

Zion Lutheran Church
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We're on the Web
www.zionlc.com

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ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion's Good News

OCTOBER
2008



"God provides every blessing in abundance. So that by always having enough of everything you may share abundantly in every good work." 2Corinthians 9:8

One Campaign — Two Appeals
2008 Stewardship / Capital Appeal

October 5th

Sermon: "What's in Your Wallet? vs.
What's in Your Heart?"

Stewardship Fair in Family Center
(Come experience the many ministries of Zion)

October 12th

Sermon: "Time -Talents-Possessions"

Adult Forum in Family Center
(Come learn about the state of affairs at Zion-
Pastor Sue will share her vision)

October 19th

Celebration Sunday

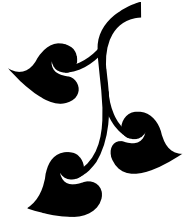
Sermon: Todd Iverson-
Assistant to Bishop preaching.

Contemporary worship in the Family Center

Children's Choirs singing

(Warm cinnamon rolls during Fellowship)

*Each Sunday in October the children will be using the butterfly nets
to fill the globe for the building appeal.*



“Share Every Gift in Abundance.”



The practice of stewardship has been defined as: “A spiritual discipline in response to God’s grace.” The practice of stewardship begins with hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ. It is the power of the Holy Spirit working through Word and Sacrament that changes our hearts and wills so that we become the generous children of God.

The practice of stewardship continues by providing opportunities for people to live out their faithful and joyful response to the “Good News” of Jesus. Stewardship is everything that happens after we are baptized.

The practice of stewardship involves the way we speak of Jesus and our faith. On pages 6 and 7 you can read some of the faith statements of members of the congregation. They speak of their faith journey (what Jesus has done for them) with confidence and humility.

The practice of stewardship involves the way we manage our financial resources. As people who have received all things as gifts from God, including our personal talents, skills, interests, and the ability and desire to develop these, we share every gift in abundance.

As a congregation, together, we will seek the Lord’s direction for our giving in the next few weeks. Our 2009 stewardship drive and our three-year capital appeal will set the direction for mission and ministry here at Zion.

God has called us to a fantastic future and has blessed us with abundance. We therefore have confidence that God has gifted this congregation with all the resources we need to do what God wants us to do. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Sue Sidahl

Germanfest

A word to newcomers: If you are new to Zion you may not have heard about Zion’s Germanfest Dinner. Once a year the members of Zion serve a traditional German meal of sauerkraut and pork hocks. In preparation for the cost of the meal, members are asked to sell tickets, contribute to the cost of the meal, and volunteer in serving the meal. Proceeds from the dinner are placed in a “Crisis Fund”. Grants for those who experience a crisis (fire, illness, etc.) are taken from the fund and are given to non-members living within the Stratford School District OR to members of Zion regardless of where they live. If you would like to know more about the Germanfest Dinner, ask a member of the congregation or call the church office. The dinner began in 1988 with over \$55,000.00 raised since then, and Zion has given gifts totaling over \$40,000.00 to area people.

Germanfest Help Wanted

A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex to sign up for areas you would like to work in (for preparation before or on the 2nd), times you can work, food donations or monetary donations to cover the cost of the meat.

Food includes: 300 lbs of potatoes, 55 lbs unbleached flour, 12 gallons milk, 3 lbs coffee, 10 dozen eggs, 14 lbs butter, 20 bags unseasoned bread cubes, 34 cans pie filling (cherry/blueberry), 40 pans cheesecake (recipe enclosed), homemade applesauce and meat donations.

Germanfest at Stewardship Fair

A Germanfest booth will be set up at the October 5th Stewardship Fair. You may turn in tickets, buy more tickets, sign up for working and donations on that day, plus someone will be in the narthex between services in October.

This year, carry outs will have their own tickets, so you may exchange regular tickets for carry outs if you so desire.



More information on the Germanfest insert.

9:00 a.m. worship will be held on Sunday, November 2nd.

New Member Sunday

New Members were received on Sunday, September 28th at the 10:15 a.m. service. New members are: Brenda, Christian, Isaac & Hannah Castellano; Scott Funk; Patrick, Keres, Macey, Easton & Koehler Kilty; Tim & Amii Kreft; Amy, Courtney & Cammie Reno; and Ted & Pam Wilde.

