



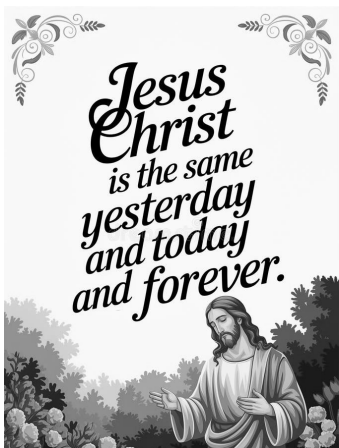
ST. PAUL-ZION DUAL PARISH

AUGUST 2026

A Few Thoughts from Pastor

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8

I'm sure this won't come as much of a surprise to most of you, but my life now is a lot different than it was three years ago. And three years ago it was different than it had been a few years before that. Over the past 60+ years, a lot has changed. Leaving home, a new wife, school, jobs, kids, grandkids ... and along with all of it seemingly endless change. The country has changed, the world has changed; technology, culture, and modern sensibilities have changed.



And with each passing year, my body and mind change as well, new aches and pains and a memory that sometimes sputters or hesitates. The world and what friends and loved ones are doing changes so fast it sometimes seems almost impossible to keep up. And while change can be good, sometimes it's not, and in either case it can quickly and easily become a bit overwhelming.

At times like that what a joy to remember that Jesus, our Savior, never changes; He changeth not! Before the creation of this world that we now know and enjoy, He had already made up His mind that He would come and save fallen mankind. When the fullness of time had come, He did just that; He came to do what He had always intended – to claim all my sin (& the sins of all mankind) as His own and to suffer and die for them. He paid the wages of sin, of my sin and yours. And then He rose and ascended into heaven where He now reigns and rules over all His “changing” creation. And He will return one day to take me and all believers to be with Him forever in Paradise.

Continued to next page...

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Pastor Brian Holle
revholle@sbcglobal.net

618-960-9575

**Office Hours—Tuesday/Thursday 9:00-
11:00**
Day Off—Friday

OFFICE

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stpaulzionlutheran@gmail.com

Hours:
8:00am-1:00pm
Tuesday & Thursday
Closed Friday

I am really glad Jesus doesn't change. I know there are lots of people in the world today who "understand" Jesus differently, or who insist that God (Jesus) changes over time even changing His mind sometimes to better fit the way they think things ought to be. But He doesn't, and I'm glad, because God so loved you and me and the whole world that He sent His only Son to die for us; He loves us so much that He continues to take care of and provide for us; He feeds us spiritually and physically, and He has promised to listen to us, to forgive us, and to be with us always even to the very end of the world. I don't want Jesus (God) to change; He's perfect just the way He was / is / will be. My prayer is that He will change me to think and be more like Him!

So, amidst all the "changes" in this world and my life, which serve as a reminder that I am not God and not in control of all things, I take great comfort in His "unchangeableness." After all, He made us, saved us, makes and keeps us His, and He's made us some pretty amazing promises. I'm glad Jesus remains, ever and always, the same ... my Savior, Lord, the Good Shepherd, the Vine, and the Bread of Life. And I'm glad He has promised to be with me through all the changes, challenges, and transitions of life ... and He's there for you as well!

**In Christ,
Pastor Holle**



***Pastor Holle has a radio broadcast on KNZA
at approximately 10:05am on Sunday mornings.***



St. Paul and Zion members pray for a successful and fulfilling year for all of the students in Sunday School and in the local schools. We pray for all of those students furthering their education after graduating from high school. We also pray for the teachers and families of the students.

Please Update!

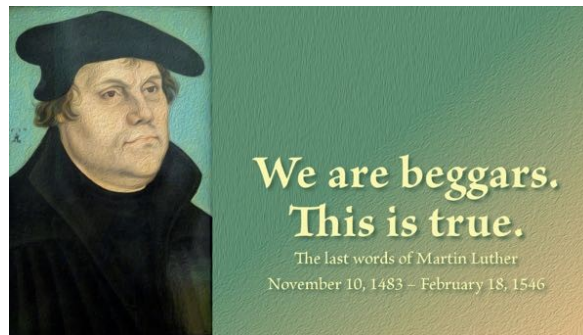
***If you have a new cell phone number, address, or email address,
please make sure you send it to the office.***

*You can e-mail the office at stpaulzionlutheran@gmail.com or call 785-742-3995.
The office would also like the names and addresses
of any members who are at college. Thank You!*

Stewardship



In the early morning hours of Feb. 18, 1546, Martin Luther fell asleep in the Lord. Before that happened, the hand that hammered the 95 Theses onto the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg (Oct. 31, 1517) penned its final words: “We are all beggars. This is true.” And this is the truth that our Lord says makes you free.



