



*Soon afterwards [Jesus] went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!" The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has looked favorably on his people!" This word about him spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country. -Luke 7:11-17*

I want you all to be comfortable. That's why I'm going to talk to you about Money. [Wait! Don't leave!] Seriously though, I want you to be comfortable. And the reason that works as a joke, is we really aren't comfortable when we're talking about money. Especially when it is me, the pastor talking about money here on the cover of the newsletter, instead of something more safe, like if we had a council member do a temple talk some Sunday when you can let your eyes glaze over. So if you're going to tune me out, I'm letting you all know up front—this is what my letter will be about: I want to restore comfort, joy and cheer to something that unjustly gives us anxiety: the idea of giving. So it is that I like to look to this Gospel from Luke whenever the question of stewardship comes up. Now you might be scratching your heads and asking, Pastor, what on earth does this story about Jesus interrupting a funeral to perform a resurrection have to do with stewardship? I'm pretty sure money isn't even mentioned in this passage from Luke. Well, stick with me, I always use this passage for Stewardship because I have in mind a complex theological notion about giving. You ready for my complex theory? It's babies. No, that's really it. Babies are my entire complex theology about giving. All giving, whether you are giving time, or your talents, or your money. It all starts with babies. Or more accurately it starts with the relationship between baby and parent. It is an understatement to say: when you have a newborn baby, that baby isn't going to be able to do things by themselves. So, if you want to share life with your child, (and what a joy they are, so why wouldn't you want that?) you have to give things to them. Like milk, and love, and care, and clothes, and so on. The reason you give time, talents, and treasure to your babies is so that you can share life with them! It doesn't have to be more complicated than that. Whenever you give money to something, you are sharing life with those organizations. Whether it's Jack's Fresh Markets, NPR, Lutheran World Relief, World Hunger, The Grind Coffee House, Dairy Kream, Backpack Buddies, or Zion Lutheran, your giving shares life. When we become anxious about our money, and when we start austerity measures and cutbacks, we have forgotten what it is to live as a given people. Every breath you have taken has been because of God and your parents and your community giving to you and sharing life with you. So here's my great pledge drive suggestion: Take a moment, and check if your heart is beating. Are you breathing? Good. Then that's all the reason you need to give. You are alive, and that's worth sharing with

your babies just as it has been shared with you. Just like with babies, Zion Lutheran Church cannot do anything on its own, and that's why we give to the church: to share life with Sunday School, worship, fellowship, bible study, and coffee hour and the like. All the great things that have shared life with us as we gather together, are worth giving for. In this Gospel text, Jesus goes into that place where we are uncomfortable. He interrupts a funeral procession, where all thoughts are on death, the unknown, financial insecurity and what we have lost. And what does Jesus do? He touches the unclean cot with a corpse on it in a radical act of giving. See, the widow in this story is destitute. In Jesus' day women had to rely on men for property, income and life. If your husband died, your sons would have to take care of you. But this Widow only had the one son. And so really there are two corpses at this funeral, literal corpse of the dead son, and the figurative one that is any viable future the widow might have had. In that way, this story is about money after all. And right now, we are in an austere procession of our own. May God interrupt us! We have been leaning hard into our deficit budget, and we're dangerously behind in our giving for the year. As of the end of last month our income less expenses for the year was far in the negative: -\$25,805. So we've got a lot more life sharing we can do with Zion, because I know we have more life in us than what the numbers are showing. But Jesus sees the woman and has compassion on her, and says "do not weep." He walks straight into the funeral procession and then after touching the cot, he gives the resurrected baby back to his mother. Jesus restores life to them both! Is there a better foundation for Stewardship than that? God is at work, constantly interrupting our funeral processions. God sees us where we are in our lives. No matter how broken we might get, God sees us, and walks right into all our uncomfortable anxieties. And there God restores us to life, giving us back to one another and encouraging us to share that life together. All the giving we do is made possible because God first makes this gift to us: we are forgiven, loved, and made alive. May we joyfully do the same! -Pastor Tommy



Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 11 from 9:30-10:15 am. All Children K-6 grades are invited to join the learning and fun. Thank you to the Christian Education Committee who is working on reorganizing our Sunday School and to Ruth Jones, Kelly Hatinger and Donna Mott who will be teaching. Also they are looking for individually wrapped snacks and single serving drink boxes or pouches to serve to the kids during their Sunday School time. To help place your donations in the kitchen and mark them for "Sunday School".



Pastor Richter will be leading an adult education class on Sunday morning for 9:30-10:15 am. Your children can attend Sunday School and you can attend class, as well! The classes will be studying the lectionary (lessons) for Sunday. All members and friends of the congregation are invited to take part in this new education

opportunity.

