



May 2021 Newsletter

All the news that's fit to print from A to Zion

Zion Lutheran Church
226 Corley Mill Road
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Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
9:00am-2:00pm

Staff
Nathan Gragg
Pastor
Nathan@zionlexsc.com

Walt Hampton
Director of Youth,
Education, and
Communications
Walt@zionlexsc.com

Julie Branham,
Director of Music
Julie@zionlexsc.com

Julie Branham,
Financial Administrator
Fin_Admin@zionlexsc.com

Mark Stoneberg
Facilities Manager
Sexton@zionlexsc.com



**Rooted in Christ
Growing in Faith
Reaching Out in Love**

Join Us for Sunday Worship in May

9:00am Indoor Worship
in the Family Life Center

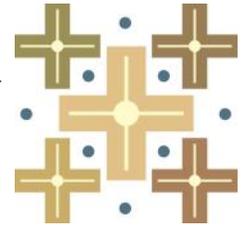
9:00am Online Worship
via Facebook Live

10:00am Drive In Worship
in the Parking Lot



Sunday, May 2nd

We will recognize and pray for **Seminarian Emily Whitlow** who is completing her first year of teaching parish at Zion.



Sunday, May 9th

On **Mother's Day** we will pray for mothers and those who nurture and care for us. We will also pray for **baby Rhea Williamson** who will be baptized following Drive In Worship.

Sunday, May 16th

Bring your favorite pasta to donate to **Mission Lexington**. We will pray for our partners at Mission Lexington and for those they help.



Sunday, May 23

The Day of Pentecost – You are invited to **wear red** (wherever you worship) as we give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Sunday, May 30

Last Sunday of Drive In Worship
(to take a break from the summer heat).
Look for more info on
June worship opportunities soon.





Congregation Council



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 275TH ANNIVERSARY

An Announcement about Zion's New Facilities Manager

Dear members and friends of Zion Lutheran Church,

I am happy to share with you that **Mark Stoneberg** has been hired as our new Facilities Manager at Zion Lutheran Church. Mark brings with him a wealth of experience in landscaping, janitorial services, planning, and customer service, all of which make him a great fit for the role of Facilities Manager. Just as importantly, Mark has a love for Zion and servant's heart and I am excited to welcome him as a member of our staff team.



Mark and his wife Karyn have been members of Zion since 2015. They have two children, Serena (26) who lives in Chicago and Noah (21) who lives in Lexington. Mark's hobbies and interests include working in his yard, traveling, swimming, and photographing lightning strikes (see below). Mark is also an active participant in the Nomads Sunday School class and Wednesday Night Live activities at Zion.

Mark's first day as Facilities Manager will be Monday, May 3rd. In the coming weeks Mark will be working with our staff to finalize his on-site schedule. You can anticipate that Mark will be at Zion during regular week day work hours as well as Sunday mornings, and eventually Wednesday evenings, when worship and other activities are taking place.

Please help me in welcoming Mark to this new role. As always, thank you for your ongoing support of the staff at Zion Lutheran Church.



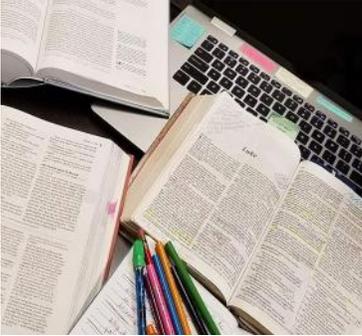
Photo by Mark Stoneberg

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan Gragg".

Pastor Nathan Gragg

Adult Sunday School - Sunday Mornings 11:00am on Zoom



The Nomads Sunday School is hosting all adults for their Sunday Morning class this fall. They are continuing their book study on NT Wright's book *The Challenge of Jesus*. Join them on Zoom at 11:00am Sunday Mornings all are welcome.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/85721846616>

Meeting ID: 857 2184 6616 Passcode: Godis

All are invited and if anyone has questions they can contact Bob McCombs at 803-603-0882 - bob.mcombs58@gmail.com

GraceWorks 2021: Give Love Back July 25th-29th at Ebenezer Lutheran Church

Our annual service experience is back in person this year. We will gather each day in Columbia for service, worship, and learning experiences. Zion plays a key part of planning this event this year and would love to have more Youth involved.

