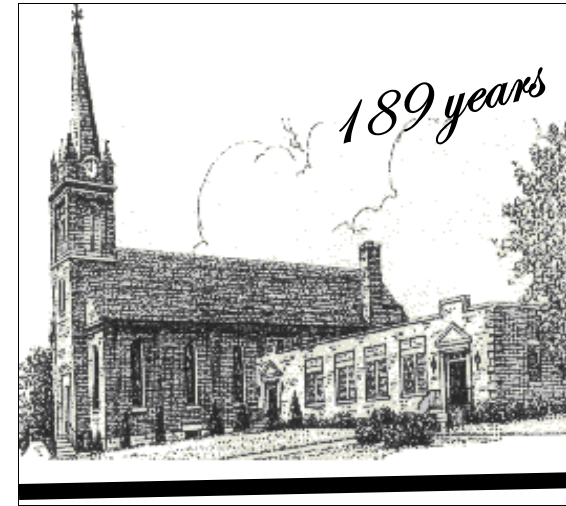


Zion's *Visitor*
 Zion Evangelical Church
 117 West White Street
 Millstadt, IL 62260-1939

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Zion Evangelical Church

Serving in Christ's Name Since 1835

From the Desk of Pastor Darrell

April Showers bring May Flowers

“April Showers bring May Flowers” is a familiar phrase that speaks of the coming to life of nature all around us. Indeed, the flowers, trees, shrubs, winter wheat, etc., are in full bloom. And the need to cut the grass already started in March this year.

With the very full Lenten, Confirmation, Holy Week and Easter Seasons behind us, we would expect to slow down and rest. But that isn't so. For we will be very active for weeks to come, well into June, as is highlighted below and throughout this month's newsletter.

May 2 is the last Sister-in-Faith monthly meeting until September.

May 4 is Millstadt Garage Sale weekend. It really kicks off on Thursday. We will have the Wedding of Cody Funk and Mallory Algire that day as well.

May 8 is the Women's Spring Luncheon with a Butterfly / Kaleidoscope theme.

May 12 is Mother's Day.

May 19 is Pentecost. We will also have a Cornhole Tournament at the Church Park.

May 26 is Trinity Sunday. It is also Memorial weekend when many will be outdoors – camping, boating, BBQ, parades, etc.

June 2 is our Church picnic at Zion's Church Park. Note the time change to 11:00 a.m. with lunch and games to follow.

June 9 is the switch to our Summer Church in the Park schedule at 9:00 a.m.

June 10-14 is our Community Vacation Bible School, which we are already gearing up for.

June 16 is Father's Day.

So, immerse yourself in Christ and in His Church. Join the fellowship and comradery of His people here at Zion. Witness for Jesus Christ to your family and friends and invite them to join with you as you draw near to Him and His people.

With this in mind, I've chosen the song, “We Are the Church,” presented below, for May.

Christ's blessings to you and yours;
 Pastor Darrell

May 2024

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We love because He first loved us.
 1 John 4:19

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Office: 618-476-1778

Rev. Darrell Weber, Pastor

Office/Fax 476-1778, ext. 2
 After hours phone: 618-972-6010
 zion@zionmillstadt.com

Amanda Frierdich

Office Administrator/Financial Treasurer
 Office 476-1778, ext. 1
 After hours phone: 618-975-5142
 amanda@zionmillstadt.com
 treasurer@zionmillstadt.com

Sheila Peters, Pre-School Teacher - 618-363-3930

preschool@zionmillstadt.com

Dave Maeder, Custodian - 618-975-6355

Church E-Mail: zion@zionmillstadt.com
 Church Website: http://www.zionmillstadt.com

Christian Education

Heather Kish (27) 618-420-4448
 Jodi Notter (25) 618-698-1890
 Debbie Doerr (26) 618-514-3917

Sisters in Faith

Meets Sept., Oct., Nov., March, April and May at 12:00 p.m.
 President - Charlotte Mehrstens - 476-1267

Z Team

Meets every Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m.
 Coordinator - Gary Shondy - 618-281-6509

CHURCH COUNCIL

(Every Second Monday of the Month - 7:00 p.m.)

Darren Doerr	(26)	618-980-5055
Annette Hund	(25)	618-719-6306 (Vice Pres.)
Kurt Pellmann	(25)	618-781-0903 (President)
Barb Scharf	(25)	618-973-0289
Joshua Seidlitz	(27)	618-363-4634
Andrew Taake	(27)	618-973-1006
Kurt Tegtmeier	(27)	618-233-8384
Betty Keller Timmer	(26)	618-520-3623 (Secretary)
Sherry Wynn	(26)	618-615-7915

(00) indicates the year that the Council Member's term expires.

Worship Schedule

9:00 AM - Adult Bible Classes/SS/Conf
 10:15 AM - Worship Service

Office Hours

Amanda Frierdich
 Monday through Thursday
 From 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
 Lunch 12:00 - 12:30
 Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Lay Liturgist Schedule for May

We have 12 liturgists who read the Scriptures: *Joy Dormeier, David Harres, Tracy Holmes, Linda Hopfinger, Annette Hund, Sean Mahoney, Kay Mehrtens, Vicki Pellmann, Joyce Tastad, Richard Trent, Dave Woehlke, and Marjie Weber.*

We are looking for more volunteers to read the Scriptures during our Worship Services. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office (476-1778) to be signed up. The Lay Liturgist schedule is given below. To make a change, contact someone listed below.

