

# Zion Lutheran, Petoskey



**UPDATES - As of 6/7/23**

## **THE SEASON OF PENTECOST – THE “TIME OF THE CHURCH”**

In the annual cycle of the Church Liturgical Calendar, the Season of Pentecost spans the time from 50 days after the Resurrection of Jesus until Advent begins in December. It is a long season that is also known as ‘the time of the church’. Throughout the Summer and Fall, churches around the world will walk alongside the stories of the early Christians as they dealt with theological struggles, questions of morality, life-threatening oppression, infighting among leadership, financial concerns, and all of these alongside the constant challenge of how best to share the good news of Jesus. Because of this, when even the most fleeting time of calm occurred in the book of Acts, it was worth mentioning...

***So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied. (ACTS 9:31)***

The time of ‘peace’ mentioned above in chapter 9 comes just after Saul’s conversion, and is localized to those who believed in Jesus in a small corner of the world that roughly equates to the Old Testament borders of the Promised Land ...this peaceful time lasted for less than two years.

What we might take away from this brief mention of ‘peace’ in the religious world of the early New Testament church is that the ‘time of the church’ does NOT mean that the church is always comfortable – but it DOES encourage us to remember that the LORD is always with His church!

***“...And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” – Jesus (MATTHEW 28:20b)***

The good news of the Gospel has not changed since the time of Jesus, neither has the ‘times’ that the church is living in. Sure, the technology is different, the communication and travel methods are faster, and we FEEL far removed from those folks of 1<sup>st</sup> Century Israel... but people are still people, and salvation is still found only in Christ.

The ‘time’ for our local part of the worldwide and eternal church continues to be *now*. We are blessed to be taking part in a moment of God’s plan in this place. We cling to His Word and Sacraments, we relish His forgiveness, and we too look for the multiplication of His work and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. - Pastor Peters

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### **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

- June 16** – 6-8 pm – Cornhole Tournament
- June 19-21** – Zion’s Office Closed (*Vacations*)
- June 25** – Voters Potluck
- June 25-28** – High School Youth Event on Mackinac Is.
- July 1** – Memorial Service & Luncheon for Phyllis Kaven
- July 4** – Zion Marching in Petoskey’s Downtown Parade
- July 17-21** – VBS 9am-11am
- July 29** – 9am – Stewardship Process Kick-Off Event
- July 30** – Stewardship Process Introduction Sunday

## **A NOTE FROM OUR LAY LEADERS**

Hello Members in the Fellowship of Zion,

Being in fellowship binds us together for the good of our congregation. This includes worshipping and attending Bible study together to gain a deeper understanding of God's Word. We also contribute to the fellowship with our time by serving in office or on one of boards and committees needed to operate our church and commission. It further means supporting the work we do internally and in the community with our offerings.

At our upcoming June Voters meeting we have several items on the agenda to consider. There are several officer and board positions that need to be filled. If the Nominating Committee reaches out please consider serving as a way to support our fellowship. If you have ideas of anyone who might be worthy of a nomination, please contact myself, John List, or the Church Office. We appreciate your help!

Reports given at our past few Voters meetings indicate that offerings continue to fall below the amount needed to operate our church. Before we again face an unbalanced budget at the end of this fiscal year, we have researched ways to resolve the situation in a wholistic way. This led us to conversations with Rev. Dr. Rick Wolfram regarding our District's new Stewardship Process. The process commences with a 2-day training event and lasts throughout the year. Mark your calendars for July 29th and 30th. Dr. Wolfram will kick things off on Saturday morning July 29th with a presentation on how the process works and a deeper discussion about what stewardship means. There will be follow up items on Sunday the 30th. This work will require all of us, as well as a few lay leaders to dedicate a bit more time working alongside Pastor throughout the year to keep activities moving.

Our Fellowship of members relies on all of us for its strength. Please join us on June 25th for our next Voters meeting to hear more details. And watch for the kick-off of the new Stewardship program in July and please plan to participate.

In Christ,

Jesse Leverett, Vice President of Zion



*Stewards  
by God's Design*

## **INTRODUCING THE STEWARDSHIP PROCESS: STEWARDS BY GOD'S DESIGN**

On Saturday, July 29, Zion will welcome Pastors Rick Wolfram and John Doer from the Michigan District LCMS Stewardship Board, who will present to our congregation a Stewardship process for the coming year entitled, Stewards by God's Design. On Sunday, July 30, there will be a continued introduction and sharing of this process in worship and Bible Study.

As part of this process, the Lay Leaders of Zion need YOUR help! We are seeking 5-8 individuals who have a passion for helping God's people discover how their time, abilities, and finances are a gift from God and are able to be used in His work. These volunteers would help coordinate the instruction and special events that may be part of Zion working through this process over the coming year.

What is *Stewards by God's Design*?

***Stewards by God's Design* is an adaptive change process designed by the Michigan District of the LCMS to impact the lives of individual stewards in the congregation as well as the corporate stewardship life of the congregation.**

The emphasis of this process begins by focusing on the Christian's understanding of what it means to be a Disciple and a Steward in God's kingdom. Yes, financial giving will be part of the discussion, but the overall application of who we are as God's blessed recipients of Grace and Blessings is the goal. In order for this process to be effective, it is important that every household consider how they can be involved. To God be the glory!



# Sunday, June 25

after late service (12 noon)

## **UPDATE: Voters' Meeting & Potluck on June 25**

***New date, same time. Please adjust the event on your calendars. Hope you will join us!***

*Sunday, June 25, at 12 noon in the Gym:* Join us for the June Voters' Assembly Meeting and Church Potluck! The main dish will be provided, please plan to bring a side dish to share. June is the month when we elect our Lay Leadership Officers and Board Members, and we will have a few significant items to discuss in the way of an anticipated Stewardship Process which will happen over the next 12 months.

