

Zion Lutheran Church  
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We're on the web! [www.zionstratford.org](http://www.zionstratford.org)

*September 2024*

## *Zion Lutheran Church*



***Sunday, September 1***

*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost /Communion*

***Sunday, September 8***

*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Communion*

***Sunday, September 15***

*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost/Communion*

***Sunday, September 22***

*Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Communion*

***Sunday, September 29***

*Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Communion*

## PASTOR'S CORNER



Dear friends in Christ,

I had an epiphany while driving to Wausau one day. As I neared Wausau, I drove across a bridge that I drive across all the time, looked to the right, and was reminded that the only thing that bridge crossed was another road. Not particularly exciting, so I drove on.

Not long after, I was on the same path, drove across the same bridge, looked to the right, and was immediately let down because there was no beautiful scenery, only the same boring road.

This happened over and over until, one day, I asked myself (out loud, mind you!), “Amy, you doofus, why do you keep looking to the side as you cross that bridge? You already know it’s going to be the same road that was there last time.”

Then I began to wonder, “Do I always look to the right or left as I cross bridges? If so, what am I looking for?”

Thus began several months of trying to be aware of my actions when I drove across bridges. Sure enough, I always look to see what I’m crossing—even when I already know for certain what’s there. It would seem that I am always checking out other options, looking for something new, or observing changes over time.

Well, that made me wonder if the Holy Spirit urges us to do the same thing in our lives: check out other options, look for new things, observe changes, and act accordingly. We can be on the straight and narrow path, but what do we miss when we continue on our way without looking around us? How can we see new opportunities to share the love of Christ with others if we never look away from our chosen path? I urge you to start taking a peek at what’s going on outside of your current path. Are there Spirit- inspired opportunities that we’re missing? Let’s talk about what those might be as we enter a new program year here at Zion!

*I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

*Isaiah 43:19*

In Christ’s service,

**Pastor Amy**

## Technology Ministry

### Website [zionstratford.org](http://zionstratford.org)

Look us up online at [zionstratford.org](http://zionstratford.org). Zion’s website is full of information at your fingertips. Weekly sermons you can listen to with a link to the scriptures of the week and attached bulletin. The events calendar can be used as a quick reference for events here at Zion. The monthly newsletter and council minutes are also available each month. The church office is taking care of loading the information, so please be patient as this is new to the office.

Hope you enjoy the website of Zion Lutheran Church.



Council minutes are available on the church website [zionstratford.org/publications](http://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.



Listen on  
**Podbean**

### Sermons by Phone or Podcast App

Audio recordings of Sunday sermons are now available by calling **848.204.2721**. You can also find it on the podcast apps *PodBean* and *Bullhorn* under the podcast name “Open Doors Open Hearts Open Hands.” You can also find a recording and a copy of the bulletin at <https://zionstratford.org/publications/>.

## ***Zion is looking to hire a housekeeper***

### **Housekeeper**

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
HOURS PER WEEK (10 – 12)  
JOB DESCRIPTION

### **WEEKLY:**

Vacuum - all carpeted areas  
Office space, Narthex, Sanctuary, all stairways, hallways, Library, Gathering Area, Family Center, balcony and any space utilized during J Team and Little Lutheran activities (seasonal). Hallway and stairs going down into the old Fellowship Hall from the Gathering Area.  
Dust - all woodwork  
Narthex, Sanctuary (including stairways and balcony), furniture, counters, etc. Please remove any/all cobwebs.  
Restrooms – in office space and near Gathering Area  
Mop the floor  
Wash all surfaces of sinks and toilets, including walls near sinks and toilets  
Fill toilet paper and hand paper dispensers (especially needed before and after weddings, funerals, special events, etc.)  
Kitchen  
Sweep/mop the floor  
Change garbage  
Wipe down counters, sinks, counters stove tops  
Entryways  
Vacuum  
Clean windows/glass of doors

