

## From the Pastor's Desk

visit us at [www.zionbelvidere.com](http://www.zionbelvidere.com)  
TIDINGS OF ZION



Greetings People of Zion,

I am excited to serve as your interim pastor and share in ministry alongside you. My husband, Wayne and I have been married for 38 years. We have two sons and a daughter. Joshua and Angela have our two granddaughters, Hannah (9) and Lily (6) and live in Jackson, MI. Philip and Hilary have our granddaughter Jemma Perci and live in Streamwood, IL. Our daughter Melanie just moved from Idaho back to Milwaukee.

We have two all-white cats, Tarzan and Mallow (like marshmallow). We live in Roscoe and just 6-10 minutes from both of our parents. Wayne is an analyst/programmer working for Gleason Cutting Tools in Loves

Park. He enjoys reading, bike riding, and rock climbing. He is hoping to climb Devil's Tower this summer for a second time. I enjoy reading, going for walks, and spending time with Wayne and our granddaughters (their parents too).

I attended Rockford College and then was a stay-at-home mom for many years. Eventually, I did a few odd jobs and then started working in our church on staff very part-time. My hours and responsibilities for different ministries grew over the years until I was full-time. In 2007 I was commissioned an Associate in Ministry and finally with the urging of many, I went to seminary at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. While I was going to seminary part-time the bishop offered for me to become a synodically authorized minister for a small worshiping community. That meant that in all ways I served as their pastor. We first met in a school music room and then graduated to a storefront ministry. I graduated and was ordained in 2016, serving my first call at Trinity Lutheran Church in Harvard.

If you would like to know more about me, share about yourself, or just talk about things on your heart and mind, I am happy to meet with you and listen. To that end, I am offering 30-minute time slots that I am available for these conversations. Just call Mandy in the church office and she can set you up. If we run out of times, I'll find more openings in my schedule. I look forward to sharing worship, fellowship, service, and ministry with you, and getting to know you.

God's grace and peace,  
Pastor Elizabeth Martin



You may begin to see small glimpses of our prayer ministry in action here at Zion. God sustains, and heals us through prayer – he wants us to know that even the smallest thought can create the biggest ripple in God's eyes and in his world. So, be looking out for opportunities to reflect, meditate and pray throughout your every day! God is Good!

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## NEVER doubt the POWER of prayer

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Prayer Request mailboxes will be placed outside the front and the parking lot entrances for the convenience of anyone to submit a request for prayer as they wish at any time of the day or night. These boxes will be checked daily and will be confidentially given to our Pastor to pray upon and offer up for blessing. The Pastor will determine if a visit or phone call will need to be made. We encourage everyone to use these boxes when you feel a prayer may just help! We are encouraged these boxes will be seen and used by our community as well to share the love of Christ in prayer!



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### Witness Committee

August 21, at 6:00 PM **Compassionate Touch Techniques** August 21, at 6:00 PM

Mercy health Home Hospice, in partnership with the Age-u-cate Training Institute, will be presenting a free, one-hour training seminar here at Zion in the Fellowship Hall. This will be followed immediately by Shiloh for those that wish to stay for this important healing and fellowship ministry.

Compassionate Touch is rhythmic touch that is easy to learn, flexible and safe. Expressive touch shows care, empathy, and concern. Compassionate Touch has been proven to reduce pain, anxiety, and behavioral expressions associated with Alzheimer's and Dementia. This is a wonderful seminar for caregivers and loved ones who are assisting those who are ill or who would simply be interested in learning about therapeutic touch. This specialized touch is a wonderful skill to learn and is enjoyable for everyone, even those without Dementia.

For additional information and answers to questions, contact:

Terry Miller 815-544-3188 or [jmt66.1@att.net](mailto:jmt66.1@att.net).



## Community Meal

Loaded baked potatoes were on the menu for the July Community Meal. A variety of eight different toppings for the potatoes were available, and the servers did a fantastic job accommodating the individual requests of our guests. A total of 84 diners came to the meal which is a record number for serving in the Fellowship Hall. Special thanks to the Northern Illinois Food Bank for providing the excellent Russet potatoes used for the meal. They also provided some bread items, cereal and oranges for our "Sharing Table" which enabled most guests to take some items home.

This meal was made possible through the collaborative efforts of these dedicated volunteers: Marilee, Dawn, Marge, Linda, Kathy, Wanda, Sharon, Joanne, Terry, Nancy, Larry, Delaney and Mr. Potato Head.

