



Zion St. John

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Being the Body of Christ

October 2024 Vol. 30 No. 10
Pentecost/ Reformation



Come and Celebrate being Lutheran!

Wear RED!

Sunday October 27, 2024, 9 am

OUR VISION STATEMENT

At Zion St. John Lutheran Church, we are committed to being the body of Christ until He returns. Led by the Holy Spirit and gathered around God's Word and Sacraments, we join in worship, fellowship, learning, spiritual nurture, outreach, and service, as we grow in faith and invite others to experience Christ's presence.



For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the results of works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2: 8-9

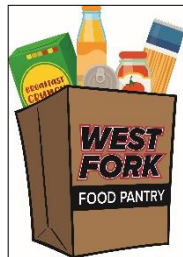
If Lutherans had a history month it would definitely be the month of October. Because Luther, inspired by these two verses from Ephesians and other verses from Romans, found a gracious God, changing his life and the lives of countless others. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted a document called the 95 Theses, on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. This document contained issues he had with the Roman Catholic Church. Among them was the selling of indulgences, literally the selling of salvation. Money was needed to build St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome, so the Pope authorized the selling of plenary indulgences. If you bought one, (they weren't cheap!), it said no matter what sins you committed, those sins would be forgiven and you would obtain entrance into heaven. Sins up to and including murder! Martin Luther took exception to this. Salvation is not for sale. It is a free gift from God. And no Pope, or pastor decides who is given entrance to heaven. It is Jesus Christ, who is seated at the right hand of the Father, who will come again to judge the living and the dead.



According to Wikipedia, there are over 800 million Protestant Christians in our world today. They belong to many denominations, but their roots go back to Luther's bold move. This movement would never have caught fire if not for the recent invention of new technology, the moveable type printing press. This allowed the 95 Theses to be copied and carried all over Germany and beyond. When I attended Wartburg Seminary at Dubuque, there is a German saying carved into the limestone of Luther Hall. The English translation is, "God's Word and Luther's teachings stand now and forevermore!" Join with me in celebrating our rich heritage during October, Lutheran History month!

God's Blessings to You,
Pastor Kim

Thursdays,
Oct 3, 10, 17, 25
2-5 pm



Saturday, Oct 5
10 am-noon

We continue to see increasing numbers of families large and small at the pantry. If you can help, we are very appreciative for all donations of money, personal hygiene items, garden produce, perishable and non-perishable food items. We are especially in need of personal care items, peanut butter, pasta sauce and soup. You can place items in the cart in the Narthex or in the drop box on the front of the pantry building @ 106 Gilman.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Here is a look at our finances as of August 31, 2024:

Budgeted Income	\$148,980
Offerings Received	\$122,403
Current Deficit	\$ 26,487
Total Expenses	\$137,534
Checking Balance	\$ -1,640



Last month our deficit rose over \$7,000 and our checking account balance dropped by almost the exact same amount. We have not had to borrow money from savings to this point, but if this continues we will need to. We also now have a part time Director of Youth and Family Ministry who will work 20 hours per week. Please check your pledged amount and give whatever you can. Thank you for your faithful giving!

RIVERSIDE GOLF



The twentieth annual Riverside Fall Golf Classic was on Fri, Sept. 27 at Ames Golf & Country Club! We had two foursomes competing and both did very well! Cliff C, Tom S, Brad M, & Rick S finished the day @ -10, good enough for a 2nd place finish in the 1st flight! And the team of Don G, John M, Angie and Ben R finished -7 and Ben had the longest drive of the day for the men! What an awesome day!!!

SUNDAY OCT 27
9 AM



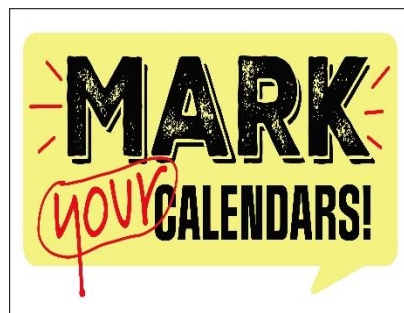
REFORMATION
Wear Red!



