

Call to Worship

Happy are those who hear the joyful call to worship, for they will walk in the light of your presence, Lord. They rejoice all day long in your wonderful reputation. They exult in your righteousness.

Psalm 89:15-16

We were created to worship God. It is the reason for our existence both here on earth and throughout eternity. Sometimes our concept of worship is going to church one hour each week. But God desires continual fellowship with us and wants us to live a lifestyle characterized by worship. How is that possible? When we go about our day, delighting in the things God delights in, finding our greatest satisfaction and joy in him, honoring him in all we do, and ascribing to the Lord the glory due his name—we are worshiping God. Whether our days are filled with washing diapers and dirty dishes, sitting at a computer, or teaching seminary students, we can experience worship as a lifestyle. When we fulfill God's call with joyful obedience and do our work to the glory of God, that is true worship.

Outward expressions of worship, such as kneeling, bowing, praying, and lifting hands, may enhance our worship experience, but true worship emanates from our hearts. Let us respond joyfully to God's call to worship. We will be blessed beyond measure as we walk all day long in the light of his presence!

LORD, what a privilege it is to worship you! Purify my heart and my thoughts so that I can learn to worship you continually. Help me to perform all of my duties today in joyful obedience to you so that even my work becomes authentic worship. You are great and greatly to be praised.

Submitted by Kris Enright

News for the Northern Illinois Synod

First, may I begin by saying “Thank You” to the Northern Illinois Synod and Bishop Stacie Fidler for allowing me the privilege to lead Zion in worship, preside over Holy Communion, as well as other privileges, as we continue our search for our next pastor. I am deeply honored that they have entrusted me with this responsibility, and I am also grateful that all of you have allowed me to lead our congregation in this capacity.

These privileges, which ended on April 30th, have been extended until July 31, 2026. Doug, Brenda, and I are honored to continue to preach and to lead Zion in worship, and we ask God’s blessings on the ministry of Zion.

Peace be with you.

David Schumann

Barnabas

If anyone in the congregation is interested in our ministry to our elderly members, please call the office or me at 815-519-9710. Ours is a rewarding mission of God’s love and care.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Marnen



The Zion Scholarship is a resource for our members as they strive to realize their educational potential. Traditionally, these awards have gone to Zion’s graduating high school seniors as they enter a college or university, technical or trade school, or as they join the military. Zion has expanded this program to those seeking apprentice or entrepreneur opportunities, and to those who seek a second certification or degree, such as a master’s or ordination from a seminary. In addition, congregation members may recommend non-members who participate in the life and ministries of the church and who are deemed worthy of such an award. If you would like an application or if you would like to recommend an individual, please contact the office or Jean Twyning at twyning@hotmail.com or 815-988-4385. Applications are due in May. Selections are in June. Scholarships will be awarded during a July service.

Church in the park has been put on hold for this summer.

We have worshipped through heat, unseasonable cold, and thankfully no locust.

We will just stay at church this summer, however.

This doesn’t mean it will never happen again, just not this summer.

Women of Zion

Thank You Messages

- Palm Sunday Breakfast - Thank you to all the terrific people who helped set up, cook, serve, and clean up during the event. We are so blessed to have such selfless individuals who give of their time and talents during these events.

Upcoming Events

May 2, 2026 – Saturday – Habitat for Humanity Fundraising Dinner from 4:30-6:00 pm. \$10.00 in advance - \$12.00 at the door. See flyer on the next page for more information.

May 16, 2026 – Saturday – Swedish Historical Society Tour of The Nordic Cultural Center and The Erlander Home Museum in Rockford. Cost is \$10 for adults. Children 4 and under are free. We will have a sign-up sheet on the WOZ bulletin board. Check out their website at swedishhistorical.org.

- **9:30 AM** – We will have coffee and Swedish pastries at the Nordic Cultural Center
- **10:00 AM** – We will cross the street to The Erlander Home Museum. Please note there is a second floor of the home, and no elevator is available.

