



Zion noiz

The Newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church
Piedmont, California
October 2025



During October, many churches celebrate the Reformation, a time when we reflect on the purpose of the church. For Lutherans, this isn't just a historical event—it's a reminder that the church must always be reforming itself. Without this ongoing self-evaluation, it's easy to fall into habits that don't reflect God's heart.

This article focuses on God's plan for the world and the church's role in it.

God's Plan for Reconciliation

As described in Ephesians 1:9-10, God's plan is to "unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth." God's original purpose was for us to live in peace and harmony, but sin created separation. Jesus came to make us instruments of his peace, calling us to a ministry of reconciliation.

As 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 says, "All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." We are called to be **ambassadors for Christ**, helping to bridge the divides in our world.

A Divided World and the Church's Calling

Today, we see division everywhere—in global conflicts, political polarization, violence, and even within families and the Christian church itself. Despite having more ways to communicate than ever before, people often feel more lonely and isolated.

Jesus calls his church, the **Body of Christ**, to continue his mission of reconciliation. This begins when we gather together as a congregation to worship and learn. Although we may have different political views or opinions on how the church should function, we come together as one at the Lord's Table.

The Importance of Community

A common misconception in the United States is the idea that you can be a Christian on your own. Many people believe they don't need to be part of a faith community, viewing worship as a private experience "between me and God."

However, God's purpose is to bring people together. The congregation is meant to be a step toward this unity, and we, as followers of Jesus, are called to be **peacemakers**. Gathering in person is crucial. As Jesus prayed in John 17, he desired for his followers to be "all one...so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

The ministry of reconciliation is not a solo journey. It's a shared mission that begins by coming together as a community.

Weekly Worship

Sundays: 9 am Traditional Worship In-person & Online.

All Worship Services are Available 24/7 via the Zion App, Website, YouTube and Facebook.

Bible Class: Sundays at 8 am Wednesdays at 10 am

SEEK

DISCIPLE

MULTIPLY

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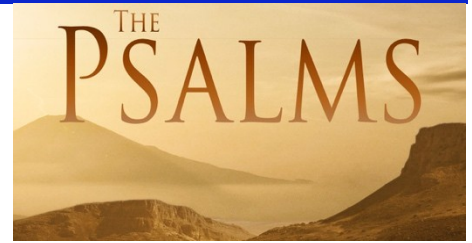
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STUDYING GOD'S WORD

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS I

Bible Study I

Bible Class I continues meeting in the Garden Room and everyone is invited to join us in searching the Scriptures for guidance and hope and peace and strength. Each Sunday will be an informal discussion on one of the Psalms. Led by Paul Grunow, the group may cover one or more Psalms during a class or as only few verses, depending on how the discussion goes. Join us for solid study of God's Word and spirited discussion at 8:00 am on Sundays in the Garden Room.



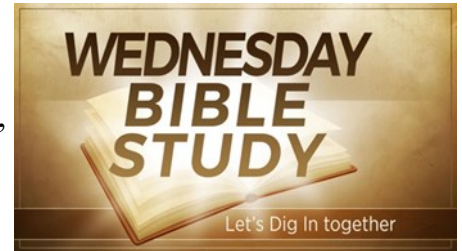
WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

Join us each Wednesday morning at 10:00am for *Bible Tapestry*, a time of study, reflection, and fellowship in God's Word. Led by Pastor Dorn, we will explore the Scriptures, seeing how the many threads of the Bible are woven into God's great story of salvation. All are welcome—come and be blessed by His Word and by the community of believers who gather to study it either in-person or via Zoom.

