

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH IS A MOSAIC COMMUNITY SHARING THE GRACE OF CHRIST WITH ALL...

SEPTEMBER 2020

Sunday Worship: 9:15am Facebook live

Burmese Worship at 10:30am (Online)

Zion Lutheran Church 925 5th Avenue Rockford, Illinois 61104

Phone: (815) 964-4609 www.zionrockford.com zionrockford@gmail.com

Pastor Corner	2
Pastoral Interns	3
Council Highlights	4
Re-Opening Team Update	5
Sepuka Update (insert)	6
Around the Chairs	7
Rockford Midtown Market	8
Mobile Food Truck / Katie's Cup Sing-Along	9
Church Calendar	10
Leadership & Prayer Corner	11



Sunday Parking Lot Worship at 9:15am

Also on Facebook Live [Through the end of October - online only if raining] (Also posted at www.youtube.com/zionrockford afterwards)

INTERN DAYNA FIRST SUNDAY

September 6, 2020 Parking Lot Worship at 9:15am

September 13, 2020 Coffee Hour on Zoom with Dayna at 10am

AROUND THE CHAIRS

September 13th at 11am Zion parking Lot! Discuss Book: "White Fragility"





Midtown Lutheran Parish

Conversation on Race: *"Telling My Story"*

September 16 at 5:30pm Gathering on Zoom

Speakers: Janice Forrest and Charmaine Logwood



PASTOR'S CORNER

WORSHIP IN THE PARKING LOT!

The Church Council voted to hold Sunday parking lot worship at 9:15am in the parking lot across from Zion. This will take place through the end of October. You can stay in your car or bring a chair and sit socially distanced from one another. The worship will be online only if raining. The services will also be on Facebook Live and then on Youtube at www.youtubecom/zionrockford. We encourage you to subscribe to our Youtube Channel as well. The worship is also available as an audio file on our website. Please listen to them online at our website at www.zionrockford.com/sermons.

MULTICULTURAL CONVERSATIONS!

As we continue to discuss racism as a church and community, I'm grateful for our monthly conversations led by the Multicultural Committee about race on the first Sunday of the month, September 6th. I'm glad to see that the Midtown Lutheran Parish continues their dialogue on race as well. Please join us on September 16th as Zion members Charmaine Logwood and Janice Forrest will share their stories at the MTLP Zoom monthly meeting. Let us journey together faithfully before the empty tomb and walk together to a new place!

MOBILE FOOD TRUCK!

We partnered with the Northern Illinois Food Bank to host a truck in July at Zion and then in August at Salem. On September 15th, we will hold another mobile food truck at First Lutheran Church. Zion members have volunteered to unload food from the truck and then to put in the cars. We have been able to serve over 150 families benefitting over 500 household members each month. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact the church office.

PASTORAL INTERN DAYNA

This month we welcome Pastoral Intern Dayna Weltzin and her husband Tim. Intern Dayna has moved into her apartment that is rented from Zion Development. She will begin a preaching schedule and engage in the various ministry opportunities. Her first service will be September 6th in the church parking lot. She will be working with the Internship Support Committee in the first month. Please join us on September 6th at the parking lot on Fifth Avenue across from Zion. We will have a walk through reception for Intern Dayna.

Peace, *Pastor Mike*



PASTORAL INTERNS

I want to thank you for welcoming me and my husband, Tim, to Zion. We are looking forward to spending a year with the Zion community. As an Iowa native from a close-knit family, I grew up on a farm while Tim was a town kid. Some fun facts: we were born at the same hospital and both baptized at Zion Lutheran (Jubilee, IA), we attended Lutheran colleges out-of-state (me at Gustavus Adolphus and Tim at Dana), we met at a friends' baby shower and my dad actually introduced Tim's parents to each other.

I have been a full-time student at Wartburg Theological Seminary since 2018 (my call story evolved over time)! Tim is employed by Life Connections as Director of Clinical Compliance where he will

continue working remotely. He's currently enrolled at Drake University as a graduate student completing a degree in Jurisprudence in Compliance and Risk Management.

My career history is varied. My past jobs have included: translator, legal assistant, social worker, instructor, hospital resource coordinator and development director. I lived in Spain for six years after college and I speak Spanish. In 2011, I earned a Master's in Adult Learning and Organizational Performance from Drake. I enjoy scrapbooking and singing. Tim's hobbies include fishing and hunting. We like life outdoors.