Contact Walt to signup now: Walt@zionlexsc.com



Youth End of Year picnic. May 5th 6:30-7:30pm

All Youth 6th to 12th grade welcome!

Join us 6:30-7:30pm behind the Family Life Center for food and games to end the school year!



I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is. Ephesians 3:19 CEV

Summer 2022 could hold a life changing experience for your youth!

From July 24-28 2022 we will join over 30,000 other Lutheran Youth from around the ELCA and beyond in Minneapolis MN for *Boundless* the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering. Because we will need to begin travel plans, fundraising, and team building this fall I am looking to begin a list of interested Youth **NOW** so we can start planning.

(actual travel dates could be July 23-29 depending on flight availability)

Walt know if you have any questions or to signup now: Walt@zionlexsc.com

MUSIC NOTES



Choir and Handbell friends,

As more and more of us are getting vaccinated, I feel like we're getting closer to being able to create beautiful music together again. I'm currently planning on cranking our music programs back to a regular schedule in the fall. (Keep in mind that this is subject to change based on COVID cases at that time.)

I also just wanted to say thanks to everyone for your support and patience as we've learned how to do new things and make adjustments to make it all work during the last year. Your kindness is much appreciated!

-Julie

If you have any questions, or if you'd like to share your musical talents in some way, please contact Julie at julie@zionlexsc.com.

**My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast;
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises! Psalm 57:7**

To Tickle Your Funny Bone

Ya'll Know Yours Is A Redneck Church If...

- The finance committee refuses to provide funds for the purchase of a chandelier because none of the members knows how to play one.
- People ask, when they learn that Jesus fed the 5000, whether the two fish were bass or catfish, and what bait was used to catch 'em.
- When the pastor says, "I'd like to ask Bubba to help take up the offering," and five guys and two women stand up.
- Opening day of deer season is recognized as an official church holiday.
- A member of the church requests to be buried in his 4-wheel-drive truck because "It ain't never been in a hole it couldn't get out of."
- The choir is known as the "OK Chorale."
- Boone's Farm "Tickle Pink" is the favorite wine for communion.
- In a congregation of 500 members, there are only seven last names in the church directory.
- There is a special fundraiser for a new church septic tank.
- Finding and returning lost sheep isn't just a parable.
- High notes on the organ set the dogs on the floor to howling.
- People think "rapture" is what you get when you lift something too heavy.
- The baptismal font is a #2 galvanized washtub.
- The choir robes were donated by and embroidered with the logo from Billy Bob's Barbecue.
- The collection plates are really hubcaps from a '56 Chevy.





LUTHERAN CHURCH

Serving in Worship



We need your help to make Worship happen at Zion. We are looking to fill in a few serving roles this month. See below and let the office know if you can help! ZionChurch@zionlexsc.com

	May 2	May 9	May 16	May 23	May 30
9:00 am – Indoors					
Door/Check In:	Jeff Beck	Lee Caulder	Jeff Beck	Jeff Beck	Lee Caulder
Table/Sign In:	Jill Beck	Denise Caulder	Jill Beck	Jill Beck	Denise Caulder
Sound:	Robbie Bigham	Robbie Bigham	Robbie Bigham	Robbie Bigham	Robbie Bigham
Slides:	Todd Elrod	Todd Elrod	Todd Elrod	Todd Elrod	Todd Elrod
Livestream:	Walt Hampton	Walt Hampton	Walt Hampton	Walt Hampton	Walt Hampton
10:00 am - Drive In					
Set Up:					
Sound/Radio:	Robbie Bigham	Robbie Bigham	Robbie Bigham	Robbie Bigham	Robbie Bigham
Traffic Attendant:	Roger Anderson			Roger Anderson	Roger Anderson
Clean up:					

What does that server do?

Door/Check In: Be here by 8:45 am to greet worshipers and take temperatures.

Table/Sign In: Be here by 8:45 am to greet worshipers and record attendance.

Sound: Be here by 8:30 am to run sound board. Now training. It's easier than you think.

Slides: Be here by 8:45 am to advance our in house slide show during worship.

Livestream: Be here by 8:15 am to setup online livestream, then run livestream during worship. Now open to train new volunteers. Reach out now to find out more.

Drive In Set Up & Cleanup: Be here by 9:30am to setup for outdoor worship and cleanup after worship. Combines with traffic or sound role easily.

