

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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⁴Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Have you pondered the questions shared in the front page July Echoes article? Have you shared your faith stories with others? One of my prayers is that we, the people of Zion Lutheran Church in Gibsonburg, encourage one another in our walks of faith and also work to build our stories of faith together. In the lull of August, let us not be complacent, but active - actively living into our faith and listening to God's call in our lives. What do you feel God is calling you towards? What are the gifts God has given you? How can you use your gifts from God to serve, at Zion and in the wider community? What vision for Zion's mission is God giving you for possibility?

As you are aware, Zion is in a time of transition between ordained, called, settled pastors. I am honored and grateful to be walking with you during this time of discernment. Some people have shared they do not feel that anything needs to transition further at Zion and they like where we are and what is happening. While I do agree with that, I believe the "transition" term might be inferring something different to some people. During this time, Zion as a congregation should be thinking and praying about what the mission and vision is - for this year, next year, the next five years, even ten years. Where do we feel God is leading us? Where can we serve others? How can we live the gospel of Jesus today and in the future?

Each congregation (as a whole, or as close to the whole) should do this work to assist the leadership (which includes the pastoral leader) to create and facilitate a path for growth and ministry to align with the mission and vision of the congregation. Then we all work together to bring the plan to fulfillment. I know, with the help of God, we can move into the next chapter of ministry at Zion.

Will you please prayerfully consider serving your Zion family? As Congregational Vice President or the Ministry of Property Management? Or the Transition Team or Kids' Day Out? Or joining us for Wednesday Bible Study or teaching Sunday School? Continue to actively pursue God's call in your life. Let us use our gifts from God for the people of God.

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9 - Worship w/ Holy Communion 10 - Coffee Hour 11 - Christian Ed 7 - AA	3	4	5 10 - Bible Study 6 - Outreach (Lounge) 7 - AA	6 Office Closed	7 Office Closed	8
9 9 - Worship 10 - Coffee Hour LYO Meeting 7 - AA	10	11 7 - Church Council	12 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 AA	13	14	15 Wedding
16 9 - Worship w/ Holy Communion 10 - Coffee Hour 7 - AA	17	18	19 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 AA	20	21	22 10:00-11:30am Kids Outdoor Fun
23 9 - Worship 10 - Coffee Hour 7 - AA	24	25	26 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 AA	27	28	29
30 9 - Worship 10 - Coffee Hour 7 - AA	31					

Zion Church Council Minutes - July 14, 2026

Zion Ev. Lutheran church Council met in the Barb Moellman Center on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 7:00 PM. Those present were Dave Myerholtz, Becky Teal, Beth Schlea, Stacie Marquart, Julia Popp, Carrie Strausbaugh, Connie Davies, Tom Fisher, Dan Henery, and Hannah Mapus. Absent and excused was Audrey Sneider. David Gerwin was a guest.

President David Myerholtz called the meeting to order and led in devotion and prayer. His devotion was a thank you to each member of council for serving.

Connie Davies moved, seconded by Beth Schlea to accept the agenda as printed. Motion approved.

Secretary's report: Julia Popp moved, seconded by Tom Fisher to accept the Secretary's report as written. Motion approved. Dave Myerholtz mentioned that he appreciated the professional report on the boilers given by Eugene Nehls.

Dave Gerwin made a special report on the sound system – Rusty Burkett is searching for parts needed to repair; the piano – It had been on a 6 month to a year rotation to be tuned and serviced, but this has not been followed in the last few years; and the organ – Dave is meeting with Fran Benlein to discuss the problems. He will also get the piano back on a service schedule. Dave also is working on putting information about what the ELCA does for Zion so that members can understand what the ELCA's role is with Zion.

Financial report: Connie Davies moved, seconded by Carrie Strausbaugh, to accept the financial report as given. Motion approved.

Old Business: There was no Council retreat this year. Two reasons cited were that it is the 150th celebration of our congregation and members were busy with plans for the celebration and there are going to be workshops in the near future that Council will be requested to attend. The transition team will be made up of Non-Council members. Dave Myerholtz has six members for the team and is looking for ten people to serve.

The 150th Celebration held on Sunday, July 12, 2026 was considered a success. Many favorable comments were shared.

Council seats held by David Myerholtz as President and Audrey Sneider as Ministry of Worship & Music were recognized. Stacie Marquart moved, seconded by Julia Popp, to accept these members. Motion approved.

Tom Fisher reported that the boiler project was on hold. A meeting with Bob's Plumbing, Tom Samson, Eugene Nehls, and Tom Fisher had taken place.

New Business: Installation of new Council members will be held July 26, 2026 during worship service. Committee members are included in this.

The pledge campaign for the parking lot is finished.

The Ministry of Christian Education: Rally Day is September 13th. This includes a Blessing of the Back-Packs. LYO is sponsoring BINGO on August 16th from 4 – 7. VBS is this week with a Tropical Trek theme. There will be wrap-up and ice cream social on July 19th.

Stewardship: Stacie Marquart questioned if there is a need for a financial secretary. Zion Constitution was consulted and it seems there is no call for this position.

Executive Committee Report and SAM report: Accepted as written.

Beth Schlea moved, seconded by Carrie Strausbaugh to adjourn. Motion approved. All prayed The Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: August 11, 2026 at 7:00 PM.

Reporting next month: Outreach and Property Management

Respectfully submitted,

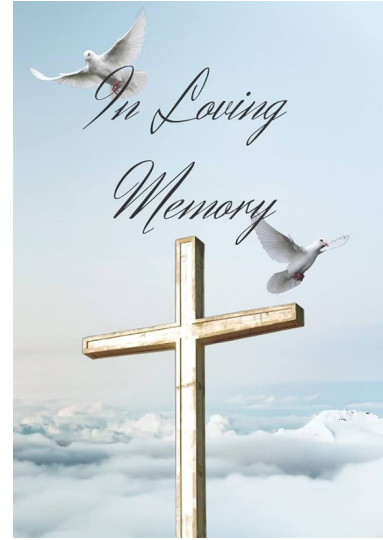
Becky Teal

Christian Sympathy

Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Roger Linke. Roger passed to life eternal on Sunday, June 14. The family held a celebration of life at the funeral home on Sunday, June 21.

Memorials for Roger Linke:

Brad Krotzer
 Dan & Marsha Henery
 Joel & Connie Davies
 Rita Lemke & Randy Cook
 Dan & Patti Clair
 Janis Fisher
 Kathy Vallance
 Bo & Jamie Evarts
 Sheryl Krotzer



Eidelweiss

Bless our friends, bless our food,
 Come O Lord and sit with us.
 May our hearts glow with peace
 Come with Love and surround us.
 Friendship and love may they bloom and
 grow,
 Bloom and grow forever.
 Bless our friends, bless our food,
 Bless all mankind forever.

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise Him all creatures here below
 Praise above Ye heavenly host
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Johnny Appleseed

Oh the Lord is good to me,
 And so I thank the Lord
 For giving me the things I need
 The sun and the rain and the appleseed.
 The Lord is good to me.
 Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

2026 Vacation Bible School

What an amazing adventure we had during Tropical Trek VBS! Students spent three days learning about Baby Moses, Paul, and of course, Jesus through songs, bible storytelling time, crafts, and games. This time was filled with fun, faith, and fantastic food! Our program ran from 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM on July 16, 17, and 18 with snacks and lunch provided, too! We concluded with a musical presentation during worship on Sunday, July 19 and an ice cream social afterwards. Thank you truly to all who attended ... and especially to those who helped make this experience possible! Zion is such a special place ... and that was felt tremendously over the course of our three days together. Blessings abound!



Zion Church Council

Interim Minister: Hannah Mapus

President: David Myerholtz

Vice-President:

Secretary: Becky Teal

Treasurer: Beth Schlea

Ministries

Christian Education: Carrie Strausbaugh

Outreach: Julia Popp

Staff Assistance: Connie Davies

Stewardship: Stacie Marquart

Worship & Music: Audrey Sneider

Lutheran World Relief Health Kits

Donations for Health Kits will be accepted through September 20

The Committee asks for monetary donations only, as they have found a source where buying in bulk can save money.