May 5	Dave Harres	618-806-9567	twigsharres@hotmail.com
May 12	Joy Dormeier	618-401-3484	skyfarmjoy@gmail.com
May 19	Tracy Holmes	618-791-5922	tlholmes1971@gmail.com
May 26	Linda Hopfinger	618-406-0269	dlnshop@msn.com

"We Are the Church" by Donald Marsh (1972)

Refrain:

**I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together!
All who follow JESUS, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together!**

**The church is not a building; The church is not a steeple;
The church is not a resting place; The church is a people.
(Refrain)**

**We're many kinds of people, With many kinds of faces,
All colors and all ages too, From all times and places.
(Refrain)**

**Sometimes the church is marching; Sometimes it's bravely burning,
Sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding; Always it's learning.
(Refrain)**

**And when the people gather, There's singing and there's praying;
There's laughing and there's crying sometimes, All of it saying:
(Refrain)**

**At Pentecost some people Received the HOLY SPIRIT
And told the Good News through the world To all who would hear it.
(Refrain)**

The following is taken from: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/history-of-hymns-we-are-the-church>

All generations have embraced this childlike song as a clear description of the nature of the Christian church. A close examination of the text reveals that this hymn is not childish in its implications. Indeed, the authors offer a clear ecclesiology [the study of churches, especially church building and decoration] lesson that articulates the nature of the church. The text clearly expresses a no-nonsense message that breaks with the refined poetry of classic hymnody in favor of simple language and a candid, even blunt, message.

Beginning with a series of emphatic assertions in the refrain, the authors establish that the church is the people, both locally gathered and worldwide in its scope.

Stanza 1 further clarifies the nature of the church by specifying what the church is not: it is not a "building," a "steeple," or a "resting place." "The church is a people."

Stanza 2 focuses on diversity in the church — "many kinds of people" with "many kinds of faces" and "all colors and ages... ." The final clause captures an essential dimension of the church—"all times and places." There is a cosmic presence of the faithful both in heaven and on earth. Those living and those departed who form the "great cloud of witnesses" are foundational to the nature of the church.

Stanza 3 presents the church as an active entity: "marching," "bravely burning," "riding," "hiding," and "learning." The church is not confined to a building but is active in the world.

Stanza 4 describes the range of expressions—the sounds that emanate from the people who gather in the church: "singing," "praying," "laughing," and "crying."

The final stanza references Pentecost as described in Acts 2:1-4: The result is that those assembled "told the Good News through the world..." an evangelistic mandate.

Zion Evangelical Church

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 8:00AM Community Wide Yard Sale 3:30PM Wedding - Cody Funk & Mallory Allgire	1 8:15AM Preschool Bible Study	8 8:15AM Preschool 12:00PM Spring Luncheon	9 9:00AM Quilting 12:00PM Sisters of Faith	2 9:00AM Quilting 12:00PM Sisters of Faith	3 8:15AM Preschool 10:00AM FH - Chair Yoga	11 8:15AM Preschool 10:00AM FH - Chair Yoga
5 Communion 9:00AM SS / Conf 10:15AM Worship	6 8:15AM Preschool 12:30PM MCC 6th Grade Tour	7 8:30AM Z-Team 1:00PM G.P. Bible Study	10 Acension Day 9:00AM Quilting 2:00PM G.P. Worship 6:30PM VBS Decorating	16 9:00AM Quilting	17 8:15AM Preschool - End of Year Party 10:00AM FH - Chair Yoga	18 8:15AM Preschool - End of Year Party 10:00AM FH - Chair Yoga
12 Mother's Day 9:00AM SS / Conf 10:15AM Worship	13 8:15AM Preschool 7:00PM Council Mtg	14 8:30AM Z-Team 1:00PM G.P. Bible Study 6:30PM VBS Decorating	15 8:15AM Preschool - Graduation 11:00AM Bible Study 1:00PM VBS Decorating	23 9:00AM Quilting	24 10:00AM FH - Chair Yoga	25 10:00AM FH - Chair Yoga
19 Pentecost 9:00AM SS / Conf 10:15AM Worship 1:00PM Cornhole Tournament	20 6:00PM Park - Girl Scouts 616	21 8:30AM Z-Team 1:00PM G.P. Bible Study 6:30PM VBS Decorating	22 9:00AM VBS Decorating 11:00AM Bible Study	30 9:00AM Quilting 9:00AM VBS Decorating	31 10:00AM FH - Chair Yoga	
26 Food Pantry Trinity Sunday 9:00AM Memorial Sunday 10:15AM Worship	27 Memorial Day	28 8:30AM Z-Team 1:00PM G.P. Bible Study	29			



Zion's Spring Luncheon

It's a Kaleidoscope World

**Wednesday, May 8, 2024
12:00 noon**

**Zion Evangelical Church
117 West White Street · Millstadt
618-334-3266 (Carol H.)
Price: \$15**

As always you will be treated to a delicious lunch, dessert and drink; attendance prizes; entertainment (provided by Laura Schaefer-butterfly ecology); a raffle basket boutique; an opportunity to win a beautiful queen size quilt; table trinkets; fun and fellowship!!

WE ARE ENCOURAGING GUESTS TO PAY \$15 IN ADVANCE

Please send this form to Sisters in Faith · 117 West White Street · Millstadt, IL · 62260

NAME: _____

SEAT WITH: _____
(NAME OF CHURCH OR INDIV.)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____
(MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SISTERS IN FAITH)

Please reply by Friday, May 3rd



Welcome Wagon

Zion's Church Council is teaming up with Welcome Wagon (<https://welcomewagon.com>) to reach out to newcomers in our area. Newcomers (roughly 50 to 60 each month) will receive a "Welcome" packet from a variety of area businesses and churches. Ours will include an upcoming schedule and events, especially for families with children – like Vacation Bible School.

