



# Pastor's Message

## Summer Worship Services

Sunday 8:30am:  
Indoor Worship

9:30am:  
Coffee Fellowship

Sunday 10:30am:  
Indoor Worship

Monday 7pm:  
Marysville

## Baptisms

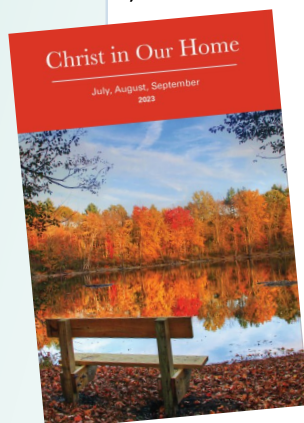
June 11  
Matilda Elaine Gerbi

## Funerals

May 15  
Timothy Mueller

## Christ in Our Home

The quarterly devotional, "Christ In Our Home", for July/August/September, is now available at the information desk. This resource includes a scripture, devotional thought, and prayer for each day, and is provided by the Women of Zion in regular and large print editions.



# “Joshua spoke: As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!”

## Joshua 24:15

Traditionally, Minnesotans have thought of summer as a “slower” time of the year. What a misnomer that is especially at this “house” we know as Zion Lutheran of Buffalo.

Zion is a household filled with people who serve the Lord. It is amazing to see the many ways that manifests itself. A glimpse of one “slow” summer day at Zion reveals exactly what I mean:

Today, we have teens here.

They could be lounging at the lake. Instead, they are here giving of their time, energy, and muscles to help transform the courtyard area. Digging, laughing, and working hard. This fall we will officially re-dedicate the courtyard and give thanks to God for the beauty of this outdoor space. We will also give thanks to God for all involved in the care of that space over these many years. The whole project is a cross-generational joy to see unfold.

While they are busy sweating outside, there is a group inside this “house” that serves the Lord working through the details for an upcoming funeral. Logistics are an important piece of our hospitality ministry for grieving families and friends. The joint effort between staff and Zion members makes this “house” hum with care, hope, and a picture of how life should be: caring for one another and sharing one another’s burdens.

At the same time, we have guys up on the roof checking out some glitches in the air conditioning system, which shows a different but important kind of hospitality for visitors, members, and the staff; especially on one of the hottest days of the year!

As I hear them up on the roof, out of my office window I can see community members making their way into our building. They come to Zion to receive a gift of diapers to help them financially (did you know that a box of diapers costs \$50 today!?). And although the diapers help financially, another message is sent with the box: *there are others who care about you and your family*. And still another message: this is a house that serves the Lord by serving others.



(Continued on page 3)

# President's Message

## Shine Jesus' Light

By CHUCK ZUMBUSCH

Summer has arrived in a big way with hotter than average temperatures and smoke in the skies. Big things are happening at Zion as well. The Call Committee continues to make good progress in their search for an Associate Pastor for Zion. Vacation Bible School was a great success with more kids than last year and an outpouring of volunteers to make the weeklong program a success. I think the message and recap provided the Sunday following VBS was important for all of us to hear: In every and all things, Shine Jesus' Light. Such a simple, but valuable lesson for all of us to carry with us and incorporate into our daily lives. It was a great reminder for me and hopefully, for all of you as well.

Hope you are all enjoying your summer and taking some time to relax and gather with friends and family.

(Continued from page 2)

While all of this is happening, the staff is busy finalizing plans for the fall and all that entails. One of our organists is rehearsing for Sunday morning, a member drops off clothes for the Blessing Closet, and another member stops by with a delicious summer treat for the staff, our financial team is paying bills, I'm researching for a sermon, the lawn is being mowed, the phone is ringing, and there are more people who come to help pull weeds.

There is more: the Personnel Committee will meet yet tonight, the Youth Group will meet, and the Call Committee is finalizing plans for the Bishop's visit to Zion. All of it: serving our Lord and giving glory to God.

While all of this is taking place in the "house", you are outside of this house making an impact for Jesus in all the ways you serve outside of these walls: at work, at your own home, while you are shopping for groceries, swimming at the lake or the pool, playing golf, and on and on. Because being a "House that Serves the Lord" isn't confined only to our building and grounds. We are a house and a household because we are a group of people bonded together by the head of our household, Jesus Christ. And we each serve the Lord in our own spaces beyond these walls, which is just how Jesus would have it.

The New Living Translation of 1 Chronicles 16:29 reads: "Give the Lord the glory he deserves! Bring your offering and come into his presence. Worship the Lord in all his holy splendor." Everything I have described taking place on this "slow" summer day does just that. When we shine the light of Jesus into this world, we (this house/household) are "Giving God the glory he deserves". Thanks be to God for slow summer days!