I am passionate about helping people as a servant leader. I have found my life-long vocation in ministry walking with Christ. I have a heart for pastoral care, music and liturgy, hospice and food ministry, education, and diversity initiatives.

It is a blessing to anticipate becoming a part of the Zion family with its rich history welcoming intern students. I am glad to have moved into our new apartment and look forward to meeting our new friends and neighbors at Zion. My email is interndayna@gmail.com.

Peace be with you, Pastoral Intern Dayna

<u>T.H.A.N.K. Y.O.U.</u>

This Has to be the most Amazing year I have spent in ministry! Now, as I let go of my position as your intern Kudos to YOU, Zion... You did it again! One more intern prepared by the finest community! U ROCK!

What is there to say to you all after this year of internship



but my deep, yet humble "Thank You". Serving alongside you this year has given me such a strong model for what a healthy congregation looks like and how it functions. You are a wonderfully caring Body of Christ and I will continue to follow you and your ministries on social media. I will be praying for you. I will never forget my beautiful and wild and crazy year of internship with you. Thank you for your embrace upon my arrival and thank you for letting me go as we walk forward in faith. I will never forget you!

Breathe in deep the Spirit of God! Peace, Perrie



Church Council Highlight Zoom August 27, 2020

MINUTES of Council Meeting (Zoom) held August 27, 2020 - 7:00pm

Present: Jane Lightcap, Jeff Carlson, Charlie Dahlberg, Intern Perrie Dralle, Torg Hallin, Kathy Hand, Charmaine Logwood, Ruth Larson, Jim Rasch, Linda Reinhardt, Ron Simmons, Steve Stark, Nancy Warden

Jane called the meeting to order at 7:10pm via Zoom

- \Rightarrow Devotions were led by Steve Stark with two songs and prayer.
- \Rightarrow Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda motion passed
- \Rightarrow A motion was made and seconded to approve the July 23, 2020 Church Council meeting minutes with noted name change motion passed
- ⇒ Northern Illinois Synod Bishop Jeff continues the study on the book "White Fragility"
- ⇒ We discussed the current Covid-19 situation and its impact on Sunday worship schedule
- \Rightarrow The Reopening Team provided a written report from August 26th meeting.
- ⇒ A motion was made and seconded to approve holding parking lot worship through the end of October on Fifth Avenue across from Zion for one service at 9:15am. Motion passed. This will be reviewed after the first two parking lot services to see if changes need to be made. The September Council meeting will review our outdoor parking lot worship services to see if any changes need to be made.
- ⇒ A motion was made and seconded to approve the SVL quote of \$1,982 to upgrade the media plate in the worship space with funds from the Dedicated Facility Fund. Motion passed. This will provide the opportunity to plug in a laptop up front to display on the screens.
- ⇒ Financial Reports were provided in written form. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Financial reports pending audit. Motion passed
- \Rightarrow Buildings and Ground Report provided a written report.
- ⇒ Capital Fund Appeal update provided by Torg Hallin. There is a balance of \$29,000 in the Capital Campaign. The next project is to repair the courtyard windows.
- ⇒ A Patriots Gateway Community Center written and verbal update was provided by Pastor Thomas. Pastor is the Interim Executive Director at Patriots and he informed the Council that the Patriots board resolved today at their meeting that they would "explore a partnership with ZLC to reduce the indebtedness and develop future partnership."
- ⇒ A motion was made and seconded to prayerful discern a partnership with Patriots and seek ways to address PGCC indebtedness, including a conversation with MIF. A presentation would include a perspective on what Patriots current and future programs and goals. Motion passed. Discussion around the Zion's mission at Patriots could grow in the development of a worshiping community there and expanded ministry and membership through outreach at Patriots.
- ⇒ Pastor provided a written report for the church council and then expressed appreciate for our Pastoral Intern as she finishes in August. We sang to Perrie the song "As You Go On Your Way"
- \Rightarrow Pastoral Intern's Report was provided in written form and Perrie spoke about her year at Zion.
- ⇒ Midtown Lutheran Parish report was provided by Ruth Larson as she shared their efforts to promote conversations around race. Next meeting is September 16th Zoom meeting on 5:30pm and guest speakers will be Janice Forrest and Charmaine Logwood.
- ⇒ Next Council Meeting September 24, 2020 via Zoom
- \Rightarrow Motion to adjourn the meeting took place at 9:05pm.

