

**OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday - Thursday**

**9:00-2:00**

**Office email:**

**office@zionlcc.org**

**Pastor's email:**

**pastor@zionlcc.org**

***Mission Statement:***

***"To make the love of  
Christ known to all"***

***Vision Statement:***

***"Where the Hungry  
are Fed"***

**Summer Worship  
Schedule:**

**In Person Worship  
Sundays**

9:00 Traditional  
10:45 Contemporary  
6:00 pm Family  
Worship

**Traditional service  
premiers live on  
Facebook and  
YouTube at 9:00 am**

**www.zionlcc.org**



# The Focus

A Publication of  
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church



2022

## A Message from Pastor Sarah

Change is in the air. The days are cooler and the nights are cold. We are looking for our winter clothing and putting away the summer sandals. The hours of daylight are decreasing and we will soon change our clocks ( Fall back on Sunday, Nov. 6.)

We have changes happening at church also. The new Lakes Connect Sunday night program is growing. We are getting into a new groove as we gather families together for education, a meal and worship. We invite you to check it out! Volunteers are always welcome to help with the evening's events. Other churches are expressing an interest in joining us on this new faith adventure. Emmy is bringing excitement and energy to her position as the Intergenerational Ministry Director. Plans are underway for a Christmas Tea, caroling and much more.

You may have noticed that the church yard is also changing with the walls of the garage in place. Soon to come: rafters! We are looking forward to having the church van next to the church and the large grill out of the church closet and into the garage. As the seasons change, we will have a place to store the snow removal equipment.

We continue our search for a new organist/pianist, choir and bell choir director. We are one of a number of area churches involved in this musician shortage so any and all leads, ideas and contacts are welcome. Special thanks go out to Julie Lauritzen for filling in and for getting the choir together for Reformation Sunday. She will not always be available so we really need some help on this!

Change is a constant. We are faced with our changing bodies, families, routines and the Minnesota weather. How we navigate changes speaks volumes about our character and our faith. When we are grounded in our faith we are able to shift and adjust without breaking, like a well-rooted tree. Change can even bring excitement and new life! May we be open to the changes around us, within us and in our church. God is certainly up to something new!

Peace,

Pastor Sarah



*I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. Ephesians 3:16-17*



Dear Zion Family,  
Thank you so much for the cards, gifts, and especially the prayers, for the birth and baptism of our twin girls. What a blessing it was to have them baptized in the same font that I was baptized in 31 years ago! We are truly grateful to be a part of such a loving and caring congregation. Thank you,  
Allie Alldritt, Troy Engel, Sydney & Georgia Engel

Thank you to Arlen Strehlo for leading a class on Martin Luther. Arlen has been asked to lead more classes on Luther and the Reformation. Watch for information in the Zone and the bulletin.

Thanks for all the cards, flowers, thoughts and prayers during my recent sickness and surgery. I am doing well now.

Thank you, Deb Hoffmeister



Our annual meeting will be held on November 20th after the first service in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan on attending as we will be voting on new council, the annual budget, and hearing reports of the ministries of the congregation.



Pat's Pie Fundraiser for the  
Chisago Lakes Area Food Shelf  
(Sponsored by Thrivent Action Teams)

Pies will be available on Sundays: Nov. 6, Nov. 13, and Nov. 20 from 8:30 am - 10:30 am.

Blueberry, Cherry, Apple, Pecan & Pumpkin. Suggested donation: \$12.00 per pie.

Pre-order by calling Pat at 651-257-3863. Pies will be made available on Sundays from 4:30-5:30 pm during Lakes Connect activities if pre-ordered. All Proceeds will be used to purchase items needed for the Chisago Lakes Area Food Shelf. Thank you!



Altar Care member yearly meeting will be held on Sunday, Nov. 6 between services. Meet in the choir room.

**There will be a meeting to discuss the annual budget between services on November 13.**

### *9:00 Service Assistants*

#### **November 6**

Ushers: Chet & Barb Garness  
Greeters: Arlen & Sheila Strehlo  
Reader: Shirley Kerkow  
Cantor: Gloria Stephens  
Coffee Server:

#### **November 13**

Ushers:  
Greeter: Richard & Sherri Baumann  
Reader: Barb Garness  
Cantor: Richard Baumann  
Coffee Servers:

#### **November 20**

Ushers:  
Greeter: Virgi Johnson  
Reader: Corrine Mix  
Cantor: KC Douglas  
Coffee servers:

#### **November 26 (Thanksgiving eve)**

Ushers:  
Greeter:  
Reader: Richard Baumann  
Coffee Servers: Pie Social (Hospitality)

#### **November 30 (Annual Meeting Day)**

Ushers:  
Greeter:  
Reader:  
Cantor:  
Coffee Servers: (extras needed for Annual Meeting)

*Thank You!*

### **Caregivers Courage Group**

Our caregivers support group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 am. - 11:00 am. Meetings are held in the Library. Masks are not required but please feel free to wear one if you are comfortable. If you wish to bring a beverage for yourself please feel free to do so. All caregivers are welcome!