We enter this venture, praying to reach out, invite and welcome newcomers to Zion.

While this provides us with a great outreach, it still requires us being a church that newcomers would want to come visit, and more importantly, return to.

As a church we seek to:

Be faithful in preaching and teaching the Biblical Truth, focusing on the Gospel of Jesus Christ: as testified in our Constitution, Article V – Faith and Covenant; in our faithfulness to our Evangelical & Reformed heritage and faith – the Apostle's and Nicene Creeds, and the Heidelberg and Evangelical Catechisms; and in our association with the Evangelical Association,

Have our Worship Service include a Contemporary opening (usually from JoyFM 99.1) and a variety of old and new responses and closing blessings, as well as a Children's Message.

We ask you, the people of Zion, especially our young and younger families, to:

Be active in the life of Zion on a regular basis,

Bring your children to Sunday School each Sunday during the Fall, Winter and Spring, and join us in our Adult Class(es) as well,

Participate in Worshipping the LORD God Almighty – Father, Son and Holy, Spirit - with your children each Sunday,

Help us re-establish the music ministry with adult, children's and contemporary choirs and groups,

Participate in the variety of Missions, Outreach, Fund-Raisers, and other Works of Zion congregation.

It's easy to understand that when a family visits Zion and sees many of our families and children involved, that they will be encouraged to return. But if they don't see this, they most likely will never return a gain.

To make the Welcome Wagon outreach effective, we need you to be active and living members of Zion.

Likewise, I, Pastor Darrell, will be retiring soon. Zion will be searching for a new pastor. Many have expressed the desire to have a young pastor and family with young children, in order to more effectively relate to and reach young families with children. When a pastoral candidate comes to check out Zion and sees our young families involved, it will sway them towards us. If not, it will sway them away from us.

The future of our congregation is in your hands (feet and participation), or lack thereof. It is time for you to step up to full participation and involvement - for the sake of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, of our congregation, and of your very self.

Our Evangelical heritage calls you to "*seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,*" (**Matthew 6:33**) (Evangelical Catechism question number 1). Of all the competing priorities in your life, choose the Lord God as number One.

The LORD promises that "*You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart,*" (**Jeremiah 29:13**). "*All*" is the same as "*first,*" making the Worship and Service of the LORD number One in your life.

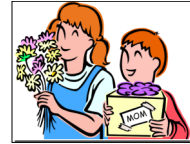
So, join us in Worship and Serving our Lord Jesus Christ, building up His Church (**Ephesians 4:12, 16**), and making disciples of all nations for Him (**Matthew 28:19-20**).

Lenten / Confirmation / Easter Service Attendance

Below is the attendance for our Lenten, Confirmation, and Easter Services. Covid hit March 20, 2020, and we switched to online services till May 31. So online attendance (/ in italics) has been added.

We had a significant downturn in attendance, even though we had the biggest confirmation class in the last 5 years. This sign doesn't bode well for the future of our congregation.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Lent	114 / 117	120 / 141	207 / 36	198 / 24	165 / 19
Confirm-ands	1	3	3	1	4
Presentation Sunday	0 / 61	68 / 17	90 / ?	88 / 11	70 / 6
Palm / Conf. Sunday	0 / 53	112 / 20	97 / 13	98 / 11	90 / 4
Easter	0 / 155	143 / 34	153 / 4	166 / 11	156 / 7



Mother's Day, May 12

Mother's Day (May 12) is a special day to honor our MOTHERS, which is in accord with the fifth commandment (Exodus 20:12, "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you"). We will lift up our mothers as well as our women of faith in Worship and give each of them a gift of love to show our appreciation.

I encourage you to open your Bible to Proverbs 31:10-31 and read it. Listed below are just 2 of the verses (28-29) listed above:

*"Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:
'Many women do noble things, but you surpass.'"*

Mother's Love (author unknown)

*Her love is like an island In life's ocean, vast and wide,
A peaceful, quiet shelter From the wind, the rain, the tide.
'Tis bound on the North by Hope, By Patience on the West,
By tender Counsel on the South And on the East by Rest.
Above it like a beacon light Shine Faith, and Truth, and Prayer;
And through the changing scenes of life I find a haven there.*

Pentecost - Sunday, May 19



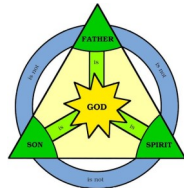
Pentecost is 50 days after Passover (in the Old Testament), which has been superseded by Good Friday / Easter (in the New Testament).

In the Old Testament, God's people gathered at Mt. Sinai and received the gift of God's Law (Exodus 19-20). In the New Testament, followers of Jesus gathered in the Upper Room and received the gift of the Holy Spirit - who writes the Law of God upon the hearts of Jesus' followers (Acts 2).

Come to worship on May 19 as we celebrate Pentecost. Come and be filled with the Holy Spirit. For the Holy Spirit alone brings life and a passionate zeal to live for Jesus Christ. We the people of Zion desperately need Him if we are to have a future as a congregation.

John 3:5 (ESV) "Jesus answered, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.'"

Ephesians 5:17-20 (ESV) "... Understand what the will of the Lord is. ... be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."



Trinity / Memorial Sunday, May 26

Come to worship on May 26 as we celebrate Trinity and Memorial Sunday.

