

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
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## *Zion Lutheran Church - Congregational Update - October 2020*

Greetings to you, the members of Zion Lutheran Church:

The Zion Congregational Council is providing this update to our members as a means to communicate some key happenings in this time of being apart in person, but together in Christ. If you have any questions or concerns regarding any of these updates, please feel free to contact one of the Council members listed below.

**Impacts of COVID-19:** The obvious impacts brought on by public health restrictions have impacted our ability to gather, to worship, and to provide our ministry within and outside of the church building; this has meant that we have not had the need for office support and janitorial services, and we have had to end our employment relationship with Shannen Barthel and Murray Jensen. We sincerely thank both Shannen and Murray for their years of service to the Zion community and wish them well in their future endeavors.

The church sanctuary has been refitted with tables and chairs to allow maximum attendance while adhering to social distancing requirements. The church pews have been sold and the sanctuary has been refurbished to support a new style of worship. We welcome you to this new worship setting!

**Council Vacancy:** Donna Roske has found it necessary to resign from Congregational Council. This has left a vacancy in her 2 year term and a vacancy in the Chairpersonship. The remainder of Donna's term will be filled at the next Annual Meeting; in the interim, Sherry Jimmy has assumed the role of Chairperson. We wish to thank Donna for her years of service and commitment to Zion Council.

**Mortgage Strategy:** Council is committed to reducing long term debt and its associated interest charges. We have an opportunity once a year to make a payment on the outstanding principal on the mortgage and we wish to do this at year end. If you can make a Designated Offering to the mortgage principal by Dec. 31, 2020, we will make a lump sum payment to bring down the long term debt.

**No In-Person Worship Sunday, October 18, 2020:** There will be an online service on Facebook, but no in-person worship on Oct. 18. In-person worship will resume on Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020. If you can pre-register for in-person worship, it is appreciated; if not, you are welcome to attend and we will add your name to the list of attendees.

A special thank-you to Carmella, Olivia, and Lorelee Gattinger for their production efforts with the setup, filming and recording of the on-line worship services, and to Pastor Sheldon for the on-line ministry through worship and Bible Study.

*Happy Thanksgiving . . . for we are truly blessed through the love of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour!*

Congregational Council Members:

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