



The Saint John's Bible

Before the Reformation, almost all Bibles had been hand copied. The printing press was brand new and getting a copy was expensive. In addition, because books were rare, almost no one knew how to read. The Bible was remote and foreign to almost everyone.

One of the main emphases of the Reformation was to get scripture into people's hands. By working to encourage access and because new technology made mass production of books possible, the Bible went from something that was "heard but not seen" to being accessible to the masses. The change was incredible and continues to impact life today.

But one thing that was lost was the unique hand crafted work that each Bible represented before the printing press. Hand lettering, artwork and personality impacted each copy. The nicest works were calligraphy scripts and illuminated paintings (with gold leaf) to make the texts come alive. The last of the illuminated texts done by the Benedictines (who

had done the nicest work) was completed before the Reformation. And none of these old works were done in English.

In the 1990s the people at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota began to explore what it would take to make an illuminated, hand done Bible in English. They chose the New Revised Standard Version as the most distinguished and authoritative modern translation. They asked Donald Jackson (Queen Elizabeth's calligrapher) to head the project. He assembled a team and went to work.

Completing just one copy of the entire Bible took eleven years (yes, you read that right). It is in 7 volumes and weighs 165 pounds! An additional 4 years was then taken to provide the highest quality printed editions that were possible. The original is displayed at St. John's University. Registered copies are available for exhibit.

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During October, November and December of this year there will be two volumes on display in Elgin. We will have the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament) and the Gospel-Acts editions. These are magnificent works of art and you will want to see them, spend time with them and invite others to see them as well.

Zion is among the ELCA congregations who are sponsoring this exhibit. Pastor Dave is the project coordinator and was able to spend time with the Gospel-Acts volume in a class in February and that was the impetus for bringing the exhibit to Elgin. In addition, St. Mary's Catholic Church is co-sponsoring this with the Lutherans as a way of celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and as a sign of unity and ongoing work to reconnect and cooperate more fully.

So, if you like scripture, art, history, or ecumenical cooperation you will want to see these. Fall is just around the corner and the St. John's Bible will be here soon!

The Inclusive Church Task Force: Zion to Join the Elgin Hispanic Network

As part of our ongoing work to better connect with our community, the Inclusive Church Task Force has decided to join the Elgin Hispanic Network. This group connects leaders who are working with the Hispanic organizations throughout the city and will allow Zion to be better connected to the people who can help us connect and make the most difference.

In addition, the task force is hoping to meet with an immigration attorney to learn more about the issues facing Latinos in our community. They are also exploring an after school program in partnership with Lowrie Elementary School. The group has been busy and has had lots of energy. Interested in knowing more?

Talk to Pastor Dave or Dan Garcia.



2017 Synod Assembly

Valann Reddington, Pastor Dave and Deacon Marlene attended this year's synod assembly on June 9 and 10. Bishop Wayne Miller (of the Metro Chicago Synod), in his report talked about the changes affecting the synod and the difficulties many of our churches are having. He laid out 7 Investment Strategies for our future... 1) Strong Congregations (there may be less, but will invest in strong congregations), 2) New Community Starts, 3) Cultivating Generosity, 4) New Models for Leadership, 5) Peace and Justice, 6) From Income to Wealth, 7) Partnerships. We also watched a video from Bishop Eaton (of the whole ELCA). Check out the link to watch her 6 minute video: <https://www.facebook.com/Lutherans/videos/10154680810203775/>



Amanda Fraas to Be Missionary in Madagascar

As a part of the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission program (YAGM), Amanda Fraas will be spending a year in Madagascar, a large island nation off the east coast begins with orientation and then she travels to Madagascar to do a year of service ministry on behalf of the ELCA. She will be teaching English, perhaps in a school for the deaf.

The cost for a year of service is about \$15,000. About \$10,000 of that cost is raised by the church-wide organization through mission support (the money congregations like Zion send in to support the wider church's work) as well as other designated donations. But they ask each missionary to try to raise at least \$5,000 of their own costs if they can.

You can see video that Amanda has on Youtube by clicking this link: <https://youtu.be/Dp1gqLGPxas>

And you can go to make a donation and read more about her work by clicking this link: <http://support.elca.org/goto/AmandaF>

On Sunday, July 9th we will have a cookout for Amanda and a chance to support her financially. There will be the usual picnic foods, a program, and a chance to make a donation to help Amanda with the support she needs. Please plan to come and support her and either make a donation that day or go on line to the link above and support her that way!

