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THE ZION ZEALANT



Zion Lutheran Church, 101 E. North St., Columbia City, IN
Phone: 244-5513 E-Mail: zionccdq@embarqmail.com
Web Page: <http://www.zionlutherancc.com/index.html>
Rev. Phil Rittner
Cell Phone: 260-415-9078 (I text if you'd like!)
Email: revrittner@reagan.com



Pastor Phil Zealant Article October 2018

Sometimes Outreach and Evangelism simply don't get the attention perhaps we ought to give them. The "growth of the church" isn't simply what Zion Lutheran Church in Columbia City needs to concentrate on – but the whole Church of Christ Jesus: does your neighbor know the Name of Jesus and the salvation won for him or her upon the cross?

That we have more and more folks in our pews each week shouldn't be our sole focus. It's more about the love God has for all mankind that we should motivate us to tell others, and conversely bring them to church!

Below is an item published by the Indiana District I thought I'd share with you all. Let me know what you think!

See you in church! Soon!

Pastor Phil Rittner

How Do We Grow?

Published on November 16th, 2017, www.in.lcms.org

Three Churches Share Their Outreach Strategies

It's a question many churches ask on a regular basis: How do you grow when you're a small congregation? Not every church can build a high-priced facility to attract new people. Instead, congregations have to focus on what they do best: relationships.

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Epiphany Lutheran Church in Westfield, Indiana was planted in 2008 and has steadily grown to over 300 people. Led by Pastor Jeremy Mills, the church resides in a growing suburban community heavily populated by young families.

“From the beginning, our outreach policy is that every person identifies someone and invites them to church,” Pastor Mills says. “That has been a great success. If you looked at our membership, 75% come in because someone invited them.”

Although the church has used various outreach programs, word of mouth has been the most successful outreach method. He says it comes down to ownership, accountability, and members believing in the vision of the church. Pastor Mills also follows up with every lead and greets people after service.

“There's no magical formula,” he adds. “It's putting in the work and the effort. I ask members to be aware of people who may not be church-ed and be comfortable talking about it.”

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Warsaw, IN has been a congregation for five years under Reverend Michael Barnes.

“Most of our outreach is focused on trying to correct misconceptions,” Reverend Barnes says. “It's been difficult with the background of the town. Lutheranism is seen as a cult. We try to be out there in the community and create awareness of who we are, what we represent, and what we stand for.”

Their church outreach includes participating in community events, where they canvas the crowds and strike up conversations about faith. Because they do not have a church building, Reverend Barnes sets up a mobile office in coffee shops and restaurants, where he invites people to chat.

“People are intrigued I have no office and the invitation is there to sit down. It's a way of getting into the community.”

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Christ the King Lutheran Church in Mooresville, IN is a new mission church started in July 2013. Pastor Rick Ebb, a retired army chaplain, says that new converts make up half the church and military connections have produced 50% of their growth.

“Veterans are an isolated part of our population and desperately need to be in church. They feel comfortable here because we have other veterans.”

Besides attracting veterans, they also have a growing population of single adults. The church is not afraid to try new initiatives, using social media and a midweek service to attract new members. But overall, it's the relationships that keep people coming back. “I would say outreach comes down to one word: relationships,” Pastor Ebb adds. “Most people go to church, not because it's church, but because of the people there.”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Phil". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Church Council

August 21, 2018

Zion Lutheran Church

Council Meeting

September 18, 2018

Kenny Knuth called the meeting to order with 7 members present.

Pastor Rittner opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 116 and prayer.

Minutes: Steve Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the Zealot, Judy Gilbert 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Receiving Treasurer: Chuck Cooper

	<u>August 2018</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Unrestricted Receipts	\$7,267.00	\$60,055.47
Restricted/ Miscellaneous Receipts	\$5,437.86	\$ 8,983.45
Dividends	\$287.44	\$2,521.66
Interest	\$2.79	\$19.76
Total Receipts	\$12,995.09	\$71,580.34

Joyce Reidt made a motion to accept the report as presented, Steve Smith 2nd the motion. The motion passed.

