

The Messenger

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church April 2015



Easter arrives again to sounds of Easter Egg Hunts and the munching of chocolate rabbits and marshmallow peeps. It is easy to be joyful, or at least marginally happy when you experience all the signs of being on a sugar high. But what about that first Easter, what sounds would we have heard then?

The guards probably did not say much before they collapsed with fear and later ran away to tell the High Priest that they failed to keep Jesus in the tomb. Not the first time human expectations were dashed by the powerful love of Jesus Christ, and definitely not the last time either! What about the women, perplexed to the point of sadness and confusion, and except for asking Jesus where he put His body and later telling the disbelieving disciples, they probably did not utter a lot of sound either! The disciples, especially Peter and John, would have brought us the familiar tones of competition as they sought to prove the women wrong and outrace each other. Yet they too were strangely silent when they got to the tomb!

Certainly the **First Easter** is a far cry from the **First Christmas!** The women and disciples struggled to believe even with an empty tomb, but the shepherds became the first evangelists as they told everyone what they saw and heard. Easter silenced everyone. There were no children killed, wise men threatened, or kings raging, only a silent cover-up by the authorities and locked doors for the disciples. Mark's Gospel goes as far as to portray the story ending with locked doors and stunned women until someone later on added verses 9-20. (Mark 16:9-20)

Our view that Easter solved all of Holy Week's issues is only partly correct. The disciples and the later Church struggled with what the Resurrection meant for centuries. The greatest rescue of all time occurred in a relatively silent fashion, but the shockwaves reverberated everywhere all the way until today. Truth be told we love the story, but we also secretly fear it because it implies that our lives are forever changed even to the point of sharing the news

with people we may think should not be involved. The original ending of Mark highlighted what happens if we do not share the Good News, but it also highlights the fact that this powerful story sometimes gets taken for granted. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! How are you going to deal with the reality that Christ is truly alive? How will this news affect your life and the lives of the people around you? Will your life and our life together more resemble Mark 16:1-8 or Mark 16:9-20? May we join together and proudly proclaim that Jesus is alive. We have important news to share through word and deed! Have a blessed Easter and even a few sugar highs!

Pastor Joe Schrock



Listed below is the schedule for our Lenten services this year. Sunday services will be as usual.

Maundy Thursday, April 2

Worship (Communion, Stripping of Altar)....7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 3

Way of the Cross.....12:00 p.m.

Worship.....7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 5

Worship (Communion)8:00 a.m.

Breakfast.....9:00 a.m.

Worship Communion)10:30 a.m.

Worship (Communion) 5:30 p.m.

Easter Breakfast

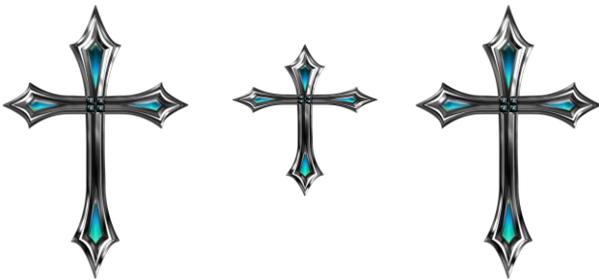
April 5th 9:15AM – 10AM

You are invited to join us for an over the top breakfast, full of traditional favorites (like ham) & healthy options (like fruit). Come, eat breakfast and support our ministries.

(Community Meals & Youth)

A free will offering is requested if you are able. All are welcome!

Hosted by Band of Brother's & Zion Youth



Congregations grow when members invite their friends to worship and fellowship activities.



Meters for Mozart VI 5 k run/walk Saturday, April 11

Waterworks Park in Fairfield

The race benefits the Hamilton Fairfield Symphony Orchestra (which benefits the whole community! Please consider joining Zion's team. The cost is \$15. Tee shirts optional at a cost of \$10. To sign up go to <https://runsignup.com/Race/Register/RaceGroup-45522?raceid=15120> and sign up under Team Zion Lutheran.