Ironic, isn't it? In order to be free, you must be a beggar. You must be utterly dependent and reliant upon God. This makes us uncomfortable – the way we're uncomfortable when someone gets us a Christmas present when we haven't gotten them one. We feel we owe them. And we don't like being in someone's debt like that.

But what Luther would remind us is that we are all indeed beggars. And we're not just anyone's beggars. We're God's beggars. Christ came for sinners. He came to seek and save the lost. He came to heal the sick and raise the dead. He came for sinners, and He dwells only with sinners.

If we are to be where He is, we must be willing to be counted among the lost, the sick, and the dead. We must be willing to be beggars. We must cry out for mercy, for grace, and for His undeserved love and kindness. We must be dependent solely on Him and what He gives.

And here's the beauty: He gives us everything. Everything. Forgiveness of sins, salvation from death and the devil, and eternal life. This isn't because of any worthiness or merit in us. It is because of His divine goodness, mercy, and grace. On account of Christ's death and resurrection, the Father forgives you, saves you, and is pleased with you. You receive His love, His righteousness, His holiness, His acceptance, and His inheritance. We are all beggars. This is true.

This is the heart and soul of Christianity and the lifeblood of the Christian Church. God justifies us and declares us innocent and righteous by His grace received through faith for the sake of Christ. This isn't because of our works but because of His work on the cross. We, who once were enemies of God, are reconciled to Him and made to be His children.

This is what Luther pointed us to when He took up his pen for the last time and scribbled “We are all beggars. This is true.” We are beggars, but we are beggars of the God who does not ignore us and who doesn't pass by us on the other side. We are beggars of the One who descended from heaven to make His dwelling with sinners.

We are beggars of Him who deigns to dwell with us, among us, and – yes – still in us by grace for Christ's sake. For in the bread and cup that we bless we share together with Christ and each other the riches of God's grace. The riches of this grace – the Gospel in sermon and absolution, in Baptism, and in Holy Communion – are so inexhaustible that our cups overflow. We, who are God's beggars, are inexhaustibly satisfied, and we have something to give back in thanksgiving and praise.



*The Fairview Community
Ice Cream Social
hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church
will be held on
Sunday, August 30, 2026
from 5:00-7:00pm at the
Fairview Community Building.
Everyone is welcome!*

**I SCREAM!
YOU SCREAM!
WE ALL SCREAM
FOR ROKEYROAD ICE CREAM!!**



WOMEN OF GRACE
Zion Lutheran Church, Hiawatha, Kansas 66434
June 28, 2026

The regular meeting of Women of Grace was called to order on June 28, 2026 by Lela Middendorf with 5 ladies present. A devotion was shared from the latest LWML Quarterly entitled "Blessings in Disguise".

The minutes of the May meeting were read and approved. And Diane gave the treasurer's report.

Discussion followed on the need to create some simple crafts and when to get together this summer to work on the projects. These crafts are intended to be given away at our booth at the Maple Leaf Festival in September. We plan to have work sessions on July 16 at 2 pm or 6 p.m. as well as a day/evening in August.

The next meeting will be July 26, 2026 at 9:15 am.

Anne Arnesen
Secretary

St. Paul Dorcas

July 5—This month we decided not to have our regular meeting but instead we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Linda & Wes Duesing after our Sunday morning service. We had a full morning and a joyous day it was. Evan & Leslie were hostesses, with the help of other Dorcas ladies. They served cake, nuts, mints, and peanut M&Ms along with punch & coffee.

On June 18th, 14 ladies from St. Paul & Zion traveled to Lincoln, NE. There we toured the Orphan Grain Train facility. Very organized and busy place. They are so willing to help those in need near and far away. After our tour we got to help out on an assembly line doing different jobs; organizing, sorting, bagging, packing and labeling to get boxes ready for shipping. You could tell the ladies and men who ran the place sure had a lot to keep track of and had a well run organization. Lots of volunteers coming and going. They not only had clothes and shoes for people but quilts, ambulatory items and food (they blend rice, beans & vegetables and bag them for wherever the emergency food is needed around the world.) We stayed until 3:30 when they closed for the day. Everyone was enlightened with all that goes on and gets done because of those who generously volunteer. We had lunch in Lincoln, and some went to visit the Sunken Gardens before heading home.

