



Zion Lutheran Church

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



The Beacon

September 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

Zion Lutheran Church
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www.zionlutheran-manistique.org or follow us on
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
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Vice President	Todd Kangas
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Council Secretary	Cyndee Miske
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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

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

Sept 5/6

Pastor Eleanor Russey

Sept 12/13

Pastor James Duehring

Sept 19/20

Pastor James Duehring

Sept 26/27

Pastor Eleanor Russey



Pastor Jim's Ponderings for September

"Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:16-20)

There are several commands of Jesus in the Gospels: love your neighbor as yourself; give to Caesar what is Caesar's; pick up your cross and follow me. The conclusion of Matthew's Gospel features two commands: baptize and teach.

We are pretty good at baptizing. We know how to do that. We gather together God's people and use water and invoke the Trinity. Sometimes we forget about the follow up. Teaching infants and adults about the faith is critical. The potential to learn never stops. I encourage, not only our youth, but our adults, to take seriously the call to grow in your faith through further learning. We offer opportunities for faith growth to everyone here at Zion Lutheran. As we enter the month of September, I encourage you to plug in somewhere and grow in your faith.

Pastor's Class on the Parables of Jesus: Session #1 Begins Thursday, September 17 at noon with a repeat session on Sunday, September 20 at 9:30am. See full schedule in newsletter and on our bulletin board.

First Communion Classes: Pastor Jim will offer a First

Communion class to any interested youth. The age of discretion is up to the parents. Don't hesitate to ask me about this!

Confirmation Classes: Pastor Jim will offer a plan of instruction to any interested youth. Typically, a youth confirms their faith around the 8th or 9th grade, but their may be other options. Please contact Pastor Jim if you have questions about confirmation.

Northern Great Lake Synod Lifelong Faith Formation.

Online classes this fall include: The Church's Role in a Divided Society; Public Deliberative Dialog; Encountering God in the Modern Middle East; Lutheranism 101: Lens, God's Grace, and Essentials; The Pollinator Garden; The Prophets: Their Voice, Context, and Significance; Walking through Mark: Preparing for Year B.

For more information and to register go to

<https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation>

You certainly can grow in your faith through personal devotions.

We have a variety of devotional resources in our narthex and church library. Parents can find a variety of online resources for their family at www.vibrantfaith.org. So, I challenge you to grow in your faith. Faith is about life-long learning. You'll be surprised where this might take you. If you have any questions or suggestions about our faith growth opportunities at Zion Lutheran, contact Pastor Jim.

-Pastor Jim



Lifting our Lives

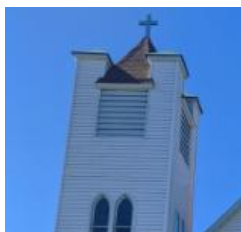
Recently, the Church Council approved the purchase of a stairlift to be installed on the north wall stairway in the Narthex. This will make it much

easier for people to get up and down from the Narthex to the Church and back. The stairlift will be

installed in mid- to late September.

The Church Council is please to be able to provide this service for people that can benefit from it and we look forward to the installation. The stairlift was purchased for \$7,151 including shipping and installation. If you are interested in making a donation to help defray the cost of the stairlift, it would be greatly appreciated! Thank you for your consideration.

Church Bell Tower-Update



This project is still to be scheduled due to contractor availability. Will Barker will be leading this project. 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 done!!! Come by and take a look!



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 26th 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! There is a sign-up sheet in Augustana Hall.

Landscaping Cleanup



The Church landscaping needs some TLC. There will be a work-bee **Saturday-September 12** beginning at 10:00 am to clean up and trim bushes and eliminate unwanted weeds

around the entire grounds. Bring your gardening tools and have some fun!! Hope to see you here.

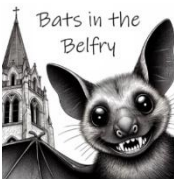


From the President's Notebook:

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. Please contact Gayle Cartland to set up dates/times to have your picture taken if you are unable to provide one.

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.

