

Zion Lutheran Church
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Pastor Erin Evans
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Office Hours
Tuesday: 8:30 a.m.-Noon
Thursday: 8:30 a.m.-Noon
Friday 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m.

A Note From Your Pastor....

I attended our synod's annual Assembly at PennWest (formerly California University). We celebrated, among other things, the first woman to reach 50 years ordained in this synod, Pastor Caroline Mendis. Here's a little bit about our synod's time together and the theme for the event:

We each make thousands of decisions daily that impact, not just ourselves, but our families, congregations, and communities. It can be hard to hear God's whisper guiding us to faithful decisions and holy outcomes amid the noise of the world. St. Ignatius of Loyola gifted us with EXAMEN, a five-step method of reflection that invites God's presence in our daily lives and discernment.

Thanksgiving, Petition, Review, Response, Look Ahead

In the coming year, between this Assembly and the next, our synod will experience many changes and our leaders will be entrusted to follow God's will in making decisions... not the least of which will be the 2025 election of a new Bishop. This Assembly will teach the method of Examen so that we may build new skills, engage in sacred practice, and set out for the year ahead with confidence and clarity. Together, we will learn how to transform discernment from a merely theoretical concept to a lived reality that can profoundly shape our shared future.

As we look ahead to the next year in our congregation, these steps to discernment may help us too, both individually and as a community of faith. Even as our congregations are so outwardly focused serving the community, inward reflection is required. What are we doing well? Where have we fallen short? What can we improve on? Have we prayed for God's direction and perspective? How can we faithfully respond to the challenges before us and plan for the future?

The interim between called pastors is a good chance to pause and reflect on these questions. Some of the things I've been hearing in my visits is a chance to improve communications and a chance to put in place plans and procedures that are welcoming to new members unfamiliar with our church, not just those members who "know how things are done." **Being intentional about saying who we are, what we do, and how we do it, is one of the best ways to show welcome and hospitality.**

We'll look at our congregations' constitutions as well as the yoking agreement. We'll be improving our social media presence to better our public witness. We'll put into place concrete ways our congregation ministers to those who are homebound or currently inactive, and make sure all are aware of it. We'll be working as individual councils to foster relationships of compassion and trust among us as elected leadership and in the congregation.

With you on the journey,
Pastor Erin Evans

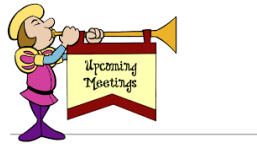


July 1 – John (B.J.) Burgh
 July 15 – Bill Gasior
 July 28 – Linda Armstrong
 July 30 – Arlene Cameron

August 1 – John Pflug
 August 6 – Pam Ferrainolo
 August 11 – Tom Bickert
 August 13 – Ella Wright
 August 20 – Jeff Miller, Blair Hall
 August 25 – Cory Latch



August 14 – John & Pat Pflug
 August 15 – Jeff & Jodi Miller



August 6 – Worship Team 6 p.m.
 August 8 – Council 6 p.m.



July 7—Combined at St. Paul
 July 14 – Debbie Muders
 July 21 – Tom Bickert
 July 28 – Dave Kennedy

August 4 – Pat Pflug
 August 11 – Frank Porter
 August 18 – Tom Bickert
 August 25 – Doug Trimble



July 7—Combined at St. Paul
 July 14 – Marsha Davis
 July 21 – Pam Ferrainolo
 July 28 – Doug Trimble

August 4 – Tom Bickert
 August 11 – Joanne Porter
 August 18 – Pam Ferrainolo
 August 25 – Marsha Davis



July 7—Combined at St. Paul
 July 14 – Sthela Holly & Tom Bickert
 July 21 – Bill Gasior & Sally Measel
 July 28 – Chris & Doug Trimble

August 4 – Chris & Doug Trimble
 August 11 – Bill Gasior & Sthela Holly
 August 18 – Carla Wright & Sally Measel
 August 25 – Chris & Doug Trimble



