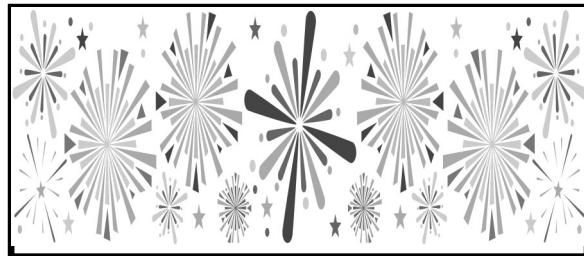


Zion Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 314  
350 Pearl St.  
Cadillac, MI 49601



## *TOWER TOPICS*



### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

On line Worship Service 9:00 a.m.

In house Worship Services

9:00 a.m. & 10:30



JULY  
TOWER  
TOPICS  
2021

July 2021  
Volume 31 Number 7  
Rev. Scott Torkko

Website: [www.cadillaczion.org](http://www.cadillaczion.org)  
Church Office 775-9821  
Email: [zionlutherancadillac@gmail.com](mailto:zionlutherancadillac@gmail.com)

*"Morning by morning new mercies I see"*

I recently caught myself spontaneously singing this lyric from a classic hymn while driving into a brilliant morning sunrise. With a half century between the last uttering of this in the church of my youth and now, I noticed a fresh and poignant awareness surrounding its meaning.

Morning by morning, witnessing the mercies of life can be a loving relationship with grace. While there are many definitions of what grace is, I've come to revere it as an experience beyond words.

Grace, to me, is an action - the assurance in the squeeze of the hand that takes ours and pulls us across the seemingly unrecoverable into recovery. Whether through illness, material loss, wounded dignity or emotional pain, grace is a constant presence that awaits our recognition and participation. It is the eternal outstretched hand that offers hope in replacement for despair.

Perhaps you've given up on grace. The world has been challenged to find sure footing in what feels like relentless turbulence. It is easy to let our hopes harden. And still, what if grace is refining us in this very moment? What if its only request is to start paying attention to what we're paying attention to? Can we redirect our awareness toward what is working more than what isn't? Every morning offers new mercies when we elevate our noticing and tune into its expected displays.

Each morning we can give what is bound up to mercy and say, "I let go. Free this up." It has been said that Grace is the givingness of life—but we are only saved by using it. I take the hand of grace.

Written by Rev.Dr.David Ault - Centers For Spiritual Living

INDEX	
Birthdays	7
Book Club	12
Calendar	3
Community Connections form	6
Church Photo Directory	14
Devotional - Christ in Our Homes	8
Fellowship Activity	12
Just A Thought from Judie	11
Ministries Coordinator's Message—Val Hanson	5
Noisy Offerings	8
Pastor's Page	4
Prayer Requests	9
Server's Page	10
Smile Time	13
Summer Concert Schedule	12

2021



2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:00 a.m. Service is on Facebook live				1	2	3 Summer Concert 6 p.m. "Feast of Trumpets"
4 9 & 10:30 a.m. Worship & Communion 	5 Office Closed 	6 6 p.m. Property committee 6:30 Evangelism committee	7	8 10 a.m. Fellowship committee	9 Newsletter deadline	10 Summer Concert 6 p.m. "The Walkers"
11 9 & 10:30 a.m. Worship	12 *9:30 Stitchery *4pm Outreach committee *6-8 Scavenger hunt *6:30pm Finance	13 4pm book club 6:30 Executive committee	14	15 12pm Lunch Bunch	16	17 Summer Concert 6 p.m. Jim Quales
18 9 & 10:30 a.m. Worship & Communion	19	20 6:30 pm Council meeting	21	22 6pm Putt-Putt Golf Fellowship	23	24 Summer Concert 6 p.m. "Royal Heirs"
25 9 & 10:30 a.m. Worship  Noisy Offering	26 9:30 am Stitchery	27	28	29	30	31 Summer Concert 6 p.m. "Westbrooks"

## PASTOR'S PAGE

### Thoughts from Pastor Scott

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

You have probably had your fill of letters from me over the course of the past 16 months. Normally these letters have updated you on changing guidelines for worship. But this letter is different. This letter is a "thank you."