Sound/Radio: Be here by 9:30 am to setup and run sound for worship. Now training new volunteers. Great intro to our tech roles.

Traffic Attendant: Be here by 9:45 am to direct traffic in and out of the parking lot and direct cars as they park and back out. This role easily combines with the cleanup role.



LUTHERAN CHURCH

In our Prayers

Current Needs

Jerald Drafts
Barry Granda
Melba Ivey
Wyman Kleckley
Ray Kyzer
Jane Langston (National Health)
Warren Peebles
Sara Rymer
Becky Saville
Betty Shaw
Carolette Turner

Homebound

Betty Baker (Carolina Gardens)
Les Caton (Brookdale Harbison)
Nellie Drafts
Gene Hendrix (Westminster)
Thelma Kleckley (Oakleaf)
Thomas Kleckley (Oakleaf)

Expecting Mothers

Anna Wingard

Military

Brett Creasman (Army)
Burton Flake (Army)
Matt Mayer (Air Force)
Chris Rauch (Army)

Friends of the Congregation

Lynn Balch (health, wife of Craig Balch)
Ann Black (stroke, cousin of Al and Carla Fallaw)
Hart Cartrette (cancer, friend of the Leaparts)
Mike Corley (testing, friend of the Leaparts)
Noreen Hamm (liver transplant, friend of Geri Nilsestuen)
Helen Harman Hinton (heart, daughter of James & Iris Harman)
Tommy Harman (cancer, friend of Janet Boltjes)
Tressie Hayes (breast cancer, friend of Carla Fallaw)
Esther Hempel (health, mother of Carol Hunter)
Heather Hobbs (health, friend of Bridgett Ridgell)
Arthur Holladay (health, uncle of Bonnie Phillips)
Pam Holladay (health, mother of Bonnie Phillips)
Colin Hungerpiller (health, friend of Stefanie Wingard)
Jessica Seriah Housley & family (cancer)
Terry Hubert (cancer, Ray Kyzer's son-in-law)
Sue Jaeckel (cancer, friend of Geri Nilsestuen)
Shelly Koenig (cancer, daughter of Tom Panyard)
Sarah May (health, aunt of Mary Hampton)
Hayley Meetze (cancer, friend of Janet Phillips)
Russell Meetze (cancer, family of Edith Clark)
Hope Melnyk (stroke, niece of Walt Hampton Sr.)
Deanna Morrical (cancer, Hanna family)
Bo O'Neal (son Charlie and Marsha O'Neal)
Donna Oneal (surgery, cousin of Marsha and Charlie Oneal)
Mackenzie Pinnell (Hodgins lymphoma, friend of Donna Corley)
Donna Riggins (cancer, sister in law of Rachael Rhoden)
Sylvia Ruff (cancer, aunt of Julie Branham)
Teresa Sharpe (cancer, friend of Al and Carla Fallaw)
Robert Tolar (health and family, friend of Bob McCombs)
John Whiteside (cancer, friend of the Shaws)
Kay Whitley (health concerns, sister of Iris Harman)

Suzette Porth upon the death of her brother-in-law Albert Porth.

The family and friends of Barbara Brown who died in March.

The Phillips family upon the death of Bonnie's grandmother Catherine Holladay.

*To ensure we have accurate information on our prayer list please let us know as prayer requests change.
To make updates or additions to the prayer list, contact the church office at 356-2297.*



Congregation Council

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, March 08, 2021 + 7:00 pm Zoom Meeting

Minutes presented by Janice Sult

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Suzette at 7:03 pm, ten members were present plus Pastor Nathan and Walt Hampton. Kimberly Rauch and Sara Rymer were absent.

Devotions: Betsy Burn shared an inspirational devotion from the Wisconsin ELCA Synod's "The Difference". Scripture from Romans 5 gave us suggestions for being "thankful, inspired and grateful".

Report of the Secretary: Kimberly Rauch provided February minutes via email. Motion to accept, second, approved as printed.

Report of the Treasurer: Betsy Burn emailed report for dissemination and verbally review with council. Betsy pointed out report differences as prepared by Starr and Dave McKinley. Council members noted that funds for choir robes had not been added to Temporary Restricted Funds and that \$5,000 was being funded monthly to Capital Improvements. It was questioned if there would be an audit prior to Starr leaving. Being unsure, the inquiry will be followed up. Reports will be filed for audit.