Cindy Manche & Sadie Meyer went to Salina for KAOL July 10th and 11th for Leadership meetings. They gathered hygiene and household items for Domestic Violence Association.

July and August Altar committee will be Evan Brockhoff, Kristina Costlow and Karen Bauman.

Our August meeting consists of a congregational picnic at the end of August and it will be hosted by the officers on August 23rd at 6:30 in the church basement. On August 26th our group is scheduled to go to Maple Heights to observe the residents with August birthdays. Everyone is welcome to join us.

September 6th will be our next regular meeting. Our regular offering plus LWML mites will be collected. Bible Study leader will be Sharon Meyer. Hostesses will be Karen Bauman & Kristina Costlow.

Secretary, Becky Meyer



Nancy, Sarah, and Bob worked with material and stacked it on shelves for quilts. They also sorted and packed shoes for shipping.

Kathy and Lela inspecting clothing and putting each item in the correct bin to be boxed.



Pictures of summer activities -



Our group of 15 before leaving, to head back to Kansas.



Kathy, Evan, Lela and Sharon inspecting, checking and



Linda and Wesley celebrating their 50th Anniversary.



Karen, Selena and Cindy making health kits.



Kathy and Nancy packing quilts to be shipped.



Sunken Gardens, Lincoln, NE



Selena, Nancy, Sadie and Kathy boxing the sorted items to be shipped.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Military: Spencer Ernst, Alexander Williams

College: Megan Brockhoff, Paige Stover, Marcus Hinton, Remington Killman.

Care Facilities & Shut-Ins: Carol Bauer, Doris Rice, Juanita Fritz.

Also in our prayers: Richard Clay, Darlene Atland, Ben Ernst, Martha Pearson, Charlotte Kruse, Ray Thieme, Joann Davidson, Julie Selland, David Davidson, Doug Barrett, Rachel Spann, Malcolm Gigstad, Jill Kohlmeier, Katie Fry, Wes Duesing, Aimee Hampl, Carl Mueller.

We Remember the blessed saints who now rest in the Lord and we pray for their families that they remember all who die in the Lord live with the Lord. (Romans 6:5)



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Aug 4-Paige Stover, Aug 5-Annie Manche, Aug 6-Zana DeJong, Aug 6-Sage Meyer, Aug 10-Sharon Lowe, Aug 12-Hannah Gavin, Aug 14-Darlene Atland, Aug 14-Carol Hanrahan, Aug 14-Jr. Lowe, Aug 14-Camryn Rahe, Aug 19-Jodi Lee, Aug 21-Deb Ellis, Aug 21-Brandon Walter

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Aug 19-Bob & Virginia Freese, Aug 28-David & Joann Davidson, Aug 31-Jeff & Leslie Brockhoff

SERVERS FOR AUGUST

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

Aug 2nd: Bill Rand & Jennifer/Joe Blaske

Aug 9th: Kerry & Susan Broxterman

Aug 16th: Sadie Meyer & Evan Brockhoff

Aug 23rd: Galen & Karen Bauman

Aug 30th: Kristina Costlow & girls

Altar Guild for August: Evan Brockhoff, Kristina Costlow, Karen Bauman, Mark Meyer

ZION LUTHERAN

Aug 2nd: **Elder**-Scott Gigstad, **Acolyte**-Cal Gigstad, **Ushers**-David Middendorf & Kurt Killman,

Greeters-David & Lela Middendorf, **Sound System**-David Middendorf

Aug 9th: **Elder**-Bob Freese, **Acolyte**-Grace Hampl, **Usher**-Leon Wissmann,

Greeters-, **Sound System**-Dwight Meyer

Aug 16th: **Elder**-Travis Hampl, **Acolyte**-Grace Hampl, **Ushers**-Bob Freese & Mike Brockhoff,

Greeters-Hampl family, **Sound System**-Bob & Virginia Freese

Aug 23rd: **Elder**-Scott Gigstad, **Acolyte**-Cal Gigstad, **Ushers**-David Middendorf & Kurt Killman,