Thank you for keeping our community safe. I know it hasn't always been easy to stomach: the cancellation of worship for months at a time. The mask wearing, which none of us enjoy. The distancing. The shortened worship services. No singing. To some of you, it felt like an over-response. I understand that. But at this point, as the pandemic has eased for at least the moment and hopefully longer, I can say with complete confidence that Zion Lutheran Church did not add a single case and was not the cause of any outbreaks related to Covid. Not too many places can say that with the confidence we at Zion can say it. This has never only been about keeping each other safe. Cases that begin in a church may not lead a church member to be hospitalized, or worse. But there is a good possibility that the spread that has taken place in a church has, some



generations of virus transmission later, made someone in our community very, very sick. It did not come from Zion. Because, although we have not liked the restrictions, we have done right by our community over these past 16 months. I believe God is pleased with this. I know I am pleased with this. Thank you

Thank you for caring about one another as we have all journeyed through this pandemic differently, assessing our own risk differently than others may assess theirs, being out and about (or not being out and about) in ways that differed significantly from others in the congregation, being vaccinated well before (or after) others at Zion. There has been a general respect factor here that has done my heart well. It hasn't been perfect. I haven't been perfect at this. However, we have extended grace to one another, knowing that we are all doing the best we can even if it hasn't looked like much at some moments. Thank you for the respect you have shown one another.



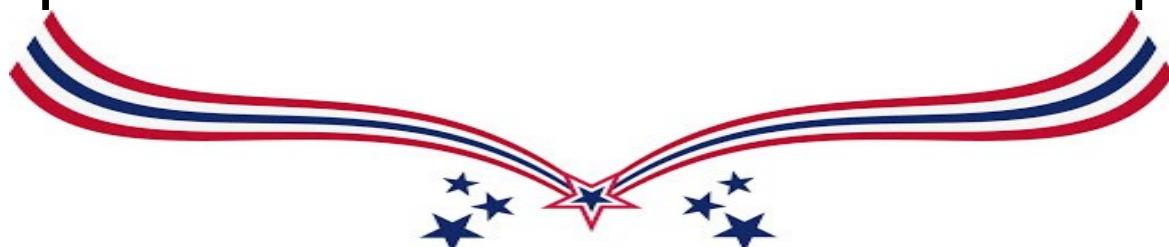
## *Message from Ministry Coordinator*

*Val Hanson*

### *“On Community Connections”*

We are trying to create opportunities for you at Zion to impact our corner of the world by partnering with the Council on Aging to make a difference in our community. Does your heart go out to those who do not have the ability to order groceries online or grocery shop independently? If so, you could help with grocery shopping and delivery for clients. Do you enjoy visiting the Farmer’s Market, care about providing others with fresh produce, and like to see the joy a simple fresh tomato can bring someone who hasn’t had one in awhile? Proxies are needed to purchase and deliver produce from the Farmer’s Market. If you enjoy visiting, you could help to provide respite care. If you like to get out a little each day and want to help while you’re out and about, rides are needed at times to help clients get to Adult Day Care. Are you crafty? Cards can brighten someone’s day and send the message that they are not forgotten. The Council on Aging would welcome help in rebuilding their stockpile of homemade, blank cards to send out. Are you an organizer? There is a periodic need for organizing and delivery of donated incontinence products to clients. Please call or email Val if any of these opportunities to share the love of Jesus with our community seem like they might be a good fit for you.

Please note: For services which require contact with Council on Aging clients, background checks will need to be run.



## Serving Neighbors Through the Council on Aging

You can help show love for our neighbors by partnering with the Council on Aging. Indicate how you can participate by checking the box in front of your choice below. Please return your completed form to the church office:



Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Grocery Shopping and Delivery** You can volunteer to shop weekly for clients. For more information, pick up a flyer on the table outside the sanctuary. Choose from Wednesday or Thursday morning for your shopping day. Pick up the shopping list, payment information, and delivery information from the Council on Aging the morning that you shop. Contact the Council on Aging to become a weekly shopper.

