



# 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!

Ah, Summertime is upon us here in Columbia City. Who doesn't think of this time of year as a time for vacations, laying out at the lake, camping, and just taking it easy for a while? As perhaps our many formative years taught us that because of the long break in the school year – we'd rejoice school was out and happily jaunt around without a care of the looming new classes in the Fall. And so that little kid in each of us would think now is a time to kick back, *'we'll get back at it in the Fall.'*

“Every family is shaped by the holidays it keeps together. Each society is identified in part by its common celebrations. So the church has a calendar that revolves around Jesus Christ. By its observance faith is shaped and nourished.”<sup>1</sup> Our church family here at Zion revolves around a couple of calendars: obviously the Gregorian Calendar we use every day, and the Christian Church Year. Just as time in our daily lives is marked by cycles (such as seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, and years) and we also measure our years by holidays, special weekends, and vacation times, the Church Year is woven together in our daily lives.

Just for the fun of it, and to share with you an example of how calm, peaceful and relaxing summertime is in the Church Year, below I've listed the Festivals celebrated during this time (Note, the following list does NOT include each Sunday during these summer months...):

July 6 <sup>th</sup>	Commemoration of Isaiah, Prophet
July 16 <sup>th</sup>	Commemoration of Ruth
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	Commemoration of Elijah
July 21 <sup>st</sup>	Commemoration of Ezekiel
July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Feast of St. Mary Magdalene
July 25 <sup>th</sup>	Feast of St. James the Elder, Apostle
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Commemoration of Johann Sebastian Bach, Kantor
July 29 <sup>th</sup>	Commemoration of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	Commemoration of Robert Barnes, Confessor & Martyr

<sup>1</sup> **Lutheran Worship History and Practice.** Fred L. Precht, ed. Concordia Publishing House, Saint Louis. 1993. P.146.

Certainly, I could go on as there's still many more for August, September, and so on. But then in the Church Year we separate our Festivals into classes. Major Festivals for example, would take precedence over any other day or celebration, like Christmas Day or Easter. Minor Festivals would be celebrated less than our Sunday worship, because each Sunday is a weekly celebration of our Lord's Resurrection. Minor ones also could easily be moved to a Sunday to observe when they occur on a day not normally containing a regularly scheduled worship service. And then there are Occasions we celebrate in the church, which are movable to a time convenient, except never on a Major Festival Day (i.e., like you wouldn't celebrate a church's anniversary on Easter Sunday.)

A rather little-known facet of our celebrating of Easter is how the specific date for Easter is obtained. I quote, "*After A.D. 325 Easter was to be "on a Sunday that followed the first full moon after the spring equinox" which occurs between March 22 and April 25.*"<sup>2</sup>

Hopefully, this will help explain why we'll participate in the Lord's Supper three Sundays in a row, like we did this past month: the first Sunday of the month, the Day of Pentecost, and then the third Sunday of the month. Maybe it'll also explain why Worship Planning is a bit more extensive than simply picking out hymns to use on a given Sunday. The Day in the Church Year, the Readings of Holy Scripture, the custom of our congregation to use this or that Divine Worship Service; is it a Sunday or Wednesday, and then maybe something special is happening in the community on that day.

Not too long ago it was quite customary to have your wedding during a worship service on Sunday morning. Think of all the fun (and less expense that would be!) Then if we've a Baptism or Confirmation; maybe the whole parish mourns the loss of a beloved member... All these things come into consideration when planning our worship services and celebrations.

Might I note a rather special occasion we'll celebrate during July... a member of our congregation will receive her Commissioning as a Deaconess in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. Having graduated with her Master of Arts Degree in Deaconess Studies from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Katherine Rittner will receive her Commission officially during worship Sunday morning, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019. YOU are all most cordially invited to worship with us! A special invitation has been extended to Rev. Dr. James Bushur, who joined the faculty of CTSFW in the fall of 2006, specializing in patristics. In May 2017 he was named The Carl and Erna Weinrich Associate Professor of New Testament and Early Church Studies. He also serves as director of Deaconess Formation at CTSFW. He'll be preaching during our worship and also will conduct Katherine's Commissioning. We're expecting other special guests to join us this day, as we'll also continue celebrating with a reception following worship in the gym. Katherine has received a Call to serve our Church as the Director of the Food and Clothing Co-ops at the Seminary in Fort Wayne. Her Installation at the Seminary will take place during the Seminary's Opening Service in September. How proud we are of Katherine!!!

