

# ZION NEWS

Issue 7: September 2017



**Zion Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

*Connecting with God; Connecting  
with others; Connecting others with God*

The Ministers of Zion: Every member of the congregation

The Rev. Janice Marie E. Lowden, Pastor

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## ***From The Pastor's Keyboard:***

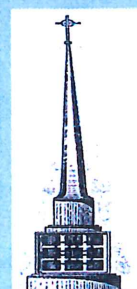
Goodbye to summer and welcome to fall! Another summer has passed and the activities of fall have already begun. Teachers and students are back in their classrooms. Summer vacations are over. Now, schedules for work, community, and school activities are filling up our calendars. Before we know it, we'll be wrapping Christmas gifts!

Does it seem as if the time goes faster as we age? Of course, it doesn't, but it is true that our lives seem to get busier each year. We seem to have more and more responsibilities and worries as time goes on. As they progress in school, children and youth acquire more and more homework and increasing number of extra-curricular activities. In addition to their work schedules, parents must keep up with the school and sports schedules of their children. Even the retirement years don't offer respite from the busyness of life. One may no longer be going to work each day, but he or she, instead, has the care of an elderly parent or the needs of grown children and, often, grandchildren to fill the days. As we continue to age, our time may be filled with medical appointments, treatments for various ailments, and therapies for aging joints and bones. When we add time spent on computers, tablets and other mobile devices, it seems as if there just aren't enough hours in the day or days in the week to get everything done.

*(Continued on page 2)*

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## ♦ From The Pastor *(Cont'd from page 1)*

In the midst of our weekly activities and responsibilities, the One who makes everything possible, even our very lives, often gets overlooked or forgotten. When asked about church attendance or invited to participate in church activities, I've heard these excuses: "Sunday is the only day I have to be with my family." "We have to get up early every other morning, so Sunday is the only day we can sleep in." "There are so many other activities and sports competitions each day and even on Saturdays, that I need Sundays to catch up on what I couldn't do (i.e., homework, chores, etc.) during the week." "Worship services are just too early on Sunday morning for me to attend."

What do you think God hears when we use these excuses for being absent on the one day of the week that God has commanded be set aside for us to worship Him? Does God hear, "I love you and give thanks for all you do," or "I don't have time for you"?

How does God feel when we will not even take one hour each week to hear and learn from His Word, and to receive the gifts of life, forgiveness and salvation promised in a simple meal of bread and wine? What does God, the Heavenly Parent, think when parents who made promises at their child's baptism do not fulfill those promises on behalf of their child by bringing him to worship, teaching him the Christian Faith and life, and helping him to grow in relationship with the one who has welcomed him as a "child of God"?

Okay, enough with the guilt trip! Have you considered how different your life might be if you and your family took time to join your brothers and sisters in Christ on Sundays to worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit? Have you ever asked regular church-goers how their time on Sunday mornings with God and friends helps them to deal with the stresses, fears, and responsibilities of their lives during the rest of their week? Do you know that just an hour or two on Sunday will provide an attitude adjustment better than any "happy hour"? Are you aware that families who regularly attend church together tend to be healthier in their relationships, and the odds that their children will grow up to live happy lives increase? Church attendance and participation provide many benefits for both individuals and families. Research shows this and, better yet, God stands behind the value of active participation in weekly worship for our lives.

Want to know more? The benefits of regular church attendance and active participation in church-related activities have been shown by a number of studies including research by Duke University, Indiana University, The University of Michigan, The Center for Disease Control, Barna Research Group, Gallup, Pew, and the National Institute for Healthcare Research. Check out these study results online or on Zion's website.



## ♦ From The Council President

As summer draws to a close, I am writing with a brief update about progress on action items that were generated through the work of the Zion Strategic Planning Committee (ZSPC) and that were approved at the March congregational meeting. The goal behind these action items is to strengthen the life of the congregation and the ministry work that we engage in together. In the midst of grappling with recommendations, decision-making, and implementation of concrete action steps, it can be easy to lose sight of the big picture, which is to spread God's good news and to love all. This is what our ministry is about. Since the last newsletter update:

- The ZSPC worked on developing a proposal for streamlining the organization of Zion's ministry teams, in an effort toward establishing stronger evangelism and stewardship ministries. They held meetings during the spring and developed a proposal that was presented to the council earlier this summer. The next step will be wider discussion of this proposal, both within ministry teams and also in the wider congregation.
- The Property Committee was tasked with looking into key improvements to church facilities. They determined that addressing heating and cooling system issues was a necessity, and took the steps to meet with experts and solicit bids for work to repair and improve the system. Their proposal, which has previously been presented to the council, will be presented at a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 10.
- Zion has recently been presented with the opportunity to engage with the Lower Susquehanna Synod around an intentional ministry renewal effort. We are in conversation with the synod and see opportunity to use this experience to help advance the work that the ZSPC and many others in the congregation are engaged in. Updates will be provided as soon as more information is available.

Please continue to be in prayer, as we discern the path to follow and take steps to strengthen our ministry efforts.



## ♦ Save The Dates, Rally Day: Sept. 10

### SAVE THESE DATES! 9/10/2017 & 10/29/2017

*There will be two Sundays this fall when we will gather together in services at 10 AM for special celebrations:*

⇒ September 10<sup>th</sup>:

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual “Rally to Serve Sunday” (See article below)

⇒ October 29<sup>th</sup>

Reformation 500 Celebration (*Information to follow.*)

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### RALLY TO SERVE SUNDAY 2017

September 10<sup>th</sup> will be our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual “Rally to Serve Sunday.” This year, the ministry emphasis is on the many ways members can connect with one another through service in congregation ministries. Highlights of the day will include a combined service at 10 a.m. featuring a special “Ministry Moments” slide show of activities throughout the year.

