

Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool  
3401 E. River Road  
(989)772-1516



Christ The King Lutheran Chapel  
1401 South Washington  
(989)773-5050

May 2024

Larry Wright, Pastor

Volume 60, No.5

***“So the Word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.” (Acts 19:20)***

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!  
Alleluia!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, It is a blessing and an honor to serve you Saints here at Zion and Christ the King Lutheran churches. As we continue in the Church season of Easter, we hear in our readings the progression of Christ’s earthly appearances and interactions after the Easter resurrection. There were many and varied reactions to the hearing and seeing of the risen Christ. We hear of Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James who reported to the apostles that they had spoken with Jesus, but *“the (apostles) did not believe them.”* (Luke 24:26) On the road to Emmaus two disciples walked with Jesus but at first, they didn’t recognize Him, until they walked a distance with Him. St. Thomas was not at first convinced, and other apostles were startled as the resurrected Jesus walked into a closed room and then spoke and ate with them.

The common denominator for these encounters with the risen Christ was that a change had occurred. Even with Jesus’ interacting and teaching about what would happen and what had to happen, His death and resurrection was an unsettling change for the followers of Christ. Yet, as we read further along in the book of Acts, Jesus continued to appear to the apostles and He was, *“speaking about the kingdom of God.”* (Acts 1:3) Jesus continues to teach, telling the apostles their mission was to be *“witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”* (Acts 1:8) Throughout the book of Acts, we hear how this mission of witnessing was taken seriously. Even in a world which was in opposition to the apostles they continued to share the Good News of Jesus

Christ as they were, *“every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.”*

(Acts 5:42) The proclamation went out from Jerusalem to many and varied places as the apostles interacted with their communities. St. Paul and many others also shared the Word further and further, and so we hear, *“the Word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.”* (Acts 19:20)

You, the Saints of Zion and Christ the King, are experiencing changes in your leadership as your beloved under-shepherd is called to a new ministry and as you await a new under-shepherd to arrive. It is comforting to know that while our current reality may make us seem uneasy, our Lord Jesus Christ is always Lord of the Church. As your shepherd Jesus hears your prayers, He knows your every thought, and He cares for you. The name of your next pastor is already known by God and God will deliver him here to you, to proclaim His Word and administer His sacraments. In fact, in this time, you are not without a shepherd, Jesus, *“is with you always even to the end of the age.”* (Mt. 28:19)

So, in what may seem to be an in-between time, it is well for us to recall the words which Jesus spoke to His apostles apply to us as well. Because Christ has won our salvation, we who await His glorious return are to continue forward, our mission is ongoing, *“witnessing...to the ends of the earth.”* We are called to be witnesses of Christ in every vocation we may have, we witness in Word and Sacrament ministry, we witness as the Easter proclamation continues, and we witness as we gather together in parish planning meetings, Bible studies, and the many other opportunities to gather in fellowship. Indeed, in all

our interactions and gatherings, *“the Word of the Lord continues to increase and prevail mightily.”* (Acts 19:20)

Though it may be easy for us to be frightened or startled by the change in our lives, in our church, and in our world, we can all be comforted by the constant love of Jesus Christ. Please join us in the many opportunities we offer as we continue to move forward together in Christ.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!  
Alleluia!

Pastor Wright



## Early Childhood Center News

As we approach the final month of the school year, the staff is marveling at the amazing growth that has occurred this year. The most important growth we see is the spiritual growth of 67 children. No question, the BEST growth of all. **Zion ECC has extended our greeting card fundraiser until May 17.** Samples of greeting cards can be found on a table in Narthex. The preschool will now receive a \$16.00 profit for each box sold from April 17 to May 17. Please submit order forms and payment to the church office by May 17. Check (payable to Alexa Kalinski) or cash only unless you would like to Venmo payment to: Alexa-kalinski

**Last Day of School:** The last day of class will be Wednesday, May 29 for the three-year-old class who will be enjoying Ice Cream Fun Day. Thursday, May 30, the four-year old class will enjoy their Year End Celebration. We will hold a short program in the church beginning at 10:30 a.m. There will be a fellowship time immediately following the program. We will be posting a sign-up sheet if you would be willing to provide cookies, treats, or kitchen help.

Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Center has very limited availability for Fall 2024-2025. When classes are filled, we will continue to accept families on a wait list status.

Summer Camp enrollment continues this month. Camp will run from June 10 to August 9. Camp is available to children from 3 to 12 years of age. Children do not have to be enrolled in our Preschool and Early Childhood Center to attend. Full and half day camp options are available. Summer Camp may be utilized every day or may be used throughout the summer as needed.

On-line enrollment for all programs may be found at this link:

<https://schools.procareconnect.com/register/bc9d9fa0-fea5-4483-9e9f-fb168c945415>



When we witness for the Lord we are of course obeying the great commission to “... make disciples of all nations.” This will include the testimony of God’s Word to one another in plain conversation or a formally taught study. Even in casual conversation with our children it is important to remember the ultimate source of our witness. The Word of God moves in us through the Holy Spirit. His written word outshines any human testimony. In 2 Peter 1:19 the apostle Peter tells us this very thing: “We have a sure word of prophecy which we do well to heed... a light to shine in a dark place until the dawn, when the day star arises in your hearts...” Whenever we teach, there is a tendency to lean on our own earthly experience. We need to realize that more than our own experience proving God’s Word to be true, His Word validates our lives and impressions. Therefore our witness in our teaching can only be attributed to the Holy Spirit acting in us: the “daystar arising in our hearts”.

1 Corinthians 12: 28 tells us that God himself appoints teachers; this of course includes those of us with the special task of raising children. Our Lord grants us his Holy Spirit through water and the word. Pray that he will speak from our hearts and tongues!

Brad Coulson

Sunday School Superintendent





## CELEBRATE JESUS!

July 8-12

Planning continues for Vacation Bible School this summer. Helpers will be needed in many areas. Do you have a flair for decorating, teaching or assisting, crafts, snacks, childcare, music, recreation? We have something for you! Contact Tim in the office, Cori Bingham, Courtney Ross, or Jill Davis to volunteer, or if you have any questions. Watch upcoming newsletters, bulletins, and emails for more information as VBS approaches.

### SPECIAL THANKS

A huge thank you to all of our Sunday School teachers and volunteers this year!

Janah Aldrich, Brad Coulson, Jill Davis, Linda Emery, Luke Epple, Luke Epple Jr, Sharon Milan, Isabel Roe, John Schimmelmann, and Jennifer Walton!



### Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Saturday, May 18  
8:00 a.m. at Zion



*Bakker's new address is:  
8053 N 45<sup>th</sup> St.  
Brown Deer, Wisconsin, 53223*

### Request for Work Order

The Trustees have developed a new process for work that needs to be completed at either Zion or Christ the King. There are now "Request for Work Order" forms available at both Zion and CTK. Fill out the form and turn it in to either church office and it will get to the trustees for review. If you have any questions you can see either Tim or Kathy. Thank You

### Strategic Planning Update

I would like to thank everyone who came to our initial strategic planning meetings. We discussed many topics and had very honest and open discussions about three main questions facing the church: Where are we now? Where do we want to be? How do we get there?

These three questions apply to all aspects of the church. For example, we agree that strengthening our connection with other members is vital. Ideally, we want individuals to have more fellowship time with each other, but in an informal setting. We are choosing to "get to" that goal by piloting a series of small group fellowship gatherings. A few families will invite some church members to a gathering to get to know each other better. The hope is that these gatherings will occur with some regularity and may even turn into lay-led Bible studies. This is just a starting idea, but one that could greatly strengthen familial bonds with our brothers and sisters in Christ. We also will be forming some small groups to assess the viability of expanding the preschool and the viability of beginning a day school. I envision this group meeting in some regular fashion and becoming a place to bounce ideas off each other. If committees want to run an idea by a larger group, we would be glad to provide a place for discussion. Keep in mind, the strategic planning group is not a decision-making body. This will be a place for open, honest, and respectful discussion. We will have another meeting within the next month, and I will do my best to get the information to everyone. All are welcome at the meetings!  
In Christ, Chad Roe



Sunday, May 12

# STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Monthly Income & Expense Report  
through March 31, 2024

	2024	2023
YTD General Fund Income	\$ 192,927.93	\$ 225,812.93
YTD Actual Expenses	<u>\$ 187,398.57</u>	<u>\$ 219,357.87</u>
YTD Income Less Expense	\$ 5,529.36	\$ 6,455.06

## More Than a Negative

Even if you've never had to testify in court, a thousand TV shows have made you familiar with the question, "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?" Why not just make people swear to tell the truth? Or make them promise not to lie?

