

Zion Lutheran Church

210 North Wayne Street
Saint Marys, Ohio 45885

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

A monthly publication of Zion Lutheran Church

February, Volume 2023, Issue 2

An Exciting Look Ahead

We have a lot of exciting things to look forward to at Zion.

The season of Lent is fast approaching with Ash Wednesday February 22nd. We will have our Midweek Worship the Wednesdays in Lent at 7 p.m., in the main Sanctuary. The series this year is themed "Eyes on Jesus."

The first Friday after Ash Wednesday, February 24th, is the date of Zion's annual Fish Fry. It will be held from 4:30 p.m. until 6 p.m. As before, Eric Langsdon, will be our expert Frymaster. Along with the all you can eat fish, there will be cheesy potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw, macaroni and cheese, hot dogs, beverages, water and dessert. The price is \$12 for each Adult, \$5 per child ages 5 to 12 years old, and those 4 years and under are free.

There is a good possibility that the St. Marys School Board will be approving a plan for its schools to participate in Bible Release Time. Bible Release Time is a State of Ohio approved time for students to be able to learn about the Bible off school grounds during the school day perhaps as soon as March or April of this year. There are many schools throughout Ohio who are currently participating in Bible Release Time. The organization responsible for this Bible Release Time program in St. Marys is Kingdom Harvest Ministries. They currently manage the Bible Release Time programs for the Celina and Parkway schools.

As of this article, it appears that Zion will be the designated location for the Middle School and the High School students to come in order to be taught their Bible Class. At present the class will be for one hour, once a week, for both the Middle School and the High School, and the time period is somewhere between 11:20 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. Kingdom Harvest will be interviewing candidates for the modestly paid position of Teacher. These Middle School and High School student will be bused from School to Zion and then back to School. Kingdom Harvest Ministries is already a state approved and licensed bus ear marked for St. Marys, Ohio.

At this time, I am aware of the following area churches involved in this program along with Zion Lutheran, they are Wayne Street United Methodist Church, Grace Church, Walnut Grove Church, and Calvary Christian Fellowship. We are looking for volunteers to help the kids find their way from the Portico to the Auditorium on the day(s) they meet, and those interested in helping in the class room. If you are interested in helping with this important program of sharing the Bible with the youth of this community, please contact me and I will point you to the right person with whom to speak.

With so many people in St. Marys no longer exposed to the Word of God, no longer attending church, this program offers the Christian community the opportunity to share the gospel with the youth of St. Marys.

Please pray for God's blessing for this community program, for the youth who will participate and for all the volunteers, clergy, school administrators, teachers and bus drivers involved.

Pastor Bill

Women's Newsletter Article

Happy Valentine's Day! Do something special for/with the one you love but always remember the love God bestows on all of us.



The total collected from our Thankful Offering was \$1073.61. A check has been sent to Crime Victims Services in Lima. Thank you to all who participated and gave so thankfully!

Our Lenten Fundraiser will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 22. Envelopes will be handed out at church service. This is our only fundraiser that stays at Zion to support all of our women's projects. The women have a yearly budget of \$3,700. We have a designated kitchen fund of around \$1000 we keep in case of repairs and to purchase needed items. Our available balance at the end of 2022 is \$355. As you can see, we need to build up our funds for 2023. We need your help and support for this fundraiser. Please place 50 cents each day except Sundays in the envelope when doing your daily devotions or prayers. After 40 days this comes to a total of \$20. The envelopes will be collected on Easter Sunday. If you didn't get an envelope, there will be extras on the table in the narthex.

We put together 36 Birthday Bags in January for Agape Pantry. Thank you to all who donated! Our next workday will be Thursday, February 16, at 9 am. Becky Harvey has kitchen duty in February and Josie Slater has it in March.

The Women's celebration will be held Sunday, March 12, at 2 p.m., in the auditorium. Our guest speaker is Jessica Skinner. The theme is "When Life Gives You Lemons...Make Lemonade". Tickets will go on sale in February. The cost is \$7. A light meal will be served. Deadline to purchase tickets is March 5. Watch the bulletin for more details.

The book club will meet February 1 to discuss "An Invisible Thread". March 1, Sue Hecht will lead the discussion on "The Royal Secret" by Lucinda Riley. April's book is "The Rose Code" by Kate Quinn and led by Pam Fledderjohann.

To fall in love with God is the greatest of romances, to seek him the greatest adventure, to find him the greatest human achievement. —St. Augustine

Nora Staunton, Chair of Zion Women of NALC



Sunday School Announcement

Grandparents! Please join your grandchildren in Sunday School on Sunday, February 5, at 9:15 a.m., as we have music, a Bible story, snacks, crafts, and a game! See you there!