Community Picnic

City-Wide Faith Based Alliance Annual Picnic

The city-wide Faith Based Alliance 4th Annual Picnic is being held on Saturday, June 20 at the Booker T Washington Community Center. There will be food, fun, worship, music and fellowship. Last year around 2,000 people attended. As you can imagine, it takes many hands to pull this off. This year Zion is actively involved with the planning, along with representatives from about 25 other churches, including The Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist, and Pilgrim Baptist. We are looking for volunteers to help with:

- **Transportation:** shuttling people from parking lots to the picnic.
- **Games:** helping run games and activities set up for the children.
- **Food:** helping make Zion's donations and helping serve.
- **Set Up:** setting up canopies and tables and chairs. Generally getting the area ready.
- **Clean Up:** taking everything down and restoring everything to its original condition.
- **First Aid:** we would like to have a nurse available
- **Music:** we are having a mass choir which will practice several times before the picnic. Voices or instruments are welcome.

We are also looking for a few coolers and canopies to use. Make sure you put your name and church on anything loaned.

I've put a sign-up sheet in the great hall. Please sign up for any place you would like to help and the head of the committee will contact you. Thank you in advance and I hope to see many of you at the picnic.

**Save the Date
Youth Movie Night
in conjunction with Euchre Night
May 31, 2015
Further details next month.**



Women of Zion, as disciples of Christ, are called to grow in faith, discover and use our gifts, and serve in our communities at home and throughout the world.

ZLCW Board Meeting March 8, 2015

- Attending: Gail Heitz, Shirley Snyder, Joan Cunningham, Lori Rehm, Anita Snyder, Thelma Martin, Janet Menke
- Treasurer's report: Balance on hand is \$2,842.47. Total expenditures reported was \$150.90 for the purchase of chicken for the potluck dinner and 50 copies of Portals of Prayer for the April-June quarter. There were no receipts.
- Details for the March General meeting were finalized. Program will be about Therapy Pets. A light lunch of sloppy joes, salad, and dessert will be served. Board voted to invite the Men of Zion to this meeting.
- Tentative arrangements have been made to have a representative from the YWCA to speak at our September general meeting.
- Lenten collection of personal care items for Lutheran Social Services of Southern Ohio is going well and will continue until Easter.
- Need still exists for someone to chair the kitchen committee.
- Might need to decrease the number of Portals of Prayer ordered if we are having a lot left over at the end of each quarter.
- Decision was made to cancel April's executive board meeting. Next board meeting was rescheduled for Sunday, May 17th.

There is still a need for someone to chair the kitchen committee. The kitchen committee is responsible for cleaning and organizing specific areas of the kitchen as needed. Please contact Gail Heitz, 671-6296 for more information.

Executive Board has cancelled their April meeting. The next Women of Zion Executive board meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 17th at 9:20 a.m.

March General Meeting

The March Women's General Meeting was held on Monday, March 16th at 6:30 p.m. The meeting opened with a short devotion. A light supper of sloppy joes, salad, and dessert followed.

Karen Spradlin and Anita Burtosky-Mays, accompanied by their therapy dogs, Baxter and Prince, presented a very informative program about "Pet Partners- Therapy Animals."

People and animal volunteer teams are the heart and soul of the Pet Partners' Therapy Animal Program. Therapy dogs are dogs that go with their owners to volunteer in settings such as schools, hospitals, and nursing homes. Pet Partners is the leader in demonstrating and promoting positive human-animal interactions improving the physical, emotional, and psychological lives of those they serve.

For more information about this program you can visit www.petpartners.org or check the Women of Zion bulletin board across from the kitchen.

The meeting closed with an update from Robin Kaelin about the collection of diapers at the youth convention and information about the Women's Spring Gathering.

Thank you to our hostesses - Thelma Martin, Joan Boling and her granddaughters, Cara and Kayla. The St. Patrick table decorations added a "touch of green" to the meeting. Also thanks to all the executive board members who provided food for this meeting.

Bereavement Committee

During the month of March, Zion Women served three bereavement meals. Thank you to the March Bereavement committee members: Lori Rehm, Lynn Alcorn, Jo Annette Coe, Peggy Thomin and the many other women of Zion who helped with set-up, clean-up and preparing food. Also, a big thank you to Thelma Martin for contacting members about food needed.

The bereavement committee for the month of April is Joan Boling, Joan Cunningham and Sandy Ziepfel.

Women of Zion Soup Sale Information

Our soup sale has ended for the year. A big thank you to all who bought soup this year.