### **AS NEEDED:**

Clean, dust and pick up both rooms adjacent to the altar area  
Dust and mop floors under the pews  
Dust and mop Fellowship hall, basement kitchen, hallways and other rooms (without carpet) in the old Education Wing  
Dust, mop and replenish paper products in basement bathrooms, (near the elevator and men's restroom near the SE stairs)  
Dust, mop and replenish paper products in the women's restroom by the VBS storage closet (behind the altar near the SE stairs)  
Wash entrance doors and mop entrance door area



### ***Worship at Stoney River Assisted Living***

Pastor Amy leads a short worship service monthly at Stoney River Assisted Living in Marshfield. This worship service with Holy Communion will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 1 pm. Please feel free to join Pastor Amy as we worship and visit together with members we don't get to see very often. Stoney River is located at 1204 W. McMillan in Marshfield.

### ***Bible Study Begins September 10***

We're getting the gang back together to study the bible beginning Tuesday, September 10 at 10 am, but we'd like to include new people too!  
And if you'd like to participate in a bible study at a different time, let the office know. We can always add times or work together online.



### ***Rally Sunday September 8 at the 9:00 am Worship Service.***

Do we have a fun event for you! Sunday, September 8 is Rally Sunday. This means that we are coming back together as congregation members from our varied activities over the summer months. To celebrate, we are asking students to bring their school backpacks for a "Backpack Blessing" during worship.  
We also are planning some fun activities after worship for the whole congregation: ice cream, games, and fellowship! Please join us as we kick off the academic year together as the body of Christ in this place.

Bibles will be given out to students in Kindergarten, 1st grade, 4th grade, 6th grade and 7th– 9th grade during the Rally Sunday service.

## ***FAITH JOURNEY***

**Little Lutherans/J-Team**

**September 11, 2024**

*What is Church?*

**September 25, 2024**

*Sacrament of Baptism*

Little Lutherans and J-Team (K-

6th grade) will be focusing on

the Church and Sacraments this

year with games, crafts, and Bi-

bble stories. These faith for-

mation classes will be held eve-

ry 2nd and 4th Wednesday of

the month from **3:15-5:15 p.m.**

Children may arrive anytime between 3:15 and 3:50 pm, for those coming from a non-Stratford school district. Information and calendar can be found at: <https://zionstratford.org/faith-formation/k-6th-grade/>

### ***Confirmation***

#### ***CORE Class***

**September 11, 2024**

*Small Catechism Part 1*

#### ***Elective Class***

**September 25, 2024**

*Women of the Word*

**Class runs from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** Confirmation students are required to participate in all CORE classes. Elective classes are selected by the student. Sermon notes and activity verification are required throughout the year and should be returned to the office or dropped in the basket in the narthex or on the information table in the lobby. Confirmation registration forms, class schedules, and more information available at: <https://zionstratford.org/faith-formation/7th-9th-grade/>.



We are excited to announce that the Stratford Farmers Market, formerly held at Ground Up, has been moved to the South parking lot of Zion Lutheran Church, just outside the Stratford Food Pantry!

Zion has been working on ensuring this opportunity will continue in our great community and we are looking forward to providing a spot for all of our wonderful vendors! We will keep the days and times all the same, every Wednesday from 4-7. Vendors, please reach out to our Facebook Page, which we took over from Ground Up; Stratford Farmers Market.

Please private message us what your goods will include and which dates, if not all, you would be interested in selling. If you need to call, the church office number is 715-687-4110. We do have a vendor insurance form you will be required to review before selling, but it will be very painless. Please share with other vendors and those who may not be on Facebook and encourage them to reach out directly to Zion. We look forward to retaining our previous vendors and maybe adding some more as well!

**Stratford Farmers Market**  
**South Parking lot of Zion Lutheran Church**  
**Wednesdays: Time 4pm – 7pm**



## **Worship Duty Signup via Signup Genius**

Please take a moment to sign up to participate in our worship service as an usher, reader, acolyte, media, communion assistant (server), or assisting minister. The fall sign-ups are now available. Sign up by September 17 for October 2024. I appreciate and can't thank you enough for signing up! Brenda Huther.