(Yeah... maybe I'm a little bias....)

Next month, my article here in the Zealant will offer you a glimpse into the formation of a sermon to be preached from the Pulpit during worship. In the meantime, welcome to summer! Greet one another and enjoy the blessings an Indiana summer so wonderfully offers you, and what our Lord shares during worship here at Zion of Columbia City!

See you in church! Soon!

Pastor Phil Rittner

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid. P.171.

# Church Council Meeting

## June 18, 2019

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Columbia City, Indiana

Meeting called to order by Pastor Rittner with 5 members present (Jill Coons, Steve Smith, Chuck Cooper, Jeremy Grant and Pastor Rittner). Scott Woodhouse, President arrived late for the meeting.

Pastor Rittner opened the meeting with prayer.

**Minutes:** Chuck Cooper amended the Receiving Treasurer report to correct the placement of a donation received and marked "Where most needed". Chuck placed it in savings and Jill placed it in General Operation. Chuck has revised his report to reflect the donation placed in General Operation. Steve Smith made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction as printed as in the June 2019 Zealant. Jill Coons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Receiving Treasurer:** reported by Chuck Cooper

	May 2019	YTD
Unrestricted Receipts	\$ 10,015.31	\$ 45,251.87
Restricted/ Miscellaneous Receipts	\$ 398.06	\$ 2,571.24
Dividends	\$ 319.76	\$ 1,550.28
Interest	\$ 2.73	\$ 15.11
Total Receipts	\$ 10,735.86	\$ 49,388.50

Steve Smith made a motion to accept the report as presented. Jeremy Grant seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Disbursing Treasurer:** Jill Coons

Check/Savings May 2019

General Checking/Savings	\$ 8,078.35
Youth	\$11,794.39
Restricted Funds	\$18,981.36
Lehmburg Legacy	\$76,354.53 (market value at 4/30/2019 \$73,237.87)

Statement of Activity

	May 2019	YTD
General Budget	\$ ,2,695.06	\$ 2,572.53
Non-Budgeted/ Reimbursed	\$ 5.90	\$ 1,913.80
Youth	\$ 52.26	\$ (1,331.14)
Net Revenue	\$ 2,753.22	\$ 3,155.19

Jeremy Grant made a motion to accept the report as presented. Chuck Cooper seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Elders:** Steve Smith

Elders Meeting June 12, 2019

No meeting was held this month.

Average Attendance for May 2019:

Sundays	48
Mid-week	11

Respectively submitted, Stephen Smith (Sec.)

**Trustees:** Jeremy Grant

Old Settler's week is next week. Getting the corn dog wagon ready to go downtown for the week of Old Settler's.

Red Cross rental of the gym on June 27 for the Blood drive.

The low-slope roof over the part of the hall between the gym, entry and the chapel. Roof was recoated in 2005, after it was done there were leaks almost immediately following the work done. The company who did the work was from Marion and attempts were made to have the work fixed, the BBB was involved, and the original contract was lost, and the church had no legal recourse to use to get it fixed correctly. Over the course of the years, members have done some repairs to try to stop the damage.

The leaking is worse, and it is in many different locations. A contractor was brought in to do an assessment. They walked the whole attic and the roof to do the assessment and give an estimate. Found damaged and wet insulation from past and current leaks. The assessment shows that it is time to do a new roof since it has been 15 years and the original was not done correctly. In addition, it was discovered that the decking under the low-slope roof is OSB decking which at this point is sound and solid.

All-struct is not a commercial roofer, he is a general contractor and gave an estimate without any indication of a warranty.

