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THE ZION ZEALANT

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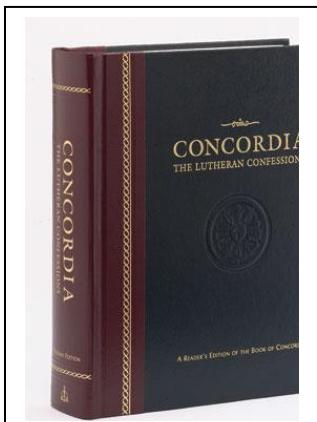
Web Page: <http://www.zionlutherancc.com/index.html>

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Greetings in the Name of the Lord!

A wonderful celebration of our Lutheran heritage comes around each year near the end of October. I'm speaking about **The Reformation**. This may be a bit longer of an article for our Zealant, but there's often bits and pieces of our beloved history as Lutherans many don't get an opportunity to see. I highly recommend obtaining a copy of ***Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions-A Reader's Edition of the Book of Concord***, available for \$39.99 (or for the paperback version, \$19.99) from Concordia Publishing House. If you'd like one, see me and I can have them delivered here to the church.



Recently, a professor at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, one Erik H. Herrmann, wrote concerning The Reformation,

“During our twenty-first-century time of tech and Twitter, does Martin Luther still have anything relevant to say? And why should the Church even celebrate a 500-year-old piece of history? These questions point us to a bigger theme: what makes the Reformation timeless?

At first glance, it's easy to define the Reformation as a single event set into motion by one rebellious man who fought for pure Christian teachings and against papal authority.

But look closer. Now is the time to get to know Luther not as a symbol of freedom from the institution or of German patriotism, but as a pastor. Because at the end of the day, Luther cared deeply for the spiritual well-being of the people who filled small churches every week. That's right—he faced persecution, excommunication, and death threats all for the sake of someone like you. Someone who needed to hear the pure Gospel message of Jesus' grace for sinners.

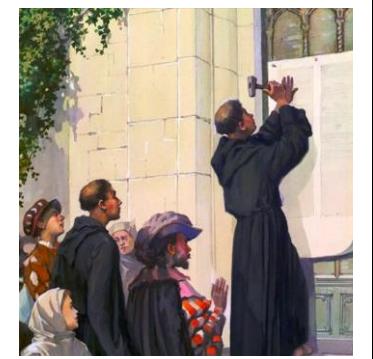
Of course, the Reformation is too complex a time and movement to be only about one person or one thing. Its causes and effects touch on a wide range of social and political factors, theological ideas, unique personalities and churchly pressures. Some would even argue that it is better to speak of “Reformations” rather than a single, unified movement.

Yet in spite of the complexity of the Reformation, October 31, 1517, marks a very specific event with a relatively narrow scope. Luther's posting of the 95 theses was admittedly a match that set off a firestorm, but the nature of this event is often obscured by the tumult that follows rather than its original intent. To put it succinctly, Luther's 95 Theses were written as a protest against bad pastoral care, and it is from this perspective that one should try to understand what Luther was up to in those early years of the Reformation. As the Reformation scholar Jane Strohl put so wonderfully, "One could describe Luther's career as the mounting of a life-long pastoral malpractice suit against the church's authority at every level of the hierarchy."¹

I would also like to give you a "taste", as it were, of our own dear Martin Luther and his beginning to create a stir in Germany during this time of history. From Dr. Martin Luther's Preface to the Smalcald Articles of the Book of Concord, Luther said,

Pope Paul III called a council to meet in Mantua last year, in Whitsuntide. Afterwards he transferred the council from Mantua, and it is not yet known where it will or can be held. In any case, we had reason to expect that we might be summoned to appear before the council or be condemned without being summoned. I was therefore instructed² to draft and assemble articles of our faith to serve as a basis for possible deliberations and to indicate, on the one hand what and in how far we were willing and able to yield to the papists and, on the other hand, what we intended to hold fast to and persevere in.

Accordingly, I assembled these articles and submitted them to our representatives. The latter accepted them, unanimously adopted them as their confession, and resolved that these articles should be presented publicly as the confession of our faith if the pope and his adherents ever became so bold as seriously, in good faith, and without deception or treachery to hold a truly free council, as indeed the pope is in duty bound to do.



