Zion Lutheran Church

**435 Oak Street**

**Manistique, MI 49854**

**906-341-5427**

The Beacon

# October 2023 Newsletter

**Saturday 5:00 p.m.** Parking Lot Worship

**Sunday10:30 a.m.** Worship in person & Via Zoom [www.zionlutheran-manistique.org](about:blank)

Pastor Tommy Richter [Pastor.TommyRichter@gmail.com](about:blank)

# Contact Us

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435 Oak Street

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[www.zionlutheran-manistique.org](about:blank) or follow us on Facebook.com

**Rev. Tommy Richter, Pastor**

Office: 906-341-5427

Home: 906-286-4383

**Secretary:**

[office@zionlutheran-manistique.org](about:blank)

**Musician:** Linda Levin

**Choir Director:** Rebecca Peterson

**Custodian:** Pat Toennessen

**Congregational Council:** Linda Levin, President Donna Mott, Vice President Cyndee Miske, Secretary Jo-Nell Berger

Ken Groh Ruth Jones Todd Kangas Janet Krueger Peter Mattson

Bonnie Moody Teddy Nelson Rebecca Peterson

Naomi Fletcher, Treasurer

Cyndee Miske, Financial Secretary

*The heavens herald your glory, O God, and the skies display your handiwork. Day after day they tell their story, and night after night they reveal the depth of their understanding. Without speech, without words, without even an audible voice, their cry echoes through all the world, and their message reaches the ends of the earth. For in the heavens the sun has pitched a tent. It comes forth with the grandeur of a wedding procession, with theeagerness of an athlete ready to race. It rises at one end of the sky and travels to the other end, and nothing escapes its warmth.* -Psalm 19

As surely as the sun chases us with its inescapable warmth, God’s love is close on our heels wherever we go. This October I encourage you to tell the story, the one that one day speaks to another, and that is shared nighttime to nighttime. Tell the story of Zion Lutheran Church, and how it has shaped and molded you week to week. Tell the story of how you have seen God at work in this place, and invite your neighbors and your friends to listen. Do not hold back, but head out like a runner to the race to share God’s mercy with reckless abandon.

For that is how the story has first been shared with us, poured out eagerly and with persistent

warmth chasing us across the sky.

This month we will be hearing people’s stories. We’re going to have special temple talks on Sundays focusing on stewardship of that story, and how you can give so that we can continue to tell it. Thank you for your generosity, and for your witness to what God is up to in your lives. If you have a story about Zion Lutheran Church, we’d like to hear it! If you send your stories in to [pastor.tommyrichter@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.tommyrichter@gmail.com)   We might even print them in the weekly bulletin. What has Zion meant to you.

+Pastor Tommy

**Church Office Hours**

The church office will be open Monday through

Thursdays from 9 am to 12 pm. Pastor’s office hours are Wednesdays 9 am-12 pm and Thursdays 9 am-12 pm. If you have questions, concerns at other times, or are in need of pastoral care please contact Pastor Tommy at 906-286-4383.

**Join us for Worship!**

**Saturday 5 pm** Worship is in the parking lot. Tune your

car radio to 100.1FM and join us for Holy Communion.

**Sunday 10:30 am** Worship is a hybrid service. You can join us in person or over Zoom. Holy Communion is served for those joining us in person.

To join Sunday worship over Zoom, go to our church website and click on the pink words “Join our Zoom Worship” under the worship times. Click Open or Open Link in the dialog box that pops up to join the call. If you don’t see a pop-up dialog box, click the blue Launch Meeting button. You can also join by phone.

No computer necessary! Call 929-205-6099 and enter the following ID# 9063415427, Passcode 49854.

Church Attendance Report

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Saturday** | **Sunday** | **Zoom** |
| **Sept. 2/3** | 15 | 39 | 3 |
| **Sept. 9/10** | 8 | 34 | 5 |
| **Sept. 16/17** | 11 | 42 | 6 |
| **Sept. 23/24** | 7 | 44 | 2 |

**Blessing of the Animals**

The Blessing of the Animals will take place on Sunday, October 1st. If you have a large animal or an animal who can’t sit through Sunday morning worship 😊, Pastor will bless animals in the parking lot at 10:00 a.m. Your pet is also welcome to come to the 10:30 service for a blessing.

The Blessing of the Animals, a custom originating in the 13th century, is attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, who held a great sense of care and respect for each creature.

A Blessing of Animals, in many congregations, witnesses to God's and the Church's love, care, and concern for creation. As we recognize our mutual interdependence with God's creatures, the Church's witness of stewardship of creation is strengthened.

**Progressive Dinner**

The Manistique Ministerial Association is sponsoring their annual Progressive Dinner on Sunday, October 22nd. Zion is responsible for preparing the soup portion of the meal.

We need twelve different kinds of soup. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in Augustana Hall.

The Progressive Dinner will begin with appetizers at Cedar Grove Mennonite Church at 4:00 p.m. Course #2 is at 5:00 at Zion with soup, then moving to the First Methodist Church for salad at 5:30. The main entrée will be served at First Baptist at 6:00 with dessert at Church of the Redeemer Presbyterian at 6:45.

