

# THE ZION VISITOR October- 2022

## **Pastor John Marboe**

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## "Called by God's grace to celebrate and share the love of God in our neighborhood."

-Zion's Mission Statement



#### Hi Everyone,

First of all let me thank you all for responding to last month's letter, asking us all to do what we can to close our current budget gap. We have not closed it yet, but I believe we can and will. As I mentioned in September, we have been facing a nearly \$10,000 shortfall in our operating expenses as of the end of August—a number easily explained by the large increase in energy cost (nearly double), and a large increase in our insurance premium. Other than that, our spending has been roughly flat from last year.



So thank you for stepping up. We still have a bit to go. Our annual budget is only roughly \$100,000. We are very frugal. The number of regular giving units at Zion is 37 That means we need an *average* of \$2700 annually, or \$225 per month from each one, on average. Of course, we cannot all do that, and some of us can do more.

One of the many things that makes our community vibrant and life-giving—not only for us but for the larger community around us—is your generosity. We are a community of incredible volunteers who give time and talent joyfully. It is staggering what we are able to do together with our limited resources. It is a testimony to the Spirit of Love that we share.

The fall season is the time most church communities focus on stewardship. Zion's Council will be presenting a budget for 2023, and asking us all to consider our own estimate of giving in the form of non-binding "pledges." If you are able to help us close the gap for 2022, please consider whether you can sustain that increase into 2023?

Our giving, both in time and money, is a function of our gratitude for the gifts God provides for us to share.

This brings me to the spiritual meditation I would like to relate:

**None of us exists as an individual**. We certainly experience individuality, but the truth is that we are shared-beings. We exist only because we share being. We share being with everyone and everything. When you look around you, what do you see? Do you see yourself? When you see people, birds, trees, houses, fields, animals, clouds, stars—do you see them as part of you, and you part of them?

This is not some esoteric spiritual idea. This is reality. This is physics. Nothing (and no one) can exist without our unfathomable relationship with everything else. Yet we are all, to one degree or another, misguided about this. We think of ourselves in distinction from all the rest of the world, but none of us exist without all the rest. We are part of the whole.

This may seem to be the opposite of liberating, yet it is in fact enormously liberating. For this realization begins to open our often-closed hearts, opening us to a level of trust in this grand and glorious shared existence rarely encouraged in our individualistic culture of "self-sufficiency."

"God is Love" is not a proposition. It is a truth that invites us to trust Life as shared-beings, made in this image. For God is the Shared-Being of us all, and of everyone and everything.

There is nothing more wonder-full than this.

Peace,

PJM





Sunday services will continue in-person and via Zoom: 10:00 a.m.



In-person attendance is now allowed for up to 50 people in the sanctuary.

All recommended precautions will be followed.

(masks are available free)

**<u>10 ft. social distance</u>** (recommended for singing)

No touching during peace / Careful communion

Any with health concerns please stay home and join us remotely as able.

Thank you to Tom and Mira Kehoe, Ron Evaniuk (cellist), for the beautiful music they bring to our service each Sunday.

Recordings of our Sunday worship services are available on-line

#### Zion's website: www.zlcmidway.org

#### **Donation Options:**

—Mail–in to church: (Zion Lutheran Church, 1697 Lafond Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104) —In person: during worship; or through the courtyard door mailslot

—Automatic bill pay from your bank using Zion's mailing address

—Donate button on Zion's home webpage (called 'Snowball' — 3% fee for service)

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## **EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT ZION'S FOOD MINISTRY**

## On Thursdays, Zion distributes food for our neighbors and friends.

Please come between 1 and 3 p.m. to get your free bag of groceries and a lunch to take home.

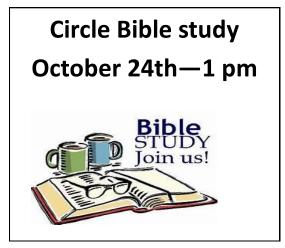


Zion is looking for volunteers to help us with the food distribution. If you have 1 or 2 hours to help us in the afternoon, please call Sue Widerski @ 612-597-9653.

#### Enneagram

Each week Zion offers a small group experience to explore the transformative possibilities of the Enneagram. The Enneagram is a method to explore one's own unique personality in relationship to others and to life itself. The basic idea is to reflect on our lives in light of nine ("ennea" in Greek) personality types (with infinite variations of course), as a lens to understand ourselves better and to grow. We meet via Zoom using the same meeting ID as our Sunday gatherings. Feel free to ask Pastor John, Janet Quarn, Phoebe Waugh, or Marlin Osthus for more details.

Thursdays 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.





Zion's Council meeting will be via zoom on October 18th at 6 pm.

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October 12th — Rose Reiling October 20th — Jose Herrera October 23rd — Carol Johnson October 28th — Astrid Mathison October 28th — Connie Osthus



#### FINANCIAL REPORT

## September Financials

Income— \$9,010.00

Bills paid— \$6,822.66

Thanks to all for your contributions. It appears members and friends are stepping up to insure our community and its ministry continues.

Janet Quarn Treasurer

## Scripture Readings

Oct. 2 — Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Psalm 37:1-9 (5) 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10

Oct. 9 — Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c Psalm 111 (1) 2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19

Oct. 16 — Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 121 (2) 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5 Luke 18:1-8

Oct. 23 — Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22 Sirach 35:12-17 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14

Oct. 30 — Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 1:10-18 Psalm 32:1-7 (6) 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10







### Eureka Compass Vegan Food Community Meals Zion Lutheran Church Food & Wellness Program

"Pay what you want/can"~ no one turned away.

Half of all funds contributed are shared with the Zion Lutheran Thursday Food & Wellness Program.

## Second Tuesdays 11am - 7pm

## October 11th

## Zion Lutheran Church

1697 Lafond Avenue St. Paul, MN 55104



Menus for each dinner are first posted here:

https://www.gofundme.com/f/groweureka-grow-vegan

#### Preorder instructions:

- Send an email to <u>eurekacompassveganfood@gmail.com</u>
- Include a window of time for pick up and number of meals.
- Cash contributions accepted at time of pick up.
- Credit card? Just let us know the amount of your contribution; we'll email you an invoice prior to the date. Pay electronically through a prompt in the email.
- Walk-ins welcomed! (It's always best to preorder.)

https://eurekacompassveganfood.com/community-dinner





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5-7 pm — Unique 7000
2 10:00 am Zion's Worship and on Zoom 11:30 am -2 pm—Unique 7000 Worship	3	4 9 am—5 pm— Prevail 9:30 a.m. — Quilting 10 a.mNoon— Upkeepers	5	6 11:15 a.m. — Enneagram via Zoom 1-3 p.m. — Food Ministry 5—8 pm — Open Market & Dinner	7	8 5-7 pm — Unique 7000
9 10:00 am Zion's Worship and on Zoom 11:30 am -2 pm—Unique 7000 Worship	10	11 9 am—5 pm— Prevail 9:30 a.m. — Quilting 10 a.mNoon— Upkeepers 11 am—7 pm — Community Meal	12	13 11:15 a.m. — Enneagram via Zoom 1-3 p.m. — Food Ministry	14	15 5-7 pm — Unique 7000
16 10:00 am Zion's Worship and on Zoom 11:30 am -2 pm—Unique 7000 Worship	17	18 9 am—5 pm— Prevail 9:30 a.m. — Quilting 10 a.mNoon— Upkeepers 6 pm — council meeting	19	20 11:15 a.m. — Enneagram via Zoom 1-3 p.m. — Food Ministry	21	22 5-7 pm — Unique 7000
23 10:00 am Zion's Worship and on Zoom 11:30 am -2 pm—Unique 7000 Worship	24 1 pm — Circle Bible Study	25 9 am—5 pm— Prevail 9:30 a.m. — Quilting 10 a.mNoon— Upkeepers	26	27 11:15 a.m. — Enneagram via Zoom 1-3 p.m. — Food Ministry	28	29 5-7 pm — Unique 7000
30 10:00 am Zion's Worship and on Zoom 11:30 am -2 pm—Unique 7000 Worship	31 Happy Helloween					Zion Lutheran Church 1697 Lafond Ave St. Paul, MN 55104 651-645-0851

SFDRMWN D 0 D н esus said 0 to his R disciples: 6 D I am the true vine, D and my Father is FIND THE UNDERLINED WORDS the Very truly I tell you, whoever gardener. hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has John 15:1 CEV crossed over from death to life. John 5:24 NIV©

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