

## Hevel and Hope

Ecclesiastes is a book that haunts me. Not in a horror movie sort of way, but in a lurking sort of way. It loiters at street corners, idles in news stories, interrupts otherwise mundane moments. It echoes on the breeze:

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,  
vanity of vanities! All is vanity (Ecclesiastes 1:2).

What has been is what will be,  
and what has been done is what will be done,  
and there is nothing new under the sun  
(Ecclesiastes 1:9).

I have seen everything that is done under the sun,  
and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind  
(Ecclesiastes 1:14).

We all live, move, and struggle in Ecclesiastes' Time/Chance/Death world. Yes, much of it is very good: the laughter of a child, the loving embrace of a true friend, the bracing aroma of freshly brewed coffee, the deep satisfaction of meaningful work, the soul-swelling joy of love, and the soul-strengthening sight of beauty.

And Ecclesiastes exhorts us heartily to enjoy these goods: "There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This... is from the hand of God..." (Ecclesiastes 2:24). More literally, "There

is no better good than that a man... make known to his soul good in his labor..." So Ecclesiastes would have us vigorously enjoy the good in this world.

But it is a transient good. Ecclesiastes uses the word *vanity* (*hevel* in Hebrew). It means *vapor* or *breath*. We grasp for these goods, wrap our arms around them, cling desperately to them, only to find our arms filled with *hevel*, clinging to vapor/breath.

And it hurts. It hurts in the deep down places. Like many of you, I see and experience grief over the painful realities of life-altering and life-threatening health diagnoses. I see anxiety over financial shortfalls that threaten livelihoods. And I see in my mind the faces of loved ones that have been taken from us in death and the lives shattered by the loss. *Hevel*, vapor, breath.

Sometimes I can go for a stretch without the painful reminder. Sometimes it mercilessly assails me. As I write, the hevel-nature of reality has been painfully pressed home once again. I need not recount details here because most readers are well aware of the circumstances, but in the course of 24 hours I sat (and I represent but a microcosm of our communities, to say nothing of our world!) with three grieving families, three families whose hands grasped for their loved ones only to find them filled with hevel, vapor/breath.

It's crushing. The emptiness fills us with grief. The nothingness burdens us with sorrow. And the hevel swirls about us in painful reminder of our loss. This is a very difficult and dark place to be.

Does it mean life is meaningless, a sham and charade? Many have concluded thus. Many, in the face of hevel, have given up on God. If God is real, why would He allow such pain, why would He

inflict it? Why would He give us such goods only to take them away? Why would He leave us grasping after vapor?

These are valid questions. In fact, they are questions Scripture itself asks and addresses from many angles, but such questions, difficult though they may be, do not constitute a legitimate reason to turn our backs on God. It was G.K. Chesterton who insightfully asked, “When belief in God becomes difficult, the tendency is to turn away from Him; but in heaven’s name to what?”

Turning our backs on God does nothing to answer our questions and everything to remove our hope. Peter’s hope-filled question to Christ still echoes today: “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.” (John 6:68).

In an Ecclesiastes world characterized by hevel, vapor/breath, we find only one hope under the sun: Jesus, the One who died and lives again and whose resurrected life is the promise of the coming change in store for our bodies and for all creation.

John Newton wrote of the age-to-come “solid joys and lasting treasure.” C.S. Lewis called it a “firming up.” The Apostle Paul termed it being “further clothed.” All different ways of saying the same thing: there’s a change coming. Life under the sun is going to change. Perhaps we could think of it this way: we’re moving from life *under* the sun to life *in* the Son. Life under the sun is *hevel*, vapor/breath; life in the Son (Jesus) is everlasting.

Consider Scripture’s solid promises:

- Peter encourages us with these soul invigorating words: “[God] has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to

an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading...” (1 Peter 1:3-4).

- Paul heartens us with these bone emboldening words, “For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed (1 Corinthians 15:52).
- And the author of Hebrews buoys us with these solid words: “let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken...” (Hebrews 12:28).

