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Zion Lutheran Church, Hemlock, Michigan

September October 2016

# That everyone may eat and drink, and find adisfaction in all his toil—this is the

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

#### Prayer Corner of the World...

Reports from the Christian organization, "Open Doors" tell us that more than 7,000 Christians were murdered because of their faith in the last year with millions punished for their beliefs. This has been happening all around the world but indications are few in the West are hearing about it as the media ignores the growing threat that Christians face. Persecution of Christians is actually on the rise.



This is a cause of great concern. Many countries have dropped down the list, not because persecution there is decreasing, but simply because others are getting worse faster. The persecution of Christians is getting worse, in every region, and it's getting worse fast. In many parts of the world, despite the pressure and the often terrible cost, the church continues to grow. There is always hope, and yet we are in unmarked territory - the pace and scale of persecution of Christians is unprecedented and growing fast.

Most of these deaths and persecutions are carried out by Muslims. Extreme Islamic fundamentalism is rising most sharply in sub-Saharan Africa, where more people are killed for their Christian faith than anywhere else in the world. Yet, North Korea is by far the biggest culprit and antagonist against the Gospel of Jesus Christ and Christians. In North Korea it is estimated 70,000 Christians are currently in prison or labor camps because of their faith- which is illegal under Kim Jong-un's regime. Christians are forced to worship in secret and risk torture and death to do so.

Iraq has been named the second most dangerous place in the world to be a Christian where the church is on the brink of being wiped out. Christians have been increasingly persecuted by Islamic extremists. The Christian population or Iraq has been decimated from two million in 2003 to less than 200,000 today. In Syria, Christians have been targeted by crazed jihadis as well as being caught up in the ongoing civil war. With an estimated 772,000 Christians, it is forbidden to be a Christian in ISIS- controlled areas. In areas outside of ISIS control, it is illegal for people to convert from Islam.

In recognition of the scale and ferocity of these persecutions, a petition with more than 400,000 signatures has been submitted to the UN calling for the Security Council to formally declare the persecution of Christians in Iraq and Syria as genocide. In Eritrea, believers have been imprisoned in metal shipping containers in scorching temperatures and forced to work long hours of manual labor. In Afghanistan, it is believed there are just a few thousand Christians with people converting from Islam risking arrest.

Based on these reports, it would seem that Christians within the West are much safer. Not quite - potentially thousands of Christians have been attacked and harassed in German migrant homes by Muslim guards and fellow migrants. Christian refugees now in European asylum homes are finding more and more that they are in as much danger from radical Muslims in Europe as they were in their home countries.

Perhaps there has never been a greater time or need for support of Christians under persecution throughout the world. Our prayers are needed to alleviate and end the sufferings of our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ remain critical. The forces of Satan and darkness are hard at work to steal, kill and destroy in these last days - with the prime target being true believers in Jesus Christ.

However the words of Jesus still ring true today, more than ever before regarding His church: "...the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18b).

Praying with you for His protection and power to prevail in our world at this time.

#### Pastor's Page...

By the time you read this, school will have started for most. Many children feel like it is going to kill them to go back to school. Many others feel excited for the new changes and interactions with friends. There are new beginnings in our world every day, births, moves, retirements, diseases, deaths. Each new beginning ends something else. The start of school ends summertime leisure. Births most often will interrupt evening sleep for parents. Moves to another position of another town challenge us to get acclimated, and leave what was so familiar behind. Wise Solomon wrote in Ecclesiastes, "The end of a matter is better than its beginning."



**Pastor Paul Hauser** 

We start school to reach certain goals. The same is true of new moves, to treating diseases. What is the goal of each of our lives? What will we enjoy in the end? School is often hard, especially in a new move and all the other changes and challenges college kids face. Living suddenly without a spouse or close family member or friend can cause us to want to look to our own end faster than the days go by.

God has a purpose for each of us in our new beginnings. It is to learn to love and trust Him, and love and serve others. In the end, His goal for our lives is to have learned how to trust in and love like Jesus, so it will go on forever without end in heaven. How are you doing in loving and trusting God through the changes that some new beginnings are bringing to you? To focus on the past and wish for it to come back, not only stunts the new beginning from being good, but delays God's goal for our future from reaching its end. People get stuck in the good old days, when the best is yet to come, according to God's Good Book!

People also focus on the present, looking for it to gift them with satisfaction and comfort so much that they don't care if they ever get to God's goal and intended purpose in the end. Many people who have idols and addictions that seem perfectly acceptable to themselves, and society, forget to figure in how God feels about their life. He is the Gift of our present to keep on giving us the focus on Him in heaven in the end of time.

The future is when the end comes to all beginnings. But, God promises us the good old days... "As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end." You can say, "Amen" to that when you focus on your studies of His Word, Himself in your prayerful presence with Him every day and in every change, and when He is your hope for the future no matter what comes before the end, whether that is things in this life or the next.

Let the joy of the Lord be your strength to say goodbye to the past, welcome the day at hand in your present, and face the challenges of the future. This too shall pass, and one day, we will be with the Lord, even as He is with you and me now already by faith.

With you and Him from beginning to the end,

Pastor Paul Hauser





#### September Calendar

#### Sep 4 9:30 am Worship w/Communion Guest Pastor Martin Hagenow

10:45 am Fellowship

Sep 6 9:00 am LWR Quilters 7:00 pm Church Council

Sep 7 10:30 am Bible Study

Sep 8 7:00 pm Elders

#### Sep 11 9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Fellowship

10:45 Board of Christian Education 11:00 am Confirmation Class/Choir

Sep 13 9:00 am LWR Quilters

Sep 14 10:30 am Bible Study

Sep 15 12:30-2:30 pm Ladies Bible Study 7:00 pm Amen's Bible Study

Sep 17 Sawdust Day Activities

#### Sep 18 9:30 am Worship w/Communion

10:45 am Fellowship

11:00 am Confirmation Class/Choir

Sep 20 9:00 am LWR Quilters

Sep 21 10:30 am Bible Study

Sep 22 12:30-2:30 pm Ladies Bible Study 7:00 pm

Amen's Bible Study

#### Sep 25 9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Fellowship

11:00 am Confirmation Class/Choir

Sep 27 9:00 am LWR Quilters

Sep 28 10:30 am Bible Study

Sep 29 12:30-2:30 pm Ladies Bible Study



#### October Calendar

#### Oct 2 9:30 am Worship w/Communion

10:45 am Fellowship

11:00 am Confirmation Class/Choir

Oct 4 9:00 am LWR Quilters

7:00 pm Church Council

Oct 5 10:30 am Bible Study

Oct 6 12:30-2:30 pm Ladies Bible Study

7:00 pm Amen's Bible Study

#### Oct 9 9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Fellowship

10:45 am Board of Christian Education 11:00 am Confirmation Class/Choir

Oct 10 7:00 pm Evangelism/Stewardship

Oct 11 9:00 am LWR Quilters

Oct 12 10:30 am Bible Study

Oct 13 12:30-2:30 pm Ladies Bible Study

7:00 pm Elders

#### Oct 16 9:30 am Worship w/Communion

10:45 am Fellowship

11:00 am Confirmation Class/Choir

Oct 18 9:00 am LWR Quilters

Oct 19 10:30 am Bible Study

Oct 20 12:30-2:30 pm Ladies Bible Study

7:00 pm Amen's Bible Study

#### Oct 23 9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Fellowship

11:00 am Confirmation Class/Choir

Oct 25 9:00 am LWR Quilters

Oct 26 10:30 am Bible Study

Oct 27 12:30-2:30 pm Ladies Bible Study

7:00 pm Amen's Bible Study

#### Oct 30 9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Fellowship

11:00 am Confirmation Class/Choir

Oct 31 Reformation Day

#### **Lutheran World Relief Quilters Need Your Help!**



**Help fill the school bags!** School supplies will be available before you know it! Help fill the school bags! The following Items are needed to fill school bags to be shipped overseas, and can be put in the basket in the narthex or on the table in the hallway next to the quilters room. School kit items include 70 sheet notebooks, rulers with centimeters and inches marked, pencil sharpeners, blunt scissors, # 2 pencils, black or blue ballpoint pens, 24 count crayons, 2 ½ " erasers.

A basket is available in the narthex for your donations or you can leave them in the hallway by the quilters room. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Music at Zion

Tami Mosher, Linda Laurenz

The music department is gearing up with rehearsals in eager anticipation of enhancing our worship services this fall!!

The adult choir will begin rehearsals on September 11th and our first performance is September 25th. We will meet in the purple room after church for all practices, and they will occur every Sunday after church. We'll cancel practices as we need to, but telling everybody we'll practice each Sunday just makes it a whole lot easier!

We are once again planning a joint event with Immanuel-Wheeler this year. On October 30 Immanuel will be at Zion and on November 6th Zion will be at Immanuel. Anyone is welcome to join us in raising our voices to Jesus. We welcome ANYONE who would like to join our groups ... come and sit in on a rehearsal to see if you'd like to join us regularly, or even temporarily as your schedule permits.

Handbell practices will begin in October and be held on Monday evenings at 7:00pm. Consider joining us! We can always use some extra (ding-a-lings) ringers! ©©©©©

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#### Offerings Received for the Lord's Work



**Update** 

As of August 21, 2016 Income received from: Loose Plate

6.120 General Fund Envelopes \$ 102,146 Mission 5,196 Maintenance 10,579 **Total Offerings Received** \$ 124,041 Misc. Other Income, Rent 10,713 **Total Income** 134.754

Income 1/1/16 thru 8/21/16 \$ 134,754 Expenses 1/1/16 to 8/21/16 117,988 **Income minus Expense** 

#### Amount needed weekly \$4,072 per budget

Total offerings received thru 8/21/16 \$ 124.071 Offerings needed thru 8/21/16 34 wks 138,448 Short per budget 14,377



#### **Confirmation Class Adult Bible Study Opportunities**

Confirmation Classes ~ will begin Sunday, September 11 at 11:00 am until 1:00 pm.

Adult Bible Study ~ Wednesdays at 10:30 am will begin on September 7th studying 2 Samuel led by Pastor Hauser.

Amen's Bible Study ~ Thursdays at 7:00 pm led by Pastor Hauser, (except the 2nd Thursday of the month) will begin September 15.

**Ladies Bible Study** ~ All day, every day, an invisible war rages around you---unseen, unheard, yet felt throughout every aspect of your life. Are you prepared for battle? Ladies join us as we study: "The Armor of God" by Priscilla Shirer Thursdays beginning Sept. 15 from 12:30-2:30. (The time doesn't work for you? This study can easily be done independently!) Questions? Call/ text Carrie at 642-8155 or email at carrie.hilbrandt@gmail.com

#### Back to School Humor



Parent: "What did you learn today?" Kindergartner: "Not enough.

I have to go back tomorrow."

Pastor Hauser will be on vacation Thursday, September 1 thru Monday, September 5th. Please contact St. Peter Lutheran at 989-642-8188 for pastoral emergencies.





#### **Volunteer Opportunity**

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1629 Brady Rd. Chesaning welcomes help in sorting food for distribution the second Saturday of each month beginning at 10:00 am. Contact Sharon Feusse if you are interested in getting a group together to help.

#### **Trustee Work Completed**

#### **Generator Maintenance**

Hamilton Electric was called in for regular maintenance

Total cost: \$339

#### Shower valve failed, on 2/18, in the parsonage.

Valve failed and water leaked inside the wall.

Carey Plumbing replaced the shower valve and plumbing. Total cost: \$1,150

Hammer Restoration repaired water damage. Total cost: \$1,740

#### Loss of heat for church on 2/17

The temperatures in the pipe lofts were not being maintained consistently which affected the sound of the organ during services.

Carey Heating came and determined that the boiler control setup could be improved. However, in the making this change, following the manual, the controller board on each boiler was damaged such that neither boiler will operate.

New controller boards were ordered. One board was installed on 2/18 and heat was restored using one boiler. The second board was install on 2/19 and the second boiler was operational.

Total cost: Carey did not charge us because of the loss heat.

#### Heating system for office, kitchen, library and bathrooms was not controlling properly.

Commercial Control Systems was called to check out the controller. They found the system clock was wrong so the temperature setpoint for the night time was being used for daytime. The time was wrong because the a momentary loss of power had occurred and the system battery

The time was reset and a new battery was installed.

Total cost: \$180.00

#### Birds nesting in kitchen roof exhaust fans

Birds were nesting in the roof exhaust fans for the hood in the kitchen. Screens were installed over the opening of the roof exhausts to keep the

Total cost: \$0.0 (only Trustee time)

#### **Exterior lighting Upgrade**

This project replaced 14 existing exterior lights with new LED fixtures and installed one new parking lot pole and LED

This project was done to reduce maintenance and electrical power cost. The new parking lot light was installed to improve light levels for the parking spaces on the west side of the gazebo area.

Total cost: \$8,380.00



#### Replacement of well water pressure tank

The bottom of the existing tank was rusted and one of the support legs broke.

Total cost: Not billed yet.

#### Work In Progress

#### Church sump drain line replacement

The drain line replacement is complete but the three downspouts on the west side of the church need to connected to the drain line. Because of the damage to the lawn the entire lawn will be worked up and reseeded.

#### Chancel lighting to address backlighting issue from windows

The Trustees are looking into lighting options to address the problem seeing peoples faces at the pulpit and behind or in front of the altar.

#### Have our well pumps and system maintained

Currently one of the two pumps is not functional and the rest of the system is showing its age so we will contact a well driller to service our system.

Thank you to all for tending to maintenance and repairs and other issues that arise and for overseeing work done by vendors. Thanks to Dick Bluemer, Duane Tessin, Don Hollingsworth and Mark Richardson for keeping the lawns mowed as well. You are appreciated!



#### **Annual Car and Tractor Show 2016**

#### Thank You! Thank you!

To everyone who supported the car and tractor show! Special thanks those that took the time to bring out their old car, tractor, engines, dune buggy, trailer. Thanks to those who helped setup, take down, the youth group who helped serve food and the quilters who made quilts for the auction. The donated pies, hand made towels for the auction were appreciated as well. Thank you to the musicians, auctioneer and assistants.

We are grateful for the businesses and individuals who donated prizes and those who signed up to help. All was greatly appreciated! The car and tractor show would not have been successful without you and everyone that came out and enjoyed the day!

Donations from this year's quilt and pie auction and food sales will be donated toward the church parking lot lighting, Zion LWR quilters and several community organizations.

Looking forward to next year! See you then!















Front: Emma Strouse, Claire Laurenz Middle: Travis Yell, Jeff Pinet, Ryan Hilbrandt Back: Christopher, Carlton, Andrew Ross

### As Our Graduates Head Off on Their Chosen Career Paths...

**Emma Strouse**, daughter of Park and Marybeth Strouse, graduated from Swan Valley High School where whe was a member of the band and active in 4-H. Emma will attend Central Michigan University to pursue a career as a veterinarian.

Claire Laurenz, daughter of Rusty and Linda Laurenz, graduated from Breckenridge High School. She raised and trained her puppy, Gilly, to become a service dog for Paws With a Cause. Claire was also a drum major and heavily involved in FFA (Future Farmers of America) and served as a state officer. Claire will attend Michigan State University and pursue a career in agricultural education.

**Travis Yell**, son of Frank and Jackie Yell, graduated from Hemlock High School. Travis was active in soccer for all four years of high school and on the robotics team which won state championships two years in a row. Travis will attend the Naval Accademy with the goal of becoming a Naval Officer.

**Jeff Pinet**, son of Marc and JoAnn Pinet, graduated from Bullock Creek High School where he was active in track, and tennis. He was also a member of the robotics team. He was a co-op at Members First Credit Union and is now and apprentice at Pumford Construction with hope of pursing a career in the trades or carpentry.

**Ryan Hilbrandt**, son of Craig and Carrie Hilbrandt, graduated from Hemlock High School. Ryan participated in cross country and made it to State all four years. Ryan will be attending Saginaw Valley State University to pursue a career in aerospace engineering.

**Christopher Ross**, son of Kevin and Laurel Ross, graduated from Bullock Creek High School. Christopher was honored to receive the Covenant HealthCare Foundation Scholarship and to also attend a dinner for Midland County top ten percent students hosted through the Kiwanis. He will attend Pepperdine University in Malibu, CA and is excited to begin their premed courses.

**Carlton Ross**, son of Kevin and Laurel Ross, graduated from Bullock Creek High School and was duel enrolled in classes at Delta College. Carlton is interested in political science, and enjoys public speaking. Carlton will attend the University of New England in Maine and study marine biology.

**Andrew Ross**, son of Kevin and Laurel Ross, graduated from Bullock Creek High School and was duel enrolled in classes at Delta College. Andrew attend upper level computer courses and completed many hours in the Personal Computer Repair Clinic at college diagnosing and repairing phones, computers and devices for the public. He will major in Computer Cyber/ Security at Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN.



**Bob Burdick** 

**Bob Burdick**, son of Susan Burdick, graduated from Bullock Creek High School where he was active in cross country and track and also earned an academic letter. He is involved in 4-H woodworking. Bob also achieved the rank of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America. Bob will join the National Guard.

**Ryan Kade**, son of Gary and Lisa Kade, graduated from Merrill High School where he participated in basket ball and baseball all four years of high school. He also played baseball on travel teams throughout his childhood. Ryan plans to attend Delta College to pursue a career in sports management.

**Noah Rowe**, is the son of Jim & Carmen Rowe. Noah graduated from Hemlock High School where he was active on the football and basketball teams. Noah plans to attend Delta Collect to pursue a career in computer science.

**Caitlyn Siler**, daughter of Adam and Amy Siler, graduated from Merrill High School, where she was active in basketball, volleyball and softball. Caitlyn plans to attend Delta College on the 3 in 1 program with Northwood University where she will pursue a business degree.

**Jessica Wietfeldt**, granddaughter of Richard and Sally Wietfeldt, graduated from Merrill High School where she was a member of the basketball team. She currently works at Burger King and has plans to attend Delta College pursing a career in criminal justice.

**Jessica Walton**, daughter of Mike and Kit Walton graduated from Hemlock High School with honors. A member of the National Honor Society, student council and a class officer, Jessica will attend Delta College to pursue a career in orthotics and prosthetics.

**Ashley Rich**, daughter of Chris and Rich Peacock, graduated from Merrill High School where she participated in competitive cheer. She also attended cosmetology school during high school. Ashley will pursue a business degree at Delta College.



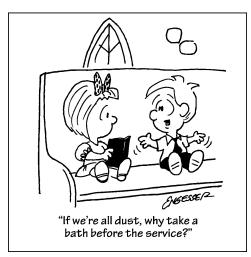
Camp Lu Lay Lea Summer Camp 2016

Camp Lu Lay Lea is a Christian summer camp, established in 1948 and operated by Lutheran Layman's League and is open to all boys and girls ages 8-14. Lu Lay Lea is located on picturesque Henderson Lake. Zion has used funding from recent chicken dinners, bake sales etc. and been able to offercamp fees to members of the congregation who wish to attend. This past summer Zion funded seven children to attend summer camp. Pictured above are several of the campers. Thank you to all who helped raise funds for our kids to attend this Christian camp.

Thank you for sending us to Camp Lu Lay Lea this year. I had a great time. I also learned a lot about Jesus. Kiera Goward

Thank you for continuing to send me to camp for 5 years. It was a lot of fun! Annie Laurenz Camp Lu Lay Lea was very fun this year. I hope I can go again next year and have just as much fun. Calista Goward

I made lots of friends and it felt like kid church. My favorite thing was gagaball. Kayla Goward





## September Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Christine McMahon
- 2 Amy Siler
- 4 Michelle Klemish
- 5 Krista Kade Adam Siler
- 6 Joan Scott
- 7 Kit Walton
- 8 Carolyn Laurenz Ella Schmoyer
- 10 Caitlyn Siler
- 12 Laura Hollingsworth Thatcher Hodges Roger Kreger

- 14 Shirley Gath Connie Traub
- 15 Rachel Greskowiak
- 16 Hannah Bedtelyon
- 19 Lacey Walton
- 20 Pat Seeburger
- 21 Braden Beyersdorf Jonell Davis Emily Farrar Jim Knapik Greg Neuenfeldt

Bonnie Krape

- 22 Gary Frost Lisa Spangler Cindy Thom
- 24 Dale Thom
- 26 Ellie Beyersdorf
- 27 Julie Hagarty Elise Leasure
- 28 Carol Dietrich
- 29 Deb LaPorte



- Ken & De De Gath
- John & Ruth ShieldsTim & Carol Little
  - Tim & Carol Little
    Dick & Joyce Neuenfeldt
- 8 Jason & Michelle Klemish
- 9 Al & Arlene Rohn
- 10 Fred & Irene Kruth Nicholas & Lindsey Grillo
- 11 Jim & Diane Schultz
- 17 Troy & Michelle Beyersdorf Jim & Carmen Rowe
- 21 Bud & Millie Parker Dale & Cindy Thom
- 24 David & Lori Kade
- 26 Andy & Samantha Brickel Mark & Amanda Staley

## October Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 3 Sue Dijak (Brzezinski)
- 4 Alan Reno
- 5 Nicholas Coulter
- 6 Kathy Clapp
- 8 Ruth Shields
- 9 Don Schomaker Suzanne Carroll Melvin Winslow
- 12 Sarah Valliere
- 14 Kelsey Clapp David Hutfilz Matthew Huey
- 15 Rory Coulter Paul Walter Hauser
- 16 Ervin Hollingsworth
- 17 Devin Wood
- 19 Dwight ClappChristine PeacockJim SchultzDelaney Seeburger

- 20 Jane Tessin
- 21 Dominic Werry
- 22 Candace Baccary Adam Coty
- 23 Diane Schultz
  Craig Hilbrandt
- 24 Cramer Laurenz Bonnie Neuenfeldt
- 25 Ken Knoerr Jennifer LaPorte
- 26 Taylor Staley
- 27 Sue Burdick
- 28 Chris Hagarty Frank Yell
- 29 Cameron Bedtelyon
- 30 Jerry Farrar
  David Wietfeldt
  Katie Pinet
  Richard Wietfeldt
  Chandler Worley
- 31 Rose Putnam



- 2 Josh and Rebecca Hodges
- 7 Bernard & Julayne Hutfilz
- 9 John & Amy Schmoyer Don & Gertie Schomaker
- 10 Gary & Julie Neuenfeldt
- 17 Dennis & Tina Osmond
- 19 John & Julie Hagarty
- 20 Elmer & Betty Blehm
- 22 Gerald & Carolyn Laurenz
- 28 Jim & Shanntelle Knapik
- 30 Scott & Emily McFadden





## PROTECT

God always watches over us, during good times and bad.

**Directions:** Connect the dots, according to the instructions below. Then use the resulting word to complete the Bible verse.

**Start at 19.** Draw from 19-18, 18-17. 47-62, 62-77. 22-21, 21-20. 50-51. 82-81, 81-80, 80-65, 65-50, 50-35, 35-20. 24-38, 38-53. 24-40, 40-55. 17-32. 47-48. 32-47. 26-41, 41-56, 56-71, 71-86. 56-57, 57-58. 55-54, 54-53, 53-68, 68-83. 55-70, 70-85. 58-43. 57-73, 73-88. 43-28, 28-27, 27-26.

>> "So do not \_\_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God." Isaiah 41:10, NIV



Zion Lutheran Church 17927 Dice Road Hemlock, Michigan 48626

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#### September 11, 2016



#### **Return Service Requested**

View this newsletter online at www.zionhemlock.org

#### **Zion Lutheran Church** Who's Who

Pastor: Rev. Paul Hauser Church Office - 989-642-5909

Secretary Office Hours Tues. & Thurs. 2-4 pm

Fri 9 am-11 am Pastor Home 989-327-1557 Pastor's Cell Phone 989-964-8722 Zion Prayer Chain 989-964-8722 Zion's E-mail admin@zionhemlock.org Zion's Website www.zionhemlock.org

Zion's newsletter, "The Iva Chimes" is published monthly. Information to be included in the newsletter is due on or before the 23rd of the month and can be faxed or emailed to the church.

#### **Sunday Worship**

9:30 A.M. Divine Worship Service (Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays of the 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