Revelation 7:13-17—Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Hot enough for ya?

This has been a particularly hot summer, and as I write this (July 25) we seem to be headed into another hot week.

Last week I was at the National Convention in Phoenix. Half of the high temperatures while I was there were over 100 degrees. One evening the TV weatherman reported, "The high today was 101, which is about where we should be."

Although I was warm, I found it interesting watching the construction crew working on the building across the street. They worked all day long, every day. That had to be a struggle, even if they are used to Arizona. The news reported the numbers of people who had been hospitalized because of the heat.

That kind of heat is a result of sin in the world. I assume that Adam and Eve never experienced that in the garden, but when Adam sinned, God declared, "Cursed is the ground because of you." The whole world is cursed because of sin. So, Arizona has days over 100 degrees and Minnesota has days 20 degrees below zero. This world can be uncomfortable. Sin can make us uncomfortable.

The good news is that in heaven, God makes us comfortable. Our sin is forgiven and we live in a place without sin. Where the sun shall not strike us, nor any scorching heat, and the Lamb will guide us to springs of living water. See you in worship!

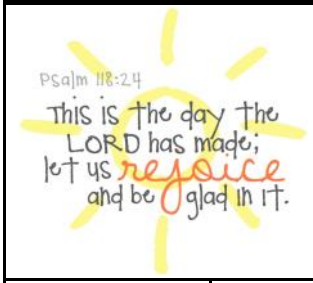
Pastor Kaye

Zion Lutheran Church

410 Main Street South
Pine City, MN 55063

September 6th
New Worship Time
10:00am

AUGAST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 PC Parade **4:00pm**
2 Worship/ Communion **8:00am** *Jastram D.O.*	3 Endowment **6:00pm**	4 Bible Study **9:00am**	5 Worship **7:00pm**	6 	7 **LWML MN North Retreat** *@ Lutheran Island Camp* **August 7th-9th**	8 Women's Group **8:30am-10am**
9 **DUAL PARISH** *Worship/Potluck* *Rush City, MN* *Worship* ***10:00am*** *Food & Games to follow*	10 Elders **6:00pm** Council **7:00pm**	11 Bible Study **9:00am**	12 Worship & Communion **7:00pm**	13 LWML Meeting **1:00pm**	14	15
16 Worship/ Communion **8:00am**	17 Corn Feed Meeting **7:00pm**	18 Bible Study **9:00am**	19 Worship **7:00pm**	20	21 Corn-Feed Set-Up **9:00am** Corn Shucking @ Carpenters **4:00pm**	22 Corn-Feed Set-Up **3:30pm** Corn-Feed **4:30-6:30pm**
23 Worship/ Communion **8:00am**	24	25 Bible Study **9:00am**	26 Worship & Communion **7:00pm**	27	28	29
30 Worship/ Communion **8:00am**	31 ***Deadline for Endowment Applications!***	***September 6th** **New Worship Time** **10:00am**				

From the rising of the sun
to the place where is sets,
the name of the Lord is to be praised.

Psalm 113:3

Lutheran Women in Mission

Our mission statement is to ***Joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.***

As a mission to help many, we are renewing the collection of pop tabs to support the **Ronald McDonald House,** which meets the needs of families with children experiencing severe injury or illness. You will find a collection container on the "free" table downstairs. Thanks for your support and contributions!

A pop tab is the flip top on aluminum cans. You can collect them from soda cans, sparkling water cans and various other beverage cans. We also take tabs from soup, fruit, vegetable and pet food cans that have tabs.

Starting July 1st grant applications will be accepted for the Zion Lutheran Church Endowment Fund.

In 2025 we funded over $28,000 worth of projects, mission work, educational opportunities and concerts at both Zion Lutheran and Living Branch Churches. The Endowment committee is excited to see what projects or educational opportunities members will request funding for.

Zion- Applications are available from any committee member and on the table in the fellowship area.

The funding for consideration must fall into one of these categories: Youth Activities; Youth Education; Missions; Scholarships; Community Outreach; Zion Lutheran Facility Improvement

Please submit applications to any committee member or to the Endowment box inside Zion Lutheran's Church office by August 31st.
Committee members: Tom Martini, Keith Strehlo, Lisa Westeren, Jerry Lotz, Chad Fedder

SERVANTS OF ZION

ALTAR GUILD
The Lotz Family

ELDERS
Scott Ovick 8/2
Chad Fedder 8/9
Tom Martini 8/16
Keith Strehlo 8/23
Jerry Lotz 8/30

USHERS
Steve Ovick
Scott Ovick
Ray Ovick
Steve Corey

OFFERING COUNTERS
Barb Carlson 8/3
Dallas Carpenter 8/10
Karen Teich 8/17
Jeanne Casby 8/24
Stepheny Lotz 8/31

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES
Clinton & LaVerne Teich 8/20

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS
Melvin Gutz 8/3
Tristan Frith 8/4
Julia Ovick 8/6
Herbert Fedder 8/7
Jettson Wimmer 8/8
Dianne Deutschlander 8/9
Todd Linder 8/14
Ryan Ovick 8/16
Andrew Olson 8/17
Luann Peterson 8/25
Andrew Westeren 8/27
Miriam Fromm 8/27
Jerry Lotz 8/28

*If any information is incorrect or missing please let the office know. Thank you!

Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 13th, 2026

The Meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President Jerry Lotz

Members Present: Pastor Kleppe, Jerry Lotz, Karen Althoff, Keith Strehlo, Larry Anderson, Chad Fedder & Tom Martini.
Members Absent: Jeremiah Slama, Steve Corey & Scott Ovick

Pastor Kleppe opened with a devotion from Matthew 6: 5-9 and shared that Jesus is telling us how to pray. Do not pray for show. Pray by yourself, pray at Church, Pray to God, he will hear you. You are speaking to him.

Devotion was followed by prayer.

Secretary's Report:
*****The minutes from the June 8th, 2026 Council meeting were shared via email prior to the Council meeting and read at the meeting as well. There were no questions or corrections. Motion was made by Chad and seconded by Pastor to accept the minutes as shared, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:
*Karen shared printed copies of the Financial Reports. Karen shared that offerings were $14,655.70 for the month, expenses were $14,731.38 for the month showing a net loss of $75.68 for the month. The checking account balance is $16,449.88.
*Karen also shared that the Script account was corrected and the issue was an in process transaction that occurred.
*Motion was made by Chad, seconded by Tom to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

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. We have also added announcements to the YouTube channel. We show them on Sunday morning or you can look at them online.
-My sermon series based on the Lord's Prayer will continue until August 9th.
-The Estate of John & Karen Thomas is giving a gift to Zion.
-I will be attending the National Convention of the LCMS July 18th-23rd.
-Linda and I will be attending family camp at Lutheran Island Camp July 26th-31st.
-I will be gone for Worship Services on Wednesday, July 22nd & 29th and Sunday, July 19th.
Upcoming Dates:
July 24th- Men's Club serving at Art in the Park, August 22nd- Corn Feed
*Motion by Tom, seconded by Keith to accept Pastor's report, Motion passed.

Committee Reports:
***Endowment:** The committee has reviewed and finished updating the By-Laws for the Endowment. Presented these to the Council for review. Motion was made by Chad to approve recommending the updated By-Laws to the Voter's, Motion was seconded by Tom, Motion passed. Updated By-Laws will be presented to the Voter's on Monday, July 20th, 2026.
-Keith shared the financial reports for the Endowment including updates for Grants that have been paid out and those that still need to be used. Updated the Council on pending re-investment and available rates and options.

***LWML:** They continue to work on sewing projects. They have a retreat coming up at Lutheran Island Camp. There is a Praise Party on September 19th with Guest Speaker/Author Michelle Diercks. This Praise Party Speaker/Author is possible from an Endowment Grant.
***Preschool:** Currently 3 openings remain for the Fall. Jenine continues to meet with anyone that is interested in enrolling their children. Jenine and LuAnn attended a Dragon Wagon event where they shared Preschool information and gave some items to the children.
***Men's Group:**
-Serving at Art in the Park on Friday, July 24th.
***Dual Parish:**
-Rob from Living Branch and I have set a meeting for Tuesday, July 28th for a Dual Parish meeting. Dual Parish Service/Picnic/Activity day is scheduled for Sunday, August 9th at the Rush City Park.
***Personnel:**
-Nothing to report. As we move towards Fall we will have to meet with Pastor, Katy and Norm & Karen and review salaries for 2027.

***Trustee Report:**
-Larry provided the update for the Lighting Project that will be taking place in the Sanctuary this Fall. Scott Jahnz requests that we make the $3695 down payment now with the remaining balance of $1405 to be paid at the completion of the work. Brief discussion on if we should use Memorial Funds or the General Fund for this project. Motion was made by Chad to approve making the $3695 down payment using the general fund, motion was seconded by Tom, Motion passed. (Note: Remaining payment will be made at completion of work.)
-Larry presented another project to hang curtains in the balcony of the Sanctuary. The sunlight tends to enter from that point and make seeing things up front difficult. To this point we have put paper or cardboard up as needed to help alleviate this. The cost would be $294 for the project. Pastor made a motion to approve $294 for the curtain project, Keith seconded the motion. Motion passed.
-Pastor updated the Council that Drip/Drop Plumbing was at the Parsonage and fixed some more of the leaking water pipes. They did a fair amount of work at a good value to help fix some of the leaking pipes. There still remains more work to be done.
-Motion was made by Keith, seconded by Chad to approve the Committee Reports. Motion passed.

Old Business:
*We need to look at the calendar to schedule a meeting soon to go over reimbursement and financial procedures for those that take part in handling various financial transactions for the Church. Tabled for further review.
*Church Audit- Still need to look at a time to complete this. Tabled for further review.
*Copier: Karen asked about the Copier in the basement as we had received a bill for the copier. Pastor Kleppe shared that we should not be billed for that anymore. If we receive any more bills please let him know and he will contact them in regards to it.

New Business:
*Voter's Meeting is Monday, July 20th @ 7 p.m.
*Endowment By-Laws Review. These were reviewed under Committee Reports.
*Chad made a motion that we adjourn the meeting, Motion was seconded by Larry, Motion passed.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Minutes typed and submitted respectfully by Jerry Lotz

On September 6th we will go to a 10am worship time!
Our sister church Living Branch will be changing to **8:00am!**
This will continue until the fall of **2027!**

You're invited to be our guest at

Zion's Praise Party

featuring guest Christian author & speaker

Michelle Diercks

Saturday, September 19, 2026
9:00 am - 11:00 am

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

Michelle Diercks is a Master Certified Christian Life Coach, speaker, podcast host, author, and Bible teacher. Michelle specializes in helping women find peace in God's promises, even through the uncertainties of life.

She lives on a farm in Eastern Iowa with her husband Troy, and they have two sons. Michelle loves the outdoors, reading, and savoring deep and meaningful conversations with friends and family.

Michelle is the author of *Promised Rest: Finding Peace in God's Presence* and *Promised Hope: Finding Peace in God's Faithfulness*. Michelle is also the host of the *Peace in His Presence* podcast.

Reservations appreciated: 320-629-3683

DOOR OFFERINGS AT ZION LUTHERAN

Zion Lutheran Church has dedicated the Second Sunday of every month to support the ***Pine City Food Shelf.*** This door offering is taken the Second Sunday of every month please consider donating.

FAMILY PATHWAYS PROVIDES ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD FOR FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS.

Family Pathways offers healthy food through our 9 food shelves in Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine Counties in Minnesota and Polk County in Wisconsin. Families and individuals may shop once a month and at additional weekly visits to choose fresh fruits, vegetables, bread, and dairy. Additional assistance is provided about other available resources and services. With the support of the community Family Pathways actively works to correct disparities to ensure all people have what they need to achieve and maintain health, well-being and prosperity.

IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY TO ASK FOR HELP.

We are here to help make sure you have food on the table. Call your local Food Shelf office to make your first monthly appointment. You will be able to shop monthly—free of charge—for items your family will use and eat; perishable and non-perishable food items, household products, and personal hygiene products.

Besides your monthly appointment, weekly visits are encouraged—no appointment necessary—to pick up fresh dairy, deli, produce, and bread.

Donations of food and financial support are enthusiastically welcomed!

Pine City location details:
(320) 629-0128; *220 7th St. SW; Pine City, MN 55063*
***Monday:** 9am–5pm ***Wednesday:** 10am–5pm ***Thursday:** 9am–5pm

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Be part of reaching the goal to fill 500 backpacks! Filled backpacks will be distributed to each of Family Pathways 9 food shelves, plus the domestic abuse emergency shelter at Black Dog Hill by Labor Day. Help local youth to succeed in school!

Washable markers (10-pk)	*Tabbed dividers	Pencil sharpeners (small, plastic)
Crayons (24-pk)	*College Ruled, Loose Leaf 3-hole paper	Pencil pouches
Colored Pencils	*Headphones	One-subject spiral notebooks
#2 Pencils	*Calculator	Pocket folders
Pens (black and blue)	*Sticky notes	Glue sticks
Highlighters	*Weekly planners	Dry Erase Markers
Erasers	*USB Flash Drives	Tissues
Scissors (rounded)	*3-Ring Binder	***for middle & high school students***

DUAL PARISH EVENT

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE & PICNIC

Worship at 10:00am

August 9th

Picnic and games to follow

*Please bring outdoor chairs, your favorite outdoor game and a food dish to share!

Zion Lutheran Church

410 Main Street South
Pine City, MN 55063

Join us For A

Corn Feed

Saturday, August 22nd

4:30PM-6:30PM

COST:

ADULTS	$14
KIDS AGES 5-12	$8
4 & UNDER	FREE
IMMEDIATE FAMILY	$40

Menu:
Sweet Corn,
Pork Chop, Salad,
Dessert & Beverage