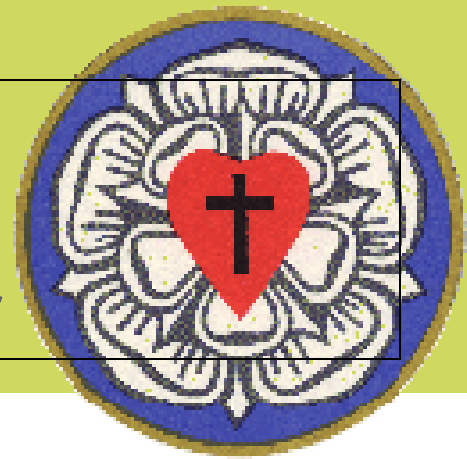




Zion Messenger



October 2024

Pastoral Ponderings from Pastor Phil....

In *Philippians 4*, Paul tells us, "...whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable- if anything is praiseworthy- think about such things." This is a large statement made by Paul in regard to what the life of the believer should look like. He gives us a clear picture to what should be on the mind of the believer- on each our minds. This becomes even more illustrated as we hear Paul speak to us in *Galatians 5* about what the Fruits of the Spirit are. He says, "*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*"

Just prior to the Fruits of the Spirit, Paul also tells us what the "acts of the flesh are". He says first that they are obvious, and then lists them, "sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery, idolatry and witchcraft, hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions, and envy." It's interesting to note, that what Paul gives us is the underpinning to the "seven deadly sins"- pride, greed, wrath, envy, lust, gluttony, and sloth. While we don't understand sins as being venial and cardinal, instead acknowledging that sin is sin, and that God does not make distinctions in sin, we can see this as being a helpful and handy way to see the variation of what God calls us to do, empowered by the Holy Spirit, versus what the world would allow us to do free range.

As we move into the month of October, there is a war that rages on about us. We can choose to have our eyes closed to it, or we can be conscious of it and decide how to act in good order as we take up our cross and follow Jesus (*Matthew 16:24*).

First Wednesday
of the Month

"Alternate Worship
Services"

At Zion:

Next service is on

October 2nd.

At 6:00 p.m.

Bible Classes on
Wednesdays

October 9, 16,

23 & 30

at 6:00 p.m.

Join Us!

Sometimes as we follow Jesus, we are required to give up the things that we want, that would lead us into those sins of the flesh, or those seven deadly sins, in favor of keeping our minds on the Kingdom of Heaven. Paul even reminds us of this fight in *Ephesians 5* as he gives us our list of enemies.

Very likely, at this point, you're thinking Pastor Phil is preparing to tell me not to celebrate Halloween. I can honestly say that my family and I do not celebrate this specific holiday, for a myriad of reasons, not the least of which is seen interviews of witches that rejoice in Christians celebrating their high holidays. We also don't celebrate this holiday because of how much the sin of the flesh is so very centralized and showcased by the various events that occur. This is our spiritual discipline, and I am not demanding it of you.

Instead, I am asking you, as we move through the month of October to practice spiritual discipline and seek discernment. Take the idea of I did it and turned out ok, and ask yourself if you like the world we live in. If you can say yes, then ask yourself what virtues are on full display? As a society do we represent the virtues of the flesh, or of the Spirit? If you say that you don't like the world we live in today, because it is violent, self-centered, prideful, and ridiculous, by celebrating Halloween, what are you extoling? As you make your decisions in the coming weeks, keep in mind that you are the representative of Jesus Christ into the world that you are in contact with. How are you representing Him?

While all the candy of Halloween most certainly is not the greatest for our teeth, I would leave you with the words of Jesus. In *Matthew 15*, Jesus speaks at length, beginning in verse 10 about what defiles a person, bringing it to a point in verse 18, "*But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person.*" *James 3:10* reminded us several weeks ago about how our mouths should not bless and curse. Trick or treat?

Brothers and sisters in 1517, Luther put the 95 Thesis on Wittenberg church door. From there God began an incredible work that resulted in the Bible being printed in diverse languages, of preaching coming back into the language of the hearer, of the sacraments being offered to all believers in two kinds (body and blood- bread and wine), and our salvation being based upon the works of Jesus Christ. *Sola fide, sola gratia, sola Scriptura* - Faith alone, grace alone, Scripture alone.

