

# Zion Lutheran Church

210 North Wayne Street  
Saint Marys, Ohio 45885

Zion Lutheran Church is a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC)  
a congregation of the Northwest Ohio Mission District.

A monthly publication of Zion Lutheran Church

August, Volume 2025, Issue 7

***In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth.***

***Martin Luther, Small Catechism,***

***Explanation of the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed***

What does the Holy Spirit do for you? In this third part of our series, we'll focus on how the Spirit "enlightens" us.

The Holy Spirit, as noted previously, gathers us together into the Church. Within this Church, the Spirit now works to enlighten us, in the sense of giving us wisdom in our faith. The Spirit works among us to bring wisdom in a variety of ways, including:

- A) Continuing to point us to the light of Jesus. Jesus taught us that He is the light of the world. At Zion, we have two windows at the front of our worship space (where the light of Christ literally shines through) that portray the stories of cross and resurrection, constantly reminding us that Jesus is the center of our faith.
- B) Providing us the Holy Scriptures. The Bible teaches us that "all scripture is inspired by God" (2 Timothy 3:16). This means that every single person who helped write the Bible was being guided by the Holy Spirit. The Bible stands apart from every other book ever written, because of the inspiration of the Spirit. Now as we read these divinely-inspired Words, the Spirit guides us in our own reading and understanding, so that we too are inspired by God through these scriptures.
- C) Providing, through the Church, opportunities to learn and grow in faith. We learn together. We study together. Together, members of denominations have developed systems to write and publish curriculums for Sunday School and Confirmation and Vacation Bible School, and the Spirit now works through each of those ministries to shine the light of Jesus in our lives.
- D) Guiding our daily decisions. Because we have studied these scriptures provided through the Spirit, we are wise to live our lives in the light of the gospel. And when we face particularly difficult decisions in life, we can draw on the wisdom of other Christians (through the Church that the Spirit has gathered), and we can pray directly to Father, Son, and Spirit for personal guidance to make God-honoring decisions.

What an incredible blessing it is, that God has given us the Holy Spirit to enlighten us!

*Pastor Paul*

1 - [www.zionstmarys.org](http://www.zionstmarys.org)

## Memorials

Thanks to the following family and friends who gave memorials for the following people:

- Jan Rohrbach: Nora & Harry Staunton
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## Prayer List

*We invite you to include the following people in your daily prayers (family and friends of members of Zion):*

Janet Dicke, Brent Paulus, Michael Moore, Tom Kaster, Vicki Bishir, Warren Hoenie, Carolyn Slemmons, Vicki Homan, Eileen Zimmerman, Paul Leasor, Amy Berner, Kurt Deitsch, Loretta Scott, Peggy Fowler, Ryan Yahl, Victoria Hoenie, Joanne Stetler, Ruth Doering, Jay Kuck, Joel, Ray Timmerman, Sally VanBelkum, Eva Oxenreider, sympathy to the family Jan Rohrbach, Sympathy to the family of Joan Stetler and the victims of the floods in Texas.

Please pray for Sean Lawler, Andrew Johnson, Michael Carroll, Nathan Adams, Jacob Yahl, Daniel C. Lukac IV, Michael Franklin and Wyatt Duncan, who are in the service. Please pray for them, their family and their safe return home.

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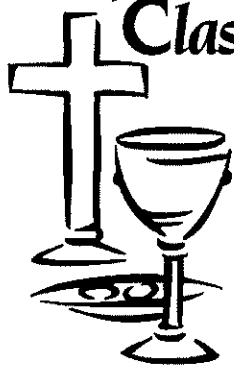
## August Member Birthdays

Wishing a Happy Birthday to the following members of Zion Lutheran Church. We invite you to pray for the following people on their special day.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1-Andrew Robinson                                  | 16-William Willmann, Jr.  |
| 2-Aaron Homan, Larry Homan, Walker Spector         | 17-Suzanne Ankerman, John Yahl, Ava Johns                           |
| 3-Darrel Storer                                    | 18-Victoria Hardeman, Nathan Homan                                  |
| 4-Theodore Henry II                                | 22-Lennon Post, Elle Yates  |
| 5-David Mc Dermitt, J. Martin Miller, Mark Torsell | 23-Krista Clausing, Jane Schmeising                                 |
| 6-Richard Hecht, Ralph Peyton                      | 24-Vicki Homan, Jeremie Houser, Amelia Johns                        |
| 8-Grady Hughes                                     | 25-Doris Cook, Lucas Hobler   |
| 10-Matthew Hoenie                                  | 26-Stanley Brown  |
| 11-Harley Mertz                                    | 27-Deanna Gibson  |
| 13-Alan Hague, Lauren Wobler, Jenna Yahl           | 28-Jacob Ackroyd, Allan Broyles Jr., Everett Cernan, Jennifer Moyar |
| 14-Mytchell Hollenbacher, Cheryl Macklem           | 29-Linda Suchland   |
| 15-Thomas Bergman, Myra Clark, Kathy Schneider     | 31-Jo Ann Hoenie, Janet Yahl, Eliza Yahl, Brooklyn Huttis           |

If your name was omitted or a correction needs to be made in this list of birthdays, please contact the church office, 419-394-3115.