Fair Trade

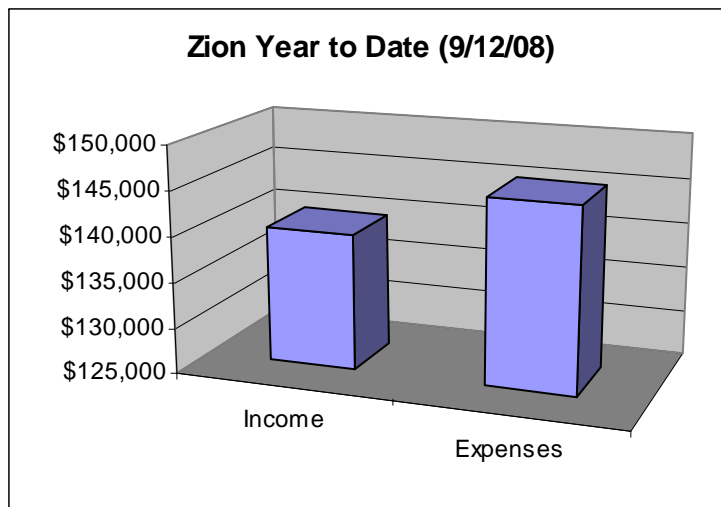
Two new products are available this month from the Fair Trade Ministry! October is the month for chocolate, so come visit our product table during the Zion Ministry Fair on October 5th and taste our new cocoa, "Spicy Hot Cocoa Mix". Our festive Fall Gift Bags by June will also be available. We will also have a new chocolate bar when our bars return on October 19th. The self serve booth is always open for your convenience with coffee, tea, and cocoa. Thank you for supporting this ministry.



Stewardship

As of Sept. 12, 2008

Year to Date Income	\$139,993.30
Year to Date Expenses	<u>\$145,391.60</u>
	\$ -5,398.30



The church beyond Zion...

It is important to understand where our offering dollars go and how they are being used to accomplish God's mission. The examples below illustrate how Zion's gifts to the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America churchwide organization are accomplishing great things locally, across the country and around the world.

The mission of the **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin**, an association of congregations of the ELCA empowered by the Holy Spirit, is to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed by supporting its members in ministry.

Companion synod relationships embody the accompaniment model for mission, the vision of ELCA Global Mission. Accompaniment—literally, walking together in service in God's mission. Each church has primary responsibility for mission in its own area. Central Africans have their own expression for accompaniment: mablko na maboka, which means "hand in hand."

The Synod is very intentional about our ministry with global partners. We are a Companion Synod with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi (ELCM) and Sinodo Centro-Campanha Sul in Brazil.

The Lay School of Ministry is an educational ministry of the Synod, which assists lay people to a deeper Christian identity and participation in the mission of the whole church. Lay School's mission is to provide students with opportunities to reflect on their past and present ministries, while engaging in theological studies with peers and the guidance of a faculty consisting of seminary professors and members of the clergy and synod staff.

As part of the **ELCA**, Zion is not just a single congregation, but instead part of a large church that works with partners around the corner and around the world to serve God's mission.

Through mission support directed to the ELCA, Zion helps:

Develop new congregations not yet organized, and encourages existing congregations intentionally focused on outreach.

Supports leadership development through eight ELCA seminaries, 28 church colleges and universities, nearly 200 campus ministries and schools, and scholarships.

Advocates domestic social justice and education by supporting Lutheran Social Services of America and advocating with the United Nations, federal and state governments and corporate decision makers.

Provides domestic witness, worship and evangelism through public media news service, media relations, and resource development for youth and outdoor ministries.

Through **ELCA Disaster Response**, the people of this church bring God's comfort, healing and renewal to those affected by natural and human-caused disasters. Even after the dust settles and the media go home, we *stay* -- providing ongoing assistance to those in need.

Faith Statements

Like many of us, when asked to write a faith statement, I asked myself, “What will I say?” What is faith? I see it as believing in something you cannot see; believing in the purest of love, a love we all strive to possess in our lives and relationships, the unconditional love that God offers to us each day of our lives—it’s the grace he shows. God never turns his back on us even when we turn away from him.