Greeters-, **Sound System**-Leon Wissmann

Aug 30th: **Elder**-Bob Freese, **Acolyte**-Grace Hampl, **Usher**-Leon Wissmann,

Greeters-Scott & Jessica Gigstad, **Sound System**-David Middendorf

Altar Guild for August: Barb Shefferd & Darlene Atland

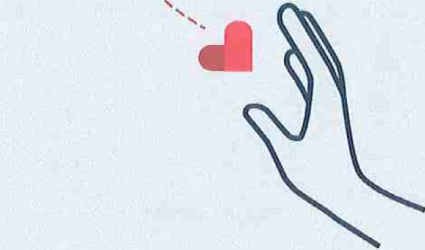


Thank you to all who
attended and/or helped with
the Ice Cream Social.
We had a great time filled
with fun and fellowship!



ATTENTION

We will be meeting at Zion on Tuesday, August 11th
at 2:00 and again at 6:00
to work on craft items for Maple Leaf Festival held in September.
Anyone can join us, no talent required.
If you have any questions, please call Becky Holle at 618-580-8634.



THRIVENT CHOICE® UPDATE

A Stronger Thrivent Choice Experience—Built for Greater Impact

Important program enhancements for
enrolled organizations—and action items
to ensure your organization is ready.

\$660M+

We've made a BIG impact with
Thrivent Choice. Over \$660 Million
in grant funding has been sent to
enrolled organizations since 2010.

PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

What's New—and Why It Matters

The Thrivent Choice® program has been upgraded,
making it even easier for Thrivent clients with
membership to live generously and support
organizations like yours.



More members can support you

BEFORE

Select Thrivent
members received
Choice Dollars®

NOW

All 1.9M members
receive Choice Dollars

More members → More Choice Dollars → More impact.
\$1 granted by Thrivent for each Choice Dollar directed.



Members can act sooner

BEFORE

Choice Dollars
accrued over time

NOW

Available in full at
the start of the year

All 2026 Choice Dollars are available to direct now.
Encourage members to act today.



Intuitive calendar year

BEFORE

Directions due by
Mar. 31

NOW

Members can direct
anytime through Dec 31

Support for your mission when it matters most
— anytime during an intuitive calendar year.



EFT deposit date change

Electronic fund transfers will now be issued on the
10th of the month (or next business day), instead of
the 5th. Please share this with your finance person.

ACTION REQUIRED

Confirm Your Organization's Information

ORG NAME
Zion Lutheran Church

THRIVENT ID
504753876

EMAIL ON FILE
lela0725@hotmail.com

BANK ON FILE
CITIZENS STATE BK &
TR CO
*****0443

Four things to verify now

1

Your catalog listing

Check your organization's description in our Thrivent
Choice catalog at thrivent.com/organizations

2

Your landing page

We've updated our catalog experience. Bookmark
your new landing page URL.

3

Email address

Confirm the email shown above is active and
monitored. If 'None' is listed, please provide one.

4

Bank account

Verify your account on file for EFT deposits shown
above is accurate.



To request updates, complete
our form at bit.ly/orgupdateform
or scan this QR code.

Something special is coming...

Giving Tuesday · Dec 1, 2026

Thrivent has something exciting planned. Now is
the perfect time to ensure donors and members
can easily find your organization, and funds can
reach you without delay. Details coming soon.

AUGUST, 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9 th Sunday after Trinity 9:15 Bible Study @Zion	3	4	5 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	6 <i>Pastor Holle day off</i>	7 <i>Pastor Holle day off</i>	8
9 10 th Sunday after Trinity 9:15 Bible Study @Zion	10	11 Zion Craft Day 2:00 and 6:00	12 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	13 School starts @ Horton	14 <i>Pastor Holle day off</i>	15
16 11 th Sunday after Trinity 9:15 Bible Study @Zion	17 Articles Due For Newsletter	18 7:00 Zion Council	19 School starts @ Hiawatha 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	20 9:30 Quilt tying at St. Paul	21 <i>Pastor Holle day off</i>	22
23 12 th Sunday after Trinity 9:30 St. Paul Fellowship St. Paul 6:30pm Congregational Picnic	24	25	26 2:00 St. Paul Dorcas 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	27 <i>Pastor Holle day off</i>	28 <i>Pastor Holle day off</i>	29
30 13 th Sunday after Trinity 9:15 Zion Women of Grace Zion Fellowship	31					