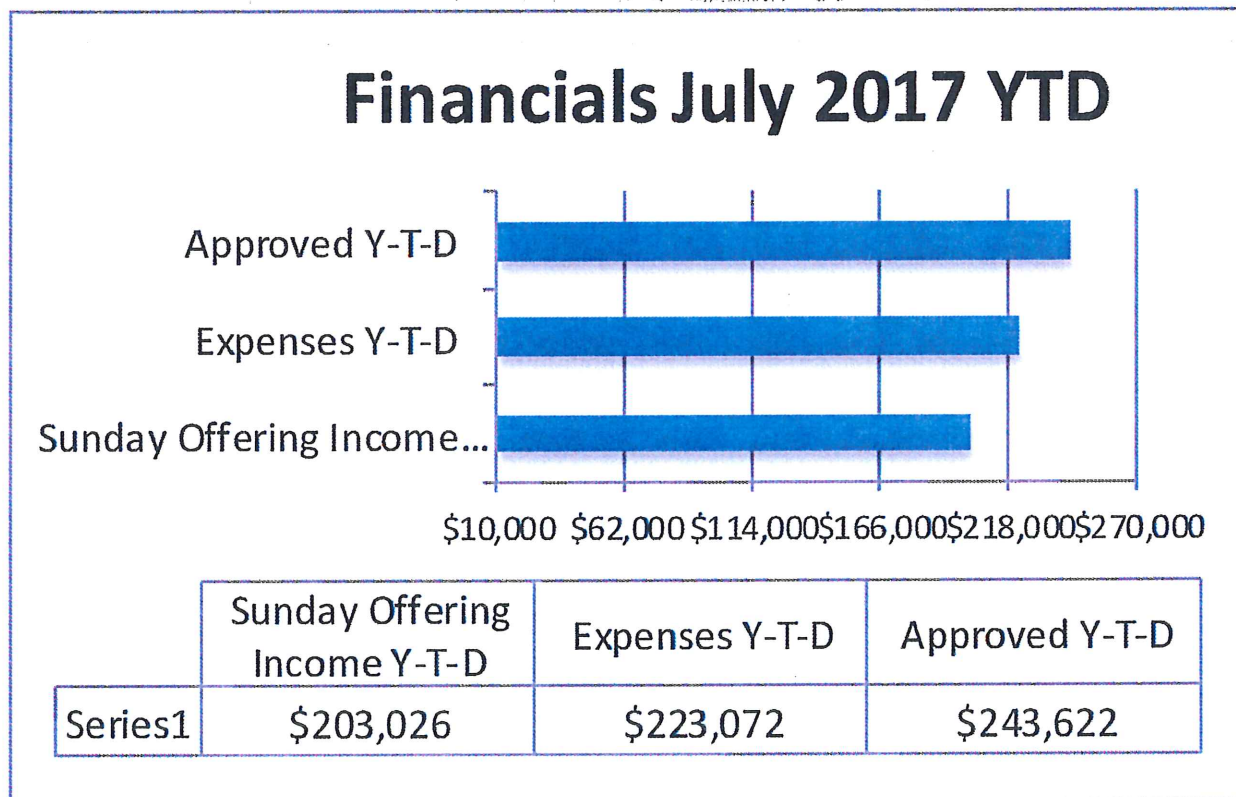
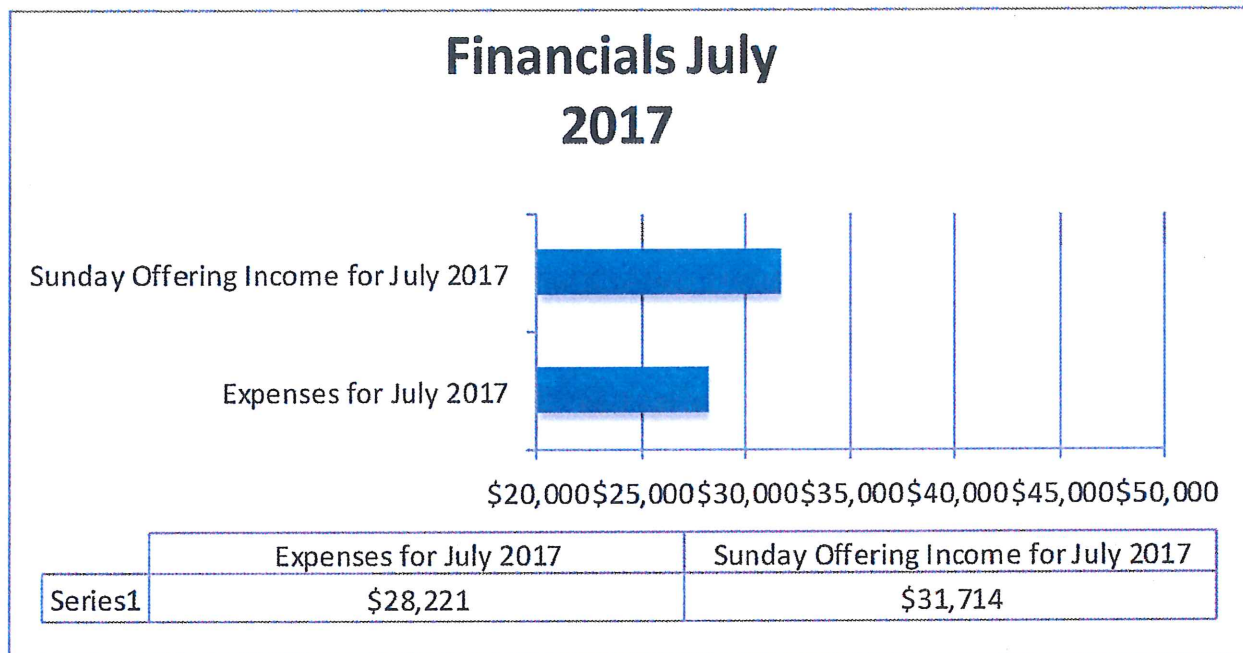
Worship will be followed by a “Ministry Fair” in the Connection Zone with opportunities for everyone, young and old, to learn more about the work of our Ministry Teams and their activities. If you’d like to let your church know what you’d be interested in doing to connect with our ministries, take some time to complete a “Time and Talent” form. Don’t know what God-given gifts you may have to share? Take a few moments to fill out a “Spiritual Gifts Survey.” Our Connections Coordinator Al Ramer or a member of one of our Ministry Teams will contact you with some ways you can serve.

