

Seventeenth Annual St. Michael Liturgical Conference: September 29, 2014

THE SEVENTEENTH-ANNUAL St. Michael Liturgical Conference is Monday, September 29. This year the conference falls on the Feast of St. Michael, which will be commemorated at the Holy Mass and Solemn Vespers.

Overview

Since 1998, Zion has hosted the St. Michael Liturgical Conference for pastors and others concerned with the Evangelical-Lutheran Liturgy. Stressing the practical application of Lutheran liturgical theology, the conference informs participants of the liturgy's rite, rubric, and ceremony so that they may make informed decisions about local customs in their parishes.

The conference has three major components:

- ✘ Worship
- ✘ Keynote Address
- ✘ Sectional Presentations

The keynote address establishes the theme for the conference, and the sectional presentations are designed to study in detail the conduct of the liturgy.

Conference Speakers

This year's keynote speaker is the Rev. Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch, pastor of Emmaus—South Bend, IN, who will present on "The Pastoral Care of Catechumens and Communicants: First Communion and Ongoing Catechesis within the Fellowship of the Church."

Sectional Speakers include: the Rev. Dr. Daniel G. Reuning, kantor at Redeemer—Fort Wayne (Gregorian Pointing and Chanting of the Psalms); the Rev. Fr. Joel R. Baseley, pastor of Emmanuel—Dearborn (C.F.W. Walther on Confirmation and First Communion); the Rev. Dr. Burnell F. Eckardt, pastor of St. Paul's—Kewanee, IL (Touch: An Incarnational Expression of the Gospel); and the Rev. Fr. Mark P. Braden, Zion's Pastor. The Rev. Fr.

David H. Petersen, pastor of Redeemer—Fort Wayne, will preach at Mass.

The Conference and Zion

The St. Michael Liturgical Conference is a major event for the Zion parish. It fosters goodwill and encourages the recovery and celebration of the Holy Liturgy among our synod and the greater Christian church, promotes the mission and work of Zion, and establishes Zion as a leader of the study and celebration of the Holy Liturgy around the world.

How You Can Help

- ✘ **Work at the conference**
- ✘ **Publicize the conference:** Encourage all clergy that you know to attend, and invite family and friends who are interested in the Holy Liturgy.
- ✘ **Attend the conference:** There is no cost for Zion members. If you cannot attend the entire conference, be sure to attend the Holy Mass and Solemn Vespers.
- ✘ **Provide a financial donation:** Registration fees do not cover the cost of the conference. In order to keep the fees reasonable, financial donations are needed.

If you can help, please contact Fr. Braden.

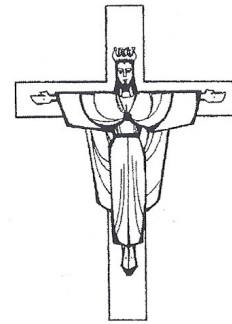
Thanks

Thanks to Jeff Long, our Thrivent representative, for his work in supporting our conference. We have received financial support from Thrivent again this year for the conference. ✘

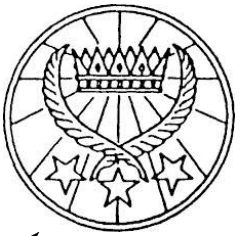
Oktoberfest

by Father Braden

THE ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST and theological conference at St. Paul Evangelical-Lutheran Church—Kewanee, IL, is Monday, October 13. Every year I enjoy visiting Kewanee, and seeing the large number of St. Michael conference attendees who make the trip. The last few years I've been honored to serve as Deacon for the Conference Mass on Monday. If you're interested in attending, please see me for more information. We make the trip Sunday after Bible Class, and drive back on Tuesday. ✘



"Blow the Trumpet in Zion" (Joel 2.15)



Zion Trumpet

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Detroit

September/October 2014

Saved by Grace

by Father Braden

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 is an important day in the history of the Christian Church. It is the day on which, in 1517, at noon on the eve of All Saints Day, Dr. Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. It is recognized—in retrospect—as the act that began the Reformation, although at the time that is not what Luther intended. The 95 Theses, properly titled *A Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences*, were a set of theological treatises that railed against the popish practice of selling the forgiveness of sins. Luther's concerns were rooted in theology, but were also quite pastoral—as is all true theology—he was concerned with the faith of the Christians, and the salvation of their souls. False doctrine and false practice are always injurious to faith.