Stellar VBS 2023







## Fall Bible Study

Rick Johnson will present a Fall Bible History class on 8 Monday nights beginning on Monday, September 11, and going until Monday, October 30, from 6:30 to 8:15 in the library. This class will take a look at historical Christian events that took place following the canonization of the New Testament leading up to the Reformation and how the English Bible was created. This class is for anyone interested in Bible History whether you have been in a previous class or not. Sign up at [zionbuffalo.org/events](http://zionbuffalo.org/events)

## Women's Bible Study: Summer and Fall

The women's Bible study for the summer months has had a great start in June and July. August 15 is the third and final summer study. Come to meet together in the fellowship hall at 1:30pm. We'll take some time to catch up with each other and then enjoy a Bible study led by Karen Mattson and Sherilyn Burgdorf. The coffee is always ready; bring any treats if you'd like to share. Even if you haven't been at the first two studies, all stand as independent studies. They are all be based on the book of John. No cost. Invite friends, too!

The studies for this summer are focused on the theme "Salvation Now." The studies are written by Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen, a theologian in Two Harbors, Minnesota. Madsen says of this August's study:

*In this session, we'll explore John's commitment to service, how we as Christians see the needs of a hurting world, and how because Jesus is the bringer of salvation, we are compelled to follow Jesus into the need now.*

Starting in September, there are two options for women's Bible study each month. The Naomi Circle meets on the third Tuesday of each month (Sept. 19 @ 9:30am) at Zion and the Rebecca Circle meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month (Sept. 21 @ 10am) at circle member's homes. No sign up is needed. Both groups will use the Bible study from the ELCA women's ministry Gather magazine.

## Menstrual Supplies in Bathrooms at Zion

BY ANNA QUADY

You may notice something new when you walk into a bathroom at Zion. Along with the usual supplies like toilet paper, hand soap and hand dryers, there will now also be pads and tampons available.

A donation has been made to supply the bathrooms of Zion with menstrual products for the next year. The goals of this project are to improve access to period products within the community, and reduce the stigma around menstruation.

Acknowledging and providing for this need also connects to a deeper message that everybody has a place here.

If you are interested in learning more about this project, or if you have a business with a restroom you need to supply with period products and want assistance getting started, please email [PeriodofChangeMN@gmail.com](mailto:PeriodofChangeMN@gmail.com).



## Zion Quilters

BY NANCY ROGNESS

On Mondays we meet from 9-11 in the Heritage room.

The quilts we donate help support veterans at a group home and foster children in Wright County.

There is a need for volunteers to help us to continue to support and help others.

- Monday mornings to stretch and tie quilts.
- We especially need someone that can sew the edges once the quilt is sandwiched together and tied. This would be done in your home.
- Like to sew baby quilts? These can be cut and completed in your home.
- We also need a volunteer to cut fabric squares in their home.
- Piecing twin size quilts in your home





# Mission Jamaica 2024

MISSION JAMAICA  
COMMITTEE

Most of us have felt the “tug” to do something when we see ads or documentaries on children and families affected by the many aspects of third world poverty. Going from that tug to participating in a third world mission trip may seem like a bigger step than many of us can manage. However, if you would like to “do something” more than just send in a donation without taking such a large step, Mission Jamaica may be what you are seeking. Structured as “vacation with a purpose,” the MJ team travels to Jamaica to build a very basic home (think tool shed with windows and sometimes a bathroom), provide some basic medical care (think urgent care and routine medical problem check-ups), and assistance with the many tasks that help an orphanage run (think everything from doing laundry to general building maintenance).

This work is embedded in a one week stay that allows plenty of time to enjoy the many vacation activities that Jamaica has to offer, along with group time to process our experiences and their effect on our faith journey. The team stays at an all-inclusive resort on Montego Bay. We travel on safe, locally contracted buses to the work sites which are pre-screened for safety. Staff and local officials are always present to help manage the sites. At the end of the day, we return to the resort for some down time, then gather for devotions and discussion, and then have the evening to enjoy dinner, a swim, or a walk along the beach. We spend three days at the work sites and the rest of the time you can enjoy all the other activities offered by the resort such as zip lining, river raft trips, visits to the hummingbird sanctuary, and even parasailing. The last day of our trip we have a group snorkeling trip to one of the local reefs.

In 2024 Zion will again be partnering with Word of Peace Lutheran Church. The dates of the trip have the group leaving on Saturday 2/24/24 and returning on Saturday 3/2/24. Transportation to and from Jamaica is on Sun Country and is a direct flight both ways. You will need a passport. The approximate trip cost is \$2200-\$2400 per person. If you are planning on being a mission team member you will need to reserve a spot by September 1, 2023 with an initial down payment of \$150. Another payment of \$550 would be due by September 15, 2023 with Final payment due on October 15, 2023. Optional pre-trip cancellation available based on trip cost and age of traveler. Emergency health and evacuation insurance is included in the trip cost. If you are interested or have more questions, please contact the Zion church office at 763-682-1245 as soon as possible, as travelers will need to be registered by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Come join the 2024 Mission Jamaica Mission Team. You will find the experience very rewarding.



