



THE ZION ZEALANT

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

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Rev. Phil Rittner
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Greetings in the Name of the Lord!

I have kept you all in my prayers daily, as our summer rolls along with many activities all over! Here at church, we've completed another Catechism Camp; about to have our VBS program; continue with vibrant Adult and children's Sunday School programs each week; and we lovingly hear our Lord and receive His Sacraments regularly!

As is the custom of some... your pastor and his wife recently enjoyed a wonderful vacation! We traveled by car to be with dear friends out in Nebraska! Thank you to you, the congregation, for allowing us time to recharge; see some of this wonderful country; and to basically blow some stuff up. Yes, we helped with a large firework display for the city of Arapahoe, NE. while we were away! Kinda brings out the kid in me... Our friends that we stayed with, a good pastor friend of mine and his wife, made sure we attended church while away, both on the Sunday and Thursday we were gone.

As I have repeatedly remarked the need we do have to be in church, it was such a blessing to Katie and I to sit beside one another during worship while on vacation, and to be alongside each other in receiving the Lord's Supper. These are surely treasured times for us, as we seldom, during the church year, find this opportunity to come along. With that, I'd like to share a brief essay another friend of mine, an Indiana District official, recently wrote for the "Indiana District Connections". (You too can subscribe to receive this timely news reporting in your email by going to the Indiana District LCMS website!)

"Encouragement to Every Sunday Divine Service Attendance!"

Have you noticed that church attendance for many has really declined? When I attended catechism classes, my pastor, made it clear that I was to attend church every Sunday if possible. The expectation of my fellow congregants was that I would attend church every Sunday. The idea of coming to church only twice a month or heaven forbid, only once a month was certainly frowned upon.

I knew that Christian faithfulness entailed coming to church Sunday after Sunday.

Today, the expectation of every Sunday church attendance seems to have fallen away. One seems to be considered a regular member if one attends church at least twice a month. Some people reason that they love Jesus, they just don't love going to church every Sunday.

I would counter that every Sunday church attendance isn't so much about your loving Jesus as it is about Jesus loving you! Christ wants to share His blessings with you through the Means of Grace that He has established for you. Namely through the preaching and teaching of the Holy Word of God and the reception of His body and blood in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Divine Service attendance is a blessing for you because at Divine Service God speaks to you through the preaching of His Word. Insofar as your pastor rightly proclaims the Word of God, you are hearing God! And in the sacrament of Holy Communion, you truly receive Christ's real body and blood in, with and under the bread and

wine. In the Divine Service, it is a blessing to confess your sins and receive the pronouncement of the forgiveness of your sins. This is a tremendous blessing. Who doesn't need his or her sins forgiven? Who doesn't need the assurance that Jesus Christ has paid the price of his or her sins? Who doesn't need the encouragement to go forth in the week knowing that God is blessing them, caring for them and watching over them? All of these things one receives through the preaching and teaching of the Word of God!

Finally, remember the words of the writer of the book of Hebrews who states: **“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”** (Hebrews 10:24-25, ESV)

Christians are to encourage one another to attend church because of the great benefits that one receives in going to church! God does bless you as you attend church every Sunday and you are a blessing to others as you encourage them to be faithful in every Sunday church attendance as well!

Rev. Geoffrey L. Robinson

Church Council Minutes

JULY 16, 2017

Ken Knuth called the meeting to order with 18 members present.

Pastor Rittner opened the meeting with prayer.

Jarrod Wilkinson read a letter from Ralph Brooke stating that he wished to resign his position as President of Church Council. No action was taken on this request.

Minutes: Katie Rittner made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the Zealant, Pat Decker 2nd, the motion passed. During discussion Joyce Reidt noted that an error in total restricted receipts for May 2017, it was printed as #258.69 and should have been \$259.68. The change was noted.

Receiving Treasurer: Chuck Cooper

Total Unrestricted Receipts

June 2017	\$6602.56	YTD \$45,680.26
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Total Restricted/Miscellaneous Receipts

June 2017	\$280.05	YTD \$13,883.21
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Dividend

June 2017	\$332.30	YTD \$1854.19
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Interest

June 2017	\$2.21	YTD \$8.89
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Total Receipts

June 2017	\$7217.12	YTD \$61,426.55
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Kim Yann made a motion to accept the report as printed, Judy Gilbert 2nd, the motion passed.