Zoom Link for Wednesday Morning Bible Study

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85173401109?pwd=AOu5B8EfdT6LFBCvAGfOk4x42bdQsB.1>

Meeting ID: 851 7340 1109. Passcode: YeahZion



Oct 1 God's Covenant: Connecting with a Faithful God

Oct 8 Wilderness Journey: Purpose in Difficult Seasons

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS II

On Sunday, Bible Class II continues the study of *"The Hundred Prophecies Fulfilled By Jesus"*

These sessions are on:

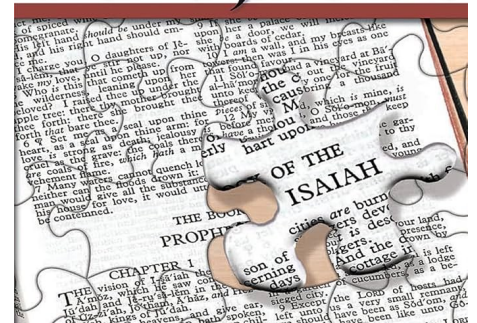
1. Jesus Birth
2. Jesus' Life and Ministry
3. Jesus' Death and Resurrection
4. Jesus' Titles and Attributes

We will focus on the Old Testament references and the New Testament Fulfillment.

These Prophecies from 1200 BC, 800 BC, and 500 BC.

Come join us for the start of these fascinating studies on these Messianic Prophecies and how they were fulfilled by Jesus.

100 PROPHECIES fulfilled by JESUS



IRON MAN

Join us on **Tuesday, October 7 at 6:30 pm**, as we watch Season 4 of *The Chosen*. The episode four entitled "Dedication"; Jesus and the disciples celebrate Hanukkah. Matthew confronts Judas about irregularities, and the festival turns into a fight, then flight. The disciples escape with their lives, but learn a friend hasn't been so lucky.

If you haven't been able to join us before that is OK we want you to join us now! After all, you know the story and have read much of "The Book"! Join us for our "manly" meal, fellowship and faith building!



Catechism Corner

Zion's Stained Glass Windows

Continuing along the top row of windows on the lectern side beginning at the front.



The Gates of Heaven. Here we have God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit represented both coming forth from heaven and the way to heaven.

Music and Instrument. "Be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 5:18b-20.

Church Humor

SMARTEST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

A doctor, a lawyer, a little boy and a priest were out for a Sunday afternoon flight on a small private plane. Suddenly, the plane developed engine trouble. In spite of the best efforts of the pilot, the plane started to go down. Finally, the pilot grabbed a parachute, yelled to the passengers that they had better jump, and then he bailed out.

Unfortunately, there were only three parachutes remaining. The doctor grabbed one and said "I'm a doctor, I save lives, so I must live," and jumped out.

The lawyer then said, "I'm a lawyer and lawyers are the smartest people in the world. I deserve to live." He also grabbed a parachute and jumped.

The priest looked at the little boy and said, "My son, I've lived a long and full life. You are young and have your whole life ahead of you. Take the last parachute and live in peace."

The little boy handed the parachute back to the priest and said, "Not to worry, Father. The 'smartest man in the world' just took off with my backpack."

Day Adventurers

The Day Adventures group gathered on September 23 for a delicious lunch at Harry's Hauf Brau. It was a time of good food, great company, and lively conversation as we shared ideas about places to explore together in the months ahead. Be sure to keep an eye on upcoming announcements for details about our next day trip as our planning lunch was after the newsletter deadline.

We'd love for you to join the adventure!



Game Night

Tuesday, October 21 @ 6:30 pm.

Join Us for Game Night!

Get ready for some fun! Join us on Monday, October 21 at 6:30pm for Game Night. Bring your favorite board game or try something new—there will be plenty of laughs, snacks, and friendly competition. Come roll the dice, play a hand, or just cheer others on. Everyone's welcome—don't miss the fun!



Remember Amazing Grace

“Grace is the on-going, benevolent act of God working in us, without which we can do nothing (John 15:5)” (Godquestions.org). As Lutherans, we learn in confirmation class that Grace is God’s gift without any merit in us. Luther explains in his explanation to the First article in the Apostle’s Creed: “All this He does out of Fatherly, divine goodness and mercy without any merit or worthiness in me.”