Here is the link for September: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0844A5A92B0-50830587-october>



- ◆ RaiseRight is the answer for quick, easy gift card giving and use while also helping Zion Youth programs and Faith Formation Team!
- ◆ Each card purchase returns a % back support Zion Faith Formation Youth Programs like:
  - ◆ Campus Scholarships, National Gatherings and more!
- ◆ It's easy! You can download the RAISE RIGHT app and shop right from your couch or contact Janet Schoenherr at 715-650-0097 or Wendy Spaeth 715-615-2500 or the church office for the code.

[Visit www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com)

**Thank you for continuing to support Zion youth!**

## **Disciples for Christ**

**September 17, 2024 5:30—7:30 pm**

**Book: *Why Be Confirmed? Pages 9-12***

The schedule and more information can be found at: <https://zionstratford.org/faith-formation10th-12th-grade/>.

## **First Communion**

Do you have a child who would like to take

Communion? Are they asking questions about it? Do they seem especially interested in what's going on when everyone heads to the front for a "snack?" If so, they may be ready for our Communion class.

Sunday, **September 22** after worship, Pastor Amy will be teaching a class on Holy Communion. We'll watch a video, talk about Communion, taste the Communion elements, and even make our own bread!



Class members will take their First Communion on Sunday, **September 29** during worship at 9am.

If you feel your child is ready to participate, call the church office at 715-687-4110 to register for the class.

## **Additional help is needed for JTeam / Little Lutherans**

(4-6 grade) & Little Lutherans (K-3 grade) for 2024/2025

Teachers or assistants, Substitute Teachers, Craft Leaders  
Bible Lesson Leaders, Activity/Game Leaders

Please contact:

Jill Dasler 715-305-7324 or Darla Leick 715-506-0044

## ***Lay School of Ministry***

There's still time to register for the Lay School of Ministry, sponsored by our very own Northwest Synod of Wisconsin. From their website: "Courses are designed to help students develop a deeper understanding of the Bible, Worship, Spirituality, Christian History, and Lutheran Theology."

Classes are held somewhat monthly during the academic year, either in person or online. Nationally known guest instructors present classes on many topics throughout the year. The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin's Lay School of Ministry has long been considered one of the earliest and most highly regarded lay school offerings in the nation. It's like going to school without having to take the exams!

Tuition is \$475, and books for the first two years of the program run @\$250. (Pastor Amy may have some of the books you will need, so be sure to ask about those!)

For more information, please talk to Pastor Amy or visit the website at [www.layschoolofministry.org](http://www.layschoolofministry.org).

## ***Bishop Martin Halom to be Installed September 15***

At synod assembly in June, the Rev. Martin Halom was chosen by ecclesial ballot to fill the role of bishop of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, replacing retiring bishop, the Rev. Dr. Laurie Skow-Anderson.

If you've never attended the installation of a bishop, now might be the time to do so. The service is meaningful and impactful, combining lots of great music with scripture and powerful preaching. Holy Communion naturally rounds out this gathering of Christ's body.

Pastor Amy is registered to attend, so if you would like to see what it's all about, talk to her about carpooling.

Installation of Rev. Martin Halom as bishop:

**September 15 at 3 pm**

Hope Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin



## ***Faithful Giving through God's gifts***

We are pleased to announce the following recipients of Zion's biblical response to the Kathy Belgea-Zuelke estate gift. One donation was to help fund part of the new elementary school playground. The other was to help pay fees for students in need.



## ***Evangelism***

The Evangelism team would like to send cards to individuals or families who are hospitalized or have experienced a loss in their family. If you have someone that you wish for the church to reach out to you can contact the church office at

715-687-4110 or

## Simply Giving /Vanco

Your congregation works hard to support your faith journey, respond to your pastoral needs, and plan for educational and worship opportunities all year long.

Make it easy for yourself (and for us) by signing up for Simply Giving. Through Simply Giving, you can “set it and forget it” when it comes to donating to Zion’s ministry. Your donation will automatically come out of your account in whatever amount and on whatever schedule is best for you.

Forms are available just outside the worship space and can be completed and returned to the office. Or just give Kathy a quick call in the office and she will be happy to help you out.

## Treasurer’s Report

To keep everyone informed of the financial status of Zion Lutheran, we include a monthly Treasurer’s Report in the newsletter. The overall purpose is to be transparent about how Zion is building a culture of generosity and being good stewards (managers) of God’s gracious provision to fuel Jesus’ ministry.



January 1, 2024 through July 30, 2024:

- General Offering Received \$13083.46
- Ministry Expenses (salaries, utilities, supplies, etc.) \$13,297.16
- **Giving vs. Expense Deficit \$ - 213.70**

Undesignated Cash Balance (07/30/24) \$ 4779.74

Thank you to everyone who continues to support Zion’s ministry in Jesus’ name with financial gifts. It takes all of us together to fuel our

## Stewardship Team

The Stewardship team is looking for disciples that would help with the counting of donations following worship. Please sign up for the Sundays you are available to help. Two people are required to count each Sunday. If you would be willing to give of your time to help out this team or have questions please contact the church office at [office@zionstratford.org](mailto:office@zionstratford.org) or call 715-687-4110.

## Noisy offering month of September

There will be a noisy offering for Emmanuel Lutheran Church the month of

September. *The money gathered will go to the Emmanuel Lutheran Church following the tragic fire at their church. Council has voted to do a \$500.00 match.*



*Ways to share financial support:*

*Mail a check to P.O. Box 27, Greenwood, WI; Drop off cash or checks to any Forward Bank location; checks may be written to “Emmanuel Lutheran Church” with “Fire Donation” in the Memo line. Online, you may donate via our website: [www.oneinchristlutherans.com/give.html](http://www.oneinchristlutherans.com/give.html) -*

*click the “Donate Now” button under Emmanuel’s Fire Recovery Fund.*

## Save the date for Germanfest!

October 20th- dine in or carry outs available.



Menu: Pork hocks, pork roast, potato dumplings, gravy, sauerkraut, applesauce, bread and cheesecake.

More information to come soon!



## Prayer Request



Zion has a group of people who serve as disciples in prayer that pray for all prayer requests the church receives. If you would be interested in becoming a disciple in prayer please contact the church office and you will be added to the group. Group members receive all prayer requests by email. Contact the church office for all prayer requests.



### **Choir**

All members are always welcome in all voices and instrumental accompaniments. Do you play percussion? Guitar or other strings? other? Rehearsal: **at 8:00 am.**

**WE WELCOME YOUR MUSICAL TALENTS.**

**Come as you are able.**

September 18th for the same day praise service.

September 15th

September 22nd

### **Join us for Healing Services**

**September 29 during Worship**

Prayer stations, with prayer leaders, will be available, where you may privately ask for a prayer, personal blessing or anointing, share concerns or joys, and receive prayer.

If you are interested in helping support the Healing Service Sundays by praying for your fellow congregation members at a Prayer Station as a prayer leader, please see Pastor Amy to learn more about the role.

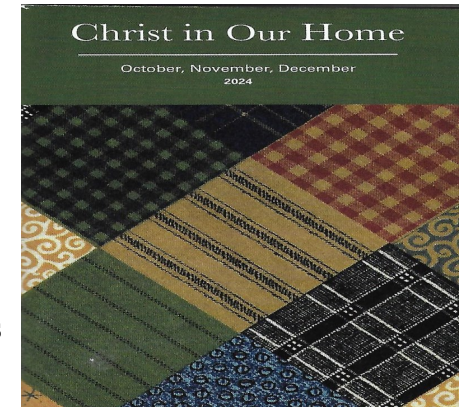


## Remembering Our Homebound Members

Several members of Zion are homebound. This makes it difficult for them to come to church and receive communion. Pastor Amy makes frequent visits to these members and encourages other members of Zion to visit their fellow members and serve communion. Pastor Amy will walk you through how to serve home communion. Consider disciplining the homebound by taking a few hours a month to visit with a fellow member and brighten their day.

### **Christ in Our Home**

The devotional *Christ in Our Home* for October, November and December is now available in the Narthex or the information table in the church lobby. The church provides this devotional for anyone that would like to take a few minutes each day to reflect.