The next Community Meal will be held on Wednesday, August 9th. We will keep the meal as simple as possible realizing many of our usual crew will be helping at the Boone County Fair.

For the third month in a row St. John's United Church of Christ used Zion's kitchen for their Community Meal. With their kitchen repairs and upgrades complete they can now return to their home facilities in August. They were very appreciative that they could continue their food ministry during the reconstruction project.



## Food Truck

Thank You to the 24 volunteers that helped on Saturday, July 8th with our 4th Northern Illinois Food Bank truck of 2023.

The volunteers who helped to unload, package and load into vehicles included: Jody Archer, Kris Beever, Rodney Brandmire, Dawn Calkins, Kevin Ekberg, Joannie Ekberg, John Enright, Michelle Ernest, Arlyn Groen, Kathy Hansen, Sarah Hansen, Russ Kindberg, Kelly Kotajarvi, Jeanne & Keith Marnen, Anne McCoy, Terry Miller, Amy Ortiz, Holden Reininger, Nadiya Reininger, Pam Romanek, Jane Schuessler, and Gary & Sharon Yunto.

These 24 individuals packed 14 items for giveaway that helped 210 families with 760 individuals including 267 children and 160 elderly with their food insecurity from the Boone County and surrounding area.

Our next food truck is scheduled for August 5<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in helping and have not helped in the past, please let Mandy know.



## Boone County Fair

**August 8<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>**

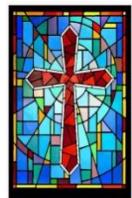
The Boone County Fair is fast approaching! The signup sheets are on the back bulletin board to work the grandstands taking tickets and monitoring the seating, as necessary. We will need all hands on-board for this service that we provide our community, showing and displaying our commitment to sharing Christ's love with others. There will be a golf cart available to provide rides to and from your cars to the gates of the grandstand anytime you may need. And water will also be provided to helpers. Please consider helping us throughout this week of fun! Any questions - please see our amazing leader in this mission, John Bender.





## Sunday School News

Summer is going by fast and here are several dates to mark on your calendar.



### Let Your Life's Light be a Window to Christ

**Everyone** is invited to join the Sunday School Staff and students to make a sand art Stained Glass Window on **September 10<sup>th</sup>**. As Sand Art can be rather messy, we will be making them outside after church. There will be simple patterns and more complex ones. The finished pictures will then be displayed on the bulletin board next to the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday School students will be able to register on September 10<sup>th</sup> or on Rally Sunday Sep. 17th.

**Rally Sunday/ First Day of Sunday School** will be September 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Blessing of Students and Teachers during the church service. This includes all students and teachers, not just those in Sunday School.

**Come Join Us for Both of these Fun Days!!**

### Leader Needed

We are still in need of a Sunday School Leader for the older kids. You would be working with students in second grade – sixth grade. They are a great group of kids!! Become part of the Sunday School team. We will work with all schedules. If you have any questions contact Pat Castro at 815-520-5660.

### Pollinator Garden



If you have not gone back and looked at the pollinator garden that the kids planted in May, walk back and take a look. All the beds are doing well this year, despite the drought and some erratic watering. We have Mexican sunflowers and regular sunflowers in one tub, Zinnias, Cosmos, Bachelor Buttons, Cleomes and Marigolds in the kids tub. They also planted a tub with The Three Sisters, a native American planting of beans (we did a dried bean), squash (butternut) and corn. We also have a wildflower tub.

**Christian Nurturing Meeting** Come join us for our next meeting, August 20 at 10:15am., downstairs in the Sunday School Area. All are welcome.



## First Step Backback Blessings

Sunday, August 13, 2023 - Blessing of school supplies for 1<sup>st</sup> Step Daycare. During the service, Pastor Martin will be "blessing" the backpacks and school supplies before we donate them to 1<sup>st</sup> Step Daycare for distribution to their children. The Women of Zion would like to express a BIG **"Thank You"** to the members of Zion for their generosity in helping these children begin the school year with the needed supplies for success in their education.

### Baby Bank Update



THANK YOU – to everyone over the past months that have given of their time to help with the organization of the Baby Bank. Whether you were involved in the distribution of items to individuals, sorting clothes, filling shelves with needed supplies, moved items from one area to another or hauled boxes to the recycle dumpster; we could not have done it without your help. Also, thanks to the individuals that helped with: rearranging the furniture or were involved with the transporting, moving or assembling of our newest shelving unit. We would also like to "thank" individuals that helped to organize and cleanup the quilting area and craft room. They look great!!

