

Zion Lutheran Church
17927 Dice Road
Hemlock, Michigan 48626



Return Service Requested



The Iva Chimes
is available online at
www.zionhemlock.org

Zion Lutheran Church

Intentional Interim Pastor:

Rev. Larry Warsinski

Church Office 989-642-5909

Zion's E-mail admin@zionhemlock.org

Zion's Website www.zionhemlock.org

Sunday Worship 9:30 am

God's Helping Hands
2nd and 4th Saturday of each month.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE P A I D
HEMLOCK MI 48626
PERMIT NO. 28

The mission
and vision of
Zion Lutheran
Church is to
share Jesus
with all people
as we

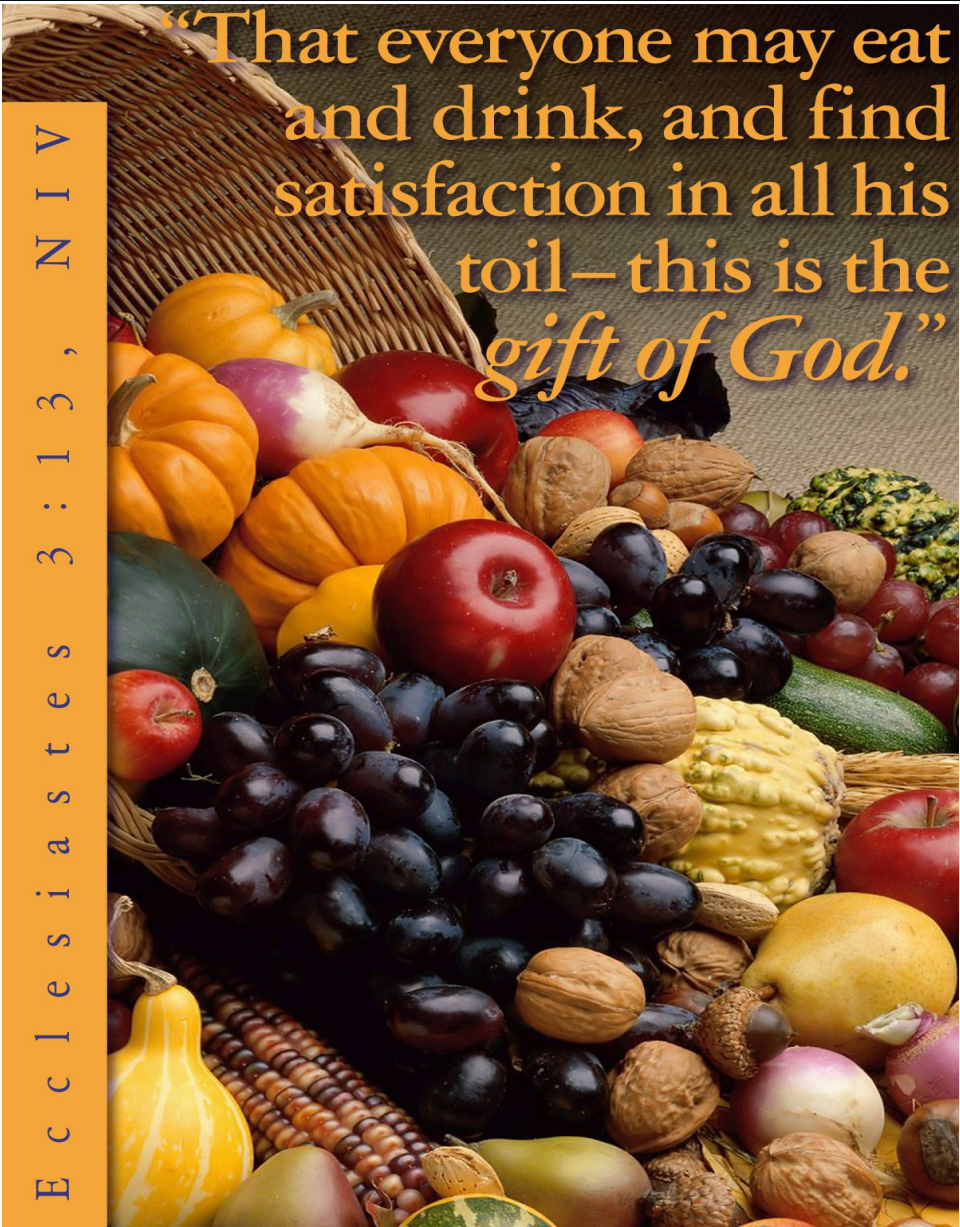
J~oyfully worship
E~ducate all people
S~hare God's Word
U~tilize all gifts
S~erve all souls



