

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

Return Service Requested



TOWER TOPICS

September 2019

Sunday Worship Schedule

Worship Service 8:30 a.m.
(communion ea. Sunday)
Worship service 10:30 a.m.
(communion 1st & 3rd Sun.)
Sunday School resumes Sept. 8th.

SEPTEMBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
8:30 & 10:30 Com- munion Services 2:00 Wedding	Labor Day— Church Office Closed	5:30 Tops 6:00 Property	1:00 Prayer Shawl 6:30 Fellowship 6:30 Vet to Vet	11 Prayer Circle		
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
8:30 Communion Service 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Rally Day Taco Bar	9:30 Stitchery 12:00 Phil Har- monic 2:30 Library 4:00 Outreach 5:30 Tops 6:00 Chorus 6:30 Finance	6:30: Evangelism Executive Committee Women's Book Club		11 am Prayer Circle		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8:30 & 10:30 Com- munion Services 1:00 (tentatively) Golf Outing				11am Prayer Circle 12:30 Women's Lunch Bunch at Clam Lake		12:00 Satur- day Soup for Seniors
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:30 Communion Service 10:30 Worship Service	9:30 Stitchery 5:30 Tops 6:00 Cadillac Community Chorus			11 am Prayer Circle 1:00 Feeding America Food Distribution at the Wex	6:00-8:00 WELCA Confer- ence	8:00-4:00 WELCA Con- ference
29	30					
Noisy Offering & Food Pantry 8:30 Communion Service 10:30 Worship Service	6:00 Cadillac Community Chorus					



THE TOWER TOPICS

September 2019	Website:
Volume 30 Number 9	www.cadillaczion.org
Rev. Scott Torkko	Email:
231-468-2224	zionlutherancadillac@gmail.com

Lighten Your Burden

“Did you ever stop to ask what a yoke is really for? Is it to be a burden to the animal which wears it?

It is just the opposite; It is to make its burden light. Attached to the oxen in any other way than by a yoke, the plow would be intolerable; worked by means of a yoke, it is light. Christ knew the difference between a smooth yoke and a rough one, a bad fit and a good one. The rough yoke galled, and the burden was heavy; the smooth yoke caused no pain, and the load was lightly drawn.

Christ saw that men took life painfully. To some it was a weariness, to others failure, to many a tragedy, to all a struggle and a pain. How to carry this burden of life had been the whole world’s problem. And here is Christ’s solution; Carry it as I do. Take life as I take it. Look at it from my point of view. Interpret it upon my principles. Take my yoke and learn of me, and you will find it easy. For my yoke is easy, sits right upon the shoulders, and therefore my burden is light.”

Henry Drummond, Pax Vobiscum

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Thoughts From Pastor Scott

I never know quite how to address it. A mass murder happens in a movie theatre. And in a church. And outside a grocery store. And in a Walmart. And in a school. There are things to say, but I struggle to find the correct forum to say it. The last thing I want is for our children to overhear the pains of the world that we adults have no idea how to fix and in the process to make them feel more vulnerable and afraid than is healthy for their age. So, I usually say a prayer in worship directed to whatever tragedy has occurred the week before, but it never feels like I give enough time or attention to these things.

Our country has a problem with mass shootings. It is often a young, white male problem. To make the scale of being noteworthy, it always involves guns. To my knowledge, there has not been any proactive steps in trying to resolve whatever these shootings are about. No legislation of significance. No community movement to address underlying issues. The arguing about who or what is to blame seems to be one that deflects the conversation, tossing it further down the road until another shooting happens and then the conversation begins all over. Indeed, whenever “sacred cows” arise in this conversation, it is almost always more about defending something than it is about actually standing in any meaningful way for something proactive.

He was baptized in an ELCA congregation (The denomination to which Zion belongs.) He worshipped in an ELCA congregation. He walked into a prayer service at an African American congregation and, after being welcomed and taking part in the service, he began shooting. Nine people were killed in the church that day in South Carolina, all of them black, including two, Rev. Daniel Lee Simmons Sr. and Rev. Clementa Pickney, who graduated from an ELCA seminary. The gunman, Dylan Roof (the ELCA church member) said he was attempting to begin a race war. A young white male. A gun. A church. A black church.

The ELCA has recently declared June 17 (the date of the shooting) to be a feast day in remembrance of the Emmanuel Nine, referring to



the nine who were killed. It is to be a day of repentance for racism, for an ELCA member’s shooting rampage, and for our inability to respond in any meaningful way that keeps shootings like these from happening again. The feast day is not an end in and of itself. The feast day is a day to contemplate the role we all play, large and small, in a society that has witnessed far too many random shootings, some of which are carried out because of hate.