# Confirmation Class



## Confirmation Classes Begin

It's time for Confirmation! Confirmation is a special ministry with and for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. It's a two-year program to teach the basic beliefs of the Lutheran church and to help strengthen relationships with Jesus and each other.

There will be an information meeting about Confirmation on Wednesday, August 20, at 7 p.m., in Zion's auditorium. You'll learn the schedule for the year, as well as expectations of the students for service and worship.

A letter is being sent to the prospective students that we know about. The congregation can help to make sure we don't miss anybody! If you know of someone in this age group who could be in Confirmation, invite them. Or pass their name and information along to the church office.

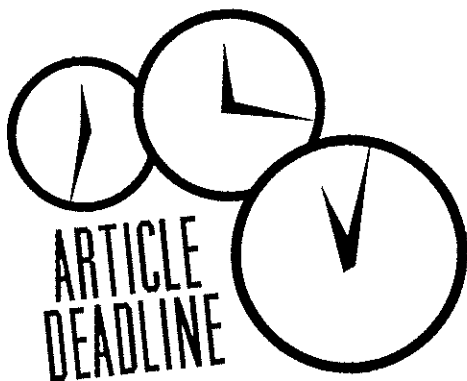
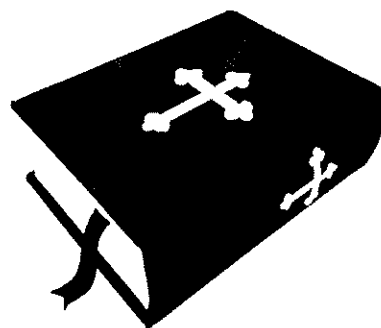
We're excited about this new year of teaching and learning. If you'd like more information, you can contact lay leader Heidi Yahl ([heidiyahl@yahoo.com](mailto:heidiyahl@yahoo.com)) or Pastor Paul Gruetter ([paulgruetter@gmail.com](mailto:paulgruetter@gmail.com)).

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## Collecting Bibles for Disaster Victims

We will be collecting new or good used Bibles, to be given to the NALC warehouse. The NALC warehouse distributes the Bibles to those who have experienced a natural disaster. Bibles may be placed in box marked on cart by the elevator.

We received a special gift of \$1,000 this past month for this cause. With this gift we were able to purchase 124 Bibles, to be given to the NALC warehouse to distribute. Thank you for your kindness and gift.



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## Newsletter Article Deadline

The deadline to submit articles for our September Newsletter is Friday, August 15. Please submit all articles to the church office by 3:30 p.m. Here are the various ways to submit your articles to us:

- Fax: 419-394-1239
- Bring it to the church office by the deadline.
- Write us a note on the "I Worshiped Today"
- Send your article by e-mail: [kbishir@hotmail.com](mailto:kbishir@hotmail.com)
- Leave a message on our answering machine: 419-394-3115, after 4:30 p.m. (**Let it ring 5 times, then you will get the answering machine**)

## 2025 Flower Chart

The 2025 Flower Chart is on the bulletin board by the alley entrance. We invite you to select the date you wish to provide flowers. On the **Tuesday** before the date you selected, order your arrangement from your favorite florist, and *contact the church office, 419-394-3115*, by 12:30 p.m., to let us know what information you would like included in the bulletin. The flower chart has been posted by the elevator. **Dates available are:**

- **August 3 & 31**
  - **September 7 & 28**
  - **October 5, 12, 19 & 26**
  - **November 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30**
  - **December 7, 14, 21 & 28**
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## Zion's Web Address

Our web address is: **www.zionstmarys.org**. We continually change the appearance, post up-to-date announcements, update our schedules, and update our calendar. Bookmark us and visit our website regularly.

