

## A Message from Pastor Barb

*“On the whole, I do not find Christians, outside of the catacombs, sufficiently sensible of conditions. Does anyone have the foggiest idea what sort of power we so blithely invoke? Or, as I suspect, does no one believe a word of it? ... It is madness to wear ladies’ straw hats and velvet hats to church; we should all be wearing crash helmets. Ushers should issue life preservers and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews.”*

— Annie Dillard

Greetings Siblings in Christ!

It’s almost Pentecost (May 24). Are you ready?

The Jewish tradition celebrates *Shavuot* on the fiftieth day after Passover. Thus the word Pentecost which means fifty. On Shavuot the people remember the giving of the law to Moses on Mount Sinai. It is the beginning of their way of life after being set free from slavery.

For Christians Pentecost marks the beginning of the way of life after being set free from the bondage of sin and shame and condemnation. It is the beginning of our way of life as we walk with the Holy Spirit ever at our side.

In Acts we read: “Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.(MSG).

What would it be like to have our well manicured service interrupted by the power of the Holy Spirit? What would we do? How would we react? I can’t imagine. Annie Dillard’s quote offers a great portrayal of the possibilities.

This was no ordinary day in the history of God’s people. It was (or is) a day of great celebration. It is the day that grace became the rule. The wind of change blew in and the fire of the Holy Spirit animated the disciples to proclaim God’s love to all people in all languages.

So much for a quiet and staid service! Hold on to your hats! “You know well enough how the wind

*Continued on next page*

blows this way and that. You hear it rustling through the trees, but you have no idea where it comes from or where it's headed next. That's the way it is with everyone 'born from above' by the wind of God, the Spirit of God. (John 3:8 MSG)" Are you ready?

So Happy Birthday Church! Don't forget to invite the Holy Spirit and wear your crash helmets!

May the Spirit come in power,  
Pr. Barb

## Monthly Birthday Fellowship

May's birthday fellowship in the Gathering Space will be held on Sunday, May 19th, after the 9:00 worship service.

Please join us in the gathering space to honor Zion's members and guests celebrating birthdays in the month of May. Refreshments and cupcakes will be served.

All are welcome!!!



## Luncheon

The Fellowship committee is hosting a Cinco de Mayo luncheon on Sunday, May 3rd, after the 9:00 am worship service. The menu will include Taco and Enchilada Bars with all the fixings: refried beans, Spanish rice, and Snickerdoodle cookies. Also included will be Chris's popular Mexican Festive drink and lemonade.

If you signed up, don't forget to come join us. If you didn't get a chance to sign up, stop up anyway. All are welcome!

# Zion Child Care & Preschool

April has come and gone so quickly! It always seems as though time moves very fast at the end of the school year.

Our 3-year-old preschool classes took a fun field trip to the library. They really enjoy the puppet show, story time and the craft!

Our 4-year-old preschool classes took a field trip on a city bus ride. They catch the bus at the corner and ride for the whole route. They really enjoy this trip!

We have started our preschool registration for the 2026/2027 school year.

Our 3-year-old program meets on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. We have an AM class that meets 7:45-10:45 and our PM class meets 11:45-2:45. Children must be 3 by September 15, 2026. Tuition is \$200 / month.

Our 4-year-old program meets Monday – Thursday. Our current AM class meets 7:45-10:45 and our PM meets 12:15 -3:15. Children must be 4 by September 15, 2026. We participate in the Voluntary Preschool Grant with the CCSD and State of Iowa. Any 4-year-old that lives in Iowa qualifies for FREE tuition. We do have private pay tuition for children that attend from out of state or are 5 years-old.

Please call us at 243-9393 if you would like us to add you to our waiting list and we can let you know when registration opens.

Zion Child Care Preschool is currently looking for an assistant for 4-year-old preschool classes.

This is a year long position that works in the preschool classroom during the school year and in our school age program in the summer. We are looking for individual to start ASAP!!

We are looking for friendly and energetic individuals that are caring, responsible, dependable, and have a true LOVE for children.

The preschool assistant must have an AA degree, CDA (Child Development Associate), or a paraprofessional with early childhood (or able to obtain the EC endorsement).

You may apply within!!

Kelly Bork, Director





# PUT GOOD INTO THE WORLD

**BLOOD DRIVE**



## **Zion Lutheran Church**

**Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>**

**3:00pm to 6:30pm**

**The Gathering Space**

**439 Third Ave S, Clinton**



To sign up, scan the QR code, contact Deb Vath  
at [djvath@mchsi.com](mailto:djvath@mchsi.com) or visit us online @  
[www.bloodcenter.org](http://www.bloodcenter.org)

Group code: 2827

Last date to donate elsewhere: 04/20/2026

# Faith Foundations

For the month of April, **Faith FUNdations** children enjoyed learning the Bible story of **The Fruit of the Spirit**. The children enjoyed games, cooking, art and drama focused on that theme. The children were able to share and make connections to their daily life.

