



God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. ~**Psalm 46:1-3**

How are things going in your life? Things in the world around us seem to be a bit chaotic, crazy even. You never know what tomorrow's headlines will bring.

Actually, that's exactly how things were during Martin Luther's lifetime. There was political and religious upheaval all around, not to mention the wars. Luther himself had good reason to feel that his life was in danger several times.

He was particularly fond of Psalm 46. In the middle of chaos and danger, the Psalm reminded him that God is our refuge and strength. This world is shifting sand, but God is the rock on which we build which will stand forever. In difficult times we look to Him to hold us and protect us. There is indeed nothing to fear.

During October we consider Luther and the other reformers who risked their lives so that we could know the true Word of God who is our refuge and strength. Thanks be to God!

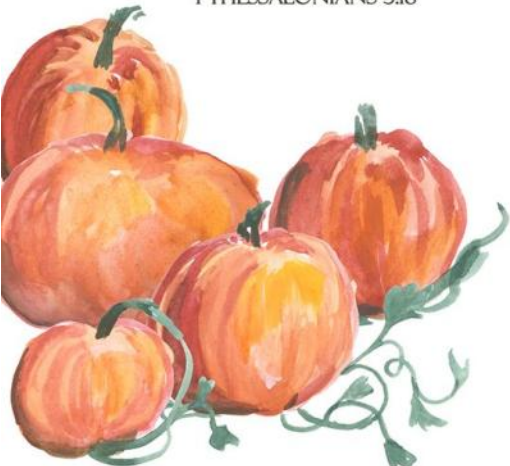
See you in worship.

Zion Lutheran Church

**410 Main Street South
Pine City, MN 55063**

In all things,
GIVE THANKS.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18



Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 8th, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present: Pastor Kleppe, Jerry Lotz, Chad Fedder, Karen Althoff, Keith Strehlo, Larry Anderson & Dallas Carpenter.

Members Absent: Tom Martini, Jeremiah Siama, Scott Owick & Steve Corey.

Pastor Kleppe opened with devotion from Exodus 20:3- "You shall have no other Gods before me." Pastor Kleppe shared that we face challenges with scheduling, difficulties with so much going on. There are many things that take priority over Church. We need to set the example that we won't be that way. *Pastor Kleppe followed with Prayer.

Secretary's Report: Shared electronically prior to the meeting. Motion made by Chad and seconded by Keith to accept the Secretary's Report, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Printed copies of the church financials were provided. Karen shared that income for August was \$14,384.88 with expenses of \$14,444.61. Showed a net loss of -\$59.73. Checking account balance is \$26,539.79.

Motion by Chad, seconded by Larry to accept the Treasurer's Report, motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Printed copies provided.

*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, zionpincty.org or through our Facebook page. I'm on WCMP on the second Sunday of the month, 9:00 a.m. We have also added announcements to the YouTube channel. We've been having some challenges showing the announcements on Sunday morning.

*I met with the Ushers on August 19th. There was a low turnout. I'll schedule a meeting with the Altar Guild later in the Fall.

*It looks like I'll have one confirmation student at Zion and two at Living Branch. I'm hoping that I can have the three of them in one class, maybe alternate meeting sites.

*Attendance was very good at the first 8:00 a.m. service yesterday.

*Marsha reported that Sunday School went well.

*My Fall midweek Bible Study will be on Thursday evenings at 7:00, beginning on September 18th. (The study at Living Branch will be on Tuesdays, starting on the 16th.) The theme is "Theology of the Cross."

*Preschool went pretty smoothly this morning.

*A circuit forum will be held on Sunday, October 5th, 5:00 p.m., at Giese. We can have one lay delegate. We will be electing delegates to the National convention in July 2026 in Phoenix. Let me know if you are interested.

*We have a new copier.

Upcoming dates: -September 18th- first midweek Bible study.

-October 5th- Circuit forum at Giese.

*Motion by Keith, seconded by Chad to accept Pastor's report, motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Evangelism- Continuing A Place For You meals.

