

September, 2011



THE BELL RINGER

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
27182 3320 East Street
La Moille, IL 61330
(815) 539-7029

Pastor Kevin Weeks: Home (815) 539-7820
Cell (815) 303-7050

Website: www.zionofclarion.org

Greetings Zion/Clarion Family,

The end of summer is in sight. The school year has started for most folks. Calendars have flipped to a fall schedule. What expectations do students have? What expectations do teachers and parents have of this new year? What are you expecting this year?

I do hope you are expecting great things. We have a God of great things. God has wonderful plans for you. Jeremiah writes these words of hope to people in Exile. *"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."* Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV)

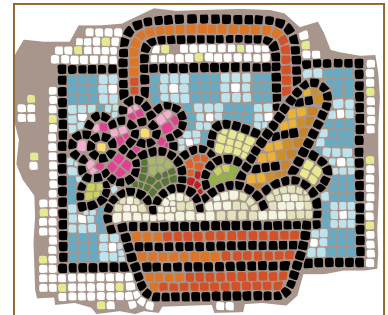
Expect great things from God to work in your life this year. Live in the hope that God will work in your mind and your heart to grow you to be more like the child he wants you to be.

On the other hand, what expectations do you have of other people? Do you expect them to do things *your* way? Do you have expectations for your needs to be met by other people? We often lift up incorrect expectations of others. And then we are greatly upset when they do not meet our expectations. We get mad at them for disappointing us - that is selfish and rude.

As we begin a new school year, expect great things from God. Expect great things from yourself. Have realistic expectations of others. It is not up to others to bring you happiness or joy or peace. You will experience less frustration, and a more enjoyable year.

Shalom,
Pastor Kevin Weeks <><

CHURCH PICNIC



Mark your calendar! Evangelism is inviting everyone to a Rally Day church picnic on Sunday, September 11th at 12:00 noon. Please bring a dish to pass according to family size. Meat will be provided. Fun and games for all. Weather permitting we will be outside, so you may want to bring your lawn chairs.

Benevolence Report – June.

Beginning Balance, 6/01/11	\$ 0.00
Receipts for June	<u>797.50</u>
Subtotal	\$ 797.50
Expenses for June:	
Zion VBS	\$ 35.00
Lutheran Disaster Response	60.00
Mendota Lutheran Home	408.75
New Life Africa	273.75
Transport for Christ	<u>20.00</u>
Total Expenses for June	\$ 797.50
Ending Bank Balance 6/30/11	\$ 0.00

Barb Donahue, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report – June

Beginning Balance 6/1/11	\$ 6,055.98
June Offerings:	8,546.75
Relay for Life	30.00
Gift—sign shipping	349.28
Transfer from Benevolence	<u>35.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 15,017.01
June Expenses:	<u>14,190.54</u>
Ending Balance 6/30/11:	\$ 826.47

Barb Donahue, Treasurer

MEMORY VERSE

The memory verse for Pentecost is Matthew 5:16: *Jesus said:* “Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Evangelism

Anyone who needs a ride or is willing to offer rides to church should contact Carolyn Motter. She will be coordinating transportation for members who need a ride to church. She can be reached at 815-538-2606.

Benevolence Report – July.

Beginning Balance, 7/01/11	\$ 0.00
Receipts for July	
Disaster Response	40.00
Lutheran World Relief	100.00
Mendota Food Pantry	220.00
Mendota Lutheran Home	212.00
New Life Africa Inter.	302.00
LAMP	20.00
Lutheran CORE	20.00
Zion LYO	<u>15.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 929.00
Expenses for July:	0.00
Ending Bank Balance 7/31/11	\$ 929.00

Council has requested that we write benevolence checks every 2-3 months to save on mailing expenses and time, so I am holding all funds this month while we give this a trial.
Barb Donahue, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report – July

Beginning Balance 7/1/11	\$ 826.47
July Offerings:	9,504.22
Relay for Life	980.45
Gift	<u>4,000.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 15,311.14
July Expenses:	<u>13,420.83</u>
Ending Balance 7/31/11:	\$ 1,890.31

Gift to Savings: \$ 3,302.73

Barb Donahue, Treasurer

THANK YOU

We, at Abigail Women's Clinic, thank you for the 14 baby bottles filled with love offerings. As of July 14, 2011, Zion Lutheran Church has given \$421.08. Thank you for being there for the unborn and their families.