Report of the Pastor: Pastor Nathan submitted a written report via email. Lenten services focusing on community going well and continuing. With vaccines been given and Covid incidents declining, Pastor was able to make three home visits and one facility visit. Pastor will consult with staff concerning the status of the church on current COVID situation. A mailing will follow to inform congregation of new policies. Pastor Nathan announced that the 2021 SC Synod Assembly will be virtual on June 26, 2021. Voting members will be asked to volunteer as Zion representatives.

Executive Council: Did not meet in February. No report.

Ministry Team Reports

Christian Ed: (Bridget Ridgell) Sunday School packets have been mailed. Discussion for the 2021 VBS will be conducted soon.

Fellowship: (Sue Anderson) no report

InReach: (Janice Sult) Donna Corley is currently leading this ministry.

Mutual Ministry: (Sara Rymer) Mary Nell gave report and noted that interviews were taking place for the Facilities Manager position with Steve Shumpert's upcoming retirement.



Congregation Council

Outreach: (Mary Nell Panyard) Snack packs were delivered for February with April being the next delivery date. Mary Nell has been delivering the snack packs and enjoying the experience.

Property: (Ernest Beck) no report.

Stewardship: (Kimberly Rauch) no report

Technology: (Ross Hunter) Russell and the technology team are working toward solutions to improve the internet speed, reliability, and connectivity. A proposal was presented to council from Reliable Technology Solutions to install and program new networking equipment that would accommodate faster speeds and better connections with the church office and the Family Life Center. Reliable Technology's quote for the technology upgrade was \$1,513.86. Bids have been solicited to look into Zion's technology and what is needed now and in future. Current equipment is seven years old. By switching out the hardware, speed and reliability will be increased. Zion is converting to Spectrum Business as internet provider to reflect lower costs. Concluding discussion, the motion was made and seconded to proceed with the technology upgrade.

Russell has worked tirelessly keeping Zion's technology working and needs help. Volunteers are requested to assist with even with simple tasks. Everyone is asked to thank Russell for his dedicated work.

Worship & Music: (Lee Caulder) No report just noted that Denise Caulder would Worship and Music ministry co-chair.

Youth: (Kathryn Barton) Walt Hampton reported that Prayer Friend packets had been assigned. Youth continue to meet in Zion parking lot Wednesdays. Kathryn Barton has joined Youth group as a Youth Leader (applause all around). Hannah Elrod has completed her Eagle Scout Project. The playground looks great physically and only paperwork remains for her to complete.

Business / Action Items

Pastor Nathan initiated discussion of sanctuary repairs preceding his report.

Committee co-chairs have been appointed to begin the ground work for the sanctuary renovation project. Ron Leaphart and Diane Richardson have agreed to serve as co-chairs. They will recruit congregational team members as no experience is necessary just drive and motivation. The team will be reporting directly to church council. With damages increasing day by day, it is vital to initiate the project. Professional inspectors will be contracted to investigate the damage and structural status that can be seen and unseen. Their report will then be presented to Zion church council. Emphasis was placed on hiring the right general contractor to achieve repairs/renovations in the proper order. \$150,807.96 is currently in the temporary restricted Capital/Renovation account to begin the project. The motion was made and seconded to task the Sanctuary Team and proceed with the project.

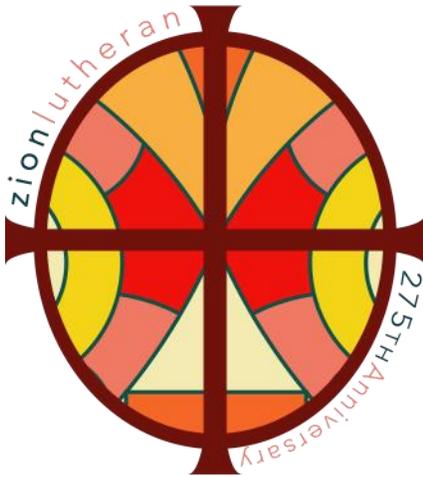
Joys and Concerns were shared.

