



# Zion Lutheran Church

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



## The Beacon

### August 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](http://www.zionlutheran-manistique.org)

Reverend James Duehring-Interim Administrative Pastor

## Contact Us

Zion Lutheran Church

435 Oak Street

Manistique, MI 49854

906-341-5427

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

### **Rev. James Duehring-Interim Administrative Pastor**

Personal: 906-251-0247

Email: [homegrownpackerbacker@gmail.com](mailto:homegrownpackerbacker@gmail.com)

### **Secretary:**

[office@zionlutheran-manistique.org](mailto: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 SUMMER HOURS

Normal office hours are now Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 – 12:00 noon. The office will be **CLOSED** on Monday, 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

**Aug 1**

**Aug 2**

Pastor James Duehring

**Summer Church-Rapid River**

**NO SERVICE AT ZION**

**Aug 8/9**

**Aug 15/16**

**Aug 22/23**

**August 29/30**

Bishop Emeritus Tom Skrenes

Pastor James Duehring

Pastor James Duehring

Pastor Eleanor Russey

*From the  
Pastor's  
Desk*



## Pastor Jim's Ponderings for August

*"I save myself from cynicism by knowing individuals and knowing them intimately. If I viewed humanity only from some distant and high perspective, I could not save myself from misanthropy."*

*Reinhold Niebuhr, Leaves from the Notebook of a Tamed Cynic, Harper & Row, 1980 ed., p. 94*

I love this quote from Niebuhr. It was from a required reading book in my seminary. I still have a copy of that book all marked up. I often return to Niebuhr's statement about cynicism. Niebuhr was a pastor. A little background on Reinhold Niebuhr...

Niebuhr lived from 1892 to 1971. He was an ethicist, theologian, and pastor. Pastors are just as susceptible to cynicism as anyone. He was ordained in 1915 and spent 13 years serving a tiny parish in industrial Detroit. And, of course, World War I happened during his pastorate. His father was a pastor born in Germany, but Reinhold was born in Missouri. The German Evangelical Mission Board sent him to pastor in Detroit. He helped grow that congregation from 66 souls to over 700. He witnessed so many social and economic changes and challenges in Detroit. The challenges of a parish pastor in that setting were many. He saw people at their best and also at their worst.

His little book, Leaves from the Notebook of a Tamed Cynic, is really a journal of his experiences as a pastor. In 1920 he wrote, "I am really beginning to like the ministry". (p. 27) He recounted a parishioner talking to him about appreciating his sermon on forgiveness, and Niebuhr more fully understood the power of the preached word.

It was in 1926 that we find an entry with the quote above about "cynicism". Niebuhr would also write that same year, "Men are clearly not very lovely in the mass." (p. 95)

With the constant noise of news and social media, along with

the struggles we see in our communities and families, it is easy to feel there is little hope for the broken humanity we share. As Lutherans and students of the Apostle Paul, we can agree that... "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

Niebuhr found hope in seeing people as individuals, not as some group with a label attached to them. Yes, there remains an ever-present lust for power and wealth, but there is also a tenderness in seeing a person sacrifice for their family or friend. When you feel overwhelmed by the wickedness of the world, I suggest that you go visit a friend or call up a family member and simply check in and say that you care. It won't directly stop all wars, but it will plant a seed of humanity and hope back into a cynical of heart.

The same Apostle Paul who wrote that "all have sinned", would also write in his Epistle to the Philippians 4:8-9: *"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup> As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you."* (NRSVUE)

-Pastor Jim

### **Important Information on our Prayer List at Zion**

We welcome having names of people on our Prayer List. It is a beautiful thing when we pray for others! The pastor includes those names during the time of Intercessory Prayer. We will continue that pattern with some modification. The name of a person can be added to the prayer list at any time. You could contact the pastor or write it down on that small sheet of paper found in your bulletin. Normally we will keep that person's name on the list for one month. Many times, the prayer request is about an acute situation or status which changes or is resolved. After about one month, we will remove a person's name from the Prayer List unless a request is made to keep the person's name on the list.