## Sweet Corn Sale

The Mission Jamaica Sweet Corn Fundraiser is back and will follow the same protocol as last year for sales. This year's sales may begin on Sunday, July 23rd, 9:30am-1:00pm, and will continue as many Sundays as the crop lasts. (tentatively August 6th-watch the weekly email for updates). It is easy to find and just 2 miles from Zion, so stop by after any worship service.

- Purchase and pick up corn at [2537 10th St. NE, Buffalo, MN](#) - near the corner of County Rd. 34 and Carling Ave. NE, about a mile East of Target on County Road 34
- Cost is \$7 per dozen
- The sweet corn has been donated by the Gleasons, and all proceeds from sweet corn sales on that day will go towards Zion's 2024 Mission Jamaica trip.

Sweet corn for meals or freezing can also be ordered to be picked up at another time by calling Denny at 612-723-5777.





# Children, Youth & Family Ministry

## Hello Zion Kids and Families!

We hope you are all enjoying your summer! There are so many wonderful moments to recognize from VBS. What an AWESOME, AMAZING, STELLAR, COSMIC ADVENTURE VBS WEEK WAS!

We can't thank our VBS Volunteers enough for all their time and commitment. We had an amazing week, and we couldn't have done it without each and every one of them!

We most appreciate the love you showed to the kids throughout the week. We are amazed by your commitment, enthusiasm, and passion! Crews watched fun experiments, sang new songs, reflected on God's creation, made awesome crafts, heard Bible stories and played games connected to Bible points. Each volunteer was a God Sighting and helped kids to experience God's love during the week of VBS!

A huge thank you to the volunteers and children that made VBS so amazing. Thank you for SHINING JESUS' LIGHT to the kids! Thank you to all of the kids for showing one another God's love in your crews. We pray that you continue to strengthen your friendships made from VBS week and keep growing in faith. God worked in incredible ways during VBS week! Thank you ALL for being a part of it!

Another huge thank you to all of you who helped us with our VBS Fundraising Mission Partner: The Buffalo Community Toy Shop. We were able to raise over \$500 for our local toy shop. They have donated so much time, supplies, and amazing wooden crafts for our VBS program for over 10 years. Thanks so much for your donations.



### THINGS TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR:

**Sunday School Registration and Schedule:** More information coming soon

**Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> – Z Fest: Homecoming Sunday**

Enjoy all the moments of summer break. We will be seeing you all soon.

Cheerfully in Christ,

Kristi Wagner, Emily Comstock, and Kristin Lotthammer

Zion's Children & Family Ministry Staff





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# Love Each Other Deeply

BY TAMMY ZUMBUSCH & HOLLY HUSOM

From Middle-school fun nights filled with water games and loaded hotdogs to court yard remodels to cheering on friends in sports and in life to serving along side their church family to long talks about Jesus' deep love for us. The youth of Zion have been very busy this summer. We are so proud of their love and grace for themselves and for one another. Not to mention their inclusivity as they consistently invite their friends and widen their circle. They are an inspiration and walking examples of 1 Peter 4:8-10

"Above all, love each other deeply because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling." So thankful for all of our Zion Members, from birth to 100+ we feel so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful church family.





## Kid's Choice Continues Through The Summer Months

The Social Ministry team helps children in the area by teaming with the Buffalo Food Shelf to pack 'KID'S CHOICE' bags for school age children when they are home from school during the summer months of June, July, and August. Studies show that children who eat nutritiously function better. To provide proper nutrition for children, Zion Volunteers pack and distribute three bags of 'kid friendly' food which consists of refrigerated, frozen, and non-perishable items. These items are distributed to everyone in the community during the regular Buffalo Food Shelf hours.

## Back-To-School Goals

SOCIAL MINISTRY TEAM



With inflation being high, the Social Ministry Committee is trying to cut the costs of Back-to-School items and make children's first day of school memorable. We are gearing up for success and supplying basics of shoes, clothing, school supplies and backpacks.

Kid's Choice  
Buffalo Food  
Shelf

Kids  
Grocery  
Program

### KID'S CHOICE Summer Program

*The program is open for distribution on the  
2nd and 3rd week during regular open hours.  
Tuesday and Thursday — 6:00-8:00 pm, Friday—10:30-12:30am*

**June—14th, 16th, 17th and 21st, 23rd, 24th  
July—12th, 14th, 15th and 19th, 21st, 22nd  
Aug—9th, 11th, 12th and 16th, 18th, 19th**

- Offers children nutritious food for their home when school is out.
- Children must live in the Buffalo School District and be age 5 to 18 years.
- Children do not need to be there. Parents can pick up for their children

**No need to be a Food Shelf client  
Open to everyone**

**The Blessing Closet** will have its Quarterly Distribution of FREE clothing for children and their parents on Saturday, August 26th, 2023, from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Distribution is open to all families without any appointments, restrictions, qualifications, or registration. Just show up!

**A School Supply Packet and a Backpack** will be distributed on August 26<sup>th</sup> to all school age children (K-12) by appointment only (signup link to follow). It will not be necessary for the children to attend, but signup by appointment must list all children and grade levels who need supplies and a backpack. These free items are a supplement to the required school supply list by grade that is necessary to purchase and will help each student start the school year off right!!

Through the efforts of Zion, we can reach out to the community and surrounding areas to help be the 'hands and feet of Jesus' as we follow our mission to serve those in need!

Thank You for your financial contributions through the Local Missions envelope and all the wonderful and faithful volunteers who we depend on to make these missions successful!



# Fall Programming



## Preschool

### Nursery

ages 0-3

The nursery is open during the 8:30 and 10:30 worship services on Sunday.

### Sunday School

age 3 and potty trained by 9/1.

Sept. 17, 2023-May 19, 2024

Families may choose which Sunday School hour to attend. SS hours correspond with the 8:30 and 10:30 worship services.

### Grow-in-Faith Milestone

age 3

Bible Distribution Sept. 24, 2023

Learn to say a blessing Oct. 15, 2023

### Elevate Choir

ages 4- grade 2

Begins Sept. 13, 2023 4:30-5:00pm.

Sing with a choir



## K-5th Graders

### Sunday School

ages 3-11

Sept. 17, 2023-May 19, 2024

Families may choose which Sunday School hour to attend. SS hours correspond with the 8:30 and 10:30 worship services. Children begin in worship with their families and then dismiss for large group time. (songs, announcements, special event, etc.). Children then move to their small group class time.

### Ring Forth Handbells

grades 3-5

Begins Sept. 13, 2023 3:00-3:45pm

Learn to play handbells. No experience needed.

### Elevate Choir

ages 4- grade 2

Begins Sept. 13, 2023 4:30-5:00pm.

Sing with a choir.

### Lifted Choir

grades 3-6

Begins Sept. 13, 2023 5:00-5:30pm

Sing with a choir.

[zionbuffalo.org/kids](http://zionbuffalo.org/kids)

[zionbuffalo.org/music](http://zionbuffalo.org/music)

[zionbuffalo.org/kids](http://zionbuffalo.org/kids)



## Grow-in-Faith Celebrations

### Age 3

Bible Distribution

9/24/2023

Blessings

10/15/2023

### Kindergarten

Table Prayers

9/12/2023

### 1st Grade

The Lord's Prayer

1/14/2024

### 2nd Grade

The Ten Commandments

3/3/2024

### 3rd grade

Bible Distribution & Exploration

9/24/2023

First Communion

2/4/2024

### 4th Grade

The Books of the Bible

4/28/2024

### 5th Grade

The Apostles Creed

5/5/2024

### VBS

ages 3-5th grade

6/10/24- 6/14/2024



# Fall Programming



## Middle School

### Confirmation

*grades 6-8*

Begins October 4, 2023

Wednesdays 6:30-7:45pm

### F2N2 (Friday Night Fun Night)

*grades 6-8*

3rd Friday of every month

6:00-8:00pm

### Snowtubing Event

*grades 6-12*

February 18, 2024

4:00-9:00pm

### Camp

*grades 6-12*

### Class Ring Handbells

*grades 6-12*

Begins Sept. 13, 2023

Wednesdays 4:00-5:00pm

### Altared Choir

*grades 6-8*

Begins September 13, 2023

Wednesdays 5:45-6:15pm



## High School

### Youth Group

*grades 9-12*

Wednesdays 8:00-9:30pm

### Winter Retreat/Mission Trip

*grades 9-12*

### Snowtubing Event

*grades 6-12*

February 18, 2024

4:00-9:00pm

### Camp

*grades 6-12*

### Class Ring Handbells

*grades 6-12*

Begins Sept. 13, 2023

Wednesdays 4:00-5:00pm

### Joyful Ringers Handbells

*ages high school & adult*

Begins Sept. 6, 2023

Wednesdays 6:30-7:30pm

### Heirborn Choir

*grades 9-12*

Begins Sept. 13, 2023

Wednesdays 6:30-7:30

### Senior Choir

*ages high school & adult*

Begins Sept. 6 2023

Wednesdays 7:15-8:30pm



## 6th Grade

Blessing of the Bibles

10/08/2023 10:30am

Back to Basics

10/11/2023 7:00-7:45pm

## 7th Grade

Blessing of Co-Creation

1/28/2024 10:30am

Retreat: Are You There,  
God?

1/27/2024 10:00-12:00

## 8th Grade

Blessing for Servant Hearts

2/25/2023 10:30am

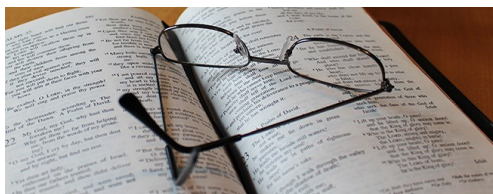
Service Event

2/24/2024 10:00-1:00

[Zionbuffalo.org/youth](https://zionbuffalo.org/youth)



# Events for All Ages



## Adults

### **Bible Study-Bible History** with Rick Johnson

9/11/2023-10/30/2023

Mondays 6:30-8:15pm

### **Joyful Ringers Handbells**

*ages high school & adult*

Begins Sept. 6, 2023

Wednesdays 6:30-7:30pm

### **Senior Choir**

*ages high school & adult*

Begins Sept. 6 2023

Wednesdays 7:15-8:30pm

### **Women's Bible Study**

August 15 1:30pm

Fellowship Hall

### **Naomi Circle**

*women*

3rd Tuesdays 9:30am

Courtyard Conference Room

### **Rebecca Circle**

*women*

3rd Thursdays 9:10:00am

Courtyard Conference Room

### **Men's Bible Study**

*ages 50+*

Wednesdays 7:00-8:00am

Perkins



### **Z-Fest**

Sept. 10, 2023

Fun-filled games, activities, food trucks,  
and fellowship.

### **Trunk or Treat**

Oct. 28, 2023

2:00-4:00pm

Decorate your trunk and get your best  
costume ready! Kids can go from trunk  
to trunk and trick or treat in a safe, fun  
environment. All are welcome!

### **Advent Family Event**

Nov. 19, 2023 between worship services

Create a family Advent wreath

together!

### **Christmas Program**

Dec. 17, 2023

A traditional Christmas program that is  
performed for the congregation.

Children K-18 are invited to participate.

### **Daddy/Daughter Dance**

*all dads and daughters*

Feb. 9, 2024

Get your dancing shoes on and practice  
those fancy moves

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

March 24, 2024

Bring your family and hunt for Easter  
eggs! Takes place after the youth Palm  
Sunday Breakfast.



## **9th Grade**

Affirmation of Baptism

10/29/2023

Lock-in

(for Affirmation of Baptism  
participants)

10/6-7/2023

## **10th Grade**

Blessing of the Keys

4/14/2024 10:30am

Cars 101: Basic Maintenance/  
Car Decoration

4/13/2024 10:00-12:00

## **11th Grade**

Blessing for Guidance

3/17/2024 10:30am

A Time to Cultivate Event

3/16/2024 10:00-1:00

## **12th Grade**

Graduation Sunday

5/19/2024 10:30am

This is Not Goodbye Event

5/18/2024 10:00-12:00

[Zionbuffalo.org/music](https://Zionbuffalo.org/music)

[Zionbuffalo.org/events](https://Zionbuffalo.org/events)



## Zion 2023 Golf Outing:

- Monday August 28, 2023
- Albion Ridges Golf Course.
- Four Person Team Scramble
- Tee Time shotgun start at 12:00 noon.
- Registration will be open at 10:30 am. The cost per golfer is \$80 which includes golf with a cart and a bag lunch.

Beginning on July 9, 2023, you can register and pay online with a credit card at [ZionBuffalo.org/golf](http://ZionBuffalo.org/golf). You will also be able to pay at the event with cash/check only or drop by church with your payment. If you don't have a full team we will get you paired up with others. *Signups close Thursday August 24<sup>th</sup>.*

### Food Security Program for Youth

This year's outing will provide support to our mission partner, the School of Hope in Zambia. The school is embarking upon a new program of agricultural training for youth and young adults. This training program is approved by the government and includes the principles of "Foundations for Farming." The focus is training for youth to become effective small-scale farmers so that they can feed and provide some financial support for their families. A volunteer from America has been sent to Zambia to help set up their soil science laboratory which is part of the program. The money raised during Zion's golfing fundraiser will go to help set up and equip this special lab for these students who are being given training they will receive at the School of Hope.

**Not a golfer?** You can help in other ways. Join us at the golf course and help with registration and some of the side games that the golfers participate in. Or donate prizes (gift cards or a silent auction item). We are always looking for sponsors to help with our costs. If you can help or if you have any questions, please call or chat with Steve Peterson at 612-819-7783.

## The "Foundations for Farming" at the School of Hope

BY STEVE PETERSON

This year the Global Mission's special project is to raise funds to help support the "Foundation for Farming" training program at the School of Hope.

Our mission partner at the School of Hope in Zambia has embarked upon a new program of agricultural training for youth and young adults. This agricultural training program is approved by the Zambian government and includes the principles of the "Foundations for Farming." The focus of the program is to provide training for young people by giving them the knowledge and skills to become effective small-scale farmers so that they can feed and support their families. In a country with extreme poverty and hunger, this program will change the lives of children and adults.

As a two-time mission traveler to the Village and School of Hope I believe this type of training is another agricultural step forward for the mission work being done in Zambia. Let me share a bit of history about the Village of Hope. Zambia is a poor country located in the southern hemisphere in Africa. The Village is located out in the high plains bush country where it typically rains October thru March (their summer months) and does not rain at all April thru September. The property is about 280 acres, with numerous small living structures making up the Village where the children live. Each living structure is home to 7-10 children and a house mother or father that cares for the children. The homes are separated by age groups and by boys and girls. Each child has their own bed and belongings. They all share in the care and the daily duties of the home.

The Village is truly a Village, with various other buildings that support the children and staff, such as a sewing center, a medical support building, and numerous farm buildings and stock pens that support the food that they grow and consume daily. They strive to be self-sufficient by producing most of their food onsite. They have drilled water wells and created a water reservoir on the property that irrigates their crops and waters their livestock, as well as providing water for the children and staff. They grow fruits, vegetables, and their primary type of corn for their daily staple food called shema. Their various grown crops also feed their milk cows, beef cattle, goats, pigs, and chickens. They provide food products for their on-property truck stop as well as at the School of Hope, which is also on the property.

God has truly blessed and guided the mission work at the Village and the School. They have continuously developed methods to help improve the educational level of the children at the Village of Hope as well as the neighboring children and adults from other parts of Zambia that attend the onsite school and college.

This year the Global Mission's special project is to raise funds to help support the "Foundation for Farming" training program at the School of Hope. Specifically, the program requires that a soil science laboratory be created. There is a cost to create that lab and purchase the needed equipment.

*(Continued on page 17)*



# August 2023

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Tuesday August 1

9:15am Storytime with Jesus  
11:00am Staff Meeting

Wednesday August 2,

7:00am 50+ Men's Bible Study  
3:00pm Blessing Closet Diaper Distribution

Thursday August 3,

9:30am Dementia Friends of Wright County

Friday August 4

Saturday August 5

Sunday August 6,

Holy Communion at all worship services  
8:30am Traditional Worship Service  
9:30am Executive Committee  
10:30am Contemporary Worship

Monday August 7,

6:00pm First Sunday Rehearsal  
7:00pm Worship at Marysville

Tuesday August 8,

10:00am Maintenance Department Meeting  
11:00am CYF Ministries Meeting  
4:00pm Fare for All  
6:00pm Outreach Committee  
7:00pm Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday August 9,

7:00am 50+ Men's Bible Study  
7:00pm Harvest of Hands Crafts

Thursday August 10,

8:00am Newsletter Deadline  
9:30am Dementia Friends of Wright County  
6:00pm Volunteer Appreciation Event

Friday August 11

Saturday August 12

Sunday August 13,

8:30am Traditional Worship Service  
10:30am Contemporary Worship  
11:30am Baptism Class

Monday August 14,

9:00am Women's Ministry Committee  
6:00pm First Sunday Rehearsal  
7:00pm Worship at Marysville

Tuesday August 15,

11:00am Staff Meeting  
1:30pm Women's Ministry Bible Study  
5:30pm Stewardship Committee  
6:40pm Lutheran Night at the Twins  
7:00pm Personnel Committee Meeting

Wednesday August 16,

7:00am 50+ Men's Bible Study  
7:00pm Church Council Meeting

Thursday August 17,

9:30am Dementia Friends of Wright County

Friday August 18,

6:00pm Middle School Fun Night

Saturday August 19

Sunday August 20,

Holy Communion at all worship services  
8:30am Traditional Worship Service  
10:30am Contemporary Worship

Monday August 21,

6:00pm First Sunday Rehearsal  
7:00pm Worship at Marysville

Tuesday August 22,

10:00am Maintenance Department Meeting  
11:00am CYF Ministries Meeting

Wednesday August 23,

7:00am 50+ Men's Bible Study  
7:00pm Harvest of Hands Crafts

Thursday August 24,

9:30am Dementia Friends of Wright County  
12:00pm Blessing Closet Distribution Set-Up

Friday August 25,

2:00pm School Supply Distribution Set-Up

Saturday August 26,

8:30am Blessing Closet Distribution

Sunday August 27,

8:30am Traditional Worship Service  
10:30am Contemporary Worship

Monday August 28,

12:00pm Golf Outing  
6:00pm First Sunday Rehearsal  
7:00pm Worship at Marysville

Tuesday August 29

Wednesday August 30,

11:00am Newsletter Assembly  
7:00am 50+ Men's Bible Study

Thursday August 31,

9:30am Dementia Friends of Wright County



# Finance & Stewardship

## Memorial Gifts Received

A gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of Ron Uter, from Ben Pesser.