Trinity Sunday celebrates the Tri-Unity of God – One God in Three Persons (Father, Son, Holy Spirit). Even though the word "Trinity" is not in the Bible the truth that God is Triune is in the Bible, see the Evangelical Catechism article below.

We will also celebrate Memorial Sunday, honoring those who gave their lives in service to the United States, through our Military – Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Marines and Air Force.

**The Evangelical Catechism
Traditional Orthodox Edition of 1896**

I am continuing the series of articles on the 1896 edition of the Evangelical Catechism, republished in modern English by the Evangelical Association in 2018. This article covers the 19th of 52 weeks in the catechism. This continues the section on the Christian Faith. Weeks 14 through 19 focus on describing God's character and nature.

Week 19 is composed of question 53.

53. What mystery about God does the Bible reveal unto us?

The Bible teaches us that in the one God there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and that these three are One. Matthew 28:19; Numbers 6:24-26; 2 Corinthians 13:14

Evangelical Fundamentals, Part 2 adds this explanation.

2024 Millstadt Community VBS
Zion Evangelical Church
 117 W. White St. Millstadt, IL 62260
 (618) 476-1778
June 10th - 14th, 8:45 - noon
 3 years of age thru 5th grade
 Cost: \$15 first child; \$10 second child; \$5 for third child
 Pre-register by **May 28th** to receive a free Scuba VBS T-Shirt
 Adult and Youth (6th grade and up) Helpers always Welcomed

Water Slide on Friday!!!
Closing Program at noon on Friday, June 14th
Call 618-476-1778 for details

Zion Evangelical Church 117 W. White St. Millstadt, IL 62260
zion@zionmillstadt.com www.zionmillstadt.com (618) 476-1778

2024 Millstadt Community Scuba Vacation Bible School
 June 10th - 14th
 Monday - Friday: 8:45 - noon
 Closing Program at noon on Friday, June 14th

(more details to follow)
 3 years of age thru 5th grade
 Cost: \$15 first child; \$10 second child; \$5 for third child
 New friends • Amazing experiments • Creative games • Super-fun snacks • Surprising adventures • Incredible music

Water Slide on Friday!
 Pre-register by **May 28th** to receive a free Scuba VBS T-Shirt
 Adult and Youth (6th grade and up) Helpers always Welcomed

It would be very helpful to have this form returned to us as soon as possible to aid us in planning for VBS and to expedite registration on the first day. We're looking forward to having your child join us!

Parent(s): _____
 Street: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Relationship to child: _____
 Phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ E-mail: _____
 Second Contact Person, if any: _____ Relationship to child: _____
 Phone of second contact: _____
 Church affiliation, if any: _____

1. Child's name: _____ Tee Shirt Size: _____
 Grade Completed: _____ Date of Birth: _____
 My child would like to be with his/her friend: _____
 Allergies/pertinent medical issues: _____

2. Child's name: _____ Tee Shirt Size: _____
 Grade Completed: _____ Date of Birth: _____
 My child would like to be with his/her friend: _____
 Allergies/pertinent medical issues: _____

Available Shirt Sizes: YXS, YS, YM, YL, YXL, AS, AM, AL, AXL, A2X, A3X
 Put additional children on back



ATTENDANCE: Council members present were President Kurt Pellmann, Vice-President Annette Hund, Sherry Wynn, Treasurer Barb Scharf, Secretary Betty Ann Keller Timmer, Joshua Seidlitz, Andrew Taake, Kurt Tegtmeier and Office Administrator Amanda Friedrich; Pastor Darrell Weber joined the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Kurt P. called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and Josh gave an opening prayer.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Amanda had emailed copies of the Treasurer's Report and Missions Report to members prior to the meeting, and copies of both were also available at the meeting. Amanda noted that we had received a bill from Wolfmeier Trucking for a delivery of rock to the Freivogel Cemetery during 2017. Another noted expense was the annual elevator inspection, which cost \$675. A motion was made by Andrew, and seconded by Sherry to approve the Treasurer's Report; motion carried. Council approved the addition of Robert Stumpf's name to the In Loving Trust Window.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The March 11, 2024 minutes were reviewed by Council. A motion was made by Sherry and seconded by Barb to approve the minutes; motion carried.

RENEWING ZION CHURCH: Betty reported that she had contacted Welcome Wagon concerning their program for welcoming new residents to a community. She gave a brief report on how the program works, as well as the monthly cost. After some discussion, a motion was made by Sherry and seconded by Josh to start with Welcome Wagon, using money from the Irma Hecke Fund to pay the fees and other expenses associated with the program; motion carried. Also under "Renewing Zion Church", Kurt T. asked if we could get Jawaun Pearson, who has been a soloist for Sunday worship in the past, to possibly start a youth choir; others asked if he would be interested in working with the Sunday School students and have them then sing during Sunday worship once a month. Josh will check with Jawaun to see if that would be possible.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit & Budget. (Barb Scharf). No report at this time.
Long Range Ministry (Andrew Taake). Andrew led the discussion on the Corn Hole Tournament, which is set for Sunday May 19 at 1:00 p.m. in the Church Park. The tournament will consist of two-person teams, at a cost of \$5 per participant, using a single elimination format. May 12 will be the deadline for registrations. We will be advertising to the community, as well as the congregation. First, second and third place winners will receive a cash prize.

Pastor Darrell joined the meeting at this point.