My name is Lucky. Pam H raised me since I was a kitty. I'm 7 years old and I miss her terribly since her fatal accident on August 21st. Once I trust you, I am very lovable and sweet but I'm kind of scared right now. I am an indoor pet and have been declawed. I am current on my vaccinations. I'm very healthy but do require a special diet food. I haven't been around dogs and I like being the only cat. I just want a nice home and someone to love me! I have been neutered, and am a tan, domestic long hair. Contact Awesome Paws Boarding, 641-430-3494, if you are interested in adopting me.

**October 13th,
after worship (about 10 am).**

Join us on Oct 13, 10 am, for the Women of ZSJ Heat 'n' Eat fundraiser! Come and find your favorite home cooked casseroles and entrees in a range of serving sizes! Proceeds go to new kitchen countertops



**Advent by
Candlelight
Sunday, December 1**

**Holiday Food Fair
Sunday, December 8**

**SS Christmas Program
Sunday, December 15
4 pm**

GROTTO TRIP

The NEIA women are taking a field trip to the West Bend Grotto, Algona POW museum and nativity scene on Saturday, October 19. We will leave ZSJ @ 8 am to carpool to West Bend. Entrance fees are \$20 and lunch is on your own, at the Wagon Wheel. If you want to join the ZSJ group, let Diane know by October Sunday Oct 13.



LION'S BREAKFAST



Join the Sheffield Lion's club at their Pancake Dinner on Sunday, October 20, 11 am– 1 pm @ the West Fork HS. The menu includes pancakes, sausage, biscuits and gravy, cinnamon rolls, milk, juice and coffee. A great way to share a delicious meal and support the Lions with a free will offering! All proceeds are for scholarships.

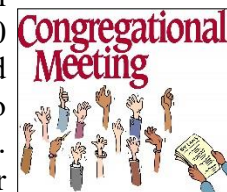


BRIDGE OF HOPE

Bridge of Hope is sponsoring the Night in a Car on Saturday, October 19, 5 PM-Midnight at Hampton Church of Christ, 811 4th St NE This is a homelessness simulation that shines a spotlight on the hidden aspect of homelessness that many families experience-living in their cars. The church will be open for restroom breaks and warm drinks. Pre-registration is required – \$50 PER CAR, and forms must be signed by ALL participants or parent/guardian, if under 18 years old. Registration and waiver forms and the \$50 fee are due by October 14. Return to Bridge of Hope, PO Box 623, Hampton IA 50441 or drop off at First Bank Hampton.

CONGREGATIONAL SPECIAL MEETING

On Sunday, September 22, the congregation met to determine the next steps in the repair of the 150 year old church bell. After much discussion and review of possible costs, the congregation voted to keep the bell here and not send it to Ohio for repairs. Don G and Lance L will attempt to do some minor repairs to ensure the proper function and safety of the bell, before returning it to the tower. Thank you to all who contributed to the fundraiser! The extra funds received will be saved for any future issues in regard to the bell.



Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

CALL TO ORDER: Alice Greimann called the General Meeting of the Zion St. John Women of the ELCA to order on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. There were five women present.

MINUTES: Minutes from the September 2023 General Meeting were previously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank yous were received from Connie L and Riverside.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The corrected June statement was reviewed and placed on file. As of August 31, there is a checking balance of \$1,527.51, and savings balance of \$2,738.88, of which \$186.72 are designated funds. The funeral cash donations balance as of August 31 is \$494.75. The report was placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS:

- * Quilting started again on September 4th.
- * Additional upcoming dates include:
Heat & Eat fundraiser-Oct 20th.
Care Center birthday party-Oct 21.
Confirmation, October 27th.

NEW BUSINESS:

- * The new slate of officers for 2024-2025 is Kim M – 1 year co-chair; still working to find a 2-year co-chair; Diane W- treasurer; Pam M- secretary. Motion to approve the slate as presented, Marlene S; second, Pam; carried.
- * Diane presented the 2024 budget and 2025 Christmas gift list. Motion to approve the budget, Marlene; second, Kim; carried. Motion to approve the Christmas gift list, Pam; second, Kim; carried.
- * The Heat and Eat fundraiser will be held after church on October 20. The proceeds will go towards replacing the kitchen countertops.
- * The Holiday Food Fair will again be held on a Sunday in December. The proceeds will be split with 50% going toward replacing the kitchen countertops, and 50% to give to Pastor to be used to help those who call the church requesting help with gas.
- * Advent by Candlelight is still being considered.
- * Pennies for Poverty will be donated to Wings of Refuge.
- * There will not be a synodical women's gathering this summer, but there will be some activities throughout the year. The first one will be an outing on October 19, to the Grotto in West Bend and the Algona POW Museum and POW Nativity Scene. There are plans to carpool from the church for those who are interested.
- * Projects that would be nice to have done before the 150th anniversary

were discussed, including a thorough brass cleaning, and new silk flowers to replace the current altar bouquets.