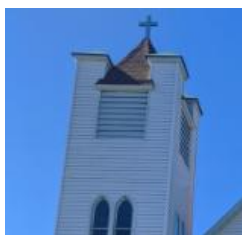
I hope you understand the rationale behind this modification as

we see that a prayer list could naturally keep expanding. And, remember, you are always free to "Speak" a name out loud during that Intercessory Prayer time when the pastor prompts, "For whom else do we pray?" It is then you may speak a name out loud or in the silence of your hearts. God hears no matter what!

If you have any questions about our Prayer List, please speak with Pastor Jim.

Thanks, and keep on praying!

## Church Bell Tower-Update



This project is scheduled to be completed in late July or early August. In excess of \$3,000 has been raised for this project, and we are grateful for that! We do remain somewhat short of our goal, and additional contributions

would be greatly appreciated! Thank you for your consideration.

## Parking Lot Update



The Parking Lot is in the process of re-surfacing at the printing of this newsletter. Stop by and have a look at the progress!



## God's Work, Our Hands

Efforts are being made to re-start the Highway Pickup Project. The area that Zion will be responsible for has

changed from US-2 to an area near the intersection of M-149 and County Road 442. The next pick-up is scheduled for September 12th at Zion at 10:00 am. This will be an excellent opportunity to volunteer and help clean up our

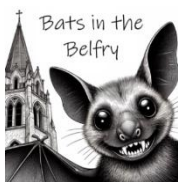
beautiful area. We will need help! Watch for a sign-up sheet in Augustana Hall. More information in future weekly bulletins and this newsletter.



## **From the President's Notebook:**

### **Church Pictorial Directory:**

We are starting to build a pictorial directory again. This will be a good tool for us and the person who becomes our next Pastor. Please check the compiled address list in the fellowship hall. Make changes/additions/deletions to your information. We would also like you to send in your favorite current picture of you or your family to our church e-mail at [office@zionlutheran-manistique.org](mailto:office@zionlutheran-manistique.org). A photo-shoot is being arranged for September if you are unable to provide your own photos.



### **The Bats in the Belfry Challenge:**

We have a challenge from the “folks who don't live here but left part of their hearts at Zion” Shirley L., Larry and Rebecca and Harry M. visited a couple of weeks ago and checked out our damaged belltower. They are challenging us to match their \$50 donation to cover the repair.



THE  
TRANSITION  
TEAM

## Transition Team

The transition team has had Congregational Vitality surveys sent to your e-mails. Please fill these out and send them in. If you need a paper copy, they will be available at church. This feedback is important to help the team and the synod move forward with this process. Paper copies should be returned to church.



## Memorial Donations

### To the Memorial Fund:

\*From Mary Ellen Debelak and Jody Sue Henseer in memory of Jeanne Gunderson

\*From Donna Gauthier in memory of John Gauthier

\*From Lila Panek, Karen and Ernie Graham, Donna Gauthier and Karl and Angela Levin, Richard & Shirley Howden, Lynn, Stella and Phil Broullire, Brenda & Wayne Fleck, Jean Curran, Becky Anderson, James Curran, Cindy & Gary Kayser, John & Christine Quick, Melinda Asp & Jeff Orr, Jim and Kathy Creighton, Lois Bentley, Karen Nygard, David and Rebecca Parker in memory of Betty DeSautel

### To the Quilter's Fund:

\*From Dorothy Branstrom, Tom and Carla Flodin, Laura and William Provost in memory of Betty DeSautel

### To the Endowment Fund:

\*From Thomas Broullire in memory of Betty DeSautel

### To the Bell Tower Restoration:

\*From Jennifer Creighton and Doris Ribblet in memory of Betty DeSautel

### To Fortune Lake Camp

\*From Don and Nancy Anderson in memory of Jeanne



Gunderson

**To Backpack Buddies**

\*From Kathy Peterson in memory of Carole Hare

**Church Attendance Report**

|            | Saturday | Sunday | Zoom |
|------------|----------|--------|------|
| June 27/28 | 6        | 41     | 4    |
| July 4/5   | 9        | 47     | 3    |
| July 11/12 | 11       | 53     | 2    |
| July 18/19 | 8        | 40     | 3    |

**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 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 10:00 am and is on hiatus through the summer. Next meeting is September 10 at 10:00 am.**



**Men and Food**

Men and Food will be back in September. Our Men's Group got off to a successful start last winter and spring and we are looking forward to starting up this year on **Saturday-September 19!**

Sheila Clark, representing Wyman Nursery, will be providing the program. She will join us for brunch at 10:00 am. After that, she will be giving us a tour of the Wyman Nursery

Facility. Mark that date, and plan to attend. Watch for the sign-up sheet in Augustana Hall! More information will be forthcoming either in the Weekly Bulletins or this Newsletter.

