

Zion Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 314
350 Pearl St.
Cadillac, MI 49601-0314



Return Service Requested



TOWER TOPICS

May 2021

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

May 2 - 8:15, 9:30 (also online), 10:45

May 9 - 8:15, 9:30 (also online), 10:45

May 16 - 8:15, 9:30 (also online), 10:45 Communion Outside at all 3 services

May 23 - 8:15, 9:30 (also online), 10:45

May 30 - 8:15, 9:30 (also online), 10:45



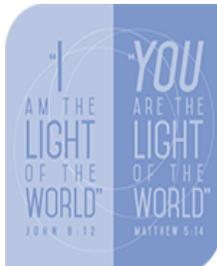
May 2021 Website: www.cadillaczion.org
 Volume 32 Number 5 Church Office 775-9821
 Rev. Scott Torkko Email: zionlutherancadillac@gmail.com

In January 2021, National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman presented her poem "The Hill We Climb" at the presidential inauguration. The final lines read: "For there is always light, / if only we're brave enough to see it. / If only we're brave enough to be it."

How often we long for light! In recent years we've agonized amid pandemic, angry politics and new awareness of racism. Some have suffered deep sorrow. But Jesus says, "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12) and invites us to turn to him. God is always bringing light into darkness, through helpers, healers, peacemakers, friends. Sometimes bravery is required to turn our focus from the negative to the positive — to see the light of God.

Jesus also says, "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14, emphasis added) and calls us to brighten the gloom. That requires bravery, as Gorman notes, but as Christians we're urged to look for light not just to make our own lives better but to shine into others' lives too. The Holy Spirit gives us the needed courage — to both *see* and *be* light.

Taken from Newsletter.Newsletter.com



Baseball Game Sign up	6
Birthdays	10
Calendar	3
Jokes	15
Just A Thought from Judie	7
Ministries Coordinator's Message—Val Hanson	5
Noisy Offering	9
Pastor's Page	4
Prayer Requests	13
Puzzle	8
Rydquist Centennial	14
Spartan Receipt	12
Spring Clean up Day	9
Server's Page	11-12
Thank You note	14

May



2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Zion Grounds clean up 9-12
2 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 In Person Worship	3	4 1:00 Office staff meeting	5 6:30 Fellowship Zoom	6	7	8
9 Mother's Day 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 In Person Worship	10 4:00 Outreach Zoom 6:30 Finance Zoom	11 1:00 Office staff meeting 6:30 Executive Council meeting Zoom	12	13	14 Newsletter deadline	15 Synod Assembly via Zoom
16 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 In Person Worship with communion	17	18 1:00 Office staff meeting 6:30 Council Meeting Zoom	19	20	21	22
23 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 In Person Worship 10:45 HS Grad Service	24	25 1:00 Office staff meeting	26	27	28	29
30 8:15, 9:30, 10:45 In Person Worship Noisy Offering	31 Memorial Day - Office Closed					



Thoughts from Pastor Scott

There is creativity taking place at Zion that is pulling us forward. Nailya envisions an outdoor summer concert series...12 Saturday evenings of music, gathering outside in the church parking lot (socially distanced, of course!). Nailya envisions that it won't just be "we" Zion folks gathering. Advertising will be done throughout the community. Invitations will be made to our neighbors on Pearl Street. Conversations will be had with the Marble Street neighborhood to make sure they know when it is happening (because they will likely hear it!) and also to ask them to join us. This creative venture will check off all three boxes of my pastoral mission statement, "Zion Lutheran Church fosters connection with God, our neighbors, and each other." I am thrilled that Nailya has felt encouraged to share this vision that God is stirring in her and I am eager to support it.

By the time this newsletter reaches you, there is a chance Val has already hosted the first gathering of the group she hopes will connect Zion more deeply to our neighbors and the helping agencies of our community. She has been wrestling with this thing that God has planted in her for Zion to increase our "hands on" help in the community. In addition to the financial help that Zion has increasingly been giving to help organizations and people in need, this group may seek to create a movement among us to serve together, side by side. This creative venture checks all three boxes of my pastoral mission statement: connection with God, our neighbors, and each other.

