

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.

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October, Volume 2023, Issue 10

Passing Down the Faith – the Joy of October

Hard to believe that we are entering the month of October. Football has been filling the weekend for many. Fall soccer and other fall sports are going strong in the High Schools. The weather is getting cooler. The leaves of the trees are changing colors. No doubt about it, winter isn't too far off.

And in the church calendar October means Reformation Sunday, and for Zion Lutheran it also means Confirmation Sunday. We will celebrate both Reformation Sunday and Confirmation Sunday on the same day – October 29th – with Confirmation Sunday being observed at the 10:30 service only. This is a joyful and joy filled moment for the people of Zion as we fulfill the command Jesus gave his disciples prior to his Ascension into heaven. He commanded his disciples to: "18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

This year we have five who will be confirmed in the faith:

- Allison Ankerman,
- Calianna Bond-Awls,
- Grady Hughes,
- Makenna Meinerding
- and Megan Miller.

All have been taught the Small Catechism of the Lutheran Church, established by Dr. Martin Luther. This is a wonderful moment in the life of our church, as the Christian faith is being passed down to another generation. In my time at Zion, I have confirmed 90 youth into the faith prior to this coming Confirmation Sunday.

I pray and ask the Lord for Zion to be blessed with confirmation students every year. May your prayers also join mine in this request. The mission of the church is to preach and teach the gospel of Jesus Christ in the world. May the Lord help us participate in that mission each year.

Blessings,

Pastor Bill

"Be so happy that, when other people look at you, they become happy too." — Anonymous



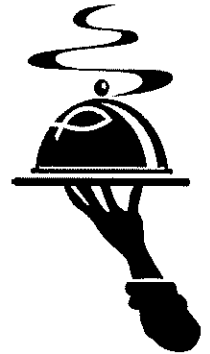
Special Note of Thanks

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, offered prayers and get well wishes after my surgery, during my hospitalizations and my recuperation at home. The prayers of the people of Zion are powerful. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Miriam Johns

70 & Over Dinner

The Over 70 Dinner will be held Sunday, October 1st, in the auditorium, at 12 noon. If you are over 70 come and bring your spouse for an afternoon of good food and fellowship. Auglaize County Sheriff, Mike Vorhees will speak on Elderly Scams.



October 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.

- 03–Andy Elking, Ann Maki, Isabella Ross, Steve Opperman, Stella Yahl
- 04–Kevin Puthoff
- 05–Catherine Austin, Jeremy Kemmann
- 06–Quinn Cisco, Holli Enderud, Robert Hance, Hayden Roby
- 08–Angela Gibson, Benjamin Opperman, Bobby Wingett
- 11–Timothy Paul, Russell Nolan
- 12–Kermit Hecht
- 14– Rick Green, Rebecca Torsell
- 15–Samantha Ackroyd, Braden Elshoff, Hannah Vondrell
- 16–Lindsey Karner, Mark Langsdon
- 17–Izetta Fulton

- 20–David Sprague, Michael Weadock, Nathaniel Freewalt
- 21–Thomas Grunden
- 22–Ted Hertenstein, Ryan Wuebker
- 23–Karen Vornholt, Jodi Wasinski
- 24–Amelia Staugler
- 25–Miriam Johns, Suzanne Langsdon, Susan Nuss
- 26–Carly Gibson, Zoey Lampert
- 27–Ella Glass
- 28–Lee Smith
- 29–Brenda Henning, Joni Immenschuh
- 30–Deb Green
- 31–Darl Bishir

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 it is October, the fall colors and aromas, my favorite time of year! The 70 & Over Dinner will be held on Sunday, October 1. Hope you are able to come and enjoy the delicious meal and hear the Sheriff speak on "Elderly Scams". Thank you, Sandy Wierwille and your committee for handling this event.

Our women's council elections will be held on Wednesday, September 27, and Sunday, October 1, during church services. There has been a change, Cheryl Macklem and Rhonda Weaver are running for the position of vice-president and Debbie Brown and Dianne Uhlenhake are running for the position of treasurer. Please plan to attend either of these services and cast your ballot. Thank you!

Zion's library will be reopening on Sunday, October 8. Betty Hussey and Sue Hecht have worked at cleaning and reorganizing the library. There are new rules and instructions posted in the library. They hope that members will use the library for reference material and enjoyment reading material. Watch the bulletin for more details.

