

Zion Lutheran Church

210 North Wayne Street

Saint Marys, Ohio 45885

Zion Lutheran Church is a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC)
and a congregation of the Northwest Ohio Mission District.

A monthly publication of Zion Lutheran Church

August, Volume 2022, Issue 8

Some Changes are Coming this Month

Friends in Christ,

This month of August will be one filled with change for us. The drapes that have blessed the Education Building for over 40 years, and have faithfully done their duty but are significantly worn, will be replaced at the start of this month with brand new blinds. This was a decision made at the Special Congregational Meeting held on June 26th.

Then, shortly thereafter, the carpeting in the Chapel and the main sanctuary will be replaced. This will give us a very different look as we worship. I appreciate the hard work of both committees involved and don't believe for a second that the colors chosen for the carpeting – greyish carpet tiles for the main Sanctuary floor and wine color carpet for the Chancel area – have anything to do with the OSU Buckeyes.

After using the same Confirmation program provider for the past 20 years at Zion, I have agreed to have our Confirmation students test and evaluate a new Confirmation program. I am excited that we were asked to be a part of this process. The final touches to the program are happening as I write this article and I will receive it in my hands very soon.

Speaking of Confirmation, I will be sending a letter out to the parents of prospective students (7th and 8th graders) within the first week of August, and our first Parent/Student meeting is scheduled to be held on August 24th at 7 p.m., in the Zion Auditorium.

The Pastor's Monday night Bible study will be examine the question "Is the Bible Really the Word of God?" There are 8 sessions: 1) The Speaking God; 2) Writing the Bible; 3) Manuscript Evidence; 4) The Word Made Flesh; 5) The Canon of Scripture; 6) Understanding the Bible; 7) Battles for the Bible; and 8) Drifting from the Word. There is additional materials and maps as well. It should be very interesting, and I hope you will join us.

Finally, we will begin a new curriculum for the Crossroads Sunday School class in September. But I haven't selected one yet. I will soon. Crossroads is geared to be a mixed class filled with Adults and High School students and meets in the Lounge at 9:15 a.m., on Sunday mornings.

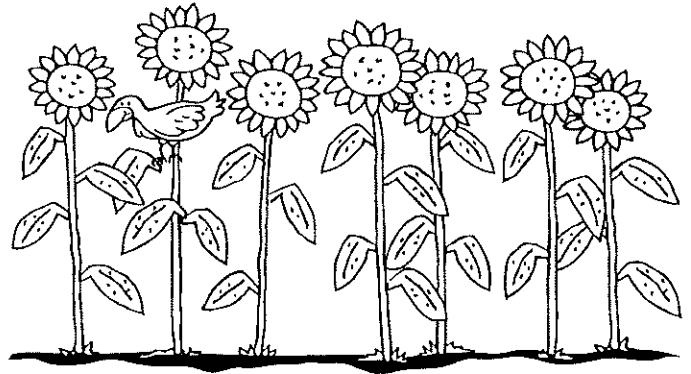
I hope you are able to enjoy this month as summer winds down and school starts again for so many.

Blessings, *Pastor Bill*

August Birthdays

Wishing a Happy Birthday to the following members of Zion Lutheran Church.

- 1—Andrew Robinson
- 2—Aaron Homan, Larry Homan, Walker Spector
- 3—Heather Brown, Darrel Storer
- 4—Theodore Henry II, Fred Weddington
- 5—David Mc Dermitt, J. Martin Miller, Mark Torsell
- 6—Richard Hecht, Ralph Peyton
- 7—Linda Priddy
- 8—Grady Hughes
- 10—Matthew Hoenie
- 11—Olivia Ahlers, Harley Mertz
- 13—Alan Hague, Lauren Wobler
- 14—Mytchell Hollenbacher, Brian Morris, Cheryl Macklem
- 15—Thomas Bergman, Myra Clark
- 16—Jocelyn Opperman, Emily Tangeman, William Willmann, Jr.
- 17—Suzanne Ankerman, John Yahl
- 18—Victoria Hardeman, Nathan Homan
- 20—Robert Sudman
- 22—Angie Ahlers, Jaden Gibson
- 23—Krista Clausing, Jane Schmeising