After your visit to the Ministry Fair, join us for a picnic out in the area behind the church office building, Cooper House. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share with others for the meal. Utensils, plates, cups and napkins will be provided. Zion’s famous lemonade and/or iced tea will be available to drink. Our grill master, Jim Paternoster, will be serving up hot dogs and hamburgers, and there will be some fun games for children of all ages.

We’ll need some hands (and good backs) to set up for the picnic on Saturday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. Please contact Anne in the Church Office if you are able to help with the set-up.



## ♦ Financial Figures (July)



\* In July, there was a credit to the unbudgeted income, making our total income \$32,837.

\*In 2017, we have received an additional \$4,731 making our total YTD income \$207,757.

## ♦ Stewardship Submitted by Darrell Gerke, Stewardship Committee

### Fearless Generosity

#### ***PA Legislators steal a page from Zion's playbook***

Over the last several years the PA Legislators and the Governor have not been able to agree on a state budget by July 1<sup>st</sup>, the beginning of the new fiscal year. As a result some state departments shut down operations because they cannot spend money without an approved budget. Usually after a few days or months a new budget is finally approved and the state begins to function as normal until the next year when the same scenario plays out again.

We ask ourselves why this fiasco occurs yearly. We elect and expect our state senators and representatives to work together with the Governor to move PA forward in a progressive manner. Approving a budget should be done in a timely manner before the new fiscal year starts.

This year the PA legislators and the Governor stole a page from Zion's playbook for the 2017-2018 fiscal year budget. They came up with a new method of approving a state spending budget without a funding budget. At least all state departments this year could continue operations without delay because they

were assured of funding for the next year.

No one knows how the spending will be funded but it must be solved soon. This is the same thing Zion does every year. We approve a budget without any assurance that offerings will cover the budgeted expenses.

All budgets, regardless whether for households, small businesses, large corporations or states consist of desired spending and corresponding revenue/income. Spending cannot exceed income in order to remain solvent. Zion is no exception to this rule but we seem to try to violate this rule only because we continue to take money from the endowment fund to cover the income shortfall.

This year the Stewardship Committee will initiate a campaign on Rally Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> to try to determine the amount of pledge money Zion can expect for 2018 so the Church Council can use this information to formulate a reasonable spending budget. This campaign will end by the end of October. This campaign is designed to be an interesting and exciting way for ALL members to become involved in the future of Zion.

The Stewardship Committee asks for your prayers and cooperation for this endeavor to allow Zion to fulfill our mission of service to all people here at Zion, in our community, in our nation and throughout the world.



## ♦ ZYM

*Welcome back to a new year of ZYM events and activities!*

We will gather on September 17th with the parents at 6PM in the Zone for important updated information about the Gathering, fundraisers, fall retreat and more! Pizza will be served. Please contact Jeff if you are available and plan on attending!

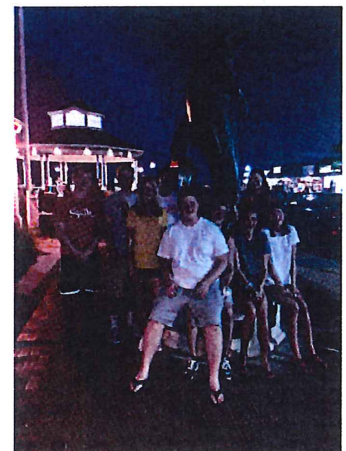
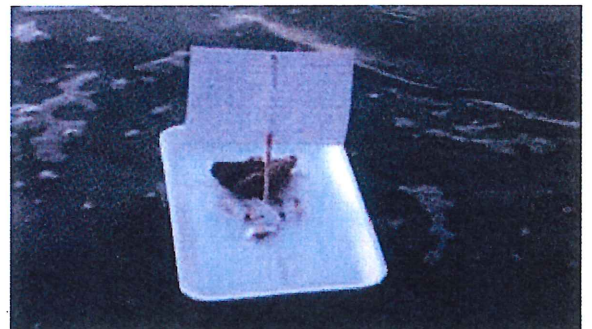
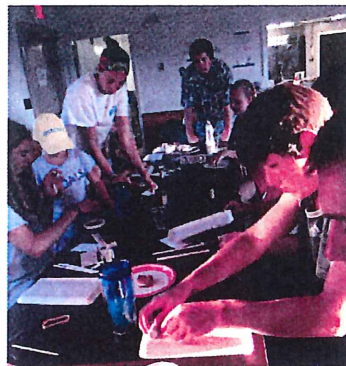
There is a lot in store for ZYM! Many opportunities to not only connect with peers, but to re-connect with God in creative and meaningful ways. ***ZYM meetings will primarily take place twice a month and begin at 6PM.*** This will be a time to connect, share what's been going on in your lives, and delve into deeper conversation and study on various topics to enrich our faith lives as well.

