

The Messenger

The Monthly Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church, Columbus, WI



Unchanging Hope for an Ever-changing World

This year in our monthly articles we are considering favorite verses from the Bible. This month's favorite Bible verse is:

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8

As one year ends and another begins, columnists and commentators look back at the previous year. What changed? What stayed the same? Whose passing did we mourn? Whose new arrival did we celebrate?

At the same time, we make predictions about the coming year. What will the new year hold? What will change? What will stay the same?

As fun and exciting as it may be to reminisce about the past and dream about the future, it can also be a little sad and scary. Things will likely never be what they used to be. Loved ones who have passed away don't come back. Jobs that are lost seldom reappear quickly. Even when broken dreams and broken relationships are repaired, they rarely return to their former glory. Many times our experiences in an ever-changing world are difficult.

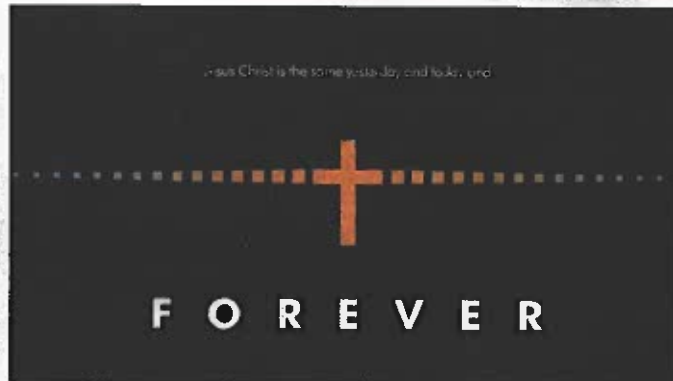
Yet we sometimes look at our lives and see a need for change. Many of us make New Year's resolutions: "I'm going to exercise more and eat less." "I'm going to save more and spend less." "I'm going to love more and hate less." But too often,

our good intentions disappear, and only poor excuses remain.

No matter what (or who) changes from one year to the next, there is one who never changes—Jesus Christ, the Son of God. He always exists, from before time, throughout the course of time, and at the end of time for eternity. Jesus loved you before you were born. He loves you today, and he will always love you.

That's what Christmas is all about. Jesus loved you so much that he wanted you to experience his unchanging love forever. So he came into the world to live up to God's perfect demands in your place. He took the punishment for your imperfection and gave you the reward for his perfection. That reward is an eternity far away from this world's sorrows and disappointments—the unchanging peace and joy of a place called heaven.

Jesus—the same yesterday, today, and forever—promises to be with us, love us, care for us, and give perfect peace with God to all who trust in him. Only Jesus offers unchanging hope to an ever-changing world.



Join us for Worship!

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Thursdays at 6:30 PM



Mike and Sara Uttech

1. *Let's start with some basics first. Where did you grow up? How did you meet and marry?*

Our childhoods were similar, attending Lutheran grade schools then public high schools in similar-size towns with Mike growing up in Beaver Dam (attended St. Stephens grade school) and Sara growing up in Fort Atkinson (attended St. Paul's grade school). Both of our parents are church-goers, so I think we saw first-hand how important church is and we too have made church a priority in our lives. We met on a blind date, set up by Mike's sister Angie and were married at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Middleton.

2. *What do you want people to know about each of your kids – in terms of activities and personality?*

Mallory just graduated from the University of Iowa, and already has a job with University of Iowa Athletics Department. Gabe is a junior at Lakeside Lutheran High School and AJ is a freshman at Columbus High School. Both boys are active in basketball and baseball, and love to hunt and fish.

3. *What future hopes do you have for your family?*

Our hope is for our children to remain strong in their faith and be servants of the Word. We have given our children a solid foundation in God's word, together with their teachers and pastors, and pray that they will model Christian behavior and strong faith in Jesus Christ.

4. *Do you face challenges when it comes to your occupations? How do you deal with them?*

Prayer is a big part of our lives, both as a family and individually with our private conversations with God. Sara receives inspiration with Proverbs 31 morning devotions and listening to praise music on Life 102.5. Mike has a great prayer ritual each morning and each evening with the kids.

5. *How did you come to be part of Zion?*



When we moved to Fall River 15 years ago, we specifically sought out a Lutheran church with a school, as we knew we wanted our children to attend a Lutheran grade school. Zion's school has been such a blessing in our lives.

5. *You've both been involved in a number of ways (coaching, Advent by candlelight and others.) One recent example was the lead that you took in fixing up the parsonage. What convinced you to get involved? What were some of the challenges and rewards you experienced?*

We firmly believe in the Bible verse Luke 12:48: From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked. Because of this, we give of our time, talents and treasures when asked, knowing that God will provide the needed resources. "The Lord provides" is a frequent quote at our house.

