

“Blow the Trumpet in Zion” (Joel 2.15)



Zion Trumpet

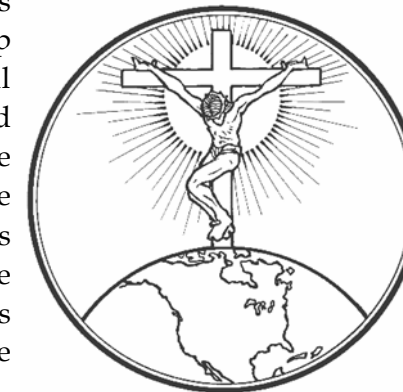
Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Detroit

July/August 2016

In this issue of the Trumpet you’ll read a little about the work the Lord of the Church is doing through His faithful in other countries. I am thankful for the support of Zion as we continue to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth, as the Lord wills.

First and foremost, however, I am thankful to the Lord to report that Zion continues to prosper. Our rich liturgical life brings us the blessings of God daily. Our fellowship around those life-giving Gifts continues to be a wonderful blessing. A little financial belt-tightening in the last fiscal year has yielded good results, although your continued support is critical to daily operations and to Zion’s future.

We have remained busy so far this summer with Summer Bible Camp and the annual congregational picnic, as well as with a good number of special Masses. While youth Catechism is finished for the summer, adult catechesis continues all summer, as does Sunday Bible Class. Zion is and continues to be, as our website describes us, a “fragile but lively inner-city congregation”.



But at the same time, Zion is having a global impact. Through our website, Facebook page, Twitter and Instagram outreach we bring the Good News of Christ to those living in many different parts of our country, and in many different countries. Sermon archives, theological papers and through Zion’s periodic sending of her Pastor to foreign lands our “inner-city congregation” touches many who are far away.

We’re busier than ever at the church, and thankful that the Lord continues to bless our work here. We’ve begun planning for the fall, and it looks like we’ll have full calendars.

Continued on page 2

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

*MATTHEW 28: 19
NKJV*

In This Issue

In this Issue	PAGES 1–2
St. Laurentius	PAGE 2
Colombian Mission	PAGES 2–3
From the Vicar Emeritus	PAGES 4–5
St. Michael Liturgical Conference	PAGES 5–6
Parish Anniversaries Voters’ Assembly Special Gifts From the Cantor	PAGE 6
From the Board of Christian Education	PAGE 7
Enclosures:	July/August Calendar

As many of our families vacation during the summer, we pray for their safe passage and speedy return to our midst. Please keep our congregation, and especially our families, in your prayers.

St. Laurentius



or Laurence, or Lorenz, was a Deacon of the early Church, one of only seven Deacons in Rome in the middle of the third century. When the Prefect of Rome asked that Lorenz deliver up the treasure of the church, tradition records that Lorenz took the treasury of the church and distributed it to the poor, and then brought those who had received the church's wealth before the Prefect, saying "These are the treasure of the Church." (*Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, 3rd edition, ed. F.L. Cross. New York: Oxford University Press. 1997; 958) For his act of mercy and compassion, St. Lorenz was put to death by roasting on a gridiron.

When the Franks from Neuendettelsau, Germany settled Michigan in 1845, they brought St. Lorenz's name with them, a reminder of the three churches in their region of Germany bearing his name. The mission colony founded by Wilhelm Loehe and Friedrich Wyneken, Pastored by Friedrich August Craemer, took the name "Courage of the Franks", or Frankenmuth, the church built there named after St. Lorenz.

The Commemoration of St. Lorenz, Deacon and Martyr, is August 10th each year. At Zion we commemorate St. Lorenz in thanksgiving to God with Holy Mass in the Chapel at 10:00 a.m. Please join us!

Colombian Mission

Three and a half years ago I travelled to Colombia for the first time. I had already travelled to

Venezuela and to the Dominican Republic repeatedly. The call to visit Colombia came from our Synod, when a Confessional Lutheran Pastor in Medellin was experiencing some difficulties. I travelled to support him and the Mission he serves. His name is Fr. Carlos Mario Marín.

I met Fr. Marín when he attended a course I taught on the west side of Venezuela the year before. I knew him to be a Confessional Lutheran Pastor with a love of Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. I have returned to Colombia in support of Fr. Marín twice a year since my initial visit. God has richly blessed our work in Colombia.

After the congregation Fr. Marín was serving was visited by violence, which isn't uncommon in Colombia, he moved the Mission to Medellin. After I made a few visits, it was clear that the Mission needed to be relocated, so we scouted several sites and secured a more favorable location. At the same time, Fr. Marín was working to increase the visibility of the Mission through Facebook and the internet.