**Make Cards** The Council on Aging would love Zion members to provide blank, homemade cards for them to send out. Pictures from children are also fun to include. Deliver the cards/pictures to the Council on Aging.

\_\_\_\_\_

If you choose one of the following three options, your name will be given to the Council on Aging and they will contact you when the service is needed.

**Provide Respite Care** You could sit with a Council on Aging client who cannot stay alone in order to give a caregiver a small respite.

**Provide Rides** At times, clients need rides to an Adult Day Care provider.

**Senior Project Fresh** Buy produce for clients at the Farmers Market. The Farmers Market runs on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Please note: For services which require contact with Council on Aging clients, background checks will be needed.



Ben K	07/01	Ron S	07/18
Susan S	07/01	James W	07/21
Bill F	07/04	Greg St	07/22
Ashlynn B	07/05	Jennifer B	07/23
Jamie C	07/05	Barbara Jo J	07/24
Gareth J	07/06	Brendan P	07/24
Libby C	07/06	Morgan H	07/25
Sue A	07/08	Marilyn U	07/26
Donna R	07/08	Marie M	07/27
Ron S	07/09	Abrielle K	07/27
Kathy G	07/09	Dave M	07/27
Amy G	07/10	Jennifer S	07/28
Jim B	07/10	Corlene H	07/28
Cindy M	07/10	Joanne T	07/29
Char D	07/11	Jeri L	07/30
Mandy R	07/11	Allen M	07/31
Howard P	07/12	Malinda S	07/31
Megan K	07/13		
Darlene K	07/14		
Bonnie J	07/16		
Katy G	07/18		



Noisy



Offerings

## Helping our Zion Stitchery Group Help Others

On **May 30**, you made a loud "noise" of caring. The \$273.87 you donated for our "Noisy" offering will help our Stitchery Group's mission of providing quilts, crib quilts, and lap robes to the less fortunate. Thank you for your continuing support of these monthly offerings.

## Helping Women with Disabilities

Friendship Family Home, in McBain, is an Adult Foster Care home for six women with development disabilities including one of our own Zion family members. The purpose of this organization is to provide a Christian living atmosphere and to assist residents in becoming as self-sufficient as possible and to meet their needs in a dignified and humane manner. Friendship Family Home receives approximately \$70,000 from the state, but that leaves around \$30,000 to cover all expenses. We tried to support this important ministry twice last year and both times our offering was cancelled due to COVID shut-downs. So, hopefully, the third time is a charm. Please join us in supporting this important ministry by saving up your loose change and making a loud noise on **July 25**.



Christ in Our Home devotional for July through September is now available in the book rack across from the mailboxes at the church. If you have not yet used this little booklet, you are missing some very meaningful daily messages and lessons. They are short but packed with wisdom and insight. The booklets come in both normal print and large print. Pick one up today and one for your neighbor.



A prayer about slowing down

God beyond time ... teach us to pause in this moment, to tuck ourselves into the curve of your slow arm, that we may know the miracle of now, the gift of this moment: you beside and beyond us, welcoming us outside of all we measure, and standing with us in it. May we see the goodness of our still hours and days, sunrises, sunsets, and the darkness where our rest is found.

Micha Boyett in *A Rhythm of Prayer* (edited by Sarah Bessey) from Newsletter.  
Newsletter

# PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



## New prayer requests or updates as of July

\*Luke Hamilton, grandson of Louise Wright, kidney cancer

\*Linda S, recovery from hip Surgery

\*Corlene H, healing

\*Parents of Erica O, health concerns

\*Harry H, healing from surgery

\*Marilyn U ,healing

\*Phil P, Cancer

\*Wendy M, healing



"I'd like to thank everyone who prayed for my husband to return home from Kuwait. He called me Monday, June 7, at noon to tell me of a miracle that happened.....He is not only scheduled for the Pfizer vaccine, but he has been approved to leave the country and come HOME!!! This all happened within 24 hours of my reflection on Sunday. I know this is because of the power of prayer. Thank you so much for your prayers. THEY

WORKED!!!"

