The Contact July

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We are a collection site for

THANKSGIVING IN JULY

July 13-17, 2025

Help us ensure nobody in Muscatine County has to wonder where their next meal will come from & stock the shelves of local food pantries. Please drop off **non-perishable** items here! Items include:

Canned Soup
Canned Fruit
Peanut Butter
Ready to Prepare Meals (like Hamburger Helper)

All donations stay local!

UNITED WAY Muscatine County

CROSSROADS INC

mcsa
renewing hope... rebuilding lives

LUNCHTIME POTLUCK

Get together



Zion Lutheran Church

Tuesday August 26

Signup will be on the narthex bulletin board

Message from Pastor Willie:

Zion Family – greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ!
As you may be aware, June was a hectic month for ministry in the Muscatine area. The primary events were four different day camps – two weeks of elementary camp, a week of middle school camp – all at Saulsbury County Park - and several evenings for the preschoolers at Discovery Park. In the midst of that we also have helped send a few campers to places such as EWALU and Camp Shalom, both camping ministries which Zion supports financially and prayerfully.

As we roll into July, I have some pretty exciting news! For the last several years, Zion has been involved in Faith Together Muscatine (FTM) and Family Faith Night (FFN), drawing us into closer relationship with Grace, Shepherd of the Cross (SOTC), and New Era Lutheran Churches as we depend on resources, leadership, and volunteers from all of the congregations involved in FTM. New Era has been without settled or called pastoral leadership for several years. In the last year, Pastor Aleese, Pastor Susan, and I have filled that role as best as possible, leading worship and providing pastoral care in rotation, and welcoming New Era into FTM.

Early in 2025, Wartburg Theological Seminary and New Era got together to talk about the possibility of someone from the seminary helping out. New Era, along with Faith Together Muscatine, is excited to announce that Maddy Carroll, a student from Wartbury Seminary, has been assigned as a deacon intern to our area! She will officially begin on Tuesday, August 19. Maddy's internship will be at least 9 months, perhaps extending longer.

How does this impact us?
As a part of Faith Together Muscatine, we will benefit from Maddy's leadership among us. Though primarily based with New Era, Maddy will also spend time within all our Muscatine ELCA congregations and will participate in collaborative ministries. Pastor Aleese will be her internship supervisor and each congregation will select a person to serve on the internship committee. She comes with experience in children, youth, and family ministry, with an interest in non-profits, both secular and religious.

How can we get to know and support Maddy?
Join us for a special joint fellowship potluck with *all 4 congregations*. Bring a dish to pass, catch up with friends from other congregations, and meet Maddy! This potluck will happen at New Era on Sunday, August 24th at 12 p.m. Shepherd of the Cross will be worshipping with New Era that day and if you would like to join with SOTC and New Era for worship before the potluck, you are welcome to do so! I plan to go out after worship and fellowship here at Zion.

When will we know more?
That's a great question! These are the details I know for certain right now. As you can imagine, there are details still up in the air as far as schedule, collaborative ministry, leadership opportunities for her, etc. These will be communicated when we know details with more certainty.

Message from Pastor Willie:

What can we do now?
Right now, we can join together in praying for Maddy and her ministry with New Era and FTM. If you have favorite stores, venues, or restaurants in town and you would like to provide Maddy with a gift card or if you have a special welcome gift for Maddy, we can collect them and give them to her at the potluck on August 24th.

Our primary job as a congregation is to help Maddy grow in her ministry gifts and skills and help form her as a rostered leader in the ELCA. Zion has a long history of interns and I am confident that this will be an excellent internship opportunity for Maddy as she grows as a leader in God's Church.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Willie Rosin

FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

Birthdays Over 80
* 80-89 Years Young
** 90-99 Years Young
***100 Years Young

July Birthdays
*Robert Nicolai 07/10
**Emily Cole 07/22
*Joann Jensen 07/25
*Melody Evans 07/26
**Doris Welk 07/26
*Manley Doyle 07/30
**Doris Evans 07/30

July Birthdays
Brynn Othmer 07/01
Leslie Putnam 7/1
Gregory Bogart 07/03
Paula Miller 07/07
Robert Stange 07/08
Susan Miller 07/10
Shawn Baars-Schafer 07/11
Miriam Garrett 07/12
Dale Wilder 07/13
Sheryl Mercer 07/14
Hazel Davis 07/16
Michelle Richardson 07/22
Lynn Heitmann 07/24
Rowen McBride 07/24

Lunch Bunch
July 10 11:30 @ China Garden
August 14 11:30 @ Waffle & Pancake House

Altar Guild:
Week 1: Richardsons
Week 2: Perishos
Week 3: Pusateris
Week 4: Starkweathers
Sub: Hansons

Tithe

Total Offering Received For Week 7/6/25	$5,805
YTD Offering Received	$118,092
Remaining Weekly Offering Required to meet Weekly Budget	$3,930

YTD MCSA	YTD Laundry Love	YTD Quarters for Hunger
$400	$320	$385.50
SHP	Synod Ben/Outreach	Youth
$585	$277	$1,753.60

Calling all instrumentalists!!
Zion's orchestra will perform a piece during the 9 a.m. service on Sunday, August 24. This is for musicians who are high-school age or older. If interested, please contact Gail Pusateri. (563-264-5719).



FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

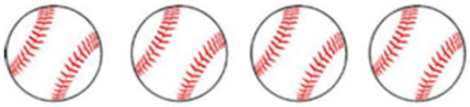
Birthdays Over 80
* 80-89 Years Young
** 90-99 Years Young
***100 Years Young

August Birthdays
**Sharon Martin 8/1
*Ronald Oostendorp 08/01
*Larry Martz 08/05
*Mike Carter 08/11

August Birthdays
Tim Othmer 08/03
Mildred Hyink 08/05
Katie Saunders 08/05
Jan Drumm 08/07
Aurora McBride 08/07
Charles Potter 08/09
Sarah Stalkfleet 08/11
Edward Saunders 8/14/15
Bruce Miller 08/15
William Rosin 08/16
Lanny Creamer 08/22
Karla Sander 08/22
Travis Bogart 08/25
Evie Evans 08/25
Grace Garrett 08/25
Julie Frye 08/26
Cameron Schippers 08/27
Pat Tiecke-Collins 08/27
Brandon Stalkfleet 08/28

Take Me Out To The Ballgame

Please Join Shepherd of the Cross
Saturday, July 19th at 5:30pm, for a night out at a
River Bandits Ballgame vs. Peoria Chiefs
(Michael Massey- Bobblehead Give Away)

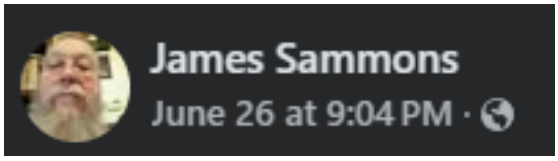


Tickets are $32 each, which is the
ticket price & $20 Bandit Card (to be used for
Concessions, Merchandise, & Amusement Rides)
Seats will be in the Pepsi Loge Boxes



Sign up by Sunday, July 13th
When you sign up, please pay at your church office.

LAUNDRY LOVE UPDATE



What a day at the Laundromat....134 people and 7500lbs of laundry later....we called it a day....whew. We have a GREAT group of helpers stepping up to make it happen.
This community is blessed with some very generous people that make things like this happen. We are blessed.
So very blessed. MPD stopping in was great. Only a couple kids but a big impact on the adults also. Lots of positive chatter after the officer left. Good job MPD.
(Used with permission)

FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

July Anniversaries
Kent & Mary Heckman 7/3
Jami & Mary Schroeder 7/6
Jennifer & William Rosin 7/6
*Mark & Sarah Perisho 7/9
Leslie & Joe Putnam 7/9
**Deb & Rick Weiss 7/15
**Barbara & Ralph Buster 7/19

August Anniversaries
Jacob & Kelsie Dornbush 8/8
Robert & Mary Martz 8/21
Richard Jr. & Anna Stange 8/31
**Gail & Dave Pusateri 8/6
*Wendi & Scott Meerdink 8/19
*Jurgen & Jan Boche 8/20
Mary & Robert Martz 8/21
*Dale & Sue Wilder 8/26
* 25+
**50+

Usher Schedule
July
Richard Jacobsen
Rosendo Ramos
Mike Carter
Julie Frye
ALT Tom Welk

August
Jim & Julie Haage
Mike Batenhorst
Susan Smith
ALT Bill Toyne

Garden of Eatin'





FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

Reminders:
Men's Bible Study meets every Wednesday morning at 6:30 a.m. at the All American Diner.

Christians Underground
We have an additional Bible study/discussion group opportunity in Muscatine called Christians Underground. Pastor Aleese Kenitzer from Shepherd of the Cross leads this group in discussion about the Revised Common Lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday. They currently meet weekly on Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. at Zion Lutheran church for about an hour. This invitation is open to all four ELCA congregations in Muscatine.

Upcoming Meetings:

Joy Circle
July 24 5:30 p.m.@ Vivien Halloran's
August 28 Summer Social (Lighthouse) 6:00 p.m.

Group 5
July 24 1:00 p.m.
August 19 Summer Outing 1:00 p.m.

Contact News
Newsletter information and articles for the next Contact are due by **August 5**





KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS
Please Pray for Kristy Keith, Butch Doyle, Linda Brade, Beth Simpson, Karolyn Subbert, Faith McCleary, Sara Reusswig, Judy Sebbert, Tyler Baars, Martha Carley, Jean Young, & Tammy Welk.