JULY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 09:30 AM-Prayer Shawl 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
2 08:30 AM-Worship 10:15 AM-Worship	3	4 4th of July 05:30 PM-Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	5 Office Closed 07:00 PM-AA	6	7 Office Closed	8 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
9 08:30 AM-Worship 10:15 AM-Worship 11:30 AM-Cookout/Mission Event	10	11 05:30 PM-Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	12 Office Closed 07:00 PM-AA	13	14 Office Closed	15 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
16 08:30 AM-Worship 10:15 AM-Worship	17 07:00 PM-SWAN	18 10:00 AM-Ladies Bible Study 05:30 PM-Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	19 Office Closed 07:00 PM-AA	20	21 Office Closed	22 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
23 Parent's Day 08:30 AM-Worship 10:15 AM-Worship	24	25 05:30 PM-Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	26 Office Closed 07:00 PM-AA	27	28 Office Closed	29 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
30 08:30 AM-Worship 10:15 AM-Worship	31 06:30 PM-Church Council					

Congregation Votes to Install New Roof

At a meeting of the congregation that was held on June 18th the congregation voted to get a new roof installed on the sanctuary. The vote was unanimous to contract with Ace Roofing Co. to install new Certainteed Belmont shingles in Shenandoah brown, install new roof ventilation and replace any damaged sub roofing material as needed. Remaining funds from the Roof Replacement and Debt Retirement Drive would be used to pay down the IFF Energy Improvement loan, which will then be close to paid off. A check from the insurance company will be kept in reserve until the project is done and then council will decide how to use that money for debt retirement and long-term savings. The new roof will be installed this summer.

BIBLE READINGS for July

July 2

1 John 4:7-21 (sermon text)
John 15:9-17

July 9

1 Corinthians 13:4-13 (sermon text)
Matthew 28:16-20

July 16

Ephesians 1:1-14 (sermon text)
John 14:25-27

July 23

Ephesians 2:11-22 (sermon text)
Matt 28:16-20

July 30

Ephesians 4:1-16 (sermon text)
John 15:1-4

If you have concerns or joys to share, please call the church office at 847-888-2882 and press 2 to place a request on the prayer line.



BIBLE READINGS for August

August 6

Ephesians 6:10-20 (sermon text)
Matt 10:28-31

August 13

Acts 2:37-42 (sermon text)
John 13:31-15

August 20

Romans 6:1-11 (sermon text)
Matthew 3:11-13

August 27

1 Corinthians 11:17-34 (sermon text)
Mark 14:17-26

September 3

1 Sam 21:1-9 (sermon text)
Matthew 12:1-8

JULY

VERSE OF THE MONTH

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 1:3

AUGUST

VERSE OF THE MONTH

Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:5

Little Hats, Big Hearts

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of Zion has decided to participate in the Little Hats, Big Hearts Campaign again this year. Last year we sent 55 hats to the American Heart Association. If you like to knit or crochet, check out the patterns in the overflow area and read about the purpose of this campaign. Or, go to the American Heart Association and check out the patterns yourself. Jennifer Leatherby has created her own crocheted pattern and will be happy to share or show anyone interested. Anyone on the Prayer Shawl Ministry would be happy to help any beginners or anyone wanting to learn how to knit or crochet. We meet the first Saturday of every month at 9:30 at Church. Any questions - contact Jeanne Meyer.



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion
10:15 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion

AUGUST 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 05:30 PM- Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	2 Office Closed 07:00 PM-AA	3	4 Office Closed	5 09:30 AM-Prayer Shawl 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
6 08:30 AM-Worship 10:15 AM-Worship	7	8 05:30 PM- Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	9 Office Closed 07:00 PM-AA	10	11 Office Closed	12 10:00 AM-AA 01:00 PM- Coombs (LL) 08:00 PM-AA
13 Newsletter Articles Due 08:30 AM-Worship 10:15 AM-Worship	14 06:30 PM- Church Council	15 10:00 AM- Ladies Bible Study 05:30 PM- Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	16 Office Closed 07:00 PM-AA	17	18 Office Closed	19 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
20 08:30 AM-Worship 10:15 AM-Worship	21 07:00 PM- SWAN	22 05:30 PM- Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	23 Office Closed 06:00 PM-Praise Team 07:00 PM-AA 07:00 PM-Choir	24	25 Office Closed	26 10:00 AM-AA 08:00 PM-AA
27 08:30 AM-Worship 10:15 AM-Worship	28	29 05:30 PM- Soup Kettle 08:00 PM-AA	30 Office Closed 06:00 PM-Praise Team 07:00 PM-AA	31		



- September 10 – Fall Worship Schedule begins
- September 10 – God’s Work Our Hands event
- September 18 – Special movie showing of “Luther and the Reformation” by Rick Steves
- September 24 – Zion hosts the International City of Peace Celebration for Elgin (at our Peace Pole)
- September 25 – BBC Film on the making of the St. John’s Bible
- October 29 – Joint Reformation Service
- December 2 – Advent Retreat

TAMMY DUCKWORTH
ILLINOIS

SUITE 524
HART BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2854

SUITE 3900
KLUCZYNSKI FEDERAL BUILDING
230 S. DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60604
(312) 886-3506

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AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Zion Lutheran Church
330 Griswold Street
Elgin, IL 60123

June 3, 2017

Greetings Friends,

It is my honor to welcome you to the Zion Lutheran Church community ice cream social. I would like to thank the Zion Lutheran Church for dedicating this newly renovated entrance on my behalf.