Office Closed

The church office will be closed Monday, February 20, in observance of Presidents' Day.



Memorials

- A gift was given in memory of Carl & Emogene Hecht by Merrilee & Mike Kleinhenz.
- Zion Women of the NALC gave gifts in memory of Janice Daugherty, Peggy Hurick, Richard Moyar, Emily Leonhard, Noreen Stienecker, Ken Ankerman, Richard Broyles, Russell Hunter, Debra Sudman and Doris Tigner.
- Gifts were given in memory of Jo Rowen by Harry & Nora Staunton, Ed & Linda Yahl, and Connie Hofmann.
- Gifts were given in memory of Bob Sudman by Harry & Nora Staunton, Ed & Linda Yahl, and Rebecca Harvey.



Fish Fry: Friday, February 24, from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., in the auditorium. Eat in or Carry Out. There will be all-you-can-eat-fish, cheesy potatoes, coleslaw, baked beans, macaroni and cheese, hot dogs, beverage and dessert. Cost is \$12 each for adult, \$5 each for ages 4-10 and children 3 and under eat free. Tickets are being sold in the church office or at the door the day of the event.

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 wllmmaki@yahoo.com
Kathy Bishir kbishir@hotmail.com
Ann Maki annmmaki@yahoo.com
Mindy Thiebeau zionbpe@hotmail.com
General Mail..... zionlutheranstmarys@bright.net



March Newsletter Article Deadline

The deadline to submit articles for our March Newsletter is Wednesday, February 15. 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.
- Write us a note on the "I Worshiped Today"
- Leave a message on our answering machine: 419-394-3115, after 4:30 p.m.
- Send your article by e-mail: kbishir@hotmail.com



February Birthdays

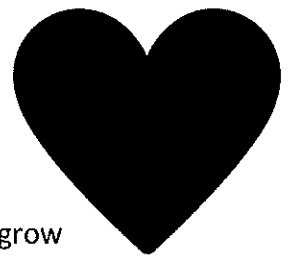
Wishing a Happy Birthday to the following members of Zion Lutheran Church. We invite you to pray for the following people on their special day.

2	Marilyn Nedderman, Randy Lauth, Judy Flora	15	Alexa Coldiron, Kathryn Lampert, Robert Hinschlager
3	Collin Reier	16	Dan Macklem
4	Elizabeth Johnson, Boston Reier, Scott Ross, Dana Runnion	17	Melissa Elshoff
5	John Hesse, Everett Halbert	18	David Kiel
6	Connor Berner, Ruth E. Langsdon, Xander Meinerding	19	Bailey Lampert, Dawn Houser
7	Larry Daugherty	20	Mindy Thiebeau
8	Jacob Falasco	22	Gretchen Langsdon, Nora Staunton, Barbara Weadock
9	Jason Homan	23	Betty Hussey, Stacey Putman, Suzette Putman
10	Dominic Block	24	Caleb Cisco, Brian Cook, Dana Cook, Nancy Hoenie
11	Kelsey Burke, Cody Paul	25	Donna Ankerman, Donna Yates
12	Jane Hiles, Carl Keysor, Kerri Masonbrink, Janice Suchland	26	Sandra Burd, Linda Diers
13	Penny Kogge, Denise Huttis	28	Deborah Brown, Simon Schrader
14	Jessica Eberle, Abigail Bond-Awls, Leah Bowman		

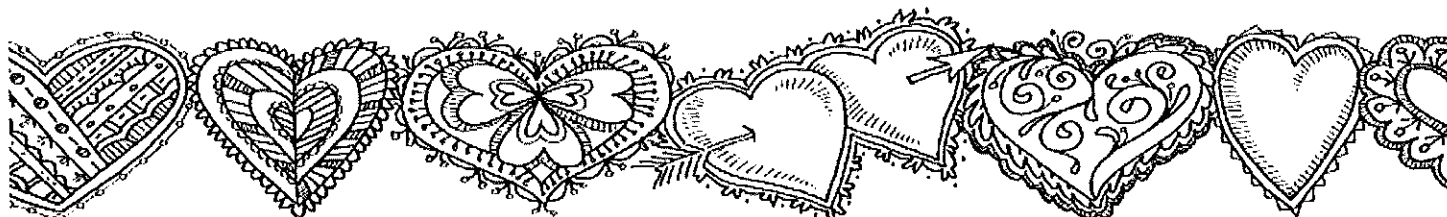
If your name was omitted or a correction needs to be made in this list of birthdays, please contact the church office, 419-394-3115.

How the Months got their Names

- January: Named for the Roman god Janus, protector of gates and doorways. Janus is depicted with two faces, one looking into the past, the other into the future.
- February: February comes from the Latin word februa, which means "to cleanse". The month was named after the Roman Februalia, which was a month-long festival of purification and atonement.
- March: Named for the Roman god of war, Mars. This was the time of year to resume military campaigns that had been interrupted by winter.
- April: From the Latin word aperio, "to open" (bud), because plants begin to grow during this month.
- May: Named for the Roman goddess Maia, who oversaw the growth of plants. Also from the Latin word maiores, "elders", who were celebrated during this month.
- June: Named for the Roman goddess Juno, patroness of marriage and the well-being of women. Also from the Latin word juvenis, "young people".
- July: Named to honor Roman dictator Julius Caesar (100 BC—44 BC). In 46BC, Julius Caesar made one of his greatest contributions to history: with the help of Sosigenes, he developed the Julian calendar, the precursor to the Gregorian calendar that we use today.
- August: Named to honor the first Roman emperor (and grandnephew of Julius Caesar), Augustus Caesar (63 BC—AD 14).



- September: From the Latin word septem, "seven", because this had been the seventh month of the Roman calendar.
- October: From the Latin word octo, "eight", because this had been the eighth month of the early Roman calendar.
- November: From the Latin word novem, "nine", because this had been the ninth month of the early Roman calendar.
- December: From the Latin word decem, "ten", because this had been the tenth month of the early Roman calendar.

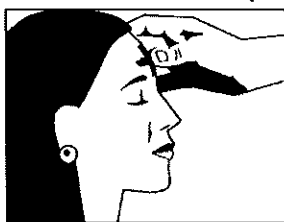


February's Loose Offering

Our loose offering each Sunday/Wednesday for the month of **February** is earmarked to support Boy Scout Troop #360, which Zion sponsors.

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Wednesday



Ash Wednesday

Our Ash Wednesday Service will be held on Wednesday, February 22, at 7 p.m., in the sanctuary. This service will include the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.

Prayer List

We invite you to include the following people in your daily prayers:

Janet Dicke, Judy Von Blon, Brent Paulus, Sandi Deerhake, Alma Kuffner, Caleb Yahl, Michael Moore, Tom Kaster, Kason Thobe, Ann Morris, John & Katie, Darlene Henkener, Margaret Moore, Amelia Green, Ed Danner III, Eileen Zimmerman, Kristin Hemmelgarn, Mary Willmann, Kelsey, Karen Vornholt, Kate Flais, Jerry McCormick, Carolyn Sidey, Vicki Bishir, Lisa Suchland, Ron Suchland, Elaine Marbaugh, Dale Sprague, Pam Fledderjohann, Bill & Carolyn Slemmons, Marla Puthoff, Emily Henkle, Dave Frahm, the Family of Bob Sudman, and the Family of Jace Blevins.

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

2023 Flower Chart

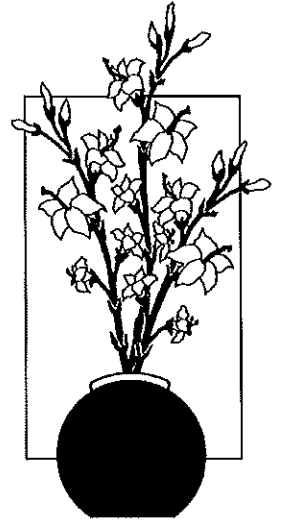
The first 6 months of 2023 Flower Chart is available on the bulletin board by the alley entrance. We invite you to select the date you wish to provide flowers. On the Tuesday before the date you selected, order your arrangement from your favorite florist, and contact the church office, 419-394-3115, to let us know what information you would like included in the bulletin. Upcoming dates still available:

*March 12, and 26, 2023

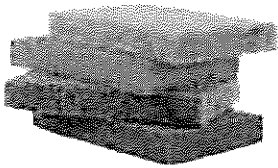
*April 2, 9, 23 and 30

*May 7, 21 and 28

*June 4, 11 and 25



How to Make Never Ending Dryer Sheets



Creative Crafters: "Never Ending Dryer Sheets"

We will be making the "Never Ending Dryer Sheets", on **Sunday, February 12**, at 1:30 p.m. We will meet in the church kitchen to assemble the project. Sign up in the binder provided in the Narthex. The cost of the project will be \$5, payable the day of the event.

Memorials

Gifts were given in memory of **Bob Sudman** by Dave & Dorothy Kiel, Kevin & Sherri Brown, Tom & Linda Klosterman, Richard & Sue Hecht, Ron & Margaret Hunter, Sara Badertscher Wisener & William Wisener, Speckman Automotive, Inc, Sue Hart, Ann Vogel, Auglaize Buzzard Baiters, Doris Cook, Allan & Betty Woodmansee, Ron & Michelle Sudman, Larry Scott, John & Jill Bowers, Jeff & Jan Selby, Maynard & Betty Schamp, Steve & Deb Schamp, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Burke, Michael & Jane Burke, Barb Stienecker, Jim & Nancy Clark, Kurt & Julie Zwiebel, Mr. & Mrs. Lee Sudman, Shirley Sudman Rismiller, Ruth Ann Merriman, Rod & Darla Miller, James & Diane Gilberg, Craig Speckman, Connie, Doug & Rose Leffel, Dusty & Vickie, and the Huckenede Family: Shirley, Dave, Jan, Dick, Suzann, Doug, Laura & Mark.

Gifts were given in memory of **Helen Jo Rowen** by Isaac Fitzgerald, Trudy Speakman, The Guingrich Family, Kermit & Alana Hecht, Bob & Lisa Fitzgerald, Dick & Beth Bricker, and Sharon & Mike Schnell.

Special Thanks

Emily Lampert & Mindy Thiebeau would like to thank you for the Christmas gifts and greeting cards we received. It was appreciated! May God bless you in this New Year.





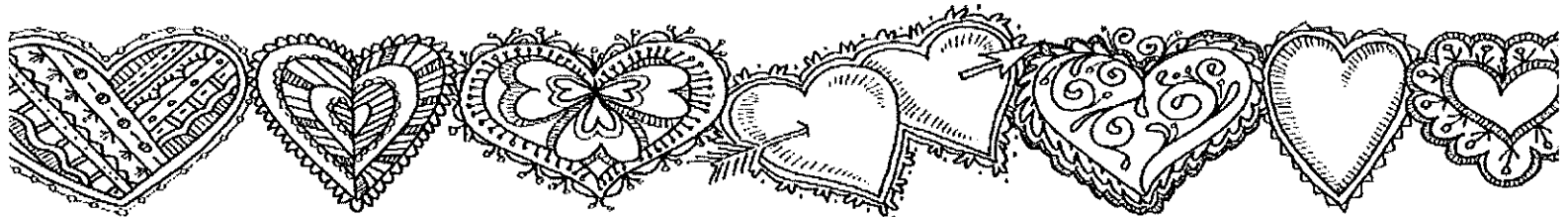
Zion's Web Address

Our web address is: www.zionstmarys.org We continually change the appearance, post up-to-date announcements, update our schedules, and update our calendar. Bookmark us and visit our website weekly.

Year-to-Date Financial Information

Financial Information: Our current financial information for Zion is as follows for year-to-date for the month of January.

- 1/1/2023 Beginning Balance--\$86,923
 - January 2023 YTD Income--\$20,990
 - January 2023 YTD Expenses—(\$36,489)
 - Payroll WH/Benevolence--\$265
 - January 2023 Ending Bank Balance--\$71,689
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Radio Broadcast and Livestreaming of Worship Service

We have installed equipment for livestreaming of our worship services. The worship services can be found on our Facebook page.

Volunteers are needed to help with recording each of the services. Please contact the church office, 419-394-3115, or Pastor Bill about this ministry.

Our 8 a.m. worship service is broadcast live on WCSM radio 96.7 FM each Sunday morning. Thank you to our primary sponsor of our WCSM radio broadcast—St. Marys Chrysler.

Volunteers are needed to help with the sound board. No experience needed! Anyone interested in running the sound board during worship will be trained. We would like to have more people for rotation purposes. Contact the church office, 419-394-3115, or Pastor Bill if you can help.

Lenten Services

About the Theme: *"Fix your eyes on Jesus."* When the people in the Passion narrative looked at Jesus, what did they see? *Eyes on Jesus* asks us to look at Jesus through various Biblical character's viewpoints, learning how they saw Jesus. Did they misunderstand Him? Did they recognize Him as the Son of God?



Wednesday night services at 7 p.m., in the Sanctuary for Lent are: Ash Wednesday—February 22, Lenten Services--March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29th. Lenten soup suppers will be at 5 p.m., in the auditorium, will be on Wednesdays: March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29th.