



July 2026

GRACELINES

Zion Lutheran Church

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Church Office Hours:
Mon - Fri 9:00am - 1:00pm

Contact Zion:
Church Office: 235-7045

Please leave a message
and we'll get back to you.

Email Address:

Church Office:
office.zionluthwaterloo
@gmail.com

Web Page:

www.zionluthwaterloo.com

Facebook Page:

[https://www.facebook.com/
zionluthwaterloo](https://www.facebook.com/zionluthwaterloo)

YouTube:

[https://www.youtube.com/
@zionlutheranchurchwater-
loo5011](https://www.youtube.com/@zionlutheranchurchwaterloo5011)

Zion Lutheran Church
810 Kimball Ave
Waterloo, IA 50702

FREEDOM

On the Fourth of July, people in the United States commemorate the nation's independence. Today scores of Americans will get together to attend parades, marvel at firework displays, and celebrate our freedoms.

The apostle Paul also focuses on freedom in today's reading from Romans. Rather than celebrating his freedom, though, Paul is trying to figure out what to do with his captivity to sin. Paul feels caught between the imperfection of his choices and the perfection of God's ways. Paul bemoans the muddle he makes of his freedom in Christ, wondering why he fails to live fully into God's life-giving grace.

Paul's whole community puzzled over how to follow the way of Christ. Their struggles mirrored Paul's frustration with himself. As for Paul, freedom challenges all of us to use our privileges for good. We're freed not only from something, but for something: to share—in word and deed—the liberating gospel of Jesus Christ.

Based on Romans 7:15-25a

Taken from the "Christ in Our Home" Booklet, July 4, 2026.

Study

July 5

Zechariah 9:9-12
Psalm 145:8-14
Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12

Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm 65:[1-8], 9-13
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19

Isaiah 44:6-8
Psalm 86:11-17
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 26

1 Kings 3:5-12
Psalm 119:129-136
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Pray

Beloved and sovereign God,
through the death and
resurrection of your Son
you bring us into your
kingdom of justice and mercy.
By your Spirit, give us your
wisdom, that we may treasure
the life that comes from Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



The Back-to-School Collection will provide **new** school supplies to the schools in need for the 26-27 school year.

Collection will go until Sunday, August 16th.

Requested Supplies

- Crayons** - Boxes of 24 (Crayola works best)
- Dry Erase Markers** - BLACK (Expo works best)
- Washable Colored Markers** (Crayola works best)
- Scissors** (Fiskars works best)
- Glue Sticks**
- Elmer's Glue**
- #2 Wooden Pencils w/Eraser** (Ticonderoga works best)
- Pink Erasers**
- Highlighters**
- Hard-Sided Supply Box** - 5 x 8 inches
- Sticky Notes**
- Plain/Solid Spiral Notebooks** - Wide-Ruled, Red, Yellow, Green, Black, Blue, 70-100 pages
- Plain/Solid Plastic Pocket Folders** - Red, Yellow, Green, Black, Blue
- Composition Notebook**
- Loose Leaf Paper** (Wide Rule)
- 1" - 3-Ring Binder w/Clear Front View Sleeve**
- Kleenex Tissues * Sanitizer * Copy Paper * Clorox Wipes**

More information is posted on the Missions cross.
There are also flyers located on the round table
in the Coffee Area by the couches.

Celebrating our Church Community

Wedding Anniversaries this Month

- | | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 1 | Eric & Katie Gleiter |
| 3 | Bruce & Shelly Barnett |
| 7 | Craig & Diana Hawker |
| 12 | Ed & Carolyn Ottesen |
| 14 | Jason & Emily Tieskoetter |
| 19 | Larry & Julie Zell |
| 24 | Aaron & Kristine Martin |

July Birthdays

- | | |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Alicia Saddoris |
| 2 | Janet Keister |
| 8 | Patty Judas |
| 11 | Schawn Wilcox |
| 12 | Matthew Garms |
| 14 | Shawn Orr |
| 15 | Ethan Whittemore |
| 18 | Grace Graves |
| 22 | Christopher Nicholas |
| 23 | Nathan Graves
Richard Judas |
| 24 | Bonnie Sommer |
| 25 | Jerry Ketels |
| 27 | Ellyn Whittemore |
| 29 | Tanner Whittemore |
| 30 | Vickie Hamilton |

Here is the updated address for:

Bonnie Sommer
Mallard Point
2603 Orchard Dr.,
Apt. 336,
Cedar Falls, IA 50613.



A prayer chain is one of the simplest yet most powerful ways a church community can stay spiritually connected. We are in the process of updating and adding people that would be interested in being a part of Zion's Prayer Chain.



We have a few ways you can join the prayer tree groups. The Prayer Tree Branches are: email, phone call, and group text.

If you would like to join Zion's Prayer Tree Chain or if you have any questions, please call Diana Hawker at (319) 269-7229.

