



Zion Lutheran Church

435 Oak Street
Manistique, MI 49854
906-341-5427



The Beacon

November 2024 Newsletter

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship in person & Via Zoom

www.zionlutheran-manistique.org

Pastor Tommy Richter

Pastor.TommyRichter@gmail.com

Contact Us

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www.zionlutheran-manistique.org or follow us on
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Rev. Tommy Richter, Pastor

Office: 906-341-5427
Home: 906-286-4383

Secretary:

office@zionlutheran-manistique.org

Musician: Linda Levin

Choir Director: Rebecca Peterson

Custodian: Tina's Cleaning Services

Congregational Council:

Ken Groh, President
Todd Kangas, Vice President
Cyndee Miske, Secretary
Jo-Nell Berger
Gayle Cartland
Ruth Jones
Linda Levin
Bonnie Moody
Donna Mott
Teddy Nelson
Kathy Peterson
Larry Peterson

Naomi Fletcher, Treasurer
Cyndee Miske, Financial Secretary

November Office Hours

The church office will be open Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 12 pm. **If you have questions, concerns or are in need of pastoral care please contact Pastor Tommy at 906-341-5427 or 906-286-4383.**

Join us for Worship!

Saturday 5 pm Worship in the Sanctuary

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.

2024-2025 Offering envelopes are available for pick up in the Narthex.

Affirmation of Baptism and Newly Baptized

On October 27th Grace Mason affirmed her baptism when she was confirmed and Addyson Nelson and Shelynn Nelson were welcomed as new members of Zion through their baptism. Congratulations and Welcome!

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And God will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; God will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of God's people God will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for God, so that God might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation. -Isaiah 25:6-9

Our word for Halloween shares an etymological root with the same word we pray all the time in the Lord's prayer when we pray "hallowed be thy name." You can even see it when you write them together: hallowed Halloween. Despite—or perhaps even more astutely because of—its association with the macabre, fright and death, Halloween is a time of blessedness and a holy evening. A hallow is properly a saint, which belongs to the feast of hallows or as we call it now, All Saint's Day on November 1st. All Saints Day (All Hallows Day) has a lot in common with Christmas, in that like Christmas it gets celebrated in our culture more vivaciously on the eve before, and our celebrations of both holidays include many pagan influences alongside Christian ones. So the classic stop-motion film *Nightmare Before Christmas* was not so zany in its thinking about combining the two holidays as the plot lets on. The two festivals really do have a lot in common! And it's not just because it's two times of the year that my kids get candy. Whatever its origins, be it purely in the traditions that

grew out of the actions of two different Catholic popes: Pope Boniface IV rededicating the Pantheon to "Saint Mary and all martyrs" in 609, and Pope Gregory III expanding an existing festival of the martyr's day to extend to all the saints sometime around the year 732, or be it borrowing heavily from Germanic and Celtic pagans who commemorated the dead at the beginning of winter, All Hallows Day (and it's eve Halloween) is today a good time to confront our own mortality and to honor the great cloud of witnesses which preceded us, and daily surrounds us. We can take comfort in the presence of all saints, past and present, and say "what beautiful costumes!" handing out candy with the best of them. Many protestants shy away from both of the possible origin stories for Halloween (Too catholic! Too pagan!). In fact, fright from these spooky costumes of Catholicism and paganism is one of the principal reasons the Holiday isn't celebrated in England today, and a lot of its cultural trappings have instead fallen to Guy Fawkes day on November 5th. But as American Lutherans today, we have a particularly good witness and reason to celebrate the season. We should not be afraid of Catholics nor Germanic-Scottish pagans, and we should not at all be ashamed of communing with their traditions. Whether we like to admit it or not, we do so regularly at other times of the year, and so why should we stop now? Where do you think communion comes from? It definitely isn't a protestant invention. And we certainly don't shy away from that as a feast worth celebrating. The particular witness we take as Lutherans to All Saints day is: we really put the all back into "All Saints." In the Catholic sense of the day, the saints really are only the dead, and among them only a select few who have been particularly

honored and revered and canonized as holy enough for us to remember them. But not only do Lutherans find Saints among the living, (in addition to among the dead who accompany us in that great cloud of witnesses) we also find saints in ALL people. Because we believe, it is not about what you do, accomplish, nor think that makes one hallowed. But instead, hallowed-ness must come from God, and God does not hold back from giving it abundantly everywhere. It is the work of the Holy Spirit, who does as Her name states, and makes us all holy. So that in faith, every person is same time sinner and saint. Same time spooky and hallowed. It is not just for the good god-fearing Jews for whom Isaiah speaks the promise "God will destroy the shroud cast over us, and swallow up death forever." It is for all nations and all peoples that God's salvation is at work. Death comes for us all, and so does God's mercy. Happy Halloween!

-Pastor Tommy.

Our 2025 Pledge Drive is underway!!

This pledge drive has been an annual event at Zion, and last year, 2024, our Congregation responded to the appeal. As a result, pledge giving increased by over 5%.

