The TIDINGS

Zion Lutheran Church

VOLUME 86 | October 2026 | Number 510

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" – 2 Corinthians 5:17

Dear Friends in Christ,

There is something beautiful about this time of year. The mornings grow a little cooler. The green leaves begin to change into brilliant shades of yellow, orange, and red.

We often think of change as something we would rather avoid. But autumn reminds us that change can also be beautiful.

God has created our world with seasons, especially prevelant in the Midwest and the changing seasons are a reminder that God is continually doing something new among us.

The same is true in the life of the church. As we move into October, we are entering a different season of ministry at Zion. Summer's Long days and adventures, give way to the familiar busyness of fall. The School year starts, Sunday school brings more kids to church, we watch a little more Football on the weekend and before we know it, we will be preparing for Trunk-or-Treat and Operation Christmas Child.

Each of these ministries looks different. Some involve teaching and learning. Others are about gathering people together, having fun, or simply making someone's day a little brighter. But underneath all of them is the same calling: **to love Jesus, grow in faith, and serve our neighbors.**

I especially love the way these ministries remind us that the church is not just something we do on Sunday mornings. The church is a community of people who live out God's love throughout the week.

Confirmation gives our young people space to ask questions, wrestle with their faith, and discover what it really means to follow Jesus as an ELCA Lutheran.

Trunk-or-Treat gives us an opportunity to open our doors (Trunks), welcome our neighbors, and create a place where children and families can experience the joy of community.

Operation Christmas Child allows us to reach beyond our own community and remind children around the world that they are seen, loved, and remembered.

Different ministries. Different people. Different seasons. One God, working through all of it. So as you drive around and notice the changing colors this October, I encourage you to pause for a moment. Notice the beauty. Give thanks for the God. And perhaps let the changing leaves remind you that God is also at work in the changing seasons of our own lives and our life together as a congregation.

We don't always know exactly what the next season will bring. But we know who walks with us into it. Remember this always.

As the leaves change, may the changes within us still look like growth in faith, service our neighbors, and discover new ways to experience and share the love of Jesus.

Blessed autumn, Zion!
In God's Grip of Grace ><>
Pastor Joe

Contact Information

Pastor	Joe Iverson	608-865-0203
President	Carmen Nuland	608-582-4327
Vice President	David Erickson	608-534-7461
Secretary	Betty Crawford	507-450-6590
Financial Secretary	Marilyn Braunreiter	608-484-2481
Treasurer	Sheryl Arms	608-582-4376
Membership and Shepherding	Kathy Meunier	608-780-3242
Outreach/ Social Concerns	Jennifer Seiling	608-865-0190
Property and Grounds	Dave Nuland	608-582-4327
Music and Worship	Beth Meunier	608-484-1310
Youth Ministry & Education	Kristy Braunreiter	608-386-4394

Funeral Policy Update: Technology Use During Service

Families wishing to use audio, video, slideshows, or other technology during the funeral are responsible for providing a family member or designated individual to operate the equipment during the service. To ensure everything functions properly, all media and equipment must be tested in the worship space prior to the day of the funeral. Families should schedule a time with church staff for a sound and video test run before the service.

Political Activities & Use of Church Facilities Policy Update:

To ensure that the Church's facilities are used in a manner consistent with its religious mission, values, and applicable law, the following policy is adopted:

Political Campaigns and Partisan Events

Church facilities, property, and grounds shall not be used to host, sponsor, or provide meeting space for political candidates, elected officials acting in a campaign or partisan capacity, political parties, political action committees (PACs), campaign organizations, or other partisan political groups for the purpose of campaigning, fundraising, organizing, endorsing, or promoting a political candidate, political party, or ballot measure.

The Church will not permit its facilities to be used for events that could reasonably be interpreted as supporting or opposing any candidate for public office, political party, or partisan political organization. This restriction applies equally to all political viewpoints, parties, candidates, and organizations.

No individual or organization renting or using Church facilities may advertise or represent that the Church endorses, sponsors, or is affiliated with any political candidate, elected official, political party, campaign, or partisan political organization.