BCE Report: The BCE has not met other than planning for Vacation Bible School on March 17. Another planning meeting is set for April 14, after Worship. Pastor Darrell stated that "everything is falling into place for VBS". We have all of the adult positions filled. Letters have been sent to families of past attendees, Sunday School children, and Zion Pre-School students.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Darrell had sent his Pastor's Report of his activities for the previous month to Council members. He visited with several Zion members who are either in care facilities or at home prior to Easter. He participated in two Evangelical Association licensure interviews during March; he will be participating in the installation of EA Rev. Jim Allen at Trinity Evangelical Church in Mt. Vernon, IN on April 21. Pastor Gary Franke will lead Worship at Zion that day. Pastor Darrell will be leading a group from Zion to attend the EA Regional Meeting at Femme Osage UCC Church, near Augusta, MO, on April 13, as well as the EA National Convocation at Eden Church in Edwardsville, IL on September 20-21. A motion to accept Pastor Darrell's report was made by Barb, and seconded by Sherry; motion carried.

Missions & Outreach. (Betty Keller Timmer). Amanda had distributed the 2024 mission report, which showed that we had received \$1242.10 in mission donations during March.

Staff/Parish Relations. (Darren Doerr). Darren was unable to attend the meeting, but he had emailed a report. He said everyone seems to be happy with the new custodian, Dean, who said that he was "good" with keeping the pay at \$90 per week. If anyone notices something that he's missing, please let Darren know and he will pass the information on to Dean.

Property & Long Range. (Josh Seidlitz). Josh said that the leak in the Educational Building had been fixed. However, the plaster in the Conference Room as well as Pastor Darrell's office is in need of some repairs. Josh will check to see if someone in the congregation can repair the plaster.

Volunteer Ministries. (Sherry Wynn). No Report at this time.

Worship & Music. (Annette Hund). No Report at this time.

Cemetery Board. (Kurt Tegtmeier). Andrew has begun mowing at the Baltz Cemetery.

OLD BUSINESS:

Scrubber Update. Mike Germann had told Kurt P. that the scrubber had been delivered and assembled. Mike is hoping to schedule a training session for either this week or next week.

Sealing the Church Parking Lot. Kurt P. asked if the Church parking lot should be resealed this year. Council agreed, and Kurt P. will speak to Ted Moore to get on their schedule for this spring.

NEW BUSINESS:

Easter Breakfast: We had 50 people attend the Easter Breakfast. Andrew suggested that we might try something different for next year – breakfast casseroles, donuts and fruit.

Cake Stand at Firemen's Picnic: Sherry announced that the Firemen's Picnic is scheduled for June 7 and 8. We will again have a cake stand there, and are hoping for 150 cakes. St. James Church will loan us their stands and wheel for the event.

Meeting Adjourned: There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Andrew, and seconded by Barb to adjourn the meeting at 8:10p.m. Motion carried. Everyone joined hands to close with the Lord's Prayer.

Kurt Pellmann – President
Annette Hund – Vice-president
Barb Scharf – Assistant Treasurer
Betty Ann Keller Timmer – Secretary

The Bible *reveals* the mystery of the Trinity but does not *explain* it.
Numbers 6:24-26 (ESV) "*The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*" Note: "**LORD**" is mentioned 3 times.

Matthew 3:16-17 (ESV) "*And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'*" Note: "**Jesus**" – "*my beloved Son*", "*Spirit of God*" and "*a voice from heaven*" – the Father are mentioned together.

Matthew 28:19 (ESV) "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*" Again "**Father**," "**Son**" and "**Holy Spirit**" are mentioned together.

2Corinthians 13:14 (ESV) "*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*" Again "**Jesus Christ**," "**God**" – the Father and "**Holy Spirit**" are mentioned together.

Numerous other verses can also be appealed to. To deny the Trinity means to deny the divinity of Jesus Christ and therefore *the supreme and central truth of the Christian faith*. Jesus himself said, "*I and the Father are one*" (John 10:30). The redemption through Jesus Christ is accepted by the individual through the instrumentality of the Holy Spirit, and according to Bible teachings *all three persons of the Trinity are of equal rank and enjoy the same attributes*.



Pastor's Vacation, May 17-20 & May 24-27

Pastor Darrell and Marjie will be on vacation Friday through Monday, May 17-20 and May 24-27. We plan to be camping at Dam West on Carlyle Lake and putting our Pontoon boat into the slip at West Access Marina. We will be back in time for Sunday School and Worship on both Sunday's as well as the Cornhole Tournament in the afternoon of May 19.

Worship in the Park – Sunday, June 2

On Sunday, June 2, we will Worship in the Church Park (note the time - *at 11:00 a.m.* - and the location – *at the Church Park*, just south of town at *840 S Jefferson St.*). Note: Bring your lawn chairs to worship.



After worship, we will have a picnic in the park. Council will provide the meat, bread, condiments, paper plates, plastic ware, napkins, lemonade, ice tea, and water. So just bring a side dish to share. If your last name begins with the letter A thru H, then bring a dessert, if it begins with the letter I thru Z, then bring a side dish.

A variety of games & activities for the kids and adults are being planned. So plan on enjoying a wonderful day at our Park, worshipping and praising our Lord God, and enjoying good fellowship, food, and fun with brothers and sisters in Christ.

PS - Please bring a canned good or another item for Millstadt's Food Pantry.



Summer Worship in the Park - June 9 to September 1

Worship in the Park is so successful that Zion's Council has decided to return to the Park for this summer - June 9 to September 1 (Labor Day weekend). Summer Worship is at 9:00 a.m. at Zion Church Park (*just South of town at 840 S Jefferson St.*). In case of rain or other bad weather we will meet at the Church.