Tri-County Roofers bid is for a total membrane recover with a 20-year warranty. They are completely commercial and have been in business for several years. In addition, they looked at the steel roof over the narthex, library, high school room, pastor's study and secretary's office and found some of the seam has come undone and the openings that are exposed around the area will also be fixed and it is included in the price. The estimate is \$12,950.00. This is work that needs to be done in the summertime to ensure proper sealing and repair.

Will be scheduling a special voter's meeting to get this scheduled since it is a six-week lead time and needs to be completed during the summer. The special voter's meeting will be scheduled for Sunday, June 30, 2019, immediately following the service. Audio system will need to be addressed soon.

AVDI For the audio it is \$3,421.41 (with wireless) or \$2,721.41 (without wireless). For the video only it is \$2,812.55. Total for audio and video is \$6,233.96.

Circle City bid came back at \$6,987 for the audio only. They also looked at the projector for the PowerPoint. The color wheel is gone and that is why the PowerPoint is black and white when we look at it. The bid for video is \$7,100 for a laser projector and for \$6,600 for a bulb projector (like what we currently have).

Will continue to look into the audio and video system updates.

**Board of Christian Education:**

No report received

**Board of Christian Outreach:**

No report received

**Board of Stewardship:**

Online giving option. The company who does our offering envelopes. They will work with us to set-up and they work with the congregation over the course of a six-month start up within the church. There is a \$25.00 monthly maintenance fee that will be paid by the church. If it is done by an ACH (direct from bank account) there is a \$.33 fee per transaction and a credit card is \$.37 fee per transaction plus the credit card fee.

Example: 30 families set up to give online for an average of \$50.00 per month, the fees would be less than \$50 per month of the \$1,500.00 received.

This can be set up by those who go on vacation or who are shut-in's so they can continue to support their church. Many congregations have seen an increase in giving when this is set up.

Right now, the \$200.00 set-up fee is waived and the savings over the course of a year would be \$300.00. We can cancel at any time if we find if it doesn't work for our conversation.

The envelopes would be changed in the future to have a place to indicate that the offering was given online so people could still put an envelope in the offering plate.

There is also a kiosk option to be set up to swipe a credit card, but this is a very expensive option and we will not be participating in it.

This allows the option to set up and split the tithe. Example: \$100 total, with \$75 to general fund and \$25 for the pew cushion fund. This also allows the option to change the amount every week.

Joyful Response through Thrivent is set up one time only and it is very difficult to change the amount to be given.

It will be brought up at the special voter's meeting on Sunday, June 30, 2019.

**Board of Youth:** No meeting held

Old Settler's corn dog wagon is next week. The trustees are helping to get it cleaned up and ready to go. Jim Mullett is replacing the fire extinguisher in the wagon.

Everything is reserved and set for the trip to the National Youth Gathering.

**Pastor:** Pastor Rittner

- Red Cross Blood drive dates
  - June 27<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 4
  - July 25<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 7
- Nazarene Church will be using our grass area July 7 and following 5 consecutive Sunday's for T-ball games.
- In September we will be receiving a deaconess fieldworker from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW) who will be with us for the two years of her residential studies.
- Dane will be returning for his second year of field work in September.
- We currently have 129 communicant members in our congregation.

**Unfinished/Old Business:**

Lehmburg Legacy fund has received no oversight and we have lost money in the past because of this. It has not been maintained since its inception.

Continued conversation of going to a Board of Directors and samples of set up are continuing to be looked at.

**New Business:**

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

Pastor closed with the benediction.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katherine (Katie) Rittner, Recording Secretary



# Special Voter's Meeting

## June 30, 2019

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Columbia City, Indiana

Meeting called to order by Scott Woodhouse, President.

**Trustees:** Presented by Jeremy Grant

The roof over the main entrance (near the elevator) has damage from past roof issues and from new roof issues that has spread to other areas of the roof. Patch work has been done over the past several years, but we have reached a point where a patch will not work.

Jeremy met with a few roofing companies and Tri-County Roofing has offered the best warranty (20 years) for the work to repair the roof completely by a membrane replacement that will be installed over the existing roof surface.

