

Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool  
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Christ The King Lutheran Chapel  
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October 2020

Jonathon J. Bakker and Benjamin J. Ulledalen, Pastors

Volume 56, No. 10

*"...if we are faithless, he remains faithful." 2 Timothy 2:13*

October means that although summer is without a doubt over, and we have already felt some colder weather, nonetheless, there are plenty of things to look forward to in the near future. The Fall offers a special time to enjoy the fruits of God's creation, especially apples and pumpkins. Our imagination turns to bygone eras, as old fashioned things like scarecrows and old tractors and hay bales begin to decorate homes and businesses. Things are changing, we have to say goodbye to summer, it's getting colder—but there are also good things to come. The church calendar often mirrors—or even shapes—the secular calendar, and October is no different in that regard. The long, uneventful season of green is over; Reformation Sunday and All Saints will bring back the red and white, and Advent is just beyond view.

Each Reformation Sunday, we remember the Church's return to the basics ("re" means "*again*," "form" means "*shape or configuration*"). The Lord used Luther to bring the Church back to more faithful forms of doctrine, more faithful shapes of worship, and more faithful configurations of what it means to be Christ's Church. The "*solas*" of the Reformation remind us of these basics of the faith to which Luther and other reformers have called us.

Sola Scriptura ("Scripture Alone") reminds us that the Bible alone is our authority—not popes, not reason, not tradition, not personal feelings.

Sola Fide ("Faith Alone") reminds us that by means of faith alone—not good works, not good intentions, not being born into a Christian family, not being a nice person—that faith alone makes us right before God by clinging to Christ's sacrifice for us.

Sola Gratia ("Grace Alone") reminds us that salvation is a gift from God, not something we've earned from him.

Solus Christus ("Christ Alone") reminds us that Christ's perfect life, shed blood, and victory over death are alone what saves us from sin—not the works and prayers of Mary, saints in heaven, or Christians on earth saying prayers for the souls in purgatory.

Soli Deo Gloria ("Glory to God Alone") reminds us that everything in our lives exists to glorify God alone. Every gift, good work, beautiful thing, labor, prayer—these all exist to glorify God and no one else.

Let us not be content merely to be decedents of Luther, Reformers, Lutherans, and Germans. Let us also daily, weekly, and yearly return to those basic building blocks of the faith. Is it really any better to theoretically have *sola scriptura* instead of the Pope if we do not actually open up and read those scriptures? Are we saved by Christ alone, through Grace alone, by Faith alone, unto God's Glory alone, or are we saved because we're basically nice people and descended from good German Lutherans? Does Christ's Church exist for God's glory alone, or for your glory, entertainment, comfort, and pleasure?

"...[I]f we are faithless, he remains faithful" (2 Timothy 2:13). Our God is exceedingly faithful. Our God is exceedingly patient. Our God is exceedingly loving. Let us press on to make this faith our own (Philippians 3:12)—for our Lord has made us His own by purchasing us with his holy, precious blood.

Pastor Ulledalen

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS



## 2020 Confirmation Class

Nyah Carson, Zoe Coutuier  
KarleighAnn Geiger  
Logan Novak, Claire Vogel

## Trunk-N-Treat - Sunday, October 25

Calling all Zion Members! LCMSU and Zion Preschool & Early Childhood Center are teaming up to offer a celebration of Fall. We are putting together a Trunk-N-Treat in the parking lot at Zion. On **Sunday, October 25 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** we would like the children of our congregation, school and community to have a place to safely collect candy. By using the parking lot, we can distance our cars and absorb the sun, all while enjoying fellowship with others. *Please consider signing up to park your car and decorate your trunk for this fun event. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex on the Preschool table.*



## Preschool News

Fall is in the air! The changes outside are only the beginning of the changes we are seeing in the classroom. The laughter and excitement each morning as the children arrive for a new day of learning is truly contagious. The children are settling into their new routine and building friendships already. The favorite part of the week? Chapel with Pastor. We would like to sincerely express our thanks and appreciation to all of our families and church members for your thoughtful donation! We have received toys, supplies, and many kind words of encouragement. Thank you! Thank You! We are still enrolling children for Preschool and Child Care. Share the good news with friends or family members still looking for care. Toddlers through Four-Year-Old's, half day or full day care, and two to five days a week, we have many options available.