Council Report-July 21st

Council actions in July included:

- Voted to donate \$500 to Fortune Lake
- Transition Team will have a draft Ministry Site Profile ready for August meeting
- Adopt a Highway cleanup will be Saturday-Sept 19. Meet at church at 10:00.
- Church Picnic at Pines Park August 16.
- Discussed welcome packets for visiting/new members
- Waiting for siding to finish Bell Tower. Will Barker will assist with this project.
- Parking Lot work to begin July 22
- Keinonen Tree Service approved to trim trees around back of parking lot once project is complete
- Pastor to start Parable Classes in September.
- Hicks family to be requested to assist in cleanup on the side of the church
- Looking into possibility of chair lift from Augustana Hall to Sanctuary.
- Next meeting August 18 at 6:00 pm



Memorial Donations

To the Memorial Fund:

*From Kathy Redd in memory of Betty DeSautel

To the Quilter's Fund:

*Todd Tilton in memory of Betty DeSautel

To the Endowment Fund:

*From Linda Levin in memory of Betty DeSautel

*From Linda Levin in memory of Jeanne Gundersen

*From Linda Levin in memory of Pastor Jim's mother in law

To Backpack Buddies

*From Kathy Redd in memory of Carol Peterson Hare

To Joy Circle and General Fund

*The estate of Marlys Foster

Church Attendance Report

	Saturday	Sunday	Zoom
Aug 1-2	18	17	0
Aug 8-9	17	50	6
Aug 15-16	15	55	3
Aug 22-23	13	36	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 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. Next meeting is September 10 at 10:00 am.



Men and Food

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. This promises to be an excellent program! Mark that date, and plan to attend. The sign-up sheet is posted in Augustana Hall.

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.**

September 24, 2026

October 22, 2026

November 19, 2026 (3rd Thursday)

December 17, 2026 (3rd Thursday)

January 28, 2027

February 25, 2027

March 25, 2027

April 22, 2027

May 27, 2027

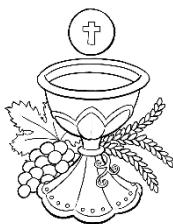


August Noisy Offering

August's Noisy Offering to Habitat for Humanity was \$135.31. September's Noisy Offering will go to Helpful Hotspot-

Emerald Elementary. 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. Lila will be retiring from her Lay

Ministry this month. Thank you for your many years of service to our Lord.

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?

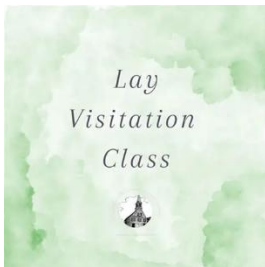
1. You would receive a couple of trainings and orientations with Pastor Jim

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

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

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



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!

September Scripture

Sept 6-Ezekiel 33:7-11, Psalm 119:33-40, Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20

Sept 13-Genesis 50:15-21, Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13, Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35

Sept 20-Jonah 3:10-4:11, Psalm 145:1-8, Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16

Sept 27-Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32, Psalm 25:1-9, Philippians 2:1-13, Matthew 21:23-32

Word of the Day

Never

nev·er /'nevər/

Adverb

1. absolutely not; in no way

"A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new."

- Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

2. not at any time, not ever

"Never get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life."

- Dolly Parton (1946 - 2026) RIP

Those Who Serve in September

Lector

Sept 6-Jo-Nell Berger
Sept 13-Elise Calhoon
Sept 20-Lynda Jones
Sept 27-Lynda Jones

Ushers

Kathy Peterson and Jo-Nell Berger

Altar Flowers

Sept 5
Sept 13
Sept 20
Sept 27

Bulletin Bread and Wine

Sept 6
Sept 13
Sept 20
Sept 27

Acolyte

Sept 6
Sept 13
Sept 20-Kristen Lamb
Sept 27-Nicholas Gauthier

Communion Assistant

Sept 6 – Linda Mason
Sept 13– Sheila Clark
Sept 20-Kim Lamb
Sept 27- Julie Gauthier

Counters

Kathy Peterson
Jo-Nell Berger

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