I am especially appreciative of Zion Lutheran Church's inclusive efforts toward the LGBT community as well as those with disabilities. Your community's commitment to inclusion plays an indispensable role in combating ignorance, hatred and prejudice. Making the world a better place

In this regard, I would like to congratulate and thank the Zion Lutheran Church for its efforts and hard work to make sure everyone feels welcomed within the community.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Ice Cream Social and Dedication a Smashing Success!

On Saturday afternoon, June 3rd, Zion dedicated its new entrance and invited the community to join us for ice cream. The weather was beautiful and the day was fantastic. In addition to many Zion members, there were also many people from the community. People played games, shared conversation and enjoyed live music. Representative Anna Moeller was able to join us and Senator Tammy Duckworth sent a letter of greetings and congratulations that is included in this newsletter.

The new entrance and space makes Zion far more welcoming and attractive to the community. It also provides wonderful space for people to sit and reflect, walk the labyrinth and pray, or simply visit with a friend. The new lift allows more people access to the building. And the outdoor space will also allow us to enjoy outdoor concerts, worship and more when we choose to head outside!



Financial Report

May	Income	Expenses
General	\$17,642	\$16,3518
Building Fund	\$959	\$1,231
YTD	Income	Expenses
General	\$84,870	\$92,291
Building Fund	\$6,766	\$6,153

Summer Giving and Online Opportunities

Once again summer is upon us. The various things we do during this season means that often some of us are gone for vacations, outings, etc. throughout the summer. The ministry of the church is often part of the collateral damage. Summer offerings can go down as much as \$1,000/week on average! Over the course of the summer, a congregation that was keeping up during the school year can suddenly be \$12,000 in the red by Labor Day!

Yet we have Vacation Bible School, a youth mission trip, outings, worship services, AA Groups, Soup Kettle and lots of things happening. In fact, some things like VBS and the mission trip get added during the summer – it can be one of our busiest seasons!

So, during the summer please remember the following:

1. **Worship regularly.** It will be good for you and the congregation to have your presence in worship.
2. **Plan for your giving.** If you are gone, please try to put the offerings for the weeks you were gone in when you return. If you don't, the congregation simply falls behind and may not catch up.
3. **Consider on line giving.**
 - a. You can go to the Zion website and click the "Donate" button at the bottom of each page. That will take you to our PayPal site where you can give online.
 - b. You can set up one time and ongoing donations at our Vanco on line giving site. This is the best and easiest way to ensure that if you set a giving goal that you will achieve it. Almost 25% of our offerings come in using this site and it really has helped, especially during the summer.
Here is the link: <http://tinyurl.com/hh6zw8j>
4. **Pray for Zion** and its ministry while on the road.

5. Be safe and enjoy God's creation!

Thanks for your support of Zion and its work. Your investment in what God is doing here makes a difference in the lives of many and brings a smile to God's face!

Mission Trip in Review

Three from our youth group, Marlene, Sam Ehreth and the youth group from Holy Trinity enjoyed a purposeful and fun mission trip in June. We stayed at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, located in Hyde Park, which had a great game room! Highlights included learning about and working for "Night Ministry" in Chicago, a visit to the Lincoln Park Zoo, learning about and doing projects at Su Casa Catholic Worker House in Chicago, making home-made ice cream, volunteering at Food for Greater Elgin, a tour of the Elgin Water Plant, cleanup of a home in Ottawa IL after a tornado hit, and hiking at Starved Rock. Our picture includes everyone but Sam, who was taking our picture (Thanks Sam!).



Special Fall Events for Reformation Celebration

This fall marks the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther's start to the Reformation. Elgin area churches are beginning plans to celebrate in ways that honor Luther's contributions and also promote increased unity between Protestant and Roman Catholic congregations.

To mark this occasion, the following dates are already planned:

- **October through December** – The St. John's Bible will be in Elgin and on display in various locations including in sponsoring congregations.
- **September 18th at 6:30 PM** – Film "Luther and the Reformation" by Rick Steves. Gather at 6:30 for refreshments. Film starts at 7:00.
- **September 25th at 6:30 PM** – BBC Film on the making of the St. John's Bible, an eleven year project! Gather at 6:30 for refreshments and film starts at 7:00 PM
- **October 29th at 4:00 PM** – Joint service celebrating the 500th anniversary with ELCA Lutherans and Roman Catholics using a special prayer service co-written by leaders from the Lutheran World Federation and the Vatican. The service will be at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church.

There will be more coming, but we want you to know what is planned. This is an exciting time to grow, learn and celebrate how God has worked through the church over the last several centuries.

Lowrie Book Giveaway

Thanks to all who donated books to be given to Lowrie students to encourage reading over the summer. It looks like there will be lots of reading!

