

Zion Lutheran Church  
17927 Dice Road  
Hemlock, Michigan 48626



Return Service Requested



**The Iva Chimes**  
**is available online at**  
**[www.zionhemlock.org](http://www.zionhemlock.org)**

## Zion Lutheran Church

**Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Robert Smith**  
Church Office 989-642-5909  
Zion's E-mail [admin@zionhemlock.org](mailto:admin@zionhemlock.org)  
Zion's Website [www.zionhemlock.org](http://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  
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

January 2023



Retirement Celebration

Pastor Hauser led us in worship as our pastor for the last time on New Year's Eve 2022. Below are some pictures of him and his family who attended the service. We wish the blessings of our Lord upon pastor and his family in his retirement years.

Pastor Hauser came to minister to Zion congregation 22 years ago in August of 2000 from Bethlehem Lutheran in Saginaw. A retirement celebration will be held on Sunday, February 19 with worship service at 3:00 pm followed by a catered dinner at 4:00 pm. If you have not already RSVP's there is still time to do so by calling the church office 989-642-5909, and leave a message or email [admin@zionhemlock.org](mailto:admin@zionhemlock.org).

If you have a memory you may wish to share about Pastor as he may have ministered to you or your family in the past, a time will be offered during the fellowship time at the retirement celebration to do so. Also, if you have any pictures to share you may email them to [admin@zionhemlock.org](mailto:admin@zionhemlock.org). All are welcome to attend and wish Pastor Hauser and Debbie God's blessings upon them in their retirement years.



Puzzle Eighty-three

THE NEW TESTAMENT

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

The FIRST  
FOUR BOOKS  
of the NEW  
TESTAMENT,  
MATTHEW,  
MARK,


LUKE, AND  
JOHN, ARE  
GOSPELS,  
TELLING  
THE STORY  
of JESUS' BIRTH,

MINISTRY,  
DEATH, and  
RESURRECTION.  
The ACTS OF  
the APOSTLES  
is AN ACCOUNT  
of CHURCH  
HISTORY.  
OF THE  
REMAINING  
books, 21 are  
in the FORM of  
LETTERS to  
CONGREGA-  
TIONS,  
WHILE  
THE BOOK  
of REVELATIONS  
REVEALS  
GOD'S will  
FOR THE  
FUTURE.



### 1st Sunday Door Offering

We thank all who have contributed to God's Helping Hands as we continue to provide food for the food pantry. Though the cost of food through the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan is a greatly reduced cost to us, there is still a cost. These donations will help us to continue this much needed ministry as food and other costs continue to rise. Your donations on the first Sunday of each month will be greatly appreciated. If you know of people wanting to donate to God's Helping Hands they can make checks payable to Zion Lutheran Church and please note God's Helping Hands in the memo column.






Do you enjoy the fellowship with the added enjoyment of a cup of coffee and a cookie or two after the worship service? Great! Our Stewardship/Evangelism committee works hard week after week to provide this for us. They are asking for volunteers to continue setting up the coffee and cookies. Please consider volunteering to do this possibly once a month or so. We could set up a sign up sheet, etc. Please contact Bernie Hutfilz or Lois Tessin an offer your suggestions and/or help! Your willingness will be greatly appreciated!



Offerings Received for the Lord's Work	
As of December 31, 2022	
Income received from:	
General/Mission/Maint Fund Offerings	\$ 174,407
Misc. Other Income, Rent	\$ 12,252
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 186,659</b>
Offerings 1/1/22 thru 12/31/22	\$ 174,407
Expenses 1/1/22 thru 12/31/22	\$ 209,133
<b>Income minus Expense</b>	<b>(\$ 34,726)</b>
<b>Amount needed weekly \$3,888 per budget</b>	
Total offerings received thru 12/31/22	\$ 174,407
Offerings needed thru 12/31/22 - 52 weeks	\$ 202,176
<b>Offerings short per budget</b>	<b>\$ 27,769</b>






On January 1, 2023 we welcomed Pastor Bob Smith of Frankenmuth who will be serving us January and February (possibly longer) during the vacancy until an Intentional Interim Pastor is found for us. There are several churches in our circuit that are needing pastors due to retirements, or accepting calls to another congregation.


He and his wife Alice live in Frankenmuth and served in many places including Indonesia, Hong Kong, Guatemala, The Philippines, Calcutta among many others returning this past summer from serving for two years in Hawaii. We are pleased to have them worshipping with us.

**VLHS Fundraiser** ~Do you enjoy card games? Would you like to support the Valley Lutheran Booster Club? Then mark your calendars for Saturday, February 4! The VL Booster Club is holding a Card Night Fundraiser beginning at 6 p.m. (please arrive at 5:30 to learn the rules!) at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Saginaw. No experience needed and everyone is welcome! \$20 to play. Head to [www.vlhs.com/VLcardnight](http://www.vlhs.com/VLcardnight) to learn more, or contact Jenny Rauschert ([jenrausch@gmail.com](mailto:jenrausch@gmail.com), 989-751-4525) or Cathy Miller (989-790-1676) by January 30 to RSVP.