Endowment- Grant Application deadline closed on August 31st. We start the process of reviewing grants for approval. Received about \$59,000 in request and are projecting to have about \$28,000 to give out.

LWML- They will have their Circuit Rally at Zion on November 1st which will include Bible studies, crafts, and a guest speaker.

Preschool- Had their first day of Preschool. Class is full. Chili Feed is Saturday, October 25th.

Men's Group/Women's Group- nothing to report at this time for the Men's group. Women continue to meet and have Bible Study and Fellowship.

Dual Parish/Personnel- Nothing to report. Will work on wages for next year soon.

Trustee's Report- Nothing new to report. Things are looking good.

Motion by Keith, seconded by Chad to accept Committee Reports, motion passed.

Old Business:

*Snow Removal- Will follow up more on this.

*Constitution- Heard back regarding the Constitution. There is more work to be done on this again. We will call a meeting of the Committee to go over it again and try to have it ready to read at the October Voter's meeting again.

*Trees- they were trimmed up by Steve and Larry. Thank You for doing this.

*Cross (Front of Church) Les Peterson painted the cross on the front of the Church. Looks very nice! Thank You Les for doing this, we appreciate it!

New Business:

-Next Council Meeting Monday, October 13th, 7:00 p.m.

-We will review the 2026 budget at the October Council meeting and present the budget at the Voter's meeting. Please make sure any budget requests are turned in by October 13th.

-Next Voter's Meeting Monday, October, 27th, 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Chad, seconded by Keith to adjourn the meeting, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes typed and submitted respectfully by Jerry Lotz



October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Worship 7:00pm	2	3	4 Women's Ministry 8:30-10am
5 Worship/Comm 8:00am <i>Jastram D.O.</i> Education Hour 9:30am	6 Endowment 6:00pm	7 Bible Study 9:00am Evangelism 7:00pm	8 Worship/ Communion 7:00pm	9 LWML Meeting 1:00pm	10	11
12 Worship/Comm 8:00am <i>Food Shelf D. O.</i> Education Hour 9:30am Piano/Violin Concert 3pm	13 Elders 6:00pm Council 7:00pm	14 Bible Study 9:00am	15 Worship 7:00pm	16 Theology Bible Study 7:00pm	17	18
19 Worship/Comm 8:00am <i>A Place For You D.O.</i> Education Hour 9:30am	20 Altar Guild Meeting 6:00pm	21 Bible Study 9:00am	22 Worship/ Communion 7:00pm	23 Theology Bible Study 7:00pm	24	25 CHILI FEED & BAKE SALE 5:00-6:30pm 
26 Worship/Comm 8:00am Education Hour 9:30am  Here We Stand	27 Voters' Meeting 7:00pm	28 Bible Study 9:00am	29 Worship 7:00pm	30	31	1 LWML FALL RALLY 9:00am

OCTOBER

1	1Ki 3	Eze 34	Eph 1
2	1Ki 4-5	Eze 35	Eph 2
3	1Ki 6	Eze 36	Eph 3
4	1Ki 7	Eze 37	Eph 4
5	1Ki 8	Eze 38	Eph 5
6	1Ki 9	Eze 39	Eph 6
7	1Ki 10	Eze 40	Phil 1
8	1Ki 11	Eze 41	Phil 2
9	1Ki 12	Eze 42	Phil 3
10	1Ki 13	Eze 43	Phil 4
11	1Ki 14	Eze 44	Col 1
12	1Ki 15	Eze 45	Col 2
13	1Ki 16	Eze 46	Col 3
14	1Ki 17	Eze 47	Col 4
15	1Ki 18	Eze 48	1Th 1
16	1Ki 19	Dn 1	1Th 2
17	1Ki 20	Dn 2	1Th 3
18	1Ki 21	Dn 3	1Th 4
19	1Ki 22	Dn 4	1Th 5
20	2Ki 1	Dn 5	2Th 1
21	2Ki 2	Dn 6	2Th 2
22	2Ki 3	Dn 7	2Th 3
23	2Ki 4	Dn 8	1Ti 1
24	2Ki 5	Dn 9	1Ti 2
25	2Ki 6	Dn 10	1Ti 3
26	2Ki 7	Dn 11	1Ti 4
27	2Ki 8	Dn 12	1Ti 5
28	2Ki 9	Ho 1	1Ti 6
29	2Ki 10	Ho 2	2Ti 1
30	2Ki 11-12	Ho 3-4	2Ti 2
31	2Ki 13	Ho 5-6	2Ti 3