July 7—Combined at St. Paul
 July 14 – Tom Bickert
 July 21 – Bill Gasior
 July 28 – Chris Trimble

August 4 – Chris & Doug Trimble
 August 11 – Bill Gasior & Sthela Holly
 August 18 – Carla Wright & Sally Measel
 August 25 – Chris & Doug Trimble



July 7— Combined at St. Paul
 July 14 –
 July 21 –
 July 28 –

August 4 –
 August 11 –
 August 18 –
 August 25 –Trimble



FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

Is your child or grandchild asking questions about their participation in the Lord's Supper? They are probably ready to learn about Holy Communion and receive the sacrament! Let Pastor Erin know as she sets a few dates for classes soon, and the children will bake bread with Pastor Erin to be used during worship!

THE CHOSEN

THE CHOSEN

Season 4, Bible study beginning Wednesday, July 10, 6:30 p.m. at Zion and continuing for eight consecutive weeks through August 28.

Even if you have not attended previously, you can pick up where Season 4 begins and if interested you can view seasons 1 through 3 by going to The Chosen app and seeing it for FREE. This is open to all of St. Paul and Zion members and anyone else who you may want to invite outside our congregations.

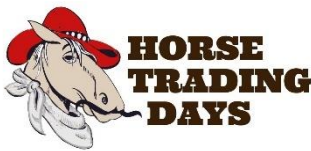


Chairs for sale

The old chairs that were in the social hall are available to anyone wishing to take them. We ask that you let the office know how many you are taking and, if possible, make a donation back to the memorial fund.

HORSE TRADING DAYS July 18-20

ZHLM will have a presence at the "Kidz Corral!" We'll set a table or two under a tent and Pastor Erin is working on coordinating easy and fun kids' crafts and give aways. We'd also like to be able to give away free cold bottles of water!



Two ways to help:

- Donate a case of water! Drop off in either church in the next few weeks.
- Sign up for a time to help at the booth!

Let Pastor Erin know which day and what time you are available!

We also plan on having the church open for anyone who would like to look around. More details coming soon!

School and hygiene kits



While the school year has just finished, the summer will fly by before we realize it. On September 8, on “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday, we will once again pack these kits. While out during the summer months, keep your eyes open for sales on the following items that are needed for the kits. Please leave all items in the office so they don’t get mixed up with food cupboard items.

Hygiene kits

- Hand towels - 15” x 28” to 16” x 32” NO MICROFIBER TOWELS
- Wash clothes - NO MICROFIBER
- Wide-tooth comb at least 6” of teeth
- Fingernail or toenail clippers
- Regular size bar of soap
- Toothbrush
- Band-Aids

School kits

- Blunt scissors - NO POINTED TIP
- 70-page spiral bound notebooks
- 12” ruler
- Hand held pencil sharpener
- Large erasers - NO CAP ERASERS
- Unsharpened pencils
- Box of 24 crayons

BUTLER COUNTY FOOD CUPBOARD

Summer food cupboard needs: Goldfish (snack size), oatmeal, pasta, fruit snacks, soups, Ramen noodles cookie mix, hygiene essentials, mac n cheese, cereal bars, pet food, Knorr sides.

Place your donation in the collection box located in the church narthex. Food donations can also be dropped off at Zion Lutheran Church

- Volunteers are needed on the following days:
 - Second Tuesday of the month to stock shelves 9 a.m.– noon
 - Third Monday of the month, 9 a.m.– Unload Food Bank delivery truck
 - Third Tuesday of the month, 9 a.m. – Pack food, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. hand out food.
- If you would like to volunteer, please contact Phyllis Metz at 724- 452-5993.

Summer 2024 Calendar

ZION		ST. PAUL		ZHLM	
<i>July 7 10 a.m.</i>	Combined service at St. Paul	<i>July 7 10 a.m.</i>	Combined service at St. Paul	<i>July 7 10 a.m.</i>	Combined service at St. Paul
		<i>July 8 6 p.m.</i>	Council		
<i>July 10 6:30 p.m.</i>	The Chosen				
<i>July 17 6:30 p.m.</i>	The Chosen				
		<i>July 18 4:30-6:30 p.m.</i>	Spaghetti Dinner		
<i>July 24 6:30 p.m.</i>	The Chosen				
<i>July 31 6:30 p.m.</i>	The Chosen				
<i>August 6 6 p.m.</i>	Worship Team				
<i>August 4 10 a.m.</i>	Combined service at Zion with picnic to follow	<i>August 4 10 a.m.</i>	Combined service at Zion with picnic to follow	<i>August 4 10 a.m.</i>	Combined service at Zion with picnic to follow
<i>August 8 6 p.m.</i>	Council				
<i>August 7 6:30 p.m.</i>	The Chosen				
<i>August 14 6:30 p.m.</i>	The Chosen				
<i>August 21 6:30 p.m.</i>	The Chosen				
<i>August 28 6:30 p.m.</i>	The Chosen				



Minutes of Council Meeting Thursday, June 13, 2024, 6 p.m.

In Attendance: Pr. Erin Evans, Tom Bickert, Bill Gasior, Sally Measel, Chris Trimble, Doug Trimble, Carla Wright.

Absent: Sthela Gun Holly

The meeting was opened with Devotions and Prayer by Sally Measel. This was written by Rev. Dr. Alexander Y. Sumo, Pittsburgh Lutheran United Ministries (PLUM). Based on James 3:17 “The wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure, then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.” Rev. Sumo talks of making transitions during very difficult and uncertain times, but we need to pray about it and not make decisions too quickly but to discern God’s calling. Then let go of security. We can’t move forward in faith while holding on to the past. Let go and let God! May the Holy Spirit be our guide in the transitions we face in life.

Secretary's Report – Motion to accept was made by Chris and seconded by Carla.

Treasurer's Report:

Contributions by envelope and plate, as well as rental income, for MAY (three Sundays) totaled \$9,364.75, compared to the budgeted amount of \$8,848. Giving was \$516.75 MORE than needed to meet monthly budget. For the year, contributions and rental income total \$54,609, compared to our budgeted amount of \$46,452.

Giving year-to-date is \$8,157 more than budgeted.

Our average weekly attendance for the three Sundays in MAY was 42.

Other:

\$50 in Glade Run account will be sent to them.

Two more checks came in for Lenten Denial which will be forwarded to cause sent previous money to.

Flower Fund line will be cleared with payment of \$15 for Easter flowers delivery.

ZHLM PASTOR ERIN’S REPORT FOR MAY 1-31

HOME COMMUNIONS/HOMEBOUND: Dave Peoples, Sally and Tom Davis, Soni Grabowski, Pat Givens, Eleanor Dindinger

I’ve spoken with both Pr. Johns and Pr. Suhr-Barkley about who had been visited and who to see next

60 people in 60 days: 29 so far! 40 by mid-June.

MEETINGS

St. Paul Council

St. Paul Worship Committee

Call Committee

Zion Worship Committee

Attended: Lutherlyn Camp Blast, Mother's Day Tea @ Zion, Ham Loaf Dinner @ St. Paul's, Conference 2 Pre-Assembly Caucus

Pastoral Acts: Funeral for Suzanne Wimsett on May 7th (Pastor Tim Dawes' Sister)

Mileage for May: 299 Miles

- Working with Megan to organize office files, space, etc.
- Learning about each congregation's worship style from Worship Assistants and Organists
- Updating Parish Registers and updating directory, list of active members with contact info
- Proofing and editing Bulletins, newsletters, etc.
- Admin. for both congregation's Facebook pages, working on social media presence and communication.
- Registered for Synod Assembly, but unable to get lay interest this year.
- Weekly sermons, worship prep., children's sermons, and prayers for the congregation.
- Let's begin planning for Horse Trading Days! Who wants to do it? What shall we do!?