There is a six-week lead time for the work to be done and we would like to have it done during the summer months. The total cost is \$12,950.00. The roof issues over Pastor's study and the secretary office will also be repaired at the same time.

Chuck Cooper made a motion to approve the work to be done by Tri-County Roofing.

Dave Wiehe seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **Online Giving**

The Treasurers have been researching the option of online giving to be made available to all members through the same company who provides our offering envelopes. Until July 15, the set-up fee of \$200.00 is waived and the Church Council recommends to move forward with setting up this option. There is a \$25.00 monthly maintenance fee that is paid by the church.

This is different from Joyfully Giving through Thrivent. This option is easier to use, and it allows you to change the amount as you wish. You can set it up to automatically deduct it from your bank account or via credit card. There is an app available for those with smartphones who want to take advantage of it. Based on other churches usage, this has not shown to have a negative effect on the offering plate.

Jeremy Grant made a motion to set up the online giving.

Christine Woodhouse seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

With no further business, Katie Rittner made a motion to adjourn.

Peggy Brooke seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine (Katie) Rittner, Recording Secretary

## LADIES AID

A longtime former member of Ladies Aid, Alberta Warrnick, passed away June 12<sup>th</sup> at Peabody Home in N. Manchester. Alberta was a current member of Zion. In former years she was an active member of our group and VBS. She had an indomitable spirit and great smile despite her memory problems. She was regularly visited at Peabody by Kathaleen and remembered with gifts and cards from our group. A memorial to the Altar Guild will be given in her memory.

Cards were given to all of Zion's graduates.

Sewing of cancer bed pads continues the first and third Thursday of each month. Eleven-year-old Lucy Lukes is now sewing with us since school is out. All ladies are welcome to come and sew with us and enjoy our great fellowship.

We continue to "Serve With Gladness"



*Read 2 Corinthians 6:1-13*

*Psalm 119:25-32*

*We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians;  
our heart is wide open 2 Corinthians 6:11*

## Hearts Wide Open

Jesus, when He lived among us, reached out to the undesirables in Jewish society, healed and cast out demons, and never shrank from the demands on him. Even when He prayed that the cup of suffering might pass from Him, He ended His prayer with "Not My will, but Yours, be done" (Luke 22:42). Throughout His ministry, the heart of Christ was wide open.

In our reading, Paul speaks of the heart of those who were ministering to the Corinthians as being wide open, withholding nothing of themselves. But living in such an expansive manner is not without its difficulty. In the earlier verses of the passage, Paul speaks of many struggles and sufferings the Corinthians have endured. There is no sugarcoating of this truth. Yet amid and sometimes because of the hardship, blessings were liberally sprinkled.

It can be scary to open your heart to those around you. An open heart is vulnerable to all sorts of pain. But only an open heart can receive the love that Christ lavishes on us, love that overflows to a hurting and broken world. That love will not only guard our hearts but will also heal the places to which it flows.

***Open our hearts, Lord, to Your Word, Your will, and Your call to witness, that we may live lives of love and care for those around us. Amen***





Lessons for July Sunday School are:

7<sup>th</sup>- "The Case of the Missing Scroll"

14<sup>th</sup>-The Case of the Old Bed: Jesus Heals at Bethesda"

21<sup>st</sup>- "The Case of the Oil and Bandages: Good Samaritan"

28<sup>th</sup>- "The Case of the Broom: Jesus with Mary and Martha"

## SCOOP

July 2019

**Missions** Sunday School Missions is supporting the Lutheran Heritage Foundation for the month of May and June. We have collected \$227.55 as of June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Sunday School hour is from 9:00am-10:00am each week. Opening songs, prayer and announcements begin in the gym, and students are dismissed to classes by 9:10am. Baptisms are celebrated the first Sunday of each month and are printed in the Zealant.

We are in the process of updating baptismal, birthdays and Anniversaries dates in the church office. Please Contact Kami Wilburn or Peggy Brooke for corrections or Additions or updates. If your name and information needs added or changed please let these ladies know.