## PRESCHOOL PIZZA FUNDRAISER

Goal: \$1800.00

**Just a couple of days left to order online! Online orders can be placed at [pizzakit.com](http://pizzakit.com) until October 4.**

Click products, then click shop.

Use Fundraiser ID #376443.

Customer care is available at (888) 452-5487.

Pick up will be the week of October 19.



# YOUTH & FAMILY LIFE NEWS

## Tentative Youth Pizza Topic Activity

**Sunday, October 18**

**4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Watch upcoming bulletins and emails for details on this gathering. The plan is to have a bonfire at Zion with some food and discussion along with a potential activity. It would be nice to start getting some youth together again. Parents, encourage your confirmed children to re-engage as we move forward.

## Apple Pie Day

A decision on whether we will have our annual Pie Day on Saturday, November 7 will be made very soon. Information will be in bulletins and emailed as soon as a decision is made.



## Regular Quarterly Voters' Meeting

**Sunday, October 25**

**12:15 p.m. at CTK**

The 2021 budget will be presented and voted on along with updates from our boards. Keep an eye on the bulletin boards at Zion and CTK for the proposed budget and any other information on the agenda.

## Mission of the Month

### Concordia University - Ann Arbor

Concordia University Ann Arbor (CUAA) is a private, liberal arts university in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It is a Lutheran higher education community committed to helping students develop in mind, body, and spirit for service to Christ in the Church and the World.

In memory of Donald Ulrich

Shirley Hopp

Wayne & Karyn Kiefer



# STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Monthly Income & Expense Report

through August, 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
YTD Budgeted Expenses	\$ 304,376.08	\$ 294,950.97
YTD Actual Expenses	<u>\$ 277,841.47</u>	<u>\$ 292,919.70</u>
YTD Balance	\$ 26,534.61	\$ 2,031.27
YTD General Fund Income	\$ 254,091.69	\$ 258,595.87
YTD Actual Expenses	<u>\$ 277,841.47</u>	<u>\$ 292,919.70</u>
YTD Income Less Expense	\$ (23,749.78)	\$ (34,323.83)

We celebrate the Reformation at the end of each October. The Reformation began on All Saints' Eve in 1517, which was when Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. So, let's hear from Luther himself on the topic of giving and stewardship. In the Small Catechism under the Table of Duties, Martin Luther gives specific Bible passages to help Christians know their duty in their various vocations as members of their family, society at large, and in God's family, the Church. Under the heading "What Hearers Owe Their Pastors," Luther lists five passages from the Bible, three of which have to do with giving to your local congregation. They are these:

- "The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel." (1 Cor. 9:14)
  - "Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows." (Gal. 6:6-7)
  - "The elders, presbyters, i.e., pastors who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, 'Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,' and 'The worker deserves his wages.'" (1 Tim. 5:17-18)
- Luther comments on these passages in his 1535 Lectures on Galatians. He wrote:
- "When Paul says 'all good things,' this is not to be taken to mean that everyone should share all his possessions with his preacher. No, it means that he should provide for him liberally, giving him as much as is needed to support his life in comfort. ... The apostle is so serious in advocating this topic of support for preachers that he adds a threat to his denunciation and exhortation, saying: 'God is not mocked.' ... All this pertains to the

