

I Sought the Lord, and He Answered Me

“I sought the Lord, and He answered me” (Psalm 34:4). Life is a special gift from God. It has its ups and downs. Some days we ask, “Why do I have this problem in my life?” “Why is my loved one sick?” “Why am I so afraid?” “This problem will not go away. It’s driving me crazy.”

When the problems of life are too hard to cope with and live with, we ask the Lord for help. In John 2, Mary. The mother of Jesus went to him for help because the wine ran out at the wedding in Cana. Mary brought the problem to Jesus and left it with Him. She trusted Jesus completely to solve the problem. He solved the problem by changing water into wine. It was good wine, and the people were happy.

What problems in life are you facing? How are you dealing with them? Ask God for help. He has the right answer and solution. Jesus solved our greatest problem of all, sin and its consequences, when He died in our place to forgive us, and rose from death in victory with power over the Devil, Hell, and Eternal loss in Hell. Jesus’ death and victorious resurrection have opened the way for you, and ask God for help in His Name. It is good to know that we in Christian Faith can ask God for help when our problems in life are too big for us to live with and cope with. In Psalm 50:15, God tells us, “Call on ME in the day of trouble; I will deliver you.” Think about what happened at the wedding in Cana: the problem was presented to Jesus. Prayer was answered. Crisis avoided. All because Mary entrusted the problem to Jesus.

Lord, remind us that You are aware of the problems we face daily. Move us by the Holy Spirit to bring our problems to You. Help us to trust you. You help in ways that are always for our good. In Jesus Name. Amen

By Pastor McCants

Retirement Announcement

After many years of faithful and devoted service to Zion as Treasurer and Financial Secretary, Diane Vorndran has decided that it is time for her to retire from the work she has been doing for Zion. We thank her for these many years of devoted service to Zion and wish her well as she recovers from recent medical concerns.



Financial Secretary Position

With the recent decision of Diane's to retire from her work as Financial Secretary for Zion, we are starting the process of finding an individual to replace her. Below are some of the attributes /job tasks that the volunteer Financial Secretary is responsible for performing.

The Financial Secretary:

- a. Keep a record of all income from contributing members and other sources.
- b. Oversee and participate in counting the offerings.
- c. Oversee and participate in creating and depositing receipts.
- d. Train individuals who count the offerings.
- e. Ensure that two non-related people are always present for any counting procedures.
- f. Report to the treasurer the total offerings each week and any special purpose breakdowns.
- g. Oversee recording contributions to the individual contribution records within the church's dedicated software.
- h. Assist with reporting on levels of giving to the council and congregation.
- i. Assist with providing periodic (usually quarterly) and annual statements to the contributors for tax reporting.

This individual needs to be available to count money on a Monday or Tuesday and have good computer skills.

If you are interested in discussing this position, please get in touch with Gary Yunto at 815-547-7312 or via email at garryy513@gmail.com

Women of Zion

Thank you to Kris Beever for arranging the tour of the Swedish Museum in Rockford. It was a very nice morning filled with Swedish history.



WOZ will begin collecting the following school items for our First Step Daycare partner. You will find a drop box under our bulletin board at the entrance. It seems rather early; the kids are just completing this school year, but next year they begin on August 18th, and we would like to get them to the daycare a couple of weeks in advance. The items will be blessed on Sunday, August 1st, during our service. These are the following items that have been chosen:

Backpacks (no wheels)	2 Pocket folders
Multicolored pack of construction paper	Box of 24 crayons
Play-Doh 4 oz	Erasers
Ream of white copy paper	Purple glue sticks
Highlighters yellow	Box of Tissues
Erasers	Container of Sanitation wipes
Colored pencils	Colored markers unscented

June 24, 2026, at 7:30 pm – Wednesday Evening RVC Starlight Theatre Attendees

Cynthia has tickets in the church office for those who signed up. You can pay her with a check made payable to Zion or with cash. Please have the exact amount for cash purchases, as she will NOT have change. The church office is open from Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. On Sundays, Kris B. can help with ticket purchases. Prices: Adult - \$26.00 (18 tickets) Student - \$17.00 (1 ticket) Looking forward to seeing everyone that evening for a good time!!