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## August Loose Offering

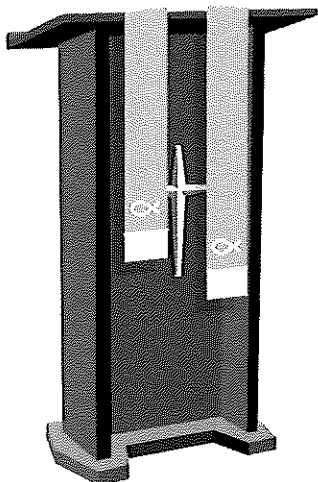
The loose offering for the month of August is earmarked to support the mission of the church, in supporting the college scholarship program for our youth. The scholarship money assists our college students with tuition fees, through an application process set up by the church.

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## Radio Broadcast/Livestreaming of Worship Service

- We have installed equipment for livestreaming of our worship services. Our worship services can be found on our Facebook page. Volunteers are needed to help with recording each of the services. Please contact the church office, 419-394-3115, about this ministry.
  - Our 8 a.m. worship service is broadcast live on **WCSM radio 96.7 FM** each Sunday morning. Thank you to our primary sponsor of our WCSM radio broadcast—St. Marys Chrysler. Volunteers are needed to help with the sound board. No experience needed! Anyone interested in running the sound board during worship will be trained. We would like to have more people for rotation purposes. Contact the church office, 419-394-3115, if you can help.
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## Assignments



### Zion's 2025 pulpit supply schedule is as follows:

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- Wednesday, July 2nd, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl\*
- Sunday, July 6th, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Wednesday, July 9th, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Sunday, July 13th, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Wednesday, July 16th, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Sunday, July 20th, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Wednesday, July 23rd, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Sunday, July 27th, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Wednesday, July 30th, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl\*
- Sunday, August 3rd, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl\*
- Wednesday, August 6th, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl\*
- Sunday, August 10th, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Wednesday, August 13th, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Sunday, August 17th, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Wednesday, August 20th, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Sunday, August 24th, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Wednesday, August 27th, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Sunday, August 31st, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Wednesday, September 3rd, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl\*
- Sunday, September 7th, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Wednesday, September 10th, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Sunday, September 14th, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Wednesday, September 17, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl

*\*Holy Communion Service*

Join us for worship weekly on Sunday or Wednesday. A special thanks to Vice-Pastor Paul Gruetter and Lay Leader Heidi Yahl, for their dedicated leadership and guidance. We appreciate your unwavering faith and the love you share with our congregation.

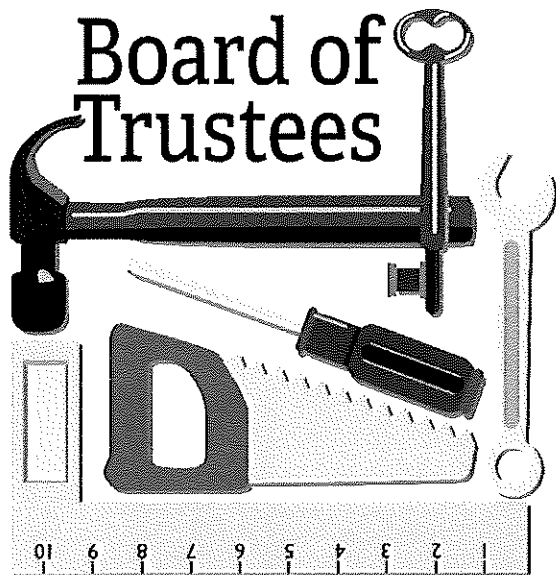


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### Creative Crafters for August 2025

**August Craft:** *Lanyard and Key Fob.* Never lose your keys again, thanks to a lanyard. This handy accessory is cute and you made it yourself. Use for yourself or give it as a back-to-school gift. The fee will be \$5 for fabric and materials. This is a craft for all ages. We will meet on Sunday, August 17, at 1:15 p.m., in the craft room. Sign up in the notebook in the Narthex.

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## 2 Projects/Improvements

- The trustees will be updating the **carpet** in the lounge and Pastor's study. If you are interested in helping to reduce the cost of the carpeting, please earmark your envelope "**carpets**" and we will see that your gift is given to this project.
- Also, in the Pastor's study the **captain's chair** is to be replaced and the **accent chairs** have been cleaned. If you are interested in helping defray the cost of the chairs in the Pastor's study, earmark your envelope "**chairs**" for this project.