Paul tells us, "...whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable- if anything is praiseworthy- think about such things."

Blessed Reformation Day!

Pastor Phil

Save the Date!

A Hymn Sing at Zion Church on Friday November 1st, 7-8 p.m.

More information is on the way!

The Zion Better Together Dinner will be in November 10, 2024!

More information to follow.

Mite Box Challenge for Mission Sunday

Have you been saving your spare change in your little mite box? Well, it's time to think about bringing your box to church on October 12-13 weekend. On that weekend, there will be a large mite box in the church entrance. Simply open the end of your mite box, deposit the contents into the giant mite box, and then take the empty box home to use again.

If you currently do not have a box, you are welcome to take one home. They are on the glass counter in the narthex (church lobby). Funds raised on that weekend will fund the mission grants of the LWML. The Mission projects of the LWML include humanitarian projects in local and worldwide missions. A complete list of the current projects is on the bulletin board and on the bookmarks available in the narthex.

October/November Zion Youth dates:

October 5: Fall Festival 6 p.m.

October 13: Gathering paperwork & \$200 deposit is due

October 20: Bonfire at Zion with Good Shepherd's youth group 4-7 p.m.

October 27: MS & HS youth group/Trunk or Treat 3 - 6 p.m.

November 2: Family Bingo Night 6:30 p.m.



God's Kids, the 3-5 grade youth group, will meet on Sunday, October 20 at the school from 1-3pm. You do not need to bring anything for our meeting. We will be baking and decorating fall sugar cookies for our snack, having a Bible study and playing games.

God's Kids is a chance for students in the 3-5 grade to be introduced to the youth group experience. We will meet once a month during the school year to have a Bible study, play games, have a snack and fellowship together. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Kleckner at pam.kleckner@zion-school.org with any questions or concerns. See you on the 20th.



On Sunday, October 27 from 4-6pm Zion will hold its annual Trunk or Treat on the backlot of the school. We will need both school and congregation members to enter decorated cars and pass out candy. Please contact Mrs. Kleckner if you are able to have a car in our event. If you are not able to have a car but would like to provide candy, please feel free to drop off wrapped candy or other small treats to either the church or school office.

A vertical poster for a Fall Festival. At the top is a decorative border of yellow sunflowers and orange leaves. Below this, two orange pumpkins are drawn on either side of the text. The text reads: 'FALL FESTIVAL' in large, bold, black letters; 'Oct. 5 at 6pm' in a large, black, serif font; 'Location: Zion Lutheran School Back Parking Lot' in a smaller, black, serif font. Below this is a dashed line, followed by 'Wagon Rides~Food~ Games~Glitter Tattoos' in a black, serif font. Another dashed line follows, then 'Price: \$1/ticket OR \$20 for 25 tickets' in a black, serif font. A third dashed line follows, then 'Proceeds support the youth attending the Youth Gathering in July 2025' in a black, serif font. On the left side of the poster, there is a stack of three orange pumpkins.