## 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 under age 18 in Schoolcraft County.**

August 27, 2026

September 24, 2026

October 22, 2026

November 19, 2026 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday)

December 17, 2026 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday)

January 28, 2027

February 25, 2027

March 25, 2027

April 22, 2027

May 27, 2027

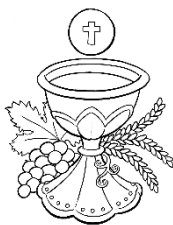


## July Noisy Offering

July's Noisy Offering to Beacon House was \$135.41. August's Noisy Offering will go to Habitat for Humanity. The Noisy

Offering is collected on the third weekend of each month.

## 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.

**Sign Up**



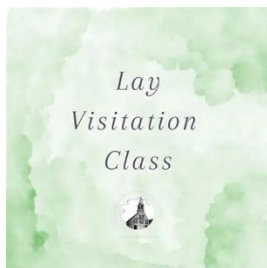
## Altar Flowers



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.

## Do you enjoy talking to people and being a listening and caring presence?

Pastor Jim would like to offer a Lay Visitation Class for you. What would be involved?



1. You would receive a couple of trainings and orientations with Pastor Jim
  2. We would devise a plan on how to implement your lay visits
- We already have a couple of Zion members doing Eucharist Ministry by delivering Home Communion to our

shut-ins and people in nursing homes. This Lay Visitation Team would likely be separate from a Eucharistic Ministry. You may simply wish to do visitation without bringing along the "Holy Communion kits", or you may wish to do both. Pastor Jim is willing to offer training for both.

Prayerfully consider how God might be calling you to participate on a Lay Visitation Team. Contact Pastor Jim sometime this summer. Plans are to have these classes sometime this fall.

God bless you!

Pastor Jim Duehring 906-251-0247

[homegrownpackerbacker@gmail.com](mailto:homegrownpackerbacker@gmail.com)

## Lifelong Faith Formation Classes



Register now for one or more of these Lifelong Faith Formation Zoom classes offered by the Northern Great Lakes Synod. For more details go to:

[www.nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation](http://www.nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation)

### **1. The Church's Role in a Divided Society: Public Deliberative**

**Dialog Instructor:** Rev. Sharolyn Swenson, Assistant to the Bishop, Director of Evangelical Missions, Northern Great Lakes Synod Zoom curated space with Rev. J. Michael Mills, Faith-Bethany Lutheran Partnership, Ishpeming, MI. One Session Thursday, September 24, 2026 6:30-8:30 pm Eastern / 5:30-7:30 pm Central

**2. Encountering God in the Modern Middle East Instructor:** Todd Holmstrom Retired diplomat who served a number of tours in the Middle East. Four Classes: Mondays - September 21, 28, and October 5, 12, 7:00-8:00 pm Eastern / 6:00-7:00 pm Central

### **3. Lutheranism 101: Lens, God's Grace, and Essentials**

Instructors: Bishop Katherine Finegan, Northern Great Lakes Synod Rev. J. Michael Mills, Faith-Bethany Lutheran Partnership, Ishpeming, MI. Rev. Tim Johnston, Bethel-Trinity Lutheran Partnership, Ishpeming, MI. Three Classes held at 7:00-8:00 pm Eastern / 6:00-7:00 pm Central Thursday, October 26,

Wednesdays, November 4 and 11 Thursday, October 29

#### **4. The Pollinator Garden Check back for class date and time!**

Recognizing pollinators are endangered by a loss of habitat, join our class as we explore the purpose and process of creating a pollinator plot at church or your own yard. The class will be led by members of the NE MN Synod Pollinator Plot Steering Committee and Good Shepherd, Peshtigo, WI