Re-Opening Team Update

Team Members Present: Pastoral Intern Perrie Dralle, Deb Gortowski, Torg Hallin, Jolyn Hess, Ruth Larson, Jane Lightcap (Chair), Pastor Thomas (Note taker), Toni Wallin and special guest: Nancy Warden

- \Rightarrow Pastor Mike opened our meeting with a Prayer
- \Rightarrow The Agenda and Minutes of the August 4 meeting were read and approved.
- ⇒ August 12th COVID policy letter was sent to the congregation along with the covenant of Liability. The letters will also be emailed to those members and friends on our email list.
- ⇒ Discussion of plans for the 2 Outdoor Services: August 30th 9:15 Perrie's last day and September 6th The New Intern's First Sunday: Dayna Weltzin. Location: RPS parking Lot; Pastor Mike will set up a Pop-up tent for the main "stage" area where Pastor Mike, Perrie, Jodi Beach and Jim will stand (Bob Leonhard on 9/6). Cones will be placed around the front parking lot where chairs can be set to keep social distance. Traffic will enter only from the 5th Avenue entrance and EXIT only on to 4th Street. Greeter will GIVE each person a zip lock bag with covenant of Liability, bulletin, & communion
- ⇒ ASK: (1) IF they plan to get out of their car and sit in a chair up front, they will be directed to park in back rows, every other stall, and then walk up front carrying their chair, wearing a mask & practicing social distancing. They will be directed by volunteer chair monitors. Or (2) IF they plan to stay in the car or sit right next to the car as they listen to the service, they will be directed to park every other stall beginning in the second row from the front as directed by the ushers.
- \Rightarrow Signs Needed: Enter, Exit, Mask & social distance required
- ⇒ Sanitation station by table at entrance. No Bathrooms available. (Emergency plan for bathrooms is in place).
- \Rightarrow Tables will also be used for meet and greet line after service
- ⇒ Schedule: 9:15 Service. 10:00. Walk-by for Perrie & Doug. 11:00 Courtyard Drive-by to see P&D. Intern committee will be in charge. Volunteers: Ruth. 20 volunteers + intern committee (4)

ACTION ITEM: After much discussion, the Reopening Team recommends to Zion Council that for the remaining Sundays in September and in October that we have RPS Parking lot Drive up services and continue both Facebook Live & You Tube remote services. Drive-up service would be cancelled in the event of rain. We will continue to seek advice and guidance from the Winnebago County Health Department, State of Illinois, The Northern Illinois Synod, and other mid-town parish churches as we plan for the health and safety of all members and friends as we return to Zion for worship services.

New Ministry Opportunities (#5 on Reopening Strategies).

- Phone calling (tele-care) Perrie reports that the Monday Bible study group is awesome Under Maggi Hallin's leadership they have been contacting many members, talking with them and hearing about how they doing in these difficult times. She said they have taken the idea of tele-care and run with it! THANK YOU, Monday Morning Bible Study group!
- ⇒ Pop up Food Market in partnership with Northern Illinois Food Bank will again take place on Thursday, August 26th. Plans for September are unknown at this time as back to school food deliveries take priority.
- ⇒ OSF Nurses have offered to meet with us to help with safely preparing our building for return to indoor worship.
- \Rightarrow Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 1st 6:00 PM ZOOM to recap the outdoor service.
- ⇒ Pastoral Intern Perrie so beautifully shared some of her reflections on her time with Zion and closed our meeting with prayer. We thank God for her loving ministry with us and wish her Godspeed as she continues her studies and journey to becoming Rev. Perrie Dralle.

Respectfully Submitted, Jane Lightcap

Tanzania Companionship Update

Tanzania Companionship Update

Looking back at my childhood, growing up with the interest in Tanzania, wanting to return, to really see what it was all about and live out the Legacy of my parents, the late Rev. David & Beverly Henry (Wessman). 50 years had lapse, 2011 was my first trip back, with my mother and sister Mim. We made the long journey to visit Sepuka church and congregation, Pastoral support, and family friends.

From the discussions and guidance from the Bishop and local Pastors, we were enlightened of their needs, and how we could work with them in a supportive role through a congregation Companionship.

Sepuka parishes and the Henry-Wessman families, Thank you for your continued financial support and prayers for our extended church families. Due to COVID, a personal presentation has not been possible, so we are adapting to updates through articles in the Grapevine. Other topics to follow will be, Education/schools, Well /water projects, and Med-ical/dispensary.