Worship and Music

Choir would like to thank John Bender and Lois for the nice music holders. John made for the back of the chairs in the choir area. Now music folders and hymnals have a place beside the floor or a chair. Stop by sometime and check them out. We really appreciate it, John. Thanks!

In collaboration with our Christian Nurturing's Vacation Bible School

Wilderness theme, We are planning an inside picnic on **Sunday, June 28**, after the service. There will not be a normal coffee hour.

We will plan to eat by 11:00. In the past few years, we have had a picnic in the park, but it has become harder to move service equipment and keep food hot or cold. So, we are trying something a little different.

This year, dress casually for our theme in your favorite outside activity: Fishing - leave the hooks at home, Bird Watching - bring the binoculars, Hiking - wear your boots, Hunting- NO GUNS PLEASE. Bring a dish to pass. We will have the ovens on so you can cook or keep your dish warm, or the refrigerator will be ready to chill. We will provide hot dogs and/or brats, table settings, and beverages. Please sign up to help plan meat quantities, but you are always welcome to come without signing up.



Christian Nurturing News

June 22nd-26th: VBS from 9 am-11:30 am

Wilderness theme- "Cabin Fever" A deep Woods Encounter.

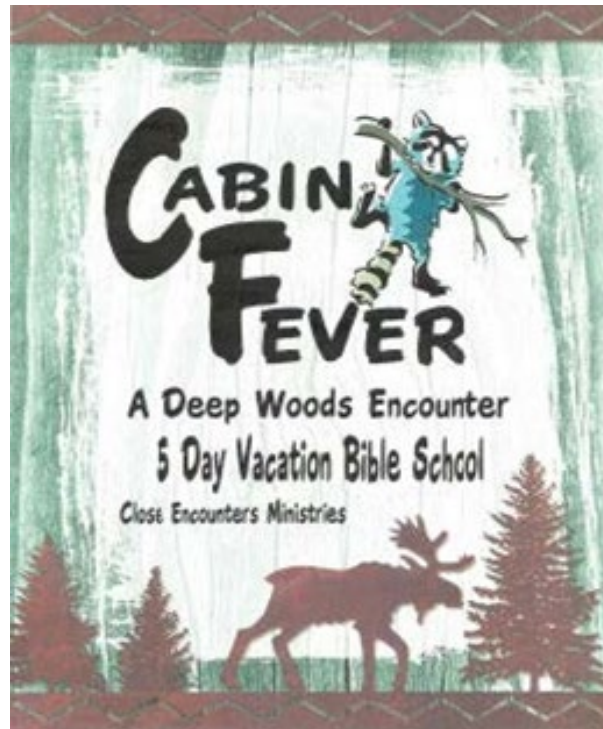
Attending ages 4-11, you can be helpers.

Adults of all ages are needed. Are you interested in helping at VBS?

Contact Melita Ogan: melitaj2002@yahoo.com or Melody Johnson: melodylj24@gmail.com

Signup sheets for attending and donating items are coming soon to the youth bulletin board in the Narthex.

Vacation Bible School



"Cabin Fever" A Deep Woods Encounter

WHERE: ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
1300 Pearl St. Belvidere, IL 61008

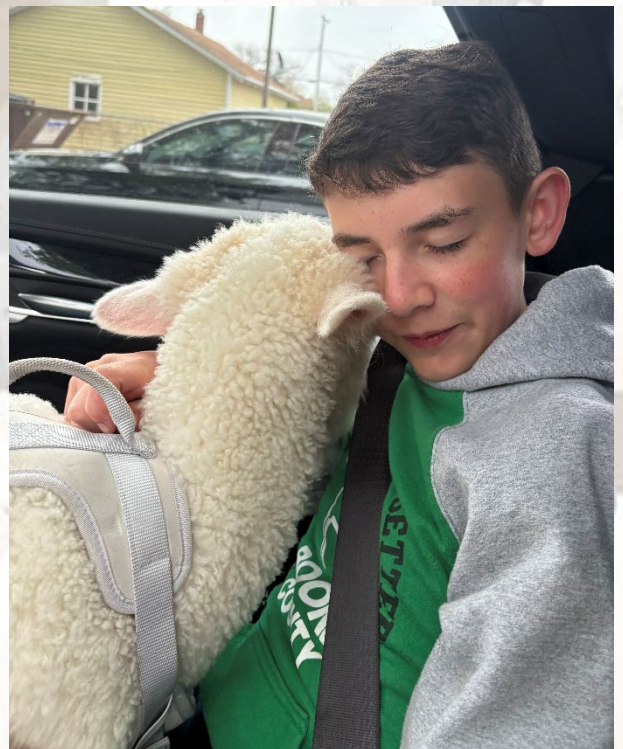
WHEN: JUNE 22ND THROUGH JUNE 26TH
9:00 AM TO 11:30 AM

