



Zion Lutheran Church

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



The Beacon

May 2026 Newsletter

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

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Worship in person & Via Zoom

www.zionlutheran-manistique.org

Reverend James Duehring-Interim Administrative Pastor

Contact Us

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

Rev. James Duehring-Interim Administrative Pastor

Personal: 906-251-0247

Email: homegrownpackerbacker@gmail.com

Secretary:

office@zionlutheran-manistique.org

Musician: Linda Levin

Congregational Council:

President Gayle Cartland

Vice President Todd Kangas

Council Secretary Cyndee Miske

Ken Groh

Ruth Jones

Patrick Lamb

Jo-Nell Berger

Donna Mott

Teddy Nelson

Kathy Peterson

Mike Jarski

John Barry

Naomi Fletcher, Secretary/Treasurer

Cyndee Miske, Financial Secretary

Office Hours

NEW SPRING HOURS

Normal office hours are now Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 – 12:00 noon. The office will be **CLOSED** on Tuesday and Friday. Office hours are now included on the Calendar enclosed in each month's newsletter. Please call ahead to make sure office is open due to scheduling conflicts. **If you have questions, concerns or are in need of pastoral care please contact Pastor Duehring at 906-251-0247.**

Join us for Worship!

Saturday 5 pm Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday 11:00 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 1-305-2241968 and enter the following ID# **95619440999**, Passcode 49854.

Presiding Ministers

Subject to Change

May 2-3	Pastor James Duehring
May 9-10	Pastor Sharolyn Swenson
May 16-27	Pastor James Duehring
May 23-24	Pastor Eleanor Russey
May 30-31	Pastor James Duehring

From the Pastor



Pastor's Ponderings

Take and eat! Take and drink! As a young confirmand growing up, my pastor gave me a definition of a sacrament that I still can recite from memory: "A sacrament is a rite that the church performs; that Christ commanded the church to perform, that uses an earthly element in connection with the Word of God; and bestows a special blessing not obtained anywhere else."

Based on this definition, we in the Lutheran church recognize 2 sacraments: Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

One could view Holy Baptism as an entrance or welcome into the Christian faith and becoming a child of God, while Holy Communion could be viewed as the sacrament helping sustain, strengthen, and remember that relationship as a child of God.

In his Small Catechism, Martin Luther cited three special blessings being received in Holy Communion: 1) forgiveness of sins 2) life 3) salvation

Who among us would not wish to receive such amazing gifts?

In the Road to Emmaus story which was read on the 3rd Sunday of Easter, we hear that the two men recognized the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread. They discerned something special there. And they remembered!

While a theological degree is not required to be worthy of receiving Holy Communion—Luther declared that faith alone was the requisite—there is scriptural admonition to the value of "discerning the body of Christ in this sacramental meal." (I Corinthians 11:29)

Faith around Holy Communion involves trusting/discerning that Christ is truly present in both the bread and wine of Holy Communion. But, faith also discerns that the Body of Christ is present in the gathered community of faith who with open hands receive Christ's body and Christ's blood alongside other Christians. Those around us matter for they

are our neighbor, and Christ loves them too!

We do well to see this sacrament as having a “vertical fellowship” with God, and also a “horizontal fellowship” with others. I certainly can receive the sacrament by myself, but even then, the community of Christ—the church—is present to bless me and remind me that I’m not alone!

On May 17, we will celebrate the First Communion of Bryce Lindroth. Bryce and his parents have been taking Holy Communion instruction with me in preparation for this special day. We pray a special blessing on Bryce as he receives his First Communion and travels down that road of faith in which Christ is present in such an amazing and specific way in the sacrament of Holy Communion. Thanks be to God!

-Pastor Jim

Church Bell Tower



On the morning of February 17th and into the early morning of the 18th, a windstorm caused damage to the south side of our belltower. Our insurance company was contacted and a claim was filed.

The estimated cost for repair is \$6,318.66. That amount is less than our deductible, and therefore the claim was denied. The repair work must be done and we will be responsible for the total cost of the repair.

The Church Council is making arrangements to have this work done as soon as possible. A situation like this is unanticipated, unbudgeted, and unfortunate. Could you help with the cost of this repair project?

We are asking that you please consider making a donation to the repair of the wind damage of the bell tower. Any consideration you can give to this request would be greatly appreciated.

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 – Ruth Jones

Joy Circle – Bonnie Groh

Hope Circle – Sheila Clark or Julie Gauthier

The Joy Circle meets May 14, 2026 at 10:00 am with a Pot Luck Luncheon. Next meeting is in September.



