



Zion Evangelical Lutheran

Gracelines

May 2023

In just a few short weeks summer will well and truly be upon us. Already in the last few weeks, as the temperature has been going up and the days have been getting longer many of us are beginning to get itchy for the months to come. We are getting our summer toys out of the garage, we are making sure our bikes are in good shape, that the lawn mower is running smoothly. We might be looking at our summer calendars, trying to see if there is a time that will work best to get away for a day or two, perhaps a week or so. Summer is a great time for many of us to relax, for many of us to “get away from it all”.

Getting away from the chaos of our lives, getting ‘unplugged’ is something that we all hunger for. We like to have those moments when we can sit on the front porch and just watch the world go by as we sip our lemonade. Many of us long for those mornings when we can just lie in bed while someone else takes care of the kids, or the dog, or the laundry. Moms (and dads) can all relate to the phrase, “Calgon, take me away”! For some people getting away from it all can truly be as simple as locking the bathroom door and slipping into a bubble bath. For others, there needs to be greater space.

As Christians, though, we are not called to “get away” from the world. We are called to be in the world, just not of it. As Christians we are to be about the work of God in the world. It might not be easy, but you can engage the world without being a part of it. An astronaut can go into space, live in space, but not be a part of space. An astronaut puts on a spacesuit, and can work in space, do the things that need to be done. The spacesuit gives the astronaut the ability to be in space, but not of space.

As Christians, we are called to put on Christ; that is our spacesuit. Because of Jesus we are protected from the atmosphere of the world around us, we can safely breath in the Spirit. But just because we have a spacesuit, just because we have been found by Jesus, does not mean we can just safely hang out in our little space station of faith and watch the world go by. No, we have been given our spacesuit, our Armor of God that we might go out into the world. Putting on Christ is not just about allowing ourselves to live but equipping us to live out; to live out our faith, to live out our calling.

We have been set apart, we have been chosen for a reason, for a mission, for a calling. We have come to know the truth that God is love; that God’s love for us is beyond our understanding. We have been set apart so that we might bring the good news of that love to the world. We have been set apart, so that we might in our own awkward stumbling ways seek to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, seeking to live our lives in a reflection of how he lived. We have been set apart from the ways of the world so we can fight against the ways of the world; so, we can fight against the many ‘isms’ that we encounter in our daily lives. We have been set apart so that we may have life, live that life to its fullest, and help others to live their lives to their fullest.

We cannot do that by escaping from the world, we can only do that when we enter into the world. Put on your spacesuit, put on the Armor of God, claim your identity, claim your calling, and live!

With the Greatest of Hope!

Erika

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Congregational Council Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2023

The Congregational Council meeting was Called to Order by President, Ross Jones, at 9:30am.

Members Present: Ross Jones, Shirley Davis, Brad Shatzer, Tammy Byvank, Ryan Budke and Lisa Bergman.

Absent: Sharon Droste, Patti Sorge, Mike Kindschi, Diana Hawker, Pastor Ericka Breddin and Dave Hook.

Minutes - It was moved by Shirley Davis and seconded by Brad Shatzer to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2023 meeting.
Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report - Treasurer Brad Shatzer reported on the financials for the month ending February 28. Revenue for February was reported as \$8,906.88 or \$3,613.12 below budget. Year-to-Date Revenue was reported as \$25,552.32 or \$3,487.68 below budget. Total Expenses for February were reported as \$14,884.15 and the year-to-date was \$28,818.28. The total balance for all funds was reported as \$199,417.34. **It was moved by Lisa Bergman and seconded by Tammy Byvank to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion carried.**

Committee Reports

Exec Committee - Pastor Ericka is having surgery April 17th and will not be here for Sunday, April 23rd services. We’ll be looking for someone to lead the Sunday, April 23rd service.

-A request from Pastor Ericka to attend Continuing Education on May 15-18 and June 30-July 5 was discussed. **It was moved by Shirley Davis and seconded by Tammy Byvank to approve Continuing Education. Motion carried.**

(Continued on next page)

-April 16th Pastor Ericka will be installed at St. Ansgar by Steve Bracket.

It was moved by Ryan Budke seconded by Brad Shatzer to have Sunday Service at St. Ansgar for the installment of Pastor Ericka. Motion carried.

Facilities/Property - Materials will be ordered soon for the new fence going up along the parking lot.

Missions Committee - Missions Committee requesting to use the van during the Spring Clothing giveaway. **It was moved by Brad Shatzer and seconded by Shirley Davis to supply the van and a driver along with another person during the Spring Clothing giveaway. Motion carried.**

Calendar Items:

-Maundy Thursday Worship will be at St. Ansgar and along with a simple meal at 6:30pm. The van will be supplied.

-Good Friday, Youth Led Worship at Zion at 7pm.