Dear church, creativity and innovation are the way forward for us from here. After a long winter of covid, and in the midst of still more uncertainty about the foreseeable future, we will be spending the next year both remembering where we have been while envisioning whom God is calling us to be. These months will be a time of regrouping and asking questions: who is still with us? Who may have moved on and doesn't plan to return? Who has joined us virtually over the past year that we need to connect with more deeply? Who have we missed over the past year and how do we reconnect? Who will be part of our next new member class? What have we learned about worship that we will hang on to? What has kept us connected in new ways and how do we make those things more fully part of who we are?

On this side of the pandemic, we are no longer the same as we once were...nor should we be. I anticipate the coming months to be full of vibrant conversation about new beginnings and creative ministry opportunities. We are no longer the same as we were in the early part of 2020. That's something to grieve and lament...and also something that the Spirit might use to pull us further into the mission God has for us.

Blessed to be your pastor,

Pr. Scott

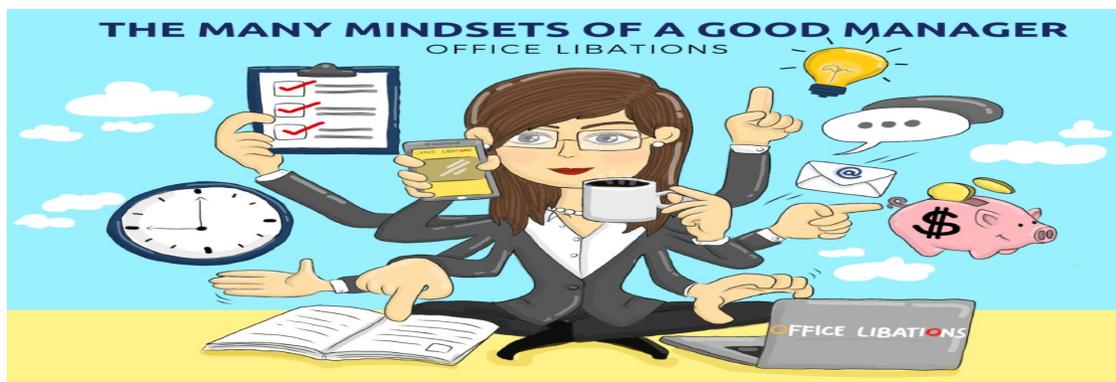


Ministry Coordinator
Val Hanson

Ministries Coordinator Message May 2021

This spring seems, even more than in most years, like we are in the midst of resurrection. As the days grow warmer, so that we can once again meet outdoors, committees and small groups are making plans to meet face to face. Our Property Committee is planning our spring cleanup day, which we were not able to have last year. The Fellowship Committee is planning outdoor activities--one of which is a possible church softball team. Evangelism members have the option of making indoor visits again at several of the assisted living facilities. A community

connections task force is planning to brainstorm ways Zion might partner with others in service to our community. A new gratitude group is beginning. Nailya is organizing weekend concerts that will be held in Zion's parking lot. We are holding 3 in-person worship services each Sunday. Watching new ministries evolve and old ministries resume, makes me hopeful. It makes me feel thankful for the way our church family cares, dreams, and engages. I feel blessed to be walking through this season of change with you.





Are you ready for some **BASEBALL!**

Are you ready to attend a T.C. Pit Spitters baseball game?

The Fellowship Committee has arranged for reserved tickets to the following game...

TC PIT SPITTERS V. KALAMAZOO GROWLERS

FRIDAY, JUNE 18TH, 2021

7:00PM

ADMISSION:

\$10.00 PER PERSON

FAMILY:

\$30.00 SET CAP FOR FAMILY

If you have more than 3 in your family the Fellowship will cover the remaining tickets.

*Watch for a link in the Friday announcements to **sign up online** or call the church office to reserve your tickets.*

*Sign Up and Ticket Money **DEADLINE: June 2, 2021***

Please bring payment to the church office.

You will need to pick up your tickets at church the week before the game.

We will meet at the ball park on the 18th.

The park is practicing "distanced seating" with pods of 4 – 6 seats together and unfilled seats between the pods. Masks are required in the bathrooms and when on the concourse at the ball park.