What does my faith mean to me? It is the foundation on which I try to build my life. I emphasize the word try, because I am always falling short, but that foundation established by my parents stays true. The construction of my life all too often crumbles under the slightest stress. Like the children’s story of “The Three Little Pigs,” I keep building my home of twigs and straw instead of brick or “The Rock”. The hard part of faith is handing over control of our lives to the Lord. My hope / faith is that someday when my time on this earth is done, that love will overlook all my shortcomings and he will welcome me into his everlasting embrace.

Dan Thompson

I believe in God the Father: I see the Father as being a loving father that gives guidance to his children as in the Old Testament. When the Israelites failed to heed his word and lapsed into sin, he would reprimand them for their unfaithfulness and then would forgive and bless them. I believe in the Son: Jesus, who lived the perfect life, gave his life as the ultimate sacrifice to atone for our sins. This was not because we earned it or deserved it but because that is how much the Father loves us. I believe in the Holy Spirit: He is not a dead God or something that happened a long time ago, but one that walks with me every day if I choose to recognize him. This is a God who blesses me in so many ways that I’m awestruck when I think about it. It is not about what I do that I am saved, but because I believe that I am saved, that I can never do enough.

Dan Schrameyer

I live to be like Jesus and live to serve him. Jesus gives me love, joy, and heaven, and only Jesus can satisfy my soul and give me inner peace.

Through the trials of life I’ve found there to be no absolute truths in this world. The only absolute truth is God’s word, the Bible. The Bible has never been disproved and will never be disproven. The Bible is as relevant today as when it was written. Let Jesus Christ be the cornerstone of your life and you will have a foundation that cannot be shaken.

Jim Greenberg

Faith Statements

I have been going to church for as long as I can remember, attending a parochial school, Sunday school and Confirmation class. I often wonder if I really learned or retained much because it seemed routine. There was a time in my early adulthood that I didn’t attend church as regularly as I should have. Now as an adult and having my own family, I’ve really learned to cherish my faith in God and my time in church.

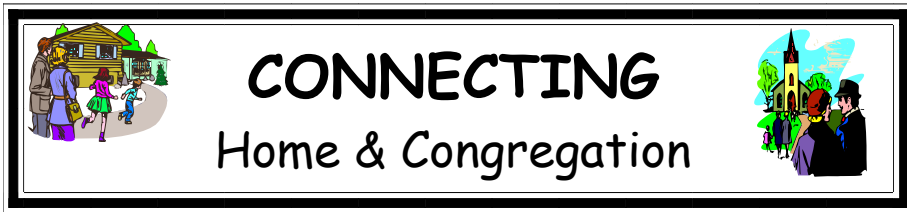
When we joined Zion over 4 years ago, I was a little nervous about moving from our “family” church where my mom, aunts, and uncles are still members. That was the church I had known for so many years and was married in. But, after being here a very short time, I realized it was the right choice for my family and me. I have grown so much in my faith and understanding of God’s plan. I have so much more to learn, but know it can be done as long as I continue my faith.

My dad has always said to me “things happen for a reason.” There is a great reason why God has brought my family and me to this wonderful congregation.

Keri Manecke

I cannot say my faith is based on any one or two significant events in my life, but rather a growing experience over many years. As far back as I can remember, I have always enjoyed attending and participating in church services. As we journey through life, we endure many hardships, loss of family and friends, marriage break-ups, disappointments, etc., and experience many joys and pleasures. Too often we blame God for the hardships and think we deserve the joys and pleasures. As I look back on those hardships and experiences, I have realized they have only tested and deepened my faith in God. We can say we put our faith in our training and fellow soldiers while serving in a foreign war, but the number of small pocket sized New Testaments carried by me and many soldiers attest to the fact that our true faith in surviving was with God. I have had the joy and pleasure of listening to and being served by a number of wonderful and dedicated pastors over the years which have definitely influenced my faith. God has blessed me with a wonderful wife, family, grandchildren, and friends which have further deepened my faith. I hope and pray with God’s help to experience many more faith growing events in the years to come.

Terry Schoenherr



Council Minutes

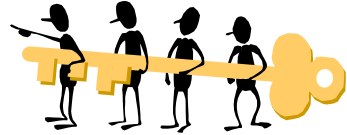
Zion Lutheran Church Council met on Monday, September 15, 2008. President Marty Ferris called the meeting to order. Pastor Sue led devotions and the leadership training.

