

Zion Lutheran Church  
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# The Zion Spirit



"Grounded in Christ: Sent to be a blessing"

October 2021

## Inquirer's Class

If you are new to Zion, we know that you may have questions about the congregation or about what Lutheran Christians unique angle on Christian faith is all about. So we are ready to offer an Inquirer's Class for those who are interested in learning more. The class will be a two-part class offered October 27th and November 10th at 6:30 PM. We'll gather in person or by Zoom, depending on participants – we'll decide after we know who is planning to come! Talk to Deacon Marlene ([DeaconMarlene@ZionElginIL.org](mailto:DeaconMarlene@ZionElginIL.org)) or Pastor Dave ([PastorDave@ZionElginIL.org](mailto:PastorDave@ZionElginIL.org)) to register or for questions!



## Joy's Ramp

On September 25<sup>th</sup> a team of volunteers removed a handicap access ramp from a home on the east side and brought it to Joy Flathau's home. Joy has been shut in and unable to get out of her home for months. The ramp will be re-used to help install a new ramp for Joy over the next two weeks. If you'd like to help with the project, we need people to dig footers and assemble the ramp. Work can be done at various times that fits your schedule and a team will be invited to work the next two Saturdays (October 2 and 9). Contact Pastor Dave at [PastorDave@ZionElginIL.org](mailto:PastorDave@ZionElginIL.org) if you want more info on how you can help!

## Church Council Nominations

The church council has formed a nomination committee to recommend leaders to take on council leadership in the coming year. There are three positions open, a vice-president role and two at-large positions. If you are interested in being considered for church council, please talk to Deacon Marlene, Pastor Dave or Richard Fellows. Also, all of us please pray for this team so good leadership is in place for the year ahead. Thanks!

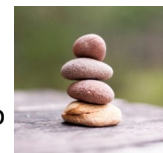
## First Communion

Communion is a celebration of Christ's presence in the community as we gather. Christ is made present by his Word and shared in bread and cup as we eat and drink together. Our tradition is an open tradition – all are welcome at the table of the Lord. We encourage participation and know that as children grow they want and are ready to participate. To prepare kids for communion we meet with them for a two session class – one to share the content we hope they know and then a second one to review and be sure they have learned it and to bake bread that will be used by the congregation for communion. If you have someone who might be ready to commune, let Pastor Dave know ([PastorDave@ZionElginIL.org](mailto:PastorDave@ZionElginIL.org)) and he will set up a session.



## Spiritual Practices Group

Are you seeking to grow your relationship with God? Would you like to learn some new practices that help you in this relationship? This meets on Zoom on Thursday mornings at 10AM. We will be continuing our current series using practices from the *Spiritual Practices Handbook* by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun. (The book is not necessary for the class.) This series will finish on October 14. We will have a week off, then begin a new series on October 28. Feel free to join us. Here is the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82800309017?pwd=aENtcGFReVJxa08vVm5ockJUd3BmZz09>  
Meeting ID: 828 0030 9017  
Passcode: 753751



## Forum for Updates on October 13<sup>th</sup>

There is much happening at Zion. Keeping people connected and informed is important. So, our council is scheduling an evening forum to share what's happening and offer time to be together, to talk, ask and answer questions. We'll be talking about COVID protocols for Fall, the livestreaming changes, giving an update on Pastor Dave's work as interim pastor at Holy Trinity and more. The Forum will be on Zoom on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Watch for a Zoom link in an email reminder as it gets closer.

## Elgin Reimagined Video Online on October 14<sup>th</sup>

Our Inclusion and Equity Team are showing the video "Elgin Reimagined" that was produced by the Grand Victoria Foundation. Featuring interviews with five diverse Elginites about their experiences and dreams living in Elgin, the video introduces viewers to how people from diverse backgrounds and experiences have found life in Elgin and offers their dreams for the shaping of Elgin in the future. The video is an excellently produced documentary and the session on October 14<sup>th</sup> will feature showing the video and breakout discussions to help participants share. If you would like to watch the video in advance (we'll watch it again that night), visit [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=irNVR-8W83M&ab\\_channel=GrandVictoriaFoundation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=irNVR-8W83M&ab_channel=GrandVictoriaFoundation). This is a great chance to learn and discuss with others. The session will be from 7:00 – 8:15 PM and all are welcome.

## CROP Walk

CROP Walk is returning! The walk will be held at Elgin's Civic Center Plaza on Sunday, October 17, 2021. Registration begins at 1:30, and the walk steps off at 2:00. To join our team or donate, please visit [www.crophungerwalk.org/elginil](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/elginil) and search "Zion Lutheran Elgin." (The direct website for our team is <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/zion-lutheran-2>) Donations raised will go to support hunger related causes both locally in Elgin and around the world. If you would like to join Zion's team, or have any questions, please see Rebecca Rizzo or e-mail me at [RebeccaRizz@gmail.com](mailto:RebeccaRizz@gmail.com).

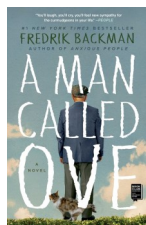


## Zion Book Club

There were 6 of us at September's Book Club Meeting. We sat outside and it was beautiful but a little chilly. We had a great discussion about what Jesus was like as a pre-teen.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 21 at 6pm. Since we will probably have to meet inside please bring your mask. We chose the book *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman.

