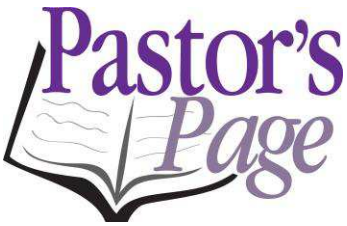
Through Zion's Window

JULY 2017

Spirit Steps



More than any other holiday, the Fourth of July is for me a time of nostalgia. It is a time around which I experience a cascading of memories flooding into my consciousness. I remember as a child weaving crepe paper through the spokes of the wheels on my bike and taping American flags to the handlebars to ready it for the parade. When I had children of my own, I remember riding our horses into town and putting our daughters in the saddle and leading the horses in the parade. The Fourth of July for me was a time of family togetherness, a time of cookouts and barbeques, a time of parades and fireworks. It is a time of mostly pleasant memories. Having said this, I remember the year that I had the measles and couldn't be a part of the festivities, or the years that no one wanted to go to watch the fireworks with me and how lonely it was going alone with no one to "oooh and aaaah" with.

I remember the images of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution being part of the decorations on the Fourth of July in the same way that the crepe paper adorned the wheels of my bike. All in all, it was a day of fun filled activities that did not hold much significance beyond that. Until recently I never thought much about the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution of the United States but as there have been attempts to ban refugees, as there has been accusations of "fake news", as there has been questions regarding the rule of law, I have come to a new appreciation of these documents. As with many things, I don't always appreciate the importance and significance of them until they are threatened.

I have never really been interested in politics but, as a Christian, I have come to realize that I live out my faith as a citizen of the United States and as such I have a responsibility for the laws and governance of this country. I have a responsibility to seek justice, to work toward caring for those who cannot care for themselves: to feed the hungry, take in the refugee, provide shelter for the homeless and spread the Good News of God's love for all creation.

Earlier this month the Synod Assembly of the Greater Milwaukee Synod unanimously passed a resolution to provide sanctuary to immigrants. This was done in part out of the recognition that there are things that we can do together far more effectively than we can do as individuals. The same is true on a national level.

The issues that we face as a country are many and complex and there certainly is good reason just want to avoid it all and retreat into our own private world but we are called by our God to seek justice. It is important then that we familiarize our self with the political issues listen to arguments on all sides and decide where we stand and most importantly question whether or not our stance will reflect our faith.

As we approach the Fourth of July Celebrations maybe we could take a few minutes to read through the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution before we enjoy the parades, and cookouts, and the fireworks.

Have a great Fourth and may you have peace in your day.
Pastor Bob

June 11, 2017 Council Minutes – Meeting was brought to order by President Jerry Liesener at 9:40 am. Devotions were led by Carrie Wendorf. Next meeting devotions will be led by Pastor Bob. A motion was made by Franklin Wolter, seconded by Carrie to approve the secretary's report as printed, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Carrie reviewed the Treasurer's report. Heidi motioned to accept the treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Pastor, all in favor, motion carried.

Pastor's Report – Pastor shared a letter that will go to the congregation and Synod regarding his retirement plans. Pastor will be on vacation July 16th, Pastor Nelson will be presiding.

Zion Ministry Reports –
Parish Ed – looking for suggestions for next year's Sunday School format.
Worship – none
Evangelism - none
Missions – Carrie is looking for help at the MS Bike Ride rest stop on August 6th.
Building & Grounds – Franklin will be painting the bell tower.

Old Business – July 9th would normally be an ecumenical service at the Fireman's Park but it is cancelled due to the parade, we will be moving our Sunday service to Saturday July 8th at 4 pm and worship with Holy Name. Have received positive feedback on the joint services with Holy Name, will continue with the 2nd Sunday of month at 8:30 am throughout the summer. Waiting for a bid for the new lights in the sanctuary.

New Business – **Oktoberfest will be the theme of Zion's float for the Dodge County Fireman's Parade in Ashippun on July 9th. If interested in helping, we will be meeting at Shorty Schuett's shed on June 21st at 6 pm and Sunday June 25th after church to decorate the trailer.** Looking for people to walk in the parade to hand out information on the church. Zion's website is currently maintained by Pastor Bob's brother, looking for someone else to handle the website.