Volunteer opportunity! Would you like to help out in counting the weekly offerings? You can count when ever convenient for you. It will only take an hour or so of your time. See Laura Hollingsworth if interested.

Volunteers are also needed for Altar Guild. Duties are for one month of Sundays and include putting things away following communion , filling the altar oil candles, changing the altar paraments to the color of the season, and seeing that flowers are placed on the altar. If you are already committed to a month, maybe you would consider taking on one more month. A team of two works well. See Irene Kruth if interested.



**OFFERING COUNTERS**



**Altar Guild**

**Groundskeeper Position** ~ The St. Peter Board of Trustees is seeking a groundskeeper for the Richland Lutheran Cemetery. Some of the duties include cutting and trimming of grass, spring and fall clean up, trash removal, etc. A full listing of the job duties is available upon request. If interested, send your resume to St. Peter Lutheran Church, 2461 N Rauchholz Rd., Hemlock, MI 48626 or send via email to [church@stpeterhemlock.org](mailto:church@stpeterhemlock.org). If you have any questions, please call the church office 989.642.8188.



## Trustees Continue With Maintenance and Repairs

- 1. **Narthex Roof Replacement.** We have been working with Hardwood Hills (the contractor for the Fellowship Hall) in seeking an architect to determine what needs be done. This project is ongoing and will need to wait to hear from the contractor on possible suggestions.
- 2. **Window Replace for the School.** All windows in the school, library and the kitchen have been replaced by Mark Hilbrandt. Windows are all in and the trim needs to be put back up. A cost credit of approximately \$1,400 was given to the church for doing the staining and finishing of the new window woodwork.
- 3. **Carillon Replacement.** The present carillon was installed in 1957 and has failed. We will be looking to replace it.
- 4. **Hot Water Heater.** The recently purchased hot water heater servicing the kitchen, quilter room, etc. has been giving problems not staying lit. After several attempts to correct the problem, a new hot water heater was replaced (under warranty) by Piper Heating.
- 5. **Bell Tower Roof Leak.** Some mold was noticed on the drywall in the bell tower room next to organ. This was traced to a leak from the bell tower roof. The trustees will be working on fixing this. Some caulking was done on any areas that appeared to need it.
- 6. **Gazebo Water Hydrant.** The water faucet by the gazebo does not work. In order to replace this hydrant, the water to hydrant needs to be shut off. So far, we have found no way to shut off the water to that hydrant. If anyone has any suggestions please contact the trustees.
- 7. **Painting.** Since the window trim is off in the food pantry, and the library, (due to the installation of the new windows) the food room walls will be patched and painted. The library wall where the heat registers were taken out has been painted.
- 8. **Snow Removal.** Extend a thank you to Dave Hutfilz and Joel Hutfilz for keeping the parking lot and sidewalks free of snow and ice. Greatly appreciate your volunteerism!
- 9. **Parsonage.** The current rental agreement (1 year) is up in the Spring. We will be contacting the property manager to see if the next contract can be agreed upon on a month to month basis. This would be so that when and if the parsonage needs to be vacated for a pastor, the contract can easily be ended.

Thanks to the Trustees and their helpers

Trustees Dave Hutfilz & Bruce Tessin   Helpers: Dick Bluemer, Paul Bohn, Roger Kade, Dave Kade, Irene Kruth, Don Hollingsworth and Mark Richardson

## Epiphany

As we move through this Epiphany Season, we will become more and more enlightened about how to live “epiphanized” lives in our contemporary, sometimes dark, dreary, and dangerous world. In turn, we will be enabled by God Himself to live the “epiphanized” life. Here is a short list to consider:

- 1. Share the splendor of Epiphany as God did by the guiding star and worship Jesus with precious gifts;
- 2. Draw on your baptism for comfort, confidence, and courage;
- 3. Use your newness of life to care for others;
- 4. Let the words of your mouth and the meditation of your heart be acceptable to the Lord;
- 5. Live a life of love as described by St. Paul;
- 6. Excel in building up the Church;
- 7. Strive to live the “blessed” life outlined by Jesus;
- 8. Remember that Jesus is God’s Son and Chosen One; and
- 9. Listen to Him.

Bask in the splendors of Epiphany, every single brilliant facet of the season, and praise the Lord!


**Recycle your Christmas lights ~**  
Have old Christmas lights? Don’t throw them away! Indoor/outdoor string lights can be dropped off at the church office or the Richland Township office in Hemlock through January 15, 2019. Contact MidMichigan Waste Authority with any questions at 989-781-9555.



?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

In the story of the Magi, what word is used to give a sense of Jesus’ age when the wise men visited? What does it tell us?

- A. “baby”; Jesus was still a newborn in a manger
- B. “child”; when the wise men visited, Jesus had grown past infancy
- C. “youth”; Jesus was probably between 10 and 14
- D. No word is used to suggest Jesus’ age at the time of the wise men’s visit.



Answer: B (See Matthew 2:1-12.)