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!!!!



# August Birthdays

1-Max Beever	22-Jonah Brunschon
5-Johanna Miralrio	22-Ken Meyers
10-Mazie Ruzic	23-Alicia Downey
11-Mary Berg	25-Dawn Calkins
11-Nadiya Reininger	26-Paul Watts
11-Jeanne Marnen	28-Sandra Dotzler
13-Jerry Hall	29-Zion Lutheran Church
13-Gary Yunto	29-Elizabeth Balabuszko
15-Curt Tobin II	30-Sam Ruzic
18-Kalin Bahena	30-Cheryl Sturges
19-Rob Zediker	



## From the Treasurer:

### General Fund

06/2023	Beginning Balance	\$ 45,647.48
	Total Income	\$ 10,147.36
	Total Expenses	<u>\$ 47,317.92</u>
	Balance	\$ 8,476.92

### Building Fund

06/2023	Beginning Balance	\$ 9,934.34
	Total Income	\$ 2,719.00
	Total Expenses	<u>\$ 20,577.25</u>
	Balance	\$ (7,923.91)

### Staff

Rev. Elizabeth Martin  
Intentional Interim Pastor

Mandy Minson  
Administrative Assistant

Ken Anderson  
Council President

Dan Albrecht  
Choir Director

Pat Castro  
Sunday School Director

Diane Vorndran  
Financial Secretary

Sharon Yunto  
Treasurer

### Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:00am  
Thursday's at 7:00pm

Find Worship Videos at  
[www.zionbelvidere.com](http://www.zionbelvidere.com)

OR

On Facebook at  
[ZionBelvidere+](https://www.facebook.com/ZionBelvidere/)

### Council Members

#### Term Through January 2024

Ken Anderson  
Kris Beever  
Rodney Brandmire  
Jen Downey  
Jeff Ernest  
Deana Foley

#### Term Through January 2025

Jody Archer  
Doug Shiloh  
Gary Yunto

#### Term Through January 2026

Gretel Baird  
Melody Johnson  
David Schumann

### Texts for the Month of August

#### August 6

*Isaiah 55:1-5*  
*Romans 9:1-5*  
*Matthew 14:13-21*

#### August 13

*1 Kings 19:9-18*  
*Romans 10:5-15*  
*Matthew 14:22-33*

#### August 20

*Isaiah 56:1, 6-8*  
*Romans 11:1-2, 29-32*  
*Matthew 15:10-28*

#### August 27

*Isaiah 51:1-6*  
*Romans 12:1-8*  
*Matthew 16:13-20*

## August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>OFFICE HOURS</b> Monday-Friday 9am-1pm		1 Worship/Music 5pm	2 Sewing/Quilting 9:00am Bible Study 9:30am	3 7:00 pm – Worship	4	5 Food Truck 10am-11:30am
6 <b>Sunday Worship @ 9am</b>	7 AA Meeting 5pm  Shiloh Meeting 6pm-8pm	8 <b>Council Reports Due</b>  <b>Boone County Fair</b>	9 Sewing/Quilting 9:00am Bible Study 9:30am Baby Bank 4pm-6pm Community Meal 5pm- 6:30pm  <b>Boone County Fair</b>	10 7:00 pm – Worship  <b>Boone County Fair</b>	11  <b>Boone County Fair</b>	12  <b>Boone County Fair</b>
13 <b>Sunday Worship @ 9am</b>  <b>Boone County Fair</b>  <b>Blessing First Step</b>	14 AA Meeting 5pm  Witness 6pm	15	16 Sewing/Quilting - 9:00am Bible Study-9:30am  <b>Council Meeting:7:00pm</b>	17 7:00 pm – Worship	18	19
20 <b>Sunday Worship @ 9am</b>  Christian Nurturing 10:15am	21 AA Meeting 5pm  Shiloh Meeting 6pm-8pm  <b>Tidings Articles Due</b>	22	23 Sewing/Quilting - 9:00am Bible Study-9:30am	24 Barnabas 6pm 7:00 pm – Worship <b>Holden Sundae</b>	25	26
27 <b>Sunday Worship @ 9am</b>	28 AA Meeting 5pm	29	30 Sewing/Quilting - 9:00am Bible Study-9:30am	31 7:00 pm – Worship		