2025 July Church Update

LSI proudly serves Iowans in all 99 counties through our services of Mental Health, Early Childhood, Foster Care & Adoption, Global Greens, People with Disabilities, and Immigrant & Refugee Community Services. We serve individuals of all ages, from families with newborns navigating the early stages of parenthood, to Refugee and Immigrant elders, as well as children at every stage of development. Our heart beats for the people we serve. We empower families and communities by recognizing and honoring the strengths and gifts of every individual.

From Orphanage to Expansive Outreach
The Journey of Lutheran Services in Iowa

As we celebrate 160 years of ministry through Lutheran Services in Iowa, we are filled with gratitude, for the lives changed, the communities strengthened, and the faithful support that has sustained this work for generations.
What began as a small orphanage has grown into a statewide mission of compassion and care. The story of ***Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI)*** *is one of transformation, deeply rooted in the Lutheran commitment to serve our neighbors in need.*

1864: A Humble Beginning
LSI's story starts with the opening of the Lutheran Children's Home in 1864. In 1900, the home relocated to Waverly and was renamed the Bremwood Children's Home, becoming a place of refuge for countless children over the years.

1939–1945: Expanding the Mission
The mission widened in 1939 with the founding of the Lutheran Welfare Society of Iowa. By 1945, this ministry reached across the state, with offices in Council Bluffs, Des Moines, Iowa City, and Sioux City—bringing help and hope to more Iowans.

1963: A New Name, Broader Services
In 1963, the organization became Lutheran Social Services (LSS). Its ministries grew to include child welfare, foster care, and chaplaincy services—touching more lives and deepening its commitment to families.

2003: Uniting in Purpose
A major milestone came in 2003, when LSS merged with the Bremwood Children's Home, creating the organization we know today: Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI). While Bremwood ceased functioning as a children's home, it became a residential treatment facility for youth serving faithfully until 2024.

2024: A Shift in Focus

Due to rising operational costs, LSI discontinued residential services in Waverly in 2024. However, the spirit of care lives on, LSI continues to provide a variety of services in the Waverly area and throughout Iowa.

A Mission That Grows with Grace

"We have evolved significantly from an orphanage that believed in being there for children who were in need to, now, a multi service Lutheran mission organization," says our President & CEO Renee Hardman.

Today, LSI serves Iowans through Early Childhood, Foster Care & Adoption, Global Greens, Mental Health, Services for People with Disabilities, Immigrant & Refugee Services.

The Journey Continues: Our Mission Today

We look forward to continuing this vital work for the next 160 years and beyond, responding to God's call to love and serve our neighbors in need. Whether it's walking alongside families in crisis, supporting children in foster care, or empowering individuals with disabilities, LSI's mission depends on the support of faithful partners like you.

We are proud to share the incredible impact we made ***in 2024 alone****:*

10,000 Early Childhood Home Visits

Providing in-home support and care to thousands of families across our region.

726 New Arrivals Resettled

Helping individuals and families build new lives with safety, dignity, and hope.

366,400 Hours of Disability Services

Empowering people with disabilities through hundreds of thousands of hours of dedicated care and support.

19,000 Therapy Sessions

Delivering essential mental health care to individuals and families when they needed it most.

620 Families Served in Foster & Adoptive Care

Supporting loving homes and brighter futures for children through foster and adoptive care services.

Over 1 Million Pounds of Produce Grown

Global Greens farmers grew more than a million pounds of fresh produce—consumed at home, sold at local markets, or donated to LSI's Elder Pantry and community fridges to nourish neighbors in need.

None of this would be possible without you. Your prayers, generosity, and unwavering belief in our mission fuel every visit, every session, every seed planted. Together, we are building stronger families, welcoming new neighbors, and creating communities where everyone has the chance to thrive.



Join us on October 17th as we celebrate 160 years of faithful service and community impact through LSI!
We're marking this incredible milestone with a special community celebration, and everyone is welcome friends, families, supporters, and congregations alike!
To purchase tickets or for more information, please reach out to your Philanthropy Director.
We'd love to see you there as we honor LSI's legacy and look forward to its future!

Your gift changes the lives of thousands of people across Iowa.