Some thirteen years later, on June 25, the Year of our Lord 1530, the biblical faith that compelled Luther to post the 95 Theses found full expression in the Augsburg Confession, the Confession of Faith requested by an emperor trying to hold his empire together. It is the Fourth Article of that Confession, the *Augustana*, which asserts of the Lutherans:

"They teach that men cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works, but are freely justified for Christ's

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The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

PSALM 46: 11

from the Introit for the Festival of the Reformation

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sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor, and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake, who, by His death, has made satisfaction for our sins. This faith God imputes for righteousness in His sight (Romans 3.21-26; 4.5)."

While *Augustana IV* cites Romans as the *sedes doctrinae*, or seat of doctrine, for the chief article of the Christian faith, we know from Luther's introduction to his own works in Latin that he found the Gospel, or the Gospel found him, in Psalms, Galatians, and Hebrews as well. In his lectures at Wittenberg, he taught these books in the years leading up to 1517. As he describes his struggles with sin and righteousness, Luther refers to Romans 1.16-17, and St. Paul's citation of Habakkuk 2.4:

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

If "the just shall live by faith," and Scripture clearly asserts exactly that, it is impossible that the sale of forgiveness by the church can lead to righteousness. The 95 Theses were quickly proven right. With the central article of the Christian faith clearly established and publicly confessed, like a house of cards in which the lowest card is removed, the entire popish system of doctrine and fundraising collapsed. But more importantly, the Gospel of Jesus Christ was publicly proclaimed. And it is that proclamation, the clear, salvific preaching of the Holy Gospel, that brings the fruits of the Reformation to you.

This year again Zion celebrates the Reformation with a special sung Mass on **Friday, October 31**, at **7pm** in the church. Please plan to join us! ✘

Our New Vicar

by Father Braden

THE REVEREND SEMINARIST Winston Grieser is scheduled to be inducted as Vicar of Zion on Sunday, September 7. Vicar Grieser will serve a full academic year as Zion's Vicar. Vicar Grieser is currently training for a leadership role in the U.S. Military, and during the upcoming year he will continue his military service, serving one Sunday each month in Indiana.

In addition to serving regularly at Zion's altar, assisting in Bible Class, Sunday School, and with the Men's and Women's groups, I have several special projects lined up for the Vicar. He will continue work on the Zion Missal, and it is my sincere hope that in his time here we will realize our five-year goal of a finished Missal for the Church and the Chapel.

Vicar's bedroom in the Rectory is currently being prepared. Many thanks to the Zion Men's Group, and the several generous donors who provided furniture and bedding.

Please plan to join us at Zion to receive God's Gifts in His Divine Service, and to celebrate the Induction of Vicar Grieser. A brief reception will be held after Mass to give the congregation a chance to meet the new Vicar. ✘

Vicar's Bedroom Project Thanks

SPECIAL THANKS TO those who contributed toward the Vicar's Bedroom Project:

Dr. & Mrs. Michael Anderson
Rev. Fr. & Mrs. Mark Braden
Rev. Fr. & Mrs. James Frey
Mr. Thomas Habitz, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Russell
Rev. Fr. Gary Schultz
Mr. Kevin Wiedelman
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Williams

those who helped with the Bible Camp: Kathleen Atkins, Fr. Braden, Leslie Braden, Sarah Braden, Shirley Cross, Judi Donnell, Alexis Ruffin, Pam Ruffin, Dylan Smith, and Janet Stechholz. ✘

Higher Things

HIGHER THINGS ASSISTS parents, congregations, and pastors in cultivating, encouraging and promoting a distinctively Lutheran identity among youth and young adults.

The annual Higher Things conference is a chance for Lutheran youth to enjoy each other's company and to attend worship and catechetical presentations together. The 2015 conference is July 21-24 in Grand Rapids, MI, on the campus of Calvin College. The theme is *Te Deum*, taking its name from the canticle of the Divine Office of Matins, which begins "We praise Thee, O God, we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord..."

This year we have Zion youth interested in attending the conference and a college-aged chaperone for the group, and Fr. Schultz has expressed his willingness to lead the initiative. Our Vicar (although he doesn't know it yet) will also attend. If you are confirmed, but not yet in college, I invite you to attend Higher Things.



Parents, I encourage you to send your children. They'll find it a rewarding and fun experience. Watch for more information on the conference in upcoming bulletins. More information is available at higherthings.org. Registration begins in November, and the conference always fills quickly. We will need to be ready to reserve our spots when the registration begins. ✘

Summer Conferences

by Father Schultz

EVERY TWO YEARS, the American Guild of Organists holds a national convention. This year it was in Boston, June 23-27. I was able to attend 7 recitals and concerts by world-renowned organists and music ensembles at churches in Boston and Cambridge, as well as choral Compline at a Roman parish, choral Vespers at First Lutheran Church

(LCMS), and choral Evensong at the Church of the Advent, an Anglian parish formerly served by Fr. Charles McClean, now a Lutheran clergyman who was a presenter at our St. Michael Liturgical Conference.



Additionally there were workshops and scholarly papers. Of over 100 choices, I attended Advanced Choral Conducting, Rehearsal Techniques and Repertoire for Children's Choirs, and Music of Integrity for Small Choirs.

There was time to browse choral and organ music from various publishers and visit with other organists from across the country. It was a busy week, but very worthwhile. I hope to attend the next convention June 19-23, 2016, in Houston.

The previous week, on June 18-20, I attended the Concordia Catechetical Academy Symposium at Peace—Sussex, WI. This year's topic was the Our Father. The symposium is designed to encourage and promote the use of the Catechism in our parishes. This is an excellent event for families to attend, also. Watch the newsletter for information on next summer's symposium. ✘

Zion Church Picnic

THANKS TO ALAN Kroske for coordinating this year's church picnic on June 29. Thanks also to those who brought food and helped with set-up and clean up.

The annual picnic is held in the Rectory yard. Delicious food included potato salad, coleslaw, bean salad, peas and carrots, macaroni salad, baked beans, chips, and cookies. Face painting and a bouncy-house provided fun for younger picnickers. ✘



Birthday Anniversaries

September

2 Douglas Hopp
 2 Teri Kelly
 2 Alexis Ruffin
 3 Tammy Barbee
 4 Philip White
 5 Tyeisha Dalton
 5 Alan Forsyth
 7 Dionysius Gray
 8 Janis Earls
 9 Sherry Edwards
 9 Aisha Williams
 14 Sequoia Gray
 15 Ethan Atkins
 17 Bedelia Brown
 20 Lois Meriwether
 23 Drucilla Huddleston
 25 Joseph Copas
 26 Carlos Henderson
 27 Eleanor Luka

October

3 Rev. Mark Braden
 4 Kenneth Ingram
 6 Victoria Murdock
 6 Khalil Smith
 8 Michael Brink
 13 David Gorski
 14 Karen Cline
 17 Edward Brown
 18 Chandra Gray
 20 Douglas Faerber
 26 Kevin Wiedelman
 28 Daniel Cline
 31 Robert Ganz

The Flood

by Father Braden

IN HIS GREAT mercy, God promised never to destroy the world again by water. As a symbol and sign of that promise, He has given us the rainbow. That sure promise was a great comfort on the evening of Monday, August 11, as the Rectory lower level and the Undercroft slowly filled with water. It has been over 90 years since Detroit saw that much rain in one day. Expressways were flooded, and thousands of residents of metro Detroit sustained serious water damage. Divers were brought in from the state police to search the 12 to 14 foot deep water on the local freeways for stranded motorists. Several of our members have reported significant damage from the storm.

Thanks be to God, at Zion the damage was minimal. Fifteen of our clerical vestments—including seven copes—were taken to the cleaners to remove stains caused by the water in the Undercroft, which rose to at least eight inches high. I had to replace a small handful

Baptism Anniversaries

September

7 Norvass Wisdom
 10 LaNeil Prince
 11 Revelle Cross
 11 Rosell Cross, III
 11 Terry Grable
 11 Robert Werner
 17 Alexis Ruffin
 18 Douglas Hopp
 20 Paul Snoes
 24 Dionysius Gray
 26 Shirley Bradley
 29 Gregory Hopp

October

1 Barbara Bryant
 1 Monica Faerber
 1 Kristi Russell
 2 Ethan Atkins
 7 Janis Earls
 10 Joseph Copas
 11 Drucilla Huddleston
 13 Earlene Maynarich
 26 Kenneth Ingram
 27 Kevin Wiedelman

Marriage Anniversaries

September

8 Rev. and Mrs. Mark Braden

October

24 Mr. & Mrs. Josef Ruffin
 25 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Murdock

of books that were in briefcases next to my desk, and some electronic devices that were plugged in when the flooding hit had to be replaced. All of our computers are fine, mine started right up after a couple of days drying time.

Our portable public address system and the floor of the vestment closet may be the most costly casualties. Thanks to Sherrie Williams, our secretary, for her above-and-beyond service to Zion after the flooding, and Mr. Eddie Holmes and family for their hard work in cleaning and repairing my study and the Undercroft. Thanks also to my daughter Sarah, who spent hours cleaning the Rectory lower level helping me to reestablish my study. ✕

Cedar Point Trip

by Father Braden

ON MONDAY, AUGUST 11, our Zion Youth Group headed toward Cedar Point amusement park in Sandusky, Ohio, for a day of fun. As we travelled, the weather grew dangerous. Torrential rains began. We decided to turn back home. The wisdom of that decision was quickly proven.