Disbursing Treasurer: Jill Coons

	<u>August 2018</u>
Unrestricted Funds	\$ 2,873.33
Youth Accounts	\$14,226.05
Restricted Funds	\$18,574.70
Lehmburg Legacy	\$78,015.84 (Market value 7/31 \$74,923.73)
Statement of Activity	

	<u>August 2018</u>	<u>YTD</u>
General Budget	\$ 1,496.39	\$ (1,722.28)
Non-Budgeted/ Reimbursed	\$ 5,637.14	\$ 2,522.02
Youth	\$ (800.93)	\$ 1,186.84
Total	\$ 6,332.60	\$ 1,986.58

Chuck Cooper made a motion to accept the report as presented, Judy Gilbert 2nd the motion. The motion passed.

Elders: Steve Smith

• Meeting opened with prayer. • There will be no service on Wednesday, September 26th • Gideon's will speak on Sunday, October 14th with a special door offering. • Red Cross will use our facilities on Thursday, October 25th. • The Elders part of the budget has been prepared for the 2019 year. • Average Attendance for August 2018: Sunday's 51, Mid-week 11

Trustees: Jeremy Grant

• Jeremy has had painters here for quotes on painting that needs done on the exterior of the church. • Some wood needs replacing on a few stained-glass windows. • We are in the process of getting quotes for basement windows. • Work is almost complete on the cross for the exterior of the church.

Board of Education: Judy Gilbert

• Meeting was held September 9 with 6 members and 1 guest present. • Pastor opened the meeting with prayer. • Sunday School: average Attendance for August Students- 3, Adults- 14 • New fall Sunday school material has been started. • Missions: \$ 309.07 was collected for Destiny Rescue. Missions for September/October will be Liberian Children's Ministry, they teach Muslim children about Jesus. We've collected \$ 20.60 so far. Missions for November/December will be the Wittenburg Project. • Pastors Report: The National Youth Gathering for 2019 will be in Minneapolis Minnesota. Age group is 8th grade and up. So far, we have 5 or 6 youth attending. Scott Woodhouse will be the boys chaperon, we still need a chaperon for the girls. • No Library Report • Old Business: Rally Day/ New Member welcome, and installation of Sunday School staff and officers will be September 1, 2018. There will be a pot luck dinner following church with drinks provided. Oktoberfest will be October 20th, 2018 at Kenny and Barb Knuth's home from 4 to 8 pm. Please bring a snack or covered dish to share and a lawn chair everything else will be provided along with hot Chocolate. There will be hay rides for the children and a bonfire for roasting marshmallows. • The Christmas program will be December 16, 2018 • New Business: The 2019 budget was renewed.

Pastor Report:

• Pastor and Katie will be on vacation September 25th thru October 1st. • Sam Mullett will be confirmed on Reformation Sunday October 28th. • The new conformation material is in. • Committees should start calendar planning for 2019. • Pastor continues to assist Ralph Brooke with the Nominating Committee.

Unfinished Business: Committee budgets need to be returned to Jill Coons by October 1st, 2018.

No New Business

Jill Coons made a motion to adjourn, Joyce Reidt 2nd the motion. The motion passed. Pastor closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Respectively submitted Joyce Reidt (sec.)

Zion Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid welcomes a new sewer to the group sewing cancer bed beds. She is Dorothy Krueger, sister of Marty Williams. Great fellowship is enjoyed by all while doing this mission project. Shut in visits were made to Karen and Willie Scheumann and Hella Zeigler (a former Zion member of years back)- all at The Oaks. Also visited was Alberta Warnick at Peabody Hawthorne Unit in N. Manchester. Portals of Prayer were taken to both.

WE helped the LWML with their bake sale at the garage sale in August also.

A confirmation gift will be purchased for the one confirmand in October.

