

**Mt. Zion Ev. Lutheran Church**

**320 Mt. Zion Dr.**

**Ripon, WI 54971**

***The Sheppard’s Pen***

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 **August 2022**

**Are you enjoying the heat of summer?**

*If you can't stand the heat, don't go to Cancun in the summer.* [Ben Stein](https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/ben-stein-quotes).

We’ve had our share of hot weather this summer and probably will have some more before the summer is over. For those who love the hot weather, it is time for outdoor activities. For those who don’t like the heat, it’s time to turn on the AC and stay cool. For those with “must do” items on the “to do” list, it doesn’t really matter how hot the weather gets because it still needs to be done.

Whether or not we enjoy the heat or hibernate in air-conditioned bliss, we know that every year summer comes. We know that heat will come with the summer also just as cold comes at the end of fall and throughout the winter. The seasons change. They come and go. Heat and cold, fall and spring, rain and snow, all arrive in their proper times. The Lord not only reassures us of his care and kindness as the seasons come and go, fields are planted and harvested, but he also spoke in his word his promise.

We see regional fires, regional floods, volcanoes, and hurricanes. But any destruction they bring is local in nature. They may have effects from smoke or plumes of ash that spread across the globe. But the disaster doesn’t effect every continent or people. It is important for us to remember the Lord’s promise given after he destroyed all the inhabitants of the earth in a world encompassing flood. The wickedness of man was great and the Lord destroyed almost all of mankind with the exception of eight people whom he preserved inside the ark along with animals. Afterwards the Lord God promised that never again would he destroy the earth with a flood. This world will continue until the time he has chosen for this world to pass away.

*20Noah built an altar to the Lord and took from every clean animal and every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. 21The Lord smelled the pleasant aroma. The Lord said in his heart, “I will never again curse the soil anymore because of man, for the thoughts he forms in his heart are evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike every living thing, as I have done. 22While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.”*  (Genesis 8:20-22 EHV)

In days which weather may change a bit from year to year, we can lose sight of God’s promise. Looking at God’s creation it is fascinating to see how the Lord structured his creation. More carbon dioxide means greener plants who thrive on it and produce oxygen. I thought of these facts as I was mowing the lawn last week. Much to my chagrin there seems to be no end to the weeds that grow in the yard and garden. Losing sight of our creator’s preservation of this creation we may fall into worry. We take care of this creation which our gracious creator gives us without the fear of this world’s destruction at human hands. Until the Last Day this creation of our God will continue with his preserving work.

As we await our Savior’s return we may spend time pulling weeds in the garden or hoeing. We may choose to recycle. We plant and we harvest. We enjoy the heat or the cold of summer and winter or remain in the cool or warmth of our houses in those seasons. They come each year as the Lord promised.

**General Announcements**

**Private Communion**

Pastor Sheppard is happy to offer private communion to those who prefer it; simply email him (revmikesheppard@gmail.com) or call him (920-745-0883) to schedule a time.

**Online Streaming**

We are livestreaming on Facebook Live Sundays at 9:00am. Services will also be uploaded to Rumble (Mt. Zion’s channel is ***mtzionripon***) and the link will be posted on the church website in the VIDEOS subheading under the MEDIA tab. Services will still be available on DVD. Please feel free to contact Pastor Sheppard with questions.

**Altar Flowers**

If you wish to have flowers put on the altar in the future, **please contact Marilyn Ninneman at 748-6474 in addition to signing up on the flower chart.**

**Christian Family Solutions**

*Christian Family Solutions*is a WELS affiliated organization providing counselling services to the hurting. Both in person and video appointments are available for those in need by contacting CFS directly. Mt. Zion is a partner with them through the *Member Assistance Program (MAP).* Our church has a fund dedicated to assisting our members with the cost of these services. If financial assistance is needed, Pastor Sheppard notifies Christian Family Solutions and assistance will be given towards the cost of appointments. Video counseling by computer may be conducted at the church when necessary. For more information, visit [**https://christianfamilysolutions.org**](https://christianfamilysolutions.org)**.**

**Kitchen & Church Cleaning**

2 cleaning lists have been created - one is on the bulletin board upstairs and includes everything except kitchen tasks. Another list is in the kitchen for tasks to complete there. This is open to anyone in the congregation who is willing to help. When you complete a task, please write your name and date completed by that task. Thank you for your help!

**Helping Hands**

If you are interested in helping someone with technology, helping give rides to appointments in Ripon, Berlin, Oshkosh, or Fond du Lac, please let Joanne Gregor know. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please contact Lisa Tremore at 920-229-1297, Tammy Niemuth at 920-299-0240 or Joanne Gregor at 920-896-1518. **If you need assistance of any kind, please do not feel like you are imposing; this is why Helping Hands exists!**

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Kids C.A.R.E. The 2021-2022 Kids C.A.R.E. project, Outreach to Roma, has

come to an end. Mt. Zion contributed $564. Thank you so much for your

generosity which will help our Bulgarian missionaries share the gospel

message with the Roma people. Pleas continue to keep Kids C.A.R.E. in your

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On the Lighter Side!



Adam and Danielle Covach 8/4/2018

Larson and Mary Clement 8/8/1964

Paul and Peggy Walkowicz 8/8/2020

Kyle and Melanie Stollfuss 8/17/2007

Edgar and Mary Bradley 8/26/1978

Kurt and Carrissa Ewald 8/26/2006

Rick and Tamara Neimuth 8/28/1982

Terry and Brenda Dolderer 8/29/2015

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 Bradley Krahn 8/2/1998

 Tiffany Shadick 8/2

 Michael Sheppard 8/4/1975

Larson Clement 8/6/1940

Diane Witkowski 8/6/1952

Donald Mueller 8/8/1937

Beier Bruce 6/9/1946

Jonathan Zellmer 8/10/1999

Eric Eckert 8/10/1977

Janet Zellmer 8/12/1945

Holly Machmueller 9/16/1993

Mark Bennet 8/13/2011

Elizabeth Weiske 8/13/2007

Joshua Niemuth 8/15/1986

Roman Mueller 8/15/2004

DuWayne Wichman 8/17/1958

Jeff Weckwerth 8/18/1957

Katharine Gitzel 8/20/1946

Cyliee Baumgarten 8/23/2013

Paige Wichman 8/25/2007

Sawyer Damm 8/25/2002

Hazel Weckwerth 8/28/1930

Melissa Lemiesz 8/28/1995

Austin Baranczyk 8/29/1998

Mike Meeker 8/29/1952



Mt. Zion Messenger

August, 2022

Mt. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

320 Mt. Zion Dr. Ripon, WI 54971

Pastor Michael Sheppard

**Church Email: mountzionripon@gmail.com**

Church Website: www.mtzionripon.org

Pastor’s Office: 920-748-9734

Pastor’s Email: revmikesheppard@gmail.com

**Newsletter Articles**

**Since there will be more than one person assembling the newsletter, please email the church office with news/articles.** Deadline for articles for the August edition is August 19th, 2022. Please either give news/articles to Jo Meeker or email them to the church office at **mountzionripon@gmail.com****.**

***We are always looking for human interest news from our members! If there is any incorrect information, please let us know that as well.***