



ZION COMMUNITY CHURCH

THE VOICE OF ZION

September 2024

SERMON TITLES & SCRIPTURE READINGS

- September 1 Pastor Nate
How Can I Have Real Faith
James 2:14-26
- September 8 Pastor Nate
How Can I Develop Patience
James 5:7-12
- September 15 Pastor Nate
How Do I win Over Temptation
James 1:12-16
- September 22 Pastor Jan
The Power of a Simple Prayer -
"Heal Me..."
Matthew 20:29-34
- September 29 Pastor Jan
The Power of a Simple Prayer -
"In Jesus' NAME, Amen"
Matthew 8:5-13



BIBLE READINGS

- September 1 2 Timothy 1-2, Numbers 9-12,
1 Chronicles 15-19,
Psalms 102-104, Proverbs 20-21,
Hosea 8-14, John 10-12
- September 8 2 Timothy 3-4, Numbers 13-16,
Psalms 105-107, Proverbs 22,
Joel, John 13-15
- September 15 Titus, Numbers 17-20,
1 Chronicles 25-29,
Psalms 108-110, Proverbs 23-24,
Amos 1-4, John 16-18
- September 22 Philemon, Numbers 21-24,
2Chronicles 1-5, Psalms 111-113,
Proverbs 25, Amos 5-9, John 19-21
- September 29 Hebrews 1-4, Numbers 25-28,
2 Chronicles 6-10, Psalms 114-116,
Proverbs 26-27, Obadiah, Acts 1-2



Please have your articles for the Voice into the office by **September 19** for the **October Voice!**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, @10.00 AM—
LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING**

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

A prayer for the people of Zion Community Church

Please, pray this with me.

Father God, every week in our Sunday service, we pray that your kingdom will come. That your will would be done on this earth. God, I ask today that you would help me be a part of bringing your kingdom to this earth every day. That I would share your love and deep care with the people I interact with in our local community, not just through action but also with my words. Acts 1:8 says, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere..." Father God, help me realize the power you have already put into my life by giving me the Holy Spirit.

Help me to share the Gospel that the son of God, Jesus, came to this earth and lived a perfect life, yet was killed to pay the penalty for our sins so that we could be made right with God. And that he was concerned about death and rose from the grave to live again. He did this so that we could have a relationship with you, God.

We thank you for this. Please help me to be excited about what Jesus did. That it wouldn't just be something I heard about a long time ago, and the joy and excitement have gone away over the years. Please refresh in me that joy so that I would share that joyful story with those who are in my life. That I wouldn't hold back because I'm uncomfortable or because I would be afraid to make someone else uncomfortable. God help me to bring your kingdom here on this earth. Help me to be a part of your will being accomplished on this earth. Help me, along with the rest of my church family, to share the story of your great love. And that you are pursuing a relationship with us.

God, please highlight one person in my life with whom you want me to share the gospel. Please highlight one person that you want me to be consistently praying for so that they might turn to you and start a relationship with you. God, help me to be open to your voice and your leading in my life.

Amen.

Psalm 121 - “Through”

Psalm 121 is hope-filled reminder that we can fully depend upon God for help, that He is constantly watching over us, protecting our coming and going and is helping us **THROUGH**. That’s the word I want us to focus on. But first the Psalm.

“I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD watches over you—the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.”

A phrase often heard ever since the pandemic in 2020 is “*We’re all in this together...and we **will** get THROUGH it.*” I watched a short video clip by Gloria Gaither a while back and she was talking about this and it got me to thinking. One of these days we’ll look back and we will know we had gotten THROUGH whatever we’re facing today. The word, THROUGH, is an extremely critical one. How often do we pray asking God to **DELIVER** us **FROM** something? We want God to take the hard times away and make things easier. And yet, after we get THROUGH and we look back, we realize it was in fact, **the journey itself** that made us richer, and better, and deeper.

I want to reiterate; you and I **will** get THROUGH whatever it is we’re going THROUGH toay. We will, with God providing what we need when we need it, as we place our hands in His. And then let us never forget, it’s **the THROUGH** that is designed to make us better.

Let’s pray:

“Thank You for going before us and covering us from behind. Thank You that You are in our midst, and our future is secure in the place You’re preparing for us. We choose faith over fear today. We choose to set our eyes on You and not our circumstances. We choose joy over despair. We choose peace over worry. Silence the enemy over us. We trust You to protect our way and bring us safely THROUGH the trials we’re facing.”