Continue Reading Your Bible in 2025!
Here are the readings for October!

Chili Feed & Bake Sale

Saturday, October 25th
5-6:30 pm at

Zion Lutheran Church
410 Main St S, Pine City, MN

Proceeds go to:
GROWING IN GRACE PRESCHOOL

Adults~ \$ 10

12 & under~\$ 5
(Special kids menu)



SERVANTS OF ZION

ALTAR GUILD

The Slama Family

OFFERING COUNTERS

Karen Teich	10/6
Verna Carpenter	10/14
Barbara Carlson	10/20
Dallas Carpenter	10/27

USHERS

Keith, Josh & Karl Strehlo
Jerry Carlson

ELDERS

Jeremiah Slama	10/5
Chad Fedder	10/12
Keith Strehlo	10/19
Jerry Lotz	10/26

WELL DONE,
—GOOD—
AND
faithful
SERVANT.



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Chad & Casey Fedder	10/18
Brad & Lori Hall	10/21
Larry & Heidi Pogones	10/16
Bill & Jeanne Casby	10/25
Dave & Dianne Deutschlander	10/15



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Christian Fromm	10/4
Chad Fedder	10/20
Denise Linder	10/14
Brad Hall	10/6
Bill Casby	10/16
Judy Skalicky	10/17
Gail Smetana	10/24





LUTHERAN INSTITUTE
of THEOLOGY

Learn Deeply

Live Boldly

Join Us As We Revolutionize The Way We Communicate Lutheran Theology

What is the Lutheran Institute of Theology?

We are on a mission to provide faithful, comprehensive, and interactive formation to deepen understanding of Scripture, Lutheran doctrine, and the richness of the Christian faith.

In the coming months, we will launch a dynamic platform offering 12+ expertly crafted courses each year. These courses, taught by leading theologians, will explore what the Church teaches and why those teachings are beautiful, good, and true.

The Lutheran Institute of Theology is for you—whether you are a lifelong Lutheran, new to the faith, or simply seeking greater meaning and clearer answers to life's biggest questions.

Be part of this vibrant community and prepare to grow in knowledge, faith, and confidence in Christ!

- **12+ expert-led courses annually**, covering core Lutheran theology, Scripture, and practical Christian living.
- **Deep dives into Lutheran doctrine**, exploring why our confessional teachings are timelessly beautiful, good, and true.
- **Designed for group study**, partner churches can use these courses to enrich small groups, Bible studies, and discipleship efforts.
- **Support for congregational growth**, fostering faith and community through accessible, high-quality theological resources.
- **A vibrant, like-minded community** to engage with and grow alongside in faith and knowledge.
- **Convenient access anytime**, through our user-friendly online platform.

Dear Friends,

We are excited to announce that the **Lutheran Institute of Theology (LIT)** is now live! The Institute is not intended for pastoral formation but rather created as a resource for the entire church body of the LCMS. Working alongside leaders from our seminaries, colleges, and congregations, we are building a resource for the whole church: clear, confessional courses that bring the riches of Lutheran theology into everyday life. "We are revolutionizing the way Lutheran theology is communicated to the world."