Motion to add \$150.00 to ELCA World Hunger Mission Support was made by Ryan Budke and seconded by Shirley Davis. Motion carried.

Motion to put Lenten Service offerings into EWALU Campership Fund and Good Friday offering goes to the Youth. It was moved by Ryan Budke and seconded by Shirley Davis. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:28am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ryan Budke, Vice President



**Sunday Scripture Readings
for the Sundays in May:**

May 7

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

May 14

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

May 21

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

May 28

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23

WORSHIP at ZION

In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:30am
Masks are optional and Sanitizer is available.

You can now view Zion's Worship service on YouTube!
This link has been posted to Zion's Facebook Page
and Zion's Website for easier access.

Here's the YouTube link....



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqFlwmrW3OzXgfJM1Phwypg/featured>



Sunday PRAYER OF THE DAY for May

May 7

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life.

Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

May 14 - Happy Mother's Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

May 21 - High School Recognition Sunday

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

May 28 - Pentecost Sunday (Wear Red)

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Offering Contributions for April

April 2 - Palm Sunday

TOTAL General Fund: \$1,998.00

April 9 - Easter Sunday

Total General Fund: \$4,131.57

**(This includes Offering from
Maundy Thursday & Good Friday)**

April 16 - Worship @ St. Ansgar

Total General Fund: \$549.00

April 23

Total General Fund: \$5,566.59

TOTAL OF ALL GIVING: \$12,245.16



FINANCIAL UPDATE (as of April 28, 2023)

TOTAL OFFERING TO GENERAL FUND	MISSION PLAN YEAR-TO-DATE	ACTUAL YEAR-TO-DATE
	\$49,493.00	\$56,580.00
Total General Fund Expenses	Mission Plan Year-to-Date \$50,498.00	Actual Year-to-Date \$57,054.00

Support the Church

You may provide financial support to Zion by:

- **In-person Giving**
- **Mail**
- **Online: - Tithe.ly OR - VANCO**

Prayer requests for Sunday Worship

Please contact the church by
noon on Friday, for Prayer Requests.



The PRAYER TREE contacts are:

Sheila Gardiner - gardinergarry28@gmail.com (319) 291-8404,
Deb Grimson - hrgbear@mchsi.com (319) 233-2179,
Kathy Jones - kltjones@mchsi.com (319) 231-4278
and Jen Wedeking (church office) - (319) 235-7045
office.zionluthwaterloo@gmail.com.

You are important to our church family!



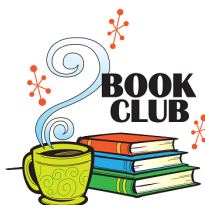
Congregational Care

If you need prayer, or have suffered a family loss,
please contact the church office at (319) 235-7045.

The information will be forwarded to the
Congregational Care Committee or others as appropriate.

Zion Book Club

We'll be meeting on Wed., May 17th @ 9:30am.
Hope to see you there!



Upcoming Dates & Books:

May 17th - "The Saints of Swallow Hill" by Donna Everhart
June 21st - "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus



Sunday School Schedule:

May 7 - The Kids will make a Mother's Day
card and gift.
May 14 - The Kids will make a Father's Day
card and gift.
May 21 - The Holy Spirit. Make a Holy Spirit
Cake - Pentecost Cake.
(Last Day of Sunday School)



Please place items in the
SHOPPING CART by the
Mission Cross in the sanctuary.

We will be collecting for the NEIA
Food Bank for the month of:

May
Cereal



Join us in wearing Red on
Sunday, May 28
to celebrate Pentecost.



Sundays	7	14 Happy Mother's Day	21 HS Grad Recognition	28 Pentecost Sunday
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Tammy Byvank and Bert Madland			
<u>VAN DRIVER</u>	Dave Hamilton	Mike Grimson	Mike Simbric	Tim Davis
<u>Lectors</u>	Janet Keister	Eleanor Meyerhoff	Tim Sprengeler	Steve Pierce

Here is the updated address for:

Diane Hunemuller

North Crest,
2001 Heath St., Apt 212 B,
Waterloo, IA 50703,
Phone: (319) 215-2240.





MAY BIRTHDAYS

1	Kellen Tieskoetter	15	Jean Camarata
2	Mike Kindschi	16	Ethan Frey
	Madison Martin	17	Donna Collins
3	Sharon Droste	18	Sommer Budke
4	Hailee Budke	19	Jacob Severson
	Janice Baumann		Seth Orr
	Helen McClain	20	Janice Fisher
	Debra Williamson		Roberta Madland
5	Emily Reinertson		Cindy Powell
6	Julie Rogge		Velda Sterrett
7	Nick Graves		Addilyn Guetzlaff
	Nolan Tieskoetter	21	Kaylene Orr
9	Emerson Elefsrud		Lacey Barkema
	Chris Uhland	25	Ben Reinertson
11	Riley Orr		Dawn Reinertson



ANNIVERSARIES

2	Steve & Sandy Mahlstedt	23	Jerry & Jean Camarata
6	Garry & Sheila Gardiner	26	Steve & Marcia Cutsforth
17	Steve & Gloria Clough	28	Karl & Bonita Guetzlaff
23	Steve & Carol Pierce		

Congratulations to our 2023 High School Seniors!