### **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Our Men's group meets Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. for one hour in the fellowship hall. Our primary intent is a Bible study but we seem to digress often and cover a wide range of interesting subjects. We are fortunate to have Pastor Richard Baumann with us who is able to offer his clerical knowledge, perspective, and insight; he also tries to keep us on task! Bring your coffee, etc. and use the back entrance. We encourage you to give this a try.



### **Pastor's Bible Study**

Pastor Sarah's Bible study is focused on prayer. Join us as we explore scripture through lively discussions and activities. Thursdays at 10:00 am in the library.

### **Grief Support Group**

The **Grief Support Group**, facilitated by Pastor Sarah, meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 10:00 am. This is also open to people in the larger community. If you know someone who has lost a loved one and could use a caring group that understands the pain, please let them know about this group. For more information, contact Pastor Sarah at: [pastor@zionlcc.org](mailto:pastor@zionlcc.org) 651-257-2713

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
**Council Minutes**  
September 20, 2022

**Devotions:** Kelly Lachmiller (*October –Glade Sietsema*)

**Members Present:** Corrine Mix, Mary Redgrave, Glade Sietsema, Kris Skoog, Jim Green, Barb Gar-  
ness, Carl Thomsen, Danny Eby, Kelly Lachmiller, Sherri Baumann, Dave Tosteson and Pastor Sarah.  
Meeting was held in the fellowship hall.

**Member Absent:** None

**Guests:** Emmy Lundeen

Motion to approve the agenda and approve August council minutes by Dave Tosteson, second by Cor-  
rine Mix. Motion passed.

**Staff and Committee Reports:**

1. Finance: \$12,862 checking, about \$58,227 savings
  2. Property- memorial money donated for picnic tables, getting another bid for A/C compressors, fan  
over the dishwasher is not working correctly
  3. Education -
    - o Adult Forum getting speakers for the Adult Forum (11/6 & 12/4)
    - o Confirmation – 8 youth to be confirmed in Nov.
    - o Mission & Outreach – packing backpacks on 9/22
    - o Stewardship – meeting on Monday, Sept. 26th
- Shepherding Ministry – Senior Luncheon on Thursday, Sept. 29 and Blood Drive 10/14

**Intergenerational Ministry Director's Report:**

Lake Connect - new families attended and expressed excitement about the program  
Working on getting kids reconnected to Zion  
Meeting with Seniors in small groups

**Update from Pastor:**

Worship in person and live streaming – back to 2 services on Sunday

**Funerals:**

Performed funeral On behalf of Elim in Scandia  
George Bisek  
Alex Schlais (Superior, WI)  
Ethel Dahl  
Graveside for Imgaard Nelson

Wedding for Ashlea Kerr & Garret Swanson (Nan Syring)  
Blessing of a tree at Ojiketa in memory of Herb Letourneau  
Speaker at community 9/11 Community Memorial Event  
Planning for Lake Connect/Confirmation class

Point Pleasant Heights Services  
Met with Emma Wagner from Lutheran World Relief  
Dan Chouinard Sing Along/Endowment Fund Fundraiser  
Upcoming –  
9/29 – confirmation 9<sup>th</sup> grade retreat  
10/30 – Confirmation Service

Motion by Sherri Baumann and second by Jim Green to approve Committee/Staff reports & Pastor's Report. Motion passed.

### **Ongoing Business:**

1. Spending Wish List: Kitchen, roof, sanctuary reconfiguration, new van, outdoor stage, musical upgrades, balcony railing, new garage – keep on agenda as a reminder.
  2. COVID Protocol Updates –
    - o Communion – hand the cups to each individual
    - o Funerals – people serving people should mask
- Worship – sign up sheet for communion distribution & depositor

### **New Business:**

Contemporary worship going back to Sundays after Labor Day .

**Next meeting date: 6:00 pm, Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at the Fellowship Hall (exec. council by email)**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kris Skoog

### **GEE HOWARD.....Words to Challenge and Inspire**

Trust God with the Future.....

Our little minds are ill equipped to handle the thoughts of eternity. When it comes to a world with no boundaries of space and time, we don't have the hooks for those hats. Consequently, our Lord takes the posture of a parent....*Trust Me.....*

Don't be troubled by the return of Christ. Don't be anxious about things you cannot comprehend. For the Christian, the return of Christ is not a riddle to be solved or a code to be broken, but rather a day to be anticipated.