Linger over these promises. *Imperishable, undefiled, unfading, unshakable.* They matter. Drink them with your morning coffee. Hear them in a child’s laughter. Savor them in fellowship meals. Treasure them in music and concerts. Take them to work with you. Enjoy them with friends. They are the antidote to the hevel of our Ecclesiastes world. They are our solid hope in the midst of hevel. Our hands won’t grasp after vapor forever. A change is coming. The guarantee is in the resurrection of Jesus Christ and that guarantee is our hope. – Pastor Conner



@ TRINITY-MANILLA

## MORNING SUNDAY SCHOOL

9am - Opening  
9:10am - Breakfast  
9:20am - Story & Music  
9:35am - Game  
9:45am - Craft & Coloring  
9:55am - Memory Work & Prayer  
10am - Complete

### FALL & EARLY WINTER SCHEDULE

September 19 - First session  
September 26 - Second session  
October 3 - Third session  
October 10 - **Not Meeting**  
October 17 - Fourth session  
October 24 - **Not Meeting**  
October 31 - Fifth session  
November 7 - Sixth session  
November 14 - Seventh session  
November 21 - **Not Meeting**  
November 28 - Eighth session  
December 5 - **Not Meeting**  
December 12 - Ninth session  
December 19 - Tenth session



September 12<sup>th</sup> @ Zion

- Hand bells before worship
- Teachers installed in worship
- Sunday school begins after worship



Some members of Zion have expressed a desire to utilize lay readers in the Divine Service. Zion's elders, who oversee the public worship of the church, would like to gauge the interest and viability of lay readers. If you would like to volunteer to participate in the public reading of God's Word at Zion, Zion's elders would like to hear from you. Please speak with head elder, Paul Christensen.

## Preschool Pancake Breakfast @ Zion!

October 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – Noon

Worship at 8:00 a.m.

Preschool sings!

Freewill offering.



TriZion High School Youth Group  
meets Sundays @ Zion-Manning from  
6-8pm (basement)

### **VBS+S @ Trinity-Manilla in the Books**



We were able to pass down and show the faith at Trinity's Vacation Bible School + Servant event. With 39 registered kids we focused on how God rescued His people from slavery in Egypt and how that rescue corresponds to our rescue in Holy Baptism.



With over 70 adult volunteers and donors, we were able to pack 20,000 meals with the help of Meals from the Heartland out of Des Moines. Most of the meals will be given to families overseas. It was a special moment where we were able to show our VBS kids that Christian teaching and Christian service go hand-in-hand.





I'm so appreciative for all the volunteers. There are too many to name, but without you, VBS+S wouldn't happen.



VBS+S is such a morale-booster to Trinity-Manilla, and we're just so honored to have such an intensive moment of faith sharing.



For future VBS+Ses at Trinity-Manilla we're planning to alternate our Meals event (so next year's service event will not be Meals but more community focused). We're also wondering if this could be an opportunity to focus more on vocation – so you might call it Vocation Bible School. As we look around, we see a lot of kids and parents who seem lost; losing sight of their purpose in school, work, and community.



As we move forward at Trinity-Manilla, we want to do more than just put on a VBS. We want to provide solid teaching that connects our community to their God-given identities and makes sense of the world our kids and parents face. So VBS+S may look a little different next year...who knows. But in the meantime, we celebrate 2021's VBS+S!

## IDW Jr Youth Gathering October 23-24

6, 7, 8TH GRADERS  
FORMS DUE BY WEDNESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 8 BY THE END OF  
CONFIRMATION

\$80/STUDENT  
CHECKS MADE OUT TO ZION-MANNING

Deaconess Tiffany kicked off TriZion youth group at the annual Water Wars event. We had about 15 high schoolers present who slid down the slip-n-slide, threw water balloons, and coated each other with washable paint. TriZion youth group will meet on Sundays @ Zion-Manning from 6-8pm.



On August 17, Trinity & Zion volunteers showed their appreciation for IKM-M teachers and staff by serving breakfast. It was a great moment where our churches were able to show their appreciation to these hard workers.