We are beginning with four foundational courses:

Dr. Adam Koontz – The Art of Biblical Reading
Dr. Christian Preus – Pagan Myths & Biblical Truth

Dr. Joel Biermann – Lutheran Ethics
Dr. Jacob Benson – The Story of the Saints

Inside the Institute you'll find:

- *Professional video lessons from trusted Lutheran voices.
- *Downloadable PDFs with key terms, takeaways, discussion questions, and quizzes.
- *Certificates and progress tracking for both individuals and groups.
- *New courses ongoing, with more already in production.

Start Your Free Trial Today

Lutheran Institute Members Subscription 1 Week for free then **\$95 / Year**

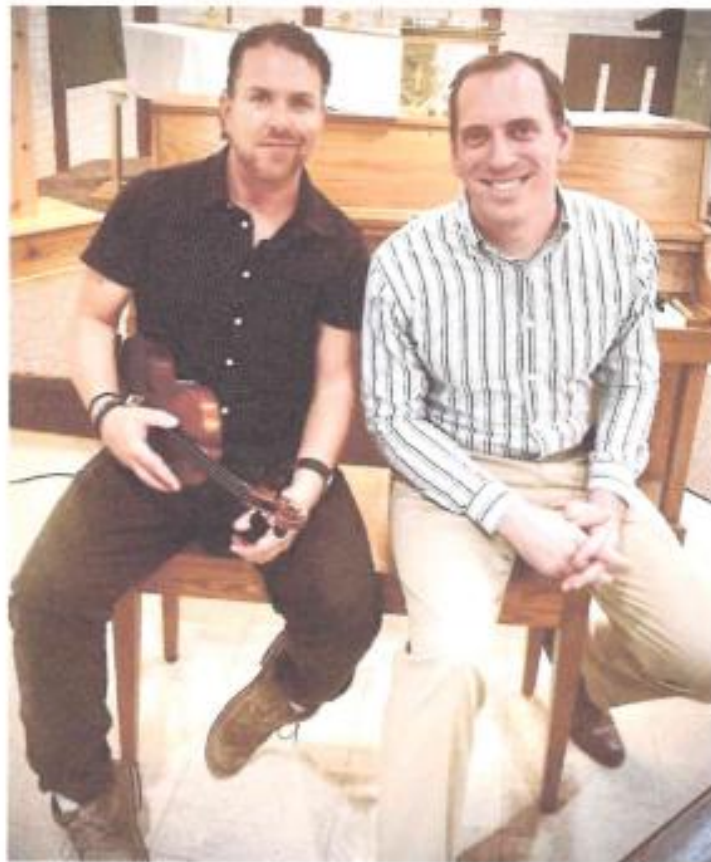
*** Many congregations have already chosen to give their members full access through church partnerships. If your congregation is interested in exploring what that looks like, we'd be glad to walk with you. Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and support. Together, we look forward to seeing how the Lord will use this Institute to strengthen His Church.

In Christ, *Pastor Bryan Stecker* **Founder | The Lutheran Institute of Theology** Host | **On The Line Podcast**

Feel free to check out our website ***<https://lutheraninstitute.org/>***

**Weber / St John
Harmony in Faith Concert
Sunday, October 12th, 3:00pm**

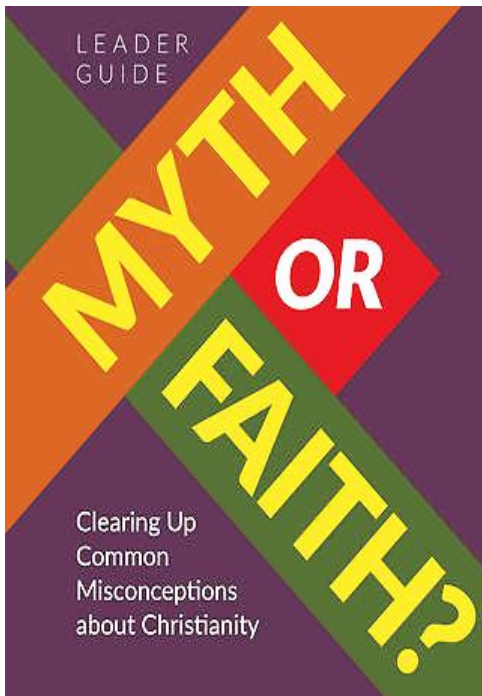
**Zion Lutheran Church
410 Main St S
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Weber St John was born from a Craigslist ad between musician and composer Kurt Weber, inspired by his time overseas in the US Army, and Ash St John, a classically trained violinist. Since their first meeting in 2020, they've bonded over a shared love of music and their faith in Jesus. Specializing in hymn arrangements, they see their music as a way to serve Jesus and bring joy to others, it is their joy to share their gift whenever and wherever they can.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