***The ELCA Youth Gathering is less than a year away!*** We have a lot to do in order to be fully prepared for our trip to Houston!

Our ***fall retreat will be at Camp Kirchenwald December 1-3.*** We will host two other youth groups. Our theme will be ***"This Changes Everything!"*** It is a precursor to what the theme of the gathering is all about.  
Please, try to make it to retreat this fall if you can!

See you all in September!

## REMEMBERING THE BEACH TRIP





## ♦ ZYM FALL SCHEDULE

FROM THE HOME OFFICE OF ZYM MINISTRIES

DIRECTOR: JEFF ENGROFF (717-606-2266)

NOTE: The ZYM Schedule is subject to change (date, time or place) due to other pre-scheduled church events or other cooperative youth opportunities.

MONTH	DATE	DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY	TIME/TIME	TIME/TIME
AUGUST	27 <sup>th</sup>		POOL PARTY @ FLOOD'S!	5-8PM	
SEPTEMBER	17 <sup>th</sup>		ZYM KICK OFF W/PARENTS	6-8PM	
OCTOBER	1 <sup>st</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	ZYM	6-8PM	6-8PM
NOVEMBER	5 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	ZYM	6-8PM	6-8PM
DECEMBER	1-3	17 <sup>th</sup>	FALL RETREAT ZYM	Fri 7PM-Sun 12PM	6-8PM
*SCRIP FUNDRAISER*	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER			

*ZYM Sunday School will occur in the ZYM Room the 1st & 4th Sundays of each month during the Faith Formation hour (9:15-10:15 AM). Other Christian Ed offerings (Unplugged, Box Office Bible Study, etc.) will be available each Sunday through the fall. Youth are encouraged to be a part of all that Zion offers!*

## ♦ Faith & Fellowship, Children's Faith Formation



**9:15-10:15 AM**

**August 27**

*Hidden Talents Sunday*

Preacher: Jeff Engroff

Showcase of hidden talents and skills of members of all ages

**September 3**

*Celebrate Our Labors Day*

Bring an item that symbolizes/represents your work/labor/job/profession either past or present.

Between services there will be opportunities to talk about what you brought.

**September 10**

One Service- 10 AM

*Ministry Connections Sunday*

Ministry Displays and Activities

Congregation Picnic

## Rotation Workshops returning to Zion!

New "Kids' Club Sunday" will feature rotation workshops for K-6<sup>th</sup> grade children.

### ***Why the change?***

Like many other Sunday Schools, Zion's was suffering from these common problems:

- teacher & kid apathy
- boring rooms and methods
- lackluster, uninviting learning environments
- parent indifference
- purchased resources and lessons going largely unused and students not knowing their Bible stories, let alone wanting to come back.

So, in June I sat down to brainstorm our way out of this perceived and often real dilemma of how to 'fix' all of the above?

Working with a team of volunteers, we identified the areas that needed improvement, and came up with a creative plan to revise and reorganize our space, teachers, lessons, and style of teaching:

***classrooms turned into creative "workshops" that the kids rotate through, but the teachers stay put in.***

- ♦ The idea of rotating kids, teaching creatively, and remaking rooms is not new, and maybe that's why it works! Our Workshop Rotation Model drew upon a lot of ideas and programs we had first-hand experience with over the years, such as, VBS and learning centers. What is new is that we will make that model the rule for the entire year,

(cont'd on pg. 10)



## ♦ Children's Faith Formation (Cont'd from pg. 9)

and not just for special occasions. This same model of teaching was adapted for the monthly Kids' Club Wednesday ministry last December.

### **The Workshop Rotation Model in brief:**

1. Reorganize each of the classrooms into creative "workshops," including: Art, Drama, Games, Story, Video, and more, depending on the particular theme
  2. Rotate each grade level or group (there will be two learning levels K-3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) into a new workshop each week.
  3. All the workshops teach the same Bible story for a 3 to 5 week "rotation."
  4. Teachers *stay put* in the workshop teaching the same lesson each week to a new group.
  5. The story gets explored and learned in-depth through a variety of creative teaching mediums.
- The kids look forward to a different learning experience, teacher, and room each week.

The teachers don't have to plan a new lesson each week. Instead, they plan once

every three or five weeks, modifying their basic lesson each week for a slightly different age group, and getting better and more creative as the weeks pass. who will be using various resources, all built upon a solid Lutheran theological foundation.

By doing so, we also liberated the classroom environment and the teachers. The creative workshop spaces will be created by the teacher for the kids who will rotate out of each space on a weekly basis. The goal is to reach today's children "where they are" and realizing that they already spend 40 hours a week in a classroom environment. Zion will creatively reach them with the gospel, Biblical lessons and characters through creative, thematic and relational means.

You are invited (and encouraged to bring your child (ren) to the newly revised learning spaces on Rally Day (Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>).

If you are interested in knowing more, would like to volunteer a little time as a helper this year, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time!



**FAITH FORMATION**  
A JOURNEY FOR LIFE



## ♦ Kids' Club, Confirmation

Kick-off the fall with Kids' Club!

Join the fun September 13<sup>th</sup> at Zion Lutheran Church!

Pizza for dinner at 5:30 for the families! Then, off to games, crafts and story! September's theme is all about God's love for us!