**Congregation Council Highlights**

* The treasurer’s report showed an August income of $11,090.35 and expenditures of $12,982.04, for a deficit for the month of $1,891.69.
* Pastor Tommy attended the Fall Theological Conference at Fortune Lake. The third Wednesday of every month he will conduct worship services at Woodland at 2:00 p.m.
* Worship and Music Committee Report – (1) Hymns were chosen for the remainder of the church year. People who submitted lists of favorite hymns should be hearing some of them soon! (2) Blessing of the Animals will be held on Sunday, October 1. (3) Our Christmas Eve service will be at 4:00 p.m.
* Evangelism and Membership Committee Report – (1) The Progressive Dinner will be held on October 22. Our church is responsible for soup.
* Finance and Stewardship Committee Report – (1) The Fall Stewardship Program will begin in October. (2) Preliminary budget planning is being done.
* Property Committee Report – (1) We need people to help with the upkeep of our gardens and landscaping. (2) We are looking for someone to shovel snow this winter.
* Christian Education and Youth Report –

(1) Fall Bible studies have begun.

* Personnel Committee – (1) We are in need of a church secretary. (2) Ken Groh, Kay MacGregor and Pastor Ellie Russey are serving on the Mutual Ministry Committee.

# **Garden/Landscaping Volunteers**

We are looking for volunteers to help with the upkeep of our gardens/landscaping. You can pick your very own spot to tend. Please contact Kay MacGregor, Property Committee Chair, or any Congregation Council member.

**Zion Library**

The Zion Library is located in Augustana Hall. If you haven’t had a chance to visit, check it out! There are books for all ages as well as reference materials and CDs. Thanks to Sheila Clark for her work in organizing and updating the library.

**Christmas Services**

Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year. The Saturday service will celebrate Advent 4 during worship.

The Sunday morning service at 10:30 a.m. will also be celebrating Advent 4. There will be ONE Christmas Eve service at 4:00 p.m.

**Festival of Lessons and Carols**

The Festival of Lessons and Carols will be at St. Francis DeSales Church on December 10 at 3:00 p.m.

If you would like to sing in the mass choir, practices will be held starting Sunday, October 22nd at 1:30 p.m. at Zion. Rebecca Peterson will be directing the Festival choir.

**Backpack Buddies**

The Backpack Buddies program will be distributing food bags on Thursday, October 26. All children, ages 0-18 are eligible to receive food. Please pass the word!

Monetary donations or donations of food are always appreciated and welcomed!

**October Noisy Offering**

The September Noisy Offeringwent to the the Helpful Hotspot at Manistique Middle/High School. A total of $47.40 was collected.

October’s Noisy Offering will go to the Humane Society.

**Manistique High School Glee Club**

The Manistique High School Glee Club will be joining us for worship on Sunday, October 29th. We welcome the students and their families to Zion. Please join us for this festive service!

# **Pray With Us**

If you have someone you would like to be on the

prayer list each weekend, or someone you would simply like Pastor to pray for during the week, please stop by the contact page on the Zion website and fill out a Prayer Request. Pastor Tommy receives all the prayer requests made from the website immediately, and it is the quickest surefire way for you or your loved ones to be included Zion’s prayer life.

# **Email Addresses**

We are collecting email addresses of members. Please

call the church with your email address or send it to

the church at: [office@zionlutheran-manistique.org](about:blank)

Thanks to everyone who has already given us your address!

**Pastoral Visits**

Pastor makes home visits on Thursday afternoons. If you would like a visit from Pastor Tommy or have a friend or relative in need of a pastoral visit, please contact the church office.

**Bible Study**

The Monday Bible study is held on the second and fourth Monday of each month. This year they will be studying the book of Acts.

Sunday morning Bible study focuses on the texts for the week. This group meets at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday, in the conference room.

**Quilting**

The quilters made 154+ quilts this year for Lutheran World Relief. The Joy group members also assembled 50 school kits and the Sarah Circle made 25 health kits. The quilts and kits will be transported to First Lutheran Church in Gladstone on October 14th. Thanks to Naomi Fletcher for transporting the boxes.

Dedication of the Quilts, School Kits and Health Kits will be on October 8th during morning worship.

**Affirmation of Baptism**

On Reformation Sunday. October 29 Michael Lamb and Kristin Lamb will be confirmed.

**Home Communion**

Thank you to Linda Mason and Lila Panek for their faithfulness in delivering communion to those members of our congregation who are homebound, in Medicare and at Woodland.

If someone in your family is unable to attend church and would like to receive communion, please call the church office (906-341-5427).

**Lectors**

**Those Who Serve in October**

October 1 – Jo-Nell Berger

October 8 – Sheila Clark

October 15 - Naomi Fletcher

October 22 - Chris Cartland

October 29 - Kristin Lamb

**Ushers**

Ruth Jones and Linda Levin

**Altar Flowers**

October 1 -

October 8 -

October 15 –

October 22 -

October 29 – Jean Selling and Family

**Bulletin Bread and Wine**

October 1 –

October 8 – Dorothy Brandstrom

October 15 –

October 22 –

October 29 -

**Acolyte**

October 1 -

October 8 - Michael Lamb

October 15 - Kristin Lamb

October 22 - Nicholas Gauthier

October 29 -

**Communion Assistant**

October 1 - Linda Mason

October 8 - Sheila Clark

October 15 - Kim Lamb

October 22 - Julie Gautheir

October 29 – Linda Levin



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Non-Profit

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