

Zion Lutheran Church - Stratford

The Good News

Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

July 2022

Worship Schedule

Sunday, July 3

*Quest: Travel as a Spiritual Practice:
"The Reflection"*

Communion

Sunday, July 10

Quest: Travel as a Spiritual Practice: "Returning Home"

Communion

Sunday, July 17

Monumental: Celebrating God's Greatness

Communion

Sunday, July 24

Language of the Holy Spirit: "Dance of the Trinity"

Communion

Sunday July 31

Language of the Holy Spirit: "Who Is The Holy Spirit?"

Communion

Pastor's Ponderings

God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.” (The Message, Ephesians 3:20-21)



Where do you see God in your life and in the world? As Lutherans, we aren't good at naming God's presence on a daily basis. Maybe we say that God helped us through a time of trial or suffering. Maybe from time to time we notice God in the sunsets or in the baby animals being born. But where else do we notice God's presence?

Try this: For the month of July, write down three things that you are grateful for each day. Then each week, look over what you wrote. How was God present in the people, places and things you listed? How was God at work? Then share your insights and observations with a spouse, parent, friend, neighbor, or co-worker.

When you look back over the week or month, how did it make you feel to name what you are grateful for or where you saw God? Do you feel more calm, relaxed, generous, joyful, or loved? How did you feel or act toward others?

Spiritual practices keep us grounded and centered when life gets busy, overwhelming, or out-of-sync. It helps us see that God is walking with us in the joys and hardships of life. Meditation, breathing, centering prayer, and gratitude journals are some of the many ways we can experience God's presence.

They also help us to look inward so that we can be open and vulnerable to others, serving others in Jesus' name.

Check out more spiritual practices on the church website at: <https://zionstratford.org/faith-formation/spiritual-practices/>.

As the Call Committee begins its work, continue to pray for guidance and discernment. Pray for the Holy Spirit to send the pastor that Zion needs to partner in ministry. Take time to read the results from the CAT survey. You can find the results online at <https://zionstratford.org/call-committee/> or at the Information Table by the church office.

The Zion Church office needs **everyone** to complete a Membership Information Form. We need to make sure that our roster of members is correct and accurate in order to call a pastor. Only those members in good standing will be able to vote to call a pastor. Please also make sure to complete the blue communion cards during worship and give to the ushers so that we know you received communion. You can find Membership Information Form online at <https://zionstratford.org/> or by contacting the church office.

C8.02 of the Zion Constitution states, "Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have **communed** in this congregation and shall have made a **contribution of record** to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of this congregation as well as the other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws."

Grace and Peace, Interim Pastor Andrea Fluegel

From the Council



Hi, my name is Marge Redetzke. I grew up on a farm about a mile north of Stratford and now live about eight miles south of Stratford. My husband and I own a construction business near Marshfield. We have four sons and five grandchildren who live in seven different states. I have been a member of Zion my entire life and have been an organist here for over fifty years. Currently, I am serving my

2nd term as Treasurer and I'm also on the Worship Team.

As Treasurer, I attend the Council's Executive meeting as well as the Council meeting once a month. My duties include being a liaison between our bookkeeper and the Council, which means I communicate the financial decisions made by the Council to the bookkeeper, so he can do the accounting necessary for those decisions. Then each month, I review the bookkeeper's accounting reports and present them to the Council for their review and approval. I work with the Pastor and the Stewardship Team to help develop a budget each year which prioritizes effective stewardship and the church's mission and vision. Also, I work with our financial institution to renew loans and manage some of the accounts our church has.

I would like to thank the congregation for their continued financial support through the many changes caused by the pandemic as well as losing our longtime pastor through her retirement. We, as a Council, are doing our best to keep the vision and mission of our church healthy and thriving and we thank Pastor Andrea for her diligent work leading us through this time of transition.

I invite you to look at our new website, zionstratford.org, under "Giving", which explains the many different ways you can continue to support Zion's mission. And, again, thank you for your generosity in time, money, or skills.

Summer Worship Series



Quest:

Travel As A Spiritual Practice
Sundays, June 19 -July 10, 2022 (4 weeks)

Whether you travel far away or see your local

surroundings as if for the first

time, pilgrimage has long been a spiritual practice, and “journey” a deeply-felt metaphor for our spiritual lives. “Quest” comes from the Latin root meaning “ask, seek.” This four week worship series will encourage us to open ourselves more fully to the curiosity and wonder, reflection and transformation that travelers – not merely tourists – experience when they choose to immerse themselves in soul-widening adventures.

Monumental: Celebrating God’s Greatness

Sunday, July 17, 2022 (1 week)

Kick-off Worship to Vacation Bible School! Through the story of Joseph (Book of Genesis), we will discover God’s greatness in our lives. Explore how God loved Joseph and his family, even when they made a mess of things and how that love is for us, too!