Being the Church

Our Mission Ministry this month is:

Personal Care Drive (NEIA Food Bank)

Many families struggle to provide themselves or their families with food and/or personal care items. No access to personal care items leads to poor hygiene, health issues, and more.

Donations Needed:

Soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Tissues, Toilet Paper, Feminine Hygiene, Baby Wipes, Diapers and Deodorant.



Here is an AMAZON Wish List QR Code you can purchase items on as well.



Thank you for your Donations and Support!

You are important to our church family!

If you need prayer, or have suffered a family loss, please contact the church office at (319) 235-7045. All requests will be treated with confidentiality, and information will be forwarded appropriately.



The PRAYER TREE contacts are:

Sheila Gardiner - gardinergarry28@gmail.com (319) 291-8404,
Deb Grimson - hrgbear@mchsi.com (319) 269-6153,
Kathy Jones - kltjones@mchsi.com (319) 231-4278,
and Jen Wedeking (church office) - (319) 235-7045
office.zionluthwaterloo@gmail.com.

Volunteer to host Coffee or bring Snacks/Treats for Fellowship following Worship on Sundays. You can find the sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Area on the bulletin board.



Please call the office, if you have any questions.



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:

July
Cereal & Snack
Items



Zion Book Club

Next meeting July 15th @ 9:30am.

All are welcome!

Upcoming Dates & Books:



July 15th - "The Golden Boy" by Patricia Finn

Brown Baggers - Wednesdays at Noon

Bring your own lunch or snack (if you want) and join us for an hour or so of conversation and study of the scripture readings for the coming Sunday. Discussions are held in the Fireside Room.



Caffeinated Conversations

Every Thursday morning from 9-11am
Fat Cup Coffee (37 Fletcher Ave.).

This is a time of open discussion about the church, faith, life, whatever you want.



Being the Church

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Plans are underway for Zion's Rummage Sale on Thursday, August 6th, Friday, August 7th, and Saturday, August 8th. Times for these days are to be determined.

There has been a great planning and working crew getting ready for your donations.

It will be a household goods sale, so you can start finding things at home to donate. Drop-off times will be announced soon! Since Zion participates in the free clothing giveaway through Church Row, we will not be taking donations of clothing or shoes.

We will need Volunteers during the sale.

Should you have any questions, please contact
Kathy Jones at (319) 231-4278, or Mary Nicholas at (319) 230-3219!



Join us for "Praises in the Parking Lot" Worship & Potluck!

When: Sunday, July 12, 2026 at 9:00am

Where: Zion Parking Lot

-- The Zion Van will be available --

Bring your own lawn chair.
Brunch will follow the service
in the Upper Fellowship Hall.
Tableware & Drinks will be provided.

The Sign-Up sheet is in the Coffee Area!

Being the Church

ZION NIGHT @ the BUCKS BALLPARK!

When: Friday, July 24th

Time: 6:35pm (Can Enter at 6:05pm)

Cost: \$10

Seats: Regular (NO Box Seat this year)

Menu: Concessions (Food & Drink on your own this year)

Sign-Up Sheet & Envelopes
are in the Coffee Area.

*Please Pay when you signup
and place the money in the
provided envelopes on Jen's Desk*

Deadline: Friday, July 17th by 12pm.



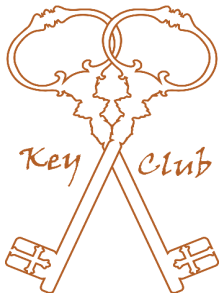
The Office will be Closed
on Friday, July 3rd.



Deadline for newsletter items
will be **July 13th.**

Being the Church

KEY CLUB (Keep Everyone Young)



The Zion Key Club did a service project in June for the Pillars of Cedar Valley in Waterloo. We made 4th of July Decorations for their dining area.

Thank you to those that came and helped make them!
Thank you to those that donated items as well!



Supporting the Church

FINANCIAL UPDATE (as of June 26, 2026)

TOTAL OFFERING TO GENERAL FUND	MISSION PLAN YEAR-TO-DATE \$64,655.00	ACTUAL YEAR-TO-DATE \$65,787.00
Total General Fund Expenses	Mission Plan Year-to-Date \$58,876.00	Actual Year-to-Date \$75,015.00

Support the Church

You may provide financial support to Zion:

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

Offering Contributions for June

May 31

Total General Fund: \$1,175.00

June 7

Total General Fund: \$1,774.00

June 14

Total General Fund: \$2,478.89

June 21

Total General Fund: \$1,627.00

TOTAL OF ALL GIVING: \$7,054.89

Council Minutes and complete Treasurer reports are available on the bulletin board in the Coffee Area and in the Church Office upon request.

Serving in July

Sundays	5	12	19	26
<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>	Joann Mackin			
<u>VAN DRIVERS</u>	Mike Grimson	Mike Simbric	Tim Davis	Dave Hamilton