**ALL NEW THEMES** help to teach about God's love for us, how we are to love others and spreading the 'good news!'

### 2017 CALENDAR

9/13 5:30-7PM

10/4 5:30-7PM

11/1 5:30-7PM

12/6 5:30-7PM



## CONFIRMATION PARENT AND STUDENT MEETING!

September 27 @ 9:15AM in THE ZONE

FOR ALL YOUTH AND PARENTS WHO ARE OR WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN ZION'S CONFIRMATION MINISTRY!

Join Jeff E. and Pastor JMe for an informative hour on Zion's newly revised Confirmation Ministry taking place this fall through 2018. Letters were mailed inviting all middle school age youth and their parents to join in for the unveiling of our new ministry model as well as a time for Q & A.

♦ Stephen Ministry Event

# ***BEING MORTAL***

Community  
Screening &  
Discussion

**When?** October 7 9 AM—11  
AM

**Where?** Zion Lutheran Church

**Featuring:**

- ♦ Screening of FRONTLINE documentary “Being Mortal”
- ♦ \*Group discussion after the screening
- ♦ Free Advance Care Planning Packets

## **FREE COMMUNITY EVENT**

**COME AND VIEW THE  
1-HOUR DOCUMENTARY  
BASED ON THE  
BOOK BY SURGEON  
ATUL GAWANDE,  
PARTICIPATE IN THE  
DISCUSSION THAT  
FOLLOWS, AND HAVE  
AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
ASK QUESTIONS.**

**PICK UP A FREE  
PACKET WITH  
ADVANCE CARE PLAN-  
NING MATERIALS AND  
PARTICIPATE IN A  
RAFFLE TO WIN THE  
BOOK *BEING MORTAL***



## ♦ Movies At The Zone, Community Meal, WOZ

### SEPTEMBER MOVIE AT THE ZONE

Movies at the Zone continues on Friday, September 1st with "The Greatest Game Ever Played."

The 2005 Disney film portrays the true story of an amateur who takes on the world's best golf professionals...and wins.

It stars Stephen Dillane and Shia Lebeouf with an excellent supporting cast. Rated PG (mild language), the film runs for two hours.

Showing begins at 7 PM. Come, join us.



## **Community Meal Volunteers Neded**

*Submitted by Linda Bear*

Zion's cheerful and hardworking crew of volunteers is needed to be back in service for our **Thursday October 12, 2017** Community Meal. Sign-Up Sheets will be available in the narthex on Sunday, October 1 and Sunday, October 8, 2017.

Contact Connie Alsedek or Linda Bear with any questions.

## **WOMEN OF ZION**

*Women of Zion is open to all women in our church and their friends! If you have the time and would like to join us for fun and fellowship, we would love to have you! During the year, there are opportunities for service projects and social events. Sometimes, we take day trips! We are always looking for new ideas and the women who are willing to make them happen!*

**\*Note that because of Labor Day and A. Herr Park Fair, the dates are slightly different than usual!\***

**Comforter Ministry:** Monday, September 11 at 9 AM in the kitchen.  
Monday, October 2 at 9 AM in the kitchen  
*We don't sew.....we tie knots!*

**Yarn Ministry:** Sunday, October 1 and 15 at 1PM in the parlor.  
*We will teach you to knit or crochet! Continue making hats, scarves and mittens! 13*



## ♦ Synod Assembly Highlights *Submitted by Dave Dumeyer*

Historians calculate that the mission of the Church is reformed approximately every 500 years. By 500 AD, the Church has moved from the shadow of persecution to official acceptance in the fading Roman Empire. In the late 1000s, the Crusades brought kings and commoners together to fight against the Church's enemies. By the 1500s, the Protestant Reformation was in full swing against a corrupt Church. And in the 2000's, we're questioning the Church's relevance in a culture dominated by technology and marked by agnosticism and religious diversity. In this environment, it is likely that congregations—Lutherans congregations—will die or merge leaving fewer and fewer to serve people struggling to cope with life. What to do about this?

The Lower Susquehanna synod has embarked on a three-pronged program to guide us into this new adventure of making Christ and His church relevant. You've no doubt heard of the three Rs—reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic. This new program is called the R3 for its efforts to **R**eform; **R**enew; and **R**evision. Those are three powerful verbs.

It is likely that we will need to "reform" as a synod, due to the loss of congregation's and members. We must be open to that possibility if we are to continue Christ's ministry. The day when Lutheran immigrants were arriving in America and

creating or joining Lutheran congregations is past. Nordic and German refugees make up a fraction of our newcomers every year. Our Church must look to new structures and new (different) people as we move forward.

At the same time, there are congregations that are or can be vital once again. The job here is to "renew" those congregations by strengthening their leadership and their ministries. Using training programs and resources at the new United Lutheran Seminary (a combination of Gettysburg and Mount Airy-Philadelphia seminaries), pastors, staff and lay leaders can become more inspired and prepared for the changes that will likely occur. Zion has selected from the R3 Cafe Menu the Spiritual Renewal Certificate Program, a two-year program of the Vibrant Faith University. When completed, Zion's congregational leaders will be equipped "with the knowledge, skills, resources, and support structure to bring to life R3" in this congregation. You will be hearing more about this in the coming months.

Finally, congregations must "re-vision" how we see the Church. Perhaps it will be "thinking outside the box (the church)". Where will we reach the lost and needy in this community? This will require a new stewardship—one that is not necessarily financial, but one which chal-

lenges each of us to make a spiritual commitment to Christ.

