

# PASTOR'S LETTER

*"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. "For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." -Isaiah 55:10-12*

Have you ever heard a mountain sing? Have you ever seen a tree clap its hands? Probably not, and you probably never will, at least not on earth.

It sounds like symbolic language. It's intended to show us the outrageous goodness of the Word of God. It completely changes everything, even things that you wouldn't expect. The Word of God is so good that it can cause the mountains to sing and the trees to clap. It is so good that it always accomplishes the purposes for which God sends it.

That goodness is ours to receive. God has watched over and kept His Word for us through the centuries. We have it on our bookshelves. We have it on CDs and audio tapes. We have it on our TVs and radios. We have it on our phones and computers. More importantly, we live in a nation where we are free to gather as His people and hear, read, and study His Word. We can gather around His Word for worship and Sacraments. God generously shares His good Word with us. It gives us salvation and life.

That goodness is ours to share. God's Word is always effective, but how can people believe in what they haven't heard? And how can they hear unless someone proclaims it to them? We are called to bring the good news to the world. We are God's ambassadors; He speaks through us.

God's Word is outrageously good, and it is God's power for salvation. It changes us and gives us eternal life. Maybe in heaven we'll learn that it can also make mountains sing and trees clap their hands.

See you in church.

*Pastor Klespe*



Let your  
light shine.

MATTHEW 5:16



**Zion Lutheran Church**  
410 Main Street South  
Pine City, MN 55063



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Men's Fishing Trip 9:00 @ Casby's 
4 Worship/Communion 9am Summer Bible Study 9am	5 <i>No Evangelism Meeting</i>	6 	7 Worship 7pm VBS Meeting 7:45pm	8 LWML Mtg 1pm	9	10
11 Worship/Communion 9am Summer Bible Study 9am	12 Elder Meeting 6pm Council Meeting 7pm	13	14 Worship/Comm 7pm	15	16	17
18 Worship/Communion 9am Bible Study 9am 	19 	20	21 Worship 7pm	22	23	24
25 Worship/Communion 9am Summer Bible Study 9am	26	27	28 Worship/Comm 7pm	29	30	



## God's Living Water VBS 2023

**July 17th-20th  
5:30pm-8:00pm**

**God's Living Water explores biblical accounts that emphasize the Living Water, Jesus. Including differentiation between age groups, multiple options for snacks, songs, instructions for games, science experiments, and more, your VBS will overflow with God's grace this summer. Please contact Tracy Gullerud (651)-308-1511 or the church office if you can help with VBS and didn't make it to the meeting. Our next meeting will be on June 7th at 7:45pm (following worship).**

### JUNE BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARIES

#### BIRTHDAYS

Willis Hippen 6/2  
 Larry Anderson 6/7  
 Megan Olson 6/11  
 Sandra Williamson 6/15  
 LaVerne Teich 6/26  
 Dawson Slama 6/26  
 Jennifer Strehlo 6/29  
 William Patzoldt Sr. 6/29

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Tom & Kim Martini 6/6  
 Steve & Marsha Olson 6/8  
 Ron & Gail Smetana 6/8  
 Pastor & Linda Kleppe 6/16  
 Dennis & Janet Sundermeyer 6/28



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

**JUNE 2023:**

#### ELDERS

Ryan Ovick 6/4  
 Jeremiah Slama 6/11  
 Jerry Lotz 6/18  
 Chad Fedder 6/25

#### OFFERING COUNTERS

Dallas Carpenter 6/5  
 JoAnn Breska 6/12  
 Stepheny Lotz 6/19  
 Karen Meyer 6/26

#### USHERS

Bill Dahl  
 Keith Strehlo  
 Josh Strehlo  
 Karl Strehlo

#### LAWN MOWING

Wagner Family-May 28<sup>th</sup>-June 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Maloney Family-June 19<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>  
 Strehlo Family-June 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>  
 Thompson Family-June 11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>  
 Casby Family-June 18<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>  
 Les Peterson-June 25<sup>th</sup>-July 1<sup>st</sup>

#### ALTAR GUILD

Dave & Terri Wagner

# Zion Lutheran May 2023 Council Minutes

\*Meeting called to order at 7:03pm

*Members Present:* Bob Thompson, Karen Althoff, Keith Strehlo, Ryan Ovick, Jerry Lotz, Jeremiah Slama & Chad Fedder

*Members Absent:* Pastor Kleppe (Pastor's Conference Brainerd), Scott Ovick, Tom Martini, Larry Anderson & Steve Olson.