Maddox Elefsrud
Ryan Peck
Abby Snyder
Peyton Chambers
Lydia Orr

Come & celebrate with them on Sunday, May 21!
Cake, punch, and coffee following Worship.

Join us for Worship on Sunday, May 14
and help us celebrate all of
the Mother's in our Congregation.



Congrats!



It's a girl

Congratulations to Ben & Sarah Jones
on the birth of their baby girl,
Kennedi Jean Jones, born April 13, 2023.
Proud and grateful grandparents are:
Ross & Kathy Jones and Greg & Lisa Bergman.

Our condolences to the family of Judy Kinnetz. Judy was a long-time member of Zion and passed away on April 22nd, 2023. A funeral was held at Zion on Thursday, April 27. Please keep Howard and family in your prayers.

Our condolences to the family of Gene York. Gene was a long-time member of Zion and passed away on April 24th, 2023 in Cedar Rapids, IA. A Memorial service was held at Zion on Saturday, April 29. Please keep Gloria and family in your prayers.



When there is a death, Zion members offer ministry to the family in many ways. Thank you to those people that helped with the funeral services and luncheons for both Judy Kinnetz and Gene York.

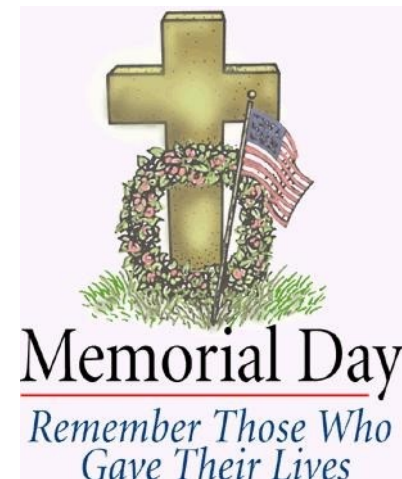
Thank you!



Caffeinated Conversations

Pastor Erika hosts a group every Thursday morning from 9-11am at Fat Cup Coffee (37 Fletcher Ave.). This is a time of open discussion about the church, faith, life, whatever you want.

Zion's Office will be Closed on Monday, May 29, in observance.





Summer Camp at Okoboji

If you have kids or grandkids that would like to attend summer camp at Okoboji this summer, go to their website to register and reserve your spot today at: www.okoboji.org/register.

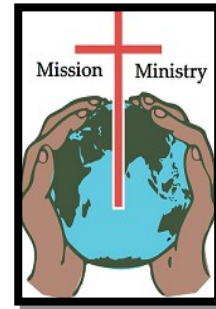
There are also a few brochures in the coffee and conversation area on a table by the couches.



Summer Camp at EWALU

If you have kids or grandkids that would like to attend summer camp at EWALU this summer, go to their website to register and reserve your spot today at: www.ewalu.org/summer-camp.

There are also a few brochures in the coffee and conversation area on a table by the couches.



Our May Mission is to collect for:

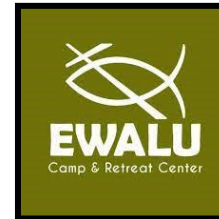
Camp EWALU

What makes Camp Ewalu's summer ministry unique and highly regarded is it's decentralized, small group camping environment. The advantages of this style include more camper participation, more counselor responsibility, and greater utilization of the whole facility.

"Ewalu serves all people as a place to connect the Word of God with the world of God."

Donations for May:

Sidewalk Chalk tubs, Adult Scissors, Glue Sticks, Laundry Baskets, Paper Towels, 3-Quart Crock Pot, Smoke Detectors, Marshmallow Roasting Sticks, and Menards Gift Cards.



Thank you all for your donations & support!

Zion's Contact Information:

Web Page: www.zionluthwaterloo.com

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/zionluthwaterloo>

YouTube Page: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqFlwMrW3OzXgfjMlPhwypg/featured>

Zion Lutheran Church
810 Kimball Ave

Church Office : 235-7045
Kaylene Orr: 319-290-1430

Email Addresses:
Office: zionsecretary@zionluthwaterloo.com
Kaylene Orr: kayleneorr@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship 9:00am live stream
on YouTube & In-Person. Posted
to Facebook after Worship.

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Please leave a message and we'll get
back to you if you call after hours.