June 24, 2026 – Wednesday Evening – RVC Starlight Theater – The theater is always better when shared with friends! Who can forget the antics of Dolly Parton, Jane Fonda, and Lily Tomlin in the comedy 9 to 5! Come join us for the fun! The sign-up sheet will be on the WOZ bulletin board until May 17th, so we can get tickets ordered. Cost for most will be \$26.00 (65+, military, teacher, employee of RVC).

Baby Bank

May 1, 2026 - Friday - Baby Bank Restock - 9:30 AM -11:30 AM- We will be sorting and restocking the baby bank for our distribution on Wednesday, May 6, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. You don't need to commit to the entire timeframe; any time you could help is greatly appreciated. Thanks!

Let's celebrate Pentecost!

Pentecost Sunday is **May 24th**. Once again, the altar area will be adorned with red geraniums and red candles. The cost of a geranium will be **\$6.00** each. You may leave your geranium to be planted in the Peace Garden, which is beside the parking lot, or take it with you. Please fill out the order form below or one from the bulletin and return it to the office with payment by **May 11th**.

If the Spirit moves you, please wear red to church on May 24th.

Your name _____

Number of plants _____ Total cost _____

Given in honor of _____

Given in memory of _____



Habitat
for Humanity®
of Boone County

Fundraising Dinner

Sponsored by Boone County Churches

\$10 in Advance • \$12 at the Door

Saturday, May 2nd, 2026

4:30-6:00 pm

**Immanuel Lutheran Church 1045 Belvidere Rd Door #4,
Belvidere**

How Can You Help?

- Buy a packet of 10 tickets for \$100.00 (\$10 each)
- Donate an item for our silent auction
- Buy a piece of the house with a cash donation.
 - Bronze sponsorship \$99 to \$199
 - Silver sponsorship \$200 to \$349
 - Gold sponsorship \$350
 - Platinum \$500 and Up

Silent Auction and 50/50 Raffle

For more information or silent auction pick-up please contact:

Len Lindeman at 815-980-6247 or 815-975-5182

Please make checks payable to Habitat for Humanity of Boone County

Building Homes...Communities...Hope

Serving Boone County, Illinois

Thank you to everyone who came and shared in the cookie making fun.
Thank you Kay Bodreau for teaching us your skills and sharing your history of Cookie Decorating.





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 attended our Culver's Night. Elleney, Alex, Max, and Lili really enjoyed serving you food!