# DEBT *is the* THIEF *of your future*



DAVE RAMSEY'S

**FINANCIAL** *Peace*  
At Zion UNIVERSITY

**FINANCIAL  
PEACE**  
*University*

**Begins Sunday, September 19 @ 6:15 p.m.**

**\$25!**

(unless subscription to Ramsey+ has already been purchased)

RSVP to Zion: 655-2352 or [zionmanninglcms@gmail.com](mailto:zionmanninglcms@gmail.com)

*What real people have said:*

Financial Peace has given us a lot of hope for the future. We actually get to make plans and really think about accomplishing them.

It has kept us focused on why it's important to pay off debt and to give.

I think it would be hard for any couple to give this a shot and not be energized.

Opening up communication about how we're spending our money has been transformative. This has been the longest we've ever stuck to a budget.





Over the past few months we've been discussing habits (with many thanks to James Clear's book, *Atomic Habits!*). We started with "anchor habits" as we emphasized the power of tiny changes to reset the trajectory of our lives and the need to anchor those behavior and thought changes to concrete events and thought processes (i.e. anchoring prayer to exercise or the starting of your car).

Last month we explored our "habit culture." As Mr. Clear put it, "Your culture sets your expectation for what is 'normal'" (117). So we asked, "What do we want our 'normal' to be?" Obviously, some situations and settings in our lives are beyond our control, but much of it remains in our control, at our discretion to choose. Since habits play such an oversized role in character formation and life results, it's essential to choose our habit culture wisely. If we want to become more physically active, we can join a group focused on physical activity. If we want to grow in Biblical knowledge and maturity (and we most certainly should!), we should join a group studying Scripture (or start one).

This month we come to "habit interest." Mr. Clear writes, "Habits are the compound interest of self-improvement" (16). You're familiar with compound interest: you invest money and it earns interest,

then that interest earns interest and that interest earns interest and so on.

Take a very simple example (one you can duplicate and expand upon at [nerdwallet.com](http://nerdwallet.com)): let's say 30 years ago you started investing \$50 a month (with a \$1000 initial investment) in an index mutual fund.<sup>1</sup> That's \$19,000 invested over 30 years. The S&P 500 has averaged around a 10% return over the last century (which makes it a far better investment than a savings account or whole-life life insurance policy!), so we'll use 10% as our rate of return. Do you know how much you'd have today? Over \$133,000! That's the power of compound interest.

And the same holds true for behaviors and thoughts. Small changes (\$50 reallocated from leisure to investment per month, for example) bring big changes as the interest compounds (\$19,000 invested; \$114,000 earned!). So, five minutes of Bible reading and meditation a day (or 30 minutes a week) over 30 years will produce compound interest in your life as God's Word permeates your mind and thinking. Weekly worship and Bible study will produce compound interest in your life as God's Word changes you and shapes you. Placing your tithe at the top of your budget so as to place the Lord first in your finances will produce compound interest in your life as your heart follows your treasure and more enthusiastically invests in the expansion of Christ's kingdom. Regularly replacing untrue and unhealthy thoughts with the truth of God revealed in creation and in Scripture, will result in better mental and physical health.

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<sup>1</sup> An index fund is an investment that essentially traces the index of the stock market (it rises and falls with it).



Godly and healthy habits compound over time, but time is the key. Our problem is we tend to be too shortsighted. Mr. Clear writes,

We often dismiss small changes because they don't seem to matter very much in the moment. If you save a little money now, you're still not a millionaire. If you go to the gym three days in a row, you're still out of shape. If you study Mandarin for an hour tonight, you still haven't learned the language. We make a few changes, but the results never seem to come quickly and so we slide back into our previous routines (17).

The same thing goes for our spiritual disciples, our holy habits. We read the Bible for a week and didn't see any meaningful results. We tried Bible study a couple times, but couldn't get into it. We gave a go at praying with our family, but people grumbled about it. So we quit.

Imagine if we did the same with investing? We tried for a couple years, but the growth seemed slow, so we quit. We would have missed out on a lot of growth! The same goes for our spiritual disciplines. It takes time for the interest to accrue, for the compound interest to begin picking up steam.