Our **Faith FUNdations** team would like to thank the congregation for their continued

support of our learning program. Many of you have shared desserts and other food items throughout the year which we greatly appreciate! We will begin again the first week in September.

Please prayerfully consider how you can/will be involved in this ministry of guiding the faith journey of our children.



# The Light of CHRIST

Sharing CHRISTmas in July

## St Paul/Zion Summer VBS

Free Family Dinner each night 4:45 -5:30pm  
and VBS is from 5:30pm-7:00pm

VBS will be at Zion Lutheran Church  
439 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave S



For more information contact Saint Paul's at 563-242-4102 or Zion at 563-242-7391

### Vacation Bible School Registration

#### 2026 "The Light of CHRIST– Sharing CHRISTmas in July" July 20th—July 23rd

*Children going into preschool (and potty trained) through going into 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join us.*

Child Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Going Into \_\_\_\_\_

Child Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Going Into \_\_\_\_\_

Child Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Going Into \_\_\_\_\_

Child Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Going Into \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Church \_\_\_\_\_

Number of family members attending dinner each night \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer to help at VBS \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact (other than the above name/number)

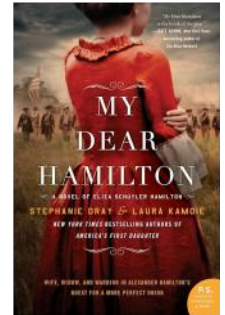
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Do we have permission to use your child(rens) pictures on our website and in social media \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

Please RSVP by July 13th by completing this form and returning to Zion or St Paul  
A special offering will be collected each night to go to the "Lutheran Services of Iowa—Angel Tree"

# Book Club News

Our next book club book is **My Dear Mr. Hamilton** by Stephanie Dray. It is a historical novel that brings to life the powerful, often overlooked relationship between Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton and her husband, Alexander Hamilton.

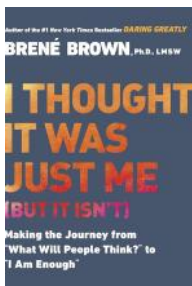
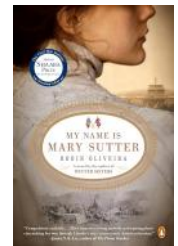


The story is told primarily from Eliza's point of view and follows her life from her early days in a prominent New York family through her marriage to Alexander. While Alexander rises to fame as a key figure in the American Revolution and founding the United States of America. Eliza quietly endures the challenges of being married to a brilliant but deeply flawed man.

If this interests you, join us, there are books on the cart in the library, read and join us in a discussion on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:00. Hope to see you!

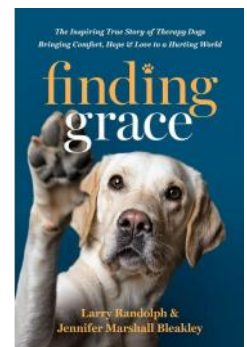
New books for May are:

**My Name is Mary Sutter** by Robin Oliveira. It was our book club book in 2024. if you missed it then, come check it out now! It's a stunning historical novel, which opens on the eve of the Civil War.



**I Thought It Was Just Me (But It Isn't)** by Brené Brown, PH.D., MSW. This book explores why so many people feel they aren't enough even though these struggles are widely shared. She encourages openness, honest conversations, and supportive relationships as the path to greater confidence, connections and authenticity.

**Finding Grace** by Larry Randolph & Jennifer Marshall Bleakley is a true story of brokenness, redemption, and God's transforming love. The book follows Jennifer's life as she struggles with deep wounds, poor choices, and a longing for acceptance that leads her down a difficult path. Ultimately, it's a story of healing, forgiveness, and new identity, showing that no one is beyond restoration and that God can redeem even the most painful parts of our past. Donated by Linda Flikkema



If you have a book you want to donate, leave it with Amanda or put it in the Library mail slot. Thanks!!

# COUNCIL NEWS

## Summary of Congregation Council Minutes – March 10, 2026

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

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Barb reported that she has arranged for 2 acolytes to serve at the Easter Sunday service at 9:00 and is still working to find 2 people to help with the Saturday evening service. The confirmation dates are still being determined as Pastor Paul is conferring with the Confirmand's families to see what works best. Kristi mentioned that the church usually hosts a reception for them after that service. Pastor then mentioned that she continues offering the centering prayer opportunity for members and that it has been well received with the participants. Zion is hosting the Montana Krogman wedding on April 11. Pastor Barb reminded the council that she will be out of town April 13 - April 21.