During the meeting the council:

- Secretary Report M/S/C
- Sunday School and Confirmation has kicked off and is going well.
- There are four youth and two adults registered for the youth gathering in New Orleans.
- Germanfest has been changed to November 2.
- A special fellowship for the Capital Appeal will be October 19
- Budgets are due after the October committee meetings.
- The Congregational Meeting will be November 16.
- The roof repair on the rental property is scheduled for September 26 & 27.
- New members approved were: Patrick, Keresa, Macey, Easton & Koehler Kilty , Tim & Amii Kreft, Scott Funk, Brenda, Christian, Isaac & Hannah Costellano, Ted and Pam Wilde and Amy ,Courtney & Cammie Reno
- M/S/C to adjourn

Respectfully submitted by,
Rhonda Thompson

With The 4 Keys



Family Devotions

Pray the following prayer each day: *Dear Father in heaven, help us to be open to inviting others to come and see what you do in our church, in our lives, and in our world. Give us eyes to see you in our midst, and give us courage to name your presence among us. Amen*

Caring Conversation

Take time to play together; to run through the leaves and listen to them crunch. Delight in the creative way God provides for your enjoyment.

Rituals & Traditions

Instead of saying goodbye to family, friends, coworkers, etc. say "God be with you".

Family Service

Pray for Zion's Sunday School Staff.

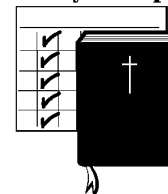
Building Update

Payment Date	Start Balance	Payment Amt	Interest Paid	Principal Paid	Ending Balance
6/1/08	\$865,003.11	\$6,285.19	\$4,520.11	\$ 1,765.08	\$863,238.03
7/1/08	\$863,238.03	\$6,285.19	\$4,313.48	\$ 1,971.71	\$861,266.32
7/28/08	\$861,266.32			\$ 5,000.00	\$856,266.32
8/1/08	\$856,266.32	\$6,285.19	\$4,468.11	\$ 1,817.08	\$854,449.24
9/2/08	\$854,449.24	\$6,285.19	\$4,430.25	\$1,854.94	\$852,594.30
9/6/08	\$852,594.30			\$5,000.00	\$847,594.30
Total monthly principal payments				\$ 25,874.66	
Total of extra principal payments				\$ 90,000.00	
Amount of principal paid 6/1/07 - 9/25/08				\$115,874.66	
MIF Checking acct balance as 9/25/08				\$ 30,837.77	

BENEVOLENCE

	Proposed	Actual (9-15-08)	
LSS	\$1,800.00	\$1,263.78	70.21%
Missionary	\$3,500.00	\$2,294.00	65.54%
Crossways	\$1,900.00	\$1,793.00	94.37%
World Hunger	\$4,000.00	\$2,458.00	61.45%
Mission Partners	\$ 750.00	\$ 823.00	109.73%

WEEKLY Study Group



Bible Studies

Monday Night: 7-9 p.m. in the Conference Room, "The Gospel of Mark"
Tuesday Morning: 9-11 a.m. in the Conference Room, "A Study of Luther's Small Catechism"

PARISH EDUCATION

Zion's Baptismal Journeys

Kindergarten	Oct. 12	“Prayer Pillows”
4 year olds	Oct. 26	“This is My Church”

These students, along with parents, will have their Baptismal Journeys during Sunday School (9 a.m.) in the Family Center.

Snack List

Please note this year we have added to the snack list beverages for the parents to bring. Snack/Beverage providers need to be here by 8:45 a.m. to deliver snack/beverage to the classroom by 9:00 a.m. We are also requesting the providers to stay in the snack/beverage area until 9:15 a.m. for any late student arrivals that may need snack/beverage. Clean up of kitchen is also part of the snack/beverage provider duties. Each snack provider is to bring enough snacks for 60 students and beverage providers are to bring enough beverages for 120 students.