A gift to the Cemetery Fund in memory of Helen Beastrom, Dale Beastrom, and parents, from Jerry Beastrom.

Gifts to the Memorial Fund in memory of Roger Bremseth, from Julianna Demarre, Phyllis Kvitrud, Conrad & Rachel Larson, James & Janet Bremseth, and Bruce & Patricia Mattson.

A gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of Darlene Gillett, from Lucille Newman.

A gift to the Cemetery Fund in memory of Ron Uter, from Martin & Ardelle McAlpine.

A gift to AKCLI in memory of Yvonne Hagberg, from Cheryl Neal, Dick & Jane Trapp, Craig & Tanna Swaggert, Wes & Mary Mahlberg, Denny & Kim Gleason, Julie Swaggert & Janet Knoll, Corey & Anastasia Martin, Jan Hidde-Hooker, Patti Smith, Vicki Westrick, Pose Prell, Dayton & Barbara Herbranson, Helen Bailey, Mark & Nancy Wilberts, Kevin & Kristie Hennessy, Peter & Sarah Onstad, and an anonymous donor.

A gift to the Zion Foundation in celebration of granddaughter's confirmation, from Del Haag.

A gift to the Zion Foundation in memory of Ron Uter, from Wes & Mary Mahlberg.

A gift to the Zion Foundation in memory of Olivia Hendrickson, from Mark & Louise Minkler.

A gift to the Zion Foundation in memory of Roger Bremseth, from Darrell Anderson and Carol Nusbaum.

[ZionBuffalo.org/give](https://ZionBuffalo.org/give)

## Financial Report

By JOHN LINDLIEF, FINANCE COMMITTEE

We have now completed the first half of 2023. The following summarizes Zion's financial condition as of the end of June. Our General Fund offering/income continues to exceed that which we had in 2022 by about 5%. Average weekly income this year to date is \$14,724. However, expenses for the same period are also increasing due to personnel changes, increased participation in our volunteer ministry, and vastly increasing activity in both the Children and Family ministry and in the Youth Program. While there will be fewer expenses in some of these programs during the summer months, we will still incur some costs. General Fund expenses for the first half of the year have exceeded our offering/income by nearly \$30,000.

The Building Fund offering for both the month of June and for the year to date lag slightly behind our giving in 2022. Our first half mortgage expense was \$83,000. We contributed almost \$80,000 of that during the first six months of the year. It seems that we are meeting our Building Fund obligations quite well.

It is an exciting time for Zion as we look forward to the addition of an additional pastor to our congregation. We hope that this enthusiasm will be reflected in an increased commitment of our time, talents and resources. Thanks to all who have made this a priority in your lives.





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# Stewardship Report

BY MIKE DAVIS

## As followers of Christ, we are called to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves.

One of the ways we can express our love is through stewardship: the responsible use of the gifts and resources that God has entrusted to us. Stewardship is not only about money, but also about our time, talents, abilities, and passions.



## There are many ways we can practice stewardship in our church and community. Two of them are volunteering and donating.

### Volunteering: Love in Action

Volunteering is a great way to serve others and share our gifts with the world. When we volunteer, we show our love for God by caring for His creation and His people. Volunteering is beneficial for us as well since it can help us:

- Make new friends and contacts
- Boost our self-confidence and self-esteem
- Have fun and find fulfillment

There are many opportunities to volunteer in our church and community. You can join a ministry team, help with a special event, mentor a child, visit a senior, or support a local organization. Whatever your interests and abilities are, there is a place for you to serve. If you are looking for ideas, stop by the information desk and we'll get you connected to the various groups at Zion.

### Donating: Fueling Love

Donating is another way to practice stewardship and show our love for God and others. When we donate, we acknowledge that everything we have comes from God and belongs to Him. We also demonstrate our gratitude for His blessings and our trust in His provision.

Donating can help us:

- Support the mission and vision of our church
- Advance the kingdom of God in the world
- Experience joy and peace

There are many ways to donate to our church and community. You can give your tithe, offering, or special gift online or in person. You can also donate your goods, clothes, books, or food to a local charity or thrift store. Whatever you have to give, remember that God loves a cheerful giver.

## Red Cross Blood Drive

The Social Ministry Team has provided the opportunity to help many other people by donating blood.

- Zion Lutheran Church
- Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup> 2023
- 12:30 to 6:30pm

Please consider signing up at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)



## Stellar VBS 2023



## Harvest of Hands

BY JOY ARENS

The summer is breezing by. Before you know it, it will be time for our Christmas Market event!