Max Lucado from "*When Christ Comes*"

If you see 10 troubles coming your way down the road, you can be sure that 9 of them will run into the ditch before they reach you.

Calvin Coolidge

Seen in a church bulletin (not ours!) Ladies Bible Study will be held Tuesday mornings at 10. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.



### Engaging with Emmy

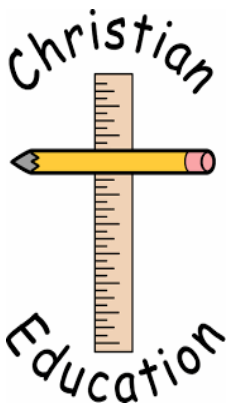
I am just so thankful! Keep it coming...the suggestions, encouragement, the ideas. As you know, I enjoy doing things, and God certainly has blessed me with the energy and excitement for life! Stay tuned, it will be fun! And thank you to all those that continue to reach out to help with various things. I appreciate you! As always, I enjoy talking...so my

door is open! Call, text, or email me. ♡

Lakes Connect Topics for November: Nov. 6: Ruth Nov. 13: Ruth Nov. 20: Advent  
Nov. 27 :**NO CLASS**

Coming up November 7 is a pray and play day along with Chisago Lakes Lutheran Church at Chisago Lakes Lutheran. There is no school that day so if you want to keep the kids occupied, sign them up for a fun day! Link to event here: (copy and paste into your browser, event is on Facebook, so an account is needed to view.) <https://facebook.com/events/s/play-and-pray-day/836081474243785/> or contact me directly.

Looking ahead, we are hoping to plan a trip to see the Cinderella musical at the high school. Watch for more info on that soon!



Lakes Connect is growing! We have a dozen kids (Grades K-5th) who have been attending regularly. As the seasons change so do schedules, I am hoping more families will find time on Sunday evenings to join us. We currently work the program with Chisago Lakes Lutheran but have had interest from other area churches including the Methodist and Catholic church. Such a wonderful opportunity to share in our Christian faith and connect with others. Looking ahead: December 4 there will be a family Advent celebration shared with the Methodist church, so watch for more information on that. We are also planning a group caroling event on December 18, so plan for that, time TBD.

Confirmation classes continue to meet on Sunday at 4:30 pm and Wednesday at 4:30 pm. We will be studying the sacraments (baptism and communion) in November. Guests are always welcome!



**First Communion class for 3rd graders and above.** If your child, grandchild, or neighbor kid has not had first communion instruction, Pastor will be holding a class on November 13 at noon (after the second service). Lunch will be included. Parents do not need to stay. The class will be over at 2:00 pm. Please let the church office know if your child will be attending.





Zion has a strong prayer chain group. If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain, or have prayers you would like us to add, please contact Sandy Patrias at: 651-674-2029 or [sd.patrias@q.com](mailto:sd.patrias@q.com) (email)



We are looking for Thrivent Cards to assist us in funding our new Lakes Connect program, as well as community meals or to purchase confirmation snacks. If you have Thrivent funds to disperse, please consider donating them to help our needs within the church! Thank you! If you have questions on how to access your giftcards, Pastor Sarah can assist you

### **Congratulations!**

**Claire Gilman**, daughter of Ryan & Bridget Gilman

**Jacob Grabow**, son of Jeremy & Deanna Grabow

**Lauren Kowarsch**, daughter of Breanna Glader & Kurt Kowarsch

**Brecken Marten**, son of Phil & Trudy Marten

**Maren Overgaard**, daughter of Kevin & Stacy Overgaard

**Callie Showers**, daughter of Corry & Julie Showers

**Jack Storlie**, son of Ben & Courtney Storlie



# CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the above students who are being confirmed on October 30. We celebrate with you as you affirm your baptisms and we hold you in our prayers.

## All Saints' Sunday



November 6 is All Saints Sunday We will be remembering those who have died this past year. We will also honor those who have been baptized. Candles will be lit and special prayers will be offered.



*thankful · grateful · blessed*



**Thanksgiving Eve Service is at 6:30 pm  
Wed. November 23, followed by a pie social  
in the Fellowship Hall. Invite your friends  
and neighbors!**

## Coming up in December:

- Christmas Tea
- Caroling
- Senior Luncheon
- Blue Christmas Service





## FOOD SHELF DONATIONS

For the month of October we collected 171.5 pounds of donations for our local food shelf! The cost of groceries has risen and makes it even more difficult for families already struggling with feeding their families. If you can help with just one extra item on your grocery list it helps our local families.