Any parent who has ever had to interrogate a child about a broken cookie jar or a scuffle over a toy knows the answer. There are plenty of ways to try to get out of trouble without technically lying. You tell just enough of the truth to skate on by.

We often play the game of seeing how close we can get to sinning without technically going over the line.

But in our heart of hearts we know that this is not what God intended when He gave us the commandments. He's not giving us a merely negative rule and challenging us to just barely stay away from this or that. There is much more to each commandment than a prohibition. We shouldn't just avoid murdering people — we should be of service to our neighbor.

For each negative prohibition in the commandments there is a positive good that we are to cherish and protect. In the Eighth Commandment, that gift is the reputation of our neighbor and our relationship with him:

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

Your relationship with your family members (who are your nearest neighbors), the other members of your congregation, your coworkers, and your friends is one of the most precious gifts you have been given. You need to exercise good stewardship with this gift just as much as you need to exercise good stewardship with your life, resources, time and income. This is an especially

fragile gift because it's easy to ruin a relationship with slander and talking behind someone's back. But speaking well of your neighbor in Christian love is absolutely free; it costs you nothing, yet it pays you great dividends. If you find this challenging at times, if you are tempted to speak ill of others, just remember that this other person is also a beloved child of God for whom your Lord Jesus suffered and died. Your Lord Jesus loves you both.

## Mission of the Month

### Concordia Theological Seminary – Ft. Wayne



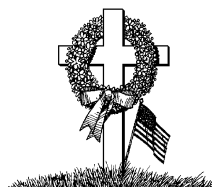
The Concordia Theological Seminary is an institution of theological higher education of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS) located in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and dedicated primarily to the preparation of pastors for congregations and missions of the LCMS and its partner churches. It offers professional, master's and doctoral degrees associated with training clergy and deaconesses for the LCMS. The seminary exists to form servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all. Consider a gift this month to help in this important mission.



## Congratulations to our LCMS U graduates!

Adam Chaffee, Dana Hayes, Ruth Magsam,  
Isabel Roe, Fay Swanson, Soumitra Palit,  
and Janet Wilson

Thank you for being a part of our Zion church family!



## Memorial Day

May 27

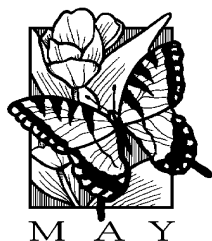
## Welcome to Rev. Larry Wright

The Board of Elders, acting on behalf of Zion members, have arranged for a Vacancy Pastor to provide us with Word and Sacrament Ministry. We all are very blessed to have Rev. Wright agree to serve us while we engage in a call process for a full-time Senior pastor. How long this may be is only known by God who already knows who that pastor will be. Rev. Wright currently plans to be available for us Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Of course, this may change as he becomes more familiar with us. Below is a brief bio of Rev. Wright.

The Rev. Larry Wright is a 2007 Master of Divinity (MDiv) graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne (CTSFW). He served at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Midland, MI until 2014 returning to CTSFW to join the Advancement staff and retired on February 2, 2024. As an Advancement Officer, Larry's primary responsibility was to call on active and prospective donors, build relationships, and request continued financial support for the Seminary and their students.

Before attending the Seminary, Larry worked for 22 years as a construction manager and licensed Professional Engineer, starting as a Project Engineer and ending as a Vice-President of Industrial Projects. Larry is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a B.S. in Architectural Engineering and earned an M.B.A. from Wright State University. His wife Pam is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a B.S. in Dental Hygiene and is an Adjunct Professor of Dental Hygiene at Delta Community College.

