

# Zion Lutheran Church

## Newsletter

### October 2023



Pastor Siebert's Message

October is a time of cooling weather and shortening hours of daylight. At the same time, harvest has been warming up to full steam with long days of work in the field. With many days remaining before the changing of the calendar there is probably a mixture of anticipation for the days ahead and a longing for days gone by. As the season of Advent draws ever nearer, the Church looks both ways as it moves forward.

The last day of October marks the celebration of the Reformation, noting the day in 1517 (now covered in chocolate and other treats) when a struggle was underway. There was then a longing for a time when things were clearer and less cluttered by the things of this world, and this desire was not just found in Luther's study.

There were calls by many for a reformation in the church. Over the years following the "95 Theses event" in Wittenberg, the purity of the Gospel (Good News) was increasingly proclaimed, unharnessed from the false teaching that Good Works were required to attain the promise of heaven: the teaching of indulgences, penance, and Purgatory were swept away and the glorious message of Scripture – that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, for the sake of Christ alone – shone forth in the Evangelical (Good Newsical) congregations. The baton that had been passed on from the forefathers in the faith was firmly grasped in order to pass it on, still glorious as ever, to coming generations.

While the notion of earning or working for God's favor was swept away by the clear

teaching of the Word of God, the Reformers did not, and indeed, could not brush Good Works under the rug. Here, we would do well to look back at what was rightly taught and look ahead to how we live out these truths in our remaining days.

John the Baptist called for fruits of repentant faith and James, in his epistle notes, "**Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.**" Thus, having been set free from being slaves to sin, producing dead works that do nothing to anyone's benefit, to use our freedom for the benefit of those placed around us. We are, called and created through Baptism, "Good Trees", therefore, good fruit (Good Works) is expected to be found hanging from our branches.

Your righteousness is a gift. It is Christ's Good Works that are made yours. You don't add anything to your salvation, but the Holy Spirit continues His work in you pruning and refining you into the image of our Lord. Therefore, we strive to walk in the newness of life in all of the callings that God has given us. In your calling as Christian it means regularly, and with priority, hearing and studying God's Word and receiving the Lord's Supper. But you are also called to bear good fruit for the sake of your neighbor: support the congregation with your time and treasures; come to the church gatherings and enjoy the fellowship; attend the voters' assembly to help plan for the days ahead; consider joining the LWML, LLL, altar guild, etc.; and look for ways to build up and pray for those who sit in the chairs next to you.

Looking back, we can see many faithful examples in those who came before us as we live out our lives today. Looking back, we can certainly see many failures in how we have placed our priorities. I am in constant need of reformation. This day, you have the forgiveness of sins. Even now, you are fully a righteous saint of God. Today, you have the pure Gospel handed down from the Apostles and Prophets. As we look forward to enjoying the fruits of this year's harvest, enjoy the fruits of the Reformation and participate in the foretaste of the Feast to Come and bring forth the Good Fruit that will benefit those around you today and generations yet to come.

Your servant in Christ,  
Pastor Siebert



**Lighting and Flooring Project** is nearly completed. We will be having worship services in the sanctuary starting September 30. Dedication of the new flooring and lighting is being planned for October 28 and 29. Thanks be to God.

**Wellspring Pregnancy + Health Center  
Defend Life Barbeque**

Sunday, October 1 from 11:00 to 1:00 pm at the Adams County Fairgrounds Community Building  
Dine in or carry out available.  
Free will donation

**Food Fun and Fellowship**

The next event is scheduled for Saturday, October 21, following the worship service. Soup and sandwiches will be served, followed by games and fellowship. These have been most enjoyable by those in attendance. All are welcome!!

**LLL Fall Rally** is Sunday, October 22, 2023 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Blue Hill, sponsored by Calvary Lutheran Church, Rosemont. Registration is from 5:00 to 6:00 PM with the banquet starting at 6:00. Banquet cost is \$14.00 per person. Speaker is Gary Wiech of Orphan Grain Train. Mail your registrations and payment to Jim Kirchner  
2285 Road S  
Blue Hill, NE  
Phone: 402-756-7487  
Deadline to register is Monday, October 16.

**Orphan Grain Train Fish Feed  
At Calvary Lutheran Church  
Rosemont, NE**

**Sunday, October 22 at 11:30 to 1:00**  
Fish-Potatoes-Onions-Salads-Desserts-Drinks  
Free will offering for Orphan Grain Train with proceeds going for shipping costs and general operations. We will accept good clean clothing, shoes, toys, quilts, non-breakable housewares, school supplies and health items.  
*Supplemental funding by Thrivent Financial*

**Peace Lutheran Church Trivia Night  
A Friendly Competition**

**Saturday, October 7, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM**  
Teams: 6 people per team; limit of 16 teams  
Price: \$60.00 per team  
Fundraiser for purchasing a new park bench for Heartwell Park. Additional funds will go to Zion Classical Academy and Heartland Lutheran High School.  
Suggested age: junior high – Adult  
Concessions will be available; bring your own beverage of choice.  
Points Bump: Bring Walmart gift card(s) to be donated to Wellspring Pregnancy + Health Center (maximum of 6 points)  
Register by calling the church office:  
402-462-9023

## October Birthdays



Carol Haase	Oct 3
Shane Aflague	Oct 5
Jarilyn Lyons	Oct 5
Michael Mankin	Oct 5
Austin Miller	Oct 5
Brandon Brown	Oct 6
Doyle Krueger	Oct 6
Marlene Penas	Oct 6
Joshua McCoy	Oct 8
Ashton Alloway	Oct 9
Rhonda Voboril	Oct 9
Noah Kusters	Oct 10
Brenda Hinrichs	Oct 11
Lynn Laaker	Oct 11
Shari Rayburn	Oct 11
Kevin Douglas	Oct 13
Tyson Klinger	Oct 14
Jessi McGrath	Oct 14
Steve Goodrich	Oct 19
Ian Brown	Oct 20
Dan Rayburn	Oct 21
Gwen Davidson	Oct 22
Rojeana Ryan	Oct 22
Chanea Aflague	Oct 24
Vicki Buss	Oct 24
Konnie Lofing	Oct 30



## October Baptism Birthdays



Adalynn Hinrichs	Oct 1
Caitlyn Schumm	Oct 3
Steven Lyons	Oct 7
Aiden Robinson	Oct 10
Tammie Alloway	Oct 11
Lori Niederklein	Oct 15
Anna Lyons	Oct 17
Ken Marble	Oct 17
Owen Brown	Oct 18
Garrett Halbmaier	Oct 20
Trevor Halbmaier	Oct 20
Carol Haase	Oct 21
Doyle Krueger	Oct 21
Madison Thiessen	Oct 22
Kevin Kopisch	Oct 25
Marlene Penas	Oct 26
Karyssa Standeven	Oct 27
Leandra Gandert	Oct 29
Kathi Post	Oct 29
Noah Kusters	Oct 30
Konnie Lofing	Oct 31
Butch Lyons	

## October Wedding Anniversaries



Jerry and Renae Hull	Oct 1, 1988
Larry and Kay Struss	Oct 8, 1967



# October 2023

# Zion Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Worship Service with Communion 10:15 AM Adult Bible Class 2:00 Life Chain	2 Fall Pastors' Conference 10:00 to 3:00 Quilt Tying at Peace Lutheran Church	3 7:00 PM Elders Meeting	4 8:30 ZCA Chapel with Pastor Don Pobanz 9:30 AM Bible-Hymn Study 6:00 PM Confirmation Class	5	6 6:00 PM Worship Service	7
8 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9 Fall Pastors' Conference 10:00 to 3:00 Quilt Tying at Peace Lutheran Church	10 Fall Pastors' Conference	11 8:30 ZCA Chapel with Pastor Doug Gaunt 9:30 AM Bible-Hymn Study 6:00 PM Confirmation Class	12	13 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study Breakfast 9:00 AM LWML 6:00 PM Worship Service with Communion	14
15 9:00 AM Worship Service with Communion 10:15 AM Adult Bible Class 4:00 PM Pastor Zwick Installation at St. Paul, Minden	16	17 7:00 PM Executive Board Meeting	18 8:30 ZCA Chapel with Pastor Micah Gaunt 9:30 AM Bible-Hymn Study 6:00 PM Confirmation Class	19	20 6:00 PM Worship Service 7:00 PM Food, Fun and Fellowship	21
22 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 5:00 PM LLL Fall Rally Calvary Lutheran Church	23	24	25 8:30 ZCA Chapel with Pastor Siebert 9:30 AM Bible-Hymn Study 6:00 PM Confirmation Class	26	27 6:00 PM Worship Service with Communion	28
29 9:00 AM Worship Service with Communion (Reformation) 10:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	30	31 Reformation	November 1 All Saints Day	A ten-year-old little girl was asked by another classmate, "what is it like to be a Christian?" The ten-year-old replied "it's like being a pumpkin. God picks	you from the patch, brings you in, washes all the dirt off of you. Then he cuts open the top and scoops out all of the yucky stuff. He	removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. and then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see.