Much of this was the focus of the first day of Synod Assembly, June 2, 2017. As the keynote speaker, Pastor Dave Daubert, guided the Assembly members through the challenges and opportunities, our understanding of the R3 program gradually took shape. His dynamic presentation kept members entertained and enthused about the possibilities available to us as Lutherans. We expect that Pastor Daubert will visit Zion during our two-year Renewal Program. We at Zion must be receptive to doing things differently than we are used to doing. A greater commitment to Christ in all of our ministry areas will be needed. More, not less, is expected of us.

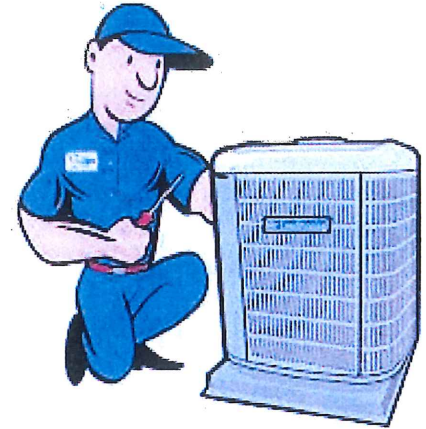
Messiah College's campus offered wonderful venues for break-out sessions. Donna and I attended the session on "The Art of Living Generously". It was well-attended and gave great hope for how congregations can grow in spirit and membership. The food was well-prepared and mealtimes offered a chance to re-connect with friends and discuss the issues of the day's sessions. None of us from Zion stayed overnight, but accommodations are available when you pre-register.

*(Cont'd on page 15)*

## ◆ Congregational Meeting, Synod Report (Cont'd)

The following recommendation has been submitted to Council by the Property Team: and will be voted on at the Congregational Meeting on September 10 following the 10 AM service.

After a long process we have decided the best course of action would be to keep the present system that services the sanctuary and rear wing of the property. In keeping with this system, however, we will need to replace a faulty circulation pump at a cost of \$1,750.00.



The boiler system servicing the Social Room and front wing of the property is in need of extensive and expensive repairs at a cost of \$17,935.00.

For this reason and the inefficiency and maintenance costs of the present system, Property recommends the retirement of said system and replacing it with a hot air and AC system. The new system will come at a cost of \$51,020.00. Fortunately, the Food Pantry has made a very generous donation of \$10,000.00 to help defray the cost.

Taking into consideration the money from the Food Pantry and the cost to repair the present system, there is a difference of \$23,085.00 to convert to hot air and air conditioning for which the congregation would be responsible.

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### **SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPORT**

*(Cont'd from page 14)*

Every assembly we have attended has also had a "bookstore", usually an open area where representatives can browse and purchase books on religious themes, Bible commentaries and studies, biographies and theological discussions. This year's bookstore was run by Hearts and Minds, a bookstore in Dallastown, PA, which had a great selection of reading materials.

In addition to worship services and Bible studies, the Assembly acted upon several items of business, such as the election of members to Synod boards,

commissions and agencies. We were also regaled with stories of the Church's impact on brothers and sisters throughout the world, both by representatives of the Konde Diocese and Churchwide staff. A list of major business items is included.

We would encourage interested members to consider serving as representatives to the Synod assembly. It is a moving experience and gives one a chance to help determine the course of our regional Church. We are entitled to one lay male and one lay female to represent us.

Please call us if you have questions.



## ♦ All About R<sup>3</sup>

# The R<sup>3</sup> Cafe Menu

*"Where the hungry are fed,  
as we have been fed by Christ"*

[WWW.LSS-ELCA.ORG/MENU](http://WWW.LSS-ELCA.ORG/MENU)

*R3 – reFORM + reNEW + reVISION – equips leaders to engage  
all ages and generations in lifelong spiritual renewal and discipleship.*

### CONGREGATIONAL RENEWAL ENTREES

- ♦ **R3 Congregational Renewal**  
*Engaging up to 25 congregations with the energy, ideas and tools they need to renew their mission to God's people. Renewal teams are supported through synod staff, trained coaches and mentors, and consultant, the Rev. Dr. Dave Daubert of Day 8 Strategies.*
- ♦ **Consulting, Resources & More**  
*Let our Director for Evangelical Mission, Director for Resource Ministries, Director for Youth & Family Ministry and other synod staff support your congregation in renewal.  
Resourcing \* Consulting \* Seasonal Faith Formation Planning \* Retreat Writing*
- ♦ **R3 Spiritual Renewal Certificate Program**  
*For those who see a need for deeper faith formation in their communities, our synod is partnering with Vibrant Faith University to help congregational leaders – whether full-time, part-time, or volunteer – to embrace a 21st century approach to spiritual renewal. The two-year certificate program equips participants with the knowledge, skills, resources, and support structure to bring to life R3 in congregations.*
- ♦ **Summer Institute For Ministry**  
*Renewal in our Congregations through Spiritually Grounded Change to be Re-Rooted in our Communities.  
Led by The Rev. Dr. Dave Daubert at United Lutheran Seminary July 10-13, 2017*
- ♦ **Lay School of Theology**  
*Congregational Renewal for Lay People  
Led by Deacon Marsha Roscoe at United Lutheran Seminary July 23 – 29, 2017*

### YOUTH AND FAMILY ENTREES

- ♦ **Leadership Training (LT) Camp**  
*Youth and young adults learn the skills they need to be the church leaders of today!*
- ♦ **Faith Formation Events**  
*ALiVE, Winterfest, and the Harvest Festival: Events for middle-school and high-school youth, young adults and adults designed for faith formation, fun and fellowship.  
ELCA Youth Gathering: Every three years the national gathering brings together thousands of youth from around the country.  
Table Talks: Regular gatherings of youth and family leaders for faithful and spirited conversation, idea sharing, and networking.*

### STEWARDSHIP ENTREES

- ♦ **Resources** at [www.lss-elca.org/stewardship](http://www.lss-elca.org/stewardship) (free or low-cost)
- ♦ **Events & Consultations**  
*In addition to planning events for training and learning, our staff will meet with your stewardship team to plan a strategy that works for your congregation.*

**More details on R3 Menu items at [www.lss-elca.org/menu](http://www.lss-elca.org/menu)**



## ♦ Food Pantry *Submitted by Diane Gerlach*

In June, the pantry served 162 families which included 232 children, 355 adults, and 82 seniors for a total of 669 people served. In July, the pantry served 143 families which included 200 children, 326 adults, and 77 seniors for a total of 603 people served. During the summer months, when the children of client families are home and do not receive their meals at school....the pantry provided "extra" food items to families with school age children.