Questions, please contact Nancy Grumm @ 616 890 5308, ngrumm@gmail.com or Church Office.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE!!!!



Eternal Flame

*Just A
Thought
from Judie*



Many times during this past year and a half, during the pandemic, I have come to the empty church to either get some library books or pick up the "Christ In Our Home" booklet or on some other errand. Each time, I stop by the sanctuary for a few moments to pray.

In the quiet, empty space, I am always grateful for the "Eternal Flame" ever flickering it's light, on the wall to the right of the altar.

It gives me the feeling that no matter how empty the pews are, the Presence of Christ is always filling the sanctuary. It reminds me that as the flame shines bright, so His light shines in this world of ours no matter what is going on.

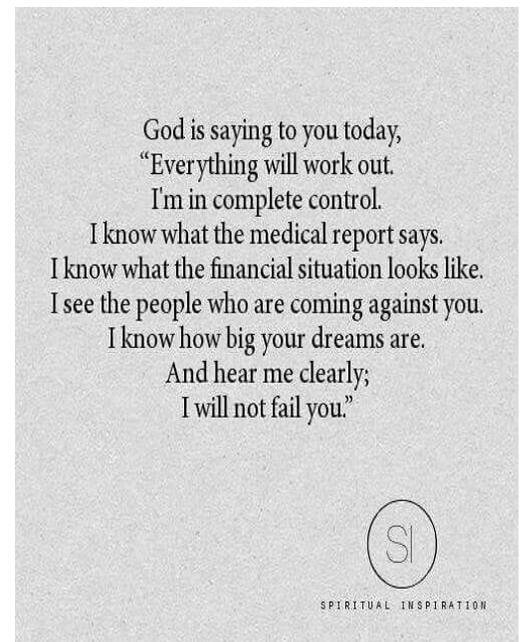
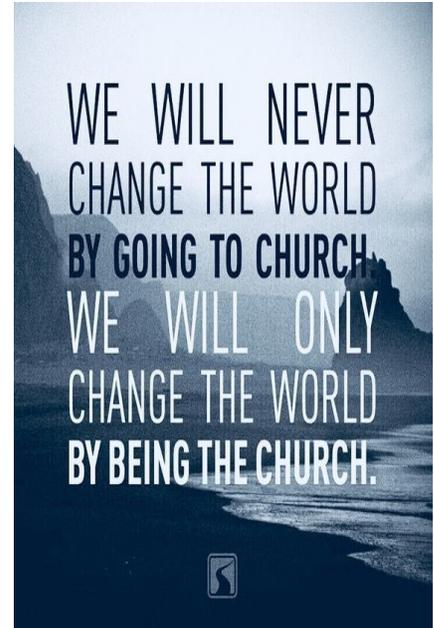
I recently read the following words by Rev. Karen Wylie, of Symphony of Life Spiritual Center in California:
"This is a world of appearances. I remind myself that my needs are continually being met even before I ask. That I have a powerful, unseen resource that provides for me and keeps me safe.

I remind myself how much God loves us and that a great healing is taking place that we are all part of because we were born in this time and place. I remind myself how important it is for me to keep my consciousness high, no matter the degree of insanity that shows up in the outer world. A new day is coming, filled with light and promise."

Those words and the constant light from the "Eternal Flame" sooth my soul and I am assured that as that light shines in our sanctuary, it also shines deep within us as Holy Spirit. It is constant. It is powerful. It is the presence of Christ.

I don't know who looks after the flame to keep it going, but I am so very grateful.

He truly is risen and lives daily in our church and in each of our lives, whatever the circumstances or the appearances.



FAITH
is like Wi-Fi,
it's invisible but
it has the power
to connect you to
what you need.

How many times can you find the word "Gratitude" in the puzzle?