- * Alice adjourned the meeting at 7:00. Diane led the Bible study followed the meeting. The Bible study will be available to view online on Tuesday, September 10.

Secretary, Pam M

Rebekah Circle

Mon, Oct 7 @ 6 pm

Recording

Available by 10 am

Tues, Oct 8



150 YEARS: WALKING WITH CHRIST

Jesus Christ, the same, yesterday, today and forever.

Hebrews 13:8

Celebrations:

- ⇒ February 2, Missionfest, celebrating our Hands of Service.
- ⇒ May 4, a concert, celebrating the Harmonies of the years
- ⇒ August 3, outdoor worship and picnic, celebrating our Homes
- ⇒ November 2, Finale All-Saints Worship, celebrating our Hearts

Our commissioned hymn is now complete and will be introduced in the next few months.

Also needed:

- ◆ Share a devotional <https://forms.gle/xQQnPjdDSc6KmcxAA>
- ◆ Written or verbal family stories
- ◆ Offer suggestions for events using the idea box in the Narthex
- ◆ St John Confirmation pictures from 1909, 1910, 1912, 1914, 1916, & 1941 & Zion Confirmation picture from 1915

Our next committee meeting will be Sunday Oct 20, 10:30 am.

The meeting was called to order at 10:31 a.m., Sunday September 8, 2024, by Council President, Jim B. Members present, Jim and Vickie B, John L, Gene S, Judy S,

Nancy R, Al N, Daren M and Pastor Wills; Members absent, Scott S; Guests, Lance L, Scott C.

Pastor's Report

- * Funerals performed- Wednesday, August 28, Pam H, @ ZSJ
- * Funerals scheduled- Friday, September 20, Cora R, Our Saviors, MC
- * Preparing for Fall Programming
- * Working to fill the vacant Director of Youth & Family Ministries
- * Providing In home Communion to those who request it.
- * Cindy Hemm has volunteered to direct Chancel Choir. Motion to approve, Eugene; second, Daren; carried.
- * Discussion held regarding Pastor's benefits. Pastor is going to do some more research.
- * Pastor has seen an increase in the number of requests for traveler assistance. Pastor currently fills the person's gas tank up to \$50. Council encouraged pastor to meet with Sheffield Police Department and other churches in the area to see what they are doing. Council agreed that Pastor could go ahead and continue with his current process in the meantime.
- * Katy Flint, county auditor, asked if ZSJ could be used as an alternative emergency election site. After discussion, council agrees that the church could be used as an alternative emergency election site. Gene Sheriff also recommended that the West Fork Food Pantry could be used as well.

Secretary's Report- Motion to approve the report, Gene; second, John Latham; carried.

Treasurer's Report- The report shows a short for August expenses. Last two weeks have been good offerings.

Committee Reports

Parish Education – Nancy, Al – will meet within the next month.

Property – Gene, Jim, Al

Bell Report by Lance

- * Costs already incurred: Tuck pointing - \$1,500; Removal of bell - \$1,500; Return bell to tower - \$1,500.
- * Possible costs from Verdin Bell Company

Clapper rebuild, \$4,600

New bell wheel, \$3,200

New A-frame, \$3,200

Trip charge, \$3,000 each way Bearings and pulleys may need to be fixed

- * Options – Lance does not feel that we need a new bell wheel or a new A-frame. Fred Retz has volunteered to transport the bell.
- 1. Fix the clapper + trip charges, \$10,600. We could try to tighten the bolts that hold the bell to the yoke and put the bell back up.
- 2. We could do nothing and return the bell to the tower.
- 3. We could buy a different bell (a quick Google search by Daren revealed a used bell in the \$150,000 range and a new bell in the \$300,000 range).
- * The motion passed at the congregational meeting stated that the bell would be removed, the tuck pointing completed, and then another meeting would be held to determine what steps would be taken.
- * Congregational meeting scheduled for Sunday, September 22nd following worship. Pastor will send out emails to notify the congregation.