### **Fellowship**

Join us each Sunday following worship for coffee, tea, and hot cocoa fellowship. It is a wonderful time to catch up with friends, family, and other members of your congregation.

Often, there are tasty treats to enjoy as well. Consider hosting a fellowship for your fellow members, it is as easy as signing up.

If you have never hosted a fellowship, no worries! Several people are willing to help you out with making coffee and setting up. Let the office know and those arrangements will be made.



Date	9/1/2024 Pent 15 9:00 AM	9/08/2024 Pent 16 9:00 AM	9/15/2024 Pent 17 9:00 AM	9/22/2024 Pent 18 9:00 AM	9/29/2024 Pent 19 9:00 AM	10/6/2024 Pent 20 9:00 AM
Assisting Minister	Brenda Castellano	Dan Thompson	Terry Schoenherr	Carmella Moon	Brenda Huther	Riley Spindler
Reader	Brenda Castellano	Rhonda Thompson	Janet Schoenherr	Carmella Moon	Brenda Huther	Riley Spindler
Acolytes	Charlotte & Nolan Peirce	Abby & Hudson Ballerstein	Ian Maguire Lily Cournoyer	Ella Schultz Anika Weber	Dayton & Finley White	Reid Spindler Lily Cournoyer
Ushers	Brian & Darla Leick	Rhonda Knoll Sharla Dreikosen	Nancy & Tom Schoenherr	Phil & Kerri Schultz	Ray & Lindsay White	Ryan & Amy Cournoyer
Communion Assistants	Brenda Castellano Brenda Garrigan Brenda Huther	Dan Thompson Angie Guralski Nancy Schoenherr	Terry Schoenherr Lois Miller Tadd Schoenherr	Carmella Moon Angie Guralski Jessica Southwick	kneeling: Brenda Huther	Riley Spindler Wendy Spaeth June Krueger
Basket Holder	Griffin Peirce Archer Tews	.....	Ellie & Turner Southwick	.....	Harvey Waddell	Hadley Kramer Archer Tews
Communion Steward	Rhonda Thompson	Lindsay White	Sandy Andersen	Wendy Spaeth	Lindsay White	Patti Casperson
Fellowship	Gary & Mary Wussow	Judy Treankler Christine Dalbeck	Dan & Rhonda Thompson	Volunteer	Rod & Brenda Huther	Volunteer
Host	Dan Thompson	Robin Curtis	Carmella Moon	Mary Wussow	Ray White	Brandon Aschenbrenner
Bell Ringer	Brian Leick	Robin Curtis	Kevin Miller	Phil Schultz	Ray White	Ryan Cournoyer
Media	Rod Huther	Ted Dasler	Kevin Miller	Marge Kollmansberger	Rod Huther	Connor Kreft
Prayer Station	.....	.....	.....	.....	Patti Kuyoth Sandy Borman	.....

# September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>9am Worship/ Communion</i>	2	3	4 <i>5:30 Worship Team Meeting</i>	5	6	7
8 <i>9am Worship/ Communion Rally /Bible Sunday Blessing backpacks</i>	9 <i>6pm Executive Team Meeting</i>	10 <i>10am Bible Study</i>	11 <i>3:15pm JTeam/ Little Lutherans 6pm CORE confirmation class</i>	12	13	14
15 <i>9am Worship/ Communion 5:30 pm Disciples for Christ</i>	16	17 <i>10 am Bible Study 6pm Council Meeting</i>	18 <i>6pm Faith Formation Team Meeting 6:30pm Yoga</i>	19	20	21 <i>10am—2pm Family Center Reserved</i>
22 <i>9am Worship/ Communion 1st Communion class following worship</i>	23	24 <i>10 am Bible Study</i>	25 <i>3:15 pm JTeam/ Little Lutherans 6pm Elective Confirmation class 6:30 pm Yoga</i>	26 <i>1pm Stoney River Worship Service</i>	27	28
29 <i>9am Worship/ Communion 1st Communion Healing Service</i>	30					