Joyce Fassig, Director

Any remaining baby bottles may still be returned to Christy Liesse



Blood Donation



The American Red Cross will be collecting blood at the La Moille Lions Club on Thursday, September 8th, 2011 from 12:00 pm–6:00 pm. For an appointment, please call Diane Schlegel at 815-638-2711. Please bring a photo ID or Red Cross Donor Card. Sponsored by La Moille Community.

Prayer Concerns & bulletins

Our Worship Committee has a procedure for sharing prayer requests in the bulletin. Requests on the Prayer Chain or other specific requests will be honored by putting those names in the bulletin for the next 4 weeks. The hope is that if a request needs to be in longer, we will receive an update and be better able to pray for specifics. The four week limitation was put on because some requests remained on for very long periods of time with seemingly no one knowing who the people were or why we were praying.

The Worship Committee has recently added another category, those requests we know will be long term. That list will remain in place until asked to be removed. The Committee hopes this will be helpful.

Thanks for your prayers. They are appreciated.

Worship Committee

LCMC CONVENTION & NEWS

LCMC is having their Annual Gathering and National Convention on Sunday evening through Wednesday noon, October 2-5, 2011 in Des Moines, Iowa. Our congregation is allowed two delegates and as many guests as we would like to send. If you would like to represent our congregation, please talk to Pastor Kevin or a council member.

The Illinois churches of LCMC are having their gathering at Calvary Church in Lee, IL on September 10th, 2011—just up the road from us—Pastor Kevin will share more information in the bulletin when it arrives.

Lutheran Marriage Encounter

Lutheran Marriage Encounter is a weekend get-away for couples to learn more about each other and grow in communication skills. Over 2 million couples have participated. Some highlights:

- Fri evening to late Sun afternoon
- \$45 registration fee, and an opportunity for a confidential contribution at the end of the weekend which covers hotel, meals, materials, other expenses
- Led by a Lutheran pastor and spouse and 3 other highly trained lay couples
- Series of presentations each followed by an opportunity for every couple to individually reflect and discuss in the privacy of their own room—a totally private experience between husband and wife—no group discussions
- Check out www.godlovesmarriage.org for more info, or talk to Pastor Kevin or
- Website has contact information for specific weekends or to register

Sept 30-Oct 2, Peoria

Oct 14-16, Chicago/Shauburg

Nov 11-13, St. Louis

Feb 17-19, 2012, Quincy

BACK TO CLASS

Confirmation classes will begin Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 pm beginning August 31st.

A congregational prayer time from 6:30 to 6:45 will follow the confirmation class. An Adult Bible Study will follow the prayer time from 6:45–7:45 in which we will ponder the texts for the following Sunday.

The Sunday morning Adult Bible Study will resume on September 11th at 10:30 am. We will continue to study the “Seven reasons why you can trust the Bible”.

Sunday morning congregational prayer time continues each Sunday morning from 8:30-8:45 am.

Please consider joining a prayer time or study group or both.



September Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 1 Teresa Rod
- 2 Thomas Stamberger
- 3 Brayden Larabee
- 6 Amy Furar
- 11 Sarah Krzyzek
- 13 Marge Ultch
Matt Furar
Missy Silfies
- 15 Tammy Stuepfert
- 19 Stephanie Cartwright
- 21 Jessica Forristall
- 22 Leslie Motter
- 23 Justin Sibigroth
- 24 Laurie Geuther
- 26 Jade Geuther
- 29 Emily Stamberger

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 9 Janet Stuepfert
- 12 Brynne Wendelken
- 14 Leah Carolynn Stamberger
- 22 Kyle Rod
- 26 Nathan Furar

Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 Myron and Marilyn Goetz
- 5 Gary and Lisa Gascoigne
- 14 Steve and Kristi Koch
- 20 Paul and Lynn Furar
Matthew and Brittany Wolff
- 29 Amy and Kenny Ladson
- 30 Kyle and Delina Goetz



Thank you

*Many thanks and praises to all who prayed, sent cards and made food. It truly is a blessing and we appreciate all you do for us. God is awesome and we continue to see His blessings daily.
Mike, Missy, Angie, Matt & Lauren*



WORSHIP NOTES

On Sunday, **September 11th** we will be celebrating Rally Day with the first day of Sunday School. In worship we will have a blessing of the backpacks and students and teachers and all those who work in the education field. Kids, please bring your backpacks with some school materials for a special blessing.

On **October 9th** we will commemorate St. Luke with a healing service with communion. When coming forward for communion each member will also receive a laying on of hands for healing and wholeness.

YOUTH TEAM

The Zion Youth Team will be meeting on Saturday, September 10th from 5:00-7:00 pm for a pizza party at the home of Jim & Janet Hamacher. The Youth team committee will meet on Tuesday, September 27th at 7:00 pm.