### Join us for Bible Study

The Monday night Bible study group will be and 4th Mondays, starting Sept. 12th. Pr. study on the Gospel of Luke. We will meet in person in Augustana Hall. If you have any questions about this opportunity for study, please contact the office.



meeting at 6:30, every 2nd Tommy will be leading our

**The Evangelism Committee** would like to thank all who helped with the church picnic by bringing salads, bars or cookies. Thanks to all who helped set up, clean up, and to our grillers Larry Peterson and Joey. Thank you to all who came to enjoy our picnic and for the donation of \$434.00 was divided between Back Pack Buddies and help combat world thirst.

Ruth Jones

Donna Mott

Evangelism Committee

The plan for **God's Work/Our Hands** is to help the Historical Society clean the Manistique Lumber building after it is moved to it's new location by the water tower. If the building is moved on it's anticipated date our work will be on September 10th. Look for more information to come.

**Fall Highway Clean up** is scheduled clean up time is September 24th-October 2nd. On Saturday, September 24th we will meet at the church at 10:00am to go our 2 mile stretch of US 2. If you would like to help, but are unable to make this time, you can pick a day and time that works for you. There will be the needed supplies in Augustana Hall or you pick them up at Donna Mott's home at 526 Manistique Ave. or call her at 906.341.6414



The **Manistique Ministerial Association** will once again be hosting a Progressive Dinner on October 2nd, starting at 4:00pm. Zion will be responsible for the soup course. If you can make a crockpot of your favorite soup, please add your name to the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in Augustana Hall. A free will donation will be taken after dessert. All monies stay with the Ministerial Association and are available for persons in need to pay for heat or gas to get to appointments.

The Altar painting from Bethany Lutheran Church in Isabella is back home at Zion after being restored by Ken Katz at Conservation and Museum Services in Detroit. It needs to be framed and then hung. It will be on display soon!



**We are in desperate need of gardeners** to weed and trim our out of control gardens and bushes. If you have a little bit of time and can spend it in the "jungles" at Zion, it would be appreciated.

**THANK YOU!** to Rebecca and Larry Peterson for representing Zion at the Tri-County Conference fair booth in Escanaba. Bottled water and sweet treats were sold with all proceeds going to combat world thirst.

Dear Congregation,

I would like to thank you for your 7/31/2022 Noisy Offering donation of \$26.11. Your commitment to support Habitat for Humanity HiawathaLand (HfHH) is so important to our organization. When you support HfHH, you are a part of something very special in the communities we serve.

Your belief in HfHH as a valuable community asset will allow us to do some great work for families who need a hand up in the coming months. But, the impact doesn't stop there. The volunteers who work with these families leave with an experience that will stay with them for life. And, the improvements made to these homes make a huge impact on the neighborhood and, essentially, the town.

If you would like to learn more about our affiliate, our mission, or our current projects, please visit our website at [www.hiawathalandhabitat.com](http://www.hiawathalandhabitat.com), visit our Facebook page by searching for Habitat for Humanity HiawathaLand, or call our office at 906.341.7437. I would be happy to speak with you at any time.

On behalf of our staff, Board of Directors, Habitat families, and volunteers, *Thank You!*

With sincere gratitude,

Ann M. MacGregor

Executive Director

[amacgregor@hiawathalandhabitt.com](mailto:amacgregor@hiawathalandhabitt.com)



Lions and tigers and bears—oh, my! Well, maybe cats, dogs, goldfish and gerbils—oh, my! Sunday October 2 will be Blessing of the Pets Sunday. Look for more information to come!

If you live within two miles of church, you can tune into our Saturday night parking lot worship service at 5:00pm on radio station 100.1FM. The service lasts 30 minutes. Or better yet, join us in the parking lot each Saturday!

There are opportunities for you to sponsor Bulletin, Bread & Wine in memory or honor of someone for \$10 or you can order Altar flowers to help beautify our Sanctuary. There are sign up sheets on the bulletin board in Augustana Hall.

**The Northern Great Lakes Synod** is offering Lifelong Faith Formation classes this fall. The focus will be on Bible studies, Lutheran traditions, youth ministry and more. Pastor Richter will be teaching "Romans: The Gospel According to Lutherans". Registration deadline is September 12. To read more about register and any of the classes, please go to [nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation](http://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation).