following worship



There are plenty of misconceptions about Christianity today. From false rumors to biblical teachings that are heavily distorted from their subject matter, there's no lack of myths to find. Do you know how to respond to them? More importantly, do you know the truth backed up by God's Word and teachings?

The Theology of the Cross

“THEOS” - GOD – “OLOGY” - STUDY OF
“A study of God through the eyes of the cross”



Our fall study is “The Theology of the Cross.”

Did Jesus come so that we have an abundant, comfortable life on this earth, or did He come to give His life so that we have an abundant, comfortable, eternal life in heaven? If you want to know Jesus, you have to know what He is all about.

The study will be on **Tuesday evenings, 7:00 at Living Branch** and **Thursday evenings, 7:00 at Zion** Feel free to attend either one, or to join either one online.

(Much of the study will be based on Daniel Deuschlander’s book, “The Theology of the Cross – Reflections on His Cross and Ours” and its study guide. If you’d like to have a copy (which isn’t necessary), the book is available through Northwestern Publishing House for \$25.49. I have a digital download of the study guide which I can copy for free.)



Kettle River Zone Fall Rally Please join us!

Saturday, November 1st , 2025 at 9 AM
Zion Lutheran Church, Pine City

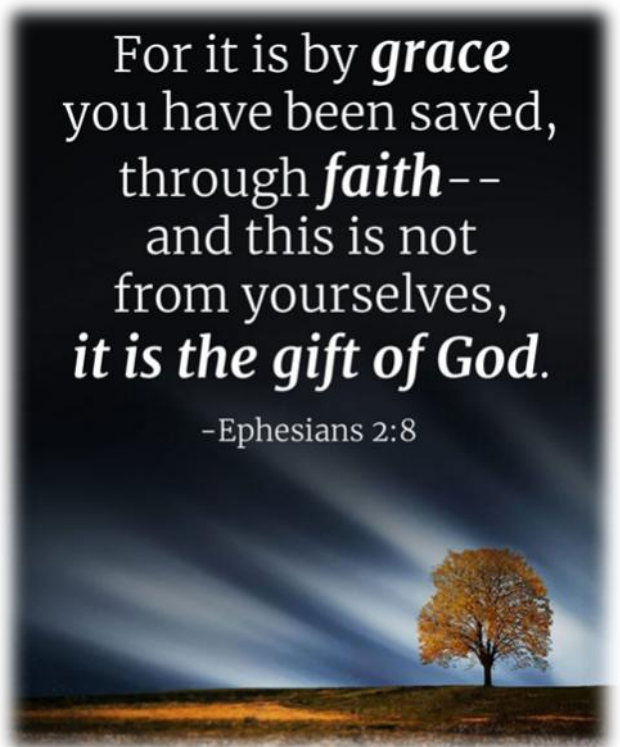
Bible Study will be led by
Pastor Glen Kleppe, serving
Zion Lutheran Church, Pine City.

Our guest speaker will be
Pati Kachel of The Parable Fund.
Her presentation will be
"Katie Luther: Here I Stand!"

Registration will begin at
8:30 AM and the agenda at 9:00 AM.
There will be a \$5 registration.

For it is by **grace**
you have been saved,
through **faith** --
and this is not
from yourselves,
it is the gift of God.

-Ephesians 2:8



For our ingathering, groups may choose their own, which
Is to be specific for the rally, or give to The Parable Fund.