- 24—Jodi Epperson, Vicki Homan
- 25—Doris Cook, Lucas Hobler
- 26—Stanley Brown, Chad Reiher
- 27—Deanna Gibson, Kaj Miller
- 28—Jacob Ackroyd, Allan Broyles Jr., Everett Cernan, Tannar Rutschilling, Jennifer Moyar
- 29—Linda Suchland
- 30—Lori Johnson
- 31—Jo Ann Hoenie, Janet Yahl, Eric Morris, Eliza Yahl

If your name was omitted or a correction needs to be made in this list of birthdays, please contact the church office, 419-394-3115.

News for the Women of Zion



Here we are in August, dog days of summer, school will be starting soon, vacations are ending. The Women's Board will be starting back up on Wednesday, August 10, at 9:30 a.m. If you have any ideas or concerns we need to address, please talk to me or any board member. We will be planning next year's agenda and setting up the yearly calendar. Ideas are always welcome. We are still looking for members to run on the ballot for secretary and president. Sandy and I are both willing to run for a second term, but we would like others on the ballot. Please consider running.

Our Workday in August is Thursday, the 18th, at 9 a.m. Kitchen duty for August and September is Kathy Bishir. The remaining counter tops for the kitchen are in and hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter they will have been installed. The trustees are looking into the electrical problems in the auditorium and kitchen and are waiting for an estimate on the updates.

Book Club will meet Wednesday, August 3rd, at 1 p.m. The book "The People We Keep" by Allison Larkin will be lead by Betty Hussey. The September meeting will be Wednesday, September 7, at 1 p.m. Sue Nuss will lead the discussion on the book "Greyhound" by Steffan Piper.

Creative Crafters will meet on Thursday, August 25th, at 6 p.m., to make a pair of decorative pillowcases. This project will be led by Bonnie Binkley. There is a choice of different patterns, and they would make nice Christmas gifts. The cost is \$10. The September craft is a quilted table runner. Miriam Johns will instruct us on how to make a table runner using a "Quilt-As-You-Go" method. The class will be held on Sunday, September 11, at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$10. Look for these projects on the table in the Narthex and sign up in the book for the projects you wish to do.

Bible Studies will be starting in September. The Monday night Women's Fellowship will continue studying the Book of Genesis. The Wednesday night, Thursday afternoon study group will be studying the Book of Jeremiah. Cost of the study book is \$12. Deadline to order is Monday, August 22. Please let Becky Harvey or the church office know if you want to order a study guide.

Mary Bates, from the NALC Disaster Warehouse, on July 14th to pick up; 4 boxes of baby wipes, 20 boxes of diapers, 12 blankets, 21 quilts, 30 baby blankets, 6 afghans; 19 flood buckets, and 20 school kits. Thanks to Ed Yahl, Kathy Bishir, and Mary who helped load the truck.

In closing, here are a couple of August quotes:

- May August wind blow you in the right direction. –*Anonymous*
- No one can believe that God is not good when the August gardens are in their heyday. –*Gladys Taber*

Nora Staunton, Chair of Zion Women of the NALC

September Newsletter Article Deadline

The deadline to submit articles for our September Newsletter is **Monday, August 15th**. Please submit all articles to the church office by 3:30 p.m. Here are the various ways to submit your articles to us:

- Fax: 419-394-1239
 - Bring it to the church office by the deadline.
 - Call the church office and leave a message on our answering machine. (after six rings)
 - Write us a note on the "I Worshipped Today"
 - Send your article by e-mail: kbishir@hotmail.com Or zionlutheranstmarys@bright.net
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Altar Flower Chart

The 2022 Flower Chart is available on the bulletin board by the alley entrance. We invite you to select the date you wish to provide flowers. On the Tuesday before the date you selected, order your arrangement from your favorite florist, and contact the church office, 419-394-3115, to let us know what information you would like included in the bulletin. Upcoming dates available:



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|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| • September 25 | • November 6 | • November 23 | • December 11 |
| • October 9 | • November 13 | (Thanksgiving) | • December 18 |
| • October 16 | • November 20 | • November 27 | |
| • October 30 | | • December 4 | |