FALL FESTIVAL
Oct. 5 at 6pm
Location: Zion Lutheran School
Back Parking Lot

~~~~~  
Wagon Rides~Food~  
Games~Glitter Tattoos  
~~~~~  
Price: \$1/ticket OR \$20 for 25
tickets
~~~~~  
Proceeds support the youth  
attending the Youth Gathering  
in July 2025

# October 2024

## Zion Lutheran Church



| Sunday                                                                                                                                                    | Monday                                                                                             | Tuesday                                           | Wednesday                                                                                                         | Thursday                                                                           | Friday                                      | Saturday                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                    | 1                                                 | 2                                                                                                                 | 3                                                                                  | 4                                           | 5                                                                         |
| Little Italy's Fundraiser Nights are the 3rd Wed. of the month. Please turn proof of purchase for any orders made during Little Italy's fundraiser nights | El Indio F.R. is 2nd Wednesday of the month. Mention Zion Lutheran School when placing your order. |                                                   | 8:30 Chapel<br>9-12 Lydia Circle<br>10:30 Glenwood<br>6 Alternate Worship                                         | 8:30 Adult Bible Study<br>10-12 Pr.Phil@H.S.S.<br>6:30 Trustees<br>7:30 Men's Club | Pastor Phil's Day Off                       | 3-5 Public School Confirmation Class<br>5 Worship/Comm<br>6 Fall Festival |
| 6                                                                                                                                                         | 7                                                                                                  | 8                                                 | 9                                                                                                                 | 10                                                                                 | 11                                          | 12                                                                        |
| 8 & 10:30 Worship/Comm<br>9:30 S.S.                                                                                                                       | Noon-2 Pr.Phil@H.S.S.<br><br>D.Q. Night F.R.                                                       |                                                   | 8:30 Chapel<br>9-12 Lydia Circle<br>10:30 Glenwood<br>6 Bible Study<br>El Indio F.R.                              | 8:30 Adult Bible Study<br>10-12 Pr.Phil@H.S.S.                                     | <b>No School Today</b><br>Pr.Phil's Day Off | 3-5 Public School Confirmation Class<br>5 Worship/Comm                    |
| 13                                                                                                                                                        | 14                                                                                                 | 15                                                | 16                                                                                                                | 17                                                                                 | 18                                          | 19                                                                        |
| 8 & 10:30 Worship/Comm<br>9:30 S.S.                                                                                                                       | <b>No School Today</b><br>Noon-2 Pr.Phil@H.S.S.<br>7p School Board                                 | 10a Alumni & Friends<br>4:30p Stewardship Meeting | 8:30 Chapel<br>9-12 Lydia Circle<br>10:30 Glenwood<br>2:30 Health & Rehab<br>6 Bible Study<br>Little Italy's F.R. | 8:30 Adult Bible Study<br>10-12 Pr.Phil@H.S.S.<br>6p Parish Ed.                    | Pastor Phil's Day Off                       | 3-5 Public School Confirmation Class<br>5 Worship/Comm                    |
| 20                                                                                                                                                        | 21                                                                                                 | 22                                                | 23                                                                                                                | 24                                                                                 | 25                                          | 26                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                    |                                                   | Parent/Teach Conferences                                                                                          | Parent/Teach Conferences                                                           |                                             |                                                                           |
| 8 & 10:30 Worship/Comm<br>9:30 S.S.<br>10:30 Joyful Noise Sings<br>4-7 Youth Bonfire                                                                      | Noon-2 Pr.Phil@H.S.S.<br>6p Evangelism                                                             |                                                   | 8:30 Chapel<br>9-12 Lydia Circle<br>10:30 Glenwood<br>6 Bible Study                                               | 8:30 Adult Bible Study<br>10-12 Pr.Phil@H.S.S.                                     | Pastor Phil's Day Off                       | 3-5 Public School Confirmation Class<br>5 Worship/Comm                    |
| 27                                                                                                                                                        | 28                                                                                                 | 29                                                | 30                                                                                                                | 31                                                                                 | Nov. 1                                      | Nov. 2                                                                    |
| 8 & 10:30 Worship/Comm<br>9:30 S.S.<br>4-6 Trunk-or-Treat Youth Group @ 3p                                                                                | Noon-2 Pr.Phil@H.S.S.                                                                              | 6:30p Council Meeting                             | 8:30 Chapel<br>9-12 Lydia Circle<br>10:30 Glenwood<br>6 Bible Study                                               | 8:30 Adult Bible Study<br>10-12 Pr.Phil@H.S.S.                                     | 7p HYMN SING in Chapel                      | Youth F.R.: "Family BINGO Night" @ 6:30pm                                 |



# REFORMATION HYMN SING

Come celebrate the Reformation with Circuit 1 as we sing together as the Body of Christ, rejoicing in the work He has done in the past and continues to do!

Reformation Hymn Sing will be held at:

Zion Lutheran Church

311 South Elm; Staunton, IL 62088

Rev. Chris Prumm to preach

Nov. 1 at 7:00 with dessert social to follow

SOLA FIDE · SOLA GRATIA · SOLA SCRIPTURA