

Zion Lutheran Church
17927 Dice Road
Hemlock, Michigan 48626



Return Service Requested

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

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



The Iva Chimes

Newsletter for Zion Lutheran Church

October 2022



November Worship Opportunities

November 23, 7:00 pm
Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Midweek Advent Theme
Angels:
The Divine Messenger of Hope

Midweek Advent I
November 30
“The Angel Gabriel Brings a Message of Hope in the Midst of Unbelieving Doubt”
Luke 1:5-25

Midweek Advent II
December 7
“An Angel of the Lord Brings a Message of Hope in the Midst of Fear of the Unknown”
Matthew 1:18-25

Midweek Advent III
December 14
“The Angel Gabriel Brings a Message of Hope in the Midst of the seemingly Impossible”
Luke 1:26-38

Zion Lutheran Church

Pastor: Rev. Paul Hauser
Church Office 989-642-5909
Pastor Home 989-327-1557
Pastor’s Cell Phone 517-928-0062
Zion’s E-mail admin@zionhemlock.org
Zion’s Website www.zionhemlock.org
God’s Helping Hands 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month.

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

PASTOR’S PAGE...

I want to thank all of you who sent cards and gave gifts during the past month of Pastor’s Appreciation. I will always think back fondly to how well I was treated by you, the people of Zion!

St. Paul wrote this to the Philippian congregation, and it says how I feel about all of you: “I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart...God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.”

“Therefore, if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; rather, He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

(Philippians 1:2-7a; 2:1-11)

To think is to thank, and to thank is to think...of Him who gave His life for us. I encourage you to think of someone you appreciate, and to whom you can share your thankful thoughts this month by sharing Bible passages that tell how you and God feel about them.

I thank you for all you are as brothers and sisters in the Lord, and for all you have done to show and shine and share Jesus through your lives. The memories won’t just last for a lifetime, but an eternity. May you make that happen for someone else as they see Jesus in you!

Your pastor for a little while longer,
Pastor Paul Hauser



Pastor Paul Hauser

God’s Helping Hands

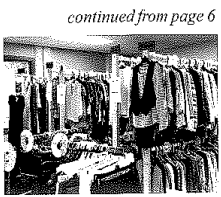
Easter, we brought in a semi of food to give away before the holidays. We have been able to do these special giveaways six times, helping 200 families and 600 people for each holiday.

God’s Helping Hands also partners with Diaper Alliance (thediaperalliance.org). Because of this organization, we distribute 6,000 diapers per month for a comparatively small annual fee. In addition, we give away small household items.

Many people have expressed a deep gratitude. Some have even said that they would not be able to make ends meet if it wasn’t for this ministry.

We do this because we want to love and help our neighbor and out of a desire to please our Lord and Savior. At times, it has looked impossible as the need for food is so great, but the Lord always comes through. One time, he sent someone with a carload of canned goods! COVID didn’t even slow us down. When it hit, we moved everything outdoors.

To date, *God’s Helping Hands* has been able to give away 300,000 lbs. of food, more than 30,000 articles of clothing, 20,000 household items, and 100,000 diapers.



continued from page 6

We have helped over 5,000 families (16,000 people). This year the quilters, who turn out about 400 quilts a year, will be giving a quilt to each family we serve at *God’s Helping Hands*.

All of this has been done at very little cost to the church—mainly storage space, electricity, and heat. Some have donated monetarily, including Paul Walter Hauser, actor and son of Rev. Paul Hauser, who gave us our start-up funds. We give thanks to the Lord, who has richly blessed us over the past 4 years so that we can be a blessing to many. ■

Paul Bohn is a lifelong member of Zion, Hemlock where he has served in many church leadership capacities. He currently serves as the head elder.

This article was submitted by Paul Bohn and was published in the most recent Lutheran Witness/ Michigan in Touch Magazine. There is also an article by Pastor Aaron W. Roggow, grandson of Carl and Irmie Roggow , entitled “When We Forget to Pray” in the same issue. A copy of this November 2022 issue is in the narthex.



Offerings Received for the Lord’s Work

As of October 31, 2022



Income received from:	
General Fund Offerings	\$ 140,284
Misc. Other Income, Rent	\$ 9,377
Total Income	\$ 149,661
Offerings 1/1/22 thru 10/31/22	\$ 140,284
Expenses 1/1/22 thru 10/31/22	\$ 163,484
Income minus Expense	(\$ 23,200)
Amount needed weekly \$3,888 per budget	
Total offerings received thru 10/31/22	\$ 140,284
Offerings needed thru 10/31/22 - 44 weeks	\$171,072
Offerings short per budget	\$ 30,788



GREAT COMPASSION

God's Helping Hands

By Paul Bohn

Over four years ago, during an every-member visit with Pastor Paul Hauser of Zion, Hemlock I mentioned to a member of our congregation that I thought of starting a food and clothing giveaway but didn't have any contacts. The member mentioned two contacts including one at St. Peter, Hemlock. After information was gathered from these sources, it was taken to the Voters Assembly for discussion. Our school had been closed for years and the rooms were not being used and could be turned into stock rooms. Others from our congregation were interested in helping, and so began *God's Helping Hands* of Hemlock and Merrill.

Clothing racks were built, rooms were cleared, and a Facebook page was created. Clothing donations came in and many hours were put in organizing the clothing. Meetings were held and it was decided that we would open on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month, on opposite days of another church which had a similar ministry, so those in need would have more supply options. The start date would be August 25, 2018.