Stewardship – Jim, Daren – Nothing to report

Technology – Gene, Scott

Camera Update by Scott Conlon

- * The cost to update cameras used for Livestreaming would be approximately \$2,600.
- * One camera has already been donated.
- * Two cameras were utilized today with improvement in the Livestream.
- * Scott would like to see one camera to be used in the balcony and one camera placed next to the altar on the lectern side. Discussion about if the altar would be an appropriate place for the camera.
- * Scott suggested doing a trial of putting the camera on a tripod to see how it works and what the congregation says prior to running the wires.

Worship & Evangelism – Judy (Oct), Vickie (Nov), Daren (Dec)

Youth and Family – John, Daren

- * Will start JAM in October.
- * Confirmation starts Wednesday.
9th grade students have all their memory work done. Working on finishing up their projects and papers.

150th Anniversary – Nancy, Al

- * Nancy updated the council on the approximate costs of the activities and projects for the anniversary year.
- * Council will vote at the October meeting on which projects they feel that the church should undertake for 150th Anniversary.

Old Business

- * Funeral table – Judy has found a table that will work well.
- * Cemetery vandalism – a bronze marker was stolen from a grave at the cemetery. The family just wanted the church to be aware. It did not appear that anything else was missing from the cemetery.
- * Air conditioner – Pastor will be meeting with Murphy’s to discuss the functionality of air conditioners. Pastor feels that it may be related to the placement of the air conditioner outside, as the problems only occur with that air conditioner that is in the sun and not protected. The other two air conditioners do not appear to have the same problems.
- * Diane’s office chair – Diane will try the one in the Jericho room. If that doesn’t work for her, a motion to purchase a new office chair, Daren; second, John L; carried.
- * Boiler – Passed inspection. Pastor will place a carbon monoxide detector in the boiler room. The relief test must now be done twice a month instead of monthly.

New Business

- * Youth Director-Motion for Pastor to offer the position to Leah at \$19.00/ hour, 20 hours per week, with a 6-month evaluation, and pending a background check, John; second, Gene; carries.
- * 2025 budget meeting to be held at the end of the next council meeting on November 10th.
- * Money counters- Sept – Gene & Scott; Oct– Nancy & Judy
- * Next council meeting is Sunday, October 13th
- * Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:00, Judy; second, John; carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy R, Secretary

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



9:00 am Worship
(Livestream @ www.zionstjohn.org , Livestream)
10:15 am Sunday School & Fellowship

PRAYER LIST



In order to keep Pastor Kim informed and our prayer list accurate, please let the church office or Pastor know if you are in the hospital or are anticipating hospitalization. You call him directly @ 641-425-9453. Family members are also welcome to call.

Cindy R	Sarah P	Maddie P
Ray R	Steve H	Kay R
Christy M	Louise K	Pat H
Patty B	Carolyn R	Jon S
Marcy M	Keely S	Sue K
Doris M	Crystal B	Drew H
Steve K	Sawyer A	Cheryl R
Dusty M	Doug D	Dean D

- * The family of Bill N
- * The family of Mavis S
- * The family of Cora R
- * The family of Betty H

- 2 Pat H, Junior N
- 4 Alex S, Ethan S
- 6 Dawn H
- 7 Kevin B, Deb H
- 9 Brody S
- 11 Joel E
- 12 Vicki M, Brett N
- 14 Sydney K
- 15 Roger M, Collin M, Lindy M, Logan P
Brandy H
- 16 Lillian E, Travis S, Noah S, Jill K
- 17 Josh S, Nikki S
- 18 Carol L
- 22 Lauren D, Bailey S
- 23 Pat M
- 24 Lori H
- 25 Lance L
- 28 Jim E
- 30 Barb K, Dave S, Jordan S
- 31 Collin S



STAFF OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

G Kim Wills, Pastor	641-425-9453 pastor@zionstjohn.org 9am-3pm, T-F
Leah Cruz, DYFM	641-373-7015 youth@zionstjohn.org
Church Office	641-892-4010 mail@zionstjohn.org 9am-12pm, M-F