UPCOMING

- First communion classes in the works (Scarlett, Lexi, Maddie, and ?)
- Going to meet with Barb Burgh's great-nephew about Baptism.
- Upcoming retreats and vacations: Pr. Erin will be out of town after church on June 30, July 1, and July 2.

July 28 – Aug. 2, Pastor will be attending a clergy couple and family retreat.

Christina Hough, Director of Mission Advancement at Glade Run, will preside Sunday, August 11, while Pr. Erin is on vacation with her family from August 11 to 17.

Pastor Erin Evans

Intentional Interim Pastor

ZHLM (Zelienople Harmony Lutheran Ministries)

Old Business:

- AV Computer Update – A 2021 bid from Spectrum Audio Productions was presented. Bill will get an updated bid plus an additional one. If we go with this, it will save us buying a new computer and solve the ongoing problems that keep happening in recording services.
- Survey Update – We got three more surveys. Some are interested in a boat ride at Moraine. There are several choices that will be looked into, and a date chosen.
- Audit Update – With the paperwork being done by the Call Committee almost concluded, now a date can be set to complete the audit, as it involves some of the same people.
- Synod Convention – Pr. Erin could not solicit any lay delegates to attend at Cal U this year, but both she and her husband attended June 14 and 15. Bill asked about a zoom option which should be available. Pr. Erin is chairperson of the nominating committee for Synod. Sthela had agreed to be listed as a delegate on the ballot for attending the ELCA convention in AZ, in July, 2025. Sthela was elected.

New Business:

- Call Committee MSP Presentation – The first part of tonight’s meeting was Jessica Gasior and Thom Cipro reading through all the paperwork for the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) that the Call Committee has diligently been working on. St. Paul’s Council approved it last night and Zion’s Council accepted it this night with a motion to approve by Chris, seconded by Sally. Motion passed unanimously. The document will be sent to Pr. Peter Asplin at Synod next. We thank the members of the Call Committee for the time and effort they have spent on preparing this document in pursuit of our next call for a permanent full-time pastor.
- Pastor John’s Final Payments – The issue was identified and is being resolved.
- Baptism and First Communion – Pr. Erin obtained books for Baptisms and First Communions.
- Pastor Evans onboarding progress and discussion – Pr. Erin is working on red registry book that had not been updated in past five years. We went through list of funerals/deaths she provided. Pr. Peggy Suhr-Barkley’s grand baby will be baptized at Zion in July.
 - Pr. Erin said volunteers are needed from Zion during Horse Trading Days, July 18, 19, and 20 to give away cold bottles of water, lollipops, and stickers and help with crafts, chalk, bubbles. St. Paul will not be selling lunches but will have a spaghetti dinner the evening of Thursday, July 18.
 - Pastor questioned there being addresses of shut-ins in the bulletins. We need an updated directory and then this will no longer be needed.
- Missionary in Madagascar, Pr. Kristen Engstom, is now available for us to support. Chris motioned we accept her as our missionary, Doug seconded, motion carried. Our previous missionary was no longer working there.
- Other: Metal chairs in social hall, not ones on rack, are available. They can be taken (with a donation, if desired). Pr. Erin will ask at next Ministerial meeting if anyone can use them.

We discussed the possibility of needing to add two small or one larger air conditioning unit(s) in the social hall on wall paralleling the sidewalk.

Doug wants to get rid of the old printer in hall to Pastor’s office. The puzzles need to go as well or at least be moved. Pr. Erin would really appreciate that hall being cleared.

TEAM REPORTS:

Property:

5-23-2024 - Burned and cleaned up apple tree in back of the parking lot.

6-3-2024 - Hauled away apple tree with help of neighbors.

6-6-2024 - Fixed hole in parking lot by Route 19. One more still to fix.

Submitted by Frank Porter.

Fellowship: No Report.