Mr. Clear's words, which we shared two months ago, bear repeating:

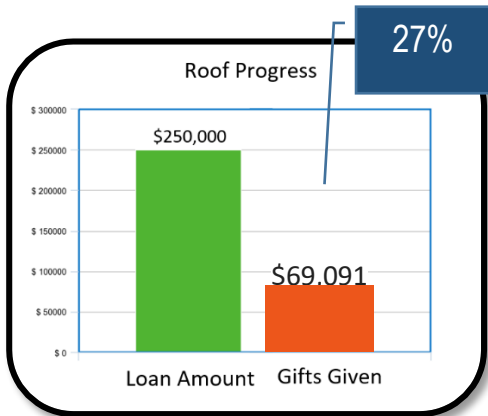
Your outcomes are a lagging measure of your habits. Your net worth is a lagging measure of your financial habits. Your weight is a lagging measure of your eating habits. Your knowledge is a lagging measure of your learning habits. Your clutter is a lagging measure of your cleaning habits. You get what you repeat.

If you want to predict where you'll end up in life, all you have to do is follow the curve of tiny gains or tiny losses, and see how your daily choices will compound ten or twenty years down the line (18).

Take a look at your habits and plug them into an imagined trajectory calculator and you'll be able to predict where you'll be in ten to twenty years. What interest is compounding (because you already have habits that are compounding interest!)? Are you satisfied with your trajectory? How's your Scripture reading and studying? How's your prayer life? How's your worship attendance? How's your giving? How's your thought life? If you're not happy with your likely destination, change your trajectory. Change your habits.

Mr. Clear has many practical insights in his book on getting habit change to stick, and we'll cover some of them in the coming months, but for now we need to acknowledge the profound impact even small behavior and thought changes can have over time. Habits, like investments, grow by compound interest. So when you consider your habitual behaviors and thoughts, think beyond today and tomorrow. That's too shortsighted. Look further. And see the compound interest. Choose your habits accordingly.

Want to visit more? I welcome the conversation! Call/email/text/stop in. Let's discuss how you can maximize the benefit from the compound interest of healthy spiritual habits. – Pastor Conner



Please consider making a special gift to the roof or to other ongoing and upcoming mission and ministry expenses at Zion, including technology and facility needs. Ask in the office for a detailed list of giving opportunities. Thank you for your partnership!

# MISSION DOOR OFFERING

**SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 26**



**REV. MARK AND MEGAN MANTEY**  
*SERVING IN UGANDA*

# ALIVE

## Equipped to Thrive

3-Part Series for Teenagers & Parents



July 25

### Being Who God Made Me

“Our Identity Drives Our Choices”

Sept. 12

### Social Media Set Me Free

“Escaping the Social Media Stronghold”

Nov. 7

### Normal What's That?

“Understanding What's Normal for Teens”

Navigating teen and family life can be difficult for everyone. It is our hope that these sessions will help strengthen our teens, families, and communities.

**When:** 5-7pm on July 25, Sept. 12, and Nov. 7

**Where:** Zion Lutheran Church

**Who:** All Area teenagers (12-18) and their parents

**Cost:** Free-will donation

**What:** 2-hour sessions featuring parallel tracks for teens/parents, Meal with conversation starters, and an activity



## Orphan Grain Train Clothing September Collection

Do you have clothing items that didn't sell at the garage sale? Are you transitioning the closet from summer to fall clothing? Are there items that the children (or you) have outgrown? Are you or someone you know going through the difficult task of going through the clothing items of a departed loved one? Orphan Grain Train WELCOMES good, clean, used clothing items from all seasons and sizes. Donations of new underwear and socks are also appreciated. Good, used, low heeled shoes are also accepted. BRING THE ITEMS TO THE ZION FELLOWSHIP HALL (QUILTING ROOM) BY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.



Your donations are delivered to and processed at the Ida Grove OGT Warehouse. The items are then shipped to underprivileged areas around the world. Recent shipments have been sent to eastern European destinations. The Ida Grove OGT warehouse welcomes volunteers for their Tuesday morning shifts. They also welcome financial donations for the shipping which often runs into tens of thousands of dollars.

Please share this opportunity with friends and neighbors in the community. Thank you for your support of Orphan Grain Train!

SEPT



FAMILY &  
FRIENDS HAYRIDE

19



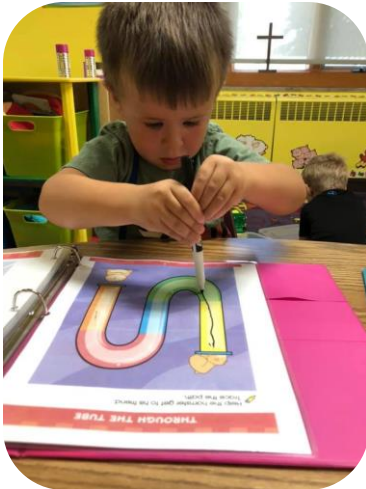
4:30-6:30 @ ZION  
HOTDOGS, SMORE'S, FUN!

What a week!!! Wednesday marked the first day of our school year. Shelly focused a lot on teaching routines, expectations, and building relationships with the students. Some of the students recognized Pastor Conner on the first day of school, and they were really excited to see him! On Thursday, we learned our Snack Prayer, and we will be singing that every school day! Shelly and Ashley look forward to a great year in the Preschool classroom.

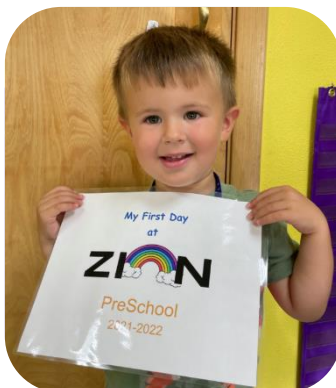
We thank you for your ongoing support of Zion Preschool and for giving us the opportunity to share the love of Jesus in word and deed with children and families! Enjoy the pictures of their smiling faces! You help make this possible!

...

Blessings Friends,  
Shelly and Ashley









## LWML GIVING

As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. "I tell you the truth," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on" Luke 21: 1-4 (Mite boxes—How they began?)



Perhaps inspired by various "cent" or "mite societies of the early 1800s, the Woman's Mission to Women (Baptist) urged members in its first circular letter in 1871 to use their new Mite Box to raise funds, the entire family was encouraged to contribute. Under the original 1928 Lutheran Woman's Missionary Endeavor organizations plan, each woman in every congregation would receive a Mite Box if she participated in the Ladies Aid. Receipts from the 92 Ladies Aid Societies totaled \$6,651.31 in 1930.

In 1942 LWML was formally recognized by LCMS and 25% of all missionary contributions were given to the national organizations, shared from all districts. In 1953 convention, delegates reaffirmed the policy of raising funds only through voluntary offerings. Mite boxes have changed in color and design and name but what has never changed is the dedication of reaching out to others with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Districts still retain 75% of mite offerings for the work of the LWML at that level.

Ladies' guild has a box we use at our meetings for our offerings. There are three slots to put our offering. Mites, local, and birthday.

# LWML SUNDAY @ ZION

- LWML CELEBRATED
- NOISY OFFERING FOR MISSIONS!

OCTOBER 3RD



Mites: The mites are mailed to our Zone Treasurer who then divides the total. 25 % is sent to national LWML, 75% to District West Zone LWML. The National LWML has budget of \$2,150,000 for grants for 2021-2023: District West has budget of \$214,000.00 for 2020-2022 for grants.



Local: This offering slot goes to Ladies Guild treasury. In December each year, the officers deplete the account (leaving only operating expenses) to our missions and congregation. Last year we had \$1825.00 to give to 5 missionaries, Lutheran Family Service, Lutherans for Life, Camp Okoboji, and Zion Pre-School as well as a gratuity to our staff.

Birthday: I do not know the thought behind this slot, but I can imagine why it was included in our giving. As we celebrate our birthday, we are reminded who created us, who gives us our daily bread who adopts us into his family and gives us eternal life. We each are given opportunity to give thanks in a way that can give to others.

National LWML mission grant#2. Healing the Invisible Wounds of War Through Horses. Spirit Warrior—Central Maine **\$95,000**.

Maine is among the list of “least churchd” states in the entire nation. It has only three LCMS churches in the entire state and has only five Veteran Administration Chaplains. Deaconess Kim Slininger was called to Hope Lutheran Church to reach out to the extensive veteran and military community in the Bangor area. Deaconess Kim is herself a disabled veteran, and the Spirit Warrior is a program that addresses the need to provide pastoral/diaconal care using horses, to those who have stood in the face of evil and have returned. Current traditional therapy does not address the care of the spirit. Many veterans /service members want to connect with God and theological discussions take place while caring for the horses. This grant will provide funding for 58 veterans to go through the program.



Minutes: 8/17/21

President LeeAnn Musfeldt opened the meeting in the name of the Triune God. Six members, Pastor Johnson and a guest, Deb Green, were present. Pastor Johnson held a devotion on the Afghanistan Christians and the Christian response to difficult circumstances. He related their circumstances to the plagues in Exodus and how to face suffering. The last verse of "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" is very pertinent in Afghanistan. Jesus still wins in spite of the loss of all. Pastor also showed a "water wars" video from the youth group.



On LWML Saturday we will have a noisy offering, sit together and wear purple if possible. We will be dedicating the quilts from the quilting ladies. The bake sale may be delayed. The Chamber in Manilla will be doing farmer's markets in August and September. The quilts will be displayed and blessed on LWML Saturday but no bake sale.

The minutes were approved as read. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$1,197.04 minus the sewing money of \$264.38 leaving a balance today of \$932.66. The replacement fund is the replacement same at \$1,021.41.

The Iowa District West delegate, Deb Green, reported on the Lexington National Convention. She gave a very thorough and interesting summary of her trip. She had not taken any pictures but her friend took some and she had an album that she passed it around. She had a report from the convention which she also sent around. They voted on bylaws changing to standing rules. The national convention funded 28 mission grants this year. There was a book of 30 household devotions, a deck of cards with biblical questions on them as souvenirs. She left mite boxes for kids. In 2023 the convention will be in Milwaukee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Cathie Segebart said the e-news was good. The fall retreat is on face-to-face now, on October 23 at Mission Central with registration beginning after September 1. The theme is "Arise and Shine for Your Light Has Come". Of the grants given this year Mission Central got two. Gary Thies was a speaker. The board meeting will be August 26. We should bring donations for the board meeting this Saturday, pill bottles, stamps, glasses, etc. Cindy Wrucke is doing well in the Czech Republic. She got some contributions to purchase Czech Bible, which she is distributing through little free lending libraries. They're going fast. Her goal is to distribute more than 200; she has already distributed 60. She held a VBS this month. It turned into teen English camp, set up similar to VBS. It lasted all day and was very successful. Normally missionaries have had something similar and American volunteers have come and helped before Covid. We will discuss our standing rules after the board meeting. There was no correspondence.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Discussion of the Staley chicken supper will be after the Saturday meeting with the Weavers. NEW BUSINESS: The fall board meeting is 8/27, registration at 9:00 and the meeting starting at 9:30. The Guild will give candy canes again at Christmas with an explanation attached. ANNOUNCEMENTS: There is a new water softener donated anonymously. Hostess for the September 21 meeting will be Carol Ann Joens. Joleen Spies is the Chairperson and Carol Lile is the Co-Chairperson. The LWML Fall Retreat will be at Mission Central on October 23 with registration beginning after September 1.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Susan Mahnke, Secretary



## If I Could Just Sleep



Grief may be something that one considers to be a concern with our older population. Over 800,000 American seniors lose their spouse or partner every year. Grief affects all of us. Grief affects us all in different ways.