topic of support for ministers. I do not like to interpret such passages; for they seem to commend us, as in fact they do. In addition, it gives the appearance of greed if one emphasizes these things diligently to one's hearers. Nevertheless, people should be taught also about this matter, in order that they may know that they owe both respect and support to their preachers. Christ teaches the same thing in Luke 10:7: 'Eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages'; and Paul says elsewhere (1 Cor. 9:13-14): 'Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the Gospel should get their living by the Gospel.' It is important for us who are in the ministry to know this, so that we do not have a bad conscience about accepting for our work wages ... it happens when those who proclaim the glory of God and faithfully instruct the youth derive their livelihood from them. It is impossible that one man should be devoted to household duties day and night for his support and at the same time pay attention to the study of Sacred Scripture, as the teaching ministry requires. Since God has commanded and instituted this, we should know that we may with a good conscience enjoy what is provided for the comfortable support of our lives from church properties to enable us to devote ourselves to our office." (LW 27:125-126)



A very big thank you to all of our Trustees for all the work they do to keep Zion's properties functioning, especially with the preschool and early childhood expansion this year. Much of their service happens behind the scenes, and usually we only think of them when something isn't working properly, but we have a great group of Trustees here who really do take care of our facilities to give us a wonderful place to carry out the ministry of the Gospel. We appreciate your service! In Christ, Pastor Bakker

### **Coronavirus Precaution Reminder and Pastoral Care Availability**

Thank you, as always, for your patience and care for your pastors, especially this year as we've

been working to carry out Word and Sacrament ministry during these trying times. The precautions we've been taking will remain in place for the foreseeable future as we continue to hold services for those who come. Please be courteous to your fellow worshipers when you come to church. Even if you are accustomed to sitting in the same pew for years, do not assume that others who are already sitting near that pew are comfortable with you being so close. If you arrive and find someone sitting in front of where you normally sit, please take a moment to ask if they mind before sitting behind them. I also realize that those who arrive later to church are usually most comfortable sitting near the back of the nave, but this can also put people in an awkward position with regards to maintaining some physical distance. Please, be courteous, likewise, when approaching the communion rail if you are receiving the Lord's Supper. Please leave space between others and yourself at the rail; ushers are working to release smaller groups forward for the Lord's Supper so you can spread apart to take up the available space at the rail. As a further reminder, we continue to encourage masks and have some cloth masks available in Zion's narthex. We're also refraining from handshaking and serving refreshments during Christian education opportunities like Sunday School and Adult Bible Study. Thank you, all, for the courtesy you've shown for others and that you continue to show. We're thankful not to have had any infections in the congregation that I am aware of, but we should not come to take it for granted that we are in any way immune because of our faith. We pray the Lord's protection from this plague, we repent of our sins, we pray for repentance and faith among all peoples, we pray for our world and this nation, and we pray for those who are sick, dying, and grieving.

Finally, while I wish there were no significant risk or caution needed in our current climate, the fact remains that for many of our fellow church members, the risks of leaving the home and attending gatherings of any kind are too high. While we cannot make the risk go away, Pastor Ulledalen and I would like to offer "Pastor's Hours" a few times every month to allow church members to make an appointment with us via telephone or email to come by the church for pastoral care. This would primarily be an opportunity for receiving the Lord's Supper in a much smaller group (a family, or even an

extended family) where it is possible that the only 'outsider' involved is the pastor. Private Confession and Absolution would likewise be available during that time as well for those interested. The goal for October and November, at least, is to offer this two Saturday's each month for two hours. The times will be posted as "Pastor's Hours" on the calendar, with the pastor's name. Our contact info is available on the church website and elsewhere in the newsletter. Please contact us with any questions or to set up an appointment.