But the Roman court is dreadfully afraid of a free council and flees from the light in a shameful fashion. Even adherents of that party have lost hope that the Roman court will ever permit a free council, to say nothing of calling one. They are deeply offended, as well they might be, and are not a little troubled on this account, for they perceive that the pope prefers to see all Christendom lost and all souls damned rather than suffer himself and his adherents to be reformed a little and allow limitations to be placed on his tyranny.

Nevertheless, I have decided to publish these articles so that, if I should die before a council meets (which I fully expect, for those knaves who shun the light and flee from the day take such wretched pains to postpone and prevent the council), those who live after me may have my testimony and confession (in addition to the confession which I have previously given) to show where I have stood until now and where, by God's grace, I will continue to stand.

¹ <https://lutheranreformation.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/ref500-paper-ReformationRemembered.pdf>

Why do I say this? Why should I complain? I am still alive. I am still writing, preaching, and lecturing every day. Yet there are some who are so spiteful—not only among our adversaries, but also false brethren among those who profess to be adherents of our party—that they dare to cite my writings and teachings against me. They let me look on and listen, although they know very well that I teach otherwise. They try to clothe their venomous spirits in the garments of my labor and thus mislead the poor people in my name. Imagine what will happen after I am dead!”²

Perhaps at a later time we could do an even bigger look back into the smaller, interesting details of what transpired during those Reformation years and what Philipp Melanchthon, Martin Luther and Justus Jonas wrote in the Augsburg Confession.



I would also like to make a plea for your participation in a Bible Study here at Zion. Why study the Bible anyways? Why should you attend Bible study? Isn't it enough to attend church and listen to a sermon? Isn't it the pastor's job to teach us this stuff? The first question should be easy to answer...God's Word is found in the Bible. That's where we turn for answers to life's unanswerable riddles. Attending Bible study allows for the exchange of ideas through learning, discussion, and fellowship, leading to a greater understanding of His Word and how it applies to our lives. Sitting in the pew listening to and watching

others do all the work is not walking in faith. Christianity is not a passive pursuit; it's a passionate, active process and commitment to growing in faith.

Your Pastor has had a number of folks come in to talk about possibly joining our church. Some we talk at great length and others not so much. I let people know how wonderfully friendly and warmly accepting our members are! But most recently, I've been asked directly, “***why should I join your church and not one of the bigger, better ones?***” (I quote) I can't remember exactly what I said at the time; though I am sure it was meant well. But I have long thought about that question. I thought about it because new, possible members aren't the first to ask me this about Zion. Some of your fellow members expressed (in not so many words) ‘what can we do to make this church better?’

After praying and meditating on what the Lord would have me say... I came up with an answer for everyone. “What can YOU do to make Zion a better church?” I anxiously await the time I can ask this of a new, perspective member! Imagine their expression when asked, “What could you do, by your attending and being a member here, make this a better church?”

Therein is the answer: Your attending. Your being an active member. For nearly twelve years now I have tried to be a motivator; getting people to participate in this, that, or another here at church.

² Tappert, T. G. (Ed.). (1959). The Book of Concord the confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. (pp. 288–289). Philadelphia: Mühlenberg Press.

Another answer is that there is indeed oh so much more we could be doing. In recent years, Katie and I have traveled all over the country attending LWML conventions. We have also gone to functions at many other congregations in the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. The suggestions I could give you for new things to do here at Zion... Where the church sits empty the vast majority of any given week. How many of you yourselves could host a Bible Study here at Zion – leading it and gathering a small group together. What more could we do to support our Community? What can we do to get youth more active and coming to church? The list could go on and on.

So, if you've an idea to help us share the Good News of Christ Crucified to those who need it the most; give me a call. Talk with your Board of Directors or Elders. Keep in mind what St. Peter wrote in his Epistle about each of you: "**... you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation[!]³**

Have a wonderful Fall Season! See you in church, soon!

Pastor Phil Rittner

³ The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (1 Pe 2:9). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

Board of Directors Meeting

September 20, 2022

Meeting called to order by Phil Coons, Head Elder with five (5) members (Phil C. Chuck, Jill, David and Katie), one (1) ex-officio member (Pastor Rittner) present.

Pastor Rittner opened the meeting with a reading from Matthew 19 and prayer.