6. *What future hopes do you have for your church?*

We would like to see a new Zion grade school built with the latest technology for our kids to succeed into the future. We would also like to see our congregation grow and be more active in the community.

Zion Lutheran Church and School

December 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| | | | 1 No School-Christmas Break New Year's Day | 2 No School-Christmas Break 6:30 pm Worship, Communion | 3 No School-Christmas Break 6:00 am Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Zion School Chapel | 4 |
| 5 8:00 am Worship, Communion 9:15 am Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship, Communion | 6 6:30 pm *Board of Ed Meeting | 7 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall in use | 8 7:00 am Faculty Bible Study 1:30 pm Pastor Principal Meeting 4:00 pm Catechism Class - 6-7th grade 4:00 pm Catechism Class - 8th Grade 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Council Meeting | 9 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall in use | 10 BB Home Eastside, Madison 6:00 am Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Zion School Chapel | 11 A-girl's Falcon BB Tournament B-boy's Pardeeville BB Tournament |
| 12 A-girl's Falcon BB Tournament 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship | 13 | 14 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall in use 7:00 pm Stewardship Board | 15 7:00 am Faculty Bible Study 1:30 pm Pastor Principal Meeting 4:00 pm Catechism Class - 6-7th grade 4:00 pm Catechism Class - 8th Grade 6:15 pm Bell Choir Practice 6:45 pm Volunteer Meeting 7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal | 16 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall in use | 17 End of 2nd Quarter BB Away Our Redeemer, Madison Sports Center 6:00 am Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Zion School Chapel | 18 B-girl's Pardeeville BB Tournament |
| 19 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship | 20 No School-Teacher Inservice Martin Luther King Jr. Day 6:00 pm Annual Meeting | 21 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall in use 6:00 pm PATZ Meeting | 22 7th Grade Warrior Day 7:00 am Faculty Bible Study 1:30 pm Pastor Principal Meeting 4:00 pm Catechism Class - 6-7th grade 4:00 pm Catechism Class - 8th Grade 6:30 pm Bell Choir Practice 7:00 pm Advent Devotion 7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal | 23 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall in use | 24 BB Home Holy Cross, Madison 6:00 am Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Zion School Chapel | 25 B-boy's Juneau BB Tournament |
| 26 8:00 am Worship 8:00 am Worship, Communion 9:15 am Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am Worship, Communion | 27 Spirit Week | 28 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall in use 7:00 pm *WELS Wind Ensemble | 29 Spirit Week 7:00 am Faculty Bible Study 1:30 pm Pastor Principal Meeting 4:00 pm Catechism Class - 6-7th grade 4:00 pm Catechism Class - 8th Grade 6:30 pm Bell Choir Practice 7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal | 30 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall in use | 31 BB Home St. John's, Pardeeville Spirit Week 6:00 am Bible Breakfast 8:00 am Zion School Chapel | |

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Council Names and Numbers

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Rick Gentz, Chairman | 920-623-2507 |
| Don Lamb, Vice-Chairman | 920-382-4338 |
| Nick Uebelacker, Secretary | 608-225-8861 |
| Brady Weiland, Treasurer | 920-285-7362 |
| Andrew Tratar, Education | 920-296-1485 |
| Bruce Zander, Elders | 920-438-4014 |
| Nils Johansson, Outreach | 608-239-5123 |
| Jim Greiling, Property | 920-948-1746 |
| Otto Mattke, Stewardship | 608-516-5279 |
| Craig Lathrop, Family Ministry | 608-770-2498 |

Our Mission

The mission of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and School is to preach and teach God's saving Word in all its truth and purity.

Get in Touch

Church/School Office

(920) 623-5180

office@zioncrusaders.com

www.zioncolumbus.org

Tim Schwartz, Pastor

(509) 480-2967

tschwartz24@gmail.com

Ben Zuberbier, Pastor

(920) 517-7940

pastorbenzuberbier@gmail.com

Alex Vandenberg, Principal

(507) 353-0719

avandenberg@zioncrusaders.com

Jim Grasby, Lakeside Principal

(920) 648-2321

Thanks
be to God
for his
incredible
gift!

2 Corinthians 9:15

Greeter Schedule



January 5th

8:00am — E9

Bill & Merle Nehmer

10:30am — L2

Laurie Kirchberg &
Pay Premo

January 12th

8:00am — E10

Gene Beier

10:30am — L3

Rick & Lisa Gentz

January 19th

8:00am — E11

Harold & Delphine
Schaefer

10:30am — L4

Bernard & Genevieve Setz

January 26th

8:00am — E12

John & Jane Evers

10:30am — L4

Marcia Rewolinski &
Arlene Sennhenn

If you are interested in being added as a greeter or need to be removed from the schedule, please contact Melody Krakow at (920) 210-6323.