In Christ, Pastor Bakker



## Elders Update

Our Lutheran Service Book contains a plethora of hymns devoted to supporting the selective scriptural passages which our Called Pastors (God's messengers) use in their regular Sunday services. The titles alone provide a message for us such as "Fight The Good Fight," "I Am Trusting Thee Lord Jesus," "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus," "Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus," and "Onward Christian Soldiers." With the coronavirus, we made the decision in March to suspend activities. However, we continued to deliver God's message to you via Facebook and YouTube. We pray that you have faithfully watched these services and invited your friends to also watch. These electronic messages will continue into the future with a goal of eventually delivering them streaming live. Since May, we have been worshipping in person. The good news is that more and more members are gradually returning to worship to receive Christ's Body and Blood and bringing friends with them. Alleluia! We still encourage the use of social distancing and face masks. Hand sanitizers appear at both locations.

October has become known as Pastor Appreciation Month. The practice began back in 1992 and is based on Timothy 1 (5:17) where Paul writes "Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of "double" honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching." It is your choice as to how you will show appreciation for our pastors. This appreciation should extend year-around and include also the families of our Pastors, our Deaconess, our teachers in the Pre-school, Day Care, and Sunday School, our secretaries, our organists, and our music directors. One Lutheran Pastor recently wrote that the best way to show them appreciation is by choosing to worship regularly and to receive

Christ's Body and Blood. "Zion is Open!" Shall we accept the challenge? **Note: Please see the separate article titled "What About Pastors" by Dr. A. L. Barry as to how we can support our Pastors.** (Dale Gust, Director)

## WHAT ABOUT PASTORS?

How do we support our pastors?

The most important way we support our pastors is through our prayers, asking the Lord of the Church to give our pastors wisdom, strength, courage and peace, asking Him to bless our pastors' ministry among us and to work powerfully through their proclamation of the Word and administration of the Sacraments. Our children should be taught each night to remember their pastor in their prayers.

The members of our congregations assist their pastor as they encourage and support him in the ministry entrusted to him. They volunteer their time, by serving in a variety of ways in the parish, and give of their treasures. The pastor is not a "hired hand;" who is to do all the work of the congregation. Telling the good news of the forgiveness of sins in Jesus, in many different situations and opportunities in life, is a task and duty given to all Christians, not only pastors (Matt. 28: 19- 20; 1 Peter 2:9; 1 Peter 3:15). God's Word also has these things to say about how we are to support our pastors. 1 Cor. 9: 14: "The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel:" Gal. 6:6-7: "Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows" 1 Thess. 5:12-13: "Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other" Heb. 13:17: "Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you"

What a blessing pastors have been to God's people down through the ages! May God continue to bless the church mightily through His gift of pastors. - Dr. A. L. Barry President The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

(To read more specifically about Pastors, see the separate pamphlet in our reading shelf with the title "What About Pastors".)

## Campus Corner

September was a month of growth and momentum at Christ The King Lutheran Chapel. Sunday morning worship attendance was strong (the average CMU student attendance was 12 per Sunday, with 20 students worshipping on August 23). Our first Candle Light Evening Prayer Service drew 15 students, and many of them had never attended one before. Monday lunches have brought in around 10 students each week, and a small handful of those have stayed late for a discussion of the Formula of Concord from the Lutheran Confessions. Even though Coronavirus has impacted enrollment at CMU, and has made many students more cautious and more stressed than usual, we have had a handful of first-time student visitors return on multiple Sundays. LCMSU social events have also been attended by brand new students who seem eager to become regulars with the group. Coronavirus has even offered new opportunities. Our Sunday evening meetings are now also online, so that those who are sick or cautious still have the option of participating. An unexpected bonus is that this has allowed students who are home for the weekend to tune in as well, when they otherwise wouldn't have been able to participate. LCMSU has tried to take advantage of the nice weather by holding activities outside. Some students not affiliated with our group joined an LCMSU volleyball game near the Towers. Even with uncertainty and challenge, our group has been able to adapt and overcome. Thank you, dear members of Zion, for your financial and prayer support of our ministry at CTK. We cannot say thank you enough to those who have supplied Monday lunches or food donations as well. The students truly enjoy the home-cooked meals!