Language of the Holy Spirit

Sundays, July 24-August 28, 2022 (6 weeks)

The Holy Spirit, the third

person of the Trinity, is mysterious and often misunderstood. How exactly does the Holy Spirit work in, with and through our lives. In this worship series, we will explore the Holy Spirit in both the Old Testament and New Testament. Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Updating Membership Information

As part of the transition process in calling a new pastor to Zion Lutheran Church, we are updating our membership information and need your help. You have received a letter and form in the mail to fill out for your household and **please return it to the office as soon as possible**. A fillable PDF form is available on the homepage of the church website at <https://zionstratford.org>. This will help us input your current information and ensure that you are staying connected with the Zion Lutheran congregation. Thank you for taking the time to complete this! - Evangelism Committee

Transition Team Update

Did you know you can find summaries of the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) responses on the new Zion Lutheran Website at <https://zionstratford.org/call-committee/>. A new summary is posted each week. There will be 12 summaries in total regarding all areas of ministry.

The Transition Team continues to partner with ministry teams to update policies and procedures as well as helping the congregation to be ready to welcome a new pastor.

The Call Committee will begin interviews in the next few weeks.

The Call Committee members are Kevin Miller (chair), Tadd Schoenherr (co-chair), Cory Wiesman (Council representative), Charles Foley, Mary Wussow and Paul Untiet.





God Moments: Going Deeper, Doing Less

Sometimes in life, we get overwhelmed with the many tasks

on our to-do list and the expectations we place on ourselves as well as expectations people place on us. This summer season, ask yourself, “How can I go deep in my spiritual life while doing less?” Doing less doesn’t mean being lazy or unproductive. Doing less means focusing on your values and priorities and who God is calling you to do and be in this world.

As you go on walks, take trips, plant your garden, sit silently, or other activities, notice where God is at work. Where do you see God in your life? **Take a picture, write a poem or a short paragraph. Feel free to post pictures or your writings on the bulletin board by the south sanctuary entrance.**

You are also welcome to post on Facebook or Instagram and tag Zion Lutheran Church Stratford and use #ZionGodMoments.

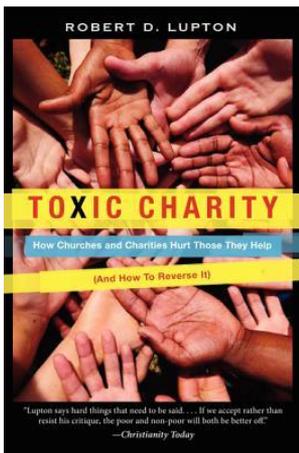
Have fun seeing where God is at work! Invite your friends and family to participate.

Giving as A Spiritual Practice

Did you know that generosity is a spiritual practice just like prayer or reading devotionals? Generosity reminds us of God's provision; that God provides for our "daily bread." It also helps us to connect with others and to show our response to God's love through service and compassion to others. Generosity is so much more than just donating money. Generosity encompasses the fruit of the Spirit such as joy, love, peace, patience, and faithfulness. When thinking about creating a culture of generosity in your life, ask these questions: What is God doing in the world? My neighborhood? How can I use the money or the skills I've been entrusted with to join in God's activity? How can generosity help me grow?

Zion Book Club

Learn, discuss and enjoy fellowship with others this summer as we launch Zion's Book Club. We will be reading the following books this summer. Individuals will need to purchase or borrow their own books. Discussion facilitated by Interim Pastor Andrea Fluege



Wed., August 10 from 6:00-7:30 pm
"Toxic Charity" by Robert D. Lupton

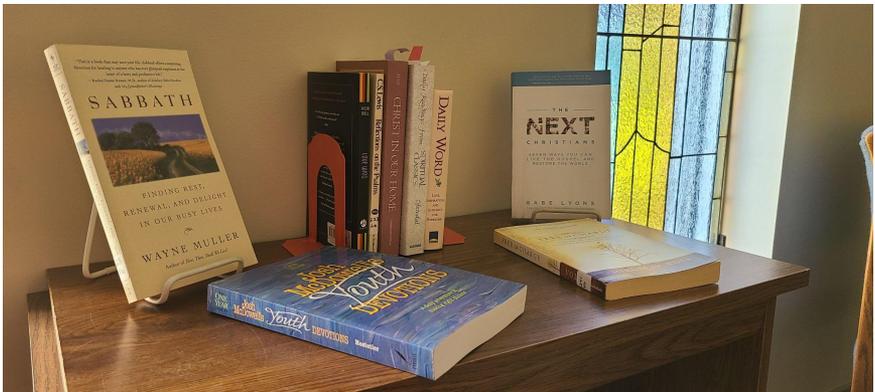
The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin will also be leading book studies this summer. For more information visit:

<https://zionstratford.org/faith-formation/adult/summer-reading-and-beyond>.