## Continuing Prayer Requests

\* John C

\* Deb B

\* Barb B

\* June E

\* Kay F

\* Nancy G

\* Allena M

\* Dan S

\* Janet S

Would you like us  
To pray for you?

Zion's Prayer Chain is happy to pray for requests that you have throughout the week. To request prayer, contact Linda Carlson. To join the Prayer Chain, contact Linda.

To add a prayer request to our list, please contact Pastor Scott or email at [zionlutherancadlac@gmail.com](mailto:zionlutherancadlac@gmail.com)

# SERVING THIS MONTH

## Sunday, July 4

### Communion Assistants

9:00 Char Davis &  
Marilyn Bridges  
10:30 Bobbie Brown &  
Scott Hanson

### Lectors

9:00 Marilyn Bridges  
10:30 Marie Mercier

### Sound Techs

9:00 Anne Koschmider  
10:30 Devin Taylor

### Ushers

9:00 Paula Campbell &  
Cara Bosack  
10:30 Randy &  
Marie Mercier

## Sunday, July 11

### Lectors

9:00 Carolyn Emerson  
10:30 Lee Brown

### Sound Techs

9:00 Joe Baumann  
10:30 Randy Mercier

### Ushers

9:00 Karla Anderson  
10:30 Beckie Kanipe

## Sunday, July 18

### Communion Assistants

9:00 Michael  
Vandervelde  
& Jim Higgins  
  
10:30 Lee Jones &  
Val Hanson

### Lectors

9:00 Jen Sück  
10:30 Dan Vant Kerkhoff

### Sound Techs

9:00 Scott Hanson  
10:30 Devin Taylor

### Ushers

9:00 Bruce & Chris  
Norkoli  
  
10:30 Rick & Patti  
Swanson

## Sunday, July 25

### Lectors

9:00 Marty Solomon  
10:30 Harvey James

### Sound Techs

9:00 Michael & Tucker Vandervelde  
10:30 Anne Koschmider

### Ushers

9:00 Bob Shumway  
10:30 Bobbie Brown



**Love. Grow. Serve.**



Last March of 2020, my husband and I made a decision to "shelter at home" due to Covid. When Zion's services became available on line, I made watching them my Sunday morning priority, along with many in our congregation and, I have to admit, dressed very casually, and often sipping on my morning cup of coffee.

I didn't realize how comfortable this could become. No effort to get up early enough to prepare physically to attend a service at church. No clothes to prepare, no drive to the church. Just a saunter over, in my slippers, to my desk top computer, plop down in my chair and click on Facebook.

Many months have past and our church council has carefully and prayerfully opened our church to three Sunday morning services for those who feel ready to resume attendance.

Many of us are now fully vaccinated and run less of a risk of contracting Covid or of having serious consequences should they become infected.

It is now my decision whether to continue on line, or return to the Sunday morning routine of actually coming physically to worship.

Many of us with underlying health conditions are continuing to be cautious and not yet returning, which is understandable. And I have to ask myself if I'm ready to rejoin the many who are attending, and whether to wear a mask even though others may not.

In the scriptures, after Jesus' sojourn on earth, we read that He left his disciples with His teachings to be given to His followers and one necessary way for them to do that was for them to meet regularly together to share Christ's teachings and honor Him with their worship.

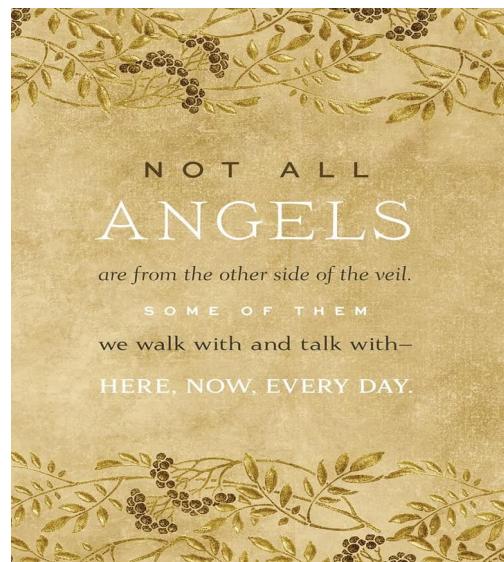
In personal gatherings, they were able to instruct one another - care for the needs of each other, sing and praise God together, and as Jesus taught - love one another. A bit difficult to do through a computer screen.