- October 5 Shawn Carl Family
- Chuck Foley Family
- Bev: Rachel Polzin Family
- October 12 Keith Grell Family
- Jim Kafka Family
- Bev: Renee Goode Family
- October 19 Council will serve everyone
- October 26 Neil Burrows Family
- Joel Christopherson Family
- Bev: Paul Poppy Family



The J Team

- October 29th at 3:15 p.m.
- Game - Poopdeck
- Devotion - Quick Change
- Activity - Sweet Treat for the Soul
- Snacks for October:
- Burrows & Spaeth Families

October Confirmation Electives

6:00—7:30 p.m.

- October 1—Good Will Night
 - October 8—If I Only Had a Card
 - October 15—The Big Seven
 - October 22—Sports and Faith
 - October 29—What Other Churches Believe
- (All classes are held in the conference room)

Disciples For Christ

The first meeting of this year was in September. Good conversation was enjoyed during a meal and the activities that followed gave the disciples and mentors an opportunity to get to know each other better. Lively discussions centered around who in the group were introverts or extroverts, leaders or followers, and which super power they would like to possess. This year's disciples include Christian Castellano, Austin Cole, Derek Hughes, Natasha Lindquist, Sam Uthmeier, Kamelle Van Der Leest and Alison Wieland. We thank our mentors for taking the time to be part of the ministry of our youth. Dan Wieland, Jon Custer, Kevin Van Der Leest, Marge Redetzke, Janice Lee, Cari Frueh and Brenda Castellano. We meet again on October 19th at 5:30 p.m.

Hunger Food Pantry Drive

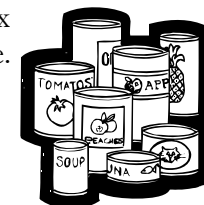
The Parish Education Team would like to give back to our community with a food drive for needy families in the area. All items will be given to our local food pantry and given out to needy families over the holiday season. Please bring all donations to church by Nov. 16th.

Items needed are:

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Pancake Mix | Cake Mixes | Dish Washing Soap |
| Pancake Syrup | Hot & Cold Cereal | Laundry Soap |
| Hamburger Helper | Shampoo | Salad Dressing |
| Toilet Paper | Bath Bar Soap | ABC's & Ravioli's |
| Shampoo | Toothpaste | Kleenex |

** Please NO dented cans, baby food, or medicine.

Let's make this a learning experience with lots of fun for the children of Zion. Thanks for helping.



Care Packages for New College Freshmen and Servicemen and Women

The Evangelism Team will be sending packages of goodies out to our new college freshmen and servicemen and women. If you would like to contribute items such as granola bars, hot chocolate packets, etc., we will be packing these up on Sunday, November 9th at 9 a.m. (between services). Please have items at the church (new) kitchen by 9 a.m. Sunday, November 9th to be included in the goodie packages.

ZLC Praise Choir News

New adult and teen members are always welcome in all voice ranges. We are working on music for praise worship services, Reformation Sunday, Thanksgiving and more. Please attend the rehearsals that work into your schedule!

October Rehearsals:

Thursday, Oct. 2nd - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 5th - No rehearsal during Sunday School hour but at 6:30 p.m. instead

Sunday, Oct. 12th - During Sunday school

Thursday, Oct. 16th - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 26th - During Sunday school

Thursday, Oct. 30th - 7:00 p.m.



2009 ELCA Youth Gathering New Orleans, LA July 22-26, 2009

We have four youth and two chaperones registered to attend the Gathering in July. They are: Alison Wieland, Natasha Lindquist, Kamelle VanDerLeest and Cole VanDerLeest. Chaperones are: Dan Wieland and Carmen VanDerLeest.

We can register youth until January, 2009. Youth currently in Grades 8—11—If you decide you may want to attend the Gathering, please call the church office for more details.



The **Youth Workers Network** shares ideas, offers support and ongoing education for adults who work with youth in professional, as well as volunteer, roles.

The **Resource Center** has a goal of putting as many resources online as they can. Found on their website www.synodresourcecenter.org is a smorgasbord of ideas for all churches. They eagerly seek to share ministry ideas and welcome new ideas to share with others.

The Synod **walks with congregations** in transition by supporting congregations as they seek to call new pastors and lay professional. They assist congregations in areas of need such as stewardship, leadership training, church secretary's Soul Support, and conflict management.

Read all ELCA Disaster Response stories in [Stories of Faith in Action](#) at ELCA.org.