Please join with me in praying for and with those who are victims of violence and racism. I urge you to join with me in doing more than that, however. Join me in holding your family tight, reaching out especially to boys and young men in your midst. Make yourself available to be a caring voice. Continue to help our children make connections beyond their own race and ethnicity through things like our summer mission trips and camp. In a time of uncertainty and division, let us at least agree that these things are vital. If we can begin together here, perhaps we will begin to see the kinder, healthier, more gentle future that God is drawing us into.

Blessed to be your pastor,
Pr. Scott

When you’re down to nothing,
God’s up to something

Adult Progressive Dinner Fun - Fellowship - Good Food

The Fellowship Committee is hosting a progressive dinner on October 19. Meet in the church parking lot at 4:45, so we can get in groups and carpool to different houses. The first stop will be appetizers. The second stop will be salads. The third stop will be main course. (Pork chops and scalloped potatoes) The fourth stop will be desserts and some laughs. The activity will be done between 9:00 - 9:30. When we meet at the church, we will get addresses for the different houses.

Please come!! One lucky participant will win a dinner for 2 from a local restaurant.

If you have questions, call Marilyn Bridges or Beckie Kanipe.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please sign up by October 6.



Rally Day Taco Bar

Come enjoy a taco bar at Zion after the 10:30 service on September 8th as we rally (regroup) back together after a beautiful summer.

Not a taco fan? Macaroni and cheese will also be a choice.

As with any big event, "many hands make for light work," so we're looking for some volunteers to help make

the potluck a success.

There is a sign up sheet on the church bulletin board to volunteer to bring food donations for the taco bar, desserts, and for help setting up and cleaning up.

Walk, skip, bike, drive or run....

Hope to see you there.



Fellowship

Come one, come all to a

Golf Scramble Sunday,

September 15 at the

Cadillac Country Club at 1:00 pm.

This outing is for everyone – all ages and all ability levels. You don't need to have a four-some or even a partner. We'll find the perfect group for you! A sign-up sheet has been placed on the church bulletin board. Please sign up by September 8 as this will help us set up four-some's. The cost is \$15 per person which includes a cart. Bring your payment with you on the 15th.

For more information, contact Rod Gibbs or Carolyn Emerson.

"Your Fellowship Committee"



Feeding America Distribution Program

Thanks to the generous donations from the congregation during the May Noisy Offering, Zion will be sponsoring the September Feeding America Food Truck that will bring 10,000 pounds of fresh food to be distributed in Cadillac. Approximately 180 people will be served with each person receiving 50 pounds of food. The August Noisy Offering will provide the remaining necessary funds needed to sponsor the Food Truck.

Most of those receiving the food items include the unemployable, disabled, and senior citizens. They are very appreciative of the kindness and generosity of the community. Any remaining food items will be delivered to shelters in the Cadillac area so that all the food will be used and nothing will go to waste.

We will need 10-15 volunteers from Zion to help with the distribution of food items on Thursday, September 26 at 1 PM. Distribution site is the Wexford Civic Center in Cadillac. If you are available and interested in volunteering, a sign up sheet is posted on the church bulletin board. Thank you!

The function of prayer is not to influence God but rather to change the nature of the one who prays. Soren Kierkegaard

Thanks!

Thank you all once again for your continued support during my dad's final days. Your cards, calls, words of encouragement, and prayers and visits at the funeral home were so appreciated and helpful during an extremely difficult time.

No greater people than our Zion family.
Dan & Sherry Stafford



SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR DRIVE

Our fall socks and underwear drive will be coming up in September. Watch for our basket of apples. You will have the opportunity to grab an apple and return with an item of socks or underwear. Monetary gifts are also greatly appreciated. Our drive will be held September 14-28.



SEPTEMBER NOISY OFFERING

The Noisy Offering for September will be our Socks and Underwear Ministry. During the year we give socks and underwear to struggling families. In December we have a table at Project Christmas, and help needy families have a better Christmas.

In the past we have given out over 5,000 items at this event. Please remember to bring your loose change the last Sunday of the month to help this ministry.

Come Unto Me.....I Will Give You Rest



A weary traveler trudges down the road carrying a heavy load on his shoulders. A kind passerby stops his vehicle and invites the traveler to ride with him, lay down his load and offers to take him to his destination.

The traveler accepts the invitation with relief and gives the load he carries to the one who compassionately offered to take it.

Yet.....as his journey continues, he reaches over and lifts the burdensome heavy load back onto his shoulders and as he sits in the presence of his benefactor he, once again, bends wearily as he carries his heavy load.

Sound familiar? How often have we accepted Christ's offer to relieve us of our burdens and then picked them back up again to worry, stew about and try to solve?

Human nature? Probably. But in the words of our Lord we read in Matthew 11:30 "Come unto me all you are are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Our challenge is to bring our concerns in life to our Father and leave them with Him.

That takes trust. That takes faith. That takes belief.

The invitation is for all.....He waits for our RSVP



Soup Alert!

Saturday Soup for Seniors will resume on Saturday, September 21st @ noon. Regular Soup Saturdays are the fourth Saturday of the month but due to church scheduling for September we will meet on the third Saturday. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board so sign up and join us for our first of the season "Soup Days."



Ministries Coordinator Report

This month's highlighted ministry is the Education Committee.

This group organizes Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. They just completed a successful week of VBS, which included 9 adult volunteers and 6 older youth volunteers from our congregation.

Approximately 22 children attended each day, including many friends of Zion families and children from the community surrounding our church. The Education Committee has also been busy organizing teachers, class

materials, and subs for the upcoming Sunday School year. In addition to teachers for each class this fall, there will be an extra older high student or adult each week to serve as a helper in the youngest classes.

You can support the work of the committee by volunteering to be a Sunday School Teacher, Sunday School Sub, Sunday School helper, or VBS volunteer. They would also welcome help for special Sunday School celebration days. The Education Committee meets as needed and would welcome new voices. For more information, contact Heidi Fenner or Jen Mazza.

Looking for crafters!

Zion's 15th Annual Festive Fall Craft Show will be Saturday, October 19, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. If you, someone you know, is a crafter and would like to have a booth in our show, please contact either Barb Taylor or Marilyn Bridges. Booth space is limited, so be sure you get your application in early!



The Lunch Bunch will be meeting for August at Clam Lake on Thursday, September 19th at 12:30.

Clam Lake is located at 106 S. Mitchell St., Cadillac. If you have any questions please Contact this month's hostess, Lola Swanson.



Sunday School

Join us Sunday September 8th as we begin another year learning about God's love. This year we will be rotating between classrooms for activities on the first day. Join us at 9:30 so you can meet your new teachers and enjoy snacks, crafts, and games.

This year we have four Sunday School classes:

The *Preschoolers and Kindergarteners* will meet in the room in front of the property office with teachers Jennifer Freeman and Heidi Fenner.

First and Second grade students will meet in the Joy classroom with teachers Liz Becktel, Jen Mazza, and Val Hanson.

Third, and Fourth graders will meet in the Peace room with teachers Melissa Benzenbeg and Amy Peterson.

Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh graders will meet in the Youth Room with Kip Damgard and Lindsey Torkko.

See you on September 8th!

Intentionally Intergenerational

Thank you to everyone who participated in the thinking around the table during the brunch at Zion. You named 31 different current or past activities in which you already see people of different generations coming together as a community at Zion.

Here's a compilation of your brainstorming lists for ways that we can intentionally grow in intergenerational relationships:

- Members of current groups explaining what they do to other groups and inviting them to visit or participate
- Sharing Skills (i.e. youth help older generations with computers or Stitchery participants holding a Learn-to-Quilt seminar)
- Assigning buddies from different generations to interview each other; match older with younger
- Encouraging others to give various committees, groups, serving rosters, or events a try
- Make sure one hymn each Sunday is one we all know
- Develop a praise team; include contemporary music
- Communicate when students have sporting events, musicals, etc. so that people from church can go
- Intergenerational service projects
- Mix up where we sit during worship and/coffee hour
- Drama--an intergenerational play during worship
- Dinners of various kinds--youth sponsored - mystery - progressive - paired with another event
- Participate in fellowship events

Thank you for your great ideas! Some of them are things individuals could try; some are ideas for committees to discuss, and others could be implemented if someone steps forward to lead. It will be interesting to see what grows out of these seeds for thought!



One Sunday morning the pastor noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it.

The six year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy and quietly said, "good morning, Alex."

"Good morning Pastor," he replied, still focused on the plaque.

"Pastor, what is this?"

The pastor replied, "Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service."

Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque.

Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked, "Which service, the 8:30 or the 10:30?"

From Newsletternewsletter.com





New prayer requests or updates as of August 11:

- Nancy G, health concerns
- Dan S, complications from radiation
- Jim W, surgery recovery
- Hefrani S, liver transplant recovery

Continuing prayer requests:

- * Deb B
- * Barb B
- * Colin C
- * Dan S
- * June E
- * Kay F
- * Norma J
- * Allena M
- * Jeanne S
- * Janet S
- * Shirley T
- * Elaine W
- * Arline W
- * Ron W

To add a prayer request to our list, please contact Pastor Scott or the church office by phone at 775-9821 or by email at zionlutherancadillac@gmail.com

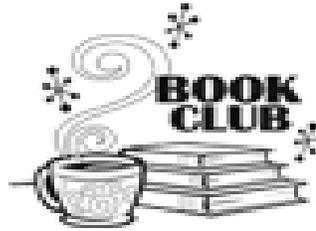
Zion Prayer Chain

Zion's Prayer Chain is happy to pray for requests that you have throughout the week. To request prayer, contact Linda Carlson at or the church office at 775-9821.

To join the Prayer Chain, contact Linda or the church office.

Prayer List Email Option

You can receive Zion's Weekly Prayer List by email. Those requesting the Prayer List by email will receive it on Friday afternoon each week. If you are interested, let Val know by calling the church office or email her at vhasonzion@gmail.com



Women's

Book Club

On Tuesday, September 10th the women's book club will be discussing the book *This Far by Faith: 20 Years at Cass Community* by Faith Fowler. Known for her deep faith and creative ideas, Faith serves as one of the city's leading pastors and as a nonprofit entrepreneur. As a co-founder of a wide array of Cass startups, Faith and her Cass community are turning one of the nation's most impoverished urban centers into a gold mine of talent and resources. Now, Faith Fowler shares dozens of inspiring true stories of men and women who found new hope and were able to joining building a healthier community through Cass. Book Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All ladies are welcome to join. If you have questions or would like a copy of the book, contact the September hostess, Marie Mercier.



* * * * *
 * Rev. Faith Fowler, author of *
 * This Far by Faith: Twenty Years *
 * at Cass Community will be in *
 * Cadillac on Saturday, *
 * September 21st. She will be *
 * speaking about her ministry *
 * and experiences with Cass *
 * Community Social Services *
 * at The First Presbyterian *
 * Church, *
 * 221 Harris Street. This event *
 * will be held at 2:00 p.m. *
 * * * * *



THE SERVING PAGE

September 2019

Ministry Coordinators:
8:30 Service-Shirley Gibelyou

10:30 Service-Linda McMartin

ALTAR GUILD

Lois Durham and Margie Johnson

FUNERAL COORDINATORS

Corlene Holmquist and Linda Tanner

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - 8:30

- 01 Sue Anderson
- 08 Marilyn Bridges
- 15 Chris Filak
- 22 Sue Anderson
- 29 Elsie Moore

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - 10:30

- 01 Lee Jones, Jeri LaRocque, and Jim Higgins
- 15 Kaitlyn Johnston, Colleen Luhtanen, and Allen Meyer

ACOLYTES

- 01 Marisa Mazza and Carter Lewis
- 15 Mason & Haley Freeman

LECTORS - 8:30/10:30

- 01 Marilyn Bridges/Lee Brown
- 08 Lois Durham/Barb Hazlett
- 15 Carolyn Emerson/Kathi Kohler
- 22 Val Hanson/Susan Yakimovich
- 29 Craig Johnson/Dan Vankerhoff

SOUND TECH - 8:30/10:30

- 01 Todd Bruggema/Joe Baumann
- 08 Scott Hanson/Lynn Gullekson
- 15 Dave Koenig/Kip Damgard
- 22 Anne Koschmider/Randy Mercier
- 29 Eric Gustafson/Jamie Peterson

NURSERY

- 01 No Nursery-Labor Day Weekend
- 08 Kylee Cleveland and Sue Conrandson
- 15 Heather, Autumn, and Madi Vanderstar
- 22 Ryan & Melissa Benzenberg
- 29 Alicia Damgard and Heather Dixon

GREETERS - 10:30

- 01 Allen Meyer and Susan Yakimovich
- 08 Bev Williams and Louise Wright
- 15 Mick & Gail McDonald
- 22 MaryAnn Babbitt and Barb Beauleaux
- 29 Mary Benson and John Carlson

USHERS - 10:30

- 01 Bobbie Brown and Eric Gustafson
George & Cathy Cochran
- 08 Pam Dahlstrom and Beckie Kanipe
Char Davis and John Carlson
- 15 Lynn & Kathy Gullekson
Jim Higgins and Jennifer Sück
- 22 Rick & Patti Swanson
Dan & Peggy Vantkerhoff
- 29 Dean & Mary Kidder
Mick & Gail McDonald

USHERS - 8:30

- 01 Joe & Deb Bielik
- 08 Woodie & Lois Durham
- 15 Jeff & Penny Johnson
- 22 Gordon & Cindy Evarts
- 29 Paula Campbell and Carol Neverth

COFFEE HOUR - 8:30

- 01 Jeff & Penny Johnson
- 08 John & Sue Anderson
- 15 Paula Campbell and Carol Neverth
- 22 Elsie Moore and Chris Venema
- 29 Jack and Joanne Benson

COFFEE HOUR - 10:30

- 01 Allen & Susan Meyer
Ron & Sue Smith
- 08 No Coffee Hour-Rally Day Taco Bar
- 15 Heidi Fenner & Chris Norkoli
Jen Brackenrich and Holly Williams
- 22 Jim & Joan Higgins
Maxine Swanberg
- 29 Barbara Jo Johnson and Melissa Sjogren
Keith & Leanna Johnson

PLEASE REMEMBER: It is up to you to arrange coverage if you are unable to serve on your scheduled day. THANK YOU!