Meeting closed at 7:44 pm by Suzette after The Lord's Prayer



LUTHERAN CHURCH

Congregation Council



May Giving Update

Giving Info Year to date April 28, 2021
Offering **anticipated** year to date: \$ 149,057
Offering **received** year to date: \$ 127,041
Difference year to date: \$ **-22,016**

Gifts to Zion and Partner Feeding Ministries this Year
Mission Lexington: **\$275 & 325 pounds of food**
Snack Packs Ministry: **\$ 500**
Matthew 25 Lunch Ministry: **\$ 925**

Giving at Zion - Recent Memorials & Honorariums Given

To General Fund

In memory of Bruce Corley by *Paul & Mary Hook, Thomas & Janice Stoudemire, Bryan & Leah Price, Mardi Valentino, Thomas & Ginger Sox, Margaret Sox, Steve & Janice Sult, Judy Cramer, Glenna Osier, Al & Carla Fallaw, Tim Driggers, Julian & Betty Fincher, Curtis & Frances Lee, James & Iris Harman, Hilltoppers, Ed & Betty Corley, Ron & Janice Lindler, Sylvia & John Dobrovolny & Family, Hal & Carollette Turner, Eddie & Gail Septon, James & Carol Metts, Guy & GeGe Kimball, Jerald & Margaret Drafts & Family, David & Jane Park, Jo & Charlie Mayer, Donna M. Smith, Wayne & Gail Buff.*

To Snack Packs

In memory of Louise Drafts & IMO Bruce Corley by *Burns & Jan Corley*



Zion Children's Sunday School at Home: Feed My Sheep
8 views · 1 day ago



Fourth Sunday of Easter + Zion Lutheran Church + A...
4 views · 3 days ago



Zion Children's Message 4/22/21
7 views · 6 days ago



Zion Children's Sunday School: Doubt
14 views · 1 week ago



Third Sunday of Easter + Zion Lutheran Church + A...
7 views · 1 week ago

Have you visited Zion's YouTube channel lately?

If you weren't aware over the last year Zion has been posting not only livestreams of our worship service but various other videos and highlights on our YouTube channel. We have 2 weekly Children's Videos, a section of history videos from our 275th anniversary last year, and of course our weekly worship videos. Go check it out now and don't forget anytime you visit our page, or any of our social media, make sure that you 'like' and 'subscribe'.

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR YOUTUBE](#)

May Birthdays

1st	Thelma Kleckley Zack Grant	19th	Calvin Riley
2nd	Steve Shumpert	20th	Cooper Grant
3rd	Linda Kirszenbaum Tyler Fox	21st	Terry Fetner-Phillips Gary Varn
4th	Jan Corley	22nd	Jeannie Wingard Mary Ann Bacon
7th	Donna Keisler		Isla Mayer
9th	Janice Stoudemire Wanda Wingard	25th	Hugh Kyzer Addison Ellisor
10th	Dianne Richardson		Chip Burn
12th	Matti Lou Kim David Elrod	27th	Edward Corley Molly McCombs
13th	Layla Bateman		Mark Stoneberg
14th	Paul Hook Bill Mitcham	28th	Wendy Nesmith
16th	Craig Balch	30th	Clayton Hendrix Maddie Richardson
17th	Melba Ivey Conner Rhoden Carol Hunter		Heath Branham
18th	Holly Beard	31st	Jane Kohn

May Anniversaries

2nd	Evelyn & Gary Varn
3rd	Mary Ann & Keith Bacon
5th	Anna & Will Reeside
6th	Julie & Heath Branham
12th	Margaret & Jerald Drafts
14th	Bonnie & Henry Phillips
16th	Althea & Steve Hendrix Betty & Ervin Shaw
17th	Jan & Burns Corley
19th	Karey & Charley Hendrix
22nd	Britt & Jamie Dooley
29th	Karen & Kevin Keisler Linda & Joe Corley

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

We encourage you to give to support the ministries of Zion Lutheran Church during this critical time. We are fortunate to have continued to receive offering from many through the mail and through the various electronic ways we have to give.

You can contact Starr Corley in the church office to find out more about these ways to give (356-2297, starr@zionlexsc.com) or go to <https://www.zionlexsc.com/giving>.

There are many ways to give an offering to Zion today or in the weeks ahead.

1. You can mail offering to Zion Lutheran Church, 226 Corley Mill Road, Lexington, SC 29072.
2. You can send a gift through your bank's online giving system.
3. You can click here to go to Zion's online giving page to give a one time offering or to set up regular automated giving. [Zionlexsc.com/giving](https://www.zionlexsc.com/giving)