Undeserved – a complete gift of mercy. The work of salvation was completed by Jesus’s sacrifice on the cross. God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense. Not even a tiny effort of ours was required. A gift placed in our hands.

*“Jesus paid it all
All to Him I owe
Sin had left a crimson stain
He washed it white as snow.”*
(C. Wesley Foundation)

After learning those words of hope and forgiveness, John Newton (1772) wrote the words to the beloved hymn, Amazing Grace. He had transformed from the captain of a slave ship to a clergyman – saved from evil to good by GRACE. We are all saved from the result of sin by grace – there is nothing we do – simply receive this unfathomable gift.

As I listen to and sing the words of this beautiful hymn, I will share some of my thoughts and prayers.

*“Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see.*

*My chains are gone, I’ve been set free,
My God, My Savior has ransomed me,
and like a flood His mercy reigns;
unending love, amazing grace.”*

(Chris Tomlin)

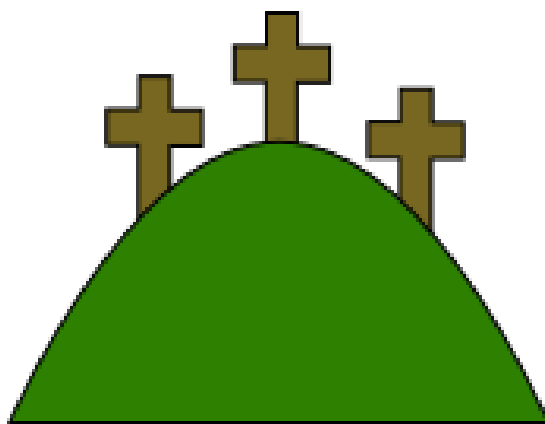
(2 Corinthians 8:9) “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you, by His poverty, might become rich.”

(Hebrews 2:17, 18) “Therefore in all things He had to be made like His brethren that He might be a

merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to help those who are tempted.”

God’s grace is truly amazing. We who were deep in sin, were sent a substitute, a sacrificial Lamb to give the ultimate sacrifice on a cross for the forgiveness of our sins. Jesus took our place on the cross. We will spend eternity in heaven thanking Him.

*“Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.”*



Do you remember how you felt when you first heard or relearned that God loves you so much that He sent His only Son to save you from the punishment of your sins – that your sins were forgiven and you were made new? Your guilt was gone, your sins as far from the east as from the west (Psalm 103:16).

“But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loves us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together.” (Ephesians 2:4, 5)

(Ephesians 2:8, 9) “For by grace you have been saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not by works, lest anyone should boast.”

*“Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come,
Twas grace that brought us safe thus far
And grace will bring us home.”*

We have all gone through difficult times – times of grief and hopelessness, loss and pain. Our life-line to God is Grace. It is because of Grace that we can come to God our Father: (1 Peter 3:18) “Christ suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous that He might bring us to God.”

2 Timothy 1:9) “Who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.”

This is the gift of strength in Jesus. We can never be left without this gift of grace. He has promised to be with us. Let these difficult times bring you closer to Jesus.

*“When we’ve been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we first begun.”*

Oh can you imagine the choirs in heaven singing praises to Jesus? Our faith will be sight – all our questions answered. We will hear Jesus say “Well done, good and faithful servant” (Matthew 5:23). We will sing and praise Him – an everlasting worship service.

And since it is forever, no more good-byes (you’ve said those); no more tears (those were wiped away by Jesus).

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

“My chains are gone, I’ve been set free,
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,
and like a flood His mercy reigns,
unending love, amazing grace.”
(Chris Tomlin)

Thank you, Heavenly Father, for Your inexhaustible, incredible gift of grace. You broke the chains of our sins and paid the price of our sins which we could not do. Thank you for allowing us to know You and to experience Your grace. Amen.

– Marlene S. Grunow
prayer ministry

CHRISTIAN CONCERNS



October Food of the Month

Kindly remember the ongoing Christian Concerns Committee Food of the Month collection for our neighbors in need.

