



# THE ZION ZEALANT

Zion Lutheran Church, 101 E. North St., Columbia City, IN

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Rev. Phil Rittner

Cell Phone: 260-415-9078 (I text if you'd like!)

Email: [revrittner@reagan.com](mailto:revrittner@reagan.com)

Greetings in the Name of Christ!

This past week, two wonderful things took place here at Zion: 1) **Mr. Lynn Kyler** & his family brought a gracious, large financial gift to Zion. And, 2) The **Stewardship Committee** of Zion met and courageously and confidently set about a course of action for our beloved church for not only now, but for generations to come!

Per Lynn Kyler's request, the funds will be deposited with a secure custodian and invested wisely to produce earnings to affect tuition assistance for any member of Zion attending an LCMS school or university. Also, 50% of the annual disbursements are to also be used for maintaining our church. This 'brick & mortar' stipulation is slated for any need we may have to repair, purchase, or replace things in the church. Specifics will be forthcoming shortly at Council Meetings and our next Voters Meeting.

It is incumbent upon your pastor and the Stewardship Committee to recommend to our members the meet, right, and salutary gifting you could do for the Church. (Notice Church is capitalized... as this can mean any facet of the LCMS, be it the Synod itself; Zion; one of the Seminaries; the Concordia University system, elementary or high school of the Synod; OR – can be given toward any Christian endeavor you'd like.)

This practice of gifting to the Church goes back clear to the time our Lord Jesus walked the earth. Recently we shared the Gospel reading of Martha and her sister Mary welcoming our Lord into their home – giving to those teaching of the Kingdom of God. Gifting via one's Last Will and Testament was a normal, everyday occurrence in the 50's, 60's, and 70's. But the practice has fallen from many folk's radar.

Certainly, it is important to care for your loved ones when God calls you into His heavenly Kingdom. Bills must be paid. Causing your children's life to improve after you're gone is a pleasing effort facilitated by one's insurance plans and investments. But churches have been left to forage for the means to keep the lights on.

In the course of my own lifetime as an LCMS Lutheran, both as a layman and as a Minister of the Word, I have witnessed several wonderful gifts given to the Church!

Pray about it. Ask the Lord how you might diligently use His gifts to you for the good of your neighbor. You see, it's all His. We believe, teach and confess God the Father almighty is the Creator of everything. It is Him Who has enabled you the wherewithal to work, produce the good fruits for your family; and He has given you this Bride of Christ – The Church.

On another related note, as with many other churches and denominations, online tithing is becoming very popular. We've been looking into it for use here at Zion as well! If you've more interest in this program, your personal gift planning, or how you might make a difference in the life of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Columbia City... come to a Voters Meeting or see me. There are loads of resources available!

I'll see you in church! Soon! Pastor Phil

# Voter's Meeting

## July 21, 2019

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Columbia City, Indiana  
Voter's Meeting July 21, 2019

Meeting called to order by Scott Woodhouse, President.  
Pastor Rittner opened the meeting with prayer.

**Minutes:** Pat Decker made a motion to accept the June minutes printed in the July 2019 Zealant as printed. Judy Gilbert seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Receiving Treasurer:** reported by Chuck Cooper

	June 2019	YTD
Unrestricted Receipts	\$ 9,412.00	\$ 54,663.87
Restricted/ Miscellaneous Receipts	\$ 526.50	\$ 3,097.74
Dividends	\$ 322.29	\$ 1,872.57
Interest	\$ 7.08	\$ 22.19
Total Receipts	\$ 10,267.87	\$ 59,656.37

Jill Coons made a motion to accept the report as presented. Judy Gilbert seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Disbursing Treasurer:** Jill Coons

Check/Savings June 2019

General Checking/Savings	\$ 11,750.47
Youth	\$ 14,519.71
Restricted Funds	\$ 19,507.86
Lehmburg Legacy	\$ 75,647.06 (market value at 5/31/2019 \$72,875.56)

Statement of Activity

	June 2019	YTD
General Budget	\$ 2,592.41	\$ 5,164.94
Non-Budgeted/ Reimbursed	\$ 819.03	\$ 2,732.83
Youth	\$ 2,725.32	\$ 1,394.18
Net Revenue	\$ 6,136.76	\$ 9,291.95

Steve Smith made a motion to accept the report as presented. Chuck Cooper seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Elders:** Steve Smith

Elders meeting July 10, 2019

Meeting was opened with prayer.