These efforts on your part are greatly appreciated and very helpful to to the cause.

However, we are continuing to experiencing serious financial problems. We are dealing with these financial problems as best as we can, but they are continuing and they are persistent.

Please give every consideration to our request.

If you have not been pledging in the past, please think about pledging in 2025. If it is possible to increase your pledge for 2025, please do so.

The pledge drive concludes on November 18th, 2024.

Our church is at a financial crossroads today, and we are all praying for the future of Zion Lutheran Church in Manistique, MI. Any help or assistance that you can give will be sincerely appreciated. Thank You.

Finance and Stewardship Committee

JoNell Berger

Ken Groh

Todd Kangas

Cyndee Miske

Larry Peterson

Pastor Tommy

Zion Quilters

The Zion Quilter's meet each Monday beginning at 9:15 a.m.

The ladies made 240 quilts. There was also 52 school kits and 28 health kits shipped on October 19th. Thank you to Chris and Gayle Cartland for taking the quilts and kits to First Lutheran, Gladstone. Everyone is invited to join the quilting group.

Women's Circles

If you are interested in joining one of our women's circles for Bible study, work projects and fun, please contact the church office or the following group leaders for more information:

Sarah Circle – Elizabeth Macklem

Joy Circle – Bonnie Groh

Hope Circle – Sheila Clark or Julie Gauthier

The **Sarah Circle** will meet on Monday, October 7 at 1:00 p.m. in Augustana Hall.

The **Joy Circle** will meet on Thursday, October 10 at 10:00 a.m. in Augustana Hall.

Bible Study

Monday night Bible Study is held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. in Augustana Hall. The Creeds of the church will be studied.

Christ in Our Home

Christ in Our Home devotional books are available for the fourth quarter. You will find them on the table in the narthex.

Congregation Council Highlights

Church Attendance Report

	Saturday	Sunday	Zoom
October 5/6	10	36	2
October 12/13	10	47	4
October 19/20	10	50	3
October 26/27			

Coffee Hours

Thank you to our October coffee hour hosts: the Evangelism Committee, the Quilters, and the Joy Circle. There are opportunities for you to host a coffee hour in November. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Augustana Hall.

Noisy Offering

The October Noisy offering of \$79.21 went to the Eva Burrell Animal Shelter.

The November Noisy Offering will go to the Manistique Ministerial Association.

Backpack Buddies

The Backpack Buddies program will distribute food bags on November 21 from 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. in Zion's parking lot. All children, ages 1-18 are eligible for the program.

Memorials

Gifts to our congregation in September/October have been given in memory of:

Doris Johnson

Lila Panek

Doris Ribblet

Randy & Cindy Olli

Carol Peterson

Gauthier/Peterson Families

Progressive Dinner

The Manistique Ministerial Association Progressive Dinner that was held on October 20th was a great success! At Zion there was about 100 that showed up for soup. \$695.00 was collected for MMA and that money will go to help those in need from the community. Thank you to all who provided soup and those who attended

Thanksgiving Baskets

We will once again be filling 6 baskets for Thanksgiving. Look for the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in Augustana Hall. All items need to be to the church on or before Sunday, November 24th.

On October 27th we celebrated the Confirmation of **Grace Mason** and the Baptism of **Addyson Nelson and Shelynn Nelson**. Grace is the daughter Andrew Mason and Heather Chambers and the granddaughter of Linda Mason. Addyson and Shelynn are the daughters of Shianne Nelson and the great granddaughters of Teddy Nelson. Cake and coffee was served following worship in their honor.



Do you want to be a part of the 59th Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols? Choral vocalists (sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses) are

needed for the community ecumenical choir. Rehearsals began on Sunday, October 27 from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at the Church of the Redeemer Presbyterian, 314 Main Street and continue every Sunday through November 24. You must also be available for a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 7 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Francis DeSales Church. The Festival will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Francis DeSales Church.

Community Thanksgiving

The Community Thanksgiving Worship will be Tuesday November 26th 7:00 pm at Zion. Immediately following worship there will be a pie social. Please consider bringing a pie to share. There will be a Free Will Offering taken to benefit the Manistique Ministerial Association.



Those Who Serve in November

Lector

November 3 – Gloria McGuire
November 10 – Linda Mason
November 17 - Bonnie Groh
November 24 – Ken Groh

Ushers – Gayle Cartland & Ken Groh

Altar Flowers

November 3 – Shirley Leitgeb
November 10 – Jo-Nell Berger & Janet Krueger
November 17 -
November 24 -

Bulletin, Bread and Wine

November 3 -
November 10 -
November 17 -
November 24 – Fred and Laurie Nauman

Acolyte

October 6 -
November 10 - Michael Lamb
November 17 - Kristin Lamb
November 24 - Nicholas Gauthier

Communion Assistant

November 3 – Linda Mason
November 10 – Sheila Clark
November 17 - Kim Lamb
November 24 – Julie Gauthier