The Iva Chimes

Newsletter for Zion Lutheran Church

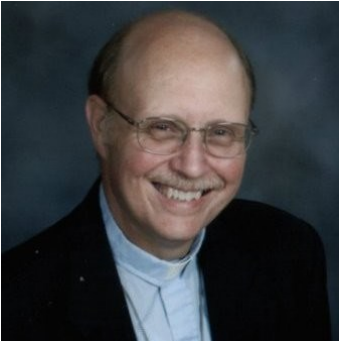
Fall 2023



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are making progress! The Transition Committee has been considering the challenges Zion is facing at this time, and in this place. They have sought and received input from you, and were about to ask again – because your thoughts are important.

But to move the process along, we have chosen to create the Call Committee. These are the people who will help handle the call process, examine the proposed candidates, and bring to you a selection for you to consider and to call. This is a long process, and requires that we interact with the District Office.



Pastor Larry Warsinski

The District needs your input, to start this work. Rather than asking you to do the same thing twice (once through the Transition Committee and one through the District Office), we prefer to let the District process begin. The Transition Committee will still have work to do to complete the process of moving Zion forward, and getting us ready to receive the new pastor once he is called and has accepted.

The District want each congregation calling a pastor to have its members fill out a Pastoral Profile Survey. This will help the District President and his assistants to select people who would fit the needs and wished of our congregation.

Elsewhere in this Newsletter, you'll find the link to the survey, which you could type into a computer, plus a QR-code you could use to access the survey on a smartphone. We are also including a paper copy, which you may want to review before going online to complete the survey, or for those of you who don't use computers – since your opinions and thoughts also matter. More paper copies can be obtained at the church, as needed – but it would be a lot less work for us if you can use either the computer or a smart phone.

The District knows that not everyone in the Congregation will answer the survey. But if we can get more people to fill this out, the results will better reflect the reality of our congregation, and our thoughts on what kind of Pastor Zion needs.

Please help us with this process. The survey will be open from Sunday, November 12, until the end of the month. The District Office will compile the results and let us know what you think. From there, the work of building our call list will begin.

Thank You!