We enjoyed breakfast at IHOP in Woodhaven. Then, at Emagine Theatres, half of the group saw Guardians of the Galaxy; half saw Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Before and after the movie, we enjoyed refreshments and arcade games in the lobby. A good time was had by all. We're working now to reschedule our trip to Cedar Point.

Thanks to Pam Ruffin for coordinating the event, and all the parents and youth for the great time we had together. I really enjoyed it, and I thank God that Zion is now able to enjoy such events with our youth. ✕

Zion Bible Camp

THANKS TO ALAN Kroske for coordinating this year's Zion Bible Camp on the theme "Lord, Have Mercy," which was held June 23-27. Thanks to



The Zion Trumpet is the informational and educational newsletter of Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church. It communicates the news of Zion and instructs members in various aspects of the Christian Faith.

The **Trumpet** is published six times each year. It is free for members of Zion. Non-members are invited to contribute toward the production and mailing of the **Trumpet**.

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church is a parish of the one, holy catholic and apostolic Church and is affiliated with the English district of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

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Mission Work in Bolivia

by Father Braden

IN LATE JULY, I spent a week teaching the book of Revelation in Cochabamba, Bolivia. I also lectured on hermeneutics (fundamentals of biblical interpretation) and eschatology (the doctrine of the end times). It was a wonderful experience, and greatly aided the Bolivian church. In a recent email, the Secretary General of the Bolivian church expressed their gratitude for the course, and to the members of Zion for sharing their Pastor with a small, struggling Lutheran body. After Mass July 27, I gave a presentation on the Bolivian church and my work there.



While I have traveled to several places in South America and the Caribbean on behalf of our Synod, I traveled to Bolivia in my capacity as a Fellow for the Luther Academy, an organization that is engaged in theological education across the globe. I was recommended to the Bolivian church by Dr. Sergio Fritzier, the president of the seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina. I met Dr. Fritzier several years ago in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, and I count him as a friend and colleague.

One of the unexpected parts of my Bolivian trip was the extreme altitude. Cochabamba is south and east of Lake Titicaca on the same mountain range as the highest city in the world, which is located just north of the Peruvian border. I spent the week at over 8,000 feet above sea level in the Andes Mountains. Arriving and departing, I traveled through La Paz and El Alto, which are at 12,000 and 13,000 feet above sea level respectively. As a point of comparison, Denver, Colorado, which features altitude warnings to visitors, is about 5,000 feet above sea level.

The Bolivian church was warm and welcoming, and very gracious. I made a lot of friends in my week there. I'm not sure if I'll return to Bolivia, but we are keeping the church there in our daily prayers. ✕

Book of Concord Conference

THIS ANNUAL CONFERENCE at St. Andrews Lutheran Church, Memphis, MI, will be held on Saturday, September 20. This year I will serve as the keynote presenter. I am preparing a presentation on the history and development of the Augsburg Confession, and on the structure and flow of the greatest Christian confession ever written. The conference is in the morning, and begins with worship and concludes with lunch. Watch the bulletin for more information. ✕

Christian Education

✓ THERE ARE MANY opportunities to study God's Word at Zion. The study of the Holy Scriptures is essential to the life of every Christian. If none of these days or times work with your schedule, please suggest an alternative time to Fr. Braden or Fr. Schultz

SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:30AM | ACTIVITIES CENTER | Sunday School is for ages 3-12. Lessons are Bible-story based and activities are designed to reinforce the biblical lesson. Sunday School begins September 7.

SUNDAY ADULT STUDY 11:30AM | UNDERCROFT | Our current study is "A Survey of the New Testament." This class enables parents to study the Holy Scriptures while their children attend Sunday School. Coffee and snacks are provided. Thanks to those who provide snacks. Anyone is welcome to bring donuts, bagels, fruit, etc. to share. This class is for age 13 through adult.



WEDNESDAY ADULT STUDY Immediately following Holy Mass, this study is reading "Ministry, Word, and Sacraments: An Enchiridion" by Martin Chemnitz (1522-1586), an important leader in early Lutheranism. Coffee and snacks are provided. Often the group goes out to lunch following the study.

YOUTH CATECHISM DAY AND TIME TBD | RECTORY | This class teaches the chief parts of the *Small Catechism* to learn the essential beliefs of Christianity as taught in Holy Scripture. This study of the Catechism prepares students in third – eighth grades for First Communion.