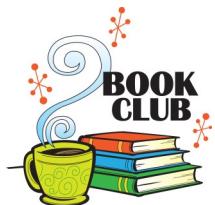
As I continue to grapple with "to go or not to go" I reassess all the blessings I received by attendance before Covid - to worship with others who share my beliefs.....together to sing His praises ..... to receive His Body and Blood at communion.....to feel the sense of God's presence within the sanctuary.....and many more unnamable blessings compared to the solitude of watching the service alone at home on my computer. Those blessings are tipping the scales, for me, to consider rejoining the congregation on Sunday morning in the Sanctuary.

We at Zion, are so very fortunate for the efforts of the many who have been able to give us a choice as to how we are able to worship during this pandemic. Whichever way we choose, individually, is the right way for each of us. There is no "better or worse" way - no "right or wrong" way.

Whether from a distance or in person, our intentions to worship together, support our church and each other and our community is what matters.

The choice is available for each of you. And that is such a blessing.





Zion Women's Book Club is starting up again on July 13 @ 4p.m. at church. Call Marie Mercier if interested.

Book of the Month  
The Women of the Copper Country  
By Mary Doria Russell

In July 1913, twenty-five year old Annie Clements has seen enough of the world to know that it is unfair. She's spent her whole life in the copper mining town of Calumet, Michigan, where men risk their lives for meager salaries. The women labor in the houses of the elite and send their husbands and sons deep underground each day, dreading the call that their loved ones aren't coming home. When Annie decides to stand up for herself and the entire town of Calumet, many believe that she has taken on more than she can handle.



Another fellowship opportunity for food and fun!!

Our next fellowship get together is for EVERYONE: the young, the not so young, for families, or for single people.

Join the Fellowship Committee for dinner and an evening of miniature golf on Thursday, July 22 at the Lake City Miniature Golf course located at 406 North Houghton Street (M-55), in Lake City near the high school. The committee will provide pizza and beverages starting at 6 p.m. Following our dinner and fellowship, we will enjoy a fun round of miniature golf at 7:00 p.m. If you can't join us for both, come for whichever works for your schedule.

The cost is \$7 per person with a maximum of \$21 for families. You are asked to sign up, so we have a count to order the pizza. The sign-up sheet is posted at church or call the church office (231-775-9821).