Sepuka Ministerial Leadership

A little history first:

Sepuka's humble beginning in the 1940's began with the missionary pastors pioneering a new generation of Christians followers. Through the years of this leadership and encouragement of evangelism, pastoral education, and empowering women to assume roles within the church and community, the Africans have taken the lead. With this strong Pastoral leadership at Sepuka – all churches continue to grow in membership, resulting in a need for larger churches to be built. It is difficult for the members to secure adequate funds for such large projects. This is where we can contribute financially and fulfill our supportive role within the companionship.

As a Congregation Companion – we have many opportunities in which to assist.

- Would you consider sponsoring a student interested in evangelism or pastoral classes for \$600 \$800 per year?
- Would you be willing to assist with our 2 Christian Kindergarten teacher's salary of \$25 per teacher per month?
- Would you like to donate toward the purchasing of Sunday School supplies for the children and young adults?
- Would you like to donate to a fund for further construction of new church sites? See the humble beginning structures in photos.

If you are considering a donation of any kind, please contact: Kathy Hand at my email address: <u>katahand3@gmail.com</u> or send your donation to Zion Lutheran Church at 925 5th Ave. Rockford, IL. 61104. Please make a notation of Tanzanian Companionship in the memo.

Zion Lutheran Church ELCA / Sepuka Lutheran Church ELCT Companionship (Est. 2012)





Pastor Thomas, Kathy Hand, **Beverly Henry Wessman**





Pastor Shadrack Langu Northern District

Pastor Emmanuel Mitula Southern District

Ministerial Advancements - Faith Partners filling new Leadership roles CONGRATULATIONS!



Newly ordained Pastor Mswety, in Oct. 2019 has been assigned a church in Singida area. Education was funded through Zion



Since the signing of the certificate in 2012, the growth in membership at Sepuka and the 10 chapel sites has necessitated a division of this region into the 2 districts.

We welcome Pastor Mitula back to Sepuka.

Jesse has now enrolled at Kiomboi Lutheran Institute for Evangelism training



Former Sepuka Pastor Martha Kitiku is now Central Diocese **Director of Womens** Ministries



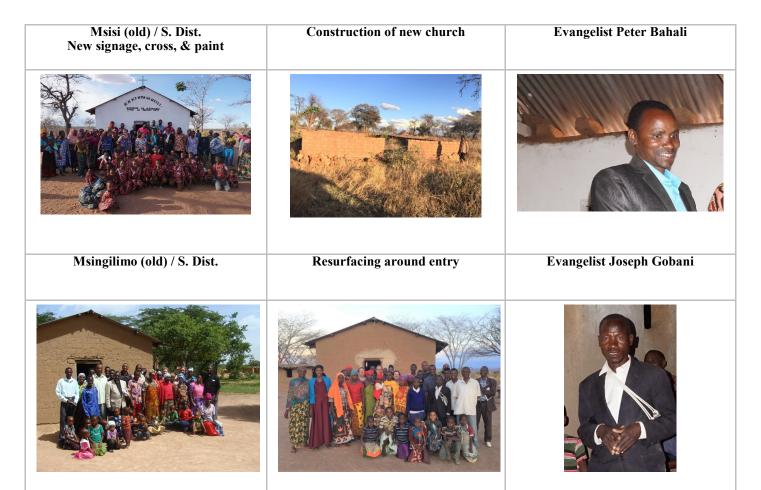
Evangelist Donald Alfred has received a new call in the area



Evangelist Ezekial Ngulu has also received a new call in the area

Mugungia (old)/ N. Dist.	Construction on new church	Evangelist Kefus Nkungu
Mwikia (old) / N. Dist. Hosts Compassion Int'l. Ministry for local children	Construction on new church	Evangelist Jeffery Esango
Mwasutianga / N. Dist. (new) 2012 and dedicated to Pastor M. Thomas	2019 paint with NEW cross on top	Evangelist Elibariki Mangu
Musimi (old) / N. Dist.	Rows of bricks for new church	Evangelist Charles Mnkunda
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Masweya (old) / S. Dist.	New signage above doorway	Evangelist Daudi Jordon
Mtunduru (old) / S. Dist.	New cross, paint & signage	Evangelist Zach Assa
Mnang'ana / S. Dist. site 2017/2018	New church site under a canopy, until completion	Evangelist Samweli Mathayo
Kipuma / S. Dist. Built in 2015 Weather prohibited a visit in 2017 This was our 1 st visit in 2019		Evangelist Benjamin David







Sepuka Lutheran Kindergarten



In 2017 requests made for the following items, cooking pots, cups, rice, grain, student desks (25) teaching supplies.