Our Thankful Offering services will be held Wednesday, November 15, and Sunday, November 19. Hope you have been filling your containers with change for all your thankful blessings in your life this past year. If you don't have a container, there are some in the green basket on the table in the narthex. All donations will go to Crime Victims Services in Lima, Ohio. They provide services for victims of crime and help fight human trafficking. This is one way we can help those in need in our area.

Our workday in October is Thursday, October 19, at 9 a.m. We will be assembling personal care kits and knotting blankets. Kitchen duty for October is Becky Harvey. Doris Cook has it in November.

Upcoming event: Our annual Advent Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, December 5, at 9:30 a.m. Mark your calendar and invite relatives and friends to this special event. Women from all the other churches in town are invited every year. If you have friends that attend another church, invite them to come to breakfast and celebrate the advent season with us.

Book Club will meet Wednesday, October 4, at 1 p.m. Betty Hussey will lead the discussion on "The Life We Bury" by Allen Eskens. November's book "Shine, Shine, Shine," by Lydia Netzer will be led by Dora McAfee on Wednesday, November 1, 2023. Everyone is welcome to come and join in.

Creative Crafters will be making a Halloween Pocket Pillow on Sunday, October 22, at 1:30 pm., in the all-purpose room. The \$15 fee will include all supplies needed. The pillow is on display in the narthex, sign up in the notebook if you plan to attend.

There are lots of events happening here at Zion. Mark your calendars and come join us in worship, fellowship, fun and stewardship as you are part of Zion's family and families do things together!

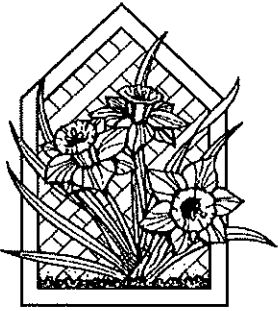
Quote of the month: "The most pathetic person in the world is someone who has sight, but has no vision."

--Helen Keller

Nora Staunton, Chair of Zion's Women of the NALC

"You can, you should, and if you're brave enough to start, you will."

— Stephen King



2023 Flower Chart

The first part of the 2023 Flower Chart is 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:

• November 19

• December 17

• December 24

Smile at the Camera

The Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.

Psalm 147:11

Just about the time that school was letting out, a mom saw a storm warning on the news. She knew her daughter liked walking home from school, but because the rain was about to start, the mom jumped in her car and traced the path her daughter took. She was driving along, looking, looking, looking, and all of a sudden she saw her daughter in the distance.

The mom noticed that her daughter was doing something strange. She would take a couple of steps, the lightning would flash, and the daughter would stop and smile. Then the daughter would walk a few more steps, the lightning would flash again, and the daughter would look up and smile. One the mom finally got her daughter safely in the car, she asked, "Honey, why were you stopping and smiling so much?" And the little girl said, "God kept taking my picture, so I just kept stopping and smiling at Him!"

I love that child's perspective—that God was enjoying her, approved of her, and showed His approval by snapping her photo.

Prayer List



***Let us kneel before
the Lord, our Maker!***
Psalm 95:6

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, Michael Moore, Tom Kaster, Ann Morris, Darlene Henkener, Margaret Moore, Ronald Suchland, Don Diers, Linda Diers, Paul White, Avery, Bill & Carolyn Slemmons, Tom Grunden, Alan Bishir, Maria, Baby Athena, Kristin Hemmelgarn, Mary Willmann, Pastor Wilck, Lisa Suchland, Kelsey, Eileen Zimmerman, Scarlett, Mark Torsell, Family of Cecelia Houseworth, Ruth Schreffler and the Family of David Gossard.

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.

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

Direct Deposit App/QR Code

Just as you rely upon receiving income on a regular basis, Zion relies on your regular contributions. Zion appreciates the efforts of congregation members to make consistent donations throughout the year—especially during popular summer travel periods. To assist you the church also has direct deposit available, a link on our website and an App to donate to Zion besides the envelopes that are sent out. We thank you in advance for your gifts to Zion.



Sunday Worship Service

Live Streaming & Radio Broadcast

- 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. 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.
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Mark Your Calendars

In 2024 we will be celebrating our 175th anniversary as a church. We will also be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Sanctuary. Those dates are:

- 50th anniversary celebration will be Sunday, April 7th, 2024
- 175th anniversary celebration will be Sunday, June 9th, 2024

The Committee wants to know what meaningful event you would like to do for our anniversaries. Contact Stan Brown with your ideas.