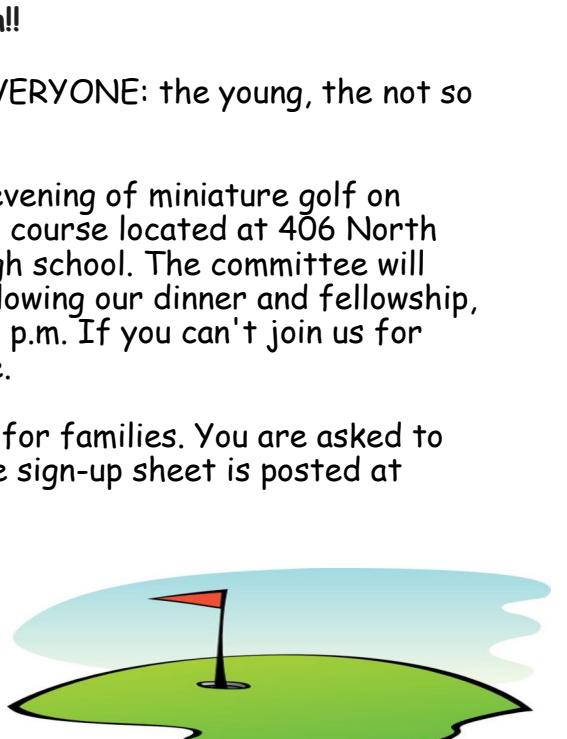


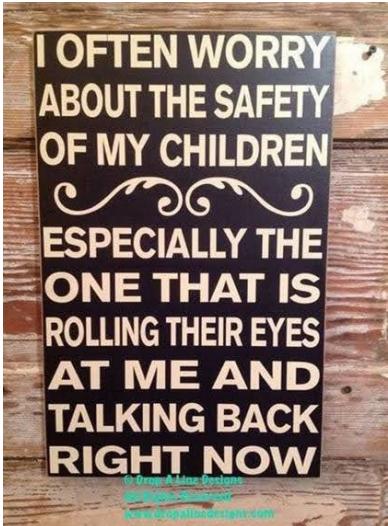
## Zion Lutheran Church Summer Concerts Schedule

Our Summer Concerts series include different styles and varieties of Christian music: barbershop, traditional Gospel, country Gospel, contemporary Christian, Blue grass, Blues and Rock styles.

1. June 12, 6 PM - "Cole Minors" and "Shoreline"
2. June 19, 6 PM - "Beulah Land Quartet"
3. June 26, 6 PM - "Pictures of Grace"
4. July 3, 6 PM - "Feast of Trumpets"
5. July 10th, 6 PM - "The Walkers"
6. July 17th, 6 PM - "Jim Quales"
7. July 24, 6 PM - "Royalheirs"
8. July 31, 6 PM - "Westbrooks"
9. August 7, 6 PM - "Kate and John Denner"
10. August 14, 6 PM - "The Forester"

\*Concert will be in the church parking lot @  
350 Pearl St., Cadillac, MI





## Time for a Smile



The older you get, the harder it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat have become really good friends.



Wife: Did I get fat during Quarantine?

Husband: You were never really skinny!

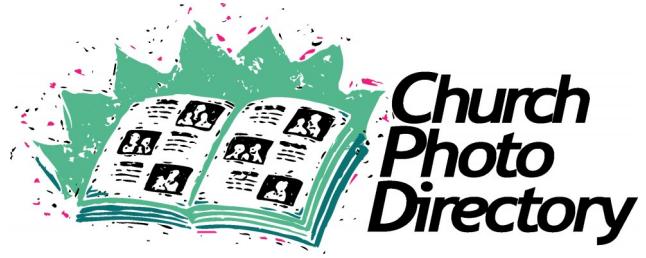
Time of Death: 4/25/20  
11:23 pm Cause of Death: Corona virus



If you see my mom on Facebook, please remind her I'm still in the sink.



Tensions are high in the produce section as no one dares to lick their fingers



It's time for a new church directory! Our dates of photography are August 19, 20, & 21.

We will start signing up around the second Sunday in July.

Just for participating, you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a church directory.

You will view your images right away and have the chance to purchase family portraits for your own memories and to give as gifts.

You can make an appointment after church services or on-line.

We look forward to seeing you there!

#### ONLINE SCHEDULING INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAMILY APPOINTMENT SETTING

- \*Go to the Universal Church Directories website ([www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com))
- \*Click on the box on the right side of the homepage entitled "click here to schedule your photography session"
- \*Enter your church code **mi1528**
- \*Enter your church password **photos**
- \*Click on the Enter button
- \*Click on the desired photography date
- \*Click on the Reserve Time button beside the desired photography appointment time
- \*Enter the appropriate information in all required fields (indicated by the asterisk)
- \*Enter your email address if a confirmation email is desired
- \*Click on the Schedule Appointment button at the bottom of the screen to reserve the photography appointment time in your family's name
- \*If you have more than six family members being photographed, please reserve two appointments consecutively (such as 6:00 and 6:10)
- \*Print the next screen to use as a reminder of your family's photography appointment
- \*Contact your church's online scheduling administrator (Kendra) to change or cancel your photography appointment