Next Council meeting will be on September 10th. Motion was made by Franklin, seconded by Pastor Bob to adjourn, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 am with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Tunak

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May Income: $9,370.05
May Total Expenses: $12,516.28
May Overall Total: -$3,146.23

Full financial reports are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please feel free to make a copy if you would like one for your own records.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

04 – Kendall Brittenham
06 – Oliver Wittnebel
08 – Pastor Bob Thays
09 – Marian Kluewer
10 – Mark Heinrich
11 – Norma Tunak
12 – Paul Balmer
15 – Mary Lee Petersen
15 – Kyle Schlieve
17 – Steve Wagner
18 – Alex Wagner
21 – Peggy Liesener
22 – Palmer Wittnebel
22 – Tyler Jaeger
28 – Carol Schuett

ACOYLTES

02 – Kyle Schlieve
16 – Nolan Altreuter
23 – Kyle Schlieve
30 – Kristofer Schultz

GREETERS

02 – Gramling Family
16 – Bill & Ele Mack
23 – Doreen Schultz
30 – Loni Jaeger

PROJECTION OPERATOR

02 – Carrie Wendorf
16 – Jeanine Heinrich
23 – Suzy Rather
30 – Carly Christopherson

SPECIAL DATES IN JULY

01 – Canada Day
04 – U.S. Independence Day

USHERS

***Barth Liesener Team**
Lester Schuett
Ruth Peirick
Millie Moldenhauer

ASS'T MIN

02 – Anna Gramling
16 – Carrie Wendorf
23 – John Siedschlag
30 – Jerry Liesener

ALTAR GUILD

Millie Moldenhauer
Heidi Tunak

LAY READER

Christine Siedschlag

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WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Worship Attendance

Sunday, May 28	35	Sunday, June 11	62
Sunday, June 4	128	Sunday, June 18	42

Endowment Fund Committee

The Endowment Fund committee met in May to discuss a recent request. The request was to help defray some of the costs for a therapy pool. This young man has been battling serious health issues since birth. The young man asked the "Make-a –Wish" foundation for a therapy pool and his wish was granted. The foundation paid for the pool and will install the pool, but there are costs for continual upkeep and special access to the pool. The Endowment fund was presented with a request to help and the committee unanimously voted to grant the request. A $2000 check was sent to the family in early June.

Respectfully submitted,
Carrie Wendorf

Evangelism News…

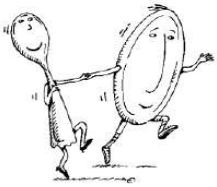
July 2017 Newsletter

Piggly Wiggly Receipts

The grocery receipts you turned in for the months of May and June totaled $5,147.28. Thank you for putting your **CURRENT** grocery receipts in the box in the Narthex table. If your receipts are more than 3 months old, please don't put them in the box.

Dishes

There are several dishes in the Narthex.
Please check to see if any of them may be yours.



Honor Your Pledge

Do you honor your monetary pledge to our Lord throughout the summer months? Your utilities provider, your cable company, and your cell phone company don't stop sending their bills in summer. Like those monthly bills, Zion's bills also need to be paid. We still need your financial support throughout the summer; the bills don't take a vacation. Thank you for keeping your pledge current during the summer!

Ashippun Firefighter's Picnic

No Church services on Sunday, July 9. The Church parking lot will be used for staging the parade.

A joint service will be held on Saturday, July 8 at 4:00.

Watch for Zion's float in the parade on Sunday, July 9 at 10:00 a.m. promoting our Oktoberfest celebration.

Ashippun Bread Basket

The student meal program ended with the school year, but thanks to your generosity, the pantry shelves were filled to help feed the children.

Please continue to give to help those in need.

Doreen Schultz
Evangelism Committee

On August 6th we will observe "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. Pastor Bob will be riding in the MS bike tour as a part of his contribution. He leaves on Saturday and bikes 75 miles to Whitewater. After an overnight in Whitewater he leaves again for a 75 mile ride to Madison. This 150-mile bike tour raises money for MS research and treatment. Each rider pays an entry fee and then is asked to get pledges for the ride. This year Pastor Bob has set a goal of $1500. Your support in helping him reach that goal is greatly appreciated. Checks can be made out to MS and given to Pastor Bob.