

# Welcome *May* *Blessings..*

*May You be happy.*

*May You be well.*

*May You be safe.*

*May You find comfort.*

*May You have strength.*

*May You have courage.*

*May You find healing.*

*May You have peace.*

*May You have joy.*

*May You be filled with loving kindness.*

inspire *Positive* IP  
soul sensations SS

**MAY YOU BE BLESSED**

**TODAY & Always.** - Babz



# From the Desk of Pastor Julie Higgs

Dear Partners in Ministry

I am so very delighted to be your interim pastor! I love worshiping with you, visiting with you, sharing meals with you, working with you, and seeing so much ministry that you are doing in Christ's name through Zion Lutheran Church! Even with the commute from Dubuque, even while my husband was in a care center, I love being a part of this congregation! Thank you for trusting me to be a companion with you on the holy ground of your lives.

## **As We Continue to Get to Know Each Other ...**

I've learned that people have very different ideas about when they should contact their pastor. Here are some times I hope you'll contact me:

- When you're facing surgery or medical procedures or significant tests.
- When you're hospitalized.
- When you or somebody you deeply love is nearing death.
- When you and your family are feeling upended by life.
- When you have questions about Jesus, Lutherans, other Christians, God, how your faith and your politics should inform each other, other faiths, the Bible, etc.
- When you're afraid.
- When you have a fire or significant storm damage at your home.
- When you're struggling with your identity, your sexuality, your career, your significant relationships, your life.
- And whenever you wonder, "should I contact my pastor?"

At all these times and many other times as well, the answer is, "Yes, please contact me." I'm no expert in all these things, but I'm here to pray with you and to share Christ's love for you by walking with you through whatever circumstances your life brings.

## **What's Next in the Call Process?**

Last month I set out the four major steps in the call process: leave-taking, preparation, discernment, and walking together. We're currently in the second step—preparation—where we will review Zion's ministry and uncover hopes and intentions for what's to come.

**Timelines.** In May, you'll find some timelines set out for you to participate by noting significant events in the last 25 years of life of this congregation. But not just this congregation. We'll also

have three additional partial timelines where you can include some of the significant events in the lives of the congregations many of you called home before coming to Zion, especially New Hope, Chancy, and Immanuel. As each of those congregations closed, we invite you to show when you decided to worship at Zion.

Please grab a marker and add to the timeline: when you joined or started worshipping at Zion; when someone in your life was baptized, confirmed, married, or buried at Zion or these other churches; when we began something that you found life-giving; when we stopped doing something. There will be space at the beginning of each timeline to list things that were done continuously during the last 25 years—or until your earlier congregation closed. Adorn the timeline with emojis to express how you felt at various times about the ministries of your congregation.

As the timelines get fuller and fuller, we'll keep reviewing them to see what we can learn about our ministry, your needs, and potential directions for our future.

**Gatherings.** During the call process, we'll have a number of opportunities to gather in groups both large and small. I'd like to begin by having gatherings for those of you who attended New Hope, Chancy, or Immanuel. I'll be in touch with those of you we know came from one of those congregations to schedule a time to gather. If you came to Zion from congregations other than those listed and would like to share experiences from those congregations, please let me know, and I'll try to schedule another gathering

**Call Committee Process.** At the May Council meeting, Pastor Dan Kuckuck, an assistant to our bishop, will attend and walk the Council through the entire process of gathering information, forming a Call Committee, creating a Ministry Site Profile—the document that prospective candidates will receive to learn about Zion, interviewing candidates, and moving forward to a congregational meeting to call our next pastor.

Once the Call Committee is formed, they'll take over providing regular updates to the congregation. At a minimum, they'll put an article in each month's Courier describing both the process and progress. But you can also expect to see occasional announcements in the weekly bulletin and during the time for announcements at the beginning of worship.

**Your Participation.** Your participation is vital for us to understand as fully as possible the needs and dreams of our community of faith. Please be attentive to the information about the call process and participate as fully as possible now, by putting things on the timeline, and throughout the coming months, by responding to the council's or Call Committee's requests for input. And please hold our leaders in prayer throughout this journey.

Blessed Easter and Pentecost!  
Pastor Julie

# Zion Child Care & Preschool

We are ready to start our summer programs. Our 3's and 4's in child care will take a field trip to Sawmill Museum and Riverfront Park. We will also have lots of activities and fun days at the center. Summer camp will go bowling, visit area parks and also go to Niabi Zoo. They also have all sorts of fun projects planned to do!!