The Church reserves the right to deny or revoke facility use if an event, meeting, or activity is determined to conflict with this policy or with the Church's mission, governing documents, or applicable law.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit sermons, religious teaching, prayer, or discussion of public issues from a biblical or faith-based perspective, nor does it prohibit lawful, nonpartisan educational or civic activities that have been expressly approved by Church leadership and are consistent with the Church's mission.

Approved by council 7/21/2026

Holmen Area Food Pantry Update:

-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

-Open Tuesdays & Fridays from 9:00am -11:00am.

-Non-perishable food items, meat, and fresh fruit and vegetables to those in need. There are no geographical restrictions. All are welcome!

-If you have questions or would like more information, contact us at holmenfoodpantry@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Therese Frana, Operations Director

September Reports

Attendance & Giving Reports

Sunday September 6	**65 people**
Sunday September 6	**62 People**
Sunday September 6	**62 People**
Sunday September 6	**NA**

Please include in your prayers those of our Zion family who reside in extended care facilities in the area.

- Anna Marie Brudos
- Carol Fratzke
- Janice Engen
- Larry Jacobs

QUILT RAFFLE:

Our quilt is being raffled off! Proceedings are ongoing. Tickets available in the Office!

We officially have the raffle license through June 2027. Contact the office or Nancy Goller for more information!

Operation Christmas Child

We are looking for more volunteers to assist with organizing, packing boxes, and loading the truck this year.

Please contact **Lori N** at **(608) 865-0630** to find ways to support this ministry! **Financial donations are always welcome.**

Monthly Financial Report:

As a response to requests for a more current financial picture, the monthly budget, offerings and expenses will be published in Tidings. Following are the totals for **August** plus year to date. In **August**, we spent less than was budgeted, and expenses were more than offering income. Please keep this information prayerfully in mind as you make your offerings.

	August	**Year to date**
Offerings	$12,361	$120,931
Dale Trust	$0	$11,034
Other Receipts	$594	$7,914
Budget	$21,251	$170,008
Actual expenses	$16,996	$150,182

Expenses this year at the end of August are $10,303 more than receipts.

Additional Reports & Updates:

The following memorials were received for April, May, and June 2026

IMO/IHO	GIVEN BY
IHO Confirmands	Nancy Hovell
IHO Jazzy Olson Graduation	Russell & Betty Glomstad
IMO Ardelle Williamson	Barb Longwell, Dan Baer, Daniel & Sue Ekern, Gary & Lois Halverson Gordon Hoff, Harrry & Louise Janke, Jane Johnson, Jerald & Jackie Joanis Jim & Kathy Filkowski, Karen Benrud, Ron & Karen Weltzien Todd & Carol Johnson, Wayne & Kathy Meunier, Non-members
IMO Bob Lakey	Berniece Crogran, John & Sue Breitung, Nancy Hovell
IMO Ceil Nastvold	Eileen Trim, LaVon Manchuk, Mary Lou Poss
IMO Dan & Gwen Hanson	Paul & Paige Hanson
IMO Donna Parkhurst	Jerald & Jackie Joanis, Lori Meinking, Rev & Mrs. Parkhurst Ronald & Patricia Johnson, Non-member
IMO Len Splett	LaVon Manchuk
IMO Mary Engelien	LaVon Manchuk
IMO Perry Trim	John & Sue Breitung, LaVerne & Linda Dale

FUND	AMOUNT
DRIVEWAY PROJECT	$715
UNDESIGNATED MEMORIAL	$3,070
IMPROVEMENT FUND	$1,090
ELEVATOR FUND	$2,275
OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD	$40
ORGAN FUND	$50
TOTAL	$7,240

W-ELCA Workings — September Report

We began with Isaiah 1-6, where we learned we must be obedient with the heart, not merely with rituals. Although we acknowledged that rituals have a place in reminding us of our faith and how it came about.

The king-size quilt raffle is on-going. October 10 our quilts and kits (both adult and children), for which people generously donated, will be taken to Good Shepherd for shipment where they will go on to the needy of the world.

Thank you hostesses Arlene Seversen and Lois Kaste for a delicious apple cake!