Order of Business:

Discussed our membership and possible new members coming in.

Confirmation for Caleb Decker, and Trena and David Merryman will be held on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Lutherans For Life has requested to use our facilities for a regional meeting on a Saturday in September, September 14, 2019.

Talked about whether any of our youth or congregation members would be willing to participate in the March For Life in Washington D.C. in January of 2020.

Upcoming holiday worship schedule will be:

Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM

There will be no mid-week service on Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

There will be no service on New Years Day.

Dane will be preaching on several Sunday's during the last quarter of this year.

A new visiting schedule has been formulated for Pastor and the Elders.

Meeting was closed with the Benediction.

Average Attendance for June 2019:

Sunday 48

Mid-week 8

Respectively submitted, Stephen Smith (Sec.)

Steve Smith made a motion to grant the transfer to Faith Lutheran Church, Churubusco for Michael, Callie, Hailey, Andrew, Tyler and Trevor Braun. Phil Coons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Steve Smith mad a motion to grant the transfer to Faith Lutheran Church, Churubusco for Joyce Reidt. Judy Gilbert seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Trustees:** No report given

Jill Coons advised the down payment for the roof repair will be sent out on July 22, 2019. The work will be done in about 6 weeks.

Pastor reported the sanctuary AC coil has a hole in it. The HVAC company was able to add Freon to it and it could last 2 weeks to 2 months. The quote to repair the coil is \$3,400. The quote to replace the coil is forthcoming.

**Board of Christian Education:**

Board of Christian Education meeting was held on June 9, 2019 those present were Barb Lahrman, Barb Knuth, Chris Woodhouse and Kenny Knuth.

Opening Devotions: Opening prayer by Kenny Knuth.

Minutes: May minutes approved as presented

Sunday School Report: Students 6 Adults 14

Mission for April May for Lutheran Heritage Foundation \$167.07 as of today's date for printed material for Ethiopian children for Gospel Outreach.

High School Sunday School is studying the book, Life's Big Questions God's Big Answer.

All left over CPH SS material has been gathered and will be issued for the 2019 fall quarter-2020 quarter is for Preschool through Grade 5.

Library report: Chris Woodhouse will announce that we have red Lutheran Hymnals available for anyone who would like one.

Pastor report: Pastor not present so no report.

Old Business:

Had a beautiful event last Sunday, June 2, 2019 with our New Welcome Luncheon and Honoring our Graduates.

New Business: Old Settlers June 25-29. Youth and Church members sponsoring Corn Dog Wagon.

Rally Day: September 8<sup>th</sup> with a meal after church. Activities and details to be discussed at the next meeting.

Oktoberfest 2019 is scheduled for October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Other Business: Ideas shared regarding Lutheran Grade School-High School Scholarships.

Wolf Lake VPS invites Zion's children to attend.

Next Meeting: August 4<sup>th</sup>. No meeting scheduled for July.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM

Respectfully submitted by Jim Mullett (via email)

**Board of Christian Outreach:** No meeting held

**Board of Stewardship:**

Online giving process has been started. More information to come when it is complete.

**Board of Youth:** No meeting held

Old Settler's corn dog wagon was a blast! Profit for the week was just under \$3,000.

Youth just returned from National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. They had fun!

Plans are beginning for attendance at the next gathering in 2022. They will be giving a presentation on July 28 during Adult Bible Study at 9:00 am.

**Pastor:** Pastor Rittner

- Clarify about Wednesday worship service. If pastor will not be there, there will be no service. Upcoming dates of no Wednesday service, August 14 and 21, 2019.
- Pastor will be having knee replacement surgery on August 12, 2019.
- Our shut-in's wonder if they are remembered by the congregation. They are assured that they are loved, missed and remembered often.
- Willie and Karen are plagued by health issues. They are preparing to sell their home. It is unknown at this time where they will be moving to.
- Lois and John are doing well.
- Lynn Kyler has had a health downturn, please keep him in prayer.
- Jeannine is doing awesome.
- Linda is doing fantastic as well and is enjoying doing the greeting cards for Pastor.