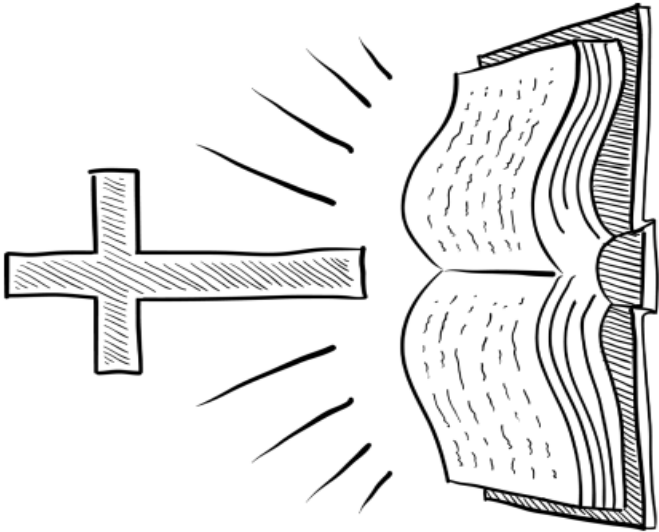
Yours in Christ Jesus,

Larry A. Warsinski, *Intentional Interim Minister*

Advent

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

K	E	V	J	H	E	N	Y	K	Z	E	H	I	E	S	T	F	I	G	Q	H
U	Z	N	R	H	H	L	S	X	A	C	O	N	G	R	R	Y	M	J	T	E
K	I	R	V	H	A	F	T	L	Q	K	P	W	H	A	D	P	X	R	O	F
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M	T	R	A	L	H	P	B	P	T	R	E	G	N	A	M	B	N	R	J	J
E	A	S	T	Y	L	A	L	K	F	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	A	R	O
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W	D	W	V	P	N	E	M	E	S	I	W	V	A	N	G	E	L	S	J	E
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S	X	X	D	E	I	L	O	H	P	H	U	E	H	A	I	R	Q	I	H	
X	C	N	Z	T	K	B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G	E	X	K	I	D	R	P
M	C	Y	K	D	K	I	Z	Q	V	S	V	L	H	I	N	F	X	A	E	
B	R	R	R	K	I	V	N	X	R	W	I	F	E	H	O	A	P	Q	C	H
V	I	W	J	A	R	S	F	G	A	E	E	W	K	T	U	R	E	P	L	S
R	V	Y	K	H	M	J	V	B	S	Q	Z	Q	M	E	K	F	D	K	E	D
U	H	A	B	D	K	E	F	Y	E	J	O	W	V	B	R	R	C	C	Q	A
R	C	R	S	T	Q	G	H	V	B	H	L	J	W	F	E	H	V	J	Z	



ADVENT, ANGEL, BABY, BETHLEHEM, BIRTH, BLESSING, EAST, FAITH, FRANKINCENSE, GIFTS, GOLD,
HOLY SPIRIT, HOPE, JESUS, JOSEPH, JOY, LORD, LOVE, MAGI, MANGER, MARY, MIRACLE, MYRRH,
NATIVITY, NAZARETH, REJOICE, SAVIOR, SHEPHERD, STABLE, STAR, THREE KINGS, WISE MEN

Trustee Report 10/22/2023					
Trustee Projects/Work	Description	Bids	Cost	Paid from	Timing
Repair the west edge of the Fellowship Hall	This roof is beginning to pull up. It will be repaired under warranty	Work was completed on 5/25/2023	No cost	-----	Complete
Replace Roofs	This includes the roofs of: the Sanctuary, the Narthex, the Narthex porch and the old church office	Three bids were received. Beyer Roofing was selected with a bid of \$52,798	\$53,723	Capital Projects Fund	Complete
Repair the ceiling of the Narthex porch	Because of the leaky porch roof the ceiling sagging. It will be replaced by a metal similar to what was done in the ceiling over the entrance to the Narthex	No bids yet	To be determined	Capital Projects Fund	2023
Replace the existing Carillon	The current carillon no longer works. It was installed in 1957. It had been upgraded and repaired a number of times	Chime Master was chosen to provide the Carillon.	\$14,122	Memorial Fund	Complete
Repair/replace the water hydrant by the gazebo	The hydrant does not open. It will need to be dug up and replaced	Will be done by Trustees	Less than \$500	General Fund	2023
Replace the entry door of the shed		Will be done by Trustees	Less than \$500	Capital Projects Fund	Completed in Aug.
Trustee Projects/Work	Description	Bids	Cost	Paid from	Timing
Fix hole in the asphalt by the road at the entrance to the west parking lot		Yeager Asphalt will be doing the job	\$2,250	Capital Projects Fund	Nov. 2023
Repairs to the Bell tower and the bell support system	This will include repair of: the two Bell Tower roof systems, the masonry cracks and structure of the tower, the support timbers for the bell	Pumford has provided a bid of \$82,000	\$82,000	Capital Projects Fund	In the next 2 - 3 years
Replace the ceramic tile flooring from the narthex doors to the kitchen	Some of the tiles are loose and broken	Out for bids	To be determined		2023

Think About It...What If...???

If the church service depended solely on MY worship...how full of worship would the service be?

If the church had to depend solely MY faithfulness... how faithful would my church be?

If the church had to survive solely on MY prayer life...how much prayer would be going on?

If the church could only go as deep as MY relationship with God goes...how deep would my church be?

If we had to make it on MY Bible reading and knowledge...How knowledgeable would my church be?

If we have to go by my offerings, how BIG would the church outreach be?

If the preaching depended solely on my response to the preaching...how responsive would my church be?

If it all depended on ME...What would happen?