Larry and Pam met in Frankenmuth and have three grown children, Elizabeth, Alicia, and Alexander (wife Sarah). Larry and Pam are the proud grandparents of two granddaughters, Ada and Kasey Wright.



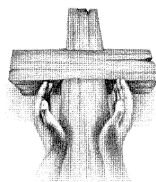
## TRANSITIONS

Every other year, the voters of Zion elect 50+ leaders to carry out the mission and ministry of our church. We thank those leaders for their ongoing service. There are many others in our congregation who have been asked to serve in one capacity or another. Although some have had reasons for declining for the time being, I hope and pray that you will eventually accept the call to serve when asked or simply volunteer. You are never too old. In addition, there are many short-term tasks that one can accept and many have done so. We thank you also.

During our time of vacancy, Rev. Wright will be providing our Word and Sacrament ministry. Do we now stop all of our responsibilities until a full-time pastor arrives? Definitely Not! As Pastor Wright espoused during his welcome on April 14, the work of the church's disciples must continue. Do not say "let's wait until the full-time pastor arrives before we make that decision." With that attitude, the mission and ministry here at Zion/CTK comes to a halt. During this transition time, you may want to consider engaging in an activity you have not tried previously.

Thanks to all who helped with the Farewell Celebration for Pastor and Anne Bakker!

Dale Gust, Executive Director



Ascension Day Service

Thursday, May 9

5:30 p.m. at Zion



*Blood Drive*

**Thursday, May 23**

**12:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. at Zion**

Please go to [REDCROSS.ORG](https://REDCROSS.ORG) there you will find the heading "GIVE BLOOD". Click on it for information.

**NURSE'S NOTE:** We all have been touched by cancer. We have had cancer or we know someone who has cancer, or someone who died from it. This is part 3 of a 3-part series on understanding mutation of cells, risk factors, and prevention of cancer. The following information was taken from the Mayo Clinic website for disease and conditions.

*Isaiah 40:31 "they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."*

**Complications** Cancer and its treatment can cause several complications, including:

●**Pain.** Pain can be caused by cancer or by cancer treatment, though not all cancer is painful. Medications and other approaches can effectively treat cancer-related pain.

●**Fatigue.** Fatigue in people with cancer has many causes, but it can often be managed. Fatigue associated with chemotherapy or radiation therapy treatments is common, but it's usually temporary.

●**Difficulty breathing.** Cancer or cancer treatment may cause a feeling of being short of breath. Treatments may bring relief.

●**Nausea.** Certain cancers and cancer treatments can cause nausea. Your doctor can sometimes predict if your treatment is likely to cause nausea. Medications and other treatments may help you prevent or decrease nausea.

●**Diarrhea or constipation.** Cancer and cancer treatment can affect your bowels and cause diarrhea or constipation.

●**Weight loss.** Cancer and cancer treatment may cause weight loss. Cancer steals food from normal cells and deprives them of nutrients. This is often not affected by how many calories or what kind of food is eaten; it's difficult to treat. In most cases, using artificial nutrition through tubes into the stomach or vein does not help change the weight loss.

●**Chemical changes in your body.** Cancer can upset the normal chemical balance in your body and increase your risk of serious complications. Signs and symptoms of chemical imbalances might include excessive thirst, frequent urination, constipation and confusion.

●**Brain and nervous system problems.** Cancer can press on nearby nerves and cause pain and loss of function of one part of your body.

Cancer that involves the brain can cause headaches and stroke-like signs and symptoms, such as weakness on one side of your body.

●**Unusual immune system reactions to cancer.**

In some cases the body's immune system may react to the presence of cancer by attacking healthy cells. Called paraneoplastic syndromes, these very rare reactions can lead to a variety of signs and symptoms, such as difficulty walking and seizures.

●**Cancer that spreads.** As cancer advances, it may spread (metastasize) to other parts of the body. Where cancer spreads depends on the type of cancer.

●**Cancer that returns.** Cancer survivors have a risk of cancer recurrence. Some cancers are more likely to recur than others. Ask your doctor about what you can do to reduce your risk of cancer recurrence. Your doctor may devise a follow-up care plan for you after treatment. This plan may include periodic scans and exams in the months and years after your treatment, to look for cancer recurrence.