**Unfinished/Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

As of Friday, July 19, Kami Wilburn has resigned as the church secretary. She has accepted a new position in Mishawaka and begins on Monday, July 22. An ad has been composed and sent to all churches in the area, it will be published in the daily newsletter at the seminary (CTSFW) and will be sent to the Indiana District office to be sent out. In the interim, Scott Woodhouse and Pastor Rittner will be caring for day-to-day in the office. Deaconess Rittner will continue preparing the bulletins and the PowerPoints as well as preparing the Zealant Newsletter. Anyone with knowledge of someone who could be our secretary, let Pastor or Scott Woodhouse know.

With no further business, Steve Smith made a motion to adjourn. Judy seconded. The motion passed.

Pastor closed with the benediction.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katherine (Katie) Rittner, Recording Secretary

**Remember all committees you should be working on next year's budget and to get it into Jill before October.**



*To Pastor & Katie, and all of Zion,*

*Thank you for the opportunity to work with and for Zion this past year. As of Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of July, I am resigning my position as your secretary. I have accepted a position at Oaklawn The Children's Campus in Mishawaka, IN, I will be starting there Monday morning. Please Pray for me as I start my new position.*

*With Love, Gratitude and much Thanks!*

*Kami Wilburn*



# Living in Joy: Joy in Christian Freedom

## Joy in Christian Freedom

### In the Word

*So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.* [John 8:36](#)

### Of the Word

When Americans are asked to state the freedoms allowed through their government, they may think of the freedoms of speech and religion guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.

As Christians we know that real freedom comes with a price — the price paid in full for each one of us through the cross of Jesus Christ. Our Christian freedom from sin, guilt and the Law's accusation could not be paid for by our actions but were fully and completely paid for by Christ's death and resurrection.

Our freedom as Christians does not give us license to live without regard to others. *You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love* ([Galatians 5:13](#)). True Christian freedom responds to God's love by reaching out in love and service to others.

Walking with my Lord

Dear Father, I know my true freedom is a gift from You. Help me to live as Your servant, using my freedom to Your glory and for the good of others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## LWML Podcast Now Available!

Join in *Praying the Psalms* with the new LWML Podcast! New episodes with devotional content from *Praying the Psalms* will be posted every Wednesday.

### How to join?

There is nothing new you need to download or install.

Every iPhone comes with a Podcast app by default.

Android users can listen to podcasts using Google Play Music.

Open iTunes or Google Play Music and search for "LWML" or "LWML on the go," then subscribe!



If you have a favorite podcast app already, you can search for it there too! (If it's not listed and you'd like it to be, let us know at [webmaster@lwml.org](mailto:webmaster@lwml.org))

Don't want to subscribe? You can also access it through the [LWML App!](#)



## SCOOP

August 2019

**Missions** Sunday School missions for July and August is supporting the Rosebud Indian Lutheran Church in South Dakota. Total mission money for May and June collected for the Lutheran Heritage Foundation totaled \$244.56.

### Sunday School STATS – June 2019

Class Attendance: Tied for the Banner Class Catechism Class-60%, High school Class 60%, Preschool& Elementary –30%.

### **Lessons for August**

- 4 – “The Case of the Dried Palms: Triumphal Entry”
- 11 – “The Case of the Sharp Sword: Jesus in the Garden”
- 18 – “The Case of the Broken Bread: Road to Emmaus”
- 25 – “The Case of the Wind and Fire: God Sends the Holy Spirit”

September will begin the Fall Quarter. It is also Christian Education Month! Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Education meets August 11<sup>th</sup> to finalize plans for that day.

God’s blessings to Caleb Decker, Trena and David Merryman who are being confirmed on Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. A celebration will be held after church on August 18<sup>th</sup> in honor of our new members. Refreshments will be provided. Please join in welcoming them to Zion!