Please join us even if you don't finish the book. Any questions contact Rebecca Rizzo or Linda Bailey



## Zion Youth Group



Zion Youth Group will be meeting in October, dates to be determined with families very soon! Intern Allison Mikyska and Dianha Ortega-Ehreth, Coordinator for Children and Family Ministries, will be co-leading youth group through spring. This is part of Allison's commitment and learning as part of her Master's degree at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

In order to provide more focused opportunities for spiritual development, senior high youth (grades 9 – 12) and junior high youth (grades 6 – 8) will be meeting separately on even numbered months and together on odd numbered months. All youth met together in September at the Russell's, so in October they will be meeting separately. Senior high youth will be learning about the ELCA Youth Gathering and be trained as Godly Play Door Persons. Junior high youth will be doing a service project.

For more information about Zion Youth Group, send an email to [dianha@zionelginil.org](mailto:dianha@zionelginil.org) or [allison@zionelginil.org](mailto:allison@zionelginil.org).

## Godly Play – Story Schedule for October

We're off to a great start with Zion's Godly Play Sunday School! The weather has allowed us to do this outside every Sunday morning so far. Once the weather turns chilly during the month of October, we will move back into our Godly Play room downstairs at Zion. Please help children be on time so they can hear the whole story each Sunday morning! We begin promptly at 9:45 am. The stories that will be shared in October are:

- **October 3** – The Good Shepherd and World Communion – did you know October 3 is World Communion Sunday?
- **October 10** – PLAY DAY! Children can play with any story or art materials they want!
- **October 17** – The Faces of Easter: this story tells the life of Jesus from birth through appearing to the women and his disciples on Easter morning.
- **October 24** – Jesus and the Twelve Disciples
- **October 31** – Luther's Rose & the Reformation – a special story for Reformation Sunday!

For more information about Godly Play, contact Dianha Ortega-Ehreth at [dianha@zionelginil.org](mailto:dianha@zionelginil.org).

## Streaming Worship Changes Coming

A team has installed all of the cameras, cables and computers needed to livestream our worship. We are now installing and learning to use the software to run the system but soon we will be ready to shift. While plans are still in flux, we believe that we will be livestreaming the 8:30 service each week. We'll still be on Facebook Live but an hour earlier, although the worship will stay up after the stream and you can watch anytime. The experience will be much different than the online recorded worship that we have done with Facebook Premier so plan on some changes. But this is the best use of our staff and volunteer time and it will actually bring you right into worship online with the people who are in the sanctuary as well. Watch for more updates online and by email as we get closer to making the switch!

## Lessons and Verse of the Month

October 3

Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17

John 8:54-58

October 10

Exodus 16:1-18

John 6:47-51

October 17

1 Samuel 3:1-21

John 20:19-23

October 24

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 51:10-14

John 7:19-24

October 31 – Reformation Sunday

1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

John 2:13-22

## Verse of the Month

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. (Psalm 51:10)

## Reformation Sunday

The last Sunday in October is always Reformation Sunday, a day when we remember our Lutheran heritage and the contributions that Lutherans made to reform the church. The changes that Luther proposed were radical at the time. But today, Lutherans are leaders in ecumenical work and still aware that we are a part of the whole church while also knowing that much of what stands at the heart of all Christian faith was lifted up by Luther and others whose commitment to God's grace for us in Christ was unwavering. Traditionally, the custom is to wear red on this day, so you are invited to wear red October 31. Come celebrate the day in worship!



## Adult Education Options Being Considered

Adult Education is a key to a healthy church. When the adult members of the church continue to grow in faith and mature as disciples, it sets the stage for a strong base and also models for children that faith and growth are not just for kids but for all of us, regardless of our age. With the COVID restrictions and Pastor Dave doing added work as interim pastor at Holy Trinity, we want to see what adult education for the coming year might look like. A survey is being sent out to our email list to get your thoughts about Sunday and midweek options. Let us know your thoughts and we will work together to provide some great ways to help all of us keep growing as followers of Jesus.

## Upcoming Birthdays

Happy Birthday to our friends with upcoming birthdays! If you have an upcoming birthday and are not on this list, please email Allison in the office at [zionelgin@yahoo.com](mailto:zionelgin@yahoo.com). Thanks!

Maverick Matchinski – October 4

Jacob Russell – October 4

Joy Flathau – October 8

Gary Jasica – October 9

Timothy Fellows – October 12

Ian Leatherby – October 12

Angela Barnhill – October 16

Michele Pierson – October 17

Amanda MacKenzie – October 22

Tracy Matchinski – October 26

David Dorgan – October 27

Darrell St. John – October 27

Catherine O'Connell – October 28

Nicole MacKenzie – October 31



## Thank You For Your Offerings!

We are thankful that the people of Zion are so committed to this place doing God's work and doing it well. You are all doing amazing work and you need to hear a big "well done good and faithful servants!" As you know, it is helping Zion participate in God's work.

*thanks!*



**October 13**—Zoom Forum for Updates at 7:00PM

**October 14**—Elgin Reimagined Video at 7:00 PM

**October 17**—CROP Walk

**October 27**—Inquirer's Class at 6:30 PM

**October 31**—Reformation Sunday

**November 10**—Inquirer's Class at 6:30 PM