Fr. Marín now teaches a daily Catechism course through Skype that brings Confessional Lutheranism to a number of students all over the country every weekday morning. His sermon distribution list includes over 700 people every week. The Mission in Medellin is stable and growing slowly.

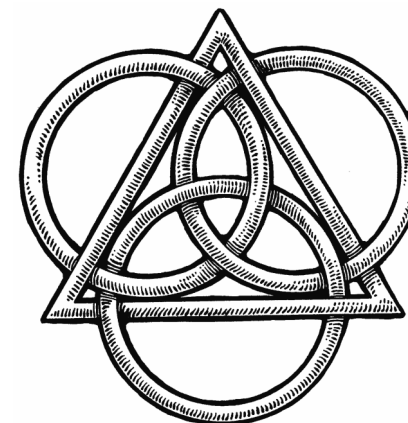


Fr. Braden with Pr. Marín and conference attendees in Bogotá, Colombia

From the Board of Christian Education:

By the time you receive this newsletter both the VBS and Church Picnic will have taken place. We would like to acknowledge and thank all who volunteered in any capacity to pull these events off. The theme of this years VBS was "IN THE NAME" from Pax Domini Press. The focus is on the Triune Nature of God, especially the divinity of Christ. With modern thought and less catechesis in both the home and the church, even Christians are uneducated on this most important of all doctrines. "We worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance." (The Athanasian Creed) To believe in and worship God, the true God, is to do so in His fully revealed self. Christ IS God, the same God who made heaven and earth, who made the first man Adam in His image and likeness, who made you! Proper teaching on Gods Triune Nature at a young age helps to protect from error and the evil works of the devil. Prayerfully and Lord willing, the youth in attendance received this great truth.

We would also like to acknowledge all who helped to teach and support the Sunday school program this past year. I feel bold enough to say that our children have received and grown in their knowledge of the faith far beyond their years. We were able to start a second class for the younger children and saw great fruit right away. Thanks be to God for His continual blessings in our Parish education!



The Second Article

And In Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean? I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord,

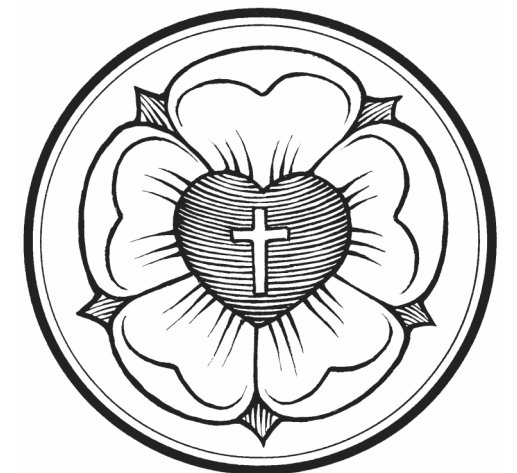
Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

Just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation;
Copyright 1991, Concordia Publishing House



Birthdays Anniversaries

July

1 Alan Kroske
 2 Patricia Braden
 5 Leticia Kelly
 13 Florine Kaiser

August

5 Sydney Atkins
 9 John Chavez
 14 Jennifer Balaska
 15 Leah Edwards
 17 Rosell Cross, Jr.
 26 Danny Cross
 27 Joshua Chavez
 28 Robert Werner

Baptism Anniversaries

July

1 Eugene Brown
 4 Susan Spicer
 10 Alan Kroske
 18 Jason Balaska
 20 Patricia Braden
 31 Florine Kaiser

August

5 Pamela Ruffin
 17 Jennifer Balaska
 18 Sydney Atkins

Marriage Anniversaries

already volunteering at the Conference and would like to help at Zion, please see Fr. Braden.

Voters' Assembly

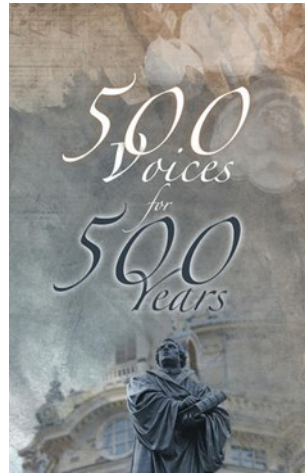
Our summer Voters' Assembly will be held on Sunday, July 31st after Mass. Please plan to attend. To maximize attendance, our Board of Trustees is providing lunch. Join us as we do the business of the congregation.

Special Gifts

We have received some special gifts to be applied to the maintenance and repair of our organ. Our Board of Trustees will be managing the work. This work is just a beginning of the necessary repairs, which will be ongoing. The work will be performed by experts in restoring historic organs. Please consider contributing towards the repair of one of the treasures of Zion! You can put gifts in an envelope marked "organ repairs" and place them in the regular offering plate, or you can forward your gifts to the Board of Trustees through the church office.

