

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

We're on the web! www.zionstratford.org

Phone: 715-687-4110
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October 2024

Zion Lutheran Church



Sunday, October 6

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost /Communion

Sunday, October 13

Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost/Communion

Sunday, October 20

*Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost/Communion
Germanfest Dinner*

Sunday, October 27

Reformation Sunday after Pentecost/Communion



The sheep follow [the good shepherd] because they know his voice. -John 10:4

Dear friends in Christ,

I celebrated my birthday in August, and my husband made me cry. It's not as bad as it sounds. Mark had saved the tiny cassette tape from our answering machine back in the 90s, and on it was my mother's voice singing "Happy Birthday." It was the last time she did that, as she died early the next August.

I couldn't believe the emotions that flooded over me in those few moments. There was delight, and grief, and recognition. I also found myself thinking how much I sounded like my mother in vocal tone and inflection.

I hadn't heard my mother's voice in well over fifteen years (it had been a long time since he played it for me), but there it was—comforting and familiar and, strangely enough, somehow my own. I found myself yearning to hear it again, and I knew I needed to listen to that recording more often.

Do we listen to God's voice often enough? In John's gospel, Jesus talks about being the good shepherd, and he says that the sheep know his voice. They know his voice because they've heard it over and over; it's familiar, comforting, and trustworthy to them.

We can hear God's voice in many ways in our lives: scripture, preaching, music, fellowship, from those around us, and from those who may be far away or unknown to us. God speaks in many ways and through many means, and can often be found even in quiet, still moments.

Don't let any more time go by; start listening now. Listen for the comfort, the delight, and the recognition of being known and loved unconditionally by your Creator. Then, pass along that same unconditional love to others by speaking kindly and listening well to one another.

In Christ's service,
Pastor Amy

Technology Ministry **Website zionstratford.org**

Look us up online at 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. You can also get a copy of the minutes by contacting Kathy in the church office or on the



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/>.



Save the date for Germanfest!

October 20th - dine in or carry outs available

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

Dinner is held to support Community Crisis Fund which helps the community of Stratford.

Germanfest Bake Sale

There is a sign up in the narthex. Please do not price your items. Bring on Saturday, October 19th to fellowship area.

Germanfest- help us!

Sign-up sheets are available in the narthex for areas to work on Saturday and Sunday. Food donations or monetary donation board (for meat) is also available. All proceeds support the crisis fund! We appreciate all of the donations and help for this great cause! Thank you.

Germanfest Cheesecake

- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs

- 1/2 cup melted butter

Mix together and press into 9 x 12 pan

- 3 (8 oz) packages of cream cheese

- 1 1/2 cup sugar

- 5 eggs

- 3 Tbsp lemon juice

Beat cream cheese & sugar until fluffy, add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition, stir in lemon juice. Pour over crumbs and bake at 350 oven until set in center about 45 minutes. Cool. Refrigerate

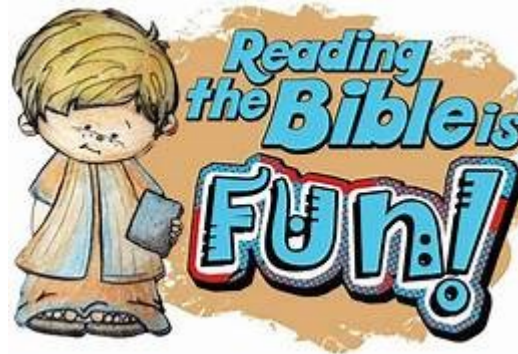


Worship at Stoney River Assisted Living

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.

Tuesday morning 10:00 am Bible Study



We're getting the gang back together to study the bible, 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.

October Bible Study Schedule

October 1 No Class Pastor Amy is at Fall Theological

October 8 Topic: God Answers Hannah
Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10, Luke 1:46-55

October 15 Topic: God's Promise to David
Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:1-17, Luke 1:30-33

October 22 Topic: Solomon Dedicates the Temple
Scripture: 1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:27-30, 41-43, Luke 19:45-46

October 29 Topic: God's Care for the Widow
Scripture: 1 Kings 17:1-24, Luke 4:24-26

FAITH JOURNEY

JTeam/Little Lutherans

October 2, 2024

Sacrament of Communion

October 23, 2024

Luther History & Reformation



Little Lutherans and J-Team (K-6th grade) will be focusing on the Church and Sacraments this year with games, crafts, and Bible

stories. These faith formation classes will be held every 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

October 9, 2024

Small Catechism Part 2

Elective Class

October 23, 2024

Lutherans You Were Warned About

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/>.