Join us as we "**Praise the LORD from the earth,**" (**Psalm 148:7ff**). Indeed, read all of **Psalm 148** as inspiration to Worship Him in the Park He has given to us. Bring a lawn chair and bring your family and friends. Invite your family and friends. Then go on your way and enjoy the Lord's Day.

Vacation Bible School – June 10-14

Summer Vacation Bible School (VBS) plans are in the works. Our theme this year is Group's "**Scuba**." We will be "*diving into friendship with God*." We will learn that "*God is a friend who's real,*" "*God is a friend who loves,*" "*God is a friend we can trust,*" "*God is a friend forever,*" and "*God is a friend for everyone.*" VBS is scheduled for June 10-14.

We are recruiting youth and adult helpers. Please contact the Church office to volunteer to help. And please keep our VBS and its needs and outreach efforts in your thoughts and prayers. More details to come.

The following decorating dates and times have been set:

- Th, May 9, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Tu, May 14, 1:00 - 3:00 pm
- W, May 15, 1:00 - 3:00 pm
- Tu, May 21, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- W, May 22, from 9:00 - 11:00 am
- Th, May 30, from 9:00 - 11:00 am
- Sa, June 8, from 9:00 - 11:00 am
- Su, June 9, from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - if needed



We are the
Hands of Christ



Missions Article for May

Our May mission is **Feed My Starving Children**, (www.fmsc.org) **Feeding kids. Feeding spirits. Empowering communities.** Every year, millions of children die from preventable causes such as pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria, and undernutrition. Hunger is still causing nearly half of deaths in children under 5 years old. From this data, we estimate at least 6,200 children die each day from causes related to undernutrition. This is heartbreaking

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) believes hope starts with food. As a Christian nonprofit, FMSC is dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. FMSC works with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long haul, empowering them to move from relief to development.

FMSC meals are developed by food science and nutrition professionals to supplement nutritional needs and reduce problems with malnutrition. Nutrition allows children to grow, thrive, and develop to their full potential.

FMSC's MISSION - Feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit.

THE APPROACH - Our process is simple. Donations given by people just like you fund the meal ingredients. Volunteers hand-pack the meals. Meals are donated to FMSC food partners around the world, where kids are fed and lives are saved!

Since our founding in 1987, Feed My Starving Children has given hope in Jesus' name in the form of nutritious Manna Pack meals to so many who are hungry around the world. We ask His blessing and your support in the years ahead as we continue on, until all are fed.

Thank you for your generous support of our April mission, **Compassion International**. We support 6-year-old Derick from Guatemala and 8-year-old Johayris from the Dominican Republic. Our support totals \$86 a month, for a total of \$1,032 a year.

We also want to thank those members who never fail to bring food and household items for the **Food Pantry**. Bless you for helping the less fortunate with their needs. Be sure to bring your food and household items to church and place them in the collection box.

Thank you for your generous support of Zion's missions.



We have continued to work on the Yard Sale, which is May 4th.

They guys made repairs on the mower used at the cemeteries. They also changed the oil on the mower.

Thanks to Andrew Taake for donating bags of mulch for the playground area.

The water line in the Park is now being installed to the shed.

Gary Shondy

**PRESCHOOL
REGISTRATION**

We are currently accepting registrations for our 2024-2025 preschool year. Enrollment is limited to children who will be 3 or 4 by September 1, and who are fully potty trained.

Sessions Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:15 to 11:15 a.m.

Monthly fee: \$210
Non-refundable registration fee of \$50 and one time supply fee of \$50

Call the Church Office at (618) 476-1778 for more information.



Please keep the Fellowship Park and Hall in mind for your upcoming events. Call the office or stop by for a reservation form today!

**Upcoming
EVENTS**

Yard Sale	May 4th
Sisters in Faith Spring Luncheon	May 8th
Church in the Park/Picnic	June 2nd
VBS	June 10-14th
Start of Summer Worship Schedule	June 9th
Z Team BBQ	June 30th



**Sisters in Faith
April 4, 2024**

- * There were seventeen ladies in attendance and Pastor Darrell. After Pastor blessed the meal. We were treated to a delicious lunch of roast beef with vegetables, fresh homemade rolls, and veggie pizza. Susie Leinicke and Marjie Weber provided lunch.
- * Kay read a devotion about the Passion of Christ.
- * Pastor gave his report. He is looking forward to the eclipse on Monday, April 8th. Letters were sent out to get volunteers to help at this year's VBS. (June 10 – 14) The garage sale will be held on Saturday, May 4th. That same day, in the afternoon, the wedding of Mallory & Cody Funk will take place at Zion. There was a scam text sent to several members of the congregation seeming to be from Pastor Darrell.
- * Most everyone recognized that it was a scam, and no harm was done.
- * Linda Hopfinger read the minutes from the March meeting, and they were approved. We had a Thank You note from the Stumpf family for serving Bob's funeral luncheon.
- * Carol Harres gave her treasurer's report. The checking account balance as of 3/3/24 is \$7,280.43. The certificate of deposit is \$2,043.89 and will be rolled over on April 8th. The report was approved.
- * Committee Reports:
- * Kitchen: All is good
- * No bereavement report.
- * Cre8tive Souls: Patti French continues to send Get Well and Thinking of You cards.
- * Barb Savering sends Sympathy cards and Elaine Morris sends Birthday and Anniversary cards.
- * Old Business:
- * St. James Luncheon is April 11th. Several Zion ladies are planning to attend.
- * Debbie Doerr and Kay Mehrtens will provide the May SIF meeting lunch.
- * We will need help to organize garage sale items. Workdays will be announced.
- * Folding chairs for Fellowship Hall have not been ordered yet. Charlotte and Linda are working on this project.
- * So far, we have taken in \$82.00 in quilt chance tickets.
- * New Business
- * Spring Luncheon is May 8th. Ginger has purchased the divided plates for the meal and ice cream cups. Carol Harres has ordered the colored napkins. Connie DeRousse will order the drinking cups. Ginger will also be taking care of the table covers and placemats. At last meeting we chose Jello as one of our meal sides. It was thought that a fresh fruit cup would be more appropriate. A motion was made and seconded to serve the fresh fruit cup. Motion carried. Marjie Weber will order the clear cups for the fruit. Darlene Gansmann will get the lemonade. Linda Hopfinger will purchase the fresh fruit. Charlotte has some rolls of tickets she will donate for our attendance prizes.
- * Carol Harres and Linda Hopfinger will provide attendance prize boxes.
- * Today's attendance prizes go to Linda Hopfinger and Connie DeRousse.
- * Birthdays for April:
- * Charlotte Mehrtens
- * Betty Keller Timmer
- * Darlene Gansmann
- * Annette Hund
- * Meeting adjourned with our song.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Hopfinger, Secretary



Katelyn Allen
Wesley Hale
Josephina Riemann
Ella Weaver

Congratulations on your
Confirmation!
May you hold the love for Jesus Christ
in your heart forever!

2024
Class of
CONGRATS!

Congratulations to all our Graduates!
Preschool, kindergarten, grade school, high school, and college!
Congratulations on a job well done!

Join us for a
Cornhole Tournament!

Sunday May 19th at 12:30 p.m. Games begin at 1:00 p.m.
Zion Park 840 S. Jefferson Street
\$5/person, paid at the event
Cash Prizes for top 3 teams!
Bring your own drinks and snacks
Call/Text Andrew (618) 973-1006 to reserve a spot by May 12th

Church Yard Sale

Saturday, May 4th
8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Looking to declutter your home?
Send unwanted items our way.
Drop off Tuesday mornings or call the Church office (476-1778)
to schedule a pickup for bigger items.
Zion Church is located at:
117 West White Street, Millstadt

Save the Date!
June 7th & 8th
Cake Stand at The Fireman's Picnic
Goal - 150 cakes
More details to come...

Worship and Picnic in the Park
Faith & Fellowship Sunday, June 2nd
11:00 a.m.
Church Park: 840 S. Jefferson St

What to bring:
Lawn chairs
Dessert (last name A-H) or
Side Dish (last name I-Z)
Something to drink

Join us for Worship in the Park on Sunday, June 2nd at 11:00 a.m. followed by a church picnic. Meat, paper products, cutlery, condiments, lemonade, iced tea and water will be provided. There will be a variety of games and activities for young and old - please plan on joining us for fun and fellowship!

In case of hospitalization or surgery, please notify our church office. When being admitted to a hospital, be sure to mention that you are affiliated with this congregation. This will help us keep you in our prayers and assist you in our ministry of care.

IN THE HOSPITAL IN MAY

CURRENT PRAYER LIST

Pray for strength and healing for the following:

Steve & Gerry Albert, Donna Altemeier, Brayden Baer, Arik Barnes, Linda Barth, Wanda Basse, Marilyn Beil, Roche Beine, Trish Bell, Cindy Bertelsmann, Roberta Billhartz, Lindsay Bourn and Family, Baby Levi Boyle, Joyce Brand, Shirley Brandenburger, Toby Brown, Jamie Case, Steve Crook, Colsen Davinroy, Roger Davis, Family of Maria DeJesus Mejia, Ann Dietrich, Melissa Dietrich, Bill Ditch, Arlene Dohrman, Annie Dulle, Mark Eckman, Mark Emring, Linda Eurgil, Fritz Fritzing, Marilyn Gallagher, Lynn Gass, Brenda Goudey, Mary (Boerke) Graham, Pearl Griebel, Adalyn Harres, Carol & Jim Haury, Rich Heitz, Gary Helfrich, Jack Higgins, Willie Holdener, Charlotte Hoock, Mary Hund, Daryl Jones, Gary & Sharon Jones, Steve Jones, Travis Jones, Joyce Kasper, Jeff Kistner, Billy Klopmeier, Scott (Barbara Knoth's Son), Jim Kostelac, Elizabeth Koval, Tom & Renee Kreher, Kathy Kuehner, Connie Mack, Erin Mahoney, Dianne Mehrmann, Charlotte Mehrrens, Jan Morrin, Elaine Morris, Lance Morris, Anna Belle Muskopf, Dean Norrenbern, Andrea Nunnally, Karen O'Donnell, Jim O'Saben, Jerry Obst, Loraine Obst, Baby Ariela Oliver, Pat Parrish (Wayne Jones's Sister), Janet Pauketat, Don Pellmann, Mari Pellmann, Stephanie Poletti, Josie Potter, Lois Potter, Bruce Reese, Lucille Reece, Dottie Rickard, Rich Riemann, Donna Ritson, Shelby Ruckreigel, Jim Savering's Family (Bill Savering's Cousin), Jan & Cindy Schneider, Ron Schroeder, Jim Scott, Mitch Scott, Sheila Seagal, Janice Seidnitz, Nancy Smith, Shelly Smith, Mike Speichinger, Edgar Stallmann, Willis & Doris Steiger, Mary Stevenson, Steve Tade, Ray Teliczan, Mike Toenjes, Lillian Tracy, Elizabeth Tubbs, Baby Ty, Lacey Grace Valentine, Mark Vandermyde, Bill & Donna Ward, Andi Weber, Joan Wilkins, Jeffrey Willey, Jim Wilshire, Crue Wilson, Bart & Kelley.

SERVING OUR COUNTRY Sgt. Anthony Hanson, Jr., Kenny Wolf, Brandon Lester, Kasey Davis, Joe Morris, Kory Klein and Michael Barnes, Erin Green, Adam Stern, and Derek Ferguson serving overseas; Samantha Glaeser, Jesse Eimer, Jason Parrish, Chris Lewis, Sharon Wirth, Al Wirth, Joshua Trent, and Tristen & Stefan Caswell serving in the States.

To add a name to our prayer list, please locate a communication card in the pews. Provide the name, address, phone, and reason for the prayer request - place the card in the offering plate or give it to an usher. You may also contact the church office between 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. weekdays or by leaving a message on our answering machine. Members of our prayer team will pray daily for everyone on our list. (Contact Barbara Hohlt for more information (476-1750)). **Names will be left on the list for one month unless you contact Barbara Hohlt or the church office.**

If you would like to receive prayer chain information via e-mail, contact Barb Hohlt at barbhohlt@aol.com

Meal-a-Month Schedule

Let us not forget those who are less fortunate. There never seems to be an end to those who are in dire need. Your help is appreciated.

May cornbread mix canned vegetables paper towels Jello or pudding	June laundry supplies cake mixes/frosting Hamburger Helper	The Food Pantry is always looking for volunteers. Please consider donating your time to this worthy cause. Call Patti French at 618-660-4255 to sign up.
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Treasurer's Report

2024	GENERAL FUND - Updated Version					
	2024 INCOME	2024 EXPENSE	difference	BUDGET 2024	2023 INCOME	2023 EXPENSE
January	\$39,247.55	\$26,950.00	\$ 12,297.55	\$ 22,006.00	\$19,575.07	\$27,228.77
February	\$60,341.26	\$19,664.53	\$ 40,676.73	\$ 22,006.00	\$19,135.11	\$29,700.64
March	\$27,123.69	\$26,135.08	\$ 988.61	\$ 22,006.00	\$17,094.66	\$19,708.48
April			\$ -	\$ 22,006.00	\$30,417.21	\$28,239.45
May			\$ -	\$ 22,006.00	\$15,956.14	\$34,598.97
June			\$ -	\$ 22,006.00	\$9,208.61	\$16,591.59
July			\$ -	\$ 22,006.00	\$23,961.75	\$36,382.84
August			\$ -	\$ 22,006.00	\$18,685.51	\$15,040.61
September			\$ -	\$ 22,006.00	\$17,977.92	\$21,911.42
October			\$ -	\$ 22,006.00	\$22,409.09	\$24,934.93
November			\$ -	\$ 22,006.00	\$28,167.36	\$24,257.77
December			\$ -	\$ 22,006.00	\$53,732.24	\$23,060.70
TOTALS	\$ 126,712.50	\$ 72,749.61	\$ 53,962.89	\$ 264,072.00	\$ 276,320.67	\$ 301,656.17



May Birthdays




Lucy Mehtens	05/01	Dominic Caponi	05/15
Darren Gruenewald	05/06	Jodi Stumpf	05/15
Eric Wolfmeier	05/07	Jeri Arnold	05/16
Stephen French	05/08	Regena Pauketat	05/19
David Harres	05/10	Christopher French	05/20
Lester French	05/10	Kurt Tegtmeier	05/20
Wayne Muskopf	05/12	Robert Yagge	05/22
Alex Pellmann	05/13	Charlene Faulbaum	05/24
Brian Smallwood	05/14	Logan Weaver	05/24
Debbie Gibson	05/14	Adam Hubbs	05/26
Roger Keim	05/14	Rachel Little	05/28



Strawberry Icebox Cake

- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 3 cups heavy cream, divided
- 1 T vanilla extract
- 1 T lemon zest
- 20 graham crackers
- 1 1/2 lb. strawberries, sliced
- 1/2 cup slivered almonds



Beat cream cheese until smooth, add sugar and beat. Add 1 cup of heavy cream and beat until smooth. Add remaining 2 cups of heavy cream and beat at medium high speed until soft peaks form. Fold in vanilla and lemon zest. Spoon 1/4 cup of mixture in a 9x9 pan. Top with graham crackers in single layer. Spread 1 1/2 cups of cream over crackers. Top with an even layer of strawberries and almonds. Repeat once more. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate at least 4 hours or overnight. Enjoy!

MONTH	ONLINE AVE. 2024	IN PERSON AVE. 2024
January	9	66
February	10	63
March	6	96
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
Christmas Eve		
Year-to-Date	8	75

Oak Hill Nursing Home
Shirley Brandenburger
Pearl Griebel

Our Lady of the Snows
Betty Baltz

Garden Place at Millstadt
Marianne Baltz
Marilyn Beil
Dianne (Muskopf) Mehrmann
Dottie Rickard

The Atrium of Belleville
John Kalbfleisch

The Villas of Holly Brook
Don Mueller

Freeburg Care Center
Arlene Dohrmann

**AMERICAN RED CROSS
BLOOD DRIVE**
2024 SCHEDULE
WEDNESDAYS

ST. JAMES
MAY 29, 2024
JULY 24, 2024
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

VFW
NOVEMBER 13, 2024

To schedule an appointment
1-800-733-2767 or
visit RedCrossBlood.org
Bring Photo ID



 REMEMBER AND HONOR