During the month of June Zion members donated 219 pounds of food..... and in the month of July Zion members donated 123 pounds of food. Thank you for your weekly food donations and your continued financial contributions to the pantry. Monetary contributions allow the pantry to purchase food items at the Central Penn Food Bank in Harrisburg at greatly reduced prices per pound which include meats, eggs, dairy products and other food items not donated through food collections. Financial contributions also allow the pantry managers to "shop for" food items on sale at local food stores and to purchase supplies for the pantry.

During the months of June and July....Darrenkamps of Mount Joy donated over 3,000 pounds of fresh produce to the pantry; Target in Lititz donated over 4,400 pounds of fresh produce and over 380 pounds of bakery items; Weis Markets in Columbia donated 1,800 pounds of bread and bakery

items; Weis Market Stony Battery Road donated 1,200 pounds of bread and bakery items; S. Clyde Weaver donated 350 pounds of bread and bakery items; Giant of Kissel Hill, Lititz donated 654 pounds of bakery items; Giant of Mount Joy donated 1,269 pounds of bakery items. The pantry purchased 1,040 pounds of food items in June and 430 pounds in July through local grocery stores; 6,277 pounds of food from the Central Penn Food Bank in June and 5,417 pounds in July. The pantry received 2,688 pounds of free food items from Community Action Program in June and 1,912 pounds in July. In addition to the above donations and purchases, 7,070 pounds of food staple items were donated in June and 9,175 pounds in July from the community which includes the donations from the churches and businesses in the Hempfield area.

Special contributions and food donations were received from: Way-side Presbyterian Church, Waystock event in June....700 pounds of food and \$1,875.00; Gardner's Mattress....188 pounds of food; Amelia's Grocery Outlet.... 275 (\$5.00) bags of food items valued at \$1,375.00. Our "summer farmers" contribute fresh produce from their gardens weekly....Church of the Apostles, Rohrerstown, donates fresh produce from their church garden.

Sixty six volunteers gave 655 hours during the month of June and 69 volunteers gave 882 hours

in July. The pantry is a complete volunteer effort, operating

with a full non-paid staff. Our clients are very appreciative of the time the volunteers willingly give to serving with a true servant's heart and a smile! We could not provide this important community service without our volunteers! The pantry is an ecumenical project with eighteen churches in the Hempfield area supporting the pantry with food, finances and volunteers. In addition, the local boy scouts and girls scouts, Hempfield School District students and staff, Hempfield Woman's Club, Rotary Club, postal employees, Union National Bank Salunga, Village Grande Community, Willow Valley Retirement Community, Hempfield REC contribute to the pantry regularly... many individuals and businesses also join the "fight against hunger" with special food drives and financial contributions. **Hempfield Area Food Pantry is a total community effort.**

**AND**, the pantry would not be able to provide this program to the Hempfield residents without the outreach mission of Zion and the use of God's property. **This mission is a witness of God's hands, feet, heart, and love in action!**

Stop by to visit the community pantry "in action" any Monday or Wednesday morning or see Diane Gerlach for a tour. Thank you!





## ♦ Connecting With Others

### THANK YOU

*We "Socked It To Them" for Christmas in July! Many thanks to all who donated pairs of socks to decorate the Christmas in July Sock Tree. We collected 81 pairs of socks of all colors and sizes. The socks were donated to the Hempfield School District for children in need.*

#### **From Diane Ramer & Family**

*...Thank you for your prayers, kind words, and thoughtfulness. My mom lived a long, fulfilled life, and is now with her heavenly family. We are very blessed to have had her so long and to know we will see her again.*

#### **From Ben Lee, Regional Director of Make-A-Wish**

*...Thank you for your part in making wishes come true and for your gift of \$127.89 to Make-A-Wish [from the June Joyful Noise Offering]. Please know we appreciate your help in encouraging and supporting local children and their families at a crucial time in their lives. Thank you for thinking of our Wish families.*

#### **From Dawn Reinhart**

*...I appreciate all the prayers, cards, flowers, food, and visits I received as I was recuperating. It's wonderful to be part of such a loving, caring group of people.*

### CONDOLENCES

*...to Diane Ramer & her extended family on the death of her mother, Irene Nakielny, on June 28.*

*...to Don Wierschke and his family on the death of his uncle, Ervin Hochhalter, on July 3.*

*...to Helen Motrynczuk on the death of her husband, Paul, on June 15.*

*...to Arlene Miller & family on the death of Mike, on August 13.*

### ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FROM BRENDA ALIMO,

#### Our ChildFund Sponsoree

*Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ from Justine writing to you as your happy girl, Brenda has gone back to school after 3 weeks of holidays. We are doing well, and I was so happy to receive a letter from Millie and to hear more about your place and the types of crops that grow. Here, we grow eggplant, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes, among others. We don't grow cucumbers [like you do]. Thank you so much to the family in general. It's cool here with enough rain and the family is busy planting for the second season and we have hopes of getting good harvest. May God bless you all.*

#### 10-Digit Dialing Reminder

All Lancaster County residents, as well residents in 15 other central PA counties that use 717, need to start 10-digit dialing for all local calls.