### Current needs are:

Ramen noodles  
Graham crackers  
Salt  
Pepper  
Kids cereal cups (travel size mini boxes of cereal)  
Family Size chips  
Shampoo  
Deodorant  
Potato buds  
Brownie mixes

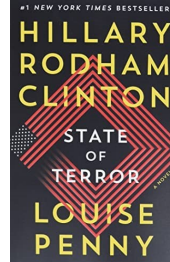
If you are donating money and want to make sure it goes directly to our local food shelf, put a note on the memo line saying:

**Chisago Lakes Area Food Shelf Only**

***Thank you for  
your generosity!***

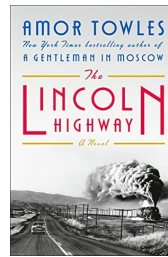
## Book Club

Book club is meeting in the church library on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 pm . Please contact Marilyn Rue if you need more information: [mrue.rue@gmail.com](mailto:mrue.rue@gmail.com)



Our November book choice is “State of Terror” by Louise Penny & Hilary Clinton. After a tumultuous period in American politics, a new administration has just been sworn in, and to everyone’s surprise the president chooses a political enemy for the vital position of secretary of state.

In December we will have our book selection party, Location TBD. Bring food to share and suggestions of books for 2023.



Our January Book is “The Lincoln Highway” by Amor Towles. In June of 1954, 18 yr. old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm. His mother is long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank, Emmett's intention is to pick up his 8 yr. old brother, Billy, and head to California where they can start their lives anew. But when the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two friends from the work farm have hidden themselves in the trunk of the warden’s car. Together, they have hatched an altogether different plan for Emmett’s future.,

## Music Notes



Zion is a very musical congregation. We have been blessed with wonderful musicians and a congregation that loves to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. We are very grateful for Wayne Hulting and Julie Lauritzen, filling in on the organ on Sundays. We are still searching for a permanent organist and would appreciate any leads you may have. We are also looking for a choir director and a bell choir director. If you have suggestions, ideas or would like to step up and help out, please speak to a member of the musician search committee: Pastor Sarah, KC Douglas, Shirley Kerkow, Sherri Baumann, Corrine Mix, or Julie Lauritzen. Thank you!





## Fall Intergenerational Pumpkin Patch Fun!!





## Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits

We are continuing with our LWR ongoing projects and are asking for supplies to include in our Personal Care Kits. These kits help people all over the world maintain good hygiene and personal grooming, something we often take for granted. The items listed below are just what we need to include in our kits, Although it is sometimes in our nature to include “an extra luxury”, but for package and shipping guidelines we must adhere to the list below. Thank you for your generosity in donating to our Lutheran World Relief Mission Projects!

# PERSONAL CARE KITS

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:



**x1**

One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"×40" & 52"×27"), dark color recommended



**x2**

Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping



**x1**

One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging\*



**x1**

One sturdy comb, remove packaging



**x1**

One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging



Wrap all the items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn.

\*Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap



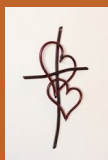
LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

## SEPTEMBER 2022

28005 Old Towne Road  
Chisago City, MN  
55013

Phone: 651-257-2713

[www.zionlcc.org](http://www.zionlcc.org)



### Staff Members:

Pastor Sarah Kerkes, ext. 102

[pastor@zionlcc.org](mailto:pastor@zionlcc.org)

Office Administrator: KC Douglas, ext. 101

[office@zionlcc.org](mailto:office@zionlcc.org)

Bookkeeper: Deb Hoffmeister, ext. 103

[bookkeeper@zionlcc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@zionlcc.org)

Intergenerational Ministry: Emmy Lundeen, ext. 105

[emmy@zionlcc.org](mailto:emmy@zionlcc.org)

Financial Secretary: Nicole Battles

[finance@zionlcc.org](mailto:finance@zionlcc.org)

Youth Director: Todd Freeman

Organist & Bell Choir Director: *Needed*

Choir Director: *Needed*

Custodian & Groundskeeper: Dexter Bylander

Cemetery: John Hawkinson, Chet Garness

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### 2022 Church Council Members:

Danny Eby	President
Jim Green	Vice President, Outreach, Human Resources
Kris Skoog	Council Secretary, Finance, Human Resources
Carl Thomsen	Property
Kelly Lachmiller	Worship & Music
Corrine Mix	Missions
Danny Eby	Mutual Ministry
Mary Redgrave	Stewardship
Barb Garness	Hospitality
Sherri Baumann	Shepherding
Glade Sietsema	Technology
Dave Tosteson	Education