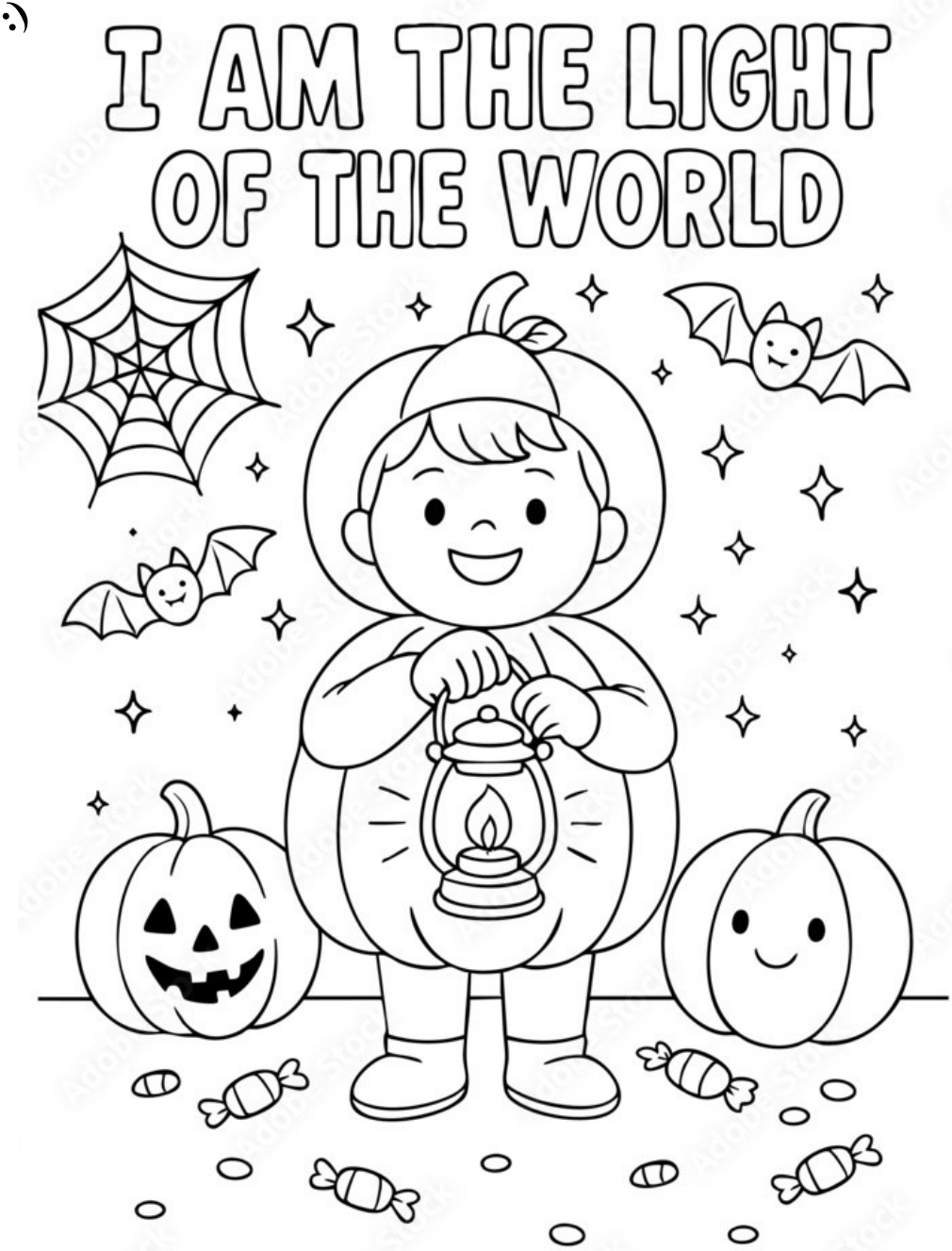
W-ELCA meets on the third Thursday of the month at 1:00pm in the Fireside Lounge for a bible study and/or meeting! No meetings in January or July.

All women of Zion are welcome!

Helpers Needed:
Anyone interested in sewing fabric together for quilt tops, materials provided by from Zion, please contact the Zion Office!