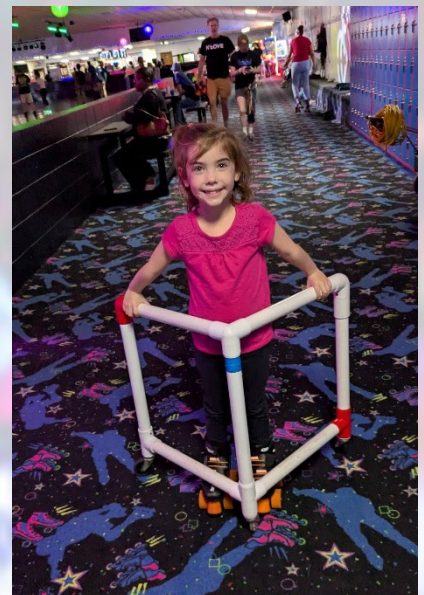


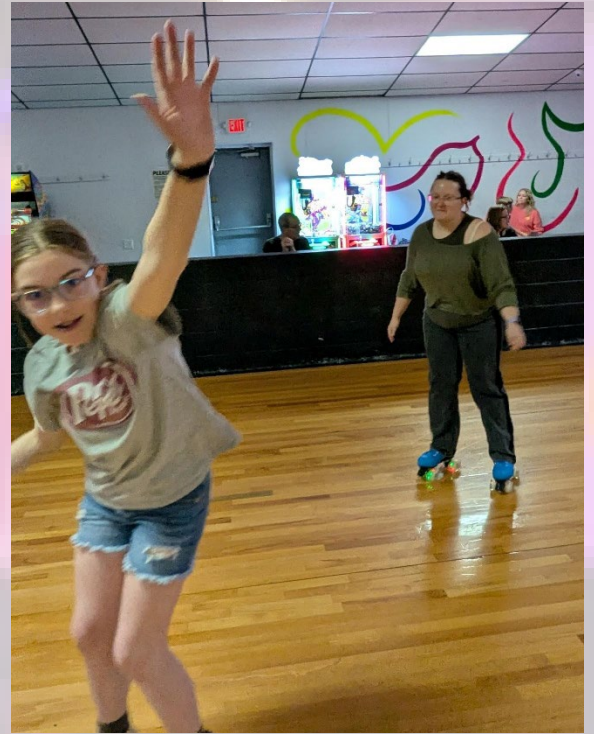
Roller Skating

After terrible storms postponed our roller-skating outing, we were able to reschedule.

We managed to get a group of 16 to join us, with 14 youth, parents, and guardians skating.

Fun was had by everyone!





Zion Youth
Upcoming Youth Events

Mark your calendars:

Wednesday, April 29 - Red Robin Fundraiser.

GO out to eat, mention the fundraiser, and the youth will receive 20% of your purchase.
The fundraiser goes all day!

Sunday, May 10 - Mother's Day Coffee hour.

Join us after the worship service, Zion Youth will provide fruit, cheese/ crackers, and other treats. Please let me know what you will bring.

Friday, June 5-Sunday, June 5-7 LOMC

(Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center) in Oregon, IL. Team building, Canoeing, Campfires, and Fun! Ages 8 and up. We will leave on Friday afternoon and stop for pizza on the way. Once we get settled in our cabin, we will have a campfire. On Saturday, after breakfast in the dining hall, we will have team-building activities and canoeing. During free time, those who want to fish will be able to. After dinner in the dining hall, we will have another campfire. On Sunday, we will head back to Belvidere after breakfast!

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.

We have reached our goal, and there is enough money for both trips!

Boone County Fair August 11-16

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

If you are looking for a reason not to cook, or you just want to go out for dinner, Red Robin on State Street in Rockford is the place to be on Wednesday, April 29.

The fundraiser goes all day and night! Be sure to mention the fundraiser so the youth gets 20% of the food sales! You do not need the flyer.

Thank you for supporting Zion's Youth!



Red Robin® will give
**20% OF FOOD SALES*
BACK TO**

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
- YOUTH GROUP**

Show this flyer or simply mention the fundraiser to
your server to have your sales counted.

FUNDRAISER DETAILS
7029 E State St, Rockford, IL 61108
April 29, 2026*

If ordering online, please follow these instructions:

- 1 Start your order at redrobin.com/order and select the restaurant above.
- 2 In the menu, go to the category labeled "Fundraisers (To-Go Only)" and click on that item.
- 3 Click the "add" button, and then "add to bag."
- 4 Add your meal items and check out.
- 5 Arrive at Red Robin, come in, say hi, grab your food and be on your way! If your location has curbside pick-up, we can bring it to your car too!

Christian Nurturing News

Mark your calendars:

May 3rd: Regular Sunday School and crafts after church.

May 10th: Last regular Sunday School and youth serve coffee/snacks after church.

May 10th: Blessing of graduates. We want to invite all high school and college students who are graduating this year to receive a blessing during the church service. Join us after worship in the fellowship hall for cake and goodies.

May 31st: After church we will be planting the gardens outside with Miss Pat by the shed.

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

Wilderness theme- "Cabin Fever" A deep woods encounter

If you are interested in helping with VBS or want to sign your child up.

Please contact Melita Ogan or Melody Johnson.

Pioneer News

Pioneer lunch will be held on Monday, May 11th in the Fellowship Hall. We start gathering around 11:30 and eat promptly at noon. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service.

Meat will be provided for a small donation.

Our program will be entertainment from a musical group called The Sunshine Gals.

If we could have a few extra desserts in case they would like a little treat after singing, that would be nice.

Thank you, and hope to see you there! Invite a friend! Any and all are welcome. By Patti Lee

Community Meal

Those attending the April Community Meal were greeted with the aroma of fresh popcorn, as we found out that Zion's popcorn machine was still in working condition. Other than requiring some extra vacuuming afterwards, the popcorn went over very well.