The committee acknowledges this is a huge request, as groceries are very expensive these days. However, many of our Oakland neighbors are struggling with food insecurities and our kindness may help fill in the gaps. All groceries donated are given to City Team for their daily meal program and for the many mobile pantries. Please prayerfully consider adding extra non-perishable food items to your grocery cart.

Look for the brightly colored barrels in the Narthex for your donations. Please refer to the following list for the items needed. God Bless your contributions and support of this ministry.

Items needed---

Cereal (sugar free please)
Complete pancake mix
Soup and crackers
Coffee and Tea
Macaroni and Cheese

Shelf stable milk
Syrup
100% Juice
Flour and Sugar
Salt and Pepper

Peanut Butter and Jelly
Beans and Rice (dry or canned)
Pasta and Pasta sauce

PARISH NURSING

Parish Nursing

For this month's newsletter, I would like to share a couple of tension relieving techniques to start and end your day. Perhaps you can combine these with prayer or do them before or after prayer.

Morning

Deep breathing is a wonderful way to both wake up and release tension. Begin by lying down and giving your toes a little wiggle. Touch the crown of your head to become more attuned to the top of your body. As you breathe in, imagine your inhale traveling down to your toes. As you exhale, feel your breath moving back up to the crown of your head. Take another inhale, just down to your knees and an exhale back up. Keep going, breathing into your pelvis and exhaling to your crown. Into your belly and out to your crown. Into your chest and out. Into your jaw and out. From there, take the return journey down the length of the body. By the time you're done, you should feel more relaxed and alert.

Edward Jones, nowyogany.com

Evening

When you're ready for bed but haven't had time to unwind from the day, use this breathing technique to tuck yourself in. Get into bed and find a comfortable position. Close your eyes and feel the delightfulness of the mattress under you. Feel the embrace of the sheets and blankets on top of you. Then place one hand on your stomach and one hand on your chest. Notice how your hands move up and down, like a boat on a gentle tide. If your mind begins replaying worries or concerns, release them to God. Come back to the breath and rest in God's comfort and care.

Take care, be well and God bless,

Stephanie



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS

Communion Assistant Schedule

October 2025

Sunday, October 5 th	9:00 am	Frank Cham
Sunday, October 12 th	9:00 am	Paul Grunow
Sunday, October 19 th	9:00 am	Dave Nemy
Sunday, October 26 th	9:00 am	Jonathan Schaff

Lay Reader Schedule

October 2025

Sunday, October 5 th	9:00 am	Oscar Castillo
Sunday, October 12 th	9:00 am	Shannon Shockley
Sunday, October 19 th	9:00 am	Amy Easton
Sunday, October 26 th	9:00 am	Becky McFarland

Altar Flowers

October 2025

Sunday, October 5 th	9:00 am	Walsh Family
Sunday, October 12 th	9:00 am	Janice Hamblin
Sunday, October 19 th	9:00 am	Uhle Family
Sunday, October 26 th	9:00 am	Bliven Family



"I know we're trying not to be stuffy around here, but let's not refer to 'A Mighty Fortress' as 'Martin Luther's Greatest Hit.' "

Usher Schedule

October 2025

Sunday, October 5 th	9:00 am	Michael Grunow Brendan O'Brien
Sunday, October 12 th	9:00 am	George Berge Peter Grunow
Sunday, October 19 th	9:00 am	Michael Grunow Brendan O'Brien
Sunday, October 26 th	9:00 am	George Berge Peter Grunow

Coffee Hour Hosts

October 2025

Sunday, October 5 th	9:00 am	Open
Sunday, October 12 th	9:00 am	Open
Sunday, October 19 th	9:00 am	LWML
Sunday, October 26 th	9:00 am	Open

Object Lesson

October 2025

Sunday, October 5 th	9:00 am	Rachel Harger
Sunday, October 12 th	9:00 am	Shannon Shockley
Sunday, October 19 th	9:00 am	Pastor Dorn
Sunday, October 26 th	9:00 am	Carolyn Dal Ferro



I WENT VIRAL

BEFORE VIRAL WAS COOL

Student: Damaris Kerubo Onchieku Project 24 Site: B24 Nyambiri Date: September 2025

Dear, Sponsor

I greet you in Jesus name. How are you with your family. I'm fine with my family, I thank God for the gift of life which he has given me and my family.