## Bible Reading Challenge

The newsletter guided readings this year are in fact identical to the Bible Reading Challenge. Even if you didn't join at the start of the Challenge, it's not too late to jump in. We begin the book of Romans in October, so here's a good chance to join. I designed the Old Testament portion of the Challenge to follow a roughly historical order—without falling into the dreaded "straight read-through" of Genesis to Malachi. Toward that end, I've positioned readings from Proverbs and Psalms right after one book is finished. The Genesis readings in September and October have been paired with Galatians and



Romans—two New Testament books which discuss what happened to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the latter chapters of Genesis. As we move onto Exodus, we will also read from the Book of Hebrews, which often discusses Moses', sacrifice, and Israel's disobedience. Take a little time each day to read from the word of God. And as you read, reflect on it. As you reflect on it, let it challenge and change you. The Christian Church and our country are in need of Reformation. Historically, Reformations usually happen during or after periods of hardship, when God's people are forced to return to His Word, to the basics of the faith—and to God himself in humility and repentance. Return to the Lord and he will return to you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Jesus is our Immanuel—which means "God is with us." Your God is with you in good times and bad, in this life and the next, now and forever. Pastor Ulledalen

### October 2020

- 1 Genesis 30-31; Romans 1-2
- 2 Genesis 32-33; Romans 3-4
- 3 Genesis 34-35; Romans 5
- 5 Genesis 36-37; Romans 6-7
- 6 Genesis 38-39; Romans 8-9
- 7 Genesis 40-41; Romans 10-11
- 8 Genesis 42-43; Romans 12-13
- 9 Genesis 44-45; Romans 14-15
- 10 Genesis 46-47; Romans 16
- 12 Genesis 48-49; Psalm 1-5
- 13 Genesis 50; Psalm 6-8
- 14 Psalm 9-12; Proverbs 1-3
- 15 Exodus 1-2; 1 Peter 1-2
- 16 Exodus 3-4; 1 Peter 3-4
- 17 Exodus 5-6; 1 Peter 5
- 19 Exodus 7; 2 Peter 1-3
- 20 Exodus 8-10; 1 John 1
- 21 Exodus 11-12; 1 John 2
- 22 Exodus 13-14; 1 John 3-4
- 23 Exodus 15-16; 1 John 5
- 24 Exodus 17-18; 2 Peter 1
- 26 Exodus 19-20; 2 Peter 2-3
- 27 Exodus 21-22; Philemon
- 28 Exodus 23-24; Hebrews 1-2
- 29 Exodus 25-26; Hebrews 3-4
- 30 Exodus 27-28; Hebrews 5-6
- 31 Exodus 29-30; Hebrews 7

## Zion Lutheran Women's Society

### In the Word



*Cast all our anxiety on  
him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 9:7*

### Of the Word

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19). Have you ever found yourself so anxious about the "What If's" that you closed your eye to today's blessings? Anxiety runs high in our society today. We're anxious about world peace, financial security, family relationships and so much more. God gives us a simple plan to deal with our anxiety: pray about it! Yes, in everything, at all times, in all circumstances, bring your anxious thoughts and concerns before the Lord in prayer. And then leave them there because God's peace, which is beyond our human understanding, will keep us focused on what truly is important, Jesus our Savior.

### Walking with my Lord

Gracious Heavenly Father, when this World's concerns and my personal frustrations bring about only anxiety and stress, lead me through the difficult times and grant me peace. Help me to remember Your promise to supply all my needs so worrying is unnecessary. You've got it all covered! In the saving name of Jesus. Amen. Printed from [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) daily devotions.

### Events:

**General Meeting:** Saturday, **November 21**, 10:00 a.m. at Zion Lutheran Church. Bring a friend! Invite them and offer a ride. The more people, the more discussion;

**LWML SUNDAY – October 4** at Zion Lutheran Church. Janice Harless has again made her wonderful banner for display.

**Women's Bible Study:** Saturday, **October 10**, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at CTK, continuing on our study of the "One Christ, Many Creeds: A Study of Denominations from a Lutheran Perspective." Every woman in the congregation is welcome!