Before you start complaining be

The first one praying

The first one worshipping

The first one reading and studying

The first one responding

The first one fasting

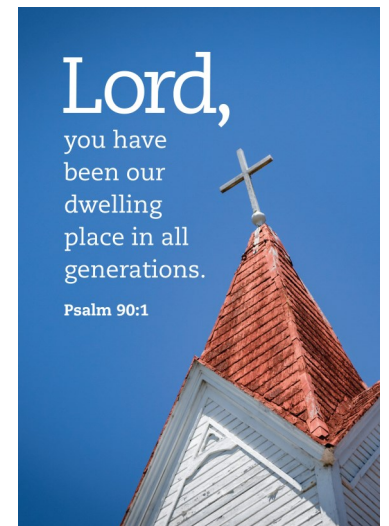
The first one faithful

The first one giving.

“I just don’t get anything out of his preaching” isn’t a valid argument. You’re there to worship Jesus & serve the lost.

Remember: we can’t complain if we’re not being what we say we want.

Author Unknown



Zion Lutheran Church, Hemlock
Voters' Meeting Minutes ~ October 22, 2023

Twenty-five families were in attendance. President Laura Hollingsworth open the meeting at 10:38 am giving time to review the minutes printed with the agenda. Moved and supported to accept minutes as printed.

Pastor Warsinski offered prayer.

Pastor's Report: There will be a meeting on Wednesday, November 1 @ 6 pm with the Michigan District representative to assist us in the start of the calling process. Anyone is welcome to attend. Shut in visits are current. Fall, Winter and holiday worship services will continue as in the past. Membership changes/statistics were read by Laura Hollingsworth. Current membership 385 Baptized, 321 Confirmed.

Elders Report: Elders are working on forming the call committee which will be approximately 12 people. God's Helping Hands received a grant from the Eastern Michigan Food bank for a commercial freezer and some food blankets. Some discussion on what the grant monies can be used for.

Stewardship/Evangelism: Movie night will be Thursday, October 26 in the fellowship hall. The series "The Chosen" will be shown. This is a multi season show about the life of Jesus.

Board of Christian Education: No report.

General Fund: Written Report handout. Moved and supported to accept as printed.

Capital Fund/Investment Fund: Written report handout. Moved and supported to accept as printed. No Investment report.

Financial Secretary: If anyone needs envelopes please let Laura or Irene know.

Memorial Fund: Moved and supported to accept as printed. Rusty mentioned that the amounts shown includes \$30,000 in grants from Eastern Michigan Food Bank. Also noted was that Nixon's Grocery (Brant) and Royal Meat Market (Breckenridge) have donated limited amounts of free deer processing. He is also seeking a grant from the National Rifle Association to help with those costs. If you have deer for processing to donate contact Paul Bohn.

Trustees: An updated handout was presented with needed work, description of work, bids received/to get an approximated cost, what fund the \$\$ will come from and estimated time frame of project. Handout attached. Not on the list but will need updating as some point is the alarm system. Snow removal will again be done this year by Dave Hutfilz and Joel Hutfilz. A thank you to them and to Dick Bluemer and Don Hollingsworth for keeping the lawns mowed.

Old Business: Officers and boards need volunteers. If you are willing to help out in any area please see and Elder.

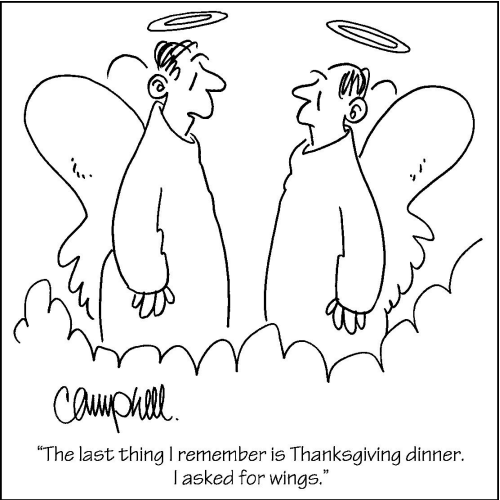
New Business: Moved and supported to adopt 2024 budget as submitted.

JoAnn Merz offered a thank you to the trustees and all who have been working on these repair projects.