Ages 4-11

Register by calling: 815-547-6102 or by email: zionlutheran1300@gmail.com

Good Shepherd's Sunday

Ian Cordray and Cheryl brought in his bottle-fed lamb to show the kids the length a shepherd will go to care for His flock, just as Jesus cares for us, His flock. Doug Shiloh also brought in his friend, Pete the Sheep.



Zion's Prayer Ministry

You may notice that we have placed prayer cards in the pews, as shown below. We don't always hear about our members who are in need of prayer. We like to send out cards of encouragement and specific prayers for healing or sympathy via text messages or emails. If you have a specific need for yourself, a relative, or a friend, please let us know by using these cards or notifying Cynthia in the office. We believe that prayer is powerful, as is our concern and love for one another. You can also contact us at the numbers below. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please let us know.

Kris Enright 815-985-1794 or Michelle Ernest 815-543-2142



The importance of prayer is affirmed throughout the Bible. As a church, we are committed to prayer — your needs are important to us. Please share your prayer request on this card so that we may join you in prayer, then place the card in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

Please pray for

I would like a prayer sent to:

Name

Address

Phone (home)

(mobile)

Email

Would you like this request added
to the weekly bulletin list? ☐ yes

☐ no

Zion's Youth

Thank you to everyone who went out to eat at Culver's or Red Robin during our fundraisers. We received a check for \$575 from Culver's and \$200 from Red Robin! The youth and I appreciate your support!



Our first summer trip is coming up on **June 5-7**. We will be going to the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center in Oregon, IL. I am excited to be taking the youth back to my favorite childhood camp. Stephanie Cordray, Deana Folley, and I will have a group of 11 youth with us. We will enjoy campfires, team building, canoeing, fun, games, and fishing. Thanks to our fundraising and our wonderful congregation, the Youth of Zion will not have to pay anything to attend! Special Thanks to Marge Olson, who will be treating us to pizza on Friday night!

Sunday, July 12-Friday, July 17 - Crandon, WI Camp Wasmogishek

We will help the Midwest Indian Missions with a summer camp for the kids on the reservation. The younger youth will participate in the camp while the 15 and older can be camp counselors or help with activities, crafts, or in the kitchen.

August 11-16 - Boone County Fair

We will be helping with the Grandstand for the shows.

**Please let Jody know as soon as possible if you can attend LOMC and/or the Mission Trip.
815-978-1691**

Community Meal

All 122 chicken legs we made at the May Community Meal were eaten by our guests. 62 people attended the meal, about 10-15 more than usual. While the chicken legs lasted until the end of the meal, the higher number of diners caused us to run out of the chicken-flavored rice and green beans.

Special thanks go out to Tammy, who came in earlier in the day and made over 50 cupcakes for our dessert. Also, a big thank-you to the crew who cooked, served, and washed dishes: Sandra, Jean, Dawn, Kathy, Patti, Stephanie, Nancy, and Larry.

The next Community Meal is on Wednesday, June 10. If you would like to join the fun and help out, a sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

John Enright

Zion Food Truck Ministry

Heads-up, Zion food truck volunteers! Zion will be hosting a food truck in conjunction with the NIFB on Tuesday afternoon, June 30th. The time of the event will be from 4:00 to 5:30 pm. The truck should be on site around 3:00 pm so we can unload and get set up for the event. Like for past food truck events, I will send out an email around 10 days prior to the event asking for volunteers and providing other information.