Human Needs and Services:

Road clean-up was completed Monday morning, June 10, 2024. Six people participated.

Thanks for all who helped with this project.

Worship:

The Worship Team met on June 4, 2024, at 6 p.m. at the church. In attendance were Pam Ferrainolo, Tom Bickert, Marsha Davis, and Doug Trimble. Pastor Erin Evans and Joanne Porter were absent due to other commitments.

We opened the meeting with a prayer.

Setting 7 will again be used until Lent 2025 (however, the possible use of Setting 10 in Advent will be discussed with Pastor Erin at a later date). Setting 3 will be used through Lent and we'll go back to Setting 7 again at Easter. We will use this rotation from here on out.

Pastor Erin emailed us a list of hymns for the July services. She will continue choosing the hymns from the ELW and WOV. She also mentioned that there may be some upcoming baptisms and first communions.

We all thought that the new offertory went well and that the worship assistant binders are a great help.

Worship assistants for July are as follows:

July 7 Joint Service at St. Paul (10 a.m.); Tom Bickert will be the reader

July 14 Marsha Davis

July 21 Pam Ferrainolo

July 28 Doug Trimble

Our next joint service will be on August 4 at 10 a.m., at Zion, with a picnic to follow.

The next regular Worship Team meeting will be on Tuesday, August 6 at 6 p.m. We'll ask Megan to type up a worship assistant list for August, and we'll pick dates at some point in July.

We closed our meeting with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Doug Trimble

Christian Education:

Carla said we did have a few kids attend VBS at Pr. Brandon Johns' church in Evans City the week of June 10. Sally Measel is offering THE CHOSEN, Season 4, Bible study beginning Wednesday, July 10, 6:30 p.m. at Zion and continuing for eight consecutive weeks through August 28. Even if you have not attended previously, you can pick up where Season 4 begins and if interested you can view seasons 1 through 3 by going to The Chosen app and seeing it for FREE. This again is open to all at St. Paul and Zion and anyone else who you may want to invite outside our congregations. Submitted by Sally Measel

Stewardship:

2025 Envelopes will be ordered by the end of the month. New boxes will be ordered for Peggy and Denny Barkley, Dan and MaryAnn Kristophel, Justin and Brandi Miller. I will add RYYR as one of our special envelopes. I have not heard from anyone else that they wish to change anything.

A \$250 grant has been requested from Thrivent as money to use to for supplies for school and hygiene kits to be packed on September 8 for "God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday. An article will be in the next two newsletters about items we will be collecting for that day. It is hoped that St. Paul will join us that day to help pack.

A suggestion I have been thinking about is possibly bringing in magazines that we all have and sharing them with the other members of the church.

Submitted by Chris Trimble

In addition, at tonight's meeting, Chris has received the grant from Thrivent for \$250 to purchase items for the September 8 school bags and hygiene kits project. We will have a Thrivent representative attend that Sunday. Chris said if there is a Thrivent member at St. Paul, they could also apply for a \$250 grant in addition to the one we have received.

Executive: Next meeting will be sometime in July – date to be determined. Pr. Erin would like to see this scheduled ASAP, but NOT on a Saturday.

The next Council meeting will be August 8, 6 p.m. NOTE: There will be NO July Council meeting.

Devotions for next meeting: Pr. Erin

Offering Counters/Recorders for July are as follows:

Zion Echoes

July 7 – (Joint service at St. Paul, 10 a.m., so none needed)
July 14 – Sthela and Tom Tom
July 21 – Bill and Sally Bill
July 28 – Chris and Doug Chris

Offering Counters/Recorders for August are as follows:

August 4 (Joint Service at Zion/Church Picnic) – Chris and Doug Chris
August 11 – Bill and Sthela Bill
August 18 – Carla and Sally Bill
August 25 – Chris and Doug Chris

Motion to Adjourn was made by Carla and seconded by Chris followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sally Measel, Council Secretary