Thelma Martin reported that the Women of Zion sold 105 jars of soup this year. It is estimated that we make a profit of approximately \$6.00 per jar. The biggest expense for this money-making project is the cost of the jars.

We are asking members of Zion to be on the lookout for one quart jars with lids at yard sales this summer.

Mission Sewing

The ladies of Mission Sewing are starting another sewing day on the 1st Thursday of each month starting Thursday May 7, 2015 at 9:30 A.M. We will continue our regularly scheduled sewing the 3rd Wednesday of each month at (9:30 A.M). We meet in the sewing room at Zion.

We will be putting layers of material together and knotting the assembled quilts. All finish sewing is done at other times and no hand sewing is needed.

Come and join us in making warm quilts for others in need or share in good conversation, fellowship and laughter.

Everyone is welcome and feel free to bring a friend. Please contact Elaine Carpenter at 829-8869 with questions or concerns.

Prescription Bottles



Many thanks to those who have been bringing in your empty pill bottles. The program has been a great success. The bottles are taken to Matthew 25 Ministries and are then sent to developing countries to be used for distributing medicine.

All plastic pill bottles are accepted, both prescription and over-the-counter bottles. No glass or metal containers are accepted. Be sure to rinse the bottles and remove labels if possible for security purposes. If the label cannot be removed, use a black permanent marker to cross out your name and any pertinent information.

So...drop off EMPTY pill bottles in the container in the Great Hall. This is an easy and inexpensive way to help people in developing countries as well as recycling those bottles; making sure they don't end up in a landfill.



BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

The Book of the Month Club will meet on Tuesday, April 7, to discuss *The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion* by Fannie Flagg. The one and only Fannie Flagg, beloved author of *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe*, *Can't Wait to Get to Heaven*, and *I Still Dream About You*, is at her hilarious and superb best in this new comic mystery novel about two women who are forced to reimagine who they are.

Mrs. Sookie Poole of Point Clear, Alabama, has just married off the last of her daughters and is looking forward to relaxing and perhaps traveling with her husband, Earle. The only thing left to contend with is her mother, the formidable Lenore Simmons Krackenberry. Lenore may be a lot of fun for other people, but is, for the most part, an overbearing presence for her daughter. Then one day, quite by accident, Sookie discovers a secret about her mother's past that knocks her for a loop and suddenly calls into question everything she ever thought she knew about herself, her family, and her future.

Sookie begins a search for answers that takes her to California, the Midwest, and back in time, to the 1940s, when an irrepressible woman named Fritzi takes on the job of running her family's filling station. Soon truck drivers are changing their routes to fill up at the All-Girl Filling Station. Then, Fritzi sees an opportunity for an even more groundbreaking adventure. As Sookie learns about the adventures of the girls at the All-Girl Filling Station, she finds herself with new inspiration for her own life.

Then on Tuesday, May 5, we'll meet to discuss *The Little Stranger* by Sarah Waters. One postwar summer in his home of rural Warwickshire, Dr. Faraday, the son of a maid who has built a life of quiet respectability as a country physician, is called to a patient at lonely Hundreds Hall. Home to the Ayres family for over two centuries, the Georgian house, once impressive and handsome, is now in decline, its masonry crumbling, its gardens choked with weeds, the clock in its stable yard permanently fixed at twenty to nine. Its owners—mother, son, and daughter—are struggling to keep pace with a changing society, as well as with conflicts of their own. But are the Ayreses haunted by something more sinister than a dying way of life? Little does Dr. Faraday know how closely, and how terrifyingly, their story is about to become intimately entwined with his.

Plan on joining us in the church lounge at 6:30 p.m. for these discussions. We always welcome new people.



SOUTHERN OHIO INSIGHTS

Greetings Dear Sisters in Christ!

Alleluia Christ has risen! How many of us in our head answer – He has risen indeed!

This might be a sign we are Lutheran. It is definitely a sign we are His!

Over the last few months you have allowed me to talk with you about why you might want to be a part of the women of the ELCA and exactly what is meant by an active unit.