From the Cantor

The New York City Hymn Festival - In honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, Concordia College (Bronxville, NY) is hosting a special hymn festival in New York City at Carnegie Hall on June 25, 2017. To participate, singers must be



available for rehearsal in NYC June 23-25, pay for housing and transportation, and learn the music in advance. Zion members interested in participating will have opportunities to practice the music through special choir rehearsals held at the Rectory. Individual registration is \$50.

Anyone interested should contact Emily Solomon (solomonemily@yahoo.com) for more information.

May God bless you richly this summer as you remain in His grace through His Gifts of Holy Liturgy, Holy Absolution, Preaching, and the Holy Eucharist at Zion!



The Zion Trumpet is the informational and educational newsletter of Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church. It communicates the news of Zion and instructs members in various aspects of the Christian Faith.

The **Trumpet** is published six times each year. It is free for members of Zion. Non-members are invited to contribute toward the production and mailing of the **Trumpet**.

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church is a parish of the one, holy catholic and apostolic Church and is affiliated with the English district of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

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In January, on behalf of the Luther Academy, I presented a week-long seminar in Bogotá, the capital city of Colombia. The topic of the seminar was Ecclesiology, the doctrine of the Church. The seminar was well attended. Pastor Marín served as host, and led Matins and Vespers each day. He preached at every Office.

After the conference, a number of Pastors, and a good number of members, expressed an interest in affiliating with a church that teaches and practices the doctrine they had heard from us that week. I pointed them to Fr. Marín, who since has established the foundations of a new Mission in Bogotá.

I was in Colombia again in June. It appears that those who have gathered around the Word of God preached and taught by Fr. Marín now desire to form a Confessional Lutheran Church in Colombia. For that all thanks and glory be to God, the Lord of the Harvest.

I would like to publicly thank the Rev. Dr. Albert Collver, an official of our Synod, for his support of the initiative, and his willingness to make time in his busy schedule to travel to Colombia with me. His presence in Colombia, and his leadership and support of the work there, has brought great hope to our Mission and to Pr. Marín.

The Rev. Fr. Ted Krey, a Zion member and Director of Central, South American and Caribbean Missions has also provided great leadership to our efforts, and has been a wonderful help and support. I would also like to publicly thank our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Jaimeson Hardy, for his support and encouragement in our continued work in South America and Spain. The Rev. Dr. Robert Bennet, Director of the Luther Academy, continues to make our international work possible. I also thank the saints of Zion Detroit for their support and encouragement. Without you none of this would be possible.

It was a great blessing to see several years of work in Colombia bringing forth such fruits. For that I thank the Lord of the Church, by Whose Spirit the Church grows when and where He wills. I am also thankful for the hope and encouragement that Fr. Marín is now receiving during the process of shepherding a diverse group of Pastors and members in their coming together as one church. Please pray for Fr. Marín and the Mission in Colombia.



Christian Education at Zion

Sunday Adult Study 11:30am | Undercroft

Study of the Gospel of St. John; Coffee is provided; Thanks to those who bring refreshments.

Sunday School 11:30am | Rectory

Children ages 3—grade 8 study the Sunday Gospel lesson and have activities and music designed to enhance the biblical teaching. September-May.

Sunday Youth Study 11:40am | Rectory

Young adults in high school and college who are confirmed meet to study the Holy Scriptures organized around the six chief parts of Christian doctrine.

Wednesday Adult Study 10:45am | Rectory

Study of the Book of Revelation. Often the group goes out to lunch following the study.

Youth Catechesis Saturday | 10am | Rectory

For children preparing for Confirmation, this class instructs students in the basics of the Christian Faith through *Luther's Small Catechism*.

Adult Catechesis Thursday | 7pm | Rectory

The study of The Enchiridion o Martin Chemnitz, this class allows members and guests to study Christian doctrine at a more advanced level.

Men's Group 1 Tue. & 1 Thr. a month | 7pm | Rectory

Study of the *Solid Declaration of the Formula of Concord*.

Women's Group 2 Saturdays a month | 1pm | Rectory

Study of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians.

From the Vicar

Well, o.k., from the Vicar Emeritus Winston Grieser - we receive this update on the anniversary of his completing his Vicarage at Zion: "Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I hope you are well and continue to rejoice in our Lord Jesus Christ. To say this past year has been busy would be quite the understatement. So where to begin? Upon leaving Zion, I promptly got moved back in and dove into classes. This is impart what stirred me on to apply for a Graduate Assistant (GA) position and also the Master of Sacred Theology. This degree, known as the STM is an additional year of course work, at the end of

which time you receive a call. I gained admittance into the program in January and was told I received a GA position shortly after. I hope to do my thesis topic on theological preaching, but I have yet to start my research, so more on that later.