For each person that passes away in the world, they leave behind an average of five close family members and friends. Grief is a universal experience, the way it is processed is unique to each individual. One of the common symptoms that those grieving experience is trouble sleeping. 2. 5 million people experience some sort of insomnia during the grieving process.

People that experience more grief symptoms are more likely to take longer to fall asleep, wake up periods of time after falling asleep, and spend a significant portion of their time in bed awake rather than asleep.

Poor sleep quality is not, in itself, a feature of complicated grief, but it may increase one's risk of developing it. Losing a partner can be particularly impactful on sleep, since the person may have shared their bed with that loved one for decades. When their partner dies, everything about going to sleep is different, empty, and less safe. As a result, it is more challenging to fall asleep and sleep soundly.

Poor sleep is associated with poorer health outcomes at any age. The person may have loss of appetite along with the insomnia, contributing to the body's already frail state. The person may also have an increase in inflammation of joints and cardiovascular concerns when the body does not get enough rest. If the person is suffering from significant grief, the person may begin to suffer from depression; adding to the already frail body state as the emptiness on the other side of the bed can trigger painful memories and difficult emotion.

For the person that is having difficulty with sleep, there are things that can be done to promote sleep in a natural way:

- \* Don't take naps late in the day or avoid them altogether
- \* Don't drink caffeinated beverages in the evening
- \* Don't drink alcohol before bed
- \* Don't expose yourself to harsh light from bright indoor lights and TV or other media devices such as tablets or computers

Do:

Establish a bedtime routine that may involve some sort of relaxing activity such as reading a book, close window shades to keep outside lights out, or write in a journal.



**Project Forward.**

Relevant. Resourceful. Revitalized.



If your sleep, or lack of sleep, is becoming a concern, it is important to seek medical assistance from your medical provider. You and your provider may discuss ways to improve sleep without medications. If insomnia persists, consider seeking professional mental health support.

Janet Brus, RN  
Psychiatric Medical Care / Manning Regional Healthcare Center  
Program Director – Senior Life Solutions



# ZION & TRINITY

***Please Note! All times and events are subject to change***



**Morning Prayer coming soon!**

**TRIZION**

**Sunday Evenings TriZion Youth Group @ Zion (6:00 – 8:00 p.m.)**



**September 1 Confirmation Begins (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.)**



**September 12 Rally Day / First Day of Sunday School / Teachers Installed**

**ALIVE**

**September 12 ALIVE: Equipped to Thrive at Zion (5:00 – 7:00 p.m.)  
Equipping workshop for parents and teens, Supper provided**