Moved and supported to adjourn. Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Irene Kruth, Acting Secretary

Trustee Report 10/22/2023					
Trustee Projects/Work	Description	Bids	Cost	Paid from	Timing
Repair of sidewalk along parking area in front of church	The sidewalk is cracked and uneven in a number of spots	No bids yet	To be determined	Capital Projects Fund	???
Replace the Drivit/EFS, on the Narthex porch posts, with brick to match the other posts.	The Drivit/EFS on these posts has been damaged a number of times.	No bids yet	To be determined	Capital Projects Fund	???
Replace the sidewalk and steps to the front door of the parsonage.	This sidewalk has cracked and sunk over the years. The concrete steps up to the small porch have deteriorated	No bids yet	To be determined	Capital Projects Fund	???
Sealing exterior brick	There is a moisture problem in east wall of sanctuary and general deterioration of the exterior brick of the sanctuary.	No bids yet	To be determined	Capital Projects Fund	???



Offerings Received for the Lord's Work	
As of October 29, 2023	
Income received from:	
General Fund Offerings	\$ 136,982
Misc. Other Income, Rent	\$ 13,650
Total Income	\$ 150,632
Offerings 1/1/23 thru 10/29/23	\$ 136,980
Expenses 1/1/23 thru 10/29/23	\$ 118,615
Income minus Expense	\$ 18,365
Amount needed weekly \$3,888 per budget	
Total offerings received thru 10/29/23	\$ 136,982
Offerings needed thru 10/29/23 - 44 weeks	\$ 171,072
Offerings under per budget	\$ 34,090

God's Helping Hands

God's Helping Hands started on August 25, 2018. We recently celebrated our 5-year anniversary. During that time, here are some of our accomplishments:

Approximately 300,000 lbs. of food was given away
 \$50,711.93 was spent on discounted food from the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan
 163,150 diapers given away (we give away 6,000 diapers a month)
 Approximately 51,000 articles of clothing were given away
 Approximately 18,000 household items were given away
 Each time we are open, we on average help 68 families and 210 people
 We had a high of 200 families and 600 people helped during one of our drive-through food truck giveaways.

Most of the money spent by God's Helping Hands was received through grants, but donations also came from:

Zion Lutheran Church - Hemlock
 St. Peter Lutheran Church - Hemlock
 The Hemlock Business Association
 Merrill Caring is Sharing
 Many, many individuals
 Memorials
 Hemlock Volunteer Firemen
 National Rifle Association
 Immanuel Lutheran Church - Wheeler
 Vassar Theatre
 Jonesfield Lakefield Fire Department
 St. Dominic Parish
 LaPorte United Methodist Church
 The Diaper Alliance in Midland (We buy diapers at a deeply discounted price from them)

Grant money came from:

Allen Foundation, Inc. – Midland
 Rolland M. Gerstacker Foundation – Midland
 Isabella Bank
 Wallace and Irene Bronner Family Charitable Foundation



(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Other places that have donated food or services:

Art Noey (donated a freezer & turkeys)
 Backwoods Blueberries (let's us pick for GHH for free & donated jams)
 Brickel Blueberries (let's us pick for GHH for free & donated frozen blueberries)
 Freeland schools
 CJs Imagination Station
 Cornerstone Fabricating
 Eric Kreger (donating deer harvested)
 Nixon's Deer Processing (processes up to 10 deer for free for charities)
 Hemlock High School
 Hemlock Ling School
 Hemlock Post Office
 Jacques Orchard
 Jimmy John's in Hemlock
 Lake of Dreams Seasonal
 Hidden Harvest in Saginaw (donates free food each week)
 Coca Cola Company
 Little John's Sweet Corn
 Merrill Middle School
 Merrill Sports Boosters
 Merrill Wesleyan Church
 Michigan Sugar (has donated many pallets of sugar)
 Nixon's Grocery
 Michigan State University (has donated pallets of potatoes each year)
 Rosati's Grocery in Hemlock
 Saginaw Control (donated hams)
 BP Quality Sports
 Peace Lutheran Church (donated brand-new children's coats)
 St. Peter School (has held many food drives for GHH)