Give By Mail
Lutheran Services in Iowa
3125 Cottage Grove Ave
Des Moines, IA 50311

Donate Online

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.
LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

PICNIC IN THE PARK 2025



Financials

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - Unified Fund
Month Ended June 30, 2025

	General Fund Jun 30, 2025 Actual	General Fund Jun 30, 2025 Budget	% of Budget	General Fund 6 months ended Jun 30, 2025 Actual	General Fund 12 months ended Dec 31, 2025 Budget	% of Annual Budget
Revenue						
Offering	$ 18,015	$ 19,167	94%	$ 112,429	$ 237,501	47%
Other Budgeted Income	380	500	76%	4,525	6,400	71%
Parsonage Fund Income	-	6,250	0%	6,250	25,000	25%
Total Revenue	**18,394**	**25,917**	**71%**	**123,203**	**268,901**	**46%**
Operating Expenses						
Staffing Expenses	17,144	17,615	97%	104,437	211,853	49%
Property & Office Expenses	724	4,996	14%	25,241	59,950	42%
Program Expenses	299	617	48%	1,597	7,800	20%
Budgeted Benevolence Expenses	1,749	2,025	86%	12,031	24,298	50%
Total Operating Expenses	**19,915**	**25,252**	**79%**	**143,307**	**303,901**	**47%**
Operating Income (Loss)	**(1,521)**	**665**	**-229%**	**(20,103)**	**(35,000)**	**57%**
Other Income						
Unbudgeted Income	506	-		3,828	-	
Total Other Income	**506**	**-**		**3,828**	**-**	
Other Expenses						
Unbudgeted Expenses	-	-		52	-	
Total Other Expenses	**261**	**-**		**1,501**	**-**	
Net Income (Loss)	**$ (1,277)**	**$ 665**	**-192%**	**$ (17,776)**	**$ (35,000)**	**51%**

Fund Balances	**As of Jun 30, 2025**
Unified Fund	$ 135,229
Building Fund	74,193
Memorial Fund	32,759
Fellowship Hall Fund	3,279
Youth Fund	9,352
Designated Benevolences	(7)
Quilters Fund	2,699
Innovative Ministries Fund	191,618
Flower Fund	601
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	337
Total Fund Balances	**$ 450,060**



2025 . JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 7:00 PM SCOUTS	**2** 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:30 PM AA	**3** **NO COMMITTEE MEETING**	4 **OFFICE CLOSED INDEPENDENCE DAY** 6:30 PM AA	**5**
6 Q FOR HUNGER 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP 6:00 PM WORSHIP	7 **PASTOR'S SABBATH CONTACT INFO DUE**	**8** 1:00 PM MEMORIAL COMMITTEE 7:00 PM SCOUTS	**9** 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:30 PM AA	**10** 11:30 AM LUNCH BUNCH@ CHINA GARDEN 6:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING	11 6:30 PM AA	**12**
13 LAUNDRY LOVE 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP 6:00 PM WORSHIP	**14 PASTOR'S SABBATH**	**15** 1:00 PM GR 5 MFR 7:00 PM SCOUTS	**16** 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:30 PM AA	**17**	**18** 6:30 PM AA	**19**
20 SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP	**21 PASTOR'S SABBATH** 6:00 PM SAUERKRAUT SUPPER MEETING	**22** 7:00 PM SCOUTS	**23** 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:30 PM AA	**24** 5:30 PM JOY CIRCLE@VIVIEN HALLORAN'S	**25** 6:30 PM AA	**26**
27 **MCSA - MUSCATINE CENTER FOR SOCIAL ACTION** 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP	**28 PASTOR'S SABBATH**	**29** 7:00 PM SCOUTS	**30** 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:30 PM AA	**31**		



2025 . AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 6:30 PM AA	**2**
3 QUARTERS FOR HUNGER 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP	**4 PASTOR'S SABBATH**	**5** 7:00 PM SCOUTS	**6** 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:30 PM AA	7 6:30 PM ALL COMMITTEE	**8** 6:30 PM AA	**9**
10 LAUNDRY LOVE 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP 6:00 PM WORSHIP	**11 PASTOR'S SABBATH** 5:30 PM Z BOOK CLUB@ DIAMOND DAVE'S	**12** 7:00 PM SCOUTS	**13** 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:30 PM AA	**14** 11:30 AM LUNCH BUNCH@ WAFFLE HOUSE 6:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING	**15** 6:30 PM AA	**16**
17 SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP	**18 PASTOR'S SABBATH** 6:00 PM SAUERKRAUT SUPPER MEETING	**19** 1:00 GROUP 5 5:30 PM TRUST FUND 7:00 PM SCOUTS	**20** 6:30 A.M. MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUN 6:30 AA	**21**	**22** 6:30 PM AA	**23**
24 MCSA - MUSCATINE CENTER FOR SOCIAL ACTION 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP 6:00 PM WORSHIP	**25 PASTOR'S SABBATH**	**26** 12:00 LUNCHTIME POTLUCK 7:00 PM SCOUTS	27 6:30 A.M. MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:30 AA	**28** 6:30 PM JOY CIRCLE	**29**	**30**
31 HEALING SUNDAY 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP						