

MT. ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



2017 NEWSLETTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of my favorite movies to watch in the fall is "You've Got Mail". It's the story of two New Yorkers who met online and have a strictly email relationship. In one of the opening scenes, Joe sends Kathleen the following email; "Don't you love New York in the fall? It makes me want to buy school supplies. I would send you a bouquet of newly sharpened pencils if I knew your name and address."

September always makes me want to buy school supplies too! I remember the first day of school how satisfying it was to organize my desk and lay out all my new markers and notebooks and freshly sharpened pencils, ready to learn. Never mind that in about a month said markers would be dried out, my notebooks would be decimated and my pencils would be lost!

I miss back to school day. My last first day of school was in the winter of 2009 when I started my last semester of Seminary. That semester I took Systematic Theology, Preaching 3, The Prophets and a class on Stewardship. I remember feeling like I was so ready to be done with school. Ready to find my first job as a pastor, ready to leave behind learning and start doing.

This fall I have two kids starting school! Now obviously I don't have to buy any school supplies for Baby Petey but for the first time, as I've gotten Rosie ready for a new school year, I have another child to get back-to-school clothes for and we must meet a new teacher and start a new routine.

Peter is 3 months old now, but is just starting day care. We could wait because of the care and generosity that you at Mt. Zion gave our family. I want to take this opportunity to say, "Thank you, Thank you!" Thank you for the maternity leave and thank you for allowing me to use my vacation time to come back at part time for a few weeks. Anyone who is a parent knows how important and special those early months are and I am so grateful that you allowed me time to settle into being a parent of two kids.

But now, I am back to work full time and things are ready to get going. It may not be back to school time for me, but it feels a little like back to work! It feels a bit like a new start, a new year and a new beginning. I am busy these days lining up my newly sharpened pencils and getting ready for a busy fall celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. It feels good to be back!

Blessings, Pastor Erin

Pastor Erin

RETURN TO FALL SCHEDULE

**Beginning Sunday,
September 10**

**Mt. Zion returns to two services
8:15 am & 10:30 am**

Office hours beginning
September 11
Tuesday - Friday
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

YOUTH & FAMILY



THE POWER OF PRAYER

One of the privileges of being part of the body of Christ is the opportunity to share in the joy and the sorrow of others. If you have a special prayer request or would like to place someone on the prayer chain, please call the church office at (715) 386-5409 or the prayer chain coordinator, Joyce Johnson, and we will make sure to add that person to our prayer list.

We have two prayer chains at Mt. Zion,

- 1) You receive a phone call with the prayer concern.
- 2) You receive an email with the prayer concern.

If you would like to be a part of either of these "chains", please call the office and indicate which would be your preference.

Thank You

THE GIFT OF MUSIC

Thank you to the following people who provided music this summer during our Sunday Worships...

Carl Meincke*, Ella Adams, Stella Stanton,
Maya O'Keefe, Claire Hoier,
Craig Gustafson, Maggie Gustafson,
Deb Fristad, Dennis Opland, Sofia Gigure,
Steve Gerds, Robin Arneson,
Michaela Arneson, Chris Gustafson,
Linda Yde, Sean Maysack,
John McConville, Mark Romzek,
The Psalmodikon's, Einar Hanson
& Paul Huff!

*who also coordinated all musicians!

**A Big Thank you from the congregation
for lending your talents to our Worships!**



HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITATION NOTICE

Pastor Erin is always more than happy to visit anyone who is homebound or in a hospital or a nursing home (or for any other reason). Just let her know! Pastor Erin isn't always aware of who is ill or homebound and would appreciate your help. If you would like a visit for any reason, please contact Pastor Erin and ask for one.

For privacy reasons, Pastor Erin asks that you or an immediate family member request a visit. Please do not rely on a friend or neighbor. Lots of people are private about their medical concerns. For that reason, Pastor Erin would appreciate a personal request for visits.

Please, let Pastor Erin know if you need a visit! She would love to serve in any way possible.

Please contact the church office (715) 386-5409 or send Pastor an email at pastor@mtzionhudson.com

Thank You!

Dave and I owe a great big thank you once again to our family at Mt Zion. You can't imagine how uplifting it has been during this summer of illness to have so many of your friendly faces visit at the hospital, bring gifts, provide meals, send amazing cards of hope, and especially for all the prayers that guided us back to health. It is truly a blessing to belong to the Mt Zion family.

Jackie and Dave Anderson

YOUTH & CONFIRMATION

TONE CHIMES

Beginning Monday, September 11



We are looking for people with a passion and an ear for music to join us on Monday Evenings at TONE CHIMES at 7:00 pm in the lower level!

We practice weekly (taking breaks for Christmas and Easter) and add our music to Sunday worship once a month.

We are in need to 3 people to fill the spots of members who will not be able to rejoin us this fall!

9th Grade to 90 years old are all welcome!



DONUTS AND DISCUSSION IS BACK!

Hey Middle School Youth & Friends!
Join us for Donuts and

Discussion this fall during the Sunday school hour 9:20-10:15 am in the lower level of the church.

There will be new exciting games, activities and discussions coming this Fall including.... food!



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MUFFIN BUNCH -Sept. 10

"For where two or three Gather in my name, there am I with them."

Muffin Bunch will continue this fall led by the one and only Karen Gigure!
In September, there will be one Muffin Bunch on Sunday, September 10. After that, Muffin Bunch will continue twice a month starting in October. Watch emails & bulletins for dates. We will gather in the Commons at 9:10 am, and as a group, we will travel to Hudson Bagel for some Bonding and Bagels.

HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF & RALLY SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

You are invited to a family fun day to celebrate Rally Sunday.

Come and join us for a Fall Festival, Sunday, September 10 from 9:20-10:15 am outside (Weather permitting)!

Otherwise, we will meet in the lower level of the church.

RALLY DAY CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:30 am

At the 10:30 am service on September 10, we will be having a 45-minute children's worship service specifically designed for pre-school and elementary-age children which includes participation from the kids, skits, kid-friendly songs with actions, a couple of 5-minute teaching times with the pastor, offering, prayers, and more!

We will also be blessing our Sunday School teachers and blessing the backpacks of our new Kindergarten students!

Who can come? Everyone! Just because it's directed at kids, doesn't mean adults aren't welcome! But kids and families are especially urged to worship this day! Sunday School teachers will bring their classes to worship at the end of Rally Day Sunday School to meet their families. Kids will get lots of information on family and kid activities for the fall!

KINDERGARTEN BACKPACK BLESSING

Our members:

Vinny Nitti Amelia Spence
Lucy Stanton Aylah Tepper-Eng

have started or will start their 13-yr schooling journey and we will be celebrating this milestone with them at the 10:30 am service.

**If we have missed your Student, please let the office know.*

YOUTH & CONFIRMATION

Confirmation



6th, 7th and 8th Grade Confirmation Students, Parents and Mentors

Middle school aged youth meet for five weeks in September and October. Parents and mentors alternate taking turns attending classes with students. The material taught is on a three-year rotation. The focus this time around is on the Lord's Prayer.

Meal & Conversation 6:00 – 6:30 pm

Confirmation Class 6:30 – 7:30 pm

September 13 [Parents and Mentors]

September 20 [Mentors]

September 27 [Parents]

October 4 [Mentors]

October 11 [Parents]

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS FOR THE COMMUNITY

September Wednesday Night Meals:

Sept. 13 – POTLUCK

Sept. 20 – Anna Peterson

Sept. 27– **OPEN**

Oct. 4 – Pastor Erin Nelson

Oct. 11 – Holly O'Connell

**Meal Nights are open to the ENTIRE
congregation!**

Hey everyone - fall is quickly approaching and school has ALREADY started for some of our youth!!

We're gearing up for Networks' fall kickoff as well. Below you'll find a NEW schedule for our Middle and High School programs - Note time changes from last year. We're also planning for Breakout and Mishpack already, so make sure you keep on the lookout for information regarding those trips as well! As always, thanks for your support and please contact Aaron with any questions or concerns.

STARTING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Middle School Youth

4:30 - 5:50 pm at the Crossing Point (if your Middle Schooler needs a ride to make it to the program - please email Aaron

networksyouth@gmail.com

or call (715) 386-1446.

Senior High School Youth

6:00 - 9:30 pm at the Crossing Point

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept. 6 - Fall Kickoff

Nov. 15 - Networks Thanksgiving Dinner @
St. Paul's Episcopal

Dec. 20 - Networks Christmas Party



CONGREGATIONAL VOTE – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Between services at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall

Mt. Zion church council is requesting a vote from the congregation regarding our commitment to the NETworks Youth Program. The past few years we have funded the NETworks program from contributions from the Capital Campaign. Currently we have funds in the Capital Campaign to continue that funding through 2017. Starting in 2018, funding of this program will need to come out of the church general budget. We are asking you as a congregation to provide the final decision to continue to support this outreach and youth program. The special meeting will start with a short presentation by the council, followed by a short Q&A section, and finalized with a motion and approval for action. We hope to see everyone at this important meeting.

Thank you, Mt. Zion Church Council

MISHPACK 2017 WRAP UP



Networks has had a busy summer! Mishpack 2017 is in the books and it was an amazing experience for everyone who was involved. As you know we spent two weeks in the great state of Colorado - working with Habitat for Humanity and backpacking in the Lost Creek Wilderness. It really was an amazing trip and many of you helped to make it possible for all our students and adult leaders to make an impact for Jesus in our world. I want to give you just a brief recap of what happened and how your prayers and dollars helped make this a meaningful experience for everyone involved.

We left for Colorado on July 9th, after a great commissioning service held at Hillcity Church that morning. We've only been to Colorado once or twice before - so this was a newer adventure for all of us! We spent a week working in the St. Vrain Valley with their local Habitat chapter. We did landscaping, painting, sorting and site clean-up. Your students really rocked it, and you should be proud of their efforts.

We then took off into the mountains to hike the Goose Creek Trail in the Lost Creek Wilderness. A few of us had some issues with the altitude, so we didn't make it all the way around - but we had a great time. We spent 3 days in the mountains and then came out and headed back to Longmont. The last day before we came home we spent in Boulder, CO doing some sightseeing and shopping. It was a fun time, and the students all grew in their relationship with Jesus and with each other. I am excited to see how it all carries into the fall!

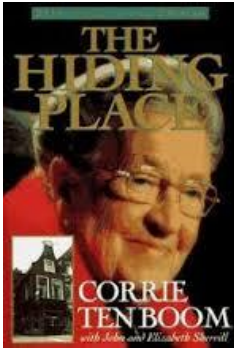
Speaking of the fall, we're about to kick off our programming for the new school year. We've adjusted our schedule to hopefully help students and volunteers to be able to be a part of our program more regularly. Our Middle School program will be meeting at the Crossing Point (220 Vine St.) from 4:30-5:50 pm on Wednesday nights. During this time, we'll have a snack, play some games, do some small group discussion, and sing a few songs. If you or someone you know wants to volunteer with Middle Schoolers, please have them contact Aaron.

Our High School program will meet from 6pm - 9:30 pm on Wednesdays, following the Middle School program. We will have dinner, a time to hang out and catch up, worship, small group discussion, some games and more. We're always looking for people to invest in the lives of our High School students as well, so feel free to come and join us some Wednesday night.

As I begin my second school year as Networks director, I am humbled and encouraged by the progress we've made. The program is growing and headed in a great direction. I want to thank the board members from all 4 churches, as well as all of you who attend the churches and give to make Networks a possibility. You are helping to impact the lives of students with the life-giving and life-changing message of Jesus. Together we ARE making a difference and changing lives and futures. Thank you for all the ways you support me and the program. I look forward to an amazing 2017-18 school year as we partner together.

Because He lives,
Aaron Steffen

OUTREACH



SEPTEMBER BOOK CLUB BOOK

"The Hiding Place"

By Corrie Ten Boom

Discussion on the book will be Monday, September 11 at 6:00 pm at Hudson Bagel.

"At one-time Corrie ten Boom would have laughed at the idea that there would ever be a story to tell. For the first fifty years of her life nothing at all out of the ordinary had ever happened to her. She was an old-maid watchmaker living contentedly with her spinster sister and their elderly father in the tiny Dutch house over their shop. Their uneventful days, as regulated as their own watches, revolved around their abiding love for one another. However, with the Nazi invasion and occupation of Holland, a story did ensue.

Corrie ten Boom and her family became leaders in the Dutch Underground, hiding Jewish people in their home in a specially built room and aiding their escape from the Nazis. For their help, all but Corrie found death in a concentration camp. The Hiding Place is their story."

Drop Your Drawers



September 10 will start our fall ...

"**DROP YOUR DRAWERS**" drive for the residents of Grace Place in New Richmond, WI.

Please consider bringing in new Socks or Undergarments for both youth and adults – male and female. There is a laundry basket in the Commons Marked...Drop Your Drawers Here!

Your true compassion for others once again shines for all to see!

MT. ZION'S BACKPACK MINISTRY



Nearly half of all families that come to food pantries have at least one employed person in the household.

Hunger is a serious concern for many Hudson families and statewide over half a million households do not have enough food for their family members to maintain a healthy active lifestyle. Hungry children are more apt to have poor health, behavioral problems, learning deficiencies and a host of other academic issues.

Mt. Zion partners with the United Methodist Church, the Hudson School District and E.P. Rock Elementary to provide a backpack of food items each Friday throughout the school year to ensure families have enough food to feed their children over the weekend when they don't have access to school food programs. Last year the Backpack Program provided weekend nourishment for 50 EP Rock households every week.

The first backpacks will be delivered to E.P. Rock the week following Labor Day. If you can, please pick up one of the green bags that will be in the fellowship hall and sign your name on the list. The list of required food items is placed inside the bag; the cost is approximately \$10/bag. Also, if you are interested in volunteering to help pack and distribute these backpacks please get in touch with Carol Gustafson (Backpack Coordinator) or Olive Olson (Chair of Mt. Zion's Outreach Committee).

Please contact the church at (715) 386-5409 or secretary@mtzionhudson.com if you need Carol or Olive's contact information.

secondMILE Haiti

Our mission is to care for the nutritional needs Haiti's most fragile children, while empowering their caregivers through education and small business opportunities.

Second Mile Haiti News

In the first 6 months of 2017, the following progress was made at Second Mile:

- **150 individuals were housed for holistic support**
- **64 critically ill children had their medical expenses paid**
- **16 received physical therapy on site**
- **221 graduates returned for 571 follow-up visits**
- **46 children recovered from severe acute malnutrition**

Now, recognizing that healthy pregnancies result in healthy babies, Second Mile has begun fund raising to build a maternity center to provide prenatal care and birthing services.

Our Second Mile group will meet again on Thursday, September 9. We will get updates, discuss other social justice issues and plan for our fall fundraiser- the annual chili feed on November 8. This year's bead ornament has been fashioned and will be featured at the event.

Come join us September 7 at 9:00 am at church.

To learn more about Second Mile Haiti – visit their website at
<http://www.secondmilehaiti.org/>

RALLY DAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2017
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP – 8:15

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30

We are having a 45-minute children's worship service specifically designed for pre-school and elementary-age children which includes participation from the kids, skits, kid-friendly songs with actions, a couple of 5-minute teaching times with the pastor, offering, prayers, and more!

2-YR OLD PRAYER BEARS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 10:30 service

Join us on Sunday, September 17 to celebrate a milestone event for some of our youngest members.

**Raylynn Blue, James Gerbozy,
Haïden Matzek & Oskar Poling**

will be presented with a small, soft hand-made bear to keep with them at night-time during prayers and in the morning to start their days. This is a way for us all to celebrate the promises made in baptism.

*If we have missed your child, please let the office know.

Pet Blessing



PET BLESSING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 10:30 service

Join us for a fun and furry worship service on September 24! Our late service will be a 30-minute outdoor service for you and your pet! Please bring your leashed or contained animals (all kinds welcome) for a fun service culminating in a blessing of your pet. If your pet doesn't do well in crowds, feel free to bring a picture to be blessed. It should be a great day celebrating God's creation and our animal friends.

HABITAT 2017 RECAP



God truly had a plan in mind for us this summer and it really threw us for a loop.

We had selected Barron County as our Habitat destination this summer, they had plans for a new build, were open to us building the walls, things were moving along great. Then in the middle of June we found out they hadn't yet selected a family and would not be ready for us on July 31st. So, what do we do? We've got people signed up for those dates; changing

the dates was not an option. A few members of the group called people they knew either with Habitat or other service organizations. Within a couple of weeks, we had a new option in Superior, but if we wanted to build the walls we would need to move quickly. We shifted gears towards a trip to Superior, moved up the wall building date and the walls were delivered by Ed, Gary and Floyd on June 23.



During the week, we had 20 people working at the job site. We finished setting the trusses, sheeted the roof, built the front porch, worked on getting the soffit on the outside and started building the interior walls. Plus, we also helped with a shed at a neighboring Habitat home that was just recently dedicated.

Brandon and Jessica, the soon to be home owners, have two children and Brandon is a double organ transplant recipient. It was an honor to work on their home.

We gave a \$2000 donation to the Habitat chapter and \$500 donation for the family that will go directly to Habitat to help with their down payment.

Thank you to the members of Mt. Zion. Whether you donated at Pizza Hut, the Easter breakfast, sponsored someone going on the trip or prayed for us during the week, without you we wouldn't have been able to do the work, or make the donations.

We truly are blessed by this congregation.
2017 Habitat participants



MILESTONES



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

1 - Paul Mahler
2 - Sierra Keyes
3 - Jim Gelina
Cory Spence

- 4 - Dennis Saathoff
5 - Mason Keyes
Andrew Stanek
10 - Daryl Jones
11 - Matthew Lardinois
Diwane Larson
Paul Melzer
12 - Richard Claybaker
Lorrie Jeske
Nancy Larson
Aylah Tepper-Eng
13 - Mykel Eickstadt
15 - Chuck Studelska
16 - Floyd Johnson
17 - Judy Meincke
19 - Einar Hanson
Nate Mulfort
Lois Tervo
21 - Cody Hines
22 - Stacy Tepper
Alyssa Tonsager
23 - Alexis Eickstadt
Lori Griffin
Katie Jones
Dylan Nitti
25 - Bill Peterson
26 - Lola Scott
28 - Dan Egan
29 - Dennis Opland
Abigail Romzek
30 - Jason Gigure

BAPTIZED IN SEPTEMBER



September 11 -
Amelia Stojan

September 12 –
Joan Christopher

September 18 - Christopher Matzek
Karen McConville

September 19 - Avery Anderson
Bill Johnson

September 23 - Emily Gerdts
Noah Gerdts



MARRIED IN SEPTEMBER

September 1 - Carl & Judy Meincke

September 16 - Jason & Lori Griffin

September 18 - William & Tracy Oswald

September 24 - Jacob & Kylee Jungbauer

September 25 - Ken & Donna Revoir

September 26 - Tyler & Kellie Feyereisen

September 27 - Cory & Shaina Spence

September 28 - Jonathan & Allie Jahubek

September 30 - Chris & Kristen Johnson

**If we are missing your milestone or have incorrect information, please contact the office and let us know*

HOSPITALITY TEAMS FOR SEPTEMBER

MISSION: *To provide a welcoming experience for all who walk through our doors*

**Schedule can be subject to change*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

9:00a – Hospitality Lead: Kristen Johnson

Hospitality Team:

Ushers: Jim & Linda Letourneau

Greeters: Don Kriegl & Sandy Huppert

Acolyte: Danny Brown

Reader: Kathy Hunter

Basket Holder: Rosie Nelson

Communion: Ellie Johnson

Bob Beckman

Cindy Beckman

Special Music: Sofia Gigure

Fellowship: Carol Gustafson

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

8:15a – Hospitality Lead: Jim Eral

Hospitality Team:

Ushers: Harley & Joan Saathoff

Greeters: Don & Linda Flatt

Acolyte: Arabella Campana

Reader: Mary Ellefson

Communion: Joan Christopher

Fellowship: Judy Meincke

10:30a – Hospitality Lead: Karen McConville

Ushers: Colin McConville & Earl Monson

Greeters: Lucy Larson & Sandy Gillis

Acolyte: Noah Flattum

Reader: Chris Gustafson

Communion: Carol Gustafson

If you can fill any OPEN spots –
Please contact the church office.

If you see a conflict –
please contact your Hospitality Team Leader.

THANK YOU!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

8:15a – Hospitality Lead: Kristen Johnson

Hospitality Team:

Ushers: Scott & Sandy Johnson

Greeters: Samantha & Sierra Keyes

Acolyte: Sam Johnson

Reader: Judy Meincke

Communion: Don Kriegl

Fellowship: Congregational Meeting

10:30a – OPEN

Ushers: The Nemitz Family

Greeters: Jim & Gwen Paulson

Acolyte: Henry Nemitz

Reader: Barb Walczak

Communion: **OPEN**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

8:15a – Hospitality Leads:

Jim & Linda Letourneau

Hospitality Team:

Ushers: Dennis & Cindy Saathoff

Greeters: Lisa, Ava & Avery Anderson

Acolyte: Aiden Tepper-Eng

Reader: Kathy Hunter

Communion: Florence Hopp

Fellowship: Karen McConville

10:30a – Hospitality Lead: Andrea Dreier

Ushers: Kendra Margl & Gene Stahnke

Greeters: Judy O'Connell & Lori Rayome

Acolyte: Art Okerlund

Reader: John Flavin

Communion: Nora Flavin

- THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church
505 13th St. S
Hudson, WI 54016



CONTACT US

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Church Office (715) 386-5409

Pastor ~ Erin Nelson
pastor@mtzionhudson.com

Secretary ~ Anna Peterson
secretary@mtzionhudson.com

Milestone Coordinator ~ MaryKay Mahler
Organist ~ Deb Tonsager
Jr. Choir/Tone Chime Choir ~ MaryKay Mahler
Sr. Choir Director ~ Craig Gustafson
Treasurer ~ Robin Arneson
Financial Secretary ~ Joan Christopher
Parish Nurse ~ Eileen Wymer
Kid's Club Coordinator ~ Amanda Stojan
Custodian ~ Gary Johnson
Council President ~ Aaron Adams

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
9:00 AM WORSHIP W/ COMMUNION
Special Music provided by Sofia Gigure

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
RALLY SUNDAY
8:15 & 10:30 Worship
10:30a – Backpack Blessing & Blessing of our
Sunday School Teachers

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
8:15 & 10:30 Worship
10:30a – 2-Year Old Milestone – Prayer Bears

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
8:15 & 10:30 Worship
10:30a – Pet Blessing – Outdoor/Weather
Permitting