WOMEN'S GROUP TWO SATURDAYS A MONTH 1PM | RECTORY | Gathering shortly before 1, we move to the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory to pray the Office of Vespers and then continue with the study. Coffee and snacks are provided. We are currently studying the book of Jude. All women are encouraged to attend and bring guests.

MEN'S GROUP ONE THURSDAY A MONTH 7PM | RECTORY | Gathering shortly before 7, we move to the Church to pray the Office of Vespers, and then return to the Rectory for our study. Following the study, there is food and *Gemütlichkeit*. We are studying the Solid Declaration of the *Formula of Concord*. All men are encouraged to attend and bring guests.

ADULT CATECHESIS THREE THURSDAYS A MONTH 7PM | RECTORY | This class is for those considering membership, and existing members to review and deepen their understanding of the Christian faith, using *Luther's Small Catechism* annotated by Edward W. A. Koehler.

Zion Hosts Metro-Detroit Pastors' Study Group

✓ TOGETHER WITH IMMANUEL Evangelical-Lutheran Church—Howell, MI, Zion hosts a Pastors' study group at the English District office once a month. This year's study includes Articles VII (Holy Supper) and VIII (Person of Christ) of the *Solid Declaration* of the *Formula of Concord*. Because of Martin Chemnitz's significant role in crafting the *Formula*, two sessions will discuss excerpts from his books *The Lord's Supper* and *Two Natures in Christ*. ✕

The Zion Parish Record

For July & August 2014

Additions None

Removals None

Membership 218 Members



Institute on Liturgy, Preaching, and Church Music

by Father Schultz

✚ ATTENDED THE triennial worship conference of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod July 28-31 at Concordia University—Seward, NE. This year's theme was "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People: Praying, Preaching, and Singing the Comfort of Christ to the Troubled Conscience and Broken Heart."

The conference included notary plenary speakers Dr. John W. Kleinig, professor of Old Testament at Australian Lutheran College, and Dr. Robin A. Leaver, professor of sacred music at Westminster Choir College.

I attended a series of seminars on "It's Not Only What You Do; It's What You Get Them to Do" which helped choir conductors refine their conducting and choir directing skills, led by Dr. Charles Brown of Concordia University—River Forest, IL.

There were a number of worship services, including an opening and closing Mass and the Divine Office: Matins, Vespers, and Compline. The highpoint of the conference was a hymn festival on the hymns of Paul Gerhardt. Two fine organ recitals complimented the music throughout the conference. Five workshops on varied topics filled out the rest of the time.

As expected in a synodical event, there were both [1] strong Lutheran musical pieces and arrangements which we seek to promote and emulate, and [2] much weaker offerings that we must seek to avoid, errors which must be marked and taught against. For example, the opening Mass was very well done, and anyone familiar with Zion would have felt at home attending. The closing Mass was quite weak in liturgical content and execution and left much to be desired.

Overall, I was pleased with the conference and was glad to represent Zion. I was able to connect with a number of colleagues, college and seminary professors, and college and seminary friends. ✕

HOLY MASS is celebrated every Sunday and Wednesday at 10am, and on major feasts as announced.

COMMUNICANTS are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical-Lutheran Faith. If you desire to commune, please visit with the Pastor before approaching the Altar.

THE DIVINE OFFICE is prayed in the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory. **MATINS:** Daily 8:45am (except when there is a morning Mass); **VESPERS:** Tuesday/Thursday 6:30pm.

PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION is available on Saturday from 9-10am or by appointment.

PASTORAL CONSULTATION based on the Holy Scriptures is available by appointment.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM is for infants and adults, and may be arranged by contacting the Pastor.

COUPLES DESIRING HOLY MARRIAGE should contact the Pastor before finalizing the wedding date. Bible instruction in Holy Marriage is required. All marriages are conducted by the Pastor according to Zion's usual order.

NEW MEMBERS are received by baptism, confirmation, transfer or profession of faith. Instruction in Luther's Small Catechism and Private Absolution are required for all new members. Visit with the Pastor for further details.

THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND are visited regularly by the Pastor. Please contact the Parish Office if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS Adult Choir, Altar Guild, Children's Choir, Jubilate Deo Women's Choir, St. Seraphim Prayer Guild, Society of St. Samuel (Altar Boys), Usher Club, Zion Endowment Board.

DEACONS William Gramzow, III, Thomas Habitz, Jr., Eric Russell; **TRUSTEES** Roderick Atkins, Gregory Gramzow, Paul Snoes; **BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION** Shirley Cross, Alan Kroske, Pamela Ruffin; **OFFICERS OF THE VOTERS** Roderick Atkins (chairman), Jason Balaska (vice-chairman), Kristi Russell (secretary), Jessica Chavez (financial secretary)