**RSVP's are very helpful for planning. Please sign up in the back of church, or by contacting the Office: (231) 347-3438 or [Office@ZionLutheranPetoskey.org](mailto:Office@ZionLutheranPetoskey.org)**

*The assembly will begin in the Gym with the potluck luncheon.*

*The meeting will follow directly afterward.*

### **Some of the agenda items for the meeting include:**

- **Election of Officers and Board Members**
  - At the June meeting each year, new participants in the elected positions at Zion are voted on to begin their 3 year terms. These positions include:
    - Church Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer
    - Board Members to take part in the following: Bd. of Elders, Bd. of Evangelism & Education, Bd. of Finance, Bd. of Trustees, and the Preschool Bd.
  - *We are seeking names of individuals who may be interested in being nominated for any of the above roles. Please contact the Church Office with any suggestions or questions.*
- **Introduction and Invitation for the "Stewards by God's Design" process**
  - A year-long Bible-study based process of reexamining our lives as God's stewards
  - Kickoff event is scheduled for July 29-30 (*see previous page for details*)
- **Proposal from Operation Barnabas team to establish an "Honor Wall"**
  - Operation Barnabas seeks to support our active and retired Military, Police, Fire, EMS, and other Public Servants
  - The "Honor Wall" is proposed as an area in the back of the sanctuary/narthex for pictures of and recognition for those in our congregation whose service we appreciate and who we want to encourage and pray for.
- **Formal acceptance & welcome of New Members to Zion**
  - On May 21<sup>st</sup>, 14 New Members were welcomed in our late worship service. The Voters will be asked to formally accept them onto the active roster of our membership.
- **Ministry Reports**
  - Staff Members, Boards, Committees, and Auxiliaries have an opportunity to share updates, plans, and seek assistance & approval for the Lord's work being done in their particular areas of focus.
- **Financial Report**
  - The Treasurer shares a fiscal update and projection regarding the congregation's budget and giving.

The Baby Bottles that you might have taken home after Mother's Day Sunday are due to be returned by Father's Day Sunday.

THANK YOU for your support for Mothers, Fathers, and Babies in our community!



BBB is Back  
Online + In person

To learn more visit  
[supportersofpcc.org/donating](https://supportersofpcc.org/donating)

To 'Fill' a virtual bottle  
[click here](#)

Baby Bottle Boomerang!



**Operation Barnabas Care Package Drive:** From Memorial Day to Independence Day Zion's Operation Barnabas Team is collecting care package items to send to deployed military chaplains coordinated with the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces. A sign-up list of items is on the bulletin board in the narthex / lobby. Donations are due by Sunday July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Donations may be placed in the donation receptacle on the shelf on the west side of the sanctuary near the library cart.

**"Anchored in Hope" MI District Youth Gathering Sponsor Wall Fundraiser:**

A group of seven sr. high youth and chaperones from Zion are planning to attend the Michigan District Youth Gathering June 25-28, 2023 at Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island. The group has organized a "sponsor wall fundraiser" on the bulletin board in the church narthex / lobby and is looking for members and friends of Zion who would be willing to "sponsor" our group. Each envelope has a number ranging from \$1 - \$50. You may place your donation in the creatively decorated envelope, seal it, and then place it in the offering box, offering plate, or the church office. If you have any questions, please contact DFLM Brian Horning.

**Please pray for our youth as they take part in this wonderful experience of fellowship and faith!**





# CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

## Zion Annual Cornhole Tournament

Friday, June 16, 2023

Sign in at 6:00 pm with a light dinner

Games start at 6:30pm

2 person teams and single players needed

Register your teams now!!

*INVITE YOUR FRIENDS  
AND NEIGHBORS!*



*FOOD, FUN,  
FELLOWSHIP!*

Scan the QR code and fill out the form

Or call the church office:

(231) 347-3438

If you are able, please bring your cornhole boards and bags.



**HEAR YE! HEAR YE!  
TELL ONE, TELL ALL...**

# **VBS IS COMING!**

**JULY 17-21, 2023; 9:00-11:30 AM**

**SIGN UP TODAY IN THE NARTHEX!**

**OR ONLINE AT:**

**[WWW.ZIONLUTHERANPETOSKEY.ORG/VBS](http://WWW.ZIONLUTHERANPETOSKEY.ORG/VBS)**

Join your friends from Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool for Vacation Bible School. This year's VBS theme, "**Keepers of the Kingdom**" will explore how we are engaged in an epic battle for the hearts and minds of our youth. Every day, we are bombarded with lies about who we are, who our Creator is, and where our salvation comes from. Thankfully, God has given His children armor to wear in this battle between truth and lies, light and darkness, good and evil.

Kids at this VBS will learn through Bible storytelling, games, crafts, music, and science that through faith in God's Son Jesus they are a part of God's kingdom and will be equipped with the armor of God to become "Keepers of the Kingdom" who stand strong in today's battle for truth. Sign up today!

**VBS Daily Schedule:**

- 9:00 – 9:10 AM – Registration / Sign-in
- 9:10 – 9:30 AM – VBS Opening (Church Sanctuary)
- 9:30-11:10 AM – Bible Storytelling, Bible Challenge, Music, Crafts, & Games (Gym, Library, and Conference Room)
- 11:10-11:30 AM – VBS Closing & Mission Project Update (Church Sanctuary)