Aside from my studies, I was also on the student government as spiritual life chair, which meant I was in charge of organizing fireside chats and also composing and editing the seminaries Advent and Lenten devotions. From that experience I've learned that I should never be an editor. Father Braden knows, he has seen the rough drafts of my sermons. Speaking of which, I owe Zion, and Fr. Braden especially, a debt of gratitude for helping focus and refine my preaching.

I was amazed and how often I was able to preach in comparison to some of my classmates and also how much mentoring I received. It is in no small part because of that that I was declared the victor of the iron preacher competition that we had at the seminary. Not, that I'm the best preacher in our class, my friend Christian or one of the other guys should hold that title. Still, nothing like getting a text and having to preach on it five minutes later. It was a blast.

Outside of academics, life in the military continues as normal. I recently was transferred to the National Guard unit in Fort Wayne, which saves me a two hour commute. Along with the transfer, came a small promotion to Executive officer, which makes me our commander's second in command. If you recall Star Trek, I would be called the Captain's "Number One." I would ask that you continue to keep me and all service members in your prayers as we continue to serve our nation.

My unit has our annual training coming up at the end of July, so we will be spending three weeks in the woods conducting war games. Also, as the military continues to suffer the results of becoming the social test case for our nation, pray that Christ would instill Christian virtue in our leaders, in order that they might govern wisely and in accord with God's holy will. Kyrie Eleison.

On a happier note, I was able to spend time with both my mom and all my sisters for a brief while in May. My mom returned from Macau to spend time with her first grandchild, Kenneth Dean Spencer, the first born son of my older sister Stephanie and her husband Jeff. He was named after our father Ken who has been in our Lord's nearer presence for six years now. My nephew was baptized May 20, so our Lord working through His Word and Spirit continues to add to His Church.

I hope all is well at Zion. I do hope to visit as soon as my schedule allows. I've been away far too long. 'Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.'"

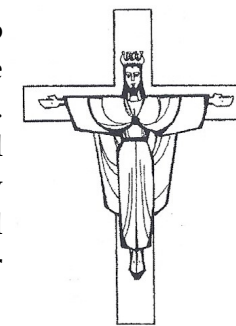
Yours in Christ,
Vicar Emeritus Winston Grieser

St. Michael Liturgical Conference

This year's conference is scheduled for Monday, September 26th. Our Keynote speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Joel Elowsky, a respected theologian, seminary professor, author, and expert in the Church Fathers. We are excited to have Dr. Elowsky, as well as the Rev. Dr. Burnell Eckardt, Fr. Charles McClean, and Fr. Braden presenting this year.

To help students who desire to attend, Zion is offering free registration to all students this year. This gives our pre-seminary and seminary students the opportunity to attend Mass at Zion, and spend the day learning from our presenters.

In your 2016-17 offering envelopes, there are four special envelopes specifically for the St. Michael conference. Please consider supporting our Conference through these envelopes, and through personal gifts. Watch for more information on the 2016 Conference in the Bulletin. If you aren't



HOLY MASS is celebrated every Sunday and Wednesday at 10am, and on major feasts as announced.

THE DIVINE OFFICE OF MATINS is prayed Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 8:45am in the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory. Matins is not prayed when there is a morning Mass.

COMMUNICANTS ARE BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical-Lutheran Faith. If you desire to commune at Zion, please visit with the Pastor before approaching the Altar.

PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION is available on Saturday from 9-10am or by appointment.

PASTORAL CONSULTATION based on the Holy Scriptures is available by appointment.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM is for infants and adults, and may be arranged by contacting the Pastor.

COUPLES DESIRING HOLY MARRIAGE should contact the Pastor before finalizing the wedding date. Bible instruction in Holy Marriage is required. All marriages are conducted by the Pastor according to Zion's usual order.

NEW MEMBERS are received by baptism, confirmation, transfer or profession of faith. Instruction in Luther's Small Catechism and Private Absolution are required for all new members. Visit with the Pastor for further details.

THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND are visited regularly by the Pastor. Please contact the Parish Office if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS Adult Choir, Altar Guild, Children's Choir, Jubilate Deo Women's Choir, St. Seraphim Prayer Guild, Society of St. Samuel (Altar Boys), Usher Club, Zion Endowment Board.

DEACONS William Gramzow, Thomas Habitz, Jr., Michael Edwards **TRUSTEES:** Silas Gray, Paul Snoes, Kevin Wiedelman; **PARISH EDUCATION:** Shirley Cross, Robert Kelly III, Sherry Edwards; **OFFICERS OF THE VOTERS:** Thomas Habitz, Jr. (chairman), Alan Kroske (vice-chairman), Pamela Ruffin (secretary), Kevin Wiedelman (treasurer), Jessica Chavez (financial secretary).