



# Good News From Zion

Connecting People with God's Grace...

September 2020

## A Message from Pastor May

Dear Friends in Christ,

After much prayerful consideration I have decided to retire this fall, effective November 15th. God has richly blessed me with a long and fruitful ministry, and Zion is a great capstone to those 36 years. November 1st will be my last Sunday with you, as I have accrued some vacation time to be used in those first 2 weeks of November.

As you have come to know me, you will not be surprised to hear that I have something in mind to do in the years to come. I will be working as a financial professional with Thrivent in Virginia.

**Thank you, each of you,** for the ministry that we have shared and will still share in the Church, the Body of Christ. Your many acts of love and kindness will never be forgotten, and we will look back on our time here with great delight. We leave many friends who have been a source of joy for us.

In light of my coming departure, it is even more crucial that we hear from you as soon as possible regarding Zion's next pastor. Please complete your survey if you have not done so already. You may also choose to join the Virtual Cottage Meeting being hosted by the Council on Wednesday, September 2. Please see the article on page 2 for more details.

My prayers will remain with you and for you. I know that you now face an uncertain time, and I pray and certainly trust that God will guide and strengthen you as you enter the study and call process. Your Congregation Council is working diligently to move boldly into the future together. Do not ever doubt that God's love and grace are with you!

Peace in Christ,

Pastor May



## Congregation Council Highlights



The Council met via Zoom conference call on August 20. Below are the highlights of that meeting.

- Pastor May announced his retirement, effective November 15. His last Sunday at Zion will be November 1.
- Ministry Site Profile survey results are being collected until August 31. The next step in the Pastoral Call Process will be to hold Virtual Cottage Meetings with members of the congregation to receive additional input. (Please see the article below.)
- The Youth & Family Ministries Interview Team has identified Rhonda Rossi as the candidate for hire. Rhonda will begin her work at Zion on September 1st. Please see the announcement below for more information.
- Sunday School will start on September 13. Please see the article on page 3 for details.
- Thank you to:
  - \* The Parish Life committee for hosting the Socially-Distanced Anniversary Party on August 2.
  - \* Melanie Hodges for coordinating Virtual Vacation Bible School.
  - \* Eric Evers for removing the tree limb from the parsonage yard.

The next meeting of the Congregation Council is scheduled for Thursday, September 10. Meetings are open for all to attend. If you would like to attend an upcoming meeting, please let the Parish Office know and we will send you the Zoom link.

## Please welcome Rhonda Rossi!

On September 1, Zion will welcome Rhonda Rossi as our new Director of Youth & Family Ministries. Rhonda and her husband live in Long Valley and she brings many years of experience with youth ministry in the Lutheran Church, most recently as Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Succasunna. She is looking forward to meeting everyone and sharing in Youth & Family Ministries at Zion together!



## Pastoral Call Process — Virtual Cottage Meetings

We are learning so much about who Zion would like to call as our next pastor! Your survey results are informing the Council's work in creating the content for our Ministry Site Profile — the document used by the Bishop to find the next pastor for our church.

In the coming days, we are offering two opportunities for you to participate in a more detailed discussion about the leader we seek. Via Zoom, the Council is hosting Virtual Cottage Meetings to provide an arena for you to share your thoughts and ideas about what is coming next at Zion. This is a chance for you to say more about what you believe is important and to talk with fellow members about what you seek in a new pastor.



Virtual meetings are being held on August 27 and September 2, both at 7 p.m. A link to join the meeting will be sent to you via email in advance.

Thank you for continuing to make your voice heard at this important time in Zion's story!

## Sunday School News — In-Person Sunday School is BACK!

Come join the Adventure! We begin on Sunday, September 13th at 9:30 a.m.

To be together safely:

We will meet in the CEB parking lot in class groups, with each child sitting 6 feet apart. If it is rainy or when it gets too cold, we will move inside to the Great Room. Parents are welcome to join us.

It is BYOC, bring your own chair, although you can always use a folding chair from the CEB. You will need a mask when moving about—please bring yours from home. Extra masks and hand sanitizer will be available.

The first 15 minutes we will “tell the story” to all classes. We are using the Spark Lectionary curriculum. This opening segment will also be on Facebook Live for those who would prefer not to gather in person. An individual class discussion of the lesson will follow. Activities will be provided for at-home expansion of the lesson—either via email or pick-up on Sunday morning. There will be no sharing of craft items or papers.

We know it is not the same, but we want to see one another. We want to talk together about our faith. Hopefully we can move back into classrooms with activities, games and lessons soon.

**On September 20, after the 9:30 a.m. Opening, families are invited to take part in a 5K walk/run in support of the Good News Home for Women** (see the announcement on the back page of this newsletter). The route around Oldwick will also have a shorter version for those who know 5K is too much! Groups will be started off every few minutes so that we are together, yet spaced out. You can participate with your Sunday School class, with your family or with other members of Zion.