WE continue to "Serve with Gladness"



Lessons for October

- 7th- "Moses and the Burning Bush"
- 14th- "Moses and the Plagues"
- 21st- "The Passover"
- 28th- "Crossing the Red Sea"

SCOOP

October 2018

Zion had a great turnout for Rally Day! Thanks to all who prepared food and participated in the potluck. Sunday School staff and Board of Christian Education members were installed in the worship service, and Dyllan Lepper (Rittner) and Lynn Kyler were celebrated as Zion's newest members.

The Destiny Rescue representative, Steve Hill, was our guest speaker in Sunday School on September 9th. He was presented with a check totaling \$309.07 for our missions collecting from July and August. Our next mission project for September and October is New Life Lutheran Ministry helping bring the gospel to Liberian children. They plan to have a guest speaker in November at Zion to share this ministry.

Oktoberfest 2018:

Is Saturday October 20, from 4:00 to 8:00pm at the barn of Kenny and Barb Knuth, 4279 Lincolnway (260-244-6065). Bring your family friends and neighbors for a wienie roast (Rain or Shine) & potluck. Hot dogs/buns and Hot Chocolate provided. Dress accordingly and bring a lawn chair if weather permits. Otherwise the hotdogs will be grilled in the barn. Hayrides for children will be going on throughout the event. **It's a fun time for all ages!**

Maps available IN Church office or on the bulletin board.

Sunday School Hour begins at 9:00am. With opening in the gym before dismissing for classes at 9:10-10:00 am. Coffee and Donuts available



Bible Trivia Questions 1) Who did Jesus say was the “father of lies”? 2) What was the name of the tower that the people were building when God confused their language? 3) What is the common name of the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples? 4) Whose name means ‘father of a great multitude’? 5) Of what did Potiphar’s wife falsely accuse Joseph resulting in him being thrown into prison?



Peabody Home (Hawthorn unit):
Alberta Warnick

Brookdale (Assisted Living):
John & Lois Duffy

Those at home:
Tom Auer, Martha Essex, Linda
Hobkirk, Gene & Janice Klopfenstein,
Dortha Marsh, Bill Niedermeyer, John
Pullen, Tim & Sandra Rueger,
Willie & Karen Scheumann, and
Jeannine Slavicek.

New Office Hours: Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with Monday’s Change. This will be until the end of the semester which is in December.

Church Office Hours

Monday	7:30- 11:30 am
Tuesday	8:00-12:00 pm
Wednesday	8:00- 12:00pm
Thursday	8:00-12:00pm
Friday	8:00-12:00pm

**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

Just a reminder for all those using the gym please check all doors before you leave to make sure they are closed tightly. Thank You!



LWML North Zone Rally- will be on Oct.6 at Emmanuel on W. Jefferson. Fort Wayne, IN.

LWML Sunday is October 7th.

Outreach:

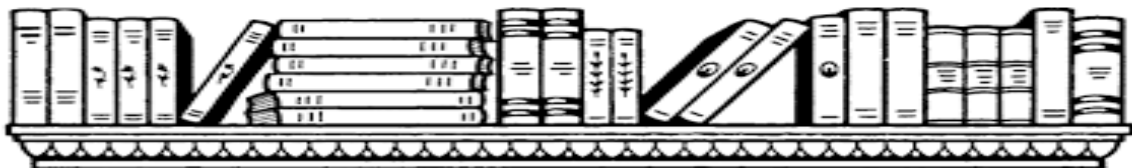
We will not be having Coffee Hour between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

We are still collecting **Shoes** for the **Changing Footprints** project.

New Members Dinner was September 16, 2018. Honoring Lynn Kyler and Dyllynn Jei Lepper.

We had a wonderful turnout for the dinner.

Chris's Corner



As Christians, we pray for the opportunity to have opportunities to share the Gospel with those who do not believe. We give examples of Christ's work in our lives, personal stories we are comfortable and familiar with.

1 Peter 3:15 tell us to "**... in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.**" (ESV)

Conversations with non- and other-believers often come with some big questions (free will, original sin, etc.) you may not be so comfortable and familiar with.

It may be necessary to become an apologist during these conversations. "Apologetics" is the Christian discipline of defending the faith. In this case, an "apology" is not an admission of wrong-doing ("I'm sorry I ate all the chocolate chips before you could bake the cookies..."), but rather, an "apology" in the classical sense - a defense of your position.

The Book of Concord is a great first resource; Knowing your own belief is a key starting point in sharing it with others. The Small Catechism provides for us, as Luther states in the Preface, "...Christian doctrine, in this small, plain, simple form." Further, the Book of Concord contains the Apology of the Augsburg Confession and the Formula of Concord. These works give doctrinal insight into big questions like free will, original sin, infant baptism, and the nature of Jesus Christ. Not only are these key topics in understanding your Lutheran faith, the text clearly shows where the errors in other doctrines occur.

Additionally, your church library has other resources to help you become an apologist when speaking to those of other faiths. The How to Respond to... books can help prepare you to speak to Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, cults, Transcendental Meditation, occultists, and the Lodge. Understanding critical errors of these other beliefs can make it easier to highlight the Truth of Christianity.

These resources are available to strengthen your own understanding of our Lutheran faith and help prepare you when sharing with "gentleness and respect."

October

SERVING AT CHURCH

Ushers

2- Ralph Sexton
9- Steve Smith
16- Ralph Sexton
23- Steve Smith
30- Ralph Sexton

Acolytes

Greeters

2-Kathaleen Reese
9-
16-Pat Decker
23-
30-

Altar Guild

BIRTHDAY'S



1 Laura Mullett
2 Jim Mullett
2 Jacob Mullett
3 David Wiehe
8 Heather Decker
21 Caleb Roark
22 Mary Sexton
24 Lydia Childs
24 Jennifer Foldenauer
24 Alberta Warnick
27 Ervin Doehrman
27 Amanda Crutchfield
28 Martha Williams
29 Daniel Knuth
29 Linda Williams
30 Steven Wilkinson

BAPTISMS



Kyler Bills
Trevor Braun
Lois Duffy
Jack Foldenauer
Violet Klopfenstein
Kenneth Knuth
Jennifer Knuth
Laura Mullett
Kathleen Reese
Michael Sexton

ANNIVERSARIES



4 Spencer & Jessica Rossow
5 Rick & Sara Sawyer
16 Jim & Laura Mullett

October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Wed. Eve. Service 7pm	4 Ladies Aid Sewing 9:00 am L.W.M.L 6pm Bible Study 7pm	5	6 Alter Guild Pastor's day off
7 S.S. 9:00 am Worship w/Communion 10:15 am Bd. of Outreach. 11:30 am	8 Pastor's day off	9	10 Wed. Evening Service 7 pm Elder's Meeting After Service	11 Bible Study- 7:00pm	12	13 Youth -Fall Community Service Pastor's day off
14 S.S. 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Bd. Of Ed 11:30am	15 Pastor's day off	16	17 Wed. Evening Service 7 pm Elders Meeting	18 9 am Ladies Aid Sewing Bible Study- 7:00pm	19	20 Pastor's day off Octoberfest 4-8pm
21 S.S. 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Voter's Meeting 11:30	22 Pastor's day off	23 Church Council Meeting 7pm	24 Wed. Evening Service 7 pm	25 Zealant Items Due. Bible Study- 7:00pm	26	27 Youth Corn Maze & Pizza Pastor's day off
28 S.S. 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Youth Meeting 11:30	29 Pastor's day off	30	31 Wed. Evening Service 7 pm			

Answers to Bible Trivia: 1) The Devil 2) Tower of Babel 3) The Lord's Prayer's 4) Abraham 5) Rape

No items turned in:

