for where two or three are gathered together In My Name I am there among them Matthew 18:20

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 13 & 17, 2023

WELCOME TO ZION. It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

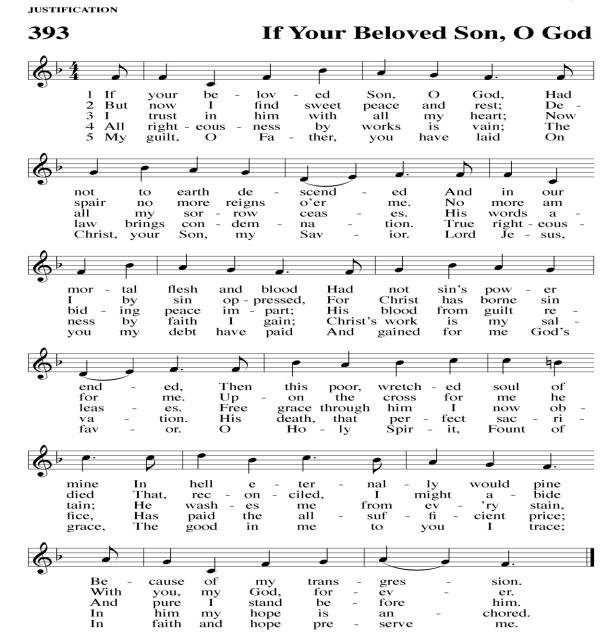
Worship Focus: The greatest love we can show our neighbor is to call him away from sin to faith in Jesus, his Savior.

LITURGY: SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT

CW pg. 26

OPENING HYMN: CW 393

"If Your Beloved Son, O God"



Johann Heermann, 1585-1647, st. 1-4, abr.; Neu-vermehrtes vollständiges Gesangbuch, Braunschweig, 1661,

st. 5; tr. composite. Nun freut euch, Lieben Christen (87 87 887) *Etlich Cristlich lider*, Wittenberg, 1524.

P: The grace of our Lord (*) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

The congregation may kneel.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

The minister says the Prayer of the Day.

P: Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

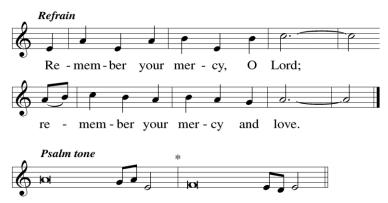


THE WORD

First Lesson Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ But I have appointed you, son of man, to be a watchman for the house of Israel. So whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you are to warn them from me. ⁸ When I say to a wicked man, "Wicked man, you shall surely die," if you do not speak to warn the wicked man against his way, that wicked man will die because of his guilt, but I will also hold you responsible for his blood. ⁹ But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he will die because of his guilt, but you will have saved your life. ¹⁰ So you, son of man, say the following to the house of Israel. This is what you people are saying: "Certainly our rebellion and our sins weigh us down, and because of them we are rotting away. How then can we live?" ¹¹ Say to them, "As I live, declares the LORD God, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from their way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why should you die, O house of Israel?" (EHV)

PSALM 32 pg. 78



Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven,* whose sins are covered.

When I kept silent, your hand was heavy up<u>on</u> me;* my strength was sapped as in the heat of <u>sum</u>mer.

Then I acknowledged my <u>sin</u> to you* and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"* and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Refrain

You are my <u>hiding place</u>;* you will protect me from <u>trou</u>ble.

Many are the woes of the wicked,* but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds those who trust in him.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

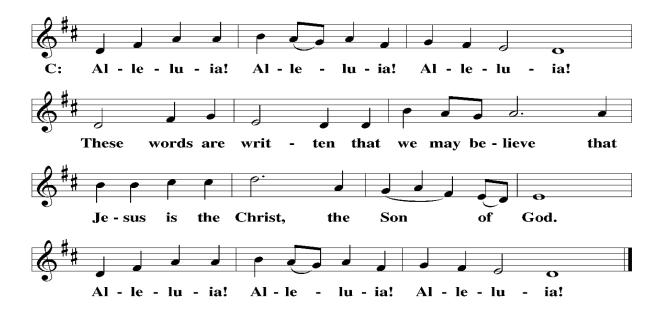
Refrain Tune: Michael Joncas. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SECOND LESSON Galatians 2:11-16

¹¹ But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly wrong. ¹² For before some people came from James, he ate with the Gentiles. But when those people came, he drew back and separated himself, because he feared those from the circumcision group. ¹³ And the rest of the Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy. ¹⁴ But when I saw that they were not acting according to the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of all of them, "If you, a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, why do you compel the Gentiles to live like the Jews?" ¹⁵ "We are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners. ¹⁶ We know that a person is not justified by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. So we also believed in Christ Jesus that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. (EHV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Alleluia. (Philippians 4:4 RSV)



HYMN: CW 389 "Rock of Ages, Cleft of Me"

389

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



Text: August M. Toplady, 1740–78, alt.
Tune: Toplady (77 77 77) Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872.

SERMON TEXT AND THEME:

Matthew 18:15-20

15 "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his sin just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have regained your brother. 16 But if he will not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And, if he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as an unbeliever or a tax collector. 18 Amen I tell you: Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 Amen I tell you again: If two of you on earth agree to ask for anything, it will be done for them by my Father who is in heaven. ²⁰ In fact where two or three have gathered together in my name, there I am among them." (EHV)

You Have to Say Something

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

P: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

P: The Lord be with you.



P: Lift up your hearts.



P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

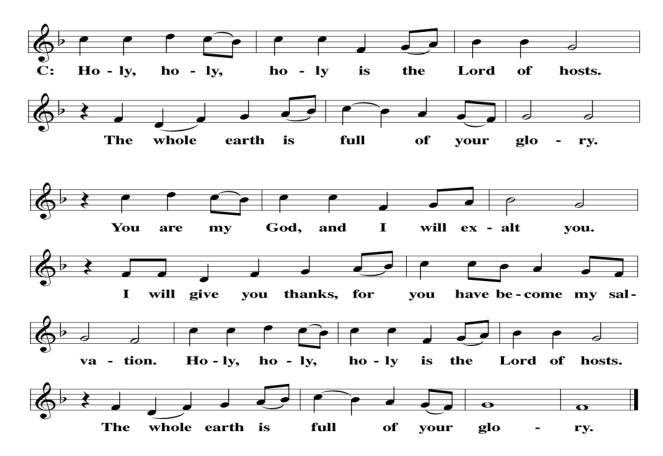


C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

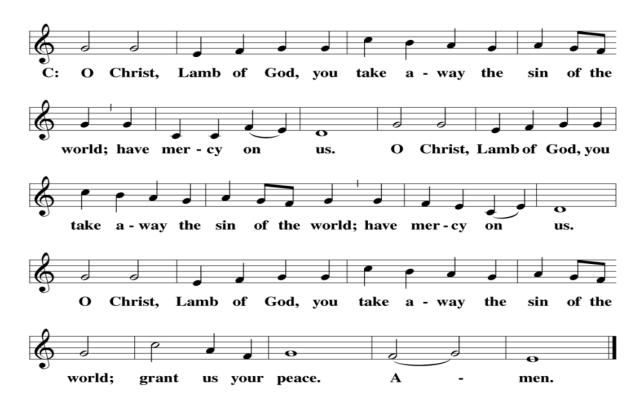
P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: CW 304

CW 388

"Jesus Sinners Does Receive"
"Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven"

304

Jesus Sinners Does Receive



- 6 Oh, how blest it is to know,
 Were as scarlet my transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By your blood and bitter passion,
 For these words I do believe—
 Jesus sinners does receive.
- 7 Jesus sinners does receive.
 Even I have been forgiven.
 And when I this earth must leave,
 I shall find an open heaven.
 Dying, still to him I cleave—
 Jesus sinners does receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1699, alt.

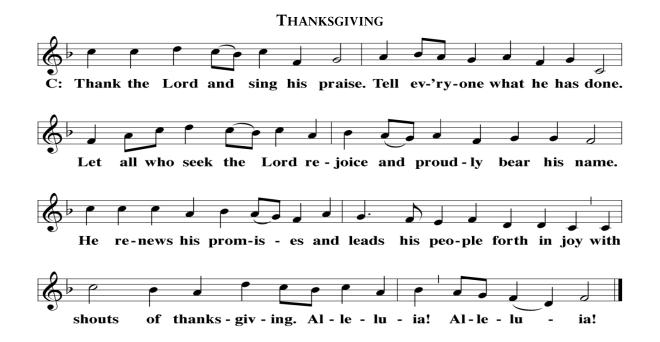
388

Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven



Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77, alt.

Tune: KUORTANE (76 76 D) Finnish folk tune, c. 19th century.



P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN: New Hymnal 731

Oh, How Good It Is



Officiants

Accompanist: Stepfanie Sitzman Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Nate Fager

^{*}ALL CHURCH SERVICE AND MUSIC ITEMS ARE PRINTED UNDER ONE LICENSE – A-717618.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; gsitzman@zionmonroe.org
Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; bschneck@zionmonroe.org

CALL MEETING—Pastor Stephen Meyer has decided to return the call to Zion. The next call meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 24th at 12:30 p.m.

THANK YOU: The family of Rita Raasch would like to gratefully acknowledge all the support, cards, memorials, and condolences on the recent loss of our wife, mother, and grandmother. Many thanks to Pastor Sitzman for his words of comfort, to Mrs. Sitzman for the beautiful organ music, and to Amy Vanisacker for the service folder and all of her behind the scenes efforts. Additional thanks to those who worked for the funeral luncheon and donated desserts. It was truly appreciated.

Howard Raasch, Lorrie and Juergen Koenig, Jim and Melanie Raasch and family

TUESDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS: Adult Bible Class has resumed on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. The class will meet in the East Foyer by the Mother's Room until the renovations are done.

OVER ABUNDANCE TABLE: In the west foyer is a table for anyone who has extra vegetables from their gardens and doesn't know what to do with the extra items. Everyone is welcome to add or take from the table. Please enjoy the bounties of the harvest.

Mum Sale: The Zion Christian Education Association is again holding a fall mum sale. Proceeds to benefit the school through CEA activities and purchases. The mums are again coming from Parrans. Last year's mum plants were spectacular! There are envelopes in the West Foyer if you want to purchase mums or want to share it with a friend or family member. All orders must be turned in by **Sunday, September 17th**. Mums will be available for pick-up at Zion on Tuesday, September 26. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Freiny.

STEWARDSHIP SURVEYS: The Board of Stewardship is wanting all active members to take the time to fill out a "Survey of Time and Abilities". This is on a blue piece of paper at the back of the sanctuary. Please take it home and consider where you may be able to help the church with some of your time and your abilities. Even if you are not sure you are able to do a task you are more than welcome to do it on a trial period to see if you are a fit or not. When finished with the survey please place it in the basket in the church office. Thank you again for taking the time to help us with this project.

LWMS FALL RALLY: The Alpha Circuit Fall Rally will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Saline, MI. Saturday October 7th. The featured speaker will be Pastor Mark Luetzow, the President of Michigan Lutheran Seminary (MLS). He will be presenting on the MLS Taste of Ministry program. This is a great opportunity for all church members to learn more about our Synod High School and the work they are doing! Men, women, and older children are welcome to attend. Trinity Lutheran is located at 195 E Michigan Ave, Saline, MI 48176. Registration will begin at 9:00 am, fellowship and light breakfast until 9:30 am. Our presentation will begin at 9:45 am. For those staying for the business meeting, please bring a sack lunch. We hope to see many of you there!

Save the Date: Zion's Chili and Soup Cook-Off on October 14th at 4:30 p.m. sponsored by the Board of Service and Fellowship. This is for participants who want to share their best Chili or Soup for judging. Or bring your appetite and judge the entries - - \$5.00 admission per person. Add this date to your calendars for some good eats and lots of fun!

HELPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY: Friends in Faith has started a "Zion's Meal Train". The meal train is open to all male and female members of the Congregation interested in providing meals for fellow members in need. We are organizing an opportunity to donate meals for situations including surgeries/recovery, unexpected hospital stays, loss, birth of a child, etc. We will be utilizing the official Meal Train website (www.MealTrain.com) to stay organized. When many friends provide support through a meal, Meal Train keeps schedules, as well as provides locations and dietary restrictions. If you are interested in volunteering to prepare an occasional meal as needed, please contact Melissa Freiny at 734-652-1638.

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP:

Greetings Members of Zion!

Through the first half of 2023 Zion has experienced a financial shortfall of \$74,426.71 This shortfall is considerably higher than the shortfall last year at this time (halfway through 2022) which was \$21,255.58. Zion has two distinct types of funds. The first is "Unrestricted" and is for general use, payroll, budgetary items, etc. The other is "Restricted". These funds are for a specific use. The capital campaign is a good example of a "Restricted Fund". Please see the box below for more detailed information.

Balance Sheet	6/30/2022	9/30/2022	12/31/2022	3/31/2023	6/30/2023
Unrestricted	\$265,513.32	\$283,401.72	\$280,808.72	\$233,286.12	\$209,382.01
Restricted	\$334,979.50	\$342,242.45	\$412,263.99	\$407,650.47	\$393,229.72

As you can see, the amount of Unrestricted funds continues to decrease as those funds are used for general operating expenses. The increase in restricted funds is mainly due to donations to the capital campaign and at the July 30, 2023 Voter's meeting the Voters approved up to \$123,750 for a major bathroom remodel of the bathrooms across from Pastors' offices. The Capital Campaign will remain ongoing for other needed renovations. Thank you for your continued support Zion!

Board of Stewardship

ZION ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES

The church now has a limited number of assisted listening devices available for those who require it. The devices have a single ear clip style headphone or an inductive neck loop for compatible hearing aids. If you would prefer, you can also use your own headphones with a 3.5mm plug. Simply plug in the headphones, turn on the device and adjust the volume to a comfortable level. If you would like to use one of these devices, please see an usher for assistance.

Coming up at Zion

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service (IC/CC)

10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Class Resume

1:00 p.m. Jesus Cares Ministry Worship Service

Monday 8:00 a.m. Mum Orders Due Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Worship Service Thursday 6:00 p.m. Church Council

Saturday 9:00 a.m. Zion Lutheran Soccer games vs. Jenera and Adrian in Jenera

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Class

September Volunteers

	Aug. 30 & Sept. 3	Sept. 6 & 10	Sept. 13 & 17	Sept. 20 & 24	Sept. 27 & Oct. 1
Altar Guild		Carol Eshelman &	Kathy Wozniak		
Live Stream			_	-	_
Helpers	Miller Sordahl	Steve Sordahl	Erich Freiny	Rob Krueger	Ryan Roth
Ushers	Aug. 30 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier Sept. 3 Dave Benge Alan Bober Matt Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	Sept. 6 Dave Benge Alan Bober Matt Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson Sept. 10 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergan Koenig Matt McCormick Zach Turner	Sept. 13 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergan Koenig Matt McCormick Zach Turner Sept. 17 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale	Sept. 20 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale Sept. 24 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Ralph Naveaux	Sept. 27 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Ralph Naveaux Oct. 1 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier
Communion Helpers	Aug. 30 Alan Bober <u>Sept.3</u> Rob Krueger Mark Kipf		Sept. 13 Ken Vagt Sept. 17 Mark Fuerstenberg Jeremy Robinson		Sept. 27 Alan Bober Oct. 1 Jake Burke Steve Sordahl



Zion's Chili/Soup 2nd Cook-Off October 14th 4:30 p.m. Calling Chili/Soup Lovers! Come to compete or to eat.

Bring your pot o' chili/soup and your appetite to see who has the best chili/soup around!

Rather eat than cook? Grab a spoon and judge who will be the winner!

Admission \$5.00

Chili/Soup Cook-Off Entries:

- Each entry can be created by an INDIVIDUAL, or by a TEAM.
- Each entry must be fully cooked, hot and delivered in a 5-8 quart crockpot.
- Blind, anonymous judging to be done by all attendees.
- Sign-up sheet in west foyer of church.

Chili/Soup Cook-Off Official Rules:

- Grab a Scorecard and Pen.

Round 1: Taste Test only! (sign-up in west foyer)

- Begin sampling chili/soup by just taking enough to taste. There will be time to come back for more later!
- Each chili/soup is identified by either a number or letter. Taste each chili/soup and score according to the instructions located on the scorecard.
- Once all the chilies/soups have been tasted and scored, submit your voting ballot in the designated area.

Round 2: DIG IN!

- Grab a big bowl of chili/soup and wait to find out who is the winner of the cook-off!

Prizes will be awarded.