USHERS



January 5th & January 12th

8:00am - Team E5

Kim Schilling (C)

Ronald Knudson

Andy Tratar

John Zandler

Scott Brenner

Matt Vosberg

10:30am - Team L1

Tom Schultz (C)

George Decker (A)

Aaron Larson

James Kopfer

Dayne Kopfer

Brandon Lee

Brian Vierck

January 19 & January 26th

8:00am - Team E6

Jim Greiling (C)

Matt Greiling

Mike Sommer

Hunter Sommer

John Brey

Bob Marousek

Jordan Crave

10:30am - Team L2

Dale Schultz (C)

Daniel Schultz

Matt Ganser

Dylan Schultz

Michael Hallberg

Nathan Hallberg

Henry Tews

If you have any questions about the schedule, would like to be added as an usher or won't be able to serve any longer as an usher, please call Randy Koehn at (608) 296-4333.



Video Team Schedule January 2020

5 Gary Schuhmacher
12 Matt Greiling
19 Randy Koehn
26 Phil Manteufel



**Church Attendance
November 2019**

| Date | Total |
|-------|-------|
| 3 | 96 |
| 7/10 | 360 |
| 14/17 | 378 |
| 21/24 | 414 |
| 27 | 230 |

| | | |
|---------------|------|----------|
| Joan Herzberg | 1st | 86 years |
| Ruth Linke | 11th | 92 years |
| Selma Dykstra | 20th | 91 years |

Membership



Membership Changes

Transfers In: Linda Foote, At Home Again Resident

Ministrations

Baptism:

9. Dirk James Tramburg, son of Wyatt & Carissa Tramburg. Born 10/20/2019. Baptized 11/24/2019.

Death:

11. Edwin Knudson - Born 4/19/1929; Died 11/2/2019.

Messenger Deadline

Please submit your
Messenger articles by
January 24th

Contact Sue Henning at
(608) 225-4853 or

suehenning25@gmail.com if you have any questions.



**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Financial Statement
November 2019**

| | Nov 19 | Estimated Monthly Budget | Fiscal Year to Date Jul 19 - Nov 19 | Budget |
|--|-------------------|--------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | | | |
| Income | | | | |
| Church Picnic Income | - | | - | |
| Extra Synod Missions Income | 370.00 | | 1,329.00 | |
| General Fund Offerings | 67,001.32 | | 275,992.01 | |
| LLHS Building Income | 100.00 | | 334.00 | |
| Other Donations | 282.00 | | 2,920.00 | |
| Other Receipts | (381.58) | | (831.21) | |
| Bank Revolving Line of Credit @ 4.85% | (6,020.00) | | 30,020.00 | |
| WLCFS Income | - | | 8.00 | |
| WLIM Income | - | | 8.00 | |
| Total Income | 61,351.74 | | 309,779.80 | |
| Expense | | | | |
| Interest Expense to Bank | - | - | 204.49 | - |
| Apartment Rent | - | 655.00 | (585.00) | 7,860.00 |
| Called Workers Salaries & Taxes | 28,448.98 | 28,043.33 | 133,068.50 | 336,520.00 |
| Church Supplies | (292.18) | 264.58 | 1,705.09 | 3,175.00 |
| Convention/Cont' Education | - | 58.33 | - | 700.00 |
| Copier | - | 304.17 | 1,904.21 | 3,650.00 |
| Elders Board | - | 20.83 | - | 250.00 |
| Family Ministry Board | 112.34 | 375.00 | 698.05 | 4,500.00 |
| Guest Pastor | - | 250.00 | 1,661.68 | 3,000.00 |
| Health Insurance | 8,533.80 | 8,047.00 | 40,509.00 | 96,564.00 |
| HRA Savings | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 7,500.00 | 12,000.00 |
| Custodial | 1,181.70 | 1,166.67 | 6,267.85 | 14,000.00 |
| LLHS Building Expense | - | - | 234.00 | - |
| LLHS Expense | 2,750.00 | 2,750.00 | 13,750.00 | 33,000.00 |
| Maintenance | 1,475.85 | 2,722.92 | 11,166.40 | 32,675.00 |
| Meditations | - | 125.00 | 724.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Mileage | 606.65 | 350.00 | 2,538.37 | 4,200.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 47.47 | 12.50 | 47.47 | 150.00 |
| Organists | 428.40 | 481.67 | 1,744.98 | 5,780.00 |
| Outreach Board | - | 375.00 | 776.27 | 4,500.00 |
| Payroll Expenses | 321.10 | 291.67 | 1,221.15 | 3,500.00 |
| Pension Insurance | 200.00 | 3,116.83 | 10,946.00 | 37,402.00 |
| Postage and Delivery | 152.61 | 116.67 | 662.78 | 1,400.00 |
| Secretarial | 2,220.43 | 2,041.67 | 10,607.32 | 24,500.00 |
| Stewardship Board | 194.86 | 150.00 | 1,404.56 | 1,800.00 |
| Substitute Teaching | 184.50 | - | 265.22 | - |
| Sunday School/VBS | - | 166.67 | 704.27 | 2,000.00 |
| Synod Mission Expense | 5,870.00 | 5,500.00 | 28,089.00 | 66,000.00 |
| Telephone & Internet Expense | 392.99 | 283.33 | 1,380.84 | 3,400.00 |
| Utilities | 3,040.69 | 2,385.42 | 15,415.58 | 28,625.00 |
| WLCFS Expense | - | - | 8.00 | - |
| WLIM Expense | - | - | 8.00 | - |
| Worker Comp/Liability Insurance | - | 1,208.33 | - | 14,500.00 |
| Worship | 1,359.05 | 644.17 | 1,973.97 | 7,730.00 |
| Total Expense | 58,229.04 | 62,906.75 | 296,602.05 | 754,881.00 |

Zion Lutheran Church - Estate Funds Report

Report for the Month of:

November 2019

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Previous Month Assets | \$133,991.89 |
| Total Transactions | \$7,560.60 |
| Total Current Assets | \$141,552.49 |

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| New Church/School Total | \$140,118.06 |
| checking/savings | |

| Accounts | Undesignated Checking | Explanation | Monthly Statements | | Explanation |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| | | | NEW Church/ School Fund Savings | NEW Church/School Checking | |
| Previous Balance | \$345.63 | | \$121,383.24 | \$11,124.24 | |
| Monthly Transactions* | (\$149.98) | | \$16,519.78 | (\$8,909.20) | |
| Current Balance | \$195.65 | | \$137,903.02 | \$2,215.04 | |
| Transactions | (\$150.00) | Joan Marks | \$684.00 | (\$7,200.00) | Check # 2265 11-14 transfer from NCS |
| | \$0.02 | Interest | \$39,898.00 | \$32,000.00 | Savings |
| | | | \$175.00 | (\$2,420.00) | Check # 2268 |
| | | | \$75.00 | (\$6,289.20) | Check # 2269 |
| | | | \$25.00 | (\$25,000.00) | Check # 2267 |
| | | | \$11,313.78 | | |
| | | | \$150.00 | | |
| | | | (\$5,425.00) | | |
| | | | \$325.00 | | |
| | | | (\$32,000.00) | | |
| | | | \$4,119.00 | | |
| | | | \$50.00 | | |
| | | | \$200.00 | | |
| | | | \$185.00 | | |
| | | | \$25.00 | | |
| | | | \$1,582.00 | | |
| | | | \$100.00 | | |
| | | | (\$5,425.00) | | |
| | | | \$75.00 | | |
| | | | \$59.00 | | |
| Monthly Transactions TOTAL | (\$149.98) | | \$16,519.78 | (\$8,909.20) | |
| TOTAL TRANSACTIONS | \$7,560.60 | | | | |

Notes:

- Check # 2265 CR Roofing Gym roof repair
- Check #2267 Mortgage Principle payment
- Check # 2268 HVAC system maintenance
- Check # 2269 Deposit for acoustic system



Church and State

A Bible Study Course for Adults



Join us Sundays this winter as we take a look at what the Bible says about the **government's role in the lives of Christians and the Christian's role in the work of his government.** While current events may come up from time to time, the focus of this study is going to be eternal: God's grace to us in establishing earthly governments as well as our opportunities to serve him as we live out our lives as citizens of the state. We will look at many examples from the Bible and human history that will help us address dilemmas with which we are faced today. *You and anyone you invite are welcome to join us Sundays in January and February for the following lessons:*

- **January 5: A Christian Is a Member of Two Kingdoms**
- **January 12: The Christian's Responsibility to Civil Government**
- **January 19: What to Do If the Government Demands Disobedience to God**
- **January 26: The Business of the Church Is Not the Civil Government's Business**
- **February 2: The Business of Civil Government Is Not the Church's Business**
- **February 9: Christian Citizenship Is an Opportunity and a Challenge**