Men and Food

Our meeting this month will be held Saturday, **May 16** at 10:00 am. Breakfast will be served! Sheila Clark will introduce us to Wyman Nursery and all they have to offer our community. We

are hoping for a good attendance, so be sure to sign up on the sheet in Augustana Hall.

Transition Team Invitation

We would like to invite you to join us on **Sunday, May 10th, 2026 @ 11:00 am** where Rev. Sharolyn Swenson, Assistant to the Bishop, Zion's Transition team and Church Council will be introducing Part One of the next event "Discerning God's Future" which will be held during coffee hour in Augustana Hall. Rev Sharolyn Swenson will be leading our regular Sunday service and afterwards kick off our event in Augustana hall. She will also explain the Congregational Vitality Survey that will be going out to Zion members to complete. Sandwiches, cheese and crackers and Mother's Day cake will be served.

This is the first of a 4 part series to help our congregation write our Ministry Site Profile (MSP) which will communicate to future pastors who we are and what God has called us to do. This conversation will

be led by our Transition Team and Church Council covering topics such as:

1. Would our neighbors miss us if we were gone?
2. Where are the points of neighborhood ministry?
3. Whom or what has the ministry befriended?
4. How “rare” is the word of God in the neighboring community?
5. Whom does this congregation minister?

This event is a necessary part of our “transition” to finding a new Pastor. These conversations will be shared with Rev. Sharolyn Swenson, Assistant to the Bishop and with Bishop Katherine Finegan. We really hope to see you; your presence and voice at this event are very important!

Backpack Buddies



Monetary donations or donations of food are always needed! **Your donations would help more as local resources dwindle for our low-income families with children in Schoolcraft County under age 18.**

Dates for the year:

May 28, 2026

Resumes on August 27



April Noisy Offering

March's Noisy Offering to CBC was \$182.46.

The April Noisy Offering was \$179.30 and given to Answer the Call- a fund to assist Seminarian Students. May's Noisy Offering will go to Backpack Buddies. The Noisy Offering is collected on the third weekend of each month.

Church Attendance Report

	Wed/Th u	Saturday	Sunday	Zoom
March 21-22		8	51	5
March 25	19			
March 28-29		6	48	0
April 2	8			
April 3- Comm GF	71			
April 3-GF	11			
April 4-5		13	61	7
April 11-12		10	46	7
April 18-19		10	47	6
April 25-26		13	44	3

Home Communion



If someone in your family is unable to attend church and would like to receive communion, please call the church office (906-341-5427). Thank you to Lila Panek and Linda Mason who provide this ministry to our members.

Sign-Up Sheets

Sign-up sheets for Altar flowers, Bulletin, Bread & Wine, Coffee Hours and offering Counters have been posted for 2026. You will find the sheets on the bulletin board in Augustana Hall.



Altar Flowers



Due to the generosity of our members, we will be ordering flowers for the Altar each week. Flowers will be automatically delivered. If you have signed up for flowers, a \$35 donation to the Floral Fund is requested, and you will not have to contact the florist unless you have specific requests.



Memorial Donations

We thank the following for their memorial contributions:

In memory of Jeanne Gunderson:

Tom and Carla Flodin-Memorial Fund

Donna Gauthier-Bell Tower Repair

Joan Girke, Lori and Gloria Haindl-Memorial Fund

Henry and Mary Weber-Memorial Fund

Dan and Kathy McDonough-Church Improvement



First Communion

Recognition of 1st Communion for Bryce Lindroth will be May 17 during worship



May Scripture

May 3—Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

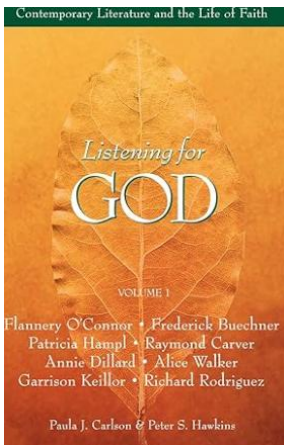
May 10—Acts 17:22-31, Psalm 66:8-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

May 17—Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68: 1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11, John 17:1-11

May 24—Pentecost Sunday: Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13, John 20:19-23

May 31—Holy Trinity Sunday: Genesis 1:1-2:4a, Psalm 8, 2 Corinthians 13:11-13, Matthew 28:16-30

Book Study Listening for God



Gayle Cartland will be leading a Book Study on the title “Listening for God-Volume 1”.

Please join us Monday May 11th and May 25th, at 6:00 pm

Listening for God is a resource intended to help readers investigate how life and faith merge in surprising ways and places. The authors lead a tour through contemporary American literature to show how God is discovered in unpredictable locations.