Minutes: Chuck Cooper made a motion to accept the August Board of Directors Meeting minutes printed in the September Zealant with no corrections but a reprint with noting a correction to the July Year-to-Date Receiving Treasurer Report. The corrections were needed to account for the correct reporting of monies received and placed into the correct accounts. David Merryman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

CORRECTED JULY YTD

Unrestricted Offering Receipts	\$ 43,568.03
Restricted Offering/	
Miscellaneous Offering Receipts	\$ 34,773.55
On-Line Giving Receipts	\$ 21,164.00
Dividends	\$ 21,367.94
Interest	\$ 25.15
Total Unrestricted Receipts	\$ 64,732.03
Total Restricted Receipts	\$ 34,773.55
Total Receipts	\$ 120,898.67

Receiving Treasurer: reported by Chuck Cooper

	August 31, 2022	YTD
Unrestricted Offering Receipts	\$ 6,430.00	\$ 49,998.03
Restricted Offering/		
Miscellaneous Offering Receipts	\$ 265.96	\$ 35,039.51
On-Line Giving Receipts	\$ 2,797.00	\$ 23,961.00
Dividends	\$ 326.24	\$ 21,694.18
Interest	\$ 5.25	\$ 30.40
Total Unrestricted Receipts	\$ 9,227.00	\$ 73,959.03
Total Restricted Receipts	\$ 265.96	\$ 35,039.51
Total Receipts	\$ 9,824.45	\$ 130,723.12

David Merryman made a motion to accept the August report as presented. Katie Rittner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Disbursing Treasurer: reported by Jill Coons

Check/Savings as of	August 31, 2022
General Checking/Savings	\$ 103,191.07
Youth	\$ 5,772.01
Restricted Funds	\$ 48,259.56
Lehmburg Legacy/	
Kyler Endowment	\$ 209,564.18
Statement of Activity	

	August 31, 2022	YTD
General Budget	\$ 2,024.43	\$ 18,613.78
Non-Budgeted/		
Reimbursed	\$ (6,871.63)	\$ 36,151.11
Youth	\$ (331.67)	\$ (5,570.79)
Net Revenue	\$ (5,178.87)	\$ 49,194.10

Chuck Cooper made a motion to accept the August report as presented. David Merryman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Elders: Meeting held September 9, 2022

Meeting opened with prayer.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Verdin has been contacted to fix the church bell.

Discussed new bulletin covers to be presented to the Board of Directors at a cost of \$120.00 per quarter.

Red Cross will be here on September 20th.

There will be a car show in the parking lot on September 24th.

The Elders part of the 2023 budget was prepared. It came to a total of \$39,200.00

Proposed 2023 Budget for Elders:

District Pledge	\$ 4,600.00
Minister's Salary	\$ 7,800.00
Minister's Housing	\$10,400.00
Guest Speaker	\$ 1,500.00
Sem. Student Mileage	\$ 1,000.00
Pastor Conference	\$ 1,500.00
Altar Guild	\$ 700.00
Pastor Mileage	\$ 3,000.00
Elder Miscellaneous	\$ 1,500.00
Student Adoption	\$ 1,200.00
Assist. Pastor	<u>\$ 6,000.00</u>
Total Proposed Budget	\$39,200.00

Average attendance for August:

Sundays	49
1 st Wednesday	7

Meeting was closed with the Benediction.

Respectively submitted,
Stephen Smith (Sec.)

Peggy Brooke has resigned from the Board of Directors to remain on the Altar Guild in accordance with the By-Laws dated September 7, 2022.

Ralph Brooke has resigned as President of the Board of Directors effective September 7, 2022.

Vice President Betty Wilkinson ascends to President until a new one is elected.

The old stove will be moved out of the way until it is sold and removed.

The Ansul System (fire suppression) can be sold. However, we will be looking into adding it to the Corn Dog Wagon in the event the requirement is passed by the City to be used during Old Settlers in the Wagon.

The water fountain has been ordered, as will everything else supply chain related, we are waiting for delivery.

At the request of the Board of Directors, Steve Smith will serve as liason to the Board of Directors with phone calls, estimates, etc. for repairs around the church.

Board of Education: No meeting held.

Board of Christian Outreach: No meeting held.