One Warm Coat Drive to Begin



Warm Winter Coat & Gloves Drive: Agape is accepting donations of New & Gently Used adult and children's winter coats and new winter waterproof gloves from September 15th—October 31st. Drop off coats in the barrel provided in our portico or take them to the Agape Client Services Building, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday. If dropping the coats off at Agape Thrift Store, you must specify it is for the Warm Winter Coat Drive.

Library News

Just in time for your fall and winter reading, the newly refreshed and organized church library will be open beginning October 8th. The library is located on the south end of the second floor of the education build, through the double doors on the right.

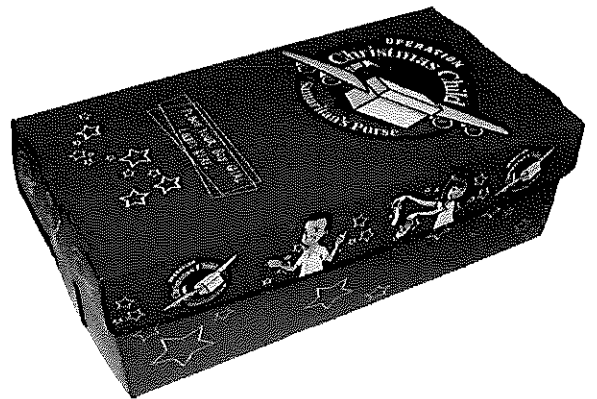
Whatever your reading need is there is an abundance of good fiction titles as well as a Christian reference section with brand new titles including a "Through the Bible" series.

For a sneak peek, we will be having a short blessing of the renovated library room at 1 p.m., on Wednesday, October 4th. Join us then and be one of the first to borrow a book.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Shoebox season is approaching and here are a few reminders.

Nation Collection Week will be November 13-20 and we will have signup sheets for workers on Sunday morning in late October. Shoeboxes will also be available for pick up in the narthex, filled and returned on November 12. If you have been shopping and would like to have empty boxes before that, please see Dora McAfee. Please remember as you are filling boxes that they are a gift to demonstrate the love of Jesus rather than aid. OCC encourages us to think of what will please a child who may have never received a gift and include a "Wow" item, school supplies, hygiene items and smaller fun toys or games. If you would like to send a box or boxes but don't like to shop, there is an option to pack a box online at samaritanaspurse.org. under the "Ways to Give" tab. Our loose plate offering in October is again designated to help cover the shipping for the boxes packed as part of the women's ministry. Thank you for participating.



"Sometimes, when things are falling apart, they may actually be falling into place."

— Unknown



Operation Christmas Child

The loose offering for the month of October each Wednesday & Sunday is earmarked for the Operation Christmas Child, Samaritan's Purse.

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations. Many of these children have never before received a present or heard the true meaning of Christmas—until they open a gift-filled shoebox from a person like you.

The offering will help defray the cost of shipping each shoebox, which is **\$10 per shoebox**.

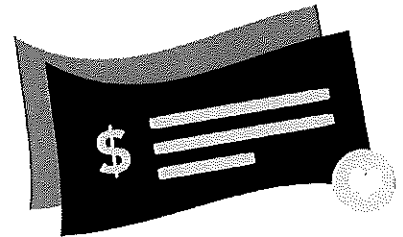
Office Closing

The church office will be closed on Monday, October 9th, in observance of Columbus Day. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, October 10th. Hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Year-to-Date Financial Information

Financial Information: Our current financial information for Zion is as follows for year-to-date for the month March, 9/22/2023.

- 1/1/2023 Beginning Balance--\$86,923
- September 2023 YTD Income--\$265,206
- September 2023 YTD Expenses--(-\$287,794)
- September Payroll/Interest Adjustments—\$2,231
- September 2023 Ending Bank Balance--\$66,566



Creative Crafters

Our craft for October is the Halloween Pocket Pillow Project. We will meet on Sunday, October 22. At 1:30 p.m., in the all-purpose room. All Supplies are provided. The fee is \$15, the day of the event. Any questions concerning this craft, contact Kathy, 419-778-9640. A variety of pillow patterns to choose from will be available...no two will be alike.