**Don't miss the fun! We look forward to seeing you!**



## Endowment Fund News

Along with our ongoing virtual worship, the Endowment Committee will be having our final Endowment Sunday for 2020 on All Saint's Day, November 1st.

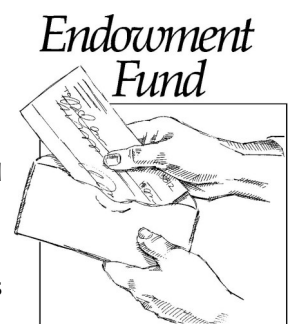
The Endowment Committee would like to thank all who donated on Mother's Day, Father's Day and throughout the year.

**Would you please consider mailing a check to the Zion Lutheran Church Endowment Fund to commemorate All Saint's Day or to celebrate a significant milestone in your family's church life such as a baptism, confirmation or wedding?**

Always keep in mind that the Endowment Fund only grows with contributions from members and friends of Zion. Those who share the vision of not only a living memorial for loved ones, but also recognize that upon maturity, the fund will provide significant monetary grants for many new mission-oriented programs, forever.

There is \$22,776 from the Endowment Fund earnings available for new ministry opportunities in 2020. This is determined by taking 3% of a 3-year average of the fund. The Church Council is open to suggestions on ways to use the funds to support our ministries. To date, the Church Council has voted to send \$1,000 to Faith Kitchen and \$2,500 to Crossroads Camp and Retreat Center this year.

Please contact any member of the Endowment Committee (Geof Close, Ted Jermansen and Rick Schroeder) if you have any questions.



# 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
July	\$34,455.29	\$34,271.67	\$183.62
<b>Year To Date Total</b>	<b>\$212,879.11</b>	<b>\$206,627.98</b>	<b>\$6,251.13</b>



TD BANK FUNDS	BALANCE		
Checking Account	PPP \$37,065.00	\$88,169.77	8/3/2020 Bank Statement
Money Market Plus		\$152,716.06	7/30/2020 Bank Statement
<b>Cash On Hand</b>		<b>\$240,885.83</b>	
Directed Funds		\$132,515.53	7/31/2020
Operating Funds		\$108,370.30	7/31/2020
<b>Cash On Hand</b>		<b>\$240,885.83</b>	

ENDOWMENT FUNDS	BALANCE	
CFNJ	\$454,662.33	(7/31/20)
THRIVENT	\$313,991.71	(6/30/20)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$768,654.04</b>	

## ENDOWMENT MISSION OUTREACH

2020 Available Funds	\$22,776.00	
<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 SEPTEMBER

### **Tuesday, September 1**

Psalm 17  
2 Samuel 11:27b—12:15  
Revelation 3:7-13

### **Wednesday, September 2**

Psalm 17  
Jeremiah 17:5-18  
Matthew 12:22-32

### **Thursday, September 3**

Psalm 119:33-40  
Ezekiel 24:1-14  
2 Corinthians 12:11-21

### **Friday, September 4**

Psalm 119:33-40  
Ezekiel 24:15-27  
Romans 10:15b-21

### **Saturday, September 5**

Psalm 119:33-40  
Ezekiel 33:1-6  
Matthew 23:29-36

### **Sunday, September 6**

Ezekiel 33:7-11  
Psalm 119:33-40  
Romans 13:8-14  
Matthew 18:15-20

### **Monday, September 7**

Psalm 119:65-72  
Leviticus 4:27-31; 5:14-16  
1 Peter 2:11-17

### **Tuesday, September 8**

Psalm 119:65-72  
Deuteronomy 17:2-13  
Romans 13:1-7

### **Wednesday, September 9**

Psalm 119:65-72  
Leviticus 16:1-5, 20-28  
Matthew 21:18-22

### **Thursday, September 10**

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13  
Genesis 37:12-36  
1 John 3:11-16

### **Friday, September 11**

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13  
Genesis 41:53—42:17  
Acts 7:9-16

### **Saturday, September 12**

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13  
Genesis 45:1-20  
Matthew 6:7-15

### **Sunday, September 13**

Genesis 50:15-21  
Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13  
Romans 14:1-12  
Matthew 18:21-35