### **Sunday School STATS** –

Class Attendance: Catechism Class-58.37%, High school Class 50%, Preschool& Elementary –62.50%.  
(Banner Class!)

### **Perfect Attendance:**

**Sunday School Pins**- Kaden Decker-1 Year Pin!!

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July 14, 2019

We will be having a Potluck following  
services to celebrate

Katie Rittner's Deaconess Commissioning

† Celebration Potluck for Katie Rittner's Deaconess  
Commissioning.

† -Meat, Potatoes and Cake will be provided.

† -Congregation is asked to bring salads, vegetable dishes.

† We will be having guests from the Seminary attending.

† Please come and join us for this special occasion!!



Brookdale (Assisted Living):  
John & Lois Duffy

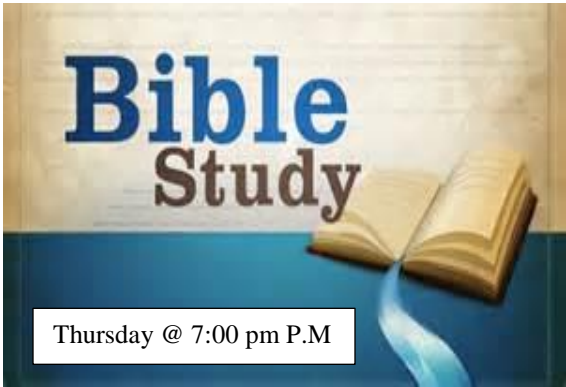
Those at home: Linda Hobkirk,  
Gene Klopfenstein, Dortha Marsh,  
Bill Niedermeyer, John Pullen,  
Tim & Sandra Rueger, Willie &  
Karen Scheumann, Jeannine  
Slavicek, Shane Hoffman,  
Ralph and Barbra Kieper.

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, hear our prayers.

**Worship Services**  
  
SUNDAY  
Sunday School—9:00 a.m.  
Worship—10:15 a.m.  
w/Communion  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays  
  
WEDNESDAY  
Worship—7:00 p.m.  
w/Communion  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays



Bible Study  
will resume  
Sept. 5, 2019

**Bible Trivia Questions** 1) What happened to Elimelech in Moab? 2) What does the shepherd in the parable of the lost sheep do once he realized one is missing? 3) What is the name of the disciple who betrayed Jesus? 4) What golden animal did the Israelites make as an idol? 5) Who did Jesus appear to first after his resurrection?

# July

## SERVING AT CHURCH

### Ushers

7th- Steve Smith  
14th- Ralph Sexton  
21st- Steve Smith  
28th- Ralph Sexton

### Acolytes

7<sup>th</sup>- Caleb Decker  
14<sup>th</sup>- Sam Mullett  
21<sup>st</sup>- Lily Lane  
28<sup>th</sup>- Kirby Coons

### Greeters

7th- Kathaleen Reese  
14th-  
21st- Pat Decker  
28th- Peggy Brooke

Altar Guild-Verna Doehrman

### BIRTHDAY'S



2 Logan Bachelder  
10 Emma Mullet  
12 Barbara Knuth  
13 Brody Hart  
15 Barbara Lahrman  
15 Luke Conrad (Grant)  
17 Cari Knuth  
20 Nolan Lahrman  
22 Summer Hart  
22 Thomas Knuth  
22 Wm. Niedermeyer  
23 Judith Kovacs  
30 Jill Coons

### BAPTISMS



Gavin Lahrman  
Edan Rittner  
Sara Schuller

### ANNIVERSARIES



1 Gene & Sandy Barrett  
14 Ralph & Peggy Brooke  
27 Mathieu & Myra Hartman  
28 David & Sharry Wiehe



Happy  
4<sup>th</sup> of July!