### **Prevention**

Doctors have identified several ways to reduce your risk of cancer, such as:

●**Stop smoking.** If you smoke, quit. If you don't smoke, don't start. Smoking is linked to several types of cancer—not just lung cancer. Stopping now will reduce your risk of cancer in the future.

●**Avoid excessive sun exposure.** Harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun can increase your risk of skin cancer. Limit your sun exposure by staying in the shade, wearing protective clothing or applying sunscreen.

●**Eat a healthy diet.** Choose a diet rich in fruits and vegetables. Select whole grains and lean proteins. Limit your intake of processed meats.

●**Exercise most days of the week.** Regular exercise is linked to a lower risk of cancer. Aim for at least 30 minutes of exercise most days of the week. If you haven't been exercising regularly, start out slowly and work your way up to 30 minutes or longer.

●**Maintain a healthy weight.** Being overweight or obese may increase your risk of cancer. Work to achieve and maintain a healthy weight through a combination of a healthy diet and regular exercise.

●**Drink alcohol in moderation, if you choose to drink.** If you choose to drink alcohol, do so in moderation. For healthy adults, that means up to one drink a day for women and up to two drinks a day for men.

● **Schedule cancer screening exams.** Talk to your doctor about what types of cancer screening exams are best for you based on your risk factors.

● **Ask your doctor about immunizations.** Certain viruses increase your risk of cancer. Immunizations may help prevent those viruses, including hepatitis B, which increases the risk of liver cancer, and human papillomavirus (HPV), which increases the risk of cervical cancer and other cancers. Ask your doctor whether immunization against these viruses is appropriate for you. I hope you have found this 3 part series informative. Of course this is just skimming the surface when it comes to information and knowledge of cancer. Please, if you have concerns speak to your health care provider. Time is always of the essence!

God Bless,

Phillis Daws RN, BSN

989.621.8583 or [zionparishnurse@gmail.com](mailto:zionparishnurse@gmail.com)

## Zion Lutheran Women's Guild



### Simple Trust... Known By the Creator

#### In the Word

*"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand". John 10:27-28*

#### Of the Word

What creature has a tongue as long and as heavy as a full grown elephant? A blue whale

Imagine how frightening it would be to end up in the mouth of a blue whale. Most likely that will never happen, but we sometimes do end up in frightening situations. In those times we must remember that we are in the hands of the One who created that enormous blue whale as well as each of us. Those hands bring comfort because we know we are safe. Though He is so large even the universe cannot contain Him, in His hands we are at peace because we are secure and protected in His love.

Take a deep breath. Relax. You are in the hands of One who will never let go of you. His hold on you is His great love for you. He does not want to overpower you; He wants to empower you. *"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand". John 10:27-28*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**NOTE:** Our group is trying to generate different activities and speakers, but we need your input. If you have ideas please contact Kathy Nims @ 989-294-1373.

**HOT ITEM: MITES, MITES. MITES:**  
**Do you have pockets of change? Remember our mite box is looking for loose change.**

Our deadline is April 30.

**Craft and Fellowship Hours** are cancelled for the rest of this year due to low attendance. We will re-evaluate this in the coming months.

**Quilting Group** Every Tuesday at Zion  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 Noon; 12:00 – 1:00 (lunch)  
and 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. come as you wish !

**General Meeting with Election of Officers**  
**Saturday, May 18 at 9:30 a.m. with brunch**

**Lunch at Herrick House, Clare**  
**Saturday, June 15 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Ice Cream Social – Sunday, July 21**

**Orphan Grain Train** – Continue to place clothing that is clean and in good condition in the containers at Zion. Please put items in small bags or garbage bags. However do not overfill large bags.



#### Who We Are

Have you often wondered who we are and what do we stand for? In the following months, there will be little inserts about LWML. Did you know that because we are an auxiliary of LCMS, you are a member? That means that for this group to function, we invite you to come to our meetings and events. We need you! We want to hear your input.

*"Serve the Lord with Gladness-"*  
*Psalm 100:2*