Children & Family Ministries

Color me! :)



"Be Strong and Courageous for the Lord is with you wherever you go"

-Joshua 1:9

Sunday School Overview:

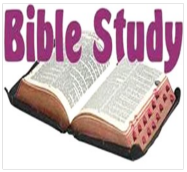
- Children will be dismissed for class during worship after the Children's Sermon and will return to the Sanctuary by Communion
- Children are encouraged to utilize the Prayground area before and after Sunday School!
- Kristy Braunreiter is serving as our Sunday school teacher and has AMAZING lessons in store!

All are welcome to join for Sunday School!

If you would like to volunteer as a Sunday School assistant, please contact the office or Kristy Braunreiter to get plugged in!

October Bulletin Board

Join us in the Fireside Room following Sunday worship service for Bible Study at 10 a.m.



Women of the ELCA

W-ELCA Bible Study October 15th; 1:00pm Fireside Lounge

Monthly WIC Clinics at Zion

Fireside Lounge — all day!

October 8th
November 12th December 10th

October Noisy Offering

Each week, we will take time for a noisy offering to raise money for **Trunk-or-Treat**

Fall is Here!

-Confirmation resumes: October 7th; *5:15-7:00pm*

-Confest: October 21st; 5:30-8:30 at Journey Lutheran

-Family Fun at Zion:
Jesus at the movies!
Trunk-or-Treat, Parents Night Out, and more!

Trunk-or-Treat

10/31/26, 4-7pm

We hope you will join us for a family-friendly night of Spooky Fun at Zion Lutheran!

-Halloween Movies -Dinner and snacks
-Kid's activities -Trunk-or-Treating

Volunteers Needed!
Sign-up sheets in the narthex. We need candy and food donations and ***TRUNK HOSTS*** to make this joyful event extra fun.

Cash donations are always welcome.

NEW! Bible Study in October!

Max Lucado "*Before Amen*"

Weekly bible study and video series with discussion time afterwards

Thursdays at 10am
(Oct 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd)

Sessions will be about an hour long.

Call the church office if you still want to participate. This study is for everyone, whether you are a person devoted to daily prayer or you don't know where to begin! We are inviting anyone who wants to join!

You are encouraged to bring a bible and to arrive promptly as we will begin with the video lessons in the sanctuary.

Wreaths across America

Zion will not be donating to "Wreaths across America" this year. If anyone wishes to participant individually, please place your donation in a Zion envelope and designate for "Wreaths across America".

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday!

Kyle Seiling	10/5
Bonnie Jacobs	10/7
James Nelson	10/8
Steve Putz	10/12
Sheryl Arms	10/14
Jolene Buelow	10/15
Karen Benrud	10/16
Easton Roush	10/17
Colin Stenberg	10/17
David Dornquast	10/18
Gregory Gartner	10/21
Travis McCutchen	10/24
David Nastvold	10/24
Keith Braunreiter	10/27
Shawn Senn	10/27
Amanda Dale	10/28
Ruth Hovre	10/30

Happy Anniversary

Eric & Tina Moen
October 7th

Jeffrey & Tammy Paulus
October 8th

Kurt & Robin Thesing
October 14th

Michael & Kelly Oslie
October 26th

Duane & Julie Evanson
October 29th

Did we forget someone?
If you do not see your birthday or anniversary date in the Tidings, please contact the church office so we can update our records.
Thank you.

Zion Lutheran Congregation Council Minutes August 18th, 2026

Present: Carmen Nuland, **President**; Betty Crawford, **Secretary**; Dave Nuland, **Property and Grounds**; Sheryl Arms**, Treasurer**; Marilyn Braunreiter, **Financial Secretary**; Kathy Meunier, **Membership and Shepherding**; Kristy Braunreiter, **Youth and Education**; Beth Meunier, **Music and Worship**; Jennifer Seiling, **Outreach and Social Concerns**

Absent: Pastor Joe Iverson; Jennifer Seiling, **Outreach and Social Concerns;** Dave Erickson, **Vice President**;

The meeting was called to order by President Carmen Nuland at 6:32 p.m. Devotion and prayer were led by President Carmen Nuland.

A motion was made by Dave Nuland to approve the July Council Meeting minutes. This was seconded and passed.

A motion was made by Kathy Meunier to approve the July Treasurer's report. This was seconded and passed.

