15*  
Psalm 67  
Isaiah 56:1-5  
Matthew 14:34-36

*Sunday, August 16*  
Isaiah 56:1, 6-8  
Psalm 67  
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32  
Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

*Monday, August 17*  
Psalm 87  
2 Kings 5:1-14  
Acts 15:1-21

*Tuesday, August 18*  
Psalm 87  
Isaiah 43:8-13  
Romans 11:13-29

*Wednesday, August 19*  
Psalm 87  
Isaiah 66:18-23  
Matthew 8:1-13

*Thursday, August 20*  
Psalm 138  
Ezekiel 28:11-19  
1 Corinthians 6:1-11

*Friday, August 21*  
Psalm 138  
Ezekiel 31:15-18  
2 Corinthians 10:12-18

*Saturday, August 22*  
Psalm 138  
Ezekiel 36:33-38  
Matthew 16:5-12

*Sunday, August 23*  
Isaiah 51:1-6  
Psalm 138  
Romans 12:1-8  
Matthew 16:13-20

*Monday, August 24*  
Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32  
1 Samuel 7:3-13  
Romans 2:1-11

*Tuesday, August 25*  
Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32  
Deuteronomy 32:18-20, 28-39  
Romans 11:33-36

*Wednesday, August 26*  
Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32  
Isaiah 28:14-22  
Matthew 26:6-13

*Thursday, August 27*  
Psalm 26:1-8  
Jeremiah 14:13-18  
Ephesians 5:1-6

*Friday, August 28*  
Psalm 26:1-8  
Jeremiah 15:1-9  
2 Thessalonians 2:7-12

*Saturday, August 29*  
Psalm 26:1-8  
Jeremiah 15:10-14  
Matthew 8:14-17

*Sunday, August 30*  
Jeremiah 15:15-21  
Psalm 26:1-8  
Romans 12:9-21  
Matthew 16:21-28

*Monday, August 31*  
Psalm 17  
2 Samuel 11:2-26  
Revelation 3:1-6



**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

8/01	Lynn Fuller	8/16	Travis Smith
8/01	Ted Talis	8/17	Eleanor Kover
8/01	Rachel Wieder	8/20	Terry Langone
8/02	Jenny Heeman	8/20	Jann McAleer
8/05	Jodi Lanka	8/24	Brayden Leber
8/07	Sue Swanson	8/24	Helen Pappas
8/12	Arianna Reale	8/25	Robert Herder
8/12	Frank Stanski	8/26	Susannah Allen
8/13	Kaitlin Costello	8/26	Maisie Ronaldo
8/13	Ron Rupp	8/27	Phyllis Diener
8/13	Emma Smith	8/27	Betty Lanka
8/14	Tim Hunter	8/28	Josh Bryan
8/15	Marilyn Forster	8/29	Kirsten Batkowski
8/15	Tim Vorwick	8/30	Kristina Maiwaldt
8/16	Johnathan Apgar	8/31	Paige Livingston
8/16	George Melick	8/31	Henrietta Siodlowski
8/16	Katherine Rupprecht		

**AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES**

8/02/1980	Bruce & Lynn Fuller
8/02/1986	Todd & Stacey Rothermel
8/02/2013	Frank & Angela Sztuk
8/10/1974	Jim & Linda Dierking
8/14/1976	John & Kathy Rustwick
8/15/1954	Jim & Shirley Reed
8/18/1974	Ron & Joanne Rupp
8/18/2001	Rich & Tara Pepe
8/20/1977	John & Sue Swanson
8/20/1994	Paul & Rebecca Zervas
8/24/1974	Bill & Meredith Goodwin
8/24/1974	Barry & Barbara Polhemus
8/26/1967	John & Jann McAleer
8/29/1987	Greg & Linda Smith
8/29/1992	Jay & Rachel Wieder

***This past month, we have been praying for the following members:***

- + Linda Herder, who is undergoing treatment for breast cancer.
- + Betty Lanka, who suffered a blood infection and is recovering at home.
- + Todd & Stacey Rothermel, who are celebrating the birth of their grandson, Jamison.
- + Bonnie Summer, who is undergoing PT & OT while recovering from kidney stone surgery.
- + Ted Talis, who is undergoing rehabilitation at home.
- + Anita Zarate, who is recovering from back surgery.
- + Paul Zervas, who received a stem cell transplant to combat his multiple myeloma.

***Members have requested prayers for the following family and friends:***

- + Carl Evans, friend of Arlene Martin, who has been diagnosed with liver cancer which has spread to a tumor on his pelvis.
- + Bill Gibbs, relative of the Formalarie family, who has ALS.
- + Rita Gorky, mother of Paul Gorky, who is recovering at home from a stroke and remains unable to communicate.
- + Elsie Haller, mother of Lynn Fuller, who is undergoing physical therapy for a bulging disc and arthritis.
- + Jay, friend of Sandy & John Matsen, who is undergoing treatment for esophageal cancer.
- + Jeff, brother-in-law of Robbin Lamo, who has been diagnosed with esophageal cancer.
- + Nancy Kastrup, friend of John & Kathy Rustwick, who is undergoing radiation treatment for her remaining brain tumor.
- + Sally Kohl, mother of Stacey Rothermel, who is struggling with Parkinson's Disease.
- + Martin Simon, friend of the Kunkel and Wintemute families, who had a stroke and is recovering at home with ongoing issues.
- + Mary Ann Wilmoth, relative of Judy Formalarie, who has been diagnosed with Lymphoma.

***Members, friends, and relatives serving in the military:***

Lindsay Carrick, Christopher Grinnell, Robert Heinke, Heidi Kunkel, Erik Lindquist, Hunter MacKenzie, David Marvel, Cody McAleer, Gilbert Mercedes, Patty Oelschlager, Kurt Rossi, Elizabeth Snyder, Daniel Wort, Joshua Wort