**\*\* In case you missed our handout this week, we are updating the church files, please fill out the following information for each person in your family and return it to the office mailbox. \*\***  
**(If you do not have enough room on this sheet just attach a piece of paper to the back.)**  
**Thank You! We appreciate all your help!**

**Personal Record**  
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date Baptized: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_ Verse: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date Married: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_  
To Whom Married: \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Received by Transfer or Profession of Faith:  
When: \_\_\_\_\_  
From (Church): \_\_\_\_\_

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Transferred, Removed, Excommunicated or Deceased:  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Burial: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Burial: \_\_\_\_\_

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Children: \_\_\_\_\_

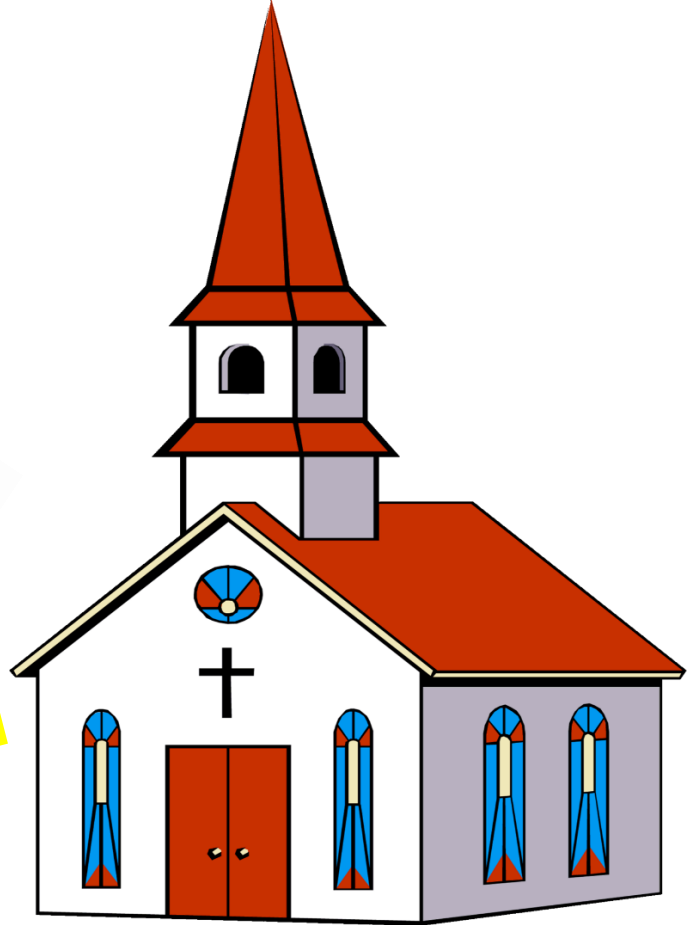
# July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Worship Service 7 PM	4 Happy Fourth of July!  Lad. Aid Sew. 9 am  No LWML Meeting	5	6 Pastor's day off
7 9 a.m. Sun. School. - 10:15 am Worship w/Communion Bd. Outreach -AS	8 Pastor's day off	9	10 Worship Service 7 pm  Elders Meeting after service	11	12	13 Pastor's day off
14 9a.m. Sun. School 10:15 Worship Service without Communion Board of Ed. Meeting Potluck Dinner	15 Pastor's day off	16	17 Wed. worship Service 7 pm	18 Lad. Aid Sew. 9 am	19	20 Pastor's day off
21 9 am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Service w/Communion Voter's Meeting after services.	22 Pastor's day off	23	24 Wed. Worship Service 7 pm	25 Red Cross will be here from 1-7pm  Zealant Items Due!	26 Doehrman Wedding Rehearsal  	27 Doehrman Wedding  
28 S.S. 9:00 am 10:15 am Worship Service without Communion  Youth 11:30 am	29 Pastor's day off	30				

Trivia Answers #1) He died (Ruth 1:3) #2) Goes and looks for it (Matt 18:12) #3) Judas Iscariot (Mark 14:10) #4) Calf (Exo 32:4) #5) Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9)

Donations  
accepted  
anytime!

# Zion's



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

Hours:

Thursday 8-5

Friday 8-5

Saturday 8-1

Have question  
ask Jerry  
Lahrman!