Hot dogs with all the toppings (ketchup, mustard, relish, onions and chili) and an endless supply of mac & cheese and pasta salads were served at the meal. Nearly 100 hot dogs were consumed by our guests. Brownies and Jello were the desserts.

Everything went smoothly at the meal due to the efforts of the following volunteers: Dawn, Donna, Jean, Judy, Kathy, Kay, Kris, Larry, Linda, Nancy, Patti and Stephanie. The only issue that night was the low attendance, as only 48 people had dinner.

The next Community Meal will be held on Wednesday, May 13. If you'd like to help out, there is a volunteer sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board. By 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 Thursday afternoon, May 28th. 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. By Gary Yunto



Happy Birthday from your Zion Family!



5-David Schumann
9-Emelisse Downey
19-Nancy Brendum
22-Nick Minson
25-Nikolai Jonas

6-Emily Ernest
13-Bentley Mallegni
20-Debbie Minson
23-David Sipe
25-Deana Foley

6-Melvina Haskins
13-Carly Pearson
20-Bonnie Wangen
23-Emma Cordray
26-James Foley

6-Jody Archer
15-Justin Downey
22-Jace Cordray
24-Carolyn Jurisch
28-Sally Holmes

Scripture for the Month of May

<u>May 3</u>	<u>May 10</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>May 17</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>May 31</u>
Acts 7:55-60	Acts 17:22-31	Acts 1:1-11	Acts 1:6-14	Acts 2:1-21	Genesis 1:1-2:4a
1Peter 2:2-10	1Peter 3:13-22	Eph 1:15-23	1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11	1Cor 12:3b-13	2Cor 13:11-13
John 14:1-14	John 14:15-21	Luke 24:44-53	John 17:1-11	John 20:19-23	Matthew 28:16-20

From the Treasurer:

General Fund Building Fund

Mar/2026 Beginning Balance \$ 21,912.96
Total Income \$ 23,603.90
Total Expense \$ 8,142.04
Balance \$ 37,374.82

Mar/2026 Beginning Balance \$ (192.50)
Total Income \$ 3,282.06
Total Expense \$ 2,263.98
Balance \$ 825.58

General Fund Reserve Savings

Mar/2026 Beginning Balance \$ 89,030.72
Income \$ 18.90
Expenses \$
Balance \$ 89,049.62

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



I want to take a moment to thank everyone who stepped up and covered the phones and helped in the office during my absence.

I am in awe of the love, prayers, cards, flowers, phone calls, and text messages I received while I was away. You all made it possible for me to sit by my father's side during his final days without worry. I knew Zion was in capable hands!

I will forever be grateful to you all.

Cynthia Reynolds



May 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser 4:30-6:00pm
3 Sunday Worship 9am & Sunday School	4 Worship & Music Meeting 5pm	5	6 Sewing/Quilting 9am Bible Study 9:30am Baby Bank 4pm-6pm	7 Choir 5pm/Bells 6pm Thursday Worship Service 7pm	8	9
10 Mother's Day Sunday Worship 9am & Last Day of Sunday School Blessing of Grads Youth Coffee Hour	11 Pioneer Lunch 12:00pm Witness Meeting 6pm Geranium Orders Due	12	13 Council Reports Due By 9am Bible Study 9:30am Community Meal 5pm-6pm	14 Choir 5pm/Bells 6pm Thursday Worship Service 7pm	15	16 Armed Forces Day WOZ-Swedish Historical Society Tour 9:30am
17 Sunday Worship 9am WOZ – Starlight Theater ticket sales ends	18	19	20 Bible Study 9:30am Council Meeting 6pm	21 Choir 5pm/Bells 6pm (last practice during summer) Thursday Worship Service 7pm	22	23
24 Sunday Worship 9am Pentecost	25 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	26 Tidings Articles Due by 9am	27 Sewing/Quilting 9am Bible Study 9:30am Scholarship Applications Due	28 Barnabas 6pm Holden Sundae Worship Service 7pm Food Truck 4 to 5:30	29	30
31 Youth Garden w/Pat					OFFICE HOURS Monday-Friday 9am-1pm	