Disbursing Treasurer: Jill Coons

Unrestricted Funds June 2017

General Church checking/savings	\$1538.38
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Youth Accounts	\$14,183.25
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Restricted Funds	\$16,826.03
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Lehmburg Legacy	\$78,325.88 (current market value: \$76,965.76)
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Total Net Revenue

General Budget

June 2017	-\$504.68	YTD \$174.31
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Non-Budgeted/Reimbursed		
June 2017	\$ -475.82	YTD \$9987.01
Youth		
June 2017	\$2450.79	YTD \$2608.21
Total		
June 2017	\$1470.29	YTD \$12,769.53

Kim Yan made a motion to accept the report as presented, Chuck Cooper 2nd, the motion passed.

Elders: Steve Smith

- 1) A new visitation schedule is being made up.
- 2) Discussed Wednesday night service and whether or not to continue them.
- 3) Lily Lane will be confirmed on October 29, 2017.
- 4) Prepared a tentative budget for 2018 to be presented at next voters meeting.
- 5) Average Attendance: Sunday 55 Mid-Week 10

Meeting closed with the Benediction.

Trustees:

Masters Heating/Cooling serviced the A/C for the season.

Board of Education: Judy Gilbert

The Board met with 6 members and 1 guest on July 9, 2017.

Pastor lead the board in prayer.

Minutes for June 2017 were approved.

Sunday School Report, attendance for June 2017 - Adults 19 Students 6.

Kenny Knuth reported that the Fall Quarter will start September 10, 2017.

Missions - \$219.73 was sent to the Woodburn Christian Children's Home.

No Pastors Report

Library – Chris Woodhouse continues to organize the library.

Old Business:

VBS Teachers and Helpers are in place and will be installed July 30th during the service. After church, we will set up props, snacks will be provided. Pastor will do opening and closing, Annette Hart, Dan and Jennifer Knuth will help.

New Business:

Kenny is working on the budget for 2018.

Bonnie Pease is resigning from the Board effectively immediately.

Chris Woodhouse will be voted on to the board at the next voters meeting.

Rally Day/New Member Welcome will be September 17, 2017. It will be a carry-in potluck with deserts and drinks provided. This will also be Zion T-shirt day!

Other Business:

Thank You Bonnie for our new Blood Pressure Monitor, it will be located in the library. Also, thank you for your help over the years.

Board of Outreach: Kim Yann

The board had games and drinks available during Old Settlers Day Parade, they also handed out VBS material.

Stewardship: No report.

Youth: Jill Coons

The Corn dog wagon went well. Phil Coons is talking to CJ's about purchasing excess cases of corn dogs, also Living Water is interested.

Jarod Wilkinson made a motion to elect Katie Rittner to the Board of Youth, Larry Haugk 2nd, the motion

passed. Katie will also be the Board Chair person.

Pastor's Report: June 20, 2017 to present.

Services/Bible Study/Rites Conducted:

Worship services 6

Bible Study 2

Assist the Neidermeyer Funeral for Pat.

No Baptism/Weddings/Confirmation.

Counseling/Private Meetings 4

Pastoral Visitation

Homes 5

Hospital 4

Nursing Homes 8

Meetings/Functions Outside the church

Pastor on Vacation June 29-July 8. Thank You.

Pastors Mileage 6/2/17 to 7/9/17: 255 miles (does not include to and from church to home.)

Lutheran Foundation Grant Report: \$5,000

Additional Bible Study Material \$290.60

Balance remaining \$2132.59

Note: Additional expenses anticipated for Pastor's Conference in Kansas City in August.

Old/New Business:

Confirmation will be Reformation Day, October 29, 2017 (one confirmed).

501 Grant from the Lutheran Foundation: a new sign will be requested.

Up-coming Baptisms of Edan James Rittner and Liam Matthew Marschand on July 23, 2017.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2017. We will also confirm Lilly Lane.

We are looking into new signage for in front of the church, it will be aprox. \$22,000.00

Nominating Committee: Jarod is looking for Volunteers.

