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September 3, 2021

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# 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.

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## Update on Livestream Worship Transition

Transitioning to the Sunday morning livestream continues to be a challenge. Our super-amazing tech team is still experimenting with various options to determine what will work best with our format and our equipment. **Please look for an email update coming in the next day or two regarding the correct login information to be used for this Sunday, Sept. 5th.**

## Biggest Thank You of All!

In the August 24, edition of the *Zion Connection* newsletter, you may recall an article explaining that Zion's weekly prerecorded worship service is currently in the process of transitioning to a livestream of our Sunday morning service. That article, written by our ever-faithful (and greatly overworked!) Maryanne Lenning, thanked by name each of the many, many volunteers who worked so hard for well over a year to ensure that our Zion worshipping family had a safe, uplifting, and music-filled worship service each week. Our entire Zion family echoes all of those thanks to all of the volunteers who gathered every single Wednesday throughout the pandemic to record the service.

There was, however, one volunteer whose name went unmentioned in the article Maryanne submitted - Maryanne. With true Christian humility, Maryanne thanked others but took no credit at all for herself.

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## Upcoming Church Events

### Weekly Worship Service -

11:00am (Both In-person and Livestream (link to be sent soon via email))

### Men's Prayer Breakfast -

Every Monday - 8:30am @ Rainbow Restaurant

### Pastor's Zoom Bible Study -

Every Thursday - 2:00pm

### Mah Jongg Fellowship -

Every Friday - 1:00pm @ Zion

### Church Council Mtg. -

Sunday, Sept. 12th - 12:00pm

### "God's work. Our hands." Signup -

Signup -

Sunday, Sept. 5th

### "God's work. Our hands." Sunday -

Sunday -

Sunday, Sept. 12th

### WELCA Fall Kick-Off Meeting via Zoom -

Monday, Sept. 13th - 10:00am

### [WELCA God Spa Weekend](#) -

Fri., Oct. 1st thru Sun., Oct. 3rd

## (Biggest Thank You - continued)

Thanks to the sharp eyes and grateful hearts of several Zion folks who noticed the omission, we now want to officially thank Maryanne for all of her hours and hours and hours of dedication, effort, commitment, frustration, and, most of all, love spent on this project. The truth is that without Maryanne there would have been no online service. She was involved in every aspect of the production - recording, editing, photography, audio, etc. And, when she wasn't busy with all the techie stuff, she was joining with all the wonderful singers. **Thank you, Maryanne, for all you continue to do for Zion every week!**



## Faith Neighborhood Center Needs Our Help!

In addition to providing food for our neighbors in need, FNC also tries to offer clients the opportunity to choose one or two "special items" each month. These special items include: laundry detergent, dish detergent, toilet paper, mayonnaise, cooking oil, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, shampoo, conditioner, body wash and soap bars, lotion, feminine products (especially pads), deodorant, razors, shaving cream, and adult diapers.

FNC's ability to offer these items, for which there are no government programs or budgetary funds available, depends entirely on donations. This month, sadly, the special items shelves are almost totally bare. That's where we can help, Zion! **Just drop off any of the above items at church any Sunday morning**, and Rae Starke will deliver them to FNC. Thank you, Rae!

## LSF's Good Samaritan Initiative 2021

### Submit Your Nomination for Zion's Honoree!

Lutheran Services FL's *Good Samaritan Initiative* is a celebration of that which unites all Christians – the mission of sacrificially loving and serving our neighbors in the name of Jesus Christ. In the fall, LSF will be honoring a Good Samaritan from every congregation in FL, someone who stands out for their service to others. Please send your nomination for Zion's *Good Samaritan 2021* honoree **to any of our Zion Council Members** prior to their next meeting on Sept. 12th. For more info, check out [Lutheran Services Florida](#) and/or [2021 Good Samaritan Initiative](#).

## Sunday Scripture Readings

### Sunday, Sept. 5, 2021

Isaiah 35:4-7a  
Psalm 146  
James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17  
Mark 7:24-37

### Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 116:1-9  
James 3:1-12  
Mark 8:27-38

### Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021

Jeremiah 11:18-20  
Psalm 54  
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a  
Mark 9:30-37

## Zion Family Birthdays in Sept. -

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

Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

2 Corinthians 9:15

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# How to Help Our Hurting World

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## The LIRS in Support of our Afghan Allies

History: "For 80 years, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) has offered welcome and hope to more than half a million refugees. Since 1939, LIRS has transformed lives, with the support of people like you, to welcome the most vulnerable to the United States — from sea to shining sea. Together we have supported, equipped and empowered these new Americans, while advocating for policy that protects all of God's children."

Helping our Afghan Allies: "For two decades, the U.S. Government has employed Afghan allies to serve alongside U.S. troops, diplomats, and other government employees as interpreters, translators, cultural advisors, drivers, and more. Because of their service to the U.S. mission, our allies and their families soon became the targets of anti-American violence. As the U.S. armed forces rapidly withdraw from Afghanistan, more than 20,000 Afghans who served alongside them face a severe backlog in the processing of their Special Immigrant Visas (SIVs). Our Afghan allies and their families are in grave danger and at risk of retaliatory attacks from the Taliban."

### For more info and to learn how you can help -

- The [LIRS website](#) - Find out much more information about this heartbreaking situation and all that LIRS is doing in response to the need.
- ELCA YouTube Video - [Supporting Afghanistan](#) | Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton | August 27, 2021.

## Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need. Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is on the ground around the world as we speak - **in areas hard hit by Hurricane Ida, in Haiti, in the wake of wildfires in the western USA**, and in many more areas worldwide.

### For more info and to learn how you can help -

- The [LDR website](#) - Learn more about the work of LDR and about how you can help by donating financially, by offering prayer, or by serving as a Disaster Volunteer.
- The [LDR Facebook page](#) - See photos and articles about the on-going work of LDR.