B A D K L Y E W G K F R P G G
E Y N X L V Y O G U G M G Y R
X G B R L T V P R K R R R G A
G R N O G K Q P A Y A K A R T
G A Q E K W M I T B T G T A I
R T E N E R B S I W I R I T T
A I G G T J G G T Z T A T I U
T T R L R J R R U B U T U T D
I U A J S A A A D F D I D U E
T D T K B M T T E X E T E D K
U E I Z Q Q U I H G W U G E L
D Y T J V C T T T M B D J H S
E A U X Q D I U N U T E H V H
C W D M R C D D C D D M O F R
S X E X H Z E E E D C E X D I

May Noisy

Offering

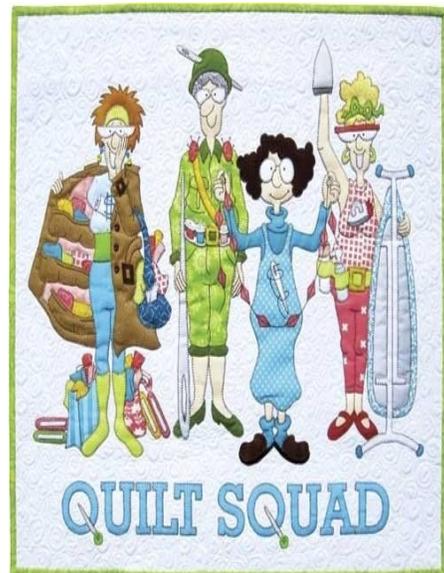


The May Noisy Offering will benefit Zion Stitchery. Stitchery supplies twin size quilts and lap quilts to our community including Hope Shelter, Oasis, Love, INC, nursing homes, and church members in need. Donations to Zion Stitchery will be used to purchase batting, material for backings, threads, sewing supplies, and repairs on sewing machines in the choir room.

Our Stitchery Group's mission is to provide quilts, crib quilts, lap robes, and mittens, hats, and scarves for the less fortunate. Each year they donate dozens of

items to Samaritas, Oasis, Second Chance, the Department of Human Services, Love INC, fire victims, and others in needs.

Stitchery met for only five months in 2020 and was still able to assemble 50 quilts donated into our community. Stitchery usually meets the second and fourth Monday of the month from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. Please watch for information about Stitchery hours in the bulletin. Volunteers are always welcome to cut squares, sew quilt tops, and assemble the final quilts.



Spring Beautification Day

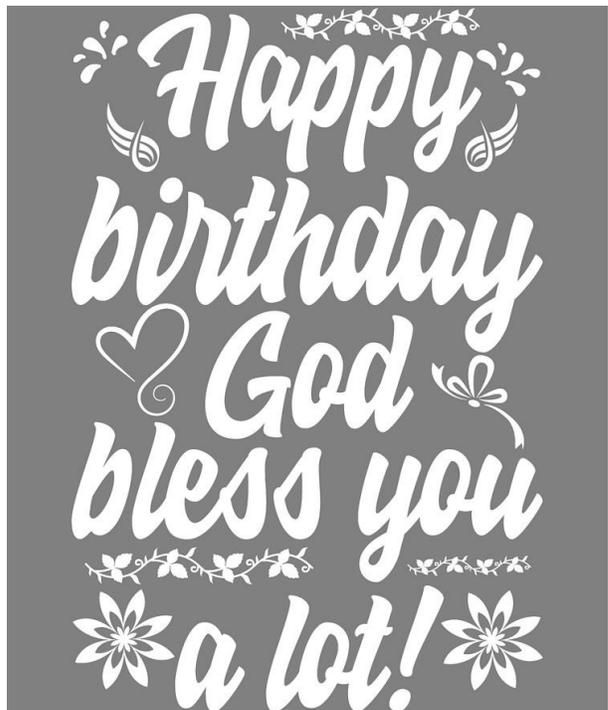
Join our dedicated Property Committee members on **Saturday, May 1,** and help get our Zion grounds cleaned up. Clean up will be going on from **9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.** Come for an hour or the whole morning.

Remember, many hands make for light work! The more people who come out to help, the more work they'll be able to get done. If you are able to help May 1, please bring yard tools such as rakes and shovels.



May Birthdays

Deborah B	05/01	Mason F	05/26
Pat L	5/04	Hannah F	05/26
Rhonda P	05/06	Kendra V	05/27
Gavin P	05/08	Cara B	05/27
Gwen P	05/08	Chris B	05/27
Kip D	05/09	Mary B	05/27
Maureen A	05/09	Haley L	05/28
Stephen N	05/10	Susan Y	05/28
Roger A	05/11	Dru M	05/30
Bertha F	05/12	Alex C	05/30
JT T	05/14	Carol B	05/30
Gloria K	05/14	Maddie M	05/31
Margie J	05/15		
Garth H	05/16		
Michelle R	05/18		
Lee G	05/18		
John Cl	05/18		
Rylen R	05/22		
Randy W	05/22		
June E	05/23		
Gray V	05/24		
Marty D	05/25		
Hayley F	05/26		



May Server's Page

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, May 2



Greeters/Hand Sanitizers

8:15 Paula Campbell
9:30 Kendra Vandervelde
10:45 Pam Dahlstrom

Lectors

8:15 Marilyn Bridges
9:30 Marie Mercier
10:45 Stacie Wilson

Sound Techs

8:15 Scott Hanson
9:30 Michael Vandervelde
10:45 Anne Koschmider

Ushers

8:15 Cara Bosack
9:30 Tucker Vandervelde
10:45 Char Davis & Deb
Kulmacz

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, May 9



Greeters/Hand Sanitizers

8:15 Becky Gustafson
9:30 Barb Taylor
10:45 Jeanette Baumgras

Lectors

8:15 Lois Durham
9:30 Elsie Moore
10:45 Lindsey Torkko

Sound Techs

8:15 Eric Gustafson
9:30 Randy Mercier
10:45 Devin Taylor

Ushers

8:15 Woodie & Lois Durham
9:30 Beckie Kanipe
10:45 Phil Kuusisto

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, May 16



Communion Assistants

8:15 Marilyn Bridges
9:30 Holly Williams
10:45 Lindsey Torkko

Greeters/Hand Sanitizers

8:15 Karla Anderson
9:30 Holly Williams
10:45 Dan VantKerkhoff

Lectors

8:15 Craig Johnson
9:30 Kaitlyn Johnston
10:45 Rick Swanson

Sound Techs

8:15 Scott Hanson
9:30 Randy Mercier
10:45 Maddie Masten

Ushers

8:15 Cara Bosack
9:30 Bruce & Chris Norkoli
10:45 Rick & Patti Swanson



The May serving schedule continues on the next page.....

May Server's Page
Con't



**Worship Volunteers for
Sunday, May 23**



Greeters/Hand Sanitizers

8:15 Becky Gustafson
9:30 Barb Taylor
10:45 Char Davis & Deb Kulmacz

Lectors

8:15 Jen Sück
9:30 Abby Zukauskay
10:45 Lee Brown

Sound Techs

8:15 Eric Gustafson
9:30 Joseph Baumann
10:45 Devin Taylor

Ushers

8:15 Paula Campbell
9:30 Bob Shumway
10:45 Ron & Sue Smith

**Worship Volunteers for
Sunday, May 30**



Greeters/Hand Sanitizers

8:15 Carol Neverth
9:30 Beckie Kanipe
10:45 Barb Hazlett

Lectors

8:15 Marty solomon
9:30 Carolyn Emerson
10:45 Barb Hazlett

Sound Techs

8:15 Scott Hanson
9:30 Michael Vandervelde
10:45 Anne Koschmider

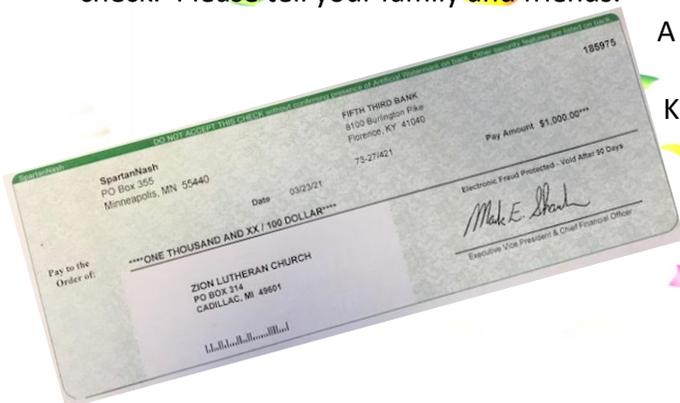
Ushers

8:15 Marty Solomon
9:30 Roger Pitts
10:45 Pam & Marty Dahlstrom

Goal Accomplished!!
Keep Them Coming!!

We received our \$1000.00 check from Spartan Nash, for saving Family Fare Grocery receipts, to expand our Kids Hope activities. In the future we would like to include the family members of our Kids Hope students in some of our after school and summer parties. The check from Spartan Nash will help supplement our event budget from the line item in the church budget. Please continue bringing in your receipts and hopefully in another two years we will have collected another \$150,000.00 in grocery slips and can receive a second check. Please tell your family and friends.

A BIG THANK YOU!!
Beckie
Kids Hope Director





Prayer Requests

New prayer requests or updates as of April 25:

*Kristin L, Kendra V's Aunt, Cancer and blood clots in leg and lung

*Phil P, Cancer

*Lisa A, friend of Susan S, recovering from Covid

*Deb D, Covid

*Wendy M, broken femur

*Dan T-Cancer

*Keith Z, health concerns



To add a prayer request to our list, please contact Pastor Scott or email at zionlutherancadillac@gmail.com

Continuing prayer requests:

- John C
- Deb B
- Barb B
- June E
- Kay F
- Nancy G
- Norma J
- Allena M
- Dan S
- Janet S



Zion's Prayer Chain is happy to pray for requests that you have throughout the week.

To request prayer, contact Linda C. To join the Prayer Chain, contact Linda.





150 Year Rydquist Homestead
Centennial

The Rydquist family is celebrating 150 years and 5 generations on the Rydquist Homestead.
(Due to Covid, no party planned at this time. Possibly later in the summer)

1st generation: Peter Rydquist and ? Nordstrom.

Children: John, Oscar and Johanna.

2nd generation: John and Olive Finstrom.

Children: Carl and Ingrid (Cowley)

3rd generation: Carl and Charlotte (Williams of N.C.)

Children: John and Peter.

4th generation: John and Susan (Borg).

Child: Jason

5th generation: Jason

All generations attended the Lutheran Church. They attended the Swedish Lutheran Church in Hobart, then the church on Simons Street in Cadillac, and the existing church now on Pearl Street. The past generations are laid to rest in the Hobart Cemetery.

The Rydquist family is a part of Zion Lutheran and Cadillac's history. All have been through triumphs and troubles but have come through together. The family thanks you all for your support, past, present and future.



thank you



Thank you Pastor Scott for all you do to keep our congregation connected and caring for one another and for our community.

To all who have helped to keep our church as safe as possible during this pandemic for those attending services by sanitizing surfaces, by setting up an area with masks, wipes, etc., or by serving in any way to help insure our congregation's well being, please know your efforts are so very appreciated.

For those of you who connect on line each Sunday to watch the service, and those who send in their offeringsyour faithfulness is also very much appreciated.

Each and every person who continues to support our church in any way, you are keeping our family together and the doors of our church open to any and all.

Can you hear God's voice saying "these are my children in whom I am well pleased?"

Time for a Smile



Boy aged 4: Dad, I've decided to get married.
Dad: Wonderful; do you have a girl in mind?!

Boy: Yes... grandma! She said she loves me, I love her, too....and she's the best cook & story teller in the whole world!!

Dad: That's nice, but we have a small problem there!!

Boy: What problem?!

Dad: She happens to be my mother. How can you marry my mother!!

Boy: Why not?! You married mine!!!!

It's the start of a brand new day, and I'm off like a herd of Turtles.

My wife said "Whatca doin today?" I said "nothin."
She said " You did that yesterday." I said "I wasn't finished."

When you do squats, are your knees supposed to sound like a goat chewing on aluminum can stuffed with celery?

I finally got eight hours of sleep. It took me three days, but whatever.

Two things to make your day better:

- **Do not watch the news.**
- **Stay off the bathroom scales.**

When someone asks what I did over the weekend, I squint and ask, "Why, what did you hear?"

One day you'll be able to tell your grandkids "I survived the Great Toilet Paper Shortage of 2020."