**LWML Fall Rally is cancelled due to Covid-19.**

**December 5 – Craft Show is cancelled  
because of Covid – 19.**



**Cookie Walk** on Saturday, December 5 is still on but details still to be worked out as we have to make changes due to Covid-19.

**LWML Service:** Would you like to serve in the LWML? There are two positions that are open and they are Christian Growth and Historian. Do you like to do photography and scrapbooking? Do you like to do devotions? Do you have any one of these talents and would love to serve the Lord in this way? Speak to Kathleen Nims, President, about this.

**“Serve the Lord with Gladness” Psalm 100:2**

### **Christmas Outreach**

Zion has been requested to participate in the coat drive for Christmas Outreach again this year. Distribution will be December 10, 11 & 12. Please consider submitting an Action Team request from Thrivent for \$250 to purchase new coats.

Call Wayne Kiefer at 989-588-2452 if you have any questions about submitting a request to Thrivent.



### **NURSE’S NOTE:**

As the numbers of COVID-19 cases steadily rise, and “social distancing” becomes the norm around the world. We realize this current world even with all its beauty, isn’t the kingdom our Father built for us. It’s a world turned upside down ... suffering under the weight of our sin. We may feel anxious or afraid, but the words of our Lord in the Gospel of John offers peace: ?John 16:33? ~~ These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” In general, having a positive attitude means being optimistic about situations, interactions, and yourself and helps us in these times of tribulation. People with positive attitudes can remain hopeful and see the best even in difficult situations. In contrast, those with negative attitudes may be more pessimistic and disagreeable, augmentative and typically expect the worst possible outcome in tough situations.

While having a positive attitude doesn’t necessarily make you less stressed, it can equip you with the tools to cope with stress in a healthier way. These individuals may not fear stress as something physically harmful and dangerous, but as a means

to a greater end that being able to handle the stressor in a healthy manner. Ways of doing this include the ability to continue to visualize a solution to your stressors, set actionable, achievable goals, maintain more positive relationships, and even give your immune system a well-needed boost.

Clearly, having a positive attitude is pleasing, yet it may seem easier said than done. However, by adopting some of the following tips, you can maintain a positive attitude through highs and lows. Gratitude There’s so much for which to be grateful in life, so why not remind yourself of that on a daily basis? A gratitude journal is a wonderful way to stay positive every day with little to no effort. Once a day, you can jot down at least three aspects of your day for which you feel thankful. Being Christians we should already be thanking God for our blessings. By writing them down you can go back and read them to give yourself a boost. By remembering to feel grateful everyday and praising God for his grace, you can develop a more positive outlook.

Treat yourself to some self-care every day. To help with moving forward with a positive attitude, it’s essential that you take a step back sometimes and treat yourself to something special. Consider the ways you can unwind, de-stress, and have some “you” time. No matter what it is, you should get into the habit of practicing something every day. By allowing yourself these moments of and rest and reflection, you can ensure a more positive attitude. Start every morning strong. It’s easier to maintain a positive attitude all day if you implement it right when you open your eyes. That dreaded moment when the alarm goes off can often lead to irritation, which sets you on the path to have a negative attitude all day. Instead, start out with Luther’s morning prayer. Then, think about some ways to make your morning the best part of your day. Consider waking up a half hour or an hour earlier than usual. This means getting into bed earlier, too! Give yourself time to do the things you love but may not always have time for; go for a run, relish in a hot shower, have a cup of coffee, and actually make breakfast, read the bible, a devotion, meditate, or write in your gratitude journal. When your morning is more productive and less rushed, you’ll be sure to have higher spirits.

God Bless, Phillis Daws RN, BSN 989-621-8583 or email @ zionparishnurse@gmail.com