Opening day was disappointing. Despite advertisement on Facebook and distribution of flyers, only four people showed up. But the next time we opened, 8 people showed up and the following time 16 people. It just kept growing. Meanwhile, we were working on building shelves for food, and when we started giving away food,

the numbers exploded. During our hours of operation, an average of 70 families were being serviced. That adds up to 200 people! For a very rural church, it is more than we expected. Along with food and clothing, we give away Bibles to anyone who would like one. Pastor Hauser connects and ministers to those waiting to shop, praying for their needs. Everyone is welcomed. Our ministry serves a 30-mile radius of Hemlock. Families from city and rural areas come. It takes about 15 volunteers to keep things running. These same individuals come on Thursdays to organize Saturday's event.

“We give thanks to the Lord who has richly blessed us ... so that we can be a blessing to many.”

About \$1,000 is spent on food that is purchased at a deep discount from the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan. Hidden Harvest in Saginaw provides free food. The community supports us and gets involved—area growers have donated blueberries, apples, sweet corn, potatoes, and more. For Thanksgiving, Christmas, and

continued on page 19



Retirement Celebration

A committee has been formed to plan a retirement celebration/dinner for Pastor Hauser who came to minister to our 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. As the committee continues making plans you are asked to please RSVP for the dinner by November 15th on the sheet in the narthex or by calling the church office 989-642-5909, you may leave a message. This seems early but this will help the committee in extending an invitation to neighboring congregations. All are welcome and encouraged to attend and wish Pastor Hauser and Debbie God's blessings upon them in their retirement years. We look forward to receiving your RSVP!



1st Sunday Door Offering

We thank all who have contributed to our collections in support of The Partnership Center in past months. The church council has decided to turn these contributions to service God's Helping Hands here at Zion 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 will be greatly appreciated.



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!

Voter's Meeting Minutes Synopsys

October 23, 2022 @ 10:30am

Twenty-eight families were present, Laura Hollingworth church chairperson led the meeting. Pastor Hauser opened meeting with prayer. Lunch was provided

Pastor Hauser's Report: Pastor gave a detailed report of congregational activities since last voter's meeting and he left meeting for confirmation class. . Official Acts of Zion Lutheran Church, May 22, 2022-October 23, 2023: Baptized 387, Confirmed 325.

Review/Approved Minutes of May 22,2022 Voter's Meeting:

Reports:

Board of Elders: Paul Bohn informed members that Pastor Hauser's exit interview was conducted and Pastor's Hauser's Retirement Dinner will be held on Sunday, February 19, 2023.

God's Helping Hands: Paul Bohn stated that some deer were taken to Nixon's to get processed & encouraged members to contact him if they would like to donate a deer. Rusty Laurenz applied for and received \$950.00 from the NRA magazine "Hunter for Hungry" program for God's Helping Hands.

Board of Evangelism/Stewardship: Coffee hour after church continues and there will be no coffee hour after Christmas and New Year's services.

Board of Christian Education: No Report.

General Fund & Capital Projects: Written reports received

Financial Secretary Report: Volunteers needed to help count money.

Memorial Fund Report: Written report received.

Board of Trustees: .

1. A light for the flags has been installed and the American and Christian flags are flying 24/7.
2. Narthex roof replacement with a sloped roof. We have been working on finding a contractor to give us a quote on new roof on the Narthex. Hardwood Hills (the contractor for the Fellowship Hall) brought an architect to determine what needs be done. The architect's design package has been received and we are waiting for bids from Hardwood Hills
3. Window Repair/Replace for the school classrooms the Library and the east wall of the kitchen are in need of repair or replacement. Windows on the north have been installed but the interior has not been done until the rest of the windows are installed.
4. Leak in hot water pipe loop in the Quilter's room. The repair of the pipe was completed on 9/14/2022
5. Upgrade of the Churches Audio/Video system (\$12,792). This includes the equipment needed to Live Streaming and new audio equipment that will make it easier for one person to operate the system. The upgrade is complete.

6. The carpet installation in the office area has been completed.
7. Replacing the Carillon (installed in 1957). We have done some looking and have gotten one quote
8. Water leaking from the ceiling into Fellowship Hall bathroom. The trustees believe they have found in source of the leak in the roof above the bathroom repairs have been made but there still have been sign of water leaks.
9. Installation was completed on 8/3/2022 of air conditioning heating for 3 rooms: Quilters, Pantry & Children's Clothing (\$11,513) A "Mini-Split" similar to the air conditioning units installed in the church has been installed.. During the heating season Mini-Split will provide the heat until outside temperature is below 20 degrees then the hot water system will take over.
10. Bell Tower roof leak was noticed with some mold on the drywall in the bell tower room next to organ. This was traced to a leak from the Bell Tower roof. It could not be determined exactly where the leak but coming from so caulking was done on any areas that appeared to need it.
11. Water Hydrant (faucet) beside 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.
12. Required periodic testing of the kitchen fire extinguisher was done by Summit Fire Protection.
13. The Kitchen dishwasher was not working. Hobart Service was called and replaced a failed part.

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, Mark Richardson

Old Business: none

New Business:

Discussion about future options to replace Pastor Hauser upon his retirement on 12/31/22: Paul Bohn lead discussion of handout describing differences between our options: Intentional Interim Minister, Vacancy Pastor & Pulpit Supply Pastor. He informed members that Pastor Biber & Pastor Johnson (Circuit Visitor/ Assistance to President, Michigan District) met with church council in September 2022 & they suggested that our congregation get an Intentional Interim Minister since Pastor Hauser has been here over 22 years, rather than issuing a call for a senior/sole pastor at this time. This process may take 6 months to 4 years to get a senior/sole pastor. Pastor Johnson & Pastor Biber will be contacted on our decision to get an Intentional Interim Pastor to start January 1, 2023.

2023 Operating Budget: Written report received and approved.

Officers and Boards: Please contact Laura Hollingsworth if any church member would be able to volunteer on a board.

Meeting adjourned and closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Little, Church Council Secretary