We are looking for more recipes... Does your family have a very favorite Christmas cookie? And are you willing to share the recipe? Harvest of Hands is thinking of compiling a small collection of special recipes into a "ZION Families Favorite Christmas Cookies" booklet.

Each recipe would have the donating family name mentioned. If someone passed the recipe along to you, they could also be mentioned - Grandma, Aunt, Friend. If two families offer the same type of recipe, they would both be mentioned. We would like to include our event favorites, too. If enough recipes are collected by a deadline date of August 31<sup>st</sup>, Harvest of Hands will put them together for a mini Christmas cookie book. With this booklet, you would no longer have to search the internet for Christmas baking because all the favorite recipes will be right in your cupboard waiting for you. If you have that special recipe, you can drop or send your recipes to Zion or email them

to: [Joy.arens@yahoo.com](mailto:Joy.arens@yahoo.com) or [nerothin@oal.com](mailto:nerothin@oal.com) or [rshessedal@yahoo.com](mailto:rshessedal@yahoo.com).

We look forward to seeing what makes our Zion families' taste buds happy.

The Harvest of Hands group continues to meet bi-monthly to create crafts in anticipation of the annual sale on November 4. We will meet the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month - July 12 and 26. Our group meets in the Wilderness Room at 7 PM on Wednesday's.

We are currently working on alcohol ink projects and assorted earrings.

All are welcome at our craft sessions, either to work on the planned projects or to bring your own craft projects and enjoy a morning or evening with friends. Join us for fun, fellowship, and a sense of accomplishment. We are always looking for new volunteers to join us and bring new, fresh ideas for projects for the event. If you have any idea suggestions, please contact Joy Arens.

**We would like to encourage you to join one of our craft sessions for fun, fellowship, and to help eradicate the world of hunger, one craft at a time.**





# Music on Wednesdays

BY SHERILYN BURGDORF

Did you know:

There are eight weekly music groups rehearsing every Wednesday during the school year.

There are groups for vocal musicians from preschool to adults and handbell ringers from Grade 3 to adults.

There's a carpool from elementary schools to Zion every Wednesday for early afternoon Ring Forth and Elevate. Zion Kids' Place gives a supervised place between 2:30-5:30 for snacks, fun and playtime before and after elementary choir/bells.

Sign up is easy at [zionbuffalo.org/music](http://zionbuffalo.org/music)

- 3:00-3:45pm Ring Forth handbells (grades 3-5) beginning Sept. 13, Jason Chalupnik & Sherilyn Burgdorf, directors
- 4:00-5:00pm Class Ring handbells (middle school/high school) beginning Sept. 13, Jason Chalupnik & Sherilyn Burgdorf, directors
- 4:30-5:00pm Elevate (4 year olds-Grade 2) beginning Sept. 13, Amy Intrieri, director
- 5:00-5:30pm Lifted (Grades 3-6) beginning Sept. 13, Amy Intrieri, director
- 5:45-6:15pm. Altared (Grades 6-8) beginning Sept. 13, Amy Intrieri, director
- 6:30-7:30pm Joyful Ringers handbells (high school and adult) beginning Sept. 6, Sherilyn Burgdorf, director
- 6:30-7:30pm. Heirborn (Grades 9-12) beginning Sept. 13, Amy Intrieri, director
- 7:15-8:30pm Senior Choir (high school and adult) beginning Sept. 6, Michael Walsh, director



(Continued from page 12)

## FOUNDATIONS FOR FARMING

**How can you help?** If you are a golfer come join us at our annual Zion golf outing on August 28<sup>th</sup>. All the proceeds will be given to this School of Hope project. If you are not a golfer please consider providing support to this Global Mission special project. Gifts can be given online, by check or cash, noting that they should be directed to the "Foundations for Farming" project. Thank You for your support.

If you have questions, please call or chat with Steve Peterson at 612-819-7783.



# Contact Us

## Connect Newsletter

Upcoming Deadlines  
August 10 at 8am for Sept/Oct issue  
Send submissions to  
[Kim@ZionBuffalo.org](mailto:Kim@ZionBuffalo.org)

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**Hours** Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-4:30pm  
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**Michael Walsh** Director of Music

**Bob Strommen** AV Coordinator

**Jenny Pecarina** Kids' Place Director

**Lora Nichols** Wednesday Supper Coord.  
[Lora@ZionBuffalo.org](mailto:Lora@ZionBuffalo.org)

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Cheryl Bohnen  
Joan Halderson  
Amy Intrieri  
Andy Kohls  
Josie LaFave

Mary Mahlberg  
Ashley Mattson  
Deb Rude  
Dale Schmidt  
Tamara Wuollet  
Chuck Zumbusch





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**CONNECT**

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