### Circle News

The Circles will be starting their monthly meetings on September 8th. If you are not a member of a circle and would be interested in joining one, please contact any one of the following ladies for more information:

Sarah Circle—Liz Macklem

Joy Circle—Bonnie Groh & Donna Mott

Hope Circle—Sheila Clark

The **Sarah Circle** meets on Mondays at 1:00pm

The **Joy Circle** meets on the second Thursday at 10:00am.

The **Hope Circle** meets on the third Thursday at 6:00pm.

Be sure to check with your Circle Leader to find out if and where your circle will be meeting.

### Quilting



On Monday, September 12th at 9:15 am, Augustana Hall will be humming with the sound of sewing machines and lively conversation. The quilters will be back doing what they love, making quilts for people in need around the world. If you have fabric to donate it will be

much appreciated. If you are interested in joining the group but don't sew, don't let that stop you. There are other things you can do.

They will be looking for someone who would be able to take the boxes of quilts and kits to First Lutheran in Gladstone on October 22nd. If you would be willing to help, please contact the church office at 341-5427.

*Gifts to our congregation have been given in memory of*

**Edward Gagnon**

Linda Levin—Endowment Fund

**Jody Terrian**

Tim & Erin Russell & Family—Back Pack Buddies

**Harry Kreuzweiser**

Joanne Nelson—Floral Fund

Allen & Irene Grim—Memorial

Kathy Peterson—Memorial

Irene Hinkson—Memorial

### **Upcoming Scripture Readings**

**September 4** —Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalm 1, Philemon 1-21,  
Luke 14:25-33

**September 11**—Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 32:7-14, Psalm 51:1-10, 1 Timothy 1:12-17,  
Luke 15:1-10

**September 18**—Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:4-7, Psalm 113, 1 Timothy 2:1-7, Luke 16:1-13

**September 25**—Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 6:1a, 4-7, Psalm 146, 1 Timothy 6:6-19, Luke 16:19-31



Thank you to Elise Calhoon who provided special music this summer. Thank you for sharing your gifts with our congregation!

Choir Practice will begin on Thursday, September 8 at 4:00pm. We are always looking for new members. You don't need to be able to read music, just enjoy singing. Come and help us make a **Joyful Noise!**



If you are looking for a good book and haven't checked out our library in a while, now's the time! There are books for all ages. Also in the conference room you will find media material that can be checked out or you can also watch them on the big screen TV.

### **Those Who Serve In September**

Lectors: 9/4 Jim Russey  
9/11 Ann Stromberg  
9/18 Jo Nell Berger  
9/25 Teddy Nelson

Ushers: Ruth Jones & Kathy Knudsen

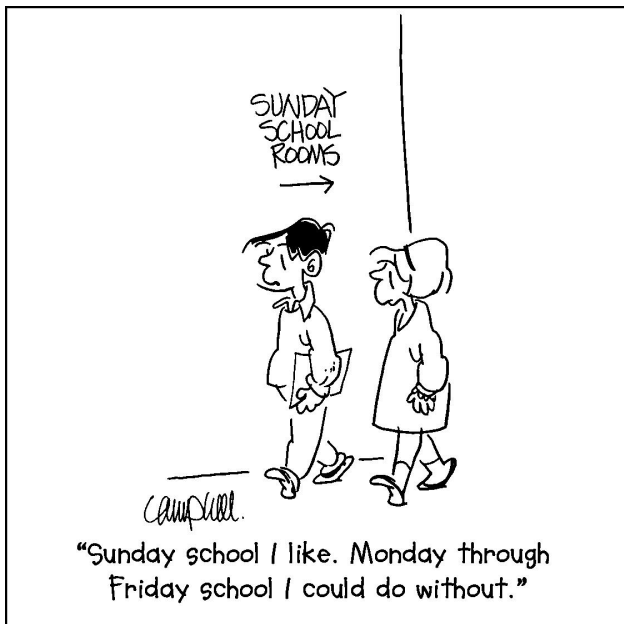
Altar Flowers: 9/4  
9/11  
9/18 Jeanne Jenerou & Jeanne Selling  
9/25

Bulletin, Bread and Wine: 9/4 Judy Rullman  
9/11  
9/18  
9/25

Coffee Hour: 9/4  
9/11 Joy Circle  
9/18  
9/25

## Church Attendance Report

	Saturday	Sunday	Zoom
July 30/31	15	39	11
August 6/7	16	33	7
August 13/14	15	32	9
August 20/21	14	38	8
August 27/28	19	28	10



### Highlights of the August Congregation Council Meeting

+In July Zion's total income was \$9,663.99 with expenses of \$15,872.82. January through July income is \$77,020.65 with expenses of \$113,350.87 for a deficit of \$36,330.22.