Prayer List as of July 21st

We invite you to include the following people, who are family and friends of our members, in your daily prayers:

Janet Dicke, Judy Von Blon, Brent Paulus, Sandi Deerhake, Alma Kuffner, Caleb Yahl, Mark, Amelia Green, Michael Moore, Tom Kaster, Kason Thobe, Ann Morris, Craig Raney, Ken Ankerman, John & Katie, Darlene Henekener, Margaret Moore, Deb Ranly, Bruce Pannabecker, Eileen Zimmerman, Bill Nuss, Kristin Hemmelgarden, Allen Merricle, Linda Diers, Mike, Bernie Shaddock, Ron & Sandy Suchland, Diane (Applegate) Swartz, Brandye Patterson, Pastor Phil Gagnon, Faith Williams, Warren Menchhofer, Joan Stetler, the Family of Scott Arnold, and Members of Wayne Street United Methodist Church.

Please pray for those in the service:

Sean Lawler, Andrew Johnson, Michael Carroll, Nathan Adams, Jacob Yahl, Jason Gross, Daniel C. Lukac IV, Michael Franklin, and Kyle Schmehl. Please pray for them, their family, and their safe return home.

August Loose Offering

The loose offering for the month of August is earmarked to support Filling Home. Filling Homes is a faith based not for profit organization that provides services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Henry, Fulton, Williams, and Defiance Counties. There are 42 Lutheran Church congregations in Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan which comprise the corporate membership of Filling Memorial Home of Mercy Inc.



In their Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) we care for those who are medically fragile or require physical assistance. Through their Community Services program, they serve individuals in-group settings.

Individuals have a wide range of abilities and require different levels of support. Filling Homes works to tailor their services to meet a person's needs.

They are unique in our ability to serve those with complex health requirements with no age restrictions for placement. Their services range from complete twenty-four hours a day seven days a week care to only a few hours a week of supervision. The level of service depends upon the individual's needs and wishes.

It is their commitment to provide the highest quality of services that ensure a person's health, safety, and well-being.

The Power of Love

Only in love can I find you, my God. In love the gates of my soul spring open, allowing me to breathe a new air of freedom and forget my own petty self. In love my whole being streams forth out of the rigid confines of

narrowness and anxious self-assertion, which make me a prisoner of my own poverty emptiness. In love all the powers of my soul flow out toward you, wanting never more to return, but to lose themselves completely in you, since by your love you are the inmost center of my heart, closer to me than I am to myself.

Karl Rahner, *Encounters With Silence*

Year-to-Date Financial Information

Financial Information: Our current financial information for Zion is as follows for year-to-date for the month, July 21, 2022.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| •1/1/2022 Beginning Balance. | \$81,688 |
| •July 2022 YTD Income. | \$154,142 |
| •July 2022 YTD Expenses. | (161,559) |
| •Payroll WH/Benevolence. | (1,504) |
| •July 2022 Ending Bank Balance. | \$73,037 |

Flood Bucket Campaign



The Men in Mission are having a flood bucket campaign. The men are providing the buckets (by alley entrance pew) to fill with the supplies for cleanup following a disaster. A list of supplies for the buckets is taped to the bucket for your convenience. Take a bucket, fill it and bring it back to the church. The men are collecting the buckets year-around.

Staff E-Mail Addresses

Zion is linked to the Internet. We are currently receiving e-mail service provided by bright.net. Staff e-mail addresses are:

- Pastor Bill Maki wem1@aol.com
- Kathy Bishir kbishir@hotmail.com
- Ann Maki annmmaki@yahoo.com
- Mindy Thiebeau zionbpe@hotmail.com
- General Mail zionlutheranstmarys@bright.net

Live Radio Broadcast

Our 8 a.m. worship service is broadcast live on WCSM radio 96.7 FM. Thank you to our primary sponsor of our WCSM radio broadcast—St. Marys Chrysler. Volunteers are needed to help with the sound board. It is not a difficult job, but we would like to have more people for rotation purposes. Contact the church office, 419-394-3115, or Pastor Bill if you can help.

“Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.”

—Scott Adams

Sunday School Kick Off

If you attended VBS this summer, you will continue to grow in friendship with Jesus with the Hay Day! Sunday School kickoff on Sunday, September 11, at 9:15 a.m.! Don't worry! If you didn't get to attend VBS this summer, you will be up to your elbows in farming fun as we explore our friendship with Jesus! We will plow through hog wild games, moo-sic and more! Get moo-ving on the morning of September 11. Join us in the Auditorium!



Wednesday/Thursday Bible Study Group

The Wednesday night, Thursday afternoon study group will be studying the Book of Jeremiah. Cost of the study book is \$12. Deadline to order is **Monday, August 22**. Please let Becky Harvey or mark your "I Worshiped Today" if you want to order a study guide. The first Thursday afternoon study will be **September 8**, at 2 p.m. and the first Wednesday night study will be **September 14**, at 7 p.m. Both groups meet in the lounge.

Agape Food Pantry

Agape needs the following items to help restock their food pantry:

- Chicken Broth
- Beef Broth
- Diced Tomatoes
- Scalloped Box Potatoes
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Pork & Beans
- Sloppy Joe Sauce
- Egg Noodles
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Canned Peaches
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Hamburger Helper
- Taco Kits & Salsa
- Pancake Mix
- Waffle Mix
- Cereal
- Fruit Bars
- Sugar
- Flour
- Oil & Vinegar
- BBQ Sauce
- Pickles
- Mustard
- Mayonnaise
- Salad Dressing
- Deodorant
- Body Wash
- Feminine Products
- Shampoo

Please place your donations in the **Agape** box by the elevator.



Love is the spark that kindles the fire of compassion. Compassion is the fire that flames the candle of service. Service is the candle that ignites the torch of hope. Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith. Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God. God is the power that creates the miracle of love.

—William Arthur Ward

Can't pray? First rest!

Weariness can seriously hamper our attempts to pray, says Bonnie Gray, author of *Whispers of Rest*. "We are a generation who doesn't know how to express our souls to God, even though we drive ourselves exhausted, doing for Jesus." The solution, she says, is to stop and rest.

The stressed-out, despairing prophet in 1 Kings 19 is a prime example. "God knew Elijah needed physical rejuvenation first — in order to hear his gentle voice, whispering in a gentle breeze," Gray notes. Guarding against the depletion of spiritual, physical and emotional resources can improve our ability to hear God's voice, too. "When you find it's hard to pray, don't be afraid," says Gray. "You're standing at the very cusp of who God longs to connect with. The real you. Take the time to rest. You're worth it."

Puzzle!

Search for and circle all the bold words from Psalm 18:2, which reminds us where we find our strength.

The **LORD** is **MY ROCK**, my **FORTRESS** and my **DELIVERER**; my **GOD** is my rock, in whom I **TAKE REFUGE**. **HE** is my **SHIELD** and the **HORN** of my **SALVATION**, my **STRONGHOLD**.

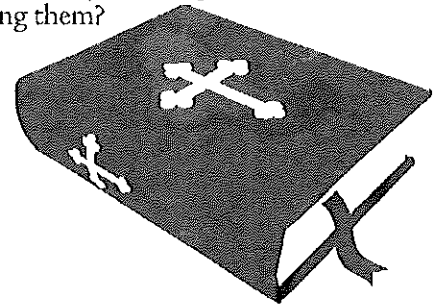
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GOD ROCKS!

Bible Quiz

A few Bible books have only one chapter. Which of the following is not among them?

- A. Obadiah
- B. Philemon
- C. 1 John
- D. 2 John
- E. 3 John
- F. Jude



Answer: C

A Prayer about Slowing Down

God beyond time ... teach us to pause in this moment, to tuck ourselves into the curve of your slow arm, that we may know the miracle of now, the gift of this moment: you beside and beyond us, welcoming us outside of all we measure, and standing with us in it. May we see the goodness of our still hours and days, sunrises, sunsets, and the darkness where our rest is found.

—Micha Boyett in *A Rhythm of Prayer* (edited by Sarah Bessey)