\*Opened with Prayer

**Secretary's Report-** This was shared prior to the meeting electronically. Motion made to accept the report, motion seconded and motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report-** Finances are staying steady. For April netted \$880. Checking is looking good. As we enter Summer we encourage members to faithfully continue to make offerings, remembering that the ministry and other things keep going. Detailed financial reports available in the Office.

## **Pastor's Report:**

\*Our YouTube channel is Glen Kleppe. We continue to put services on the channel every week. It is accessible directly or through our church website, zionpinecity.org or through our Facebook page. Now we will return to Wednesday service matching the following Sunday.

\*The Sunday School year and the Adult and High School Bible Classes will have their last class on May 14th. May 21st will be the end of the year celebration. I will be holding a Summer Adult Study on Sunday mornings.

\*The youth will serve Art in the Park on July 21st.

\*Two people offered to lead VBS so we will be holding it this Summer, The date has not yet been set.

\*The Altar is in need of a new Fair linen. We discussed this last month but didn't have a quorum. I would like to approve up to \$250. It has to be custom made. Motion made to approve this expense, motion seconded and motion passed.

\*No word on the air exchanger yet.

\*Keith, Jeremiah, Ryan and Jerry have volunteered to meet with Living Branch. they would like to meet on May 16th if that works for us. I think that the Council should appoint them to this task just to do things and good order. Motion to appoint these four to the task, motion seconded and motion passed.

\*How do you want to deal with the Constitution? Bob handled the first draft. We could send it back to the committee, form a new committee, or discuss it as a full Council. It could take some time so we would probably have to call one or two special meetings of the Council. Motion to call special meetings to review Constitution made, motion seconded and motion passed.

## **Upcoming dates:**

May 12th & 13th- Rummage Sale

May 21st- End of the Sunday School Year Celebration

June 3rd- Men's Fishing outing.

July 21st- Youth Serve Art in the Park

\*Motion to accept Pastor's report, motion seconded and motion passed.

## **Committee Reports:**

Evangelism- Handing out something for Mother's Day. Delivered Flowers.

Endowment- No meeting. Discussed the current balance of Endowment. Once the account is at \$50,000 the interest on the account can be utilized. Currently Endowment has about \$23,000 in it.

LWML- Pillow Case Dresses & Rummage Sale in May during City Wide Sale.

Preschool- Met on April 3rd. Made Plans for Open House. Currently two openings for next school year. Trike & Jump-A-Thon one of their big fundraisers took place on Saturday, April 29th, they raised just over \$3500.

Worship, Music & Arts- No Meetings

Youth Group- Doing the "Woke" study with Pastor. And upcoming will serve at Art in the Park on July 21st.

Men's Group- June 3rd Fishing.

## **Trustee's Report:**

\*Pigeons. Obi came and inspected around the bell tower and found an opening where they are coming in. Bob has been looking for someone to help fix this problem and remove the Pigeon's. Warned that Gas from Pigeon poop is toxic and that cleaning up, closing the opening and getting rid of Pigeon's should be done by a professional. Soonest someone can come would be in June at a cost of \$375.

\*Motion to accept Committee and Trustee reports, motion seconded and motion passed.

## **Old Business:**

\*Continuing to look for desk ideas. Possible one at MinnCo (looking for measurements to see if it would fit in office). This has been resolved. MinnCo donated a desk. Looks good in the office.

\*Karen Althoff being added to checking (hopes to do this once tax season is done. Tentatively hoping to do it next Wednesday April 19th). This has been resolved.

\*Strategic Planning- We will continue discussing this more as we move forward.

## **New Business-**

\*Mail Box was purchased and installed in the back entryway. More secure and out of the elements.

Constitution- Bob Thompson provided us with an outline of a new Constitution for us to review. Copies have been printed off and shared. Addressed this during the Pastor's report. Plan is to schedule two meetings of the Council to review.

Multiple Church Parish Agreement- Discussed this more. Reviewed Sample of Multi-Congregational Parish Agreement. Talked about the process we need to follow as we go through this. Meeting with Living Branch with those appointed and bringing information back to the Council and Congregation. Discussed what challenges may occur, would it take from Zion as Pastor would be servicing two Churches? How would Pastor be compensated for his Extra Work.

Minutes typed and respectfully submitted by Jerry Lotz