+We received a thank you letter from the Northern Great Lakes Synod for contributions in addition to our regular benevolence: World Hunger - \$2,472.74, LWR Blankets - \$52.00 and Answer the Call - \$72.39



+Pastor Tommy reported making seven visits. He officiated at the funeral of Harry Kreuzwieser. He reported that videos from the Churchwide Assembly are available online. He also reported on a variety of upcoming opportunities for adult education and Sunday School.

+The Worship and Music Committee met on August 3, 2022 to pick hymns for August and September.

+The Evangelism Committee reported on the Church Picnic, God's Work, Our Hands, Highway Pick-Up and the Ministerial Association's Progressive Dinner.

+The Finance and Stewardship Committee met on June 21, 2022 to plan the fall Stewardship Drive.

+The Property Committee reported that the Isabella painting is back and needs to be framed and hung. All fire extinguishers have been recharged and tagged for another year. We desperately need people to trim bushes and weed gardens at church.

+The Christian Education and Youth Committee met to finalize plans for Sunday School and set the schedule for adult education (Bible studies).

### **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS**

Below is a brief description for Quilts & Kits needed for Lutheran World Relief. If you aren't part of Zion's Quilters or a member of Circle but would like to help, please read on. Your willingness to help will be greatly appreciated here at Zion and wherever a need exists.

**Quilts**--Imagine the comfort that comes with a hug when someone is in a time of deepest need. The simple combination of fabric & thread reach those with some of the greatest needs. Most often LWR Quilts are used to shield against the cold and rain, but they are also useful as simple tents, floor coverings or a wrap to carry a baby on his mothers back.

#### **School Kits**

The following items are included in each school kit:

4 70 pg. notebooks; no loose-leaf paper

5 ball point pens secured with a rubber band

5 unsharpened #2 pencils secured with a rubber band

1 box of 16 or 24 crayons

1 30cm ruler or one with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

1 pencil sharpener

1 pair blunt scissors

All items are packed in a drawstring backpack-style bag, approx. 14" x 17", with shoulder straps.

#### **Personal Care Kits**

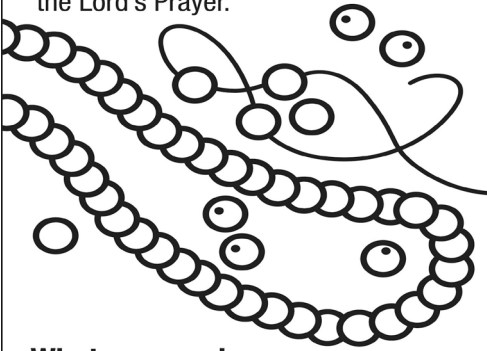
The following items are included in each personal care kit:

1 bath size towel, dark color

2 bath size bars of soap, in original wrapper

# Prayer bracelet

Make this craft to help you remember the Lord's Prayer.



## What you need:

- Elastic string (12 inches)
- Colored beads (see below)
- Clear nail polish

## What you do:

1. Knot the string at one end.  
Add beads in this order:  
blue, white, gold, green,  
yellow, red, black, orange
2. Tie the ends so the bracelet fits your wrist. Place a dot of nail polish to secure the knot. Trim excess string.
3. As you pray, use the bead colors as reminders of Jesus' words (see Matthew 6:9-13):
  - **blue** = the Father
  - **white** = God's holiness
  - **gold** = God's kingdom
  - **green** = the earth
  - **yellow** = wheat (bread)
  - **red** = Christ's blood (forgiveness)
  - **black** = temptation
  - **orange** = God's power to deliver

- 1 adult size toothbrush in original package
- 1 sturdy comb remove packaging
- 1 metal nail clippers remove packaging

**CONTACT US:**

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Manistique, MI 49854  
906-341-5427

[www.zionlutheran-manistique.org](http://www.zionlutheran-manistique.org) or find us on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

**Rev. Tommy Richter, Pastor**

Office: 906- 341-5427 Home 286-4383

**Secretary:** Shirley Leitgeb

[shirley.leitgeb@zionmanistique.org](mailto:shirley.leitgeb@zionmanistique.org)

**Musician:** Linda Levin

**Custodian:** Pat Toennessen

**Treasurer:** Naomi Fletcher

**Financial Secretary:** Cyndee Miske

**Choir Director:** Rebecca Peterson

**Congregation Council:**

Linda Levin, President

Donna Mott, Vice President

Kay MacGregor, Secretary

Jo-Nell Berger

Ruth Jones

Cathy Knudson

Janet Krueger

Peter Mathson

Teddy Nelson



A congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod  
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.