You may be saying to yourselves, those are all great things, but how are they different than other groups? Really, women have the vote, they are active in all sections of their churches (at least in the ELCA) and we are in the world, so why separate ourselves? Why focus on that aspect? I must admit, at first I pretty much felt the same way. Then I was in a women's studies class in school and studied and discovered the path women truly have walked. We have had to fight for every freedom we have; in the world and in the church. Two thirds of the world still sees women as second class citizens or objects. Do not get me wrong. I am not saying we should be militant. I am simply saying that in the way we speak to each other, in our ministries in the church and in the world, when we work together we have an opportunity to work for justice. We can seek justice for the ones who cannot speak or act for themselves. This is a cause worthy of being a part of. Together we can affect change on our street, in our neighborhood churches and in the world.

I see this throughout the women of the ELCA. Ministries such as the work to bring electricity to Phebe Hospital in Liberia; then through our synod with the pennies for the Red Eye women and the endowment to send girls to school in Tanzania. I see it in the churches selling fair trade coffee, collecting items or making quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Women in the church work bereavement dinners, consoling grieving families with food, wrapping all with the love and comfort of a warm meal or hug.

I see it in women who write letters to congress, fighting for laws to be changed to protect children from being caught in a human trafficking situation. I see it in those who work 40 hour every week and then find time to volunteer bringing their children along to learn in action. I see it in seniors, who long past their children being home, still teach Sunday school or work with the youth because they know it is important. I see it in women who organize events to raise money for health causes like cancer or Lou Gehrig's disease. This is only the tip of the iceberg or ways which women of the ELCA groups have been active in Southern Ohio. There is no limit to our scope. These are

women with a mission and vision. Not committee driven, not busybodies. They are simply living out the commandments that Christ gave us to: "Love God and love one another as you want to be loved."

I invite you to find the active women in your congregation and join hands in working together for the glory of God. You will be amazed at how it will change and enrich your live.

If you would like to comment on this letter or contact me email me at rbk013@gmail.com

God Bless You,
Robin Kaelin



Greetings from the Cincinnati Conference

Our Spring gathering is April 25, 2015 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 7701 Kenwood Rd., Cincinnati, Oh. 45236. Our theme is "Our Journey of Hope". We are pleased to have Pastor Heidi Johns, from Good Shepherd as our speaker. Our in kind gifts will be non-perishable food items for N.E.E.D.S. (North East Emergency Distribution Services) an organization in the Kenwood Area. You may register early or that day from 8:30-9:00. Cost is \$10.00 which includes lunch. Our lunch is being catered by McAlister's Deli. With early registration you will have the option to choose your sandwich and side item.

To register, please contact Kathy DeLong at 513-893-0069 or email rkdelong71@aol.com; or Su Boling at 513-520-2394.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!
Su Bowling & Kathy DeLong, Co-Presidents

Box Tops for Education

Please save Box Tops for Education (on General Mills Products), and Campbell's Soup labels. These are collected at various City of Hamilton elementary schools to pay for field trips. There is a container in the lounge to put them in. We will see that they get to an elementary school that can use them. Thanks.



TAILS FROM GOD

As part of the *Tails From God* ministry, Zion has a recycling program to benefit the Animal Friends Humane Society. Simply bring in your used printer cartridges, cells phones, toner cartridges, PDAs, and MP3 Players and put them in the recycling box in the church office. They will be packaged, shipped and sent to eCycle Group (www.ecyclegroup.com) and the money given to the Animal Friends Humane Society. This is a wonderful opportunity to be good stewards of God's creation by protecting the environment and the abused and neglected animals in Butler County. If you have questions, please contact Karen Conklin, 513-889-7770.

Reminder from Tails From God ministry. There is a box in the Great Hall for donations to Animal Friends Humane Society. Clorox bleach, powdered laundry soap, all sizes heavy garbage bags, AAA Duracell or Energizer batteries, and first class postage stamps are always on the "wish list." Any questions, call Karen Conklin, 513-863-0532.

OPEN DOOR PANTRY HELP

Many thanks to all who have contributed plastic grocery bags and egg cartons for the Open Door Food Pantry. Every time a bag is donated, that is one less bag that has to be purchased by the pantry. When I recently asked Gary Chapman, Director of the pantry, if he would like us to continue to collect the bags and egg cartons, he very enthusiastically answered, "Yes, by all means."