The First day of school is August 14. Pray for the students, teachers and the school administration daily.

**Bible Trivia Questions** 1) What job did Peter and Andrew do? 2) Which prophet tried to flee from God when asked to preach God’s message in Nineveh? 3) What is the collective name of the stories Jesus told to convey his message? 4) What was noticeable about Jacob’s twin brother, Esau, at birth? 5) Who wanted to kill Jesus when he was a baby?



Brookdale (Assisted Living):  
John & Lois Duffy

Nursing Home: Willie & Karen  
Scheumann

Those at home: Linda Hobkirk, Gene &  
Janice Klopfenstein, Dortha Marsh,  
Maxine Lott, Bill Niedermeyer, John  
Pullen, Tim & Sandra Rueger, John  
Meyers, Jeannine Slavicek, Shane  
Hoffman (brother of Cari Knuth), Ralph  
& Barbara Keiper, Lynn Kyler, Rhonda  
Freeman, Melvin Smith (uncle of Katie  
Rittner), Tim Yeadon and Pastor Rittner.

Those Serving in the Armed Forces:

Joshua Rittner, Jason & Ashley  
Weatherly and Dayne Zielinski

SPECIAL PRAYER  
REQUESTS  
for

. . . and anyone else we have not  
mentioned that might be in our  
hearts. . . Lord, in your mercy,  
hear our prayers.

**Worship Services**

SUNDAY

Sunday School—9:00 a.m.

Worship—10:15 a.m.  
with Holy Communion  
on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

WEDNESDAY

Worship—7:00 p.m.  
with Holy Communion  
on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays

**Pastor Phil will be having surgery August 12. Please keep him in prayer as he recovers. If you have an emergency and would like to have Pastoral Care, please contact Pastor Jerry Winegarden (Shepherd of the Lake, Syracuse) as he will be covering for Pastor Phil. Pastor Winegarden's cellphone number is: 574-275-1353**

**Rev. Theodore Hoham will be leading us in worship on August 18 and Rev. Chad Hoover will be leading us in worship on August 25. Both are called to serve at Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne.**



# SERVING AT CHURCH

## Ushers

4th- Steve Smith  
11th-Ralph Sexton  
18th-Steve Smith  
25th-Ralph Sexton

## Acolytes

4<sup>th</sup>- Caleb Decker  
11<sup>th</sup>- Sam Mullett  
18th- Lily Lane  
25th- Kirby Coons

## Greeters

4th- Kathaleen Reese  
11th-  
18th- Pat Decker  
25th- Peggy Brooke

**Altar Guild** Peggy Brooke



## BIRTHDAY'S

2 Connie Forrester  
2 Jacob Mullett  
2 Jeanine Slavicek  
5 Michael Sexton  
6 Ralph Sexton  
10 Justin Yann  
11 Austin Rittner  
13 Jerry Lahrman  
18 Jason Doehrman  
18 Kenneth Knuth  
23 Jennifer Harter  
23 Sharry Wiehe  
23 Myra Hartman  
25 Madison Childs  
28 Rachel Degitz  
29 Monica Koldyke  
30 Melanie Pressler  
31 Janice Klopfenstein  
31 Andrew Hart

## BAPTISMS



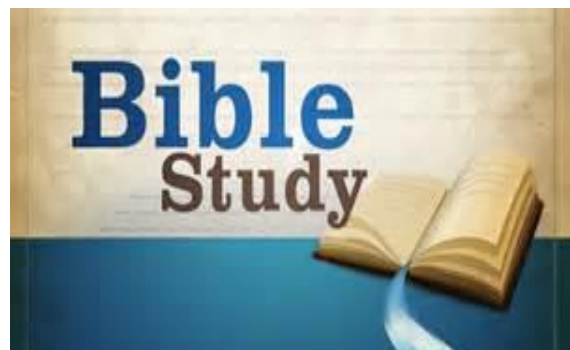
Logan Bachelder  
Mathieu Hartman  
Judith Kovacs  
Cari Knuth  
Emerson Knuth  
Jerry Lahrman  
Nolan Lahrman  
Timothy Sexton  
Christine Woodhouse



## ANNIVERSARIES



13 Phil & Jill Coons  
18 Gene & Janice Klopfenstein  
20 John & Lois Duffy  
20 Shawn & Sara Schuller  
21 Matt & Rachel Degitz  
25 Ronald & Melinda Puckett  
26 Rev. Phil & Katie Rittner



**Thursday Night Bible Study** will return early in September. We're waiting to see how Pastor Phil's recovery will go before setting a firm date.