#### If You Are In The Hospital

If you are in the hospital, we ask that you make certain to list Zion Lutheran Church of Landisville as your church.

If you do not list Zion as your church, we will not be notified by the hospital. In addition, we ask that you contact the church office (898-2911) if there is a hospitalization because sometimes the hospital does not notify us right away.

## ♦ September Celebrations



1	Jason Green	10	Andrew Metzinger	23	Burnell Hostetter
1	Charlotte Potts	11	Sara Hoover	24	Andrew Korn
3	Adele King	11	Olivia Small	26	Kathleen Hay
3	Laura Quinn	12	Ava Gronholm	26	Brittany Wright
3	Kimberly Seyfried	13	Jack Barley	28	Emma Golihe
3	Kim Symonds	14	Joshua Houseal	28	Katherine Hay
4	Alison Long	15	Rylie Kearon	28	Judy Traup
5	Martin Rosen	15	Lois Peterson*	30	Dave Aulenbach
6	Kate Donnan	15	James Yeager	30	Jaclyn Emerick
6	Daniel Rainar	16	Claire Flood	30	Robin Ginther
7	Justin Propst	17	Ron Chapman	30	Jennifer Karpouzis
		18	Cris Burfete	30	Jason Traup
		18	Sue Censier		
		19	Kevin Rickert		
		20	Prudence Jarvie		
		21	Mark Huber		

\*90+ birthday



### HAPPY BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAY!

1	Duncan Brady	13	Amy Miller	29	Katie Hetrick
1	Diane Metzinger	15	Michael Adams	30	Tim Propst
4	John Kearon	15	Noah Hindes		
4	Barb Wildasin	16	Justin Golihe		
7	Cheryl Callahan	17	Jennifer Thompson		
8	Darrell Gerke	19	Heather Gronholm		
11	Kathleen Gorlaski	22	Tyler Gunzenhauser		
11	Ethan Pfautz	22	Ryan Provanzo		
12	Kyle Ramer	25	Aubrey Gunzenhauser		
12	Mark Reinhart	26	Scott Hetrick		
		27	Joshua Deibler		
		28	Chris Small		



### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

1	Bob & Cathy Shirk (44th)	24	Randy & Rae Miller (40th)
2	Lucian & Kimberly Contino (17th)	24	Brett & Julie Rhoads (6th)
5	Todd & Cathy Benedict (25th)	24	Bill & Sue Stathopoulos (34th)
11	Mark & Dianne Coons (41st)	25	Horst & Lisa Bernhard (35th)
13	John & Erica Kearon (3rd)	25	Christopher & Brittany Wright (1st)
22	Scott & Liz Crum (4th)	27	Joel Janisewski & Jean Pretz (14th)
22	Dave & Sue Wise (33rd)		
23	Jim & Linda Bear (50th)		





### **Church Staff**

The Rev. Janice Marie E. Lowden, Pastor, email: pastorjme@comcast.net—717-945-4585  
Dennis Dezort, Director of Music & Worship Arts, email: dezort@comcast.net—717-203-9863  
Jeff Engroff, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries: jeffengroff@comcast.net—717-606-2266  
Diane Gerlach, Ministry Assistant, email: dlsgerlach@comcast.net—717-682-2206  
Anne Rankin, Parish Administrator, email: zionluth@comcast.net—717-945-4585  
Dave Albin, Worship Technology Assistant, email: dcalbin@juno.com—717-333-4564  
Brian Bourassa, Sexton (AM)  
Tom Miller, Sexton (PM)

### **Church Council**

#### ***(Voting Members & Ministry Team Liaisons)***

Joel Janisewski, Pres. (ZSPC)  
Scott Hetrick, VP (Personnel)  
Adele King (Outreach)  
Ed Blough (Worship & Music)  
Dave Albin (Faith Formation)  
Mark Coons (Ministry Support)  
Scott Crum (In-Reach)  
Christopher Chapman (ZYM)

#### ***(Nonvoting Members)***

Ron Crawford, Financial Secretary  
Phil Houseal, Assistant Financial Secretary  
John Hay, Treasurer  
Lisa Nelson, Assistant Treasurer  
Brenda Stover, Secretary

### **Ministry Team Chairs**

Judy Traup, Care Ministry  
Melodie Dearolf, Social Outreach  
John Hay, Finance  
Dave Dumeyer, Personnel  
Jere Grube, Property  
Darrell Gerke, Stewardship  
Open, Worship & Music  
Liz Crum, Parish Fellowship  
Dolly Overly, Prayer Team

### **Hempfield Area Food Pantry Staff**

Amos & Mellie Geib, Managers  
David Bleil, Board President/Manager  
Diane Gerlach, Vice-President  
Roz Flannelly, Secretary  
Lisa Bernhard, Treasurer  
Diane Gerlach, Pantry Coordinator

*Our purpose is to complete the work assigned to us by our Lord Jesus, to spread the good news about the wonderful grace of God with the Holy Spirit's guidance, and to love all.*

*October Newsletter Deadline: September 15*

*Worship: 8 AM & 10:30 AM*

*Faith Formation: 9:15 AM*

*Parish Admin. Office Hours: Mon. - Fri: 9AM - 2 PM*

*Office assistance when the office is closed: 945-4585 (Anne's cell)*

*Pastoral emergencies: 940-3602 (Pastor JMe's cell)*