Please leave your donations of plastic grocery bags and egg cartons in the first Sunday School room on the left on the second floor, room 201. I usually collect the after church on Sunday for delivery to the pantry the following day. Thanks so much.

Lori Rehm

A grandfather was delivering his grandchildren to their home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog. The children started discussing the dog's duties.

"They use him to keep crowds back," said one child.

"No," said another. "He's just for good luck."

A third child brought the argument to a close.

"They use the dogs," she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrants."



COMMUNION SERVER TRAINING

On Sunday, April 19 at 9:30 a.m. we will be offering a training session for people who would like to assist in serving communion. We have recently lost a few of our regular helpers due to schedule or health issues, and they need to be replaced. The training can be done in one session; there is printed material to hand out for future reference. Assisting with communion is a very special service that one can offer. If you have any interest in this training, even if you just want to see what is involved before you decide to offer your services, please join me on April 19.

Lori Rehm



Zion Seniors

The Young at Heart, a social group for those 55 and over, will be eating lunch at First Watch on Union Center Blvd. on Tuesday, April 28. We'll meet at the restaurant at 11:30. Please sign the sheet in the great hall if you would like to go along.

We encourage all our seniors or almost seniors to go along for these fun outings. It gives you a chance to get to know your fellow church members.



April Adult Fellowship

Dinner at Antonio's

7165 Liberty Centre Dr.

off Cincinnati-Dayton Rd. & Rte 129

Saturday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Questions: call Hank 513.476.8449 or

Edith at 513.844-6255



DIAPERING DETROIT 2015

There was a lady in Detroit called the Diaper Lady. Marybeth recognized a need and created a solution in 2009 by starting the Detroit Area Diaper Bank. She was motivated by stories of low income families stealing or reusing diapers. She heard stories of desperate moms and dads sending their children to pre-school wearing plastic grocery bags when their supply of diapers ran out. She found out WIC, food stamps or Medicare do not help with this. The implications are far reaching:

1. Parents cannot leave children at daycare without diapers. So if they can't afford diapers, they can't go to school and a vicious cycle of poverty continues.
2. A child crying uncontrollably by being in the same diaper too long leads to a greater risk of abuse, in an already stressed household.
3. Seniors can't afford incontinence supplies and become housebound, creating pressure on programs like meals on wheels.

Because her family relocated Marybeth had to move. An agency called Starfish Family Services has stepped up and agreed to store and distribute the diapers to Detroit as in-kind gift offerings by youth gathering attendees.

Women of the ELCA groups are invited to join ELCA youth in collecting diapers for their in-kind gifts to Detroit. Connect with young people in your congregation who are going to the 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering to find out how you can help. Perhaps a gift for money would be easier for the youth to carry. If so, diapers could be bought in Detroit to help the economy. If your congregation is not sending youth to the gathering, you might connect with a gathering synod coordinator to find a congregation near you that is. At the request of youth in your congregation you can make a check out to Women of the ELCA with Youth Gathering-diapers in the memo line to ELCA Gift Processing Center, PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. You can also ship the diapers directly to Immanuel Lutheran Church, 13031 Chandler Park Dr. Detroit, Michigan 48213.

Collecting, sorting and delivering diapers are among the service projects young people attending the 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering will participate in. Diapers will be collected at the 150-plus hotels where the youth will stay. On their service day, young people will load the diapers into trailers that will be hauled by local volunteers to the Starfish Family Services Building. ELCA Youth will unload the diapers into the Starfish Facility, take inventory, and organize them by size. The greatest need is for children's sizes 3&4, but all sizes will be appreciated,

including incontinence supplies for adults. Wipes are also needed.

The youth gathering staff is grateful to the Women of the ELCA for supporting youth as they strive to leave a legacy of service and generosity in Jesus' name in Detroit this summer. (Heidi Hagstrom, director of youth gathering.)

In Southern Ohio, I would love to encourage every church to participate in this. Per above there are several options. If you chose to send a check to the women of the ELCA as mentioned above, they will purchase the diapers. Please reference (6F) for our synod so we will know the scope of our generosity. You could also send them with your youth if they are taking a bus and have the room. I will be going and if you are more comfortable collecting gift cards, I will gladly take them to Detroit and purchase the diapers for you. Send me an email (rbk013@gmail.com) and we can arrange a connection for collection.

