

September 9, 2022

Zion Connection

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Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

We're all about helping you get connected -

With one another, with your faith, with the greater church,
and with opportunities to serve our community & beyond.

Zion's Church Council Needs YOUR Input!

Fall is traditionally a time of change and newness for many schools, churches, and other organizations; this is certainly proving to be true at Zion. Our hard-working Church Council will be meeting this coming Sunday, Sept. 12, immediately following the Sunday worship service, to carefully consider 'next steps' in safely transitioning from previous Covid-19 restrictions to a return to our more traditional worship experience. Discussion will focus on 3 key considerations:

- Returning to congregational singing of some portions of the liturgy, i.e., Kyrie, Canticle of Praise, Gospel Acclamation, Great Thanksgiving, Communion and/or others.
- Increasing the number of verses of each hymn to be sung.
- Resuming our traditional Sunday coffee hour with refreshments, as well as other church family fellowship gatherings.

Council President Mike Harrass has stressed that YOUR input is vital during this process. He has asked that you please contact any one of Zion's Council members to share your thoughts and opinions on the proposed changes. All of the following wonderful Council members are waiting to hear from you: Mike Harrass, Pres.; Ann Schultz, VP; John Renn, Treas.; Karen McCamant, Sec'y; Ran Slifer and Becky Wehman, Members-at-Large; Pastor Nielsen - Non-Voting Member. You may also submit your input directly to the Zion church office at info@zionlutheranfl.com.

Church Calendar

(For more info re: any of these events, [please email the church office.](#))

Weekly Worship Service -
11:00am - In-person and via
livestream ([Link](#))

Men's Prayer Breakfast -
Mondays - 8:30am @ Rainbow
Restaurant

**Pastor's Bible Study via
Zoom** - Thursdays @ 2:00pm

Mah Jongg Fellowship -
Fridays - 1:00pm @ Zion

**ELCA God's work. Our
hands. Day-** Sun., Sept. 11th

Sept. Church Council Mtg. -
Sun., Sept. 11th @ 12:00pm

WELCA Monthly Meeting -
Mon., Sept. 12th @ 10:00am

WELCA Monthly Meeting -
Mon., Oct. 3rd @ 10:00am

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in our chancel serve to remind us of the immense beauty of God's creation.

Chancel flowers in September are given by Joan Missell to the glory of God.

Reader's Theater Presentation - *The Faith Club*

Wed., Sept. 28th @ 10:00am - FUMC, Clermont

[The Interfaith Council of Lake County](#) will once again present the United Church of Christ at The Villages readers theater performance of [The Faith Club](#). This performance will be held at First United Methodist in Clermont and will be followed by a light lunch.

"A groundbreaking book about Americans searching for faith and mutual respect, *The Faith Club* weaves the story of three women, their three religions, and their urgent quest to understand one another. When an American Muslim woman befriends two other mothers, one Jewish and one Christian, they decide to educate their children about their respective religions. None of them guessed their regular meetings would provide life-changing answers and form bonds that would forever alter their struggles with prejudice, fear, and anger. Personal, powerful, and compelling, *The Faith Club* forces readers to face the tough questions about their own religions." [\(Simon & Schuster\)](#)

We would love to have a group of men and women from Zion in attendance. Please rsvp to [Joy A.](#) by Wed., Sept. 21st. Invite a friend!

Save the Date - TNC's' 50th Anniversary Event

Sat., Oct. 8th @ Mission Inn Country Club

The Neighborhood Center of South Lake (our local food pantry formerly known as FNC) is celebrating 50 years of service to our community! Any day now, full details will be published and tickets will be available for purchase. In the meantime, please save the date for this very special event. Family and friends of TNC founders will be honored guests. (Tentative time is late afternoon/early evening.)

ELCA Vital Congregations Training - Fall 2022

Is your congregation ready to take some steps (even small steps) toward renewal or revitalization? Are you ready to try some new things, share some ideas, gain a greater understanding of the broader mission, bring clarity about your own congregation's mission, acquire knowledge on how to live that out in community, gain confidence to share what you have learned with the world, and find new allies from within a cohort of congregations? Then, you are invited to attend the 2022 Fall Session of the ELCA Vital Congregations Training.

[Click here to register.](#)

[Click here to see a PowerPoint with more information.](#)

Sunday Scripture Readings

Sunday, September 11th
(14th Sunday of Pentecost)

Exodus 32:7-14
Psalm 51:1-10
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

Sunday, September 18th
(15th Sunday of Pentecost)

Amos 8:4-7
Psalm 113
1 Timothy 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

Sunday, September 25th
(16th Sunday of Pentecost)

Amos 6:1a, 4-7
Psalm 146
1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-31

Sept. Birthdays -

7th - Rae Starke
17th - Ruth Stoyer
22nd - Penny Slifer

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. -Psalm 91:11

Prayer Request List

Intercessory prayer is a meaningful way we can support one another. **Your prayers are requested for:** Leif & Monika, Isabelle, Lou Anne, Roy, Malcolm, Dylan, Paul, Mike, Bob, Jim, and Bill & Mary.

To add a name(s) to Zion's prayer list, please speak to Pastor, Susan S., or Joy, or simply [email the church office](#).

Reprinted from 8/26/22 edition of *Zion Connection* -

Flowers for Worship - It's That Time Again!

The beautiful flowers you see in our chancel area on Sunday mornings are provided by [Kim E's Flowers](#) in Groveland. Kim E's has not raised the price (\$25.00) to us for many years, and we are very grateful. The fresh flowers are delivered for the first Sunday of the month, and the arrangement is then refrigerated after each week's service. When watered properly, the flowers last for the entire month.

Beginning Sun., Sept. 4th, we will be accepting donations for 2023. Flowers may be given in honor of a special person or occasion. Please see the string board at church to choose the month(s) you prefer and then place the provided envelope with your donation into the offering plate. **Re: cost** - We are in the process of confirming the cost for 2023 and will have that info by Sept. 4th. We are hoping for no change, of course, but anticipate any potential increase would be less than \$5.00.

WELCA - A New Year of Mission & Service

WELCA at Zion -

Zion's WELCA unit, led by our faithful, hard-working president, Ruth Stoyer, meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 10:00am (2nd Monday if the 1st is a holiday). Together, we spend time in prayer, in spiritual growth, and in planning for our many mission activities.

Fall Kick-Off Meeting -

Our first meeting of the new program year will be held on Monday, Sept. 12th @10:00 am (9:30am for fellowship time), and will be conducted hybrid-style. Those who are able will gather in person at the church while those who prefer to attend via Zoom will be "with us" on the large t.v. screen in the fellowship room. We always have a great time together and would love to have as many women of Zion as possible join us! For those participating via Zoom, here is the link for the meeting: [WELCA Zoom Gathering](#) (Meeting ID: 844 0690 9390 and Passcode: 914993).

2022 Synod WELCA Fall Gathering - Nov. 11th thru 13th

The Women of the ELCA Fall Gathering is to be held at Lake Yale Center in Leesburg, November 11-13. This year's theme is *Step by Step* based on Prov. 16:9 (NLT). The registration deadline is Sept. 15, 2022. If you are a voting member, the registration deadline is August 31, 2022. For more info, check with [Louise](#) or go to www.flwelca.com.