In His Grip,

Pastor Jan

CELEBRATING SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANIVERSARIES

2. Deb Kirslenlohr
8. Ken Roehl
9. Vicki Foemmel
10. Connor Berry
11. Betty Foemmel, Allie Gripentrog
14. Marilyn LaPointe
16. Doug Gray
17. Craig & Merrie DeGrand
19. Kathy Parbel, Alana Ziaya, Heather Swenson, Morris Sorby
22. Rachel Robus
25. April Onsager
28. Zach Parsons



School supplies are now on sale. In organizing our OCC donations we have enough pencils, erasers, colored pencils, crayons and toothbrushes. If you have purchased these items, you can still donate them. We could use more notebooks, rulers, markers, and pencil cases. Also look for summer clothes on clearance. Donated items can be placed in the basket in the narthex.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 @9:30 AM—MAO VANG HER AND NHIA WAHN HER WILL BE AT ZION.

Hope everyone can be here to meet and greet them!



PRAYER TIME FOR ALL WOMEN—TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 & 17, 1: 00 PM Sandy Neumann will open her home on the first and third Tuesday of each month. We will be gathering to pray for whatever God has put on our hearts and minds. Pray for strength in these troubling times and anything that God may lead us pray for!

CLAUSON FAMILY MUSIC SHOW—A CLAUSON CHRISTMAS—The theatre is in Coloma, Wisconsin. The shows are filled with Christmas music sure to put you in the holiday spirit! The First show is Wednesday-Saturday, November 6-9. The show are every week through December 12. If you are interested in going there are brochures on the information center in the Narthex. Please check it out!

Greetings and salutations my family in Christ!

Have you ever been moving along, thinking all is well and then say, for instance, you miss your turnoff and things become overwhelming and unfamiliar? I went to visit my daughter, Sara, this weekend in Appleton. It's a journey I have made before. Those who know me well, recognize that I am not the most confident driver. Google maps and simpler turnoffs, and I find my way with relative ease. I was pretty chill about this journey. I hadn't considered that it was August and road construction was at its peak.

I missed my regular turn off toward Shiocton amid the orange cones. Google maps redirected me along a major byway. Four lanes of traffic, merges and offramps everywhere you looked. Traffic moving at speeds I don't care to travel. I turned the volume up on the phone and prayed. White knuckling the steering wheel, I began to recite the Lord's Prayer in my head. I asked Jesus to please "take the wheel" on this one. It's been my past experience that the world never will just swallow you up when you need it to, and I was not let down in that regard. This had to be dealt with as it came at me.

I followed the little blue arrow on google maps through heavy traffic. Semi tires before and behind, to my right and to my left. I breathed through the comfort of the Lord's Prayer, grateful for the calm it brought in the midst of my immediate chaos. I watched the minutes to destination countdown. Fifteen minutes, then ten, then five....and the turnoff that brought calmer two lane traffic and a small neighborhood. Four.....three.....two.....one, and I pulled in their driveway, opened the door so grateful for the welcome breath of fresh air, the bird song, the calm reassurance of solid ground under my feet. A moment or two of praise and thanksgiving for seeing me through, and Sara was turning in the driveway from work. Our weekend began. Isn't that life, though?

As I was driving down roads more familiar at speeds far more acceptable Sunday afternoon, I had time to thank the Lord. Not just for the blessed weekend, or for the safe journey in the face of ridiculous odds, but for all the unexpected twists and turns in my life, under His constant loving care. All the times I had breathed through the comfort of the Lord's Prayer, grateful for the calm it brought in the midst of my immediate chaos. The incredible promise He has given us in our final destination! Fifteen minutes, then ten, then five....and the turnoff that brings calmer two lane traffic and a smaller neighborhood. Four.....three.....two.....one, and I pull in the driveway, open the door so grateful for the welcome breath of fresh air, the bird song, the calm reassurance of solid ground under my feet. There it is...the final destination...an eternity of praise and thanksgiving for seeing me through!!!!

It's been my past experience that the world never will just swallow you up when you need it to. I've never been let down in that regard. Life has to be dealt with as it comes at you. Turn on your GPS (God's Protective Services) and trust the journey home!

Your Sister in Christ

Kate

