

ZIONEWS

October 2020

Zion Lutheran Church

1906 - 2020

An active congregation of the Montana Synod of the ELCA

Just think – if we can make it through the month of October, we can make it through this election season and be done listening to negative campaign ads until the next election. It does make me wonder how people can be so negative, then expect us to be excited to have them be our leaders in a positive way.

When I think about this, I realize that it is even more important for us, as Christians, to be patient and positive in our ways than it is for politicians. When we don't understand just why someone may be doing or saying a certain thing, it might be time to pursue a bit of information to find out what is behind their words or actions. When we do need to speak out against something inappropriate, we need to do so with care and diplomacy. And our actions and words need to speak God's love in all that we do.

Our act of the blessing of the quilts on Sept. 27 triggered a string of thoughts that ran through my head. I realized how easy it was to pray for faceless recipients, asking God to care for them and help them find a place of safety, health and warmth. I envision people who need our quilts and gladly help them, assuming they are all good-hearted people. It doesn't occur to me that they might have faults, even faults that I might disapprove of. I sometimes think it is easier to pray for someone unknown than it is to pray for people we know. Maybe it is because we know their shortcomings, and it is hard to look beyond those 'deficits.'

I'm so glad God can look beyond all of our faults, deficits and flaws to see the good characteristics that God gave us when we were created. And I figure that if God can do that, maybe we can, too. I believe that one of the things we are called to do as children of God is to treat others as if they are just as special to God.

Holding someone's faults against them does give us the false assumption that we might be a bit better than they are, but the truth is that none of us is better and none is worse. We just tend to categorize faults from bad to worse, forgetting that we are all in need of forgiveness. We are all beloved children of God, created in the image of God to be in relationship with God. When we are uncertain of our own gifts, we often try pointing out the faults of others, in hopes that people will notice those faults and not the faults in ourselves.

And we know that this does not help to build up the body of Christ here on earth. In fact, even if we are 'right,' it still breaks down the body of Christ when we concentrate on the negative and encourage others to do as along with us. Working toward the positive is the way to share God's love with the world around us.

I am thinking of 'campaigning' for the positive. I am still working out the details, but somehow, I am going to work harder to be the source of positivity in our congregation, our city, state and nation. One thing I do know is that when I look for the good in people, I am more likely to interact with the good in people. And when I am suspicious, negative or untrusting, I am more likely to see that side of a person when I come in contact with them.

Fortunately, I believe that Zion, on the whole, is a positive place to worship and to interact in fellowship. We are a positive force for helping those in need, both in our city and beyond. While we are not perfect, and we are not looking at the world through rose colored glasses, I do think we are looking for the positive in each other and in how we can be a witness for God's love in the world. Let's keep up this positive attitude! I know that, if God can look at us and see the good, we can look at each other and the world and see the good. May we be able to see the good, and bring out the good in each other, our neighbors and the world!

Pastor Brenda

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INSERTS:

Zion's Church Calendar
Worship Leader Schedule

Zion's Mission Statement:

As a body of believers, created by God,
redeemed by Christ, empowered by the Spirit,
we are called to bear witness
to God's love.

ZIONEWS is published monthly by:

Zion Lutheran Church
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Phone directory:

406-377-3369 or 1-866-607-5131
Ext. 1 - Office Administrator
Ext. 2 - Pastor
Ext. 3 - Youth & Family Ministry
Ext. 4 - Furniture Room, Kitchen or Fellowship Room
Ext. 5 - Loaves & Fishes / Salvation Army

2020 Zion Council Members:

Bill Miller, Interim President
Kevin Miller, Vice President
Janna McCormick, Treasurer
Leah Juneau, Secretary
Brian Cullinan Vern Deaton
Tyler Gabbert Gail Ring
Norm Unterseher Izabel Siegle
Kyle Voss Danielle Wold
Nancy Korb

PRAYER CHAIN

WE ARE A CONGREGATION THAT PRAYS FOR IT'S MEMBERS' NEEDS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN, PLEASE TALK WITH PASTOR BRENDA. IF YOU HAVE A REQUEST FOR PRAYERS, PLEASE CALL ONE OF OUR PRAYER CHAIN LEADERS:



CAMMY SUE OAKLAND —406-989-3491

AVIS ANDERSON—406-939-1421

PASTOR BRENDA—307-258-6149

THEY WILL MAKE SURE YOUR PRAYER REQUEST GOES OUT TO OUR PRAYER CHAIN.

KXGN 1400 AM: Services at 10 a.m. each Sunday.

Livestream: Service at 10 am each Sunday—go to our web page at Zionlutheran.us and click on the link at the top of the page for 'Internet Streamed Services.'

Check us out on Facebook at Zion Lutheran Church.

Furniture Room: Tuesday 2-4 p.m. and Saturday 11-3 p.m.
The Used Furniture Room was established in May 1997

Loaves and Fishes / Salvation Army: Monday 5-6 p.m.

2020 September Memorials

Radio broadcast on 09-20-20 for Richard Meland's September 15th birthday from Marie and Janet Meland, sisters

Radio broadcast on 09-27-20 for Zion's Quilters, past & present from Janet and Marie Meland

In memory of Orville Siegle
from Maureen and Gary Lundman for Loaves & Fishes
from Donald and Adele Idso for Loaves & Fishes
from Vance & Linda Vickers for Loaves & Fishes
from Peggy Handtmann for Undesignated
from Marie & Janet Meland for Loaves & Fishes
from Jim & Marilyn Knapp for Loaves & Fishes
from Adam & Barb Gartner for Window Fund
from Neil & Cammy Oakland for Undesignated
from Lilla Flesjer for Window Fund
from Janet & Marie Meland Gift Certificates

In memory of John McCormick
from Renee and Randy Brown for Undesignated

In memory of Cami White's father, Helmut Hintz
from Dale and Sheryl Stansbury for Loaves & Fishes
from Nancy Korb for Loaves & Fishes

In memory of Steve Hammer
from Vance & Linda Vickers for Loaves & Fishes
from Gary & Maureen Lundman for Loaves & Fishes

In memory of John McCormick, Bob & Barb Peterson
from Patsy & Jim Olmstead for the Radio Fund

In honor of Sheila Kennedy & Bonita Jenkins
from Avis Anderson for Loaves & Fishes

In honor of school kids
from Bill and Rita Hanley for Loaves & Fishes

In memory of Cami White's father, Helmut Hintz
from Nancy Korb for Loaves & Fishes

In memory of Janet Rowe
from Nancy Korb for Loaves & Fishes
from Neil & Cammy Oakland for Undesignated

In memory of John McCormick & Orville Siegle
from Karen & Vernon Deaton for Undesignated

In memory of Ken and Maggie Thompson
from Lorraine Thompson for Loaves & Fishes

2020 September Statistics with COVID-19 policies in place:

Pastoral Acts:

0- Weddings

2- Funerals—Orville Siegle 09-12-2020
Gerald Stagner 09-25-2020

0 - Baptisms

Communions - 4 (Grandview and Nursing Home)

Private Communions - 16

Worship & Communion Stats

| | Att | Com | Offering |
|-------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| Sept 3 Thurs Eve | 9 | 9 | |
| Sept 6 Sun 8 am | 5 | 5 | |
| 10am | 58 | 52 | \$4140 |
| Sept 10 Thurs Eve | 7 | 7 | |
| Sept 13 Sun 8 am | 8 | 8 | |
| 10am | 50 | 47 | \$2157 |
| Sept 17 Thurs Eve | 8 | 8 | |
| Sept 20 Sun 8 am | 8 | 8 | |
| 10am | 53 | 52 | \$2540 |
| Sept 24 Thurs Eve | | | |
| Sept 27 Sun 8 am | | | |

Zion Lutheran Council Minutes

September 9, 2020

7 pm Fellowship Hall

Mission Statement: As a body of believers, created by God, redeemed by Christ, empowered by the Spirit, we are called to bear witness to God's love.

In attendance: Bill Miller, Pastor Brenda, Nancy Korb, Vern Deaton, Gail Ring, Janna McCormick, Danielle Wold, Paul Shearer

Call to Order: Council Interim President, Bill Miller

Devotions: Pastor Brenda

Minutes of Last meeting: Vern Deaton moved to approve the minutes and Nancy Korb Seconded, minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Janna McCormick presented the treasurer's report. We are more financially secure this year than previous years! We will see an increase in payroll with the addition to the secretary position being filled. Discussion was had about taking the recurring monthly bill for the parsonage out of the General Fund rather than the Bell Account. Gail Ring made the motion and Paul Shearer Seconded. Motion was approved. Nancy Korb moved to approve the report and Paul Shearer seconded, report was approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Brenda reported that the attendance is starting to creep up. How are we going to handle things if we cannot provide room to socially distance? We have a new Office Administrator—Darleen Shannon. We interviewed for the Youth and Family Ministries Director, but did not choose anyone. The furniture room is working on getting back to one room. Sunday School will begin the first Sunday in October.

Communications: Nothing to report.

Committee Reports:

1. **Property and Management**—Steve Merrill has reported that the upstairs bathroom in the parsonage is complete. There is a crack in the foundation, which led to water getting in. Steve is concerned with the musty smell and the potential for mold. An on-site meeting with Rick Schwartz will be scheduled to come up with a plan. Bill is looking into the possibility of a new zero turn mower. He will use his wheeling and dealing skills and keep the council updated. The boiler guy was here, we are good to go.
2. **Evangelism and Stewardship**—The LPA program is on hold for the remainder of the year. Nancy will continue reading/studying on her own.
3. **Social Ministry**—Nothing to report.
4. **Youth and Education**—Danielle will reach out to the members for a report.
5. **Worship**—Nothing to report.
6. **Sanctuary Refresh**—Nothing to report

Old Business:

We are still searching for a Youth and Family Ministries director.

New Business:

Please welcome the new secretary/Office Manager Darleen Shannon.

The Food Bank is in need of donations. Nancy mentioned adding this to the bulletin.

Discussion was held regarding the Amazon Smile program. Bill will get information ready to put in the bulletin.

Adjourn: With no further items on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned by Bill Miller.

Closing: The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer and the Mission Statement

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 14, 2020

Submitted by Leah Juneau, Council Secretary.

Youth News

Sunday School

Rally Day is Oct. 4!

We will meet in the Downstairs Fellowship hall for an introduction, then split up into age-based classes. Sundays will include singing, Bible story reading, and activities based on the readings for that Sunday's worship service.

If you would like to provide music for our Sunday School introductions, please let Pastor Brenda know. We would like to begin each Sunday with songs. We are still looking for Sunday School teachers, so that teachers can share each group. Contact Pastor Brenda if you are interested.

Age groups for Sunday School classes:

- 3-Kindergarden
- Grades 1-2
- Grades 3-4
- Grades 5-6

Jr. High and High School will be meeting with Gary Kirpatrick and his gang on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm. Once a month, we will meet with "Common Ground," which is a community youth group. For more information, join us for our first meeting time on Wednesday, Oct. 7.

Communication

Remember to like "Zion Lutheran Youth" page on Facebook to keep up to date on events. View Zionews and updates on our website at zionlutheran.us. Check the youth table and bulletin board in the narthex for handouts and information.

Remember when shopping at Reynolds Market to say "Shopper 7000" and a portion of your purchase will benefit Zion Youth Ministry.



YOUTH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Prayer is vital to all of us. It allows God to intervene in our lives. According to research 55% of all people pray on a daily basis and 23% say they seldom pray or never pray. Are you one of the 55% percent or are you the 23% who don't.

People who pray on a consistent basis experience less stress and felt that their lives went better when they prayed. But why do so few of us reach out to God on a regular basis? When was the last time you spent talking with God?

The education committee will be exploring ideas and articles on prayer. We aren't taking away from the Circle of Prayer meetings on Wednesdays, but we will be encouraging you to strengthen your faith journey during the upcoming months. Write it on your calendar so you don't forget. Get in the habit of coming together for a meal together once a week and each person shares what he or she is grateful for or what happened to make them so upset that week. When you lay down each night ask him for a heart that follows him, and when you arise thank him again for the day he has given you and remember to cherish that day.

The education committee looks forward to the future and your walk in prayer.

Worship Notes

All Confirmation students are required to do 12 worship notes throughout this year. Forms for worship notes are on the shelf in the Narthex. If you begin now, you won't be worried about getting enough done in the spring! If you worship from home, be sure to take home some forms or request some by e-mail.

August 2020 Treasurer's Report

Income

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Furniture Room | 299.00 |
| Tithes/Offerings | <u>17,823.50</u> |

Total Income **18,122.50**

Expense

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Benevolence (ELCA) | 543.70 |
| Insurance Expense | |
| General Liability Insurance | 415.58 |
| Health Insurance | <u>1,266.04</u> |
| Total Insurance Expense | 1,681.62 |
| Landscaping Expense | 2,500.00 |
| MDU | 629.98 |
| Mortgage (window debt) | 415.00 |
| Office Software | 500.00 |
| Office Supplies | 466.81 |
| Payroll Expenses | 6,577.85 |
| Pension | 536.46 |
| Postage and Delivery | 220.00 |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 185.74 |
| Telephone/Internet Expense | 19.61 |
| Wage Tax | 538.58 |
| Water | 342.98 |
| Youth Group | 38.00 |
| Youth Mission Fund | <u>500.00</u> |

Total Expense **15,176.33**

Net Ordinary Income 2,946.17

Net Income **2,946.17**

6/30/20 Year to date Net Income \$10,567.43

6/30.20 Statement Balance **\$56,146.79**

6/30/20 Savings Balance **\$107,917.53**

6/30/20 Mortgage (Windows Balance) **\$22,207.37**

Worship Update:

We will continue to offer 3 options for worship throughout the month of October:

Thursday evening in the Fellowship Room:

Now that colder weather is here, we will meet in the fellowship room for this worship service. Holy Communion is included each time we meet. This worship service does not include music. It is a great option if you are going to be out of town for the weekend.

8 am Sunday Morning:

This worship service is also in the fellowship room. If you wish to avoid the crowd of the 10 am worship service, this is for you! We sing to Steve Merrill's guitar and include Holy Communion each time we meet. If children are present, there will be a children's sermon.

10 am Sunday Morning:

We meet in the sanctuary for this worship service. Pews are marked so that we will sit every other row. Holy Communion is included in this service, plus a children's sermon. This service is also on the radio at 1400 am, in case you wish to remain at home. If you wish to watch from home, join us on Livestream at zionlutheran.us.

If you wish to have communion with us as we worship, contact Pastor Brenda. She delivers communion bread and wine on Saturdays to those who wish to commune with us from home. While she cannot get to everyone each Saturday, most people receive consecrated bread and wine at least once a month.



Upcoming Events:

ZLCW—Our Zion Lutheran Church Women will meet on Oct. 3 at 9 am to pack up the quilts and to assemble other kits to send to Lutheran World Relief. This time together will also include a Thankoffering Service. Light refreshments will be served.

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Hannah Bible Study Circle will meet on October 13th at 10:00. (The second Tuesday of the month) Lunch at Senior Citizens Center at noon.

Zion Lutefisk and Swedish Meatball Dinner - Due to Covid 19, we have decided that we cannot hold our annual fundraiser this year. Even though this is very disappointing, we know that we will resume the tradition again next year!

Fellowship time before and after worship: We are taking extra care to be COVID safe during these times. If you gather early or stay after worship to chat, be watchful so that people entering or leaving the sanctuary can do so with plenty of room. Also, please use a paper towel when pouring coffee to make sure the coffee pot is kept clean. The wearing of masks is most needed at this time.



Thank You!

Thank you to all who have worked to take care of our church yard this summer. We have a large yard, and it has looked so clean and green all summer thanks to you!

Thanks to all who have volunteered to be Sunday School teachers this coming year! We are blessed to have so many people invest in the faith lives of our children!

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Our Circle's are meeting! We will be studying the Gather Bible Studies each month as we meet for a time of conversation and learning.

Deborah Circle — Oct. 1—2 pm

Hannah/Dorcas Circle—Oct. 13—10 am

Sarah Circle—Oct. 16—1:30 pm

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The Chancel Guild will resume its monthly meetings this month. Our meeting time will be Oct. 21 at 2 pm.

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FOOD BANK NEEDS

The Dawson County Food Bank is in need of peanut butter, mac and cheese, soups, canned fruits and vegetables. There is a drop off box in the narthex.

OCTOBER 2020

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
401 RIVERVIEW
GLEN DIVE, MONTANA 59330

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ZIONEWS

OCTOBER 2020

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Pastor Brenda—as of Oct. 1, she has been the pastor of Zion for 1 year!

We want to celebrate with you. Please share your joys with us. Let us know if your children or grandchildren are graduating, new babies, weddings, and other accomplishments and we will celebrate together. Please call the office by the 20th of each month (377-3369).