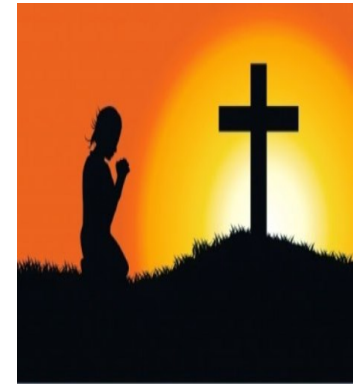
Holy Communion

The bread contains honey and gluten. **GLUTEN and HONEY FREE** servings are in a basket as you approach.

Please take one as needed to serve yourself during the blessing.

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.



Meditation Garden

Zion has a beautiful meditation Garden that is there for all to enjoy. Disciples this summer that cared for the garden are. Brenda Garrigan, Kristi Ormond, Kerri Schultz, Lindsay White, Jessica Southwick, Gene Schedlo, Wendy Spaeth, Lance Casperson and Lois Miller. Thank you all for your wonderful care of the Meditation Garden. Special thank you for all who work behind the scenes to make all Zion's green spaces beautiful.

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 October 17 for November 2024. I appreciate and can't thank you enough for signing up! Brenda Huther.

Here is the link for November: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0844A5A92B0-51560362-november>

On vacation? At a sporting event? Family wedding? If you are scheduled to serve in worship as an assisting minister, acolyte, communion server, reader, usher, etc. and are unable to serve on that date, please look at the calendar and contact another person to switch with you. If you need a list of people to contact, please contact the church office 715-687-4110 or office@zionstratford.org.



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

October 13, 2024 5:30—7:30 pm
Evening With the Elderly

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



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

Zion's Cemeteries



Hwy 153 & Hwy 97
Reminder: Please remove any flowers from the grave sites by October 15.

Thank you!

Floral Arrangements

There are several new floral arrangements for the altar that will reflect the seasons. Thank you to Ron Mroczenski (Rhonda Thompson's brother) for creating these beautiful floral arrangements.

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.

Library News

Featured in the library this month are two lovely full-colored volumes on Martin Luther and the Reformation donated by Terry & Steven Harteau. These remarkable books were published for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and feature a very complete collection of art,

essays, and analysis of Luther's life and religious thought, his part in the Protestant Reformation, and his influence on religious life today. They are amazing and not to be missed! Thank you, Terry and Steven, for your very generous donation! You may check out the volume in the library. Please note that we also have a large collection of other Reformation materials that are available any time.



Blood drive

Stratford VFW

Location: 213222 Hwy 97 Stratford, Wisconsin 54484

Date: October 22nd

Time: 3:30 pm—6:30 pm

No appointment necessary, but are appreciated please call 715-842-0761. Thank you for helping us save lives!

New Church Logo /Current Logo

Calling all creative people!

It's time to update our church logo. If anyone is interested in working with Pastor Amy and coming up with some new, fresh designs, please contact her directly or call the church office.

The Evangelism Team is excited to see the new ideas!



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

office@zionstratford.org.



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 August 31, 2024:

• General Offering Received	\$102550.49
• Ministry Expenses (salaries, utilities, supplies, etc.)	\$105550.49
• Giving vs. Expense Deficit	\$ -2809.77

Undesignated Cash Balance (08/31/24) \$ 8006.69

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 ministry plan.

Join the Worship Planning Team

If you have ideas to help enrich our worship services at Zion, we'd love to have you join our planning team! We meet monthly to discuss all aspects affecting the Worship experience from liturgy to music to involving all ages, communion, those who help serve throughout the service, special activities and more! See Mary Wussow or contact the Zion office if interested.

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

Kick—Off

First Sunday of each month there will be a noisy offering collected by the children of Zion. October 6th will be the first monthly noisy offering taken by the children for the fall semester. The donations collected will be given to Feed My Starving Children program. The donations that are collected each term will change so watch for which program that the children will be supporting. Support our children as they work to make a change in the

Stratford Area Food Pantry

The Stratford Area Food Pantry provides food to individuals and families within the Stratford School District. If you are in need of food, we are here for you! Hours are Tuesday mornings from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. and Wednesday evenings from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. or by appointment.

Also, for those who wish to make donations, you may drop items off on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings. The Stratford Area Food Pantry is supported by individuals, local churches, groups and businesses; and is staffed by volunteers. We are grateful for the community support we receive. We are neighbors helping neighbors in need.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Dan Wieland at wieland.dandeb@gmail.com or at 715-506-0020 and he will help you get connected.



Choir

All are welcome to share their talents in song, or musical instruments in praise of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Rehearsals Sunday mornings 8:00 am
October 6 No Rehearsal
October 13—Rehearsal
October 20 Rehearsal / Germanfest Sunday
October 27 Rehearsal
For information contact Mary Wussow

Bell Choir

Looking for a way to use your musical talents?
Interested in participating in the Zion Bell Choir? There will be a brief meeting in the bell practice room after the service on September 29th. If you are not able to attend the meeting, but want to participate in the bell choir contact Paul Untiet by phone or text 715-615-9442 to receive communications updates.



All Saints' Sunday November 3rd

All Saints' Day celebration has a long history in the worship life of the Christian Church. It began as a commemoration of the martyrs who has died for the faith, and it has since become a day when we honor and remember those who, in death have joined the Church Triumphant, as well as the faithful saints of the present who serve Jesus Christ. Martin Luther held that all Christians are simultaneously sinner and saint, sinner because of our rebellious nature, but a saint because of salvation in Jesus.

On Sunday, November 3rd, we will be reading the names and lighting candles for each name we receive. We will remember those in our congregation who died during the past year and those whose names are submitted by the congregation. The sign-up sheets are available please ask the ushers.

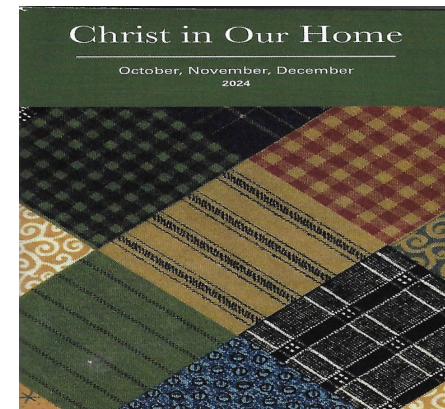


Several members of Zion are homebound. This makes it difficult for them to come to church and receive communion. Pastor Amy makes frequent visits to these members and encourages other members of Zion to visit their fellow members and serve communion. Pastor Amy will walk you through how to serve home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

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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.

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 3:15 pm JTeam/ Little Lutherans 6pm Trust/ Memorial Team Meeting 6:30 pm Yoga	3	4	5
6 9am Worship/ Communion	7	8 10am Bible Study	9 6pm Confirmation CORE class 6:30 pm Yoga	10	11	12
13 9am Worship/ Communion 5:30pm Disciples for Christ	14 6pm Executive Team Meeting	15 10am Bible Study	16 6:30 pm Yoga	17	18	19
20 9am Worship/ Communion 11am –1pm Germanfest	21	22 10am Bible Study 6pm Council Meeting	23 3:15 pm JTeam / Little Lutherans 6pm Confirmation Elective Class 6:30 pm Yoga	24 1pm Worship Stoney River	25	26
27 9am Worship/ Communion	28	29 10am Bible Study	30 6:30 pm Yoga	31 5:30pm—7:30 pm Trunk n Treat		

Date	10/6/2024 Pent 20 9:00 AM	10/13/2024 Pent 21 9:00 AM	10/20/2024 Pent 22 9:00 AM	10/27/2024 Reformation Sunday 9:00 AM	11/3/2024 All Saints Sunday 9:00 AM
Assisting Minister	Riley Spindler	Dan Wieland	Marge Kollmansberger	Darla Leick	Carmella Moon
Reader	Riley Spindler	Dan Wieland	Marge Kollmansberger	Darla Leick	Carmella Moon
Acolytes	Reid Spindler Lily Cournoyer	Cooper & Brynn Wiesman	Sierra Kreft Ryleigh Schiller	Ella Schultz Jackson Spindler	Cooper & Brynn Wiesman
Ushers	Ryan & Amy Cournoyer	Gary & Mary Wussow	Rod & Brenda Huther	Phil & Kerri Schultz	Tom & Nancy Schoenherr
Communion Assistants	Riley Spindler Wendy Spaeth June Krueger	Dan & Deb Wieland Lois Miller	Marge Kollmansberger Sandy Andersen Tierra Messerschmidt	Darla & Brian Leick	Carmella Moon Terry Schoenherr Wendy Spaeth
Basket Holder	Hadley Kramer Archer Tews	Averi & Mila Johnson	Griffin Peirce Jordy Spindler
Communion Steward	Patti Casperson	Deb Wieland	Lindsay White	Wendy Spaeth	Patti Casperson
Fellowship	Rich & June Krueger	Volunteer	Germanfest	Eddy & Ann Peterson	Volunteer
Host	Brandon Aschenbrenner	Maryl Schoenfuss	Brian Stroetz	Kevin Miller	Dan Thompson
Bell Ringer	Ryan Cournoyer	Gary Wussow	Brenda Huther	Phil Schultz	Tom Schoenherr
Media	Connor Kreft	Kevin Miller	Ted Dasler	Garrett Smazal	Marge Kollmansberger