**Treasurer's Report:** Deb Vath reviewed the February, 2026 treasurer's report. She reported that the church paid the current winter snow removal invoice in the amount of \$8,703.86. The various fund balances were reviewed with the council and Deb led a discussion concerning the Mission Endowment Fund. The group talked about the opportunity to help fund local organizations in need and that their committee is not active at this time. Deb discussed how these funds might be used and volunteered to send the council more information concerning this committee's mission.

**Membership Update:** Jacob Evers has been approved for membership by transfer, and his fiancée Megan Roach was approved for membership through adult baptism.

### Old Business:

**Technology Committee:** This group's report was reviewed, and it was noted that there are budgeted funds amounting to \$1500 to be used for a new camera and software that the technology committee may use when needed and \$6000 towards the scholarship fund.

### New Business:

**Organist Search:** President Montgomery discussed with the Council the need to form a group to assist the Executive Committee in searching for a new organist. Marilyn Fee has offered to help with the search. The council discussed various church members who might be asked to serve in this endeavor. Mike Fee volunteered to assist her, and other people's names were suggested. President Montgomery will contact the persons mentioned and see if they would be willing to help.

# FINANCIAL CORNER

## March 2026 at a glance

General Operating	March	Year To Date
Income +	\$25,503.55	\$83,776.32
Expense -	\$23,174.92	\$79,479.80
Difference =	\$2,331.63	\$4,296.52

## March In-Person Worship Attendance

Weekend	Saturday	Sunday	Total
February 28, March 1	41	92	133
March 7 & 8	50	75	125
March 14 & 15	47	78	125
March 21 & 22	50	120	170
March 28 & 29	35	92	127
Average	45	92	136

## Zion's Prayer List

Zion has begun offering a public prayer list in our weekly bulletins. You may place friend's or family members on the list as long as you have their permission, as both first and last names will be used. You are also able to request that your name be included on the list.

Please call Amanda in the office at 563-242-7391 x 7 or email her at [officeadministrator@zionlutheranclinton.org](mailto:officeadministrator@zionlutheranclinton.org) to place someone on the list.

## 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 notify the prayer chain by calling 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.

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 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 5:30 PM: Worship
<b>3</b> 9:00 AM: Worship 10:00 AM: Cinco de Mayo Luncheon	<b>4</b> 5:30 PM: Girl Scouts	<b>5</b> 3:15 PM: Centering Prayer 5:00 PM: Executive Committee 5:50 PM: All-Committee Night	<b>6</b> 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer & Bible Study 5:00 PM: Bells Rehearsal 5:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 5:30 PM: Worship
<b>10 Mother's Day</b> 9:00 AM: Worship with Rite of Confirmation	<b>11</b> 10:45 AM: Sack Lunch Monday	<b>12</b> 3:15 PM: Centering Prayer 6:00 PM: Congregation Council	<b>13</b> 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer & Bible Study 1:30 PM: Rebecca Circle 5:00 PM: Bells Rehearsal 5:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> 5:00 PM: Ladies Night Out	<b>15</b> Synod Assembly	<b>16</b> Synod Assembly 5:30 PM: Worship
<b>17</b> 9:00 AM: Worship 10:00 AM: Birthday Fellowship	<b>18</b> 9:00 AM: Quilting 5:30 PM: Girl Scouts	<b>19</b> 3:15 PM: Centering Prayer	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 AM: Zion Book Club 5:30 PM: Childcare Board	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 5:30 PM: Worship
<b>24 Pentecost</b> 9:00 AM: Worship	<b>25 Memorial Day</b> Office Closed	<b>26</b> 3:15 PM: Centering Prayer	<b>27</b> 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer & Bible Study 10:30 AM: Courier Assembly 5:30 PM: Childcare Graduation 7:30 PM: Childcare Graduation	<b>28</b> 10:00 AM: First Circle Friends	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 5:30 PM: Worship
<b>31</b> 9:00 AM: Worship						

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
439 3rd Avenue South  
Clinton, Iowa 52732  
Phone 563-242-7391  
Vol. 96 No. 5

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## ZION'S STAFF

**Pastor Barbara Hayden, Interim Pastor**  
Phone: 563-242-7391  
pastorbarb@zionlutheranclinton.org

**Amanda Deurmeyer, Office Administrator**  
Phone: 563-242-7391  
officeadministrator@zionlutheranclinton.org

◆  
**Kelly Bork, Director**  
Zion Child Care Preschool  
Phone: 563-243-9393  
zioncc-ps@hotmail.com

◆  
**Patrick Hoffman, Custodian**

### OFFICE HOURS

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