



# The Voice of Zion

August 1, 2021

A MEMBER CHURCH OF LUTHERAN  
CONGREGATIONS  
IN MISSION FOR CHRIST (LCMC)

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*Our Mission: We unite to bear witness to  
and receive God's love through Jesus Christ,  
by worship, fellowship, education, and  
service.*

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 am -2:00 pm

Adult Bible Class at 8:45 am

Sunday School for All Ages: Sunday 9:00 – 9:50 am

Sunday Fellowship at 9:30 am

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

Sunday: Ladies Community Bible Study: 1:00 pm

(resumes in September)

MOPS: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month: 6:30 pm

Quilters: Each Wed. at 1:00 pm



Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



August 1, 2021

Members and Friends,

Thank you for attending the Semi Annual meeting. Your attendance, interest and comments are appreciated. Your interest and participation are what makes this congregation continue to move forward in spite of the obstacles that arise. Thank you.

As COVID cases begin to rise again we have taken a step back in our worship practices. Simple measures meant to keep everyone comfortable and safe. And as mentioned before, participate as you are most comfortable. There are choices; online and onsite.

School is starting soon. Please pray that the students, teachers and staff stay safe and healthy. The first day of school has always been met with a measure of excitement for the new year.

Your Church family loves you and prays that we all stay safe. And don't forget: *Wash your hands and Say your Prayers; Jesus and germs are everywhere.*

Keep Praying,

Respectfully,

Judy Newman

[jbeloat@swbell.net](mailto:jbeloat@swbell.net)

(210) 416-2286



### Zion Lutheran Church Council Minutes July 11, 2021

Present: Judy Newman, Jacob Schuetz. LeeAnn Hart, Scott Hunsicker, Floyd Santleben, Raymond Heath, Hilton Stinson, and Pastor Greg Knippa

Absent: Eddie McDaniel, and Candy Faulk

I. Opening Prayer – LeeAnn Hart

II. Minutes – The minutes were reviewed. Motion was made by Raymond and seconded by Jacob to approve the minutes as written, and the motion carried.

**III. Treasurer's Report** – The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and discussed. LeeAnn made a motion to approve the report as written. Raymond seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

**IV. Pastor's Report** – The Pastor's Report was reviewed and discussed. Pastor Greg highlighted many items. He told us he intends to begin communion by tables in August on the first and third Sundays as in the past, and that he will be receiving as members two families with children in the near future. Pastor Greg is taking vacation August 1 – 3, 2021. We will have a hymn sing service August 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **V. Committee Reports**

##### **A. Property**

- i. **Removal of the Landscaping Rocks and Pouring Concrete** – Without any interest in the rocks, it was decided that Scott will obtain estimates for this capital improvement and present them at the next council meeting for discussion.
- ii. **Tree Trimming on Church Property** – Scott told us that Daniel Boyer will do our needed work in the near future as time permits.
- iii. **Fuos House Roof Repair** – Scott related that the roof repair will be done eventually when the J D Roofing has time.
- iv. **Playground Fencing & Repair** – Scott and Eddie replaced the wood that was damaged on the playground structures. Scott is working with various members to see what to do about the playground fence. Details to follow.
- v. **Sale of Church Property** – Scott was contacted by some Castroville residents about the possibility of the church selling the youth building and surrounding area (community garden). After much discussion, the Council decided to table this decision and wait to see what improvements develop in Castroville.

#### **VI. Unfinished Business**

- A. **Zion's 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** – Zion will be 170 years old on January 29, 2022 (founded January 29, 1852). After much discussion, the Council decided to form a committee of interested members to facilitate this celebration. Judy will make our appeal at the semi-annual meeting July 18, 2021. Some of the ideas were: a special service with pastors of the past recognized, a huge potluck, an updated history of the church, a new pictorial member directory, and possibly a new cookbook. According to Myra we have \$1000 in the anniversary account to use toward this celebration.

#### **VII. New Business**

- A. **Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held July 18<sup>th</sup>. The Agenda is ready. We await committee reports.
- B. **Website Directory** – The Council decided that will we not pursue an online member directory on the website because of privacy issues.

**VIII. Ushers** – The congregation is helping with the aid of the sign-up sheet.

#### **X. Next Meeting**

- A. Next Council Meeting – August 8, 2021
- B. Opening Prayer – Raymond Heath

**XI. Adjournment and Close with the Lord's Prayer** – LeeAnn moved to adjourn, and Hilton seconded the motion. All agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,  
LeeAnn Hart, Council Secretary



#### **Treasurer Report for Zion Lutheran Church**

For June 2021, Zion Lutheran Church has a net loss of \$3,644.07. Please let me know if you have any questions, and I will answer them the best I can.

	<u>June 2021</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Income	\$ 12,533.00	\$ 87,382.90
Total Expenses	<u>16,177.07</u>	<u>107,303.63</u>
Net Income	\$ -3,644.07	\$ -19,920.73

Respectfully,  
Jacob Schuetz

**FROM PASTOR GREG ...**

### **Praying the Catechism**

Think back to your confirmation classes. Did you not think of your catechism as nothing more than a textbook, or in the case of some, a text-pamphlet? Certainly, since the catechism is an organized summary of the Christian faith, a true and correct exposition of the Holy Scriptures, it makes a wonderful study tool for learning and retaining the faith handed down to us. But textbooks are often looked upon as being used for a brief time of learning, and then forgotten or stored on a shelf for quick reference if needed. This was not what Luther intended when he wrote it. Yes, it was to instruct us in the faith, but more so, it was intended to be a devotional book – a prayer book. And prayer books are meant to be used frequently and regularly, even daily. After Labor Day, we will begin a survey of Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation in our Adult Sunday School Class, not only as a fantastic tool to refresh us in understanding the faith into which we were baptized, but also how to use it in our daily devotions.

I must still read and study the Catechism daily, yet I cannot master it as I wish, but must remain a child and pupil of the Catechism, and I do it gladly...In such reading and meditation the Holy Spirit is present and bestows ever new and greater light and fervor, so that day by day we relish and appreciate the Catechism more greatly. This is according to Christ’s promise in Matt. 18:20, “Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

Luther, in his preface to the Large Catechism says, “Nothing is so effectual against the devil, the world, the flesh as to occupy oneself with the Word of God, talk about it, and meditate on it. Psalm 1 calls those blessed who “meditate on God’s law day and night.” You will never offer up any incense or other savor more potent against the devil than to occupy yourself with God’s commandments and words and to speak, sing, and meditate on them. This, indeed, is the true holy water, the sign which routs the devil

and puts him to flight. For this reason alone you should eagerly read, recite, ponder, and practice the Catechism, even if the only blessing and benefit you obtain from it is to rout the devil and evil thoughts. For he cannot bear to hear God’s Word. God’s Word is not like some empty tale, such as the one about Dietrich of Bern, but as St. Paul says in Rom. 1:16, it is “the power of God,” indeed, the power of God which burns the devil and gives us immeasurable strength, comfort, and help.”

Once again, ... after Labor Day, the Adult Bible Class will begin a survey of Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation. I invite you to join us in the Bible class to help you make the catechism a part of your regular individual and/or family time. Take it off that shelf, dust it off. Or if you can’t find one – we will get you one, place your order in the church office, and take time to prayerfully go over it. You can do as Luther and pray through it daily. Go over a chief part or smaller portion each day. For example, as you go over the Commandments, prayerfully meditate on your failings and sin, and need of forgiveness, confessing that you cannot save yourself. As you mediate on the Creed, you are reminded of all that God the Holy Trinity has and is doing for you, especially through the blessed work of God the Son, Jesus Christ. In the Lord’s Prayer, you are enabled to live the Holy Life given to you in Christ as it pours from your lips. And the prayerful mediation upon the Word of God goes on – let the rout of that no good low-life, Satan begin!

God’s richest blessings for all of you!

Your servant in Christ Jesus,  
*Pastor Greg*



### **Library Corner**

August update to your church library: We have a computer available for our church members. You can use this for internet searches, information on COVID; so feel free if you don’t have access in your home to use a computer to come and take advantage of this resource. We also have a large selection of Bible studies for you to use for yourself or get together as a small group and study your Bible as a group. Don’t forget that the full library inventory is on the church website, so you can save time by browsing at home and coming in to check out a book you’re interested in.

Cathy Hangartner



## Quilt Raffle Ham Dinner

The Zion Quilters will raffle two quilts at the Ham Dinner. Tickets this year are \$5 each. Please see Zion's website for photos of the quilts.

## Collecting for VBS 2022 "Amazing Praise Band"

We are already collecting items for next year's VBS crafts:

- 25 shoeboxes
- 120 small jingle bells
- 3" wide ribbon (any color)
- 50 empty and clean large fruit/vegetable cans (29 oz. size)
- 50 empty and clean soda cans
- Religious stickers

Please place the items in the white laundry basket in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please see Alicia Knippa or Pat Davila.

## ZION LAY MINISTRY

*Women of the Word and Prayer Chain Coordinator: Linda Plante.*

*Altar Guild: Carol Mangold, Cheri Boucher', Diane Hibbs, Frances Bippert. Quilters: Flo Balmer, Frances Bippert, Ruth Felty, Jane Scheffler, Diane Perreault, Suzanna Feliciano, Cathy Hangartner.*

*Prayer Blanket Stitchers: Cheri Boucher', Lahoma McDaniel, Suzanna Feliciano*

*Sunday School: Sunday School Director and Children's Teacher: Pat Davila; Teacher Assistants: Adriana Calk; Candy Faulk; Youth: Emily Bippert*

*Adult: Carol Mangold.*

*Children's Sermon: Marcia Hart*

*MOPS: Jana Urbanczyk*

*VBS Coordinator: Alicia Knippa*

*Church Librarian: Cathy Hangartner*

*Kapellmeister: Pete Martinez*

*Multi-Media Ministry: Andrew Knippa*

*Counting Team Coordinator: Dorsey Krause*



## Medina Valley Nursing Home Service Schedule:

Services have been suspended until the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and Medina Valley Health & Rehab Center allows visitors.



## Flowers

- August 1 Diane Hibbs  
In memory of loved ones
- August 8 Cruz Sanchez  
In thanks to the Lord who brought me to Zion
- August 15 *Chuck and LeeAnn Hart*  
To the glory of God
- August 22 *Pete Martinez*  
To the glory of God
- August 29 *Evelyn Smith*  
In memory of loved ones



- August 1 Pat Davila
- August 8 Adam Knippa
- August 15 Frances Bippert
- August 22 Anthony Stinson
- August 29 Pat Davila



## August Birthdays

- |     |                  |     |                   |
|-----|------------------|-----|-------------------|
| 8/2 | Virginia Eichman | 8/4 | Fritz Pittman     |
| 8/5 | Amanda Schuetz   | 8/5 | Cindy Stinson     |
| 8/6 | Sarah Martinez   | 8/7 | Brandon Wolff     |
| 8/7 | Jeremey Krause   | 8/9 | Johnston Langston |

8/13	Linda Searson	8/14	Anni Vernon
8/17	Lillian Pittman	8/18	Chuck Hart
8/18	Eloise Bippert	8/18	Carl Graves
8/19	Patty Soriano	8/20	Tyler Haegelin
8/21	Karen Balmer	8/21	Myra Hunsicker
8/21	Cade Griggs	8/21	Carol Hathaway
8/28	Rodney Reus	8/29	Clara Heath
8/29	Jackie Moss	8/29	Jim Warnke



**Pastor Greg's  
Corny Corner**



**Please Remember in Prayer:**

*Zion Lutheran Church Prayer Request*

**Please pray for rain** where needed, and employment for those who seek work.

**Please pray for our members, friends and neighbors in public and military service:** Brett Bippert, Sarah Bippert, Joshua Bradley, Jeff Burges, Sara Flanagan, Aaron Grigsby, Cody Haegelin; Sam Heath, Katie Johnson, Dorsey Krause III, Matthew Krause, Ryan Sprauer, Paul Stinson, Pat Sheehan and Garrett Wurzbach.

**Please remember in prayer our members and friends in nursing homes and hospitals:** Lillian Pittman and Herbert Richter.

**Please lift up our homebound members in prayer:** Bill & Janet Armstrong, Fritz Pittman and Bonnie Stein

**Please remember our members and friends who are ill or injured:** Prayers for calm, peace, and cooperation to embrace this nation that is in turmoil, and or all people in the U.S. and throughout the world to return to the One True Triune God. These are recent prayer requests: Ana and her daughter Jessica; Bill Bippert; Virginia Eichman; Andrew Gaytan; Larry Hibbs; Lillian Pittman; Bonnie Stein; Pastor Ed Truelson; prayer of thanksgiving for a successful VBS.

**\*\*\*\*\*Deadline for Bulletin Items\*\*\*\*\***

**Wednesday, 10:00 am**

**"Bet You Didn't Know"**

No number from 1 (one) to 999 (nine hundred ninety-nine) includes the letter "a" when spelled out as a word. An "a" is first used in "one thousand."

The largest bill in circulation in the US was a \$10,000 note. In 1969, the Federal Reserve and the Department of the Treasury discontinued larger bills due to lack of use.

During the average lifetime, you may eat about 70 insects and 10 spiders while sleeping. (Yuck!)

Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.

Giraffes hum to each other at night to make sure their herd stays together.

It is physically impossible for pigs to look up into the sky.

Almonds are member of the peach family.