Ministry to Youth and Young Adults. God is still propelling and filling young people, calling them to sing of a new way to be human, beyond Abercrombie and beyond the same old, same old. In Jesus, God has broken into the brokenness of the world and called us to a new way of wholeness, justice, and peace. In the real lives of young people -- young people who have been called into life with Jesus -- this new way is shouted out and acted out, for the church and for the whole world.

PASTORAL ACTS Baptisms

Connor Timothy Kreft the son of Tim & Amii Kreft received the sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, September 21st at 10:15 a.m. Connor was born August 16, 2008. Connor's sponsors are Greg & Tammy Haas and Shawna Thomas.

Kaleb Lucas Hilgemann the son of Luke & Jayme Hilgemann received the sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, September 28th at 10:15 a.m. Kaleb was born July 18, 2008. Kaleb's sponsors are Heidi & Mauricio Jaime and Jason Dennee & Tania Stone.

Thanks

- Thank you to everyone who helped with the reroofing of the church's Rental house.
- Thanks to those who helped paint walls in the Family Center and hallway.

Blood Pressure Screening

At the Stratford Community Hall 9:30—11:00 a.m.
2nd Wednesday of the month

Blood Pressure Check and Glucose Testing

Fourth Tuesday of each month, 1:30-3:30 at the Stratford Library by a nurse. The blood test requires a 2 hour fast. Free of charge.
Call for information

Steak Feed

The Stratford VFW will have its monthly steak feed on the first Tuesday of each month.

Community Outreach Meal

St. John's Lutheran Church, Spencer will serve a free meal on the 4th Tuesday of each month, from 5:00—6:30 p.m.

Marshfield Optimist Club Breakfast

Sunday, October 5 8 a.m. to 12 noon
Eagle's Club

Adults \$6.50 Children 5-12 \$3.75, Under 5 free

Pancakes, scrambled eggs, French toast sticks, seasoned potatoes, sausage, rolls and gravy, applesauce, beverage.

Pancake Brunch

St. John ELCA

1 mile East of Hwy 97 on Hwy N

Sunday, October 12 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Potato & buttermilk pancakes, real maple syrup, sausage, cheese, applesauce, bars, beverage.

Church services at 8 and 9:15 a.m.

Lutefisk Supper & Fair Trade Bazaar

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

110 W Begley St. Greenwood

Wed. Oct. 29th 4 –8 p.m.

Library

Pumpkins, Goblins, Black cats and Dancing Ghosts will fill the air at the Stratford Brach Library on Tuesday, October 14th at 6:30 p.m. for Family Story Night.

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

Church Office Hours:

Monday—Friday

7:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Marty Ferris

V. President: Tadd Schoenherr

Secretary: Rhonda Thompson

Treasurer: Rod Huther

Evangelism: Pat Emon

Parish Ed: Wendy Spaeth

Property: Dan Schrameyer

Stewardship: Ellen Leick

Worship: Denise Marg

Youth: Gary Wussow

PASTOR: Sue Eidahl

Home Phone: 687-4381

E-mail: eides@zionlc.com

Parish Associate: Janice Lee

E-mail: janicelee@zionlc.com

Secretary: Wendy Drexler

E-mail: wendy@zionlc.com

CHURCH OFFICE:

715-687-4110

FAX: 715-687-3541

WEB SITE: www.zionlc.com

**WORSHIP ON SUNDAY AT
8:00 & 10:15 a.m.**

Sunday School—9:00 a.m.

INDEX

Page

1 Stewardship Appeal

2 Pastor Sue's Letter

3 Germanfest

4 New Members

4 Fair Trade

5-6 Share—Capital Appeal

6 Pastoral Acts

7-8 Faith Statements

9 Connecting Home &
Congregation

9 Building Update

10 Council Minutes

10 Bible Studies

11 Sunday School

12 Sunday School

13 Care Packages

13 Praise Choir News

13 Youth Gathering

Inside Pull Out

- Calendar / Serving Schedule
- Germanfest Tickets & Info

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The 21st of each month.

ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE

Thursdays by 9:00 a.m.

WEEKLY E-MAIL

Goes out on Monday early morning. email janicelee@zionlc.com to get it

Please keep the office updated:

- Address changes
- Births
- Deaths
- Hospitalizations