Thank you ahead of time for your generosity to Detroit.

Robin Kaelin

President of the South Ohio Women of the ELCA



GRADUATION SUNDAY

Zion will honor our graduates on Sunday, May 17. If you or anyone you know from Zion is graduating from high school, college, or beyond, please call the office and let us know.

He Is
RISEN
INDEED!





City-Wide Faith Based Alliance Annual Picnic

The city-wide Faith Based Alliance 4th Annual Picnic is being held on Saturday, June 20 at the Booker T Washington Community Center. There will be food, fun, worship, music and fellowship. Last year around 2,000 people attended. As you can imagine, it takes many hands to pull this off. This year Zion is actively involved with the planning, along with representatives from about 25 other churches, including The Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist, and Pilgrim Baptist. We are looking for volunteers to help with:

- **Transportation:** shuttling people from parking lots to the picnic.
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- **Food:** helping make Zion's donations and helping serve.
- **Set Up:** setting up canopies and tables and chairs. Generally getting the area ready.
- **Clean Up:** taking everything down and restoring everything to its original condition.
- **First Aid:** we would like to have a nurse available
- **Music:** we are having a mass choir which will practice several times before the picnic. Voices or instruments are welcome.

We are also looking for a few coolers and canopies to use. Make sure you put your name and church on anything loaned.

I've put a sign-up sheet in the great hall. Please sign up for any place you would like to help and the head of the committee will contact you. Thank you in advance and I hope to see many of you at the picnic.

THANK YOU!!!!
From
The Open Door Food Pantry

THANK YOU!! to Zion Lutheran Church and its members who supported the Open Door Food Pantry by participating in the Meijer Simply Give Campaign during this past November and December. Through your efforts, a total of \$7100 was raised to help feed the hungry in the greater Hamilton area. Of this amount, \$2570 was contributed by our donors from the community, and \$4530 was contributed by the Meijer Corporation as matching funds. Clearly, this Simply Give campaign is a powerful way to multiply the dollars of our donors. These funds will be used at our local Meijer's store to purchase food that is greatly needed but is not available from other sources like Shared Harvest or food donation campaigns.

In Butler County, 1 in 7 people are living under the poverty line and unable to afford adequate food. The purpose of the Open Door Food Pantry is to provide a 3-5 day supply of emergency food to feed an individual or family in need who resides in the Hamilton/Butler County area. The Pantry is located a few blocks south of downtown Hamilton in a low income racial mixed neighborhood with a high unemployment rate. The Pantry is open 4 days a week (20 hours) providing both daytime and evening options for clients to pick up food. It operates as a "choice pantry" which means that clients have the opportunity to choose foods best suited to their families' specific tastes.

2014 was the busiest year for the Pantry, which experienced more than a 20% increase in clients served compared to 2013. In a typical month, over 3,000 clients were served at the Pantry, receiving both packaged food and fresh produce. During 2014, the Pantry provided food equivalent to approximately 120,000 meals.

As you can see, the need is great, and your generous support will help us to continue to fulfil our mission of feeding the hungry in our community



Thanks to our March bulletin stuffers: Joan Boling, Barb & Tom Toman, Thelma Martin, Cindy Burkhart and Lori Rehm.

Thank you to the following individuals who delivered Meals on Wheels in March: Tammy & Mike Adams, Lori Rehm, Carolyn Soupene, Dave & Carolyn Schul, Ron & Kay Erbeck, Patti Sroufe and Dennis Steele.

There are many individuals who count on these volunteers to deliver their nutrition each and every week and even though it's cold outside the above volunteers are dependable and willing to deliver meals one time a month every month.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help as a substitute, please call JoAnette Coe at 844-6395. Meals are delivered to individuals at Bell Towers in Lindenwald and takes about 90 minutes to 2 hours total time.

Thank you to Steve Herget for the greeting cards given to the Agape Committee. They have made good use of them!

SECURITY MEASURES

We are attempting to become more secure. Some of you may have found doors locked. We are now locking hallway doors during the week. The doors should be unlocked during worship times. If you can't get to where you need to be, see a trustee or Julia in the office.