These monies help people in need due to fires, tornadoes, or other disasters.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

This year marks the 81st anniversary of Lutheran World Relief! Zion has been supporting LWR for all (or nearly all) of those years. What an incredible ministry! September 27th we will gather the items and have a blessing before they are shipped to those in need.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



150th Anniversary Celebration

What a blessing it was to gather on July 12th and celebrate 150 years of faithful ministry here at Zion! I am grateful for all the saints of God who gathered with us that morning, those whose prayers and thoughts were with us, and all those who lived to continue the legacy of Zion before us. We are honored to continue to carry the light of the gospel of Christ in the midst of the Gibsonburg community. Daily we will work and pray for the next generations of Zion and their commitment to furthering the gospel of Jesus for years to come.

I hope you were inspired in our worship service that morning and were filled with the Holy Spirit as we continued in fellowship and a shared meal. God's blessings continue to work with and through us in each season here at Zion. I am so grateful for the opportunity to live and serve God's people with you. God has a plan much greater than ours. Let us prayerfully continue to listen as God guides us to live-out the work of Christ in the world.

God's blessings to you all!

Hannah

Thank you to David Gerwin for his preparation in gathering historical memorabilia to share with all.

Also, a big thank you Janis Fisher, Beth Schlea, Marsha Henry, Carol Magrum, Barb Ward, Kay Taulker, Terri Ahle, and Becky Teal for their hard work in getting every detail of the celebration perfected! We are grateful for each of you!



Acolytes/Readers

Sunday, August 2

A - Owen Kirwen

R - Jill Allport and
Owen Kirwen

WL - Hannah Mapus

Sunday, August 16

A - Payton Kirwen

R - Jamie Evarts and
Sofia Rogers

WL - Hannah Mapus

Sunday, August 30

A - Clarie Mapus

R - Beth Schlea and
Owen Gerwin

WL - Hannah Mapus

Sunday, August 9

A - Bella Stevens

R - Linda Bursiek and
Payton Kirwen

WL - Hannah Mapus

Sunday, August 23

A - Derek Reed

R - Bo Evarts and
Sophia Foos

WL - Hannah Mapus

Sunday, September 6

A - Brynn Mapus

R - Brad Krotzer and
Bella Stevens

WL - Hannah Mapus

August Birthdays

1 - Adam Clark

Brett Miles

2 - Dave Gerwin

3 - Ned Weigman

4 - Nicole Hoffman

Helen Myerholtz

Charlie Shanfelt

Carol Magrum

5 - Scott Roepke

7 - Kevin Thoss

9 - Dan Henery

10 - David Reyna II

Keegan Strausbaugh

11 - Jerry Widmer

15 - Marilyn Welling

17 - Jeff Fleming

18 - Paul Clark, Jr.

Ann Thacker

20 - Gavin Fairbanks

21 - MaryAnn Myerholtz

22 - Sharon Blausey

Brenda Damschroder

Kathy Vallejo

24 - Jack Henline

25 - Don Gerwin

Cameron Strausbaugh

26 - Connor Allport

Sabel Welling

Hailey Shammo

27 - Jill Bowe



28 - Michelle Fairbanks

29 - Jeff Lemke

Angie Shively

30 - Jodie Samson

150th Community Celebration

Join us Saturday, September 12 as we celebrate our 150th anniversary with the community. There will be games and, more importantly, food! We hope to be able to celebrate with the community who has helped to thrive! ! Please encourage your neighbors and friends to attend.

Stay tuned for more information to be released soon.

Saturday, September 12

Please join us Sunday, September 13th as we kick off our Sunday School year! Celebrate after worship with “Happy New School Year” cake!

RALLY DAY

**Presentation of Bibles for
second graders!**

Sunday, September 13

Blessing of Backpacks
Be sure to bring your backpacks for a
blessing and special tag!

**Worship begins at
9:00am**