Board of Stewardship:

Online giving program will have a slight increase in fees. This is the first one since enrolling in the program 3 years ago.

We also now have the capability to include a quarterly letter, or a letter announcing important events, with the envelopes.

Board of Youth:

The youth will be selling hot dogs, drinks and chips at the car show this weekend.

Pastor:

1. Friday, there will be a congregation wide text going out about Destiny Rescue being with us during Sunday School and church on 9/25/22.
2. Tuesday and Wednesday, September 27 & 28, Pastor will be at the Indiana District Office.
3. October 16 & 17, Pastor will be attending the semi-annual Indiana District Pastor's Conference in Noblesville, Indiana.
4. October 9 at 3:00 pm. Circuit Forum via Zoom to elect the Pastoral and Lay delegate for the Synodical Convention July 29 – August 3. If anyone is interested in serving as the Lay Delegate for our Circuit, please let Pastor Phil know by Friday, October 7.

Unfinished/Old Business:

Fence removal & post removal along back property line, replace with split rail fence, leave the gate across the driveway. Ethan Crutchfield is interested in doing this project. Phil and Jill Coons will coordinate and oversee the project planning, supplies, and fundraising to make sure it doesn't fall through the cracks. Katie Rittner requested some of the chain link when removed.

New Business:

Bulletin cover of \$120 per quarter for ease of transition and preparation to Tonya at the beginning of the Church Year, the new covers will begin to be used on November 27, the First Sunday of Advent. The covers have the weekly readings and will cut down on the number of pages being printed.

With no further business, Chuck Cooper made a motion to adjourn. Katie Rittner seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Pastor Rittner closed the meeting with the Aaronic Benediction.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine (Katie) Rittner, Recording Secretary



OKTOBERFEST is **Oct 1st**, at Ken & Barb Knuth's home, from **5pm to 8pm**. Hot Dogs will be provided. Bring a dish or 2, to share with all. RAIN or SHINE. Bonfire, hot chocolate and fun. Address: 4279 E Lincolnway Col. City, if lost...call Barb @ 260-229-1670.

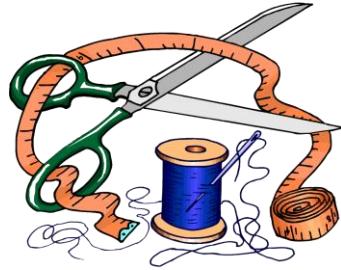
Coffee time will return the first Sunday of the month starting on October 2nd, Come join us for fellowship each month!





LADIES AID

Oct 6th & Oct 20th @ 9am Ladies Aid Sewing Group



Meeting the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 or for as long as you can stay to sew the Cancer Bed Pads. We enjoy great fellowship and share humorous as well as inspirational messages and invite anyone to join us.

SERVING WITH GLADNESS

Take TIME to
WORK – it is the price of success
PLAY – it is the secret of perpetual youth
THINK – it is the gift of God
READ - it is the fountain of wisdom
PRAY - it is conversation with God
LAUGH – it is the music of the soul
LISTEN - it is the pathway to understanding
WORSHIP – it is the highway of reverence
LOVE & BE LOVED – it is the gift of GOD.



DON'T FORGET TO GET YOUR **COOKBOOKS!!!** PLEASE ASK FRIENDS OR RELATIVES TO BUY 1 OR 3! ALSO NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY SOME, **Only \$10,** FOR **CHRISTMAS STOCKING GIFTS, WHITE ELEPHANT GIFTS OR SECRET PAL GIFT!!!!** If you know of any or will be involved in any craft fairs this fall, let us know so we can try to get someone out there to sell some there or maybe we can have you sell some for us.... THANKS!!!
Jill and Tonya

Please remember in your daily prayers:

Lois D, Linda H, Maxine L, Janice K, Jeanine S, Dortha, Jack & Joanne L, Ralph K, Shane, Ralph B, Tim & Sandra R, Ralph S, Steve S, Bob E, Bonnie S, Tonya S





3 David Wiehe
8 Heather Decker
21 Caleb Roark
22 Mary Sexton
24 Jennifer Foldenauer
27 Amanda Crutchfield
27 Ervin Doehrman
28 Martha Williams
29 Daniel Knuth
29 Linda Williams



4 Spencer & Jessica Rossow
5 Rick & Sara Sawyer



Andrew Hart
Lois Duffy
Jack Foldenauer
Gilliana Knuth
Kenneth Knuth
Jill Coons
Kirby Coons
Riley Coons
Rachel Degitz
Kathleen Reese
Michael Sexton
Lilly Lane



HIGHLIGHTING UPCOMING EVENTS

1st Wednesday of Month 7pm Worship Services on Oct 5th and the next Wed. service will be Nov 2nd!