Alaska is the only state whose name is on one row on a keyboard.



# Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt  
Director of Mission Growth



## Why Can't Life Be Easy?

Why does life seem to be so hard? It is one of the age-old questions that can challenge our faith in God as the all-loving, all-knowing, and all-powerful deity that we profess him to be. Why do humans experience hardship, suffering, sickness, and persecution? How can God allow these terrible circumstances to befall anyone, let alone his faithful children?

In the Church, we are quick to place blame squarely on sin, and rightly so. For we live in a broken world where sin and evil cause chaos, confusion, and so much pain. But why does the God who loves us and holds the power to end our hardship and misery allow it to persist?

I certainly do not have all the answers, nor do I claim any expertise on this matter. Like many other Christians, I earnestly believe that God loves us, knows everything, and is completely powerful to do anything that he so wills. So I also revisit this subject from time to time. Today I found comfort in Paul's words in Romans 5:3-5 that reminded me that God is at work in the midst of our suffering: *"...we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."*

So even though God does not cause our suffering, Paul points out that God is at work through it to produce perseverance, character, and hope in us. Therefore instead of bemoaning the suffering and hardship we experience in this life, Paul exhorts Christians to rejoice in it as a sign of the Holy Spirit's work in us. And in 2 Corinthians 4:8-9, Paul reminds us that God will never leave us nor forsake us: *"We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed."*

If you ever feel all alone in your suffering, remember this Good News: God is at work in you and will never abandon or forsake you! He will give you strength. As people of the cross, we know that we will experience hardship and suffering in this life. Jesus promised this much in John 16:33! Yet we walk in faith trusting that Jesus has overcome the world. In his goodness and mercy, God will never abandon or forsake us but instead will give us gifts of strength, character, and hope.

And this is Good News not only to sustain us through the hard times, but it is also to be shared as a witness to the world. As we walk beside those experiencing life's difficulties, may we have compassion as we gently share the Good News of Jesus. They are not alone, not abandoned, and not forsaken. Even though we may not be able to see it in the moment, we believe that God is at work in the midst of the brokenness and pain to develop perseverance, character, and hope. Life will not be easy, but with God at work in us and through us, it is still good!


*Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at [www.harvestworkers.net](http://www.harvestworkers.net)). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Feel free to contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or [bryce@lcmctexas.org](mailto:bryce@lcmctexas.org). ©*

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# *Zion Lutheran Church*

For more information call the office at 830-538-6335, Church Office Hours: 9-2 T-F  
 For an emergency, please call Judy Newman at 210-416-2286 or Janice Hodgson at 210-859-1954  
 Pastor Greg Knippa 254-718-9276 email: [pastork7354@hotmail.com](mailto:pastork7354@hotmail.com) [www.zion-castroville.org](http://www.zion-castroville.org)

## *August 2021*

<b>Sunday 1</b>	<b>Monday 2</b>	<b>Tuesday 3</b>	<b>Wednesday 4</b>	<b>Thursday 5</b>	<b>Friday 6</b>	<b>Saturday 7</b>
8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> <i>Pastor DeHaven</i> 4:30 pm Alsatian Dancers	<b>Pastor's day off</b>		Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters			
<b>Sunday 8</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 11:00 am Council Meeting 4:30 pm Alsatian Dancers	<b>Monday 9</b> <b>Pastor's day off</b>	<b>Tuesday 10</b> 6:30 pm M.O.P.S. – Fellowship Hall	<b>Wednesday 11</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters 5:00 pm Castroville Conservation Society Meeting-Fellowship Hall	<b>Thursday 12</b>	<b>Friday 13</b>	<b>Saturday 14</b> 9:00 am – Noon MCARC Mtg.
<b>Sunday 15</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 4:30 pm Alsatian Dancers	<b>Monday 16</b> <b>Pastor's day off</b>	<b>Tuesday 17</b>	<b>Wednesday 18</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters	<b>Thursday 19</b>	<b>Friday 20</b>	<b>Saturday 21</b>
<b>Sunday 22</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 4:30 pm Alsatian Dancers	<b>Monday 23</b> <b>Pastor's day off</b>	<b>Tuesday 24</b>	<b>Wednesday 25</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters	<b>Thursday 26</b>	<b>Friday 27</b>	<b>Saturday 28</b>
<b>Sunday 29</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 4:30 pm Alsatian Dancers	<b>Monday 30</b> <b>Pastor's day off</b>	<b>Tuesday 31</b>				

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**1106 Fiorella**

**Street**

**Castroville, TX**

**78009**