Summer Reading List

Being curious learners helps us to grow in our faith and discipleship. There are suggestions of books on the church website, by paper copy in the Narthex and at the Information Table by the church office, that will challenge us in our discipleship and the love of our neighbors. Pick at least one book this summer to explore (paper, digital, audio). There are book discussion groups with the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin staff (via Zoom) and with Zion Lutheran (in-person) to continue discussion and learning. For more information go to:

<https://zionstratford.org/faith-formation/adult/summer-reading-and-beyond/>.



Meditation Garden Devotionals

The Meditation Garden is a great place to re-center yourself during the summer and fall months. It provides a quiet place to reconnect with Jesus. Devotionals and books are available by the doors to the Meditation Garden and in the Library. Remember if you want to take a book home to use, please check it out from the Church library.

Vacation Bible School Registration

Vacation Bible
School will be held
Sunday, July 17-
Wednesday, July 20
from 5:30-8:00 p.m.



for ages potty trained through those that completed 5th grade.
Dinner each night at 5:30 p.m. (more information to come for
those registered). Families registered prior to June 20 receive a
free copy of the music. All activities are held at Zion. You may
pick up a paper copy at church or register online at
<https://zionstratford.org/faith-formation/k-6th-grade/>.

Creation Care Team

At the Northwest Synod of
Wisconsin Assembly in May, a
resolution was passed to encourage
congregations to create a Creation
Care Team. If you are interested in
participating on this team or would
like to know more about Creation
Care, contact Interim Pastor Andrea
Fluegel at pastor@zionstratford.org
or at 715.687.4110. Resources are
available at



<http://nswi.org/social-justice-advocacy/creation-care>.

Communion Bread Bakers

Zion is looking for a few people to help with making communion bread. Currently we have two people who make the communion bread. Looking to have at least 6 people on the baker's list. If you are interested, call or email the church office

7110 or office@zionstratford.org. You can find the recipe at <https://zionstratford.org/worship/communion-bread-recipe/>. This is a great opportunity for families to participate.



Communion Stewards

The Communion Steward Team is looking for additional help. We set up and clean up on communion Sundays. Set up and clean up takes about less than an hour each. If we get a few more people or family units to help out it would only need to be done four or five times a year for each person/

family group. Please contact either Rhonda Thompson at 715-650-1431 or rhondadant@gmail.com or the Zion Church office. Thank you for considering being part of Zion's worship ministry!

Counters Needed

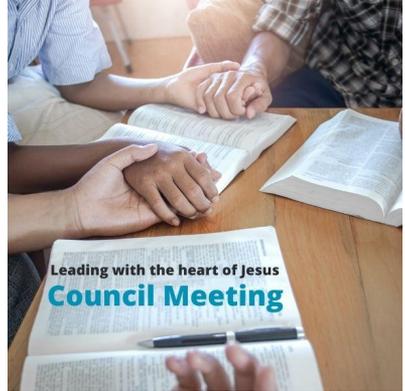
People are needed to assist with counting the church offering. No experience needed. Will train. It takes 20-45 minutes (possibly longer) depending on the season and the offering. Confidentiality required. Depending on the number of people who serve, time commitment is one to two times per month. For more information, contact Amy Cournoyer at ajcournoyer@yahoo.com or 715-650-1381.

Homebound Visits

Zion's Homebound Members are ready for home visits from congregation members. It helps them to feel connected, less lonely, and cared for. The commitment is one or more members per month. If you can serve this way, please contact Interim Pastor Andrea Fluegel.

Council Minutes

Council minutes are now available on the church website at zionstratford.org/publications. You can also get a copy of the minutes by contacting Kathy in the church office or on the Information table by the church office.



New Website

Zion Lutheran has a new website and a new website address. Check it out at ZionStratford.org. Listen to sermons, post your prayer concerns or pray for others, discover upcoming worship series, book studies, spiritual practices and so much more.

New Emails

The church staff have new email addresses. Please update your email contact list. You can reach us at pastor@zionstratford.org and office@zionstratford.org.



Message from the Cemetery Committee

Both cemeteries look so amazing & colorful with all the flowers that were put out for Memorial Day. If you didn't attach your loved ones flowers to their stone, please check periodically throughout the summer to clear long grass that has grown up around them. It's not the lawn mower's responsibility to clear this and it doesn't take long for it to go from beautiful to an eye sore. Thank you & have a great summer!