Jerry is not getting any younger, he is 'hinting' that he would like for some volunteers to help with the landscaping...aka mowing. The mower is here, gas is here and it is a rider! Let him know if you are interested in helping him out some with the mowing. Any strapping young men with a few hours a week to ride the mower for Jerry? Possibly every other month??? Thanks



Semi-annual Voter's Assembly Meeting will be October 16 immediately following worship. Please make every effort to be there as we will be voting on the 2023 Budget, as well as for a new President, an At-Large Member, and other open positions.



I know it is hard at times to always remember to put in Smile.Amazon.com and not just amazon.com...I actually bookmarked smile.amazon.com to not forget again. We are getting **free money** due to people signing up and by using the Kroger card. It is not a ton, but it is **free** and I'd rather it go to us than to Kroger or Amazon! lol If you need help, let me know!

DON'T FORGET TO UPDATE YOUR KROGER CARD AND AMAZON ACCOUNT!

2 EASY ways to make Free Money for the CHURCH

Don't forget that there are 2 easy ways to donate free money to the church

If you shop Amazon, use the link and the church will get a donation from amazon. You are not charged for this, but you must use smile.amazon.com If you use our link you just have to click that you want to support the church, you only do this once. Then each time you log on to smile.amazon.com, you will automatically have the church as your charity.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/35-6041630>

To Use the Kroger Community Rewards Program:
Simply go to visit <http://www.kroger.com>.

Once logged into your Kroger account, look towards bottom of page for community rewards tab, then you can search for **ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** either by name or NA108 and then click Enroll.



New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a *rewards* card, get your card from the service desk.

LET ME KNOW:

If you have anything you want to include in the Zealant, let me know.

You can always email me, I'll get back to you rather quickly. If you move or get a new phone number, let me know. If you want to buy a cookbook when they come in, let me know. If you have questions on how to sign up for the Kroger card rewards program, let me know. If you need something added to the bulletin, let me know.



OCTOBER FUN

B	R	T	S	C	L	D	E	R	P
A	O	S	I	A	A	P	S	T	U
T	Z	O	N	T	M	N	Y	I	M
B	W	H	O	V	B	R	D	O	P
L	S	G	U	R	E	Y	W	Y	K
A	X	N	F	M	L	A	P	H	I
C	R	O	S	S	J	N	F	U	N
K	Y	D	Z	C	I	L	G	W	S
R	E	F	R	L	U	T	H	E	R

BAT
BLACK
BOO
CAT
CANDY
CROSS
FUN

GHOST
LAMB
(Martin)LUTHER
ORANGE
PALM
PUMPKINS
SIN



November 2022

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	OKTOBERFEST @ Ken & Barb Knuths. Rain or Shine! 5p-8p Bring a dish to share! Hot Dogs provided. 4279 E. Lincolnway CC Maps at Church if needed.
1st Sunday's COFFEE after Worship Today! 9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Svc W/Holy Communion 1130am Board of Outreach	3	4	5 7pm Worship service Pastor's in Office	6 9am Ladies Aid Sewing Grp 7pm Bible Study Pastor's in Office	7	8
9 9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Svc 1130am Board of Education 1130a Elder's Mtg	10 Columbus Day	11	12 Pastor's in Office	13 7pm Bible Study Pastor's in Office	14	15
16 9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Svc W/Holy Communion VOTER's Mtg 11:30a	17	18	19 Pastor's in Office	20 9am Ladies Aid Sewing Grp 7pm Bible Study Pastor's in Office	21	22
23 9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Svc 1130am Board of Youth	24	25 Zealant Items Due! Please!!	26 Pastor's in Office	27 7pm Bible Study Pastor's in Office	28	29
30 9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Svc Matins	31 Halloween	1 All Saints' Day	2	3	4	5