#### **5. The Prophets: Their Voice, Context, and Significance**

Instructor: Rev. Philip Johnson Four Classes: Tuesdays, October 20, 27, and November 3, 10 7:00-8:15 pm Eastern, 6:00-7:15 pm Central

**6. Walking through Mark: Preparing for Year B** Instructor: Rev. Nicole Hanson-Lynn Nine Classes Sundays, September 20 – November 15 7:00-8:00 pm Eastern, 6:00-7:00 pm Central

## **Word of the Day**

### **Recur**

re·cur /rə'kər/

**Verb: to happen again and again**

*"He is a benefactor of mankind who contracts the great rules of life into short sentences, that may be easily impressed on the memory, and so **recur** habitually to the mind."*

- Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

## **August Scripture**

**August 2:** Isaiah 55:1-5, Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21, Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21

**August 9:** 1 Kings 19:9-18, Psalm 85:8-13, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-23

**August 16:** Isaiah 56:1, 6-8, Psalm 67, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

**August 23:** Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

**August 30:** Jeremiah 15:15-21, Psalm 26:1-8, Romans 12:9-12, Matthew 16:21-28



## **Stories That Still Speak**

*A 5-Session Class on the Parables of Jesus*

*With Pastor Jim*

**Jesus often taught through simple stories with deep spiritual meaning. Join us as we explore several of the unforgettable parables and discover how they reveal God's kingdom, grace, mercy, forgiveness, and faithful living today.**

We will discuss these parables:

The Good Samaritan

The Sower and Seed

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

The Prodigal Son

The Talents

Sessions will be selective Thursdays at noon & most Saturdays at 3:30pm

Session #1 September 17 and **Sun** Sept 20 – 9:30 am

Session #2 October 1/3

Session #3 October 29/31

Session #4 November 5/7

Session #5 November 12/14

Pastor Jim will provide discussion materials. Simply bring your bibles and a curious mind!

# Summer Worship & Picnic

Masonville Township Recreation Area. Rapid River

**Sunday**  
**August 2, 2026**  
**10:30 am Worship**  
**Picnic to Follow**

## **Please Bring:**

Family & Friends  
Lawn Chair  
A Small Rock from Home  
Summer Dish to Share

## **Provided:**

Main Dish:  
Hot Dogs & Hamburgers  
Beverages  
Place Settings



## **Gathered Lutheran Congregations:**

Bethany in Perkins, Calvary in Rapid River,  
Christ the King in Escanaba, Faith in Rock,  
Trinity in Stonington, and Zion in Manistique.

**ease note, there will be no Sunday Service August 2 at Zion. If you are unable to attend the Summer Worship in Rapid River, please consider Saturday worship at Zion at 5:00 pm**

# **Those Who Serve in August**

## **Lector**

Aug 2-Service in Rapid River

Aug 9-Julie Gauthier

Aug 16-Kaye Jarski

Aug 23-Julie Gauthier

Aug 30-Kristin Lamb

## **Ushers**

Mike Jarski and Pat Lamb

## **Altar Flowers**

Aug 2-

Aug 9-

Aug 16-

Aug 23-

Aug 30

## **Bulletin Bread and Wine**

Aug 2-

Aug 9- Mike & Kaye Jarski

Aug 16-Deb Middleton

Aug 23- Mike & Kaye Jarski

Aug 30 Mike & Kaye Jarski

## **Acolyte**

Aug 2-

Aug 9-

Aug 16-Kristen Lamb

Aug 23-Nicholas Gauthier

Aug 30

## **Communion Assistant**

Aug 2 – Linda Mason

Aug 9– Sheila Clark

Aug 16-Kim Lamb

Aug 23- Julie Gauthier

Aug 30-Linda Levin

## **Counters**

Kaye Jarski

Sheila Clark (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday ONLY)





Join members of Zion Lutheran Church **August 16** immediately following worship for our annual Picnic in the Park at the Lindsley Frenette Pines Park next to the Manistique Airport.

Bring a dish to pass, extra individually wrapped desserts, and your friends and neighbors for a gathering of food and fellowship. Hot Dogs on the BarBQue will be provided.

Extra desserts will be donated to the World Thirst table at the UP State Fair.

Donations from the Picnic will benefit World Hunger and Backpack Buddies.

See you there!!!

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