If you have not helped with this Zion food ministry in the past and are interested, please let me know or call the office and let Cynthia know you are interested in helping.

Gary Yunto



Happy Birthday from your Zion Family!



2-Kari Schmidt
4-Jeff Rednour
8-John Kozlowski
9-Kayden Schmidt
14-Doug Shiloh
17-Clark Pinkston
19-Evan Wick
22-Katelyn Bishop
25-Jeremy Nogacz

3-Mandy Minson
7-Chuck Foster
8-Maya Ernest
12-Brittany Bender
16-Valerie Kotajarvi
18-Melissa Bahena
20-Kendal Schmidt
23-Sam Larson
26-Cynthia Reynolds

4-Andy Mallegni
8-Justin Kozlowski
9-Gretchen Mallegni
13-Burton Sandberg
17-Olivia Bahena
18-Jared Wick
22-Racy Zediker
23-Lois Bender

June Scriptures

<u>June 7</u>	<u>June 14</u>	<u>June 21</u>	<u>June 28</u>
Hosea 5:15-6:6	Exodus 19:2-8a	Jeremiah 20:7-13	Jeremiah 28:5-9
Romans 4 :13-25	Romans 5:1-8	Romans 6 :1b-11	Romans 6 :12-23
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26	Matthew 9:35-10:8[9-23]	Matthew 10:24-39	Matthew 10:40-42

From the Treasurer:

General Fund Building Fund

Apr/2026 Beginning Balance \$ 37,374.82
825.58

Total Income \$ 15,088.66
Total Expense \$ 10,471.10
Balance \$ 41,992.38

Apr/2026 Beginning Balance \$

Total Income \$ 3,107.92
Total Expense \$ 5,693.55
Balance \$ (1,760.05)

General Fund Reserve Savings

Apr/2026 Beginning Balance \$ 89,049.62
Income \$ 18.30
Expenses \$
Balance \$ 89,067.92

Council Members

Term Through January 2027

Kris Enright
Michelle Ernest
Kelly Kotajarvi
Terry Miller
Gary Yunto

Term Through January 2028

Jody Archer
Dawn Calkins
Jeanne Maren
Stephanie Skelnik

Term Through January 2029

Rodney Brandmire
Melody Johnson
David Schumann

Nominating Committee

Nancy Brendum
Marilee Sellers
Cherly Sturges

Worship Schedule

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

Find Worship Videos at
www.zionbelvidere.com

OR

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

Email
zionlutheran1300@gmail.com

Staff & Leadership

Worship Leader
David Schumann
Dough & Brenda Shiloh

Administrative Assistant
Cynthia Reynolds

David Schumann
Council President

Dan Albrecht
Choir Director

Melody Johnson & Melita
Ogan
Sunday School Directors

Jody Archer
Director of Children and

June 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Worship & Music 5pm	2	3 Bible Study 9:30am Baby Bank 4pm-6pm	4 Thursday Worship Service 7pm	5 Youth - LOMC	6 Youth - LOMC
7 Sunday Worship 9am Youth - LOMC	8 Witness 6pm	9 Scholarship Meeting 9:30am	10 Council Reports 9am Sewing/Quilting 9am Bible Study 9:30am Community Meal 5pm-6pm	11 Thursday Worship Service 7pm	12	13 Ruth Mendez- Quinceanera 9-1
14 Sunday Worship 9am	15	16	17 Bible Study 9:30am Council Meeting 6:00pm	18 Thursday Worship Service 7pm	19	20
21 Sunday Worship 9am	22 VBS 9am-11:30am Tidings Articles Due by 9am	23 VBS 9am-11:30am	24 VBS 9am-11:30am Sewing/Quilting 9am Bible Study 9:30am WOZ-RVC Theater	25 VBS 9am-11:30am Barnabas Meeting 6pm Thursday Worship Service 7pm	26 VBS 9am-11:30am	27
28 Sunday Worship 9am End of VBS Picnic Baptism - Moss	29	30 Food Truck 4 to 5:30 pm			OFFICE HOURS Monday-Friday 9am-1pm	