

On Eagle's Wings

The song in our hymnal, *On Eagle's Wings*, is a favorite for a lot of people and has been sung at many of the funerals over which I have presided. My mother even chose it to be sung at my Father's funeral in August. This is the refrain: "And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand."¹

I invite you to read Psalm 91. The verses to the song are taken from this psalm. At the end of the psalm, it is God's angels that God will command to guard and raise up. The whole psalm is full of promise. In the midst of harsh situations – persecution, war, and disease – God promises to deliver. "When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them." (Psalm 91:15 NRSV).

Now consider reading Isaiah 40. It is written when God's people, Israel, were in exile. There is comfort and reassurance that they will return home by God's hand. We hear the words at the beginning of the chapter during the Advent season. "A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low...' " These are words of hope and promise.

Fast forward to the end, "The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40:28b-31 NRSV)

On Eagle's Wings and these two Old Testament readings give witness to a God who is compassionate, forgiving, a rescuer, a promise keeper, devoted, and redeeming. Indeed, in times of trouble, we can trust in and call out to our God, knowing that God in Christ Jesus will attend us. God does not desert us but rather accompanies us through the struggles, "raising us up on eagle's wings and holding us in the palm of his hand." Even in death, our trust is in God, who grants us eternal life and will raise us up as God resurrected Jesus Christ, which is our Easter celebration and hope.

I am keeping you all in prayer and asking God to hold you, raise you up, and tend your broken places.

Trusting in the wings of God's grace,
Pastor Elizabeth Martin



¹ Michael Joncas, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis: 2014), *On Eagle's Wings* #787.

Community Meal

The September Community Meal, "Breakfast at Night," proved to be more popular than we thought, as we ran out of scrambled eggs, hash browns, and biscuits & gravy before 6:00. However, none of the 111 diners left hungry because the pancakes and sausage patties held out until the end.

For the second month in a row over 100 meals were served. Topping 100 meals has only occurred four times since the program began.

Thank you to these volunteers who set up, cooked, served, and cleaned up at the September meal: Jean, Marge, Linda, Judy, Joanie, Kevin, Ronnie, Larry, Wayne, Kathy, Michelle, Judy, Donna, Dawn, and Marilee.

The next Community Meal is on Wednesday, October 2, one week earlier than usual due to the repaving of the parking lot. There is a volunteer sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. It is EXTREMELY helpful to know how many and who are showing up to help.

Per the Boone County Health Department, anyone handling food or drinks MUST wear a hat or hairnet and gloves. Though we have a few extra hats, it is best for you to bring your own if you plan on helping. The Health Department did an inspection at the September meal and there were no issues, so thank you to our volunteers for following the guidelines.

John Enright

Women of Zion



Heritage Woods Event– the residence of Heritage Woods had a great time making a scarecrow decoration with help from the members of Zion. Several expressed that we should come back again to be with them. Thank you to all the members of Zion that attended and assisted with the scarecrows; your help made the event run smoothly.

Saturday, October 19th – Everyone is invited to attend – both men and woman can benefit from this event. Instructor, Paul Kempson, works with adults ages 60 to 93. He will demonstrate stretching, breathing, some cardio, core strength, balance, muscle strength and "symmetry," and safety. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex no later than Sunday, October 13th. We will have a short meeting at 9:30 AM and Paul will begin at 10:00 AM. Wear non-skid shoes and loose clothing. Please bring weights or bands if you have a set. You can substitute 2 cans for the hand weights.

Thanksgiving Meal Drive – Fill the Cornucopia! For every \$25 collected, we will add another piece to the cornucopia. Our goal is to give 35 or more meals away this year to First Step Daycare, Zion members, and others in need. We will begin collecting Thursday, October 31st.

Pioneer Club

Join us on Monday, October 14th for an Oktoberfest Celebration! Sloppy joes, hot dogs, and punch will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table setting. Matt Wundrow will be here to provide entertainment with his musical offering. Please come and join us for food and fellowship. We always welcome new faces!



Nursery Air Conditioner Installed



The Nursery now has air conditioning! During September, a new air conditioning unit was installed just for the nursery. The old unit gave out a few years ago and was never replaced. Recently, Zion received some memorial monies that the family indicated could be used for this purpose. A big "Thank You" to the Verken family.