# August 2019

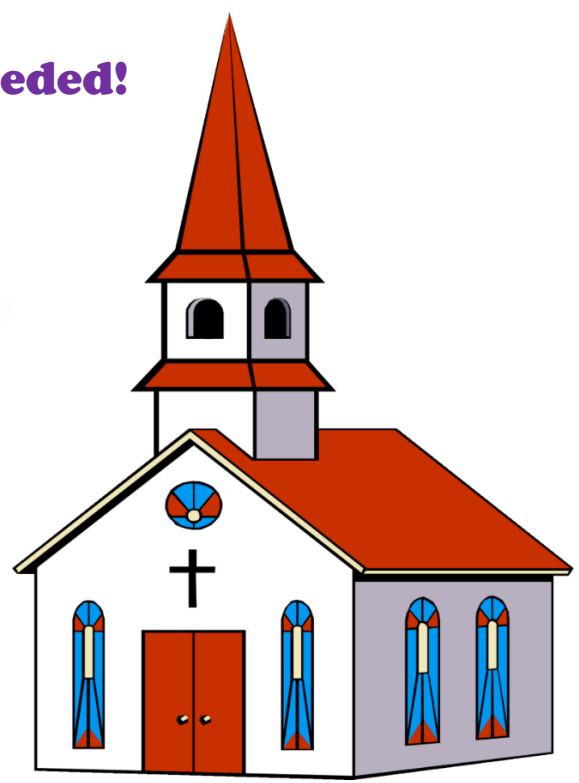
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Garage Sale Setup				1 Garage Sale Setup 9:00 am Ladies Aid Sewing	2 Garage Sale Setup	3 Garage Sale Setup 9:00 am Altar Guild meeting Pastor's day off
<del>4 Garage Sale Setup</del> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Service with Holy Communion 11:30 am Board of Outreach	5 Garage Sale Setup Pastor's day off	6 Garage Sale Setup	7 Garage Sale Setup 7:00 pm Worship Service	8 8:00 am-5:00 pm Garage Sale & Bake Sale	9 8:00 am-5:00 pm Garage Sale & Bake Sale	10 Pastor's day off 8:00 am-1:00 pm Garage Sale & Bake Sale
11 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Service 11:30 am Board of Education	12 Pastor's day off	13	14 <b>1<sup>st</sup> Day of School</b> 8:00 pm Elders Meeting	15 9:00 am Ladies Aid Sewing	16	17 Pastor's day off
18 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Service with Holy Communion Rev. T. Hoham 11:30 am Confirmation Reception	19 Pastor's day off	20 7:00 pm Church Council	21	22 Zealant Items Due! (please email to <a href="mailto:katherine.rittner@gmail.com">katherine.rittner@gmail.com</a> )	23	24 Pastor's day off
25 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Service Rev. C. Hoover 11:30 am Youth	26 Pastor's day off	27 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Red Cross in Gym	28 7:00 pm Worship Service with Holy Communion	29	30	

Trivia Answers #1) Fishermen (Matt 4:18) (2) Jonah (Jon 1:2-3) (3) Parables (Matt 13: 10-13) (4) He was red and hairy (Gen 1:2) (5) Herod (the Great) (Matt 2:13)

Donations  
accepted  
anytime!

# Zion's

**Paper Bags needed!**



August 8, 9, 10<sup>th</sup>!

Have  
question ask  
Jerry  
Lahrman!

**Paper  
Bags  
needed!**

Hours:  
Thursday 8-5  
Friday 8-5  
Saturday 8-1