Please remember our military members in your prayers. They are:
Josh Morehead
John Labriola



September Services

Date	Greeter	Reader	Piano/Organ	Special Music	Acolytes	Communion
Sun. Sept. 4 9:00 a.m.	Howard & Marion Schammel	Gloria Cogdal	Myron Goetz	Clarion Choir	Alan & Baylee	
Sun. Sept. 11 9:00 a.m.	Marilyn Goetz & Lori Rosenwinkel	Leslie & Cara Motter	Annette Stamberger		Elizabeth & Luke	Christy Liesse & Barb Donahue
Sun. Sept. 18 9:00 a.m.	Kay Stuepfert & Barb Donahue	Chris Stamberger	Kristi Koch		Lauren & Baylee	
Sun. Sept. 25 9:00 a.m.	Gloria Cogdal & Carolyn Motter	Christy Liesse	Kristi Koch		Elizabeth & Morgynn	Sarah Weeks Suzanne K. Newt & Mary Lundquist



Women's Activities & News

Tues., Sept. 6th—Hannah Circle—7:00 pm
 Thurs., Sept. 8th - Sewing - 8:30 am
 Thurs., Sept. 22nd - Sewing - 8:30 am

Looking ahead:
 Tues., Oct. 4th - Taste of Clarion Salad Bar
 Sat., Oct. 22nd - Church cleaning

It's time to start sewing again! Please join us on Thursday mornings on September 8th and 22nd - we welcome both sewers and non-sewers.

Be sure to watch in the narthex for the sign-up sheet for the salad bar - we need lots of salads and workers - this is our only fund raiser!

The women have selected their new name for their organization to go along with LCMC - W.O.W. which stands for Women Of the Word. We hope to have a General meeting on November 1st. More info will be forthcoming.

W.O.W. recently made a \$100.00 donation to Missy Silfies' team, Missy's Miracles, in the Bureau County Relay for Life event.

Be sure to save Saturday, October 22nd on your calendar to help clean various areas of the church. Many hands make fast work.

STEWARDSHIP SIGHTINGS

MAF - Mission Aviation Fellowship

"In many areas of the world, avgas has become very difficult to obtain. The problem is so serious that some of our Indonesian bases must purchase a year's supply of fuel at one time. Availability is inconsistent, and delivery may take several months. The implications for MAF service to missions and ministry to the world's poor are very serious. MAF is answering this challenge by replacing a number of our planes with jet-fueled craft such as Caravans and Kodiaks." - John Boyd, President and CEO, MAF

I was working I my rice field out in the jungle about six years ago, and I fell on a stick and it went into my stomach and ripped me open. My insides were starting to come out and I was all by myself. I ran back to the village, holding my stomach. I thought I was going to die. If MAF hadn't helped me, I wouldn't be alive." Dones, Villager, Kalimantan, Indonesia

Our support of Christian groups like MAF, their staff, Brad and Susan Rhoads, does make a difference in the world.

THRIVENT

Thanks to all Thrivent members who have designated CHOICE dollars to Zion Lutheran. Since the program began, we have received nearly \$1500 in our account. We have spent money for the confirmation plaques and \$200 for food for our Relay for Life cookout. Any church group who would like to apply for funds for a project should talk to Chris Stamberger. She needs 2 or 3 other Thrivent members to help decide how the money is allocated.

Deadlines:

Please get bulletin information to Jacob Weeks before Wednesday at 8:00pm. You may put info in his box at church or via email at:

j.weeks12@yahoo.com; phone: (815 539-7820)

Material for the Bell Ringer should be at the church or emailed to Barb Donahue by the 20th of each month Email address:

barb61330@yahoo.com (phone: 815 638-2638)

Shoes for Orphaned Souls

The shoes we collected from June 15 to July 15 were added to others for a total of 2552 pair of shoes to be sent to Romania. A mission team will go over in October to distribute those shoes to children in need.

Want to help distribute shoes? Join them for a Mission Trip to Romania with Another Child Foundation - Oct 13-23, 2011. Approximate cost of \$2,400. Call 815-303-1725 for more info. To see more of what Another Child Foundation does, check out their website: another-child.org

New Life Africa



Our international focus mission, New Life Africa International, has requested that we switch our

funds from the boys dormitory to the new school building fund. Although the dormitory has not been completely paid for, they are in desperate need of funds to upgrade their school buildings in order to comply with new government regulations. So any recent benevolent contributions for NLAI will be earmarked for the new school. For more information see their newsletter in the narthex.



MASS - Mendota Area Senior Services

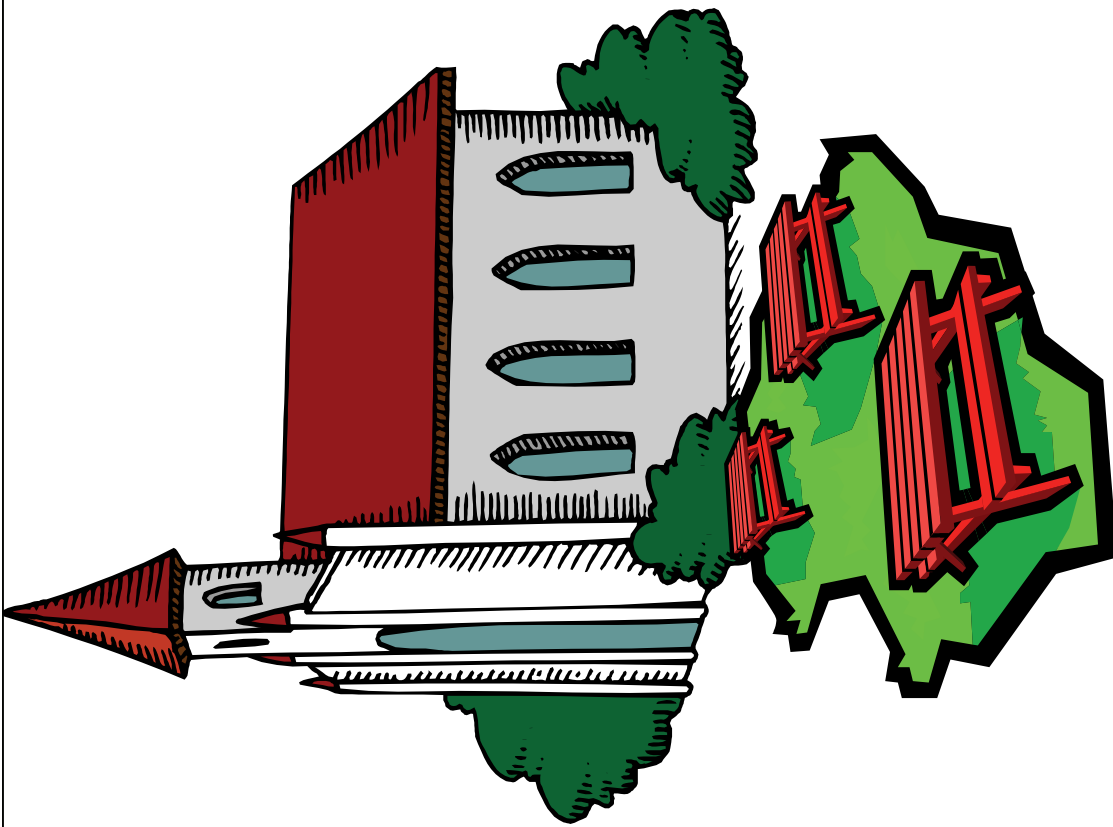
MASS is very grateful for the financial support they have received this past year. It has been a difficult year, but with adequate donations they remain in business to assist seniors in the 10 township area around Mendota.

Medicare Drug Prescription Plans - enrollment period ---- Oct 15-Dec 7, 2011 THIS IS A CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEARS. Call MASS to make appointment to discuss your options. 815-539-7700.

Fall Newsletter in the narthex with lots more info.

September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00p—Parish Ed	2	3 8:00a—Worship Committee
4 9:00 am Worship Service	5 Labor day	6 7:00p—Hannah Circle	7 5:30p-Confirmation 6:30p-Prayer time 6:45p-Adult Bible Study	8 8:30a—Sewing 12:00-6:00p— Blood mobile	9	10 5-7:00p—Youth Pizza Party
11...Rally Day 9:00 am Worship Service With Holy Communion 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study 12:00 pm Church picnic	12	13	14 5:30p-Confirmation 6:30p-Prayer time 6:45p-Adult Bible Study	15	16	17
18 9:00 am Worship Service 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study	19	20 7:00p—Church Council	21 5:30p-Confirmation 6:30p-Prayer time 6:45p-Adult Bible Study	22 8:30a—Sewing	23	24
25 9:00 am Worship Service With Holy Communion 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study	26	27 7:00p-Evangelism Committee 7:00p-Youth Team Comm.	28 5:30p-Confirmation 6:30p-Prayer time 6:45p-Adult Bible Study	29	30	



Rally Day & Picnic September 11th

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Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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LA MOILLE, IL 61330



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