**September 19 Sunday School begins at Trinity (9:00 a.m.)**



**September 19 Financial Peace University at Zion at 6:15 p.m. (9 weeks)**



**September 19 Family and Friends Hayride at Zion (4:30 – 6:30 p.m.)**



**September 23 Thursday afternoon Communion Service at Zion (1:30 p.m.)**



**September 26 Mission Door Offering for Rev. Mark and Megan Mantey (Zion)**



**October 1 Staley's Chicken Dinner at Trinity (5:00 – 7:00 p.m.) (\$12)**



**October 10 Zion Lutheran Preschool Pancake Breakfast (9:00 – Noon)  
Worship at Zion at 8:00 a.m.**



**October 13 Family Discipling Event at Zion (6:00 – 7:30): Why Funerals?**

**October 17 Bibles for 9<sup>th</sup> Graders at Zion**

# September Birthdays and Anniversaries @ Zion & Trinity

*If we missed or misspelled your name, please inform the church office.*

## ***Birthdays*** (T = Trinity)

2. Collin Brus
3. Graham England  
Bruce Grimm
4. Brock Kusel  
Alaina Salter
5. Madelyn Dreher  
Sarah Lorenzen
6. Mike Hull
7. Kyle Arp  
Taylor Lapel  
Timothy Rosener
8. Austin Johnson  
Caleb Lahr (T)  
Mary Lueth (T)  
Jaide Paska  
Carlys Stribe  
Darlene Vollstedt
9. Katie Cornelius  
Brice Shrimpton  
Diane Vetter (T)
10. Alison Karsten
11. Ambria Johnson  
Harold Jurgensen (T)  
Brandi Wiig
12. Christian Birks (T)  
Kristie Borkowski  
Robert Hagedorn
13. Dennis Backhaus  
Carol Brus  
Allen Stribe
14. Dakota Bradley  
Lauren Greving  
Erin Renze
15. Dylan Bauer  
Will Sanford
16. Diane Lahr (T)  
Brooke Long
17. Ben Langel  
Kaïen Stoeckel  
Charlie Tibben
18. LeAnn Hacker (T)
19. Kora Kusel  
Sue Soll
20. Marlene Jahn (T)
21. Daniel Hilsabeck  
Alexis Karsten  
Wendy Stribe  
Daniel Vonnahme
22. Jason Boell (T)  
Isla Haubrich (T)  
Haley Kuchel
24. Ella Sanford
25. Jennifer Grau
26. Tanner Crawford  
Lillian Genzen  
Terri Rosener
27. Don Beck  
Shaun Grau  
Ashley Martin (T)
28. Cassandra Burcham  
Susie Ulrickson
29. Michael Lorenzen (T)
30. Karl Albertsen  
Jason Ehlers  
Judy Irwin (T)

- 2 Mike & Becky Bruch
- 3 Frank & Gloria Boeck (T)  
~~Bary & Karen Kienast~~
- 4 Don & Trisha Beck  
Jon & Jill Saunders
- 6 Gary & Joyce Schroeder
8. Ron & Carol Brus
9. Russ & Beverly Bruhn
- 10 Jason & Lori Ferry (T)
- 11 Rodney & Deanna Frank
- 14 Scott & Kristine Lingle (T)
- 15 William & Louise Bruhn
- 16 Eugene & Susan Mahnke
- 19 David & Joene Bohlmann  
Kevin & Janet Brus  
Jeff & Jean Hargens
- 20 Todd & Dawn Ketcham  
Alex & Kari Ranniger  
Brett & Kasie Sanford
- 22 Larry & Connie Ahrendsen
- 24 Ben & Beth Booth  
Karl & Donna Rutz
- 25 Richard & Sylvia Saunders (T)
- 27 Jesse & Katie Weilt
- 28 Conrad & Juanita Kurth
- 30 Allen & Carlys Stribe

## ***Official Acts***

### **Baptisms:**

Kyler Potthoff; son of Luke and Taylor Potthoff, 8/7/21; Rev. Johnson  
Beckett James Lorenzen; son of Ben and Ashley Lorenzen, 8/15/21; Rev. Conner  
Henry John Kienast; son of Jason and Amber Kienast, 8/21/21; Rev. Conner

### **Confirmation:**

Kenny & Stephanie Steckelberg, 8/7/21; Rev. Johnson

### **Transfer:**

Mike Segebart to Trinity Manilla from Amigos en Cristo, 8/7/21

### **Wedding:**

Brandi & Lance Gruhn, 8/7/21; Rev. Johnson  
Casey & Mackenzie Karsten, 8/28/21; Rev. Johnson

### **Funerals:**

Gordon J. Schmarzo; Died 8/7/21; Funeral 8/11/21; Rev. Conner and Rev. Riggert  
Jed D. Riesselman; Died 8/12/21; Funeral 8/17/21 at Hausbarn; Rev. Conner  
Ronald Schilling; Died 8/13/21; Funeral 8/19/21; Rev. Conner

## ***In Our Prayers***

Louise Kinnan (Darlene Asmus' sister), Justeen Schwieso, Nancy Grimm, Julie Weller, Naomi Adams (Jean Ferneding's mother), Jeanne Gruhn, Sherri Steffes, Jim Deevers, Rick Spack, Natalie Mason (Bruce and Mary Grimm's daughter), John Sonnichsen (Bobby Doyel's Brother in law), Gage Carlson (great grandson of Russ and Virginia Mohr), Joene Bohlmann, Patty Meeves (Laurene's daughter in law), Gene Lohrmann