We are in the process of starting preschool registration for the 2024/2025 school year. If you have a child that will turn 3 or 4 years old by September 15, 2024 and want to sign up for fall preschool, please send them our way! Our 3 year-old preschool meets Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Our 4 year-old preschool meets

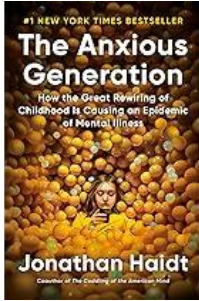
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Our AM classes meet from 7:45 to 10:45 am and our PM classes meet from 11:45 am to 2:45 pm.

Tuition for our 3 year-old preschool classes is \$185 per month. Our 4 year-old program participates in the 4 year-old voluntary preschool grant with the Clinton Community School District and the State of Iowa.... any 4 year old that lives in Iowa has FREE tuition for preschool. Out of Iowa residents' tuition is \$260/month. Please give us a call at 243-9393 if you would like more information.

Kelly Bork, Director

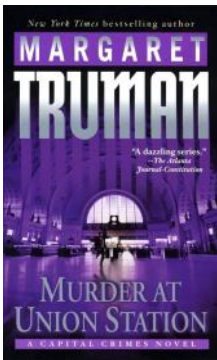
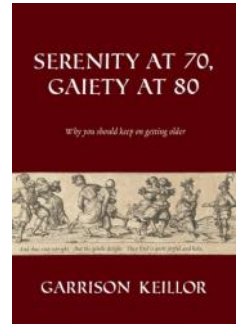


# New Zion Library Books for May 2024



***The Anxious Generation*** by Jonathan Haidt is a book all parents should read! It describes how a smart phone-based childhood has replaced a play-based childhood depriving children of experiences and interactions with other children that are necessary for their development. And then he gives ideas for what parents and communities can do about it....From Joyce King Memorial Fund.

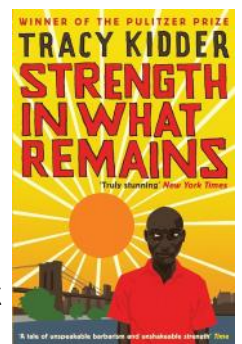
***Serenity at 70, Gaiety at 80: Why you should keep on getting older*** is a book written by humorist Garrison Keillor (Lake Wobegon) about the wondrous event of growing older. “Every day is a beautiful gift, tender and precious and swift, the light and the sound, the sky and the ground, every hour cries out to be lived. Though I may be over the hill, still I think I can and I will, I’ve forgotten just what I can and will, but they remain a goal of mine still.”



Margaret Truman (yes, Pres. Truman’s daughter) was a prolific crime novel writer. ***Murder at Union Station***, published in 2004, tells about an aspiring author who is in big trouble. He interviews a now aging hitman for organized crime, but after this person is killed at the railroad station in Washington D.C., he realizes that the tapes of his interviews make him a marked man. “From the corridors of power to a brutal DC ghetto, everyone wants those tapes...” Ms. Truman died in 2008 at age 83. This book is large print.

## ZION’S BOOK CLUB

Zion’s Book Club will meet on May 15th at 10 a.m. in the church library. We will be discussing ***Strength in What Remains*** by Tracy Kidder. This is the non-fiction narrative of Leo, a young man from Burundi who has escaped civil war and genocide, but now lands at JFK airport with \$200, no English and no contacts. But this young man has a career in medicine and returns home to build a medical center! The books are on a cart in the library and are **due back to Zion on the 15th**. Everyone is welcome, whether you come once in a while or every month!



# Faith FUNdations

We would like to extend a thank you to our Faith FUNdations teachers and volunteers for helping the kids of Zion on their faith journey. We could not do this without you!

Aubree Tanzillo  
Gina Schwartz  
Kristi Lashelle

Carrie Sukut  
Deb Willwerth  
Barb Rhoades

Helen Steen  
Whitney Veenstra  
Amber Turner

Alyssa Schroeder  
Olivia Veenstra  
Jeanne Crow

Tara Rhoades  
Jane Noecker  
Dawn Eickert  
Beth Griswold  
Jenis Richmond

Matt Rhoades  
Linda Dutchess  
Laurie Kuehl  
Ardyce Adams  
Barb Mahmens

Ashley Kreinbrink  
Linda Shaff  
Judy Luett  
Debbie Kaszinski  
Diane Dinning

Kristi Schroeder  
Jessica Hilgendorf  
Melanie Simpson  
Jodie Krogmann  
Linda Schoening

On, April 17<sup>th</sup> the family of Sue Camp gifted bibles in her memory to the children of Faith FUNdations, preschool thru fifth grade. (See picture below) As a Zion member and teacher for many years, Sue was strong in her faith and an avid reader. We thank her family for this generous donation.

Mark your calendars and look for more information to come. Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 22<sup>nd</sup>-July 25<sup>th</sup>.

We have had an amazing year and are sad to see it coming to an end. Have a great summer with your family and friends! We hope to see you in church on Saturday night or Sunday morning. Information about the fall schedule will be sent out closer to starting back up again.



# Fellowship Event May 5th

Come and gather with us in the dining hall for another fun-filled Spring Fellowship Luncheon on Sunday May 5th, following the 9:00 AM worship service.

The menu will include:

Hot Brown (turkey & bacon) Sandwiches

Scrambled eggs

Fresh fruit bowl

Cookies

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex until May 3rd. We look forward to seeing you there!!

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## Ladies Night Out

The Evangelism and Fellowship committees will have a "Ladies Nite Out" on Thursday, May 9 for all girls and women of Zion in the Zion Dining Room.

Tom Bass will be leading a group of boys and men working in the kitchen while the girls and women enjoy a potluck dinner. There will be a basket for anyone to make a small donation. Women are asked to bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert. All women are invited.

Tom Bass will be in charge of the kitchen and Jeanette Petersen is general chairman. Sign-up sheets are available at the entrance of the church until Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. You will find an orange sheet for salads, gold sheet for potato or vegetable, ivory sheet for desserts and a blue one says "I'm too old or too busy to make something and will give an extra \$5 in the basket that night." This is not open to the public but members and regular Zion attendees can bring a relative or friend to come with you. Any questions, call Jeanette at 249-5861.



**Worship services are:**  
**Saturdays 5:30 pm**  
**Sundays 9:00 am**

**Radio Broadcasts on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am on KROS 105.9 FM or 1340 AM.**

**Video services are offered via Facebook** ([www.facebook.com/zionlutheranchurchclinton](http://www.facebook.com/zionlutheranchurchclinton))  
**and on Zion's website** ([www.zionlutheranclinton.org](http://www.zionlutheranclinton.org))

# BLOOD DRIVE

[BLOODCENTER.ORG](http://BLOODCENTER.ORG)

## Zion Lutheran Church

Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> 3:00pm – 6:30pm

Fellowship Hall *(439 Third Ave S, Clinton)*

To book your appointment, please scan the QR code below, contact Deb Vath at [djvath@mchsi.com](mailto:djvath@mchsi.com) or visit us online at [www.bloodcenter.org](http://www.bloodcenter.org). Use group # 2827

Appointments preferred.



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# COUNCIL NEWS

## Summary of Congregation Council Minutes – March 12, 2024

*(The full minutes are posted on the bulletin board near the church office.)*

Pastor Julie was welcomed by President Morehead to her first Council meeting.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Julie will be meeting with each Council member to get acquainted. A sign-up sheet was available for each member to choose a date and time for their meeting.

**Membership Update:** Pastor Julie shared the membership update with the Council.

**Treasurer's Report:** Deb Vath, David Meade and Amanda Deuermeyer are working together to review all the financial accounts. It was reported that in February expenses exceeded income, however, YTD income has exceeded budget. Deb also reviewed certain line items on each of the financial reports so that the Council has a complete understanding of the information reported there. Linda Dutchess moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Patti Lauritzen seconded the motion. All ayes.

**Committee Reports:** It was reported to the Council that the Fellowship and Evangelism committees will be working together on a potluck held in May. Linda Dutchess moved to approve the standing Committee reports en bloc. Marsha Smith seconded the motion. All ayes.

### Old Business:

**Portico/Canopy Update** - It was reported to the Council by Dennis Andersen that some electrical work is left and the installation of the ceiling tiles. Dennis Schoening will be leading that effort. It was also reported to the Council that most bills have been submitted. Deb suggested a bulletin announcement to let all know that the entrance is open. The Council agreed and Deb will send a note to Amanda to be included in the bulletin. There were some questions concerning exterior lighting. Travis will contact Dennis Schoening on this topic.

**Pastoral Transition** - We have welcomed Pastor Julie Higgs as our new Interim Pastor. The next steps in the process, outlined by the Synod, will be discussed. Pastor Julie has offered to write a description of the duties of an Interim Pastor to be published in the Courier.

### New Business:

**Pastor Tamara Siburg Gratitude Gift** - Deb Vath and Travis Morehead shared with the Council all the special works performed by Pastor Tamara Siburg, Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, during the time between Pastor Mark Luepke's retirement and the arrival of Pastor Julie. Deb Vath made a motion to recognize Pastor Tamara with a two hundred gift. The motion was seconded by Laurie Behrens. The Council discussed the motion and the \$200.00 will be in the form of a \$150.00 gift card to Target and a \$50.00 gift card to a local restaurant. The motion was passed unanimously.

# FINANCIAL CORNER

## March 2024 at a glance

General Operating	March	Year To Date
Income +	\$46,044.79	\$116,024.94
Expense -	\$22,311.23	\$81,700.77
Difference =	\$23,733.56	\$34,324.17

## March In-Person Worship Attendance

Weekend	Saturday	Sunday	Total
March 2 & 3	42	103	<b>145</b>
March 9 & 10	39	85	<b>124</b>
March 16 & 17	48	100	<b>148</b>
March 23 & 24	52	101	<b>153</b>
March 30 & 31 Easter	70	250	<b>320</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>178</b>

## ZION'S PRAYER CHAIN

Did you know Zion has a prayer chain with people who are ready to pray for you? If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer, please call Helen Steen at 563-243-2288 or Mary Lou Mallicoat at 563-357-2963. All information is kept confidential; only first names are used on the prayer chain. Please ask permission if requesting prayers for someone other than yourself from either the person or a family member of the person.

You may notify Zion's prayer chain of a prayer request by calling one of the numbers listed above.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the prayer chain, please contact Helen Steen at 563-243-2288 or Mary Lou Mallicoat at 563-357-2963.



# MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer/ Bible Study 5:15 PM: Faith Fundations/ Confirmation 5:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9:30 AM: GriefShare 5:30 PM: Worship
<b>5</b> 9:00 AM: Worship 10:00 AM: Fellowship Event in Dining Room	<b>6</b> 6:00 PM: Girl Scouts	<b>7</b> 9:30 AM: Card Club 5:00 PM: Executive Committee 5:50 PM: All Committee Night	<b>8</b> 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer/ Bible Study 1:30 PM: Rebecca Circle 5:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b> 5:00 PM: Ladies Night Out	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9:30 AM: GriefShare 5:30 PM: Worship
<b>12</b> 9:00 AM: Worship	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:30 AM: Card Club 5:00 PM: Congregation Council 5:30 PM: Boy Scouts	<b>15</b> 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer/ Bible Study 10:00 AM: Zion Book Club <i>Courier submissions due to Amanda</i>	<b>16</b> 5:00 PM: Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting 6:00 PM: Clinton MS Support Group	<b>17</b> <b>Synod Assembly</b>	<b>18</b> 9:30 AM: GriefShare 5:30 PM: Worship <b>Synod Assembly</b>
<b>19</b> 9:00 AM: Worship 10:00 AM: Elizabeth Circle	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM: Quilters 6:00 PM: Girl Scouts	<b>21</b> 9:30 AM: Card Club 5:30 PM: Boy Scouts 6:00 PM: Child Care Board Meeting	<b>22</b> 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer/ Bible Study 5:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM: Bells Rehearsal	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 9:30 AM: GriefShare 5:30 PM: Worship
<b>26</b> 9:00 AM: Worship	<b>27</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>28</b> 9:30 AM: Card Club 10:30 AM: Courier Assembly 5:30 PM: Childcare AM Graduation 7:00 PM: Childcare PM Graduation	<b>29</b> 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer/ Bible Study 5:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM: Bells Rehearsal	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
439 3rd Avenue South  
Clinton, Iowa 52732  
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## ZION'S STAFF

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[pastorjulie@zionlutheranclinton.org](mailto:pastorjulie@zionlutheranclinton.org)  
Phone: 563-242-7391  
515-468-7118

◆  
**Kelly Bork, Director**  
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Phone: 563-243-9393  
[zioncc-ps@hotmail.com](mailto:zioncc-ps@hotmail.com)

**Amanda Deuermeyer, Office Administrator**  
Phone: 563-242-7391  
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◆  
**Donica Vonderohe, Staff Musician**  
[music@zionlutheranclinton.org](mailto:music@zionlutheranclinton.org)

◆  
**Patrick Hoffman, Custodian**

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday  
9:00 a.m.— 3:00 p.m.