Call Gayle at 906-235-2469 or email her at gcartland@charter.net. If you'd like to join.

SNEAK PEAK!!!!-UPDATE



Pies for Pentecost is schedule for **June 7** during Coffee Hour!!!! Think about your favorite pie to share and one to auction for World Hunger and Backpack Buddies!!!!



National Day of Prayer

This year's National Day of Prayer will be held on May 7 at 5:30 pm at the 1st Baptist Church's Pavilion and will be led by Pastor Nathaniel Erickson. This year's theme is Glorify God among the Nations.



May 5th is National Awareness Day of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Relatives.

Native people, especially women, go missing and/or are murdered at an alarming rate--on some reservations, ten times the national average. These disappearances and murders are often linked to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and the longstanding effects of colonization on Native people. We recognize that all are equally beloved children of God and devote ourselves anew to the work of healing through love, compassion, and advocacy.

To learn more about ways our Northern Great Lakes Synod is seeking to educate ourselves about our Indigenous Neighbors go

to: www.nglsynod.org/walkingwithourindigenousneighbors



Our 2026 Graduates

Join us May 17 for Baccalaureate Sunday during our regular service to honor these members of our church:

Natalie Gauthier



She was baptized, attended Sunday School, and was confirmed at Zion, where she has been an active and dedicated member of her church community. She played an instrumental role in launching the “Hot Spot,” managing everything from initial planning and organization to the final setup. Her commitment to service extends beyond her church, as she also teaches Sunday School at a local

congregation. In addition to her involvement in the community, she successfully balances her academic responsibilities while working at Tiffani’s Restaurant. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, as well as caring for her German Shepherd puppy. After graduation, she plans to enter the workforce.

Grace Mason



I wanted to take a moment to share a little about my high school journey and plans for the future. My high school experience was a bit different than most. I spent the first two years attending school in person and then my last two years completing my education online. During that time online, I worked hard and was able to earn A’s and B’s, which I’m really proud of. Switching to online school wasn’t

always easy, but it helped me grow in discipline and

responsibility. One of the most meaningful parts of high school for me was the friendships I made. I created many true friendships that mean so much to me, and I know they will always be an important part of my life. I enjoy hanging out with friends, babysitting, swimming, traveling and going on adventures. Even though I didn't participate in many clubs or sports, I chose to focus on my grades and my future, which I believe helped guide me to where I am now. Finishing my last two years online also gave me the opportunity to complete school a few months early. This allowed me to start working sooner, which has been a great experience and has helped me begin preparing for my future. After graduation, I plan to attend Bay College to study radiology. While I complete my college education, I plan to stay in Manistique and continue working. Looking ahead, I'm not completely sure where I want to travel far after finishing college or stay here in the Upper Peninsula, but I'm open to wherever God leads me. Thank you for your support and encouragement as I continue this next chapter in my life.

Baccalaureate Service

The Class of 2026 will receive friends and family at the annual Baccalaureate Service **May 17th at 6:00 pm.** Please join us at the Manistique High School Frederickson Auditorium to congratulate and honor these Senior Graduates during a non-denominational religious service sponsored by the Manistique Ara Kiwanis Club.

Flowers for Pentecost



Geraniums may again be ordered for Pentecost at \$6.00 per plant. Orders need to be in by May 5 to assure on-time delivery from Chenier's Greenhouse. Order forms are in the weekly bulletins, or you may call or email the office to order.

Those Who Serve in April

Lector

May 3-Jo-Nell Berger
May 10-Cyndee Miske
May 17-Jenny Gauthier
May 24-Linda Levin
May 31-Kathy Peterson

Ushers

Kathy Peterson and Jo-Nell Berger

Altar Flowers

May 3-
May 10-Naomi Fletcher in memory of Mother
May 17-Cindy Nelson in memory of John Nelson
May 24
May 31-Dan and Kathy McDonough in honor of our 46th
anniversary and children and grandchildren

Bulletin Bread and Wine

May 3-
May 10-Naomi Fletcher in honor of Mother's Day
May 17-Lois Bentley in memory of Ronald Bentley
May 24-Dorothy Brandstrom
May 31-Kathy and Dan McDonough in memory of
Parents and Family

Acolyte

May 3-
May 10
May 17-Kristen Lamb
May 24-Nicholas Gauthier
May 31

Communion Assistant

May 3 – Linda Mason
May 10– Sheila Clark
May 17-Kim Lamb
May 24- Julie Gauthier
May 31-Linda Levin

Counters

Kathy Peterson and Jo-Nell Berger



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