Old Business:

Noisy Offering for September: The Noisy Offering for September will go to the W-ELCA kits.

"Reserved" signs: The reserved signs for the pews have been purchased. They are stored in the front pew.

Zion Lutheran Congregation Council Minutes Continued

New Business:

Worship in the Park: There will be a joint worship with the Presbyterian Church on August 30, 2026 at 9:30 p.m. in the park. The Zion Council member will facilitate this event.

MOPs: Kathy Meunier made a motion that the partnership with MOPs will be dissolved. This was seconded and passed.

Information and Reports:

Pastor Joe: Vacation Bible School went well. There were 120 kids attending. Pastor provided visits to two members of the congregation. His full report is on file.

Outreach and Social Concerns: There will be a School Supply Drive for our local district. The Middle School has unmet needs for personal school supplies.

Property and Grounds: Dave Nuland is addressing the problems with the smoke alarms and the concern with the sump pump.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

A motion was made by Kristy Braunreiter to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded and passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Betty Crawford, Secretary

Update from the September Council Meeting:

Zion will not be donating to "Wreaths Across America" this year. If anyone wishes to participate individually, please place your donation in a Zion envelope and designate for "Wreaths Across America".

October Serving Schedule

Date	Ushers / Greeters	Organist/Pianist	Communion Server
October 4 9:00 am	U: Gordon Hoff G: Jane Johnson	Kathy Meunier	Dave Nuland
October 11 9:00 am	U: Gary Meunier G: Arlene Severson	Selisa Erickson	Joan Burken
October 18 9:00 am	Jim & Kathy Filkouski	Nancy Martinovici	Lori Nastvold
October 25 9:00 am	U: Mike & Sherry Brady G: Laurie Dale	Selisa Erickson	Jackie Joanis

Date	Lectors	Offering Counters	Coffee Fellowship
October 4 9:00 am	Carmen Nuland	John & Sue Breitung	Gordon Hoff & Jane Johnson
October 11 9:00 am	Joan Burken	John & Sue Breitung	Hugh Kohlmeyer & Mary McKeeth
October 18 9:00 am	Lori Nastvold	John & Sue Breitung	Joan Burken & Cheryl Nelson
October 25 9:00 am	Jackie Joanis	John & Sue Breitung	Jim & Kathy Filkouski

Communion: Kathy Filkouski **Candle Care:** Dan Baer

Volunteers needed to serve as a greeter/usher, lector, or for other worship service tasks, please sign up on the sheet that is on a clip board in the Narthex.

Volunteer Coordinators Needed!
We are seeking assistance with scheduling our volunteers monthly—contact Sarah in the office if you'd like to assist!

October 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 **9:00 am** Worship 10:15 Word after Worship **God's Work, Our Hands Service Day!** 2:30 — meet at Zion	5	6 **9:00 am** Quilting **9:30 am** Pastor Meeting	7 Confirmation 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm	8 **WIC Clinic—Fireside Lounge**	9	10
11 **Sunday School Resumes!** **9:00 am** Worship 10:15 Word after Worship	12	13 **9:00 am** Quilting **9:30 am** Pastor's Meeting / Fireside room	14 Confirmation 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm	15	16	17
18 **9:00 am** Worship 10:15 Word after Worship	19	20 **9:00 am** Quilting **9:30 am** Pastor's Meeting / Fireside room Council 6:30	21 Confest! No worship or confirmation	22 **Tidings articles due**	23	24
25 **9:00 am** Worship 10:15 Word after Worship	26	27 **9:00 am** Quilting **9:30 am** Pastor's Conference Meeting at Zion	28 Confirmation 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm	29 **Tidings crew folders**	30	31 **Trunk-or-Treat 4-7pm**

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
20335 West Gale Avenue, PO Box 684
Galesville, WI 54630

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54630-0684

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday 9:00am
Wednesday 6:30pm

Church Website: ziongale.com

Contact Information
Church office

Phone: 608-582-2818
Open 9:00 am to 2:00 pm,
Monday-Thursday

e-mail: *zziongale@gmail.com*

Pastoral emergency:
Pastor Joe Iverson
608-865-0203