### **Monday, September 14**

Psalm 133  
Genesis 48:8-22  
Hebrews 11:23-29

### **Tuesday, September 15**

Psalm 133  
Genesis 49:29—50:14  
Romans 14:13—15:2

### **Wednesday, September 16**

Psalm 133  
Genesis 50:22-26  
Mark 11:20-25

### **Thursday, September 17**

Psalm 145:1-8  
Nahum 1:1, 14—2:2  
2 Corinthians 13:1-42

### **Friday, September 18**

Psalm 145:1-8  
Nahum 2:3-13  
2 Corinthians 13:5-10

### **Saturday, September 19**

Psalm 145:1-8  
Zephaniah 2:13-15  
Matthew 19:23-30

### **Sunday, September 20**

Jonah 3:10—4:11  
Psalm 145:1-8  
Philippians 1:21-30  
Matthew 20:1-16

### **Monday, September 21**

Psalm 106:1-12  
Genesis 27:1-29  
Romans 16:1-16

### **Tuesday, September 22**

Psalm 106:1-12  
Genesis 28:10-17  
Romans 16:17-20

### **Wednesday, September 23**

Psalm 106:1-12  
Isaiah 41:1-13  
Matthew 18:1-5

### **Thursday, September 24**

Psalm 25:1-9  
Ezekiel 12:17-28  
James 4:11-16

### **Friday, September 25**

Psalm 25:1-9  
Ezekiel 18:5-18  
Acts 13:32-41

### **Saturday, September 26**

Psalm 25:1-9  
Ezekiel 18:19-24  
Mark 11:27-33

### **Sunday, September 27**

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32  
Psalm 25:1-9  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Matthew 21:23-32

### **Monday, September 28**

Psalm 28  
Judges 14:1-20  
Philippians 1:3-14

### **Tuesday, September 29**

Psalm 28  
Judges 16:1-22  
Philippians 1:15-21

### **Wednesday, September 30**

Psalm 28  
Judges 16:23-31  
Matthew 9:2-8



**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

9/02	Allie Beauregard	9/16	John McAleer	9/26	Leah Batkowski
9/04	Nova Ahrens	9/17	Mike Brogan	9/26	Logan Rogers
9/05	Wyatt Leber	9/17	Donna Hunter	9/27	Lysod Kunkel
9/05	Dorothy Saewert	9/18	Jimmy Lundari	9/27	Carson Wintemute
9/07	Justin Craig	9/18	Susie Sandulli	9/28	Elizabeth Blackwood
9/07	John Swanson	9/20	Rod Bennett	9/28	Steve Hodges
9/09	Colleen Hodges	9/21	Kailey Bredeson	9/28	Sandy Matsen
9/10	Tim Apgar	9/21	Josh Evers	9/28	Amanda Smith
9/11	Reed Wintemute	9/23	Brian Hodges	9/29	Linda Lovas
9/14	Linda Dierking	9/23	Anissa Mikitiuk	9/29	Jeff May
9/14	Karla May	9/24	Jennifer Kiester		
9/14	Colton Reale	9/25	Cheryl Fox		
9/14	Tanner Rogers	9/25	Mikey Rainer		

**SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

9/02	John & Emily Wilson
9/05	Mark & Christine Scarloss
9/05	Bill & Kelli Wallace
9/12	Andrew & Blair Saunders
9/13	Art & Jackie Snyder
9/14	Bob & Cheryl Rodrick
9/22	Tim & Donna Hunter
9/25	Mike & Lori Baker
9/30	Thor & Amanda Smith

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

- + Linda Herder, who is undergoing treatment for breast cancer.
- + Robbin Lamo, who is recovering from shoulder replacement surgery.
- + Betty Lanka, who suffered a blood infection and is recovering at home.
- + Greg & Linda Smith and family, who are mourning the loss of Linda's father, Eugene Kentopp.
- + Bonnie Summer, who is undergoing PT & OT while recovering from kidney stone surgery.
- + Ted Talis, who is undergoing rehabilitation at home.
- + Paul Zerfas, who received a stem cell transplant to combat his multiple myeloma.

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

- + Pat Ciccattelli, friend of Millie Mellblom, who is in the hospital with cancer.
- + 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.
- + 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.
- + Daniel Kentopp, brother of Linda Smith, who is struggling with multiple health issues.
- + Dixie Kentopp, mother of Linda Smith, who is hospitalized and undergoing testing.
- + Sally Kohl, mother of Stacey Rothermel, who is struggling with Parkinson's Disease.
- + Greg Minerowicz, son of John and Wendy, who is recovering from a stroke.
- + Noreen, friend of Debra Kaufman, who is recovering from breast cancer surgery.
- + 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



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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

### **God's Work Our Hands (Feet) — September 20**

Come join us on Sunday, September 20, following the 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Opening, for a 5k fun walk/run fundraiser to benefit the Good News Home for Women. This will be a great opportunity to be together safely as a congregation for a good cause. An easy path will be staked out around Oldwick with options to walk an abbreviated course. No sign up or pre-pledging is necessary. Bagels, water and coffee will be provided in the CEB parking lot. Even if you are not up for the walk please join us for the Sunday school Opening and outdoor fellowship. All are welcome!