Fair Trade

The Fair Trade 24/7 booths are full and awaiting your purchases! The rest of your favorite coffees and other products have been restocked and are available at their regular prices. Darla 715.506.0044 or email at dleick@msn.com or visit the 24/7 booth. Thank you for supporting independent farmers and Fair Trade!

Prayer Requests

Did you know that you can submit your prayer requests on the new ZionStratford.org website? You can also let people know that people are praying for them too. Check it out at <https://zionstratford.org/prayer>. You can also contact the church office to submit your prayer requests.

Building Update 2022

Total monthly principal payments	\$ 7,926.40
Total monthly interest payments	<u>\$ 1,373.60</u>
Balance of loan as of 05-20-2022	\$147,293.14

Partners Bank

Building checking acct balance as of **06-06-2022** \$ 4,574.25

Payment Bi-Weekly	Start Balance	Payment Amount	Interest Paid	Principal Paid	Ending Balance
03/11 & 03/25	\$155,219.54	\$3,100.00	\$465.82	\$2,634.18	\$152,585.36
04/05 & 04/22	\$152,585.36	\$3,100.00	\$457.87	\$2,642.13	\$149,943.23
05/06 & 05/20	\$149,943.23	\$3,100.00	\$449.91	\$2,650.09	\$147,293.14



Birthdays & Anniversaries

The listing of the dates for birthdays and anniversaries will now be posted in the weekly Monday email, in the weekly Sunday announcements, and on the Sunday PowerPoint announcements.

This is to protect people's privacy and not make it easier for scammers to have

access to this information. If you would like a complete monthly list to send out cards, please contact the office.

Zion Lutheran Church
213501 Legacy Street
Stratford, WI 54484-5908

www.zionstratford.org

We're on the web!

Phone: 715-687-4110

Fax: 715-687-3541

Email: office@zionstratford.org

Return Service Requested

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Stratford, WI
Permit No. 6

Date	07/03/2022 Pentecost 4 9:00 AM	07/10/2022 Pentecost 5 9:00 AM	07/17/2022 Pentecost 6 9:00 AM	07/24/2022 Pentecost 7 9:00 AM	07/31/2022 Pentecost 8 9:00 AM	08/07/2022 Pentecost 9 9:00 AM
Assisting Minister	Marge Kollmansberger	Casey Dasler	Brenda Huther	Aliya Manecke	Carmella Moon	Riley Spindler
Reader	Marge Kollmansberger	Casey Dasler	Brenda Huther	Aliya Manecke	Carmella Moon	Riley Spindler
Acolytes	Jackson Dahlke Charlie Kolbeck	Connor Kreft Sierra Kreft	Cooper Wiesman Jaegar Ormond	Charlotte Peirce Emmercyn Schiller	Garrett Smazal Jackson Spindler	Reese Spindler Avery White
Ushers	Gary & Mary Wussow	Tom & Nancy Schoenherr	Eddy & Ann Peterson	Chris Murphy Dan Wieland	Brian & Darla Leick	Jim & Cory Wiesman
communion assistants	Lois Miller Marge Kollmansberger Jasmine Grell	Casey Dasler Brenda Castellano Brenda Garrigan	Kevin & Lois Miller Brenda Huther	Aliya & Keri Manecke Angie Guralski	Carmella Moon June Krueger Marge Kollmansberger	Riley Spindler Dan & Deb Wieland
communion steward	Rhonda Thompson	Sandy Andersen	Amy Grell	Jill Dasler	Amy Grell	Deb Wieland
Fellowship	Huther Family	Counoyer Family	Wiesman Family	Sharla Dreikosen	Lois King for volunteers	Nicole & Robin Curtis
Host	Jasmine Grell Dan Thompson	Barry Thompson Jasmine Grell	Carmella Moon	Mayrel Schoentfuss	Marge Redetzke	Cory Wiesman
Media	Kevin Miller	Ted Dasler	Connor Kreft	Kevin Miller	Rodney Huther	Rodney Huther

July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9am Worship/ Communion 12pm Boy Scouts	4 Happy 4th of July Office Closed	5	6	7	8	9 11am Family Center/ Private Bridal Shower
10 9am Worship/ Communion 12pm Family Center/ Private Baby Shower	11 6pm Executive Meeting 7:15pm Confirmation Leaders Meeting	12 6:30pm Faith Formation Meeting	13	14	15	16
17 9am Worship/ Communion 12pm Boy Scouts 5:30pm-8pm VBS	18 5:30pm-8pm VBS 6pm Council Meeting	19 5:30pm-8pm VBS	20 5:30pm-8pm VBS	21	22	23
24 9am Worship/ Communion	25 6pm Trust Team Meeting	26	27	28	29	30
31 9am Worship/ Communion 12pm Boy Scouts						