Teachers, Eunice Benjamen & Dorcus Selemani thank Zion and the Wessman family for their monthly salaries of \$25.00. Miriam presented a set of 12 Biblical flannel graph stories

for the children.



MULTI-CULTURAL - AROUND THE CHAIRS

AROUND THE CHAIRS! Courageous Conversations September 2020



We hope you will join us. Together we will learn and grow!

With a prayer for Action, Ruth Larson, Jane Lightcap, Charmaine Logwood, Ron Simmons

It's time for another Around the Chairs meeting. We will meet on Sunday, September 13th at 11:00am under the large tree in the park just south of Zion. Our courageous conversations continue to focus on listening to each other as we engage in understanding the history and implication of racism in our country, community, church and in our individual lives. This month's discussion will involve the first two chapters of the book **White** Fragility. Please join us for this **one hour** meeting.

Following COVID recommendations and Zion policy, please RSVP so that we are prepared for social distancing requirements by emailing me at <u>rjaslar@gmail.com</u>. Wear your mask, bring your own chair, water, note paper and a pen.

Questions to be discussed:

Chapter 1 What in this chapter makes you uncomfortable when reading? Why do so many white people feel so confident in their opinions on racism as they live their lives in segregation?

Chapter 2

Describe the difference between racial prejudice, racial discrimination and racism? Do you believe that individual whites may be against racism, but they still benefit from a system that privileges whites as a group? What does it mean to say that race is "socially constructed"? Biologically constructed? What is the difference between the two?



ROCKFORD MIDTOWN MARKET

2020 DATES: AUGUST 1-OCTOBER 31 (9AM-1PM)

c/o Katie's Cup - 502 Seventh Street - Rockford, IL 61104 www.rockfordmidtownmarket.com rockfordmidtownmarket@gmail.com www.facebook.com/rockfordmidtownmarket - Twitter @midtownmarket Market Manager, Brian Ohme 779-770-8768

2020 MIDTOWN MARKET VENDORS

BONNIE DAHLBERG TREASURES

BOB'S PRODUCE

FIELD AND VINEYARD HANDMADE

Pet Wants

LINDA LOWRY CNA Illinios Institute of Nursing Studies

CHIRO-ONE





BOOKER WASHINGTON

PRODUCE & JEWELRY



PATRIOTS FARMING PROGRAM



Owls Roost Farm



KATIE'S CUP COFFEE & DONUTS



ROCKFORD MIDTOWN MARKET SPONSORS



Mobile Food Truck / Sing-Along

MOBILE FOOD TRUCK



(Free produce/milk/meat) TUESDAY-SEPTEMBER 15

10:00-11:30am

First Lutheran Church 225 S. Third Street Rockford, IL





Tuesday, September 15th from 7-8pm FACEBOOK LIVE

Benefitting Katie's Cup Ministries

SEPTEMBER 2020 CALANDER

Saturday	5 9:00 AM Cars & Coffee 9:00 AM Rockford Midtown Market - Across from Katie's Cup	12 9:00 AM Rockford Midtown Market - Across from Katie's Cup	19 9:00 AM Rockford Midtown Market - Across from Katie's Cup	26 9:00 AM Rockford Midtown Market - Across from Katie's Cup	3 9:00 AM Cars & Coffee 9:00 AM Rockford Midtown Market - Across from Katie's Cup
Friday	4 Office Closed	11 Office Closed	18 Office Closed	25 Office Closed	2 Office Closed
Thursday	8	10 4:00 PM Katie's Cup Board 5:30 PM Zion Development Board	17 11:30 AM Finance Committee	24 4:30 PM Patriots Board 6:00 PM HR Committee 7:00 PM Church Council	7
Wednesday	2	9:30 AM Prayer Ministry 4:00 PM Katie's Cup Board 5:30 PM Zion Development Board	 A Grapevine 0:00 AM Grapevine Articles Due 5:30 PM Midtown Lutheran Parish: Conversation on Race: My Story - Zoom Gathering 	23	90
Tuesday	1 6:00 PM Re-Opening Team—Zoom	œ	15 16 10:30 AM Pop Up Food Truck -First Lutheran 9:00 AM Grapev 10:30 AM Pop Up Food Truck -First 9:00 AM Grapev Lutheran Articles Due Lutheran 5:30 PM Midtow 1:00 PM Building and Lutheran Parish: Gonunds Conversation on 7:00pm—Katle's Cup Compfire Singalong My Story - Zoom Campfire Singalong Gathering on Facebook Live Cathering	22	29
Monday	31 9:00 AM Grapevine Mailing	7 Labor Day	14	21	28 9:00 AM Grapevine Mailing 1:30 PM Bag Fluffing - Youth Center
Sunday	30 9:15 AM Summer Worship 10:30 AM Pastoral Intern Celebration	6 9:15 AM Parking Lot Worship	 13 9:15 AM Parking Lot Worship 9:00 PM Coffee Hour on Zoom with Pastoral Intern Dayna 11:00 AM Around the Chairs 	20 9:15 AM Parking Lot Worship 12:00 PM Multi-Cultural Team	27 9:15 AM Parking Lot Worship