The double doors outside of the gym going to the lower area below the church will be locked during the 10:30 service each week. The push button code for the door is 001521. Also, the back outside door on Ludlow St will lock at 10:30 on Sunday morning. This is to make sure our nursery is safe. Thank you for your patience with these changes.



Mark Your Calendars!

Thursday, May 7, 2015

**Special service at Zion for the
National Day of Prayer**

Watch for further details.



Missionary Corner

In case you don't remember, last year I (Jose Luis) was invited to participate as a chaplain for the professional baseball team in our city in Mexico. It was a great experience for me because I had a good relationship with the manager and together we had a chapel before games on Sundays. My last action performed with the team was giving a New Testament to a player interested in learning more about God.

This coming season has been different: new owners, new players, new manager, new coach, new rules. The first day I couldn't get into the stadium because nobody knew me and I was told to make an appointment by phone with the manager, explain the program and ask for an opportunity to have the chapel with the team.

Have you ever seen the movie *We Are Marshall*? Remember that scene where Coach Jack Lengyel asked the president of the university to get an exception in the recruitment process, but no one important in the NCAA office took the calls. Coach Lengyel asked the president, "Are you married?" The president replied, "Yes I am." Then the coach said, "I bet you did not propose to her on the phone, right?"

With your prayers and a little reminder from this movie, I went straight to the ballpark again with no appointment scheduled. I'll tell you the short version of the story: I was in the field in less than 10 minutes with the manager arranging the time and day for our chapel. Divine intervention? What do you think? Do you want to hear more? One minute after having finished with the manager, an assistant coach approached me and asked, "You are the team chaplain, right? I need advice." We talked for an hour and now this coach is my main contact within the team!

"Go and make disciples." I bet you cannot make disciples by phone, right? Praise God for His work on this team and thank you for being a part of it! Please pray for divine opportunities to talk with the players throughout this season. Please also pray this month for the translations that we'll be finishing of *The Jesus Film* and for the many who will see it, that The Lord would use it in their lives. Thanks!

Until they all hear,
Jose Luis and Christy Sanchez



Everyone needs prayer. In order to keep our list relevant and up to date, we will be automatically removing names from the list after 30 days. A note or phone call to the office or pastor is all that is needed to continue or add a name to the list. Please let us know if a name needs to be added or removed.

Please pray for:

- Mildred Ante: Blood clots in legs
- Jessica Baecker: undergoing chemo for autoimmune disorder
- Allan Burger: cancer lungs, liver and pancreas
- Dick Gardner: health issues
- Preeya Grunwald: health issues
- Harold Haste: had a stroke
- Jean Henderson: hip replacement on March 30
- Jennifer: financial and medical
- Tristan Lauer: in Army stationed at Fort Benning, GA for 6 months
- Lewis Kelley: lung cancer
- Adela Loge: health issues
- Lois: health issues
- Michael: personal issues
- Molly: cancer
- Helen Moody: stage one cancer. Starting chemo.
- Emily Moore: appendectomy with complications
- Family & friends of Lester Niederman passed away on March 24
- Kelli Platt: pregnant with 4th child. Due in May.
- Preston: health concerns
- Family & friends of Ray Shearer who passed away on March 12
- Paul Stanbery: having surgery April 7 to reverse colostomy.
- Karen Seckel Streit: health issues
- Family & friends of Paul Waechter who passed away on March 7
- Caroline Wendelken: pneumonia
- Pastor Betsy Williams: back issues

BLESSINGS ABOUND

Here are blessings members have reported in the last month...

Thank you for all the prayers for Rick Baker. He passed away 2 week ago from pancreatic cancer. Thank you for all the prayers.
Gail Konrad

What a blessing to this church to have a choir, bell choir and director that can bring to life, through music, the story of Easter. Thank you.
Thelma Martin



Unity

City-Wide Faith Based Alliance
“Building a Beloved Community”

SAVE THE DATE

**4th Annual Church Picnic
Saturday, June 20, 2015**

Booker T. Washington Community
Center
114 South Front Street
Hamilton, OH 45011

****Food**Fun**Fellowship****





**Council Minutes
February 10, 2015**

Attending: Pastor Joe Schrock, Ron Alcorn, Robin Kaelin, Lou Robinson, Kathy Frye, Emily Sears, Mike Ford, Nathaniel Kaelin, Carolyn Soupene, Steve