First I thank you for the healthy care you have given me, for paying for me the school fee and the heart of loving us as your children, I am ~~gratefully~~ really appreciating you.

The reason that making me to write the letter is to tell you about my academic. At Bishop Linus National School, in my first exam in form II I score B1 and term 2 I maintain my grade.

My hobby in the school is playing football and singing and worship the God in the church. I always read in the book of the Ephesians 4:11-12 and advise the people those who do not want to go to church to worship the God and help the needy what I have.

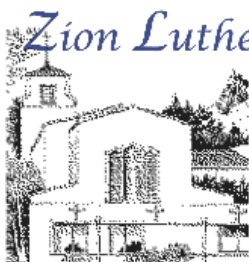
Greet all the people that live with you and ~~the~~ tell them I need to see even their ~~photo~~ picture and your house and one day come and visit us at our home may God bless you and add you the years to life in this world. Good-bye!!

your faithful

DAMARIS KERUBO

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8:00AM Bible Class I & II 9:00AM In-person Traditional Worship & Live-stream 10:30AM Congregational Meeting	29 7:30PM AA - GR	30 3:45PM Revelli Violin	1 10:00AM Wednesday Bible Class 3:45PM Revelli Violin 4:30PM Piedmont Rec Dept VBall 6:30PM Confirmation Class ~ Zoom 6:45PM Alena Sports Club VB	2 4:00PM Revelli Violin	3 4:00PM Revelli Violin	4
5 8:00AM Bible Class I & II 9:00AM In-person Traditional Worship & Live-stream 10:30AM Discover the Faith	6 7:30PM AA - GR	7 3:45PM Revelli Violin 6:30PM Iron Men	8 10:00AM Wednesday Bible Class 3:45PM Revelli Violin 4:30PM Piedmont Rec Dept VBall 6:30PM Confirmation Class ~ Zoom 6:45PM Alena Sports Club VB	9 4:00PM Revelli Violin	10 4:00PM Revelli Violin	11
12 8:00AM Bible Class I & II 9:00AM In-person Traditional Worship & Live-stream 10:30AM Discover the Faith	13 Columbus Day 7:30PM AA - GR	14 3:45PM Revelli Violin	15 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 10:00AM Wednesday Bible Class 3:45PM Revelli Violin 4:30PM Piedmont Rec Dept VBall 6:30PM No Confirmation Class ~ Zoom 6:45PM Alena Sports Club VB	16 4:00PM Revelli Violin	17 4:00PM Revelli Violin	18
19 8:00AM Bible Class I & II 9:00AM In-person Traditional Worship & Live-stream 10:30AM Discover the Faith	20 7:30PM AA - GR	21 3:45PM Revelli Violin 6:30PM Game Night - CR	22 10:00AM Wednesday Bible Class 3:45PM Revelli Violin 4:30PM Piedmont Rec Dept VBall 6:30PM No Confirmation Class ~ Zoom 6:45PM Alena Sports Club VB	23 4:00PM Revelli Violin	24 4:00PM Revelli Violin	25 2:00PM Revelli Violin in Sanctuary
26 8:00AM Bible Class I & II 9:00AM In-person Traditional Worship & Live-stream	27 7:30PM AA - GR	28 3:45PM Revelli Violin	29 10:00AM Wednesday Bible Class 3:45PM Revelli Violin 6:30PM Confirmation Class ~ Zoom 6:45PM Alena Sports Club VB	30 4:00PM Revelli Violin	31 Reformation Day Halloween 4:00PM Revelli Violin	1 9:30AM EBRs-GR



Zion Lutheran Church

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This newsletter is also available on-line..