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Our Ministers - All the People of Zion Senior Pastor: Michael Thomas; zionrockfordpastor@gmail.com Pastoral Intern: Dayna Weltzin; interndayna@gmail.com Custodian: Yatte Moore; zionrockford@gmail.com Financial Secretary: Arnie Swenson; swenas12@gmail.com Assistant Financial Secretary: Jeff Carlson: jeff.carlson@comcast.net Office Manager: Jolyn Hess; zionrockford@gmail.com Music Ministry Coordinator: Jodi Beach; jodibeach3@gmail.com Organist: Robert Leonhardt; hzbob@yahoo.com Literacy Coordinator: Wayne Spitzer; spitzer001@comcast.com Wedding Coordinator: Kathy Hand; katahand3@gmail.com WOW Coordinator: Janice Forrest; juju1959@gmail.com Worship Media: Kurt Brown; zionrockford@gmail.com

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Charles Dahlberg, Torgny Hallin, Kathy Hand, Ann Harkabus, Ruth Larson, Jane Lightcap, Charmaine Logwood, James Rasch, Linda Reinhardt, Ron Simmons, Steve Stark, Pastor Michael Thomas and Nancy Warden

2020 Church Council Officers

President:	Jane Lightcap
Vice-President:	Ron Simmons
Treasurer:	James Rasch
Secretary:	Ruth Larson
Pastor:	Michael E. Thomas

Social Media

www.zionrockford.com Like us on www.facebook.com Follow us on www.youtube.com/zionrockford

PRAYER CORNER WE ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:

The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth

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Eaton, Bishop Jeffrey Clements, Pastor Thomas, Pastoral Intern Dayna Weltzin, the Zion Church Council, Pastor Caleb Uk of the Burmese congregation; the Zion Staff, Zion Outreach Board, Staff and Programs of Patriots' Gateway Center, Katie's Cup and Zion Development Corporation.

- Pastor Selvakumar and Arcot Lutheran Church in India and Sepuka/Msisi Church in Tanzania.
- For the Northern Illinois Synod; North Conference churches; Midtown Lutheran Parish, faculty and students of Rockford Lutheran Schools, Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries.
- ♦ For those who have passed away....Lorraine Greenwood
 - For healing: Yolanda Churchill, Chrishunda Holman-Davis, Tricia Fedie, Jean Fischer, Kevin Giardini, Deanna Hartenberg, Carrie LeGault, Pastor Jane McChesney, Vanda Nielsen, Pastor Amy Nyman, and Marsha Wurtlin.

If you have a prayer request or a prayer of thanksgiving to share, please notify Pastor Mike or Judy Lindstrom. The prayer room is upstairs to the left of the sanctuary and is available during office hours and on Sunday before and after worship services.

GRAPEVINE DEADLINE For the October 2020 Grapevine, EMAIL BY SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

To submit an article, please send a hardcopy to the church office or email to zionrockford@gmail.com.





GIVE PLUS

Zion is using an online giving program called "Give Plus" and it is through the same company we use "Simply Giving". The "Give Plus" program allows you to donate from the mobile app (android and apple) or online through our website. You can create your own account by downloading the app to your phone. You can give from your checking/savings account or from a credit card/debit card. Talk with Jeff Carlson for more details, or email the church office for questions or assistance. You can also go to Zion's web page and under "Support Zion" you can set up an account and give there. Zion Lutheran Church 925 Fifth Avenue Rockford, Illinois 61104

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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September 2020

Zion Lutheran Church 925 5th Avenue Rockford, Illinois 61104 Phone: (815) 964-4609 www.zionrockford.com zionrockford@gmail.com

PARTNERSHIPS

SUNDAY PARKING LOT WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAYS AT 9:15AM (Also on Facebook Live)