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## Pastor Gruetter Available for Visits

Pastor Paul Gruetter, serving as Zion's vice-pastor, can be reached at 567-201-3455 or paulgruetter@gmail.com. On the Wednesdays when Pastor Paul is leading our Wednesday evening worship service, he plans to arrive in St. Marys early and be available for visits and pastoral consultation, so feel free to contact him. **August 13<sup>th</sup>, is the next Wednesday that Pastor Paul will be here, by 3:30 p.m.**

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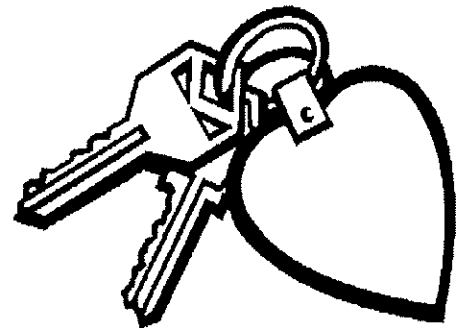
## The Wise & The Foolish Bible Study

The women of Zion will be starting their Wednesday & Thursday Bible Studies, in September on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> (7 p.m.) and Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, (2 p.m.) The Bible study "The Wise & The Foolish" study books are \$10 each. Please register on the "I Worshiped Today" or contact the church office by Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.

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## Creative Crafters: Lanyard & Key Ring Set

The August Craft includes a matching lanyard and key ring, perfect for back to school. The lanyard is something simple to make, and you can say "I made it myself". The date we will assemble the lanyards will be Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, at 1:15 p.m., in the craft room (second floor of the education building). The fee will be \$5 for fabric and materials. Sign up in the binder on display table in Narthex. This craft is for all ages.




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"Time spent in prayer is never wasted."—François Fénelon

## Book Club News

Book to be read for Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, meeting: The Berry Pickers by Amanda Peters. Pilcher. The meeting will be led by Betty Hussey.

All meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. Contact Pam Fledderjohann for questions about the book club: [kpf@bright.net](mailto:kpf@bright.net)

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## Women's Fellowship Bible Study to Begin

Women's Fellowship will resume on Monday, September 8, 2025. Everyone is welcome to join our group on Monday evenings at 7 p.m., in the church lounge! Our 8-week study for the fall will be, The Augsburg Confession. For those who wish to participate in this study, please contact the church office by 8/25/25 to sign up so that a study guide can be ordered for you. You may also sign up on the I Worship Today bulletin insert. The cost of the study guide will be determined after the order is placed (typically around \$12-15). In addition to the study guide, you will need to purchase for yourself (if you don't already have, or can't find a copy to borrow), the book, Concordia, The Lutheran Confessions. This sells for \$18.99 on Amazon. The Concordia will be used along with the study guide and the Bible. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Fledderjohann, 419-953-2334.

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## Direct Deposit App/QR Code

Just as you rely upon receiving income on a regular basis, Zion relies on your regular contributions. Zion appreciates the efforts of congregation members to make consistent donations throughout the year—especially during popular travel periods. To assist you the church also has direct deposit available, a link on our website to donate to Zion besides the envelopes that are sent out. We thank you in advance for your gifts to Zion.



## Year-to-Date Financial Information

Financial Information: Our current financial information for Zion is as follows for year-to-date 7/22/2025.

- 1/1/2025 Beginning Balance--\$108,865
  - JULY YTD Income--\$142,722
  - JULY YTD Expenses—(\$128,209)
  - Payroll WH/Benevolence—\$323
  - JULY 2025 Ending Bank Balance
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“Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.” —William Arthur Ward

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Zion Lutheran Church  
210 N. Wayne St.  
St. Marys, Ohio 45885-2194  
zionlutheranstmarys@bright.net  
[www.zionstmarys.org](http://www.zionstmarys.org)

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*Return "Service" Requested*



### 2025 Church Council

#### ORGANIZATION:

*President . . . Neal Brady*

*Vice-President . . . William D. Kellermeyer, Jr.*

*Secretary . . . Sandy Wierwille*

*Assistant . . . Melanie Rose*

*Treasurer . . . Stanley Brown*

*Assistant . . . Amy Hesse*

- **COUNCIL AT LARGE:** Thelma Kellermeyer, Melanie Rose, Dwight Schramm, Linda Yahl, Amy Hesse & Stanley Brown
- **BOARD OF DEACONS:** Dianne Uhlenhake, John Hesse, Ryan Yahl, Deb Henning, Cheryl Macklem, Jeanne Wurster, Rhonda Weaver, Judy Schultz & Dwayne Hoenie
- **BOARD ELDERS:** Kathy Miller, Darl Bishir & Mark Torsell
- **BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Eric Langsdon, Jeremie Houser, Bill Kellermeyer & Scott Cisco
- **BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION:** Sandy Wierwille, Kerri Masonbrink, Alexa Coldiron & Stephanie Ross
- **YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE:** Jake Ackroyd
- **MEMBERS TO THE TRUST FUND:** Doris Cook, Darl Bishir, Marion Slater, Rick Green & Bill Kellermeyer