Jill Coons advised that committees use the YTD from your current budget in working your 2018 budget.

With no other business Kattie Rittner, Joyce Reidt and Kim Yann made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted Joyce Reidt (sec.)



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of the roles that I have as your Deaconess Fieldworker is to help and teach you more of what I will be doing upon the completion of my studies and what I can do for you and for our church family at Zion.

What better way to do that than by starting now and helping you by answering questions. There is no better time than now to do so.

What exactly is a Deaconess? What can and can't she do? These are both excellent questions and they are asked more times than you realize. Here are simple answers to those questions.

What is a Deaconess?

The role of the Deaconess dates back to the early church, as far back as 57 A.D. The first reference of a Deaconess is Phoebe in Romans 16:1. Since it was necessary for the care of women, priests were not able to do so without the presence of a woman and so the role of Deaconess came about in order to assist initially with virgins, widows and children.

Over the course of the centuries, this role has evolved and expanded to what it is today. Today, a Deaconess is to assist the Pastor in the mission of the church to show the mercy of God by visiting the sick and shut-in, establishing relationships with the families of her congregation, particularly women and children, and the confirmation and high school students to coordinate responses to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the congregation.

A Deaconess is a mother, sister, daughter, aunt, cousin, grandmother. Most importantly, she is a child of God who “loves her neighbor as herself.” She is an ear when it seems others do not hear. She is a shoulder when the tears just need to fall. She is a hand that comes out of nowhere to lift up those who have fallen.

What are the principle duties of a Deaconess?

A Deaconess is available and required to do hospital, nursing home and shut-in visits to members of her congregation and their families. She then reports to the Pastor her observation of any needs or conditions that need to be addressed by either the Pastor himself or someone else at the direction of the Pastor.

A Deaconess is involved with the Youth group(s) of the congregation.

A Deaconess is involved with the Ladies’ groups (Ladies’ aid, LWML, etc.) of the congregation.

A Deaconess is required to teach, under the direction of the Pastor, the Catechism class, Sunday school classes, VBS, or other program in the doctrine and understanding of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. She is also required to lead a Women’s Bible study (if one is not active, she will start one up) under the direction and guidance of the Pastor.

She does other duties as assigned by the Pastor for her to do.

What is a Deaconess NOT able to do?

Preach, consecrate the Sacraments or perform any rites that are done by the Pastor.

Believe it or not, most Deaconesses do not want to preach or do any of the rites that a Pastor does. In truth, all she wants to do is help the members of her congregation – her family – that need help and to help the Pastor take care of those entrusted to his care. **“Love your neighbor as yourself.”** (Romans 13:9)

In His service and yours,
Katie Rittner
Deaconess Fieldworker



August 17, 18, & 19, 2017

(You may bring your stuff any time after VBS is over with and put it in the gym or call Jerry for help.) Jerry will need HELPERS, to sort through all the stuff! Also during the garage sale!

If you can help, let Jerry know 248-8503.

Have a plea for paper grocery bags! If you have any paper grocery bags or can buy any, Jerry needs them for Saturday Garage Sale.



Sunday School children have been studying the Ten Commandments this summer. Lessons for August include:

Aug. 6th – “Ahab covets Naboth’s vineyard” (9th commandment)

13th – “Paul and Philemon” (10th commandment)

20th – “The rich young ruler” (what does God say about all commandments?)

27th – “Peter’s reinstatement” (Jesus has kept God’s commandments in our place)

Our mission project for May and June supported the Woodburn Christian Children’s Home (\$219.73). The Sunday School offerings for July and August will support the LOGOS Project at Concordia Theological Seminary. This project provides first-year Seminary students with their Greek textbook. The coin war money from VBS will also go towards LOGOS.

Sunday School STATS – June 2017

All 3 classes tied for 1st place class attendance with 50%.

Beginning September 10th, during Sunday School hour (9-10 am). Katie Rittner will be teaching the Catechism class 6-8 grade. Katie Wilkinson will teach Preschool thru Grade 1; Barb Knuth will teach Grades 2-5; and Kenny Knuth will teach the High School.

Coin War—Boys vs. Girls

We will have a VBS Mission Project if your child would like to participate. This is strictly a volunteer basis. We are collecting pennies and coins, etc. We are supporting the LOGOS Project at Concordia Theological Seminary. (This project buys 1-year Seminary Students their Greek textbooks.) The children will be seeing who can bring in the most coins (the Boys or the Girls??)

7/14/12

Dear Zion
Sunday School Children,

We thank you very much
for the "Thinking of You" card and
the "Get Better" card Emerson drew
for us.

We are coming ^{along} very well
now and have settled in this
lovely Assisted Living place.

We do miss seeing all
our friends at Zion.

Say hello for us when
you receive this note.

God Bless You Always,

Love,

Louis & John Duffy



Peabody Home (Memory Care):
Alberta Warnick

Brookdale (Assisted Living):
John & Lois Duffy

Heritage Park:
Tom Auer

Those at home:
Linda Hobkirk, Gene
Klopfenstein, Dortha Marsh,
Bill Niedermeyer, John Pullen,
Wayne Reese, Tim & Sandra
Rueger, Willie & Karen
Scheumann, and Jeannine
Slavicek.

Those Serving in the Armed
Forces:

Chris Decker, Kevin Kruger,
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, hear our prayers.

Worship Services

SUNDAY
Sunday School—9:00 a.m.
Worship—10:15 a.m.
w/Communion
1st & 3rd Sundays

WEDNESDAY
Worship—7:00 p.m.
w/Communion
2nd & 4th Wednesdays

Bible Trivia Questions:

According to the Gospel of Matthew, where does Jesus's first public sermon take place?

How does Judas signal Jesus's identity to the Roman officials?

Who murders John the Baptist?

When Christians observe Palm Sunday, what biblical narrative are they celebrating?

AUGUST

SERVING AT CHURCH

Ushers

6th – Steve Smith
13th – Ralph Sexton
20th – Steve Smith
27th – Ralph Sexton

Acolytes

6th – Mason Knuth
13th – Kirby Coons
20th – Kyler Bills
27th – Zack Wilburn

Greeters

6th – Kathaleen Reese
13th –
20th – Pat Decker
27th –

Altar Guild

?

BIRTHDAY'S



2 Connie Forrester
2 Jacob Mullett
2 Jeanine Slavicek
5 Jessica Foster
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
30 Joyce Reidt
31 Janice Klopfenstein
31 Andrew Hart

ANNIVERSARIES



13 Phil & Jill Coons
14 Veryl & Debra Whaley
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
31 Steve & Betty Wilkinson

BAPTISMS



Logan Bachelder
Mathieu Hartman
Alisha Kimmel
Cari Knuth
Emerson Knuth
Jerry Lahrman
Nolan Lahrman
Timothy Sexton
Christine Woodhouse

FAITH

*is not believing that God can
it is knowing that He will.*

Do you have a favorite Bible verse or quote?
Would you let the office know, we would like to
use them for fillers in the Zealant.

AUGUST 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 VBS 6-8 pm	2 Wed. Service 7 pm VBS 6-8 pm	3 Ladies Aid Sewing 9 am LWML 6 pm	4	5 Altar Guild 9:30 am
				Pastor at Doxology Conference-----		
6 S.S. 9:00 am Worship w/Communion 10:15 am Outreach 11:30 am	7 Pastor's day off	8	9 Wed. Service 7 pm Elders	10	11	12 Pastor's day off
Set-up for garage sale -----						
Pastor at Doxology Conference-----						
13 S.S. 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Bd. of Education 11:30 am	14 Pastor's day off	15 Church Council 7 pm	16 Wed. Service 7 pm	17	18	19
				ZION'S GARAGE SALE -----		
				8am—5pm	8am—5pm	8am—1pm
				Pastor's day off		
Set-up for garage sale -----						
20 S.S. 9:00 am Worship w/Communion 10:15 am	21 Zealant items due Pastor's day off	22	23 Wed. Service 7 pm	24 Ladies Aid Sewing 9 am	25	26 Pastor's day off
27 S.S. 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Youth 11:30 am	28 Pastor's day off	29	30 Wed. Service 7 pm			

Answers to Bible Trivia:

On the mount

He kisses him

Herod Antipas

Jesus's entry into Jerusalem before his death