The Wartburg Band is going to Japan!

Anthony Girone is a member at Zion and began playing the Saxophone at the age of 10. Now 20 and a junior at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, Anthony is part of both the Symphonic Band as a percussionist and the Wind Ensemble as a saxophonist. Members of the Wind Ensemble will be going on the group's annual tour in the spring of 2025, this year going to Japan! International tours at Wartburg consist of 3-4 weeks of traveling, sightseeing, and performing at many different locations around another country, learning the history and culture of that region, as well as performing music written by American composers.

Throughout his musical career, Anthony has learned to play the four main types of saxophone, as well as percussion, euphonium, and ukulele. For the second year in a row, Anthony is the librarian and repairman for the student-led Wartburg Drumline. During his time at home over the summer, Anthony is an active member of the Starlight Theatre program at Rock Valley College, performing as a member of the pit orchestra during the summer musical series.

None of Anthony's performances would be possible without the opportunity to play in church services at Zion. The love and support from the congregation the last few years has given him the drive and the confidence to spread something he is very passionate about throughout the town, the state, the country, and now across the globe. Please watch for details about fundraising opportunities for the upcoming trip.

Deana Foley



Reformation Sunday/Confirmation

October 27th is a very special day. Not only is it Reformation Sunday (red may be worn in celebration), but Kora Wick and Mady Aves will be confirmed. We are happy to welcome them into the congregation as adult members and look forward to their continued participation in our congregation. There will be a card basket for each if you would like to welcome them and wish God's continued blessings on them.



Growing in Faith Sunday School 2024-2025



Sunday School has started. Our trial period of Sunday School during church is starting out well. We have 9 kids registered so far and are always looking for more. Come join us. First day of Sunday School with art projects from Rally Sunday.



Once again, the Sunday School will be making ornaments for a Hometown Christmas, Christmas tree that is then donated to a local family. We will have our first Craft Sunday on October 13th after church from 10:15 to 11:00.

We are also planning to have another ornament-making party so the congregation can join us in making ornaments. It will be in November. More details to follow.

Any questions about Sunday School?? Call the church office or Pat Castro at 815-520-5660.



How Great Is Our God?

How Great Is Our God? will be shown on October 29th at 11:30 am. Think of the earth as a giant golf ball. ***This video is NOT about the game of golf.*** Your life is a miracle, and the Creator of the universe knows each of us by name. He's big enough to breathe out stars, yet intricate enough to fashion together the trillions of cells that make up every facet of who we are. And He cares about each of us and promises to carry us through. He will hold onto you and hold you together, giving strength to those who hope in His unfailing love. Bring your lunch, dessert will be provided.

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is looking for help! This group of six faithful ladies prepare the sanctuary for worship every service; would you be willing to join them? You would be trained to assist in the tasks of preparing for worship, including setting up communion, flowers, etc. This ministry opportunity is open to women and men of all ages. You can work individually or with a partner. If you are interested, please contact Carolyn Jurisch. Thanks!

Thank You!

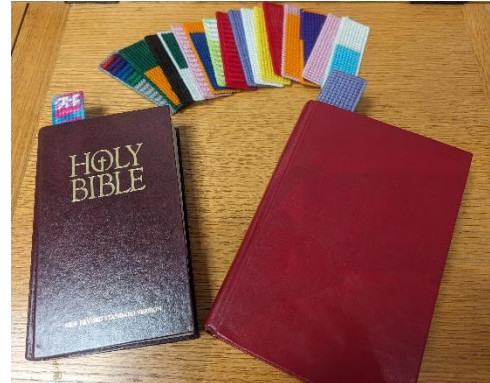
Zion Family,

Thank you, thank you, thank you for all the beautiful cards, the good food, prayers, and concerns & visits. God loves you and so do I.

Wanda Watts

Grateful thanks to Linda Johnson for the many homemade bookmarks she created for our bibles and hymnals.

Thanks and Blessings,
Good and Faithful Servants



Prayer Requests

Terry Miller, The Family of Joanne Miller, Sam & Mazie Ruzic, Ardys Brockway, The Family of Michele Long, The Miralrio Family, Dennis Flemming, The Family of Harold Heeren, Wanda Watts, Matthew Faust, Charles Lane, Gordon Rubeck, Cindy Smaha, Ron Nelson, Vicky Harley, Pat Huff, Bill Batterton, Wally Brown, Bob Kantner, Diane Vorndran, Guy and Pat Landmeier, Pat Melton, John Olson, Frances Palmer, Felix Ring, Juan Castro Jr, Olivia Rubeck, Michelle Marks, Todd and Lois Graves, Marilyn Urban, Stephanie Skelnik, Paula Crone, Helen Huftalin, Kendal Schmidt, Linda Johnson, Marcia Ellingburg, Dwaine Smith, Jim Johnson, Keira Kozlowski, The People of Ukraine, The People of Israel, The People living in Gaza, ALC Resurrection Church of India, Trinity Lutheran Church in Harvard

In Service to our Nation:
John Kozlowski Rob Zediker
Justin Kozlowski



Happy Birthday from your Zion Family!



1-Khloe Minson	5-Xavier Foley	12-Adrian Girone	19-Patti Lee	22-Lily Armstrong
2-Jean Twyning	6-Mel Johnson	13-Paisley Katzel	20-Lee Bierman	24-Delilah Long
2-Norm Archer	9-Riley Magnuson	15-Chloe Nogacz	21-Stephanie Skelnik	24-Lita Johnson
2-Keith Ballweg	11-Rhonda Hutter	15-Kelly Kotajarvi	21-Marge Olson	26-Pat Castro
4-Katie Ernest	12-Lillianna Ogan	17-Marilyn Smaha	22-Jeff Hall	27-Brady Kotajarvi

From the Treasurer:

General Fund

08/2024	Beginning Balance	\$ 12,092.78	08/2024
	Total Income	\$ 18,971.00	
	Total Expense	\$ 18,190.05	
	Balance	\$ 12,873.73	

Building Fund

Beginning Balance	\$ 16,159.87
Total Income	\$ 46,924.50
Total Expense	\$ 57,198.58
Balance	\$ 5,885.79

General Fund Reserve Savings (new Account)

August/2024	Beginning Balance	\$195,502.75
	Income (interest)	110.98
	Expenses	43,267.5
	Balance	\$152,346.23

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
Thursdays at 7:00pm

Find Worship Videos at
www.zionbelvidere.com

OR

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

Council Members

Term Through January 2025

Ken Anderson
Jody Archer
Rodney Brandmire
Dawn Calkins
Doug Shiloh
Gary Yunto

Term Through January 2026

Gretel Baird
Melody Johnson
David Schumann

Term Through January 2027

Kris Enright
Michelle Ernest
Kelly Kotajarvi

Texts for the Month of October

October 6

Genesis 2:18-24

Hebrews 1:1-4;2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

October 13

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

October 20

Isaiah 53:4-12

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

October 27

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Hebrews 7:23-28

Mark 10:46-52

October 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 NO Sewing/Quilting Bible Study 9:30am Community Meal 5pm-6pm	3 Choir 5pm/Bells 6pm 7:00 pm – Worship	4 Office Closed	5
6 Sunday Worship 9am Newcomer Informational Gathering 10:15am	7 Worship & Music 5pm Shiloh 6pm	8	9 Council Reports Due by 9am Sewing/Quilting 9am Bible Study 9:30am	10 Choir 5pm/Bells 6pm 7:00 pm – Worship	11 Office Closed	12
13 Sunday Worship 9am Confirmation 10:20am	14 Pioneer Lunch 12:00pm Witness 6pm	15	16 Sewing/Quilting 9am Bible Study 9:30am Council Meeting 7:00pm	17 Choir 5pm/Bells 6pm 7:00 pm – Worship Holden Sundae	18 Office Closed	19 Zion providing lunch to Habitat workers
20 Sunday Worship 9am	21	22 Tidings Articles Due by 9am	23 Sewing/Quilting 9am Bible Study 9:30am	24 Choir 5pm/Bells 6pm 7:00 pm – Worship Barnabas 6pm	25 Office Closed	26
27 Sunday Worship 9am Rite of Confirmation Confirmation Reunion	28 How Great Is Our God? Movie 11:30am	29	30 Sewing/Quilting 9am Bible Study 9:30am	31 Choir 5pm/Bells 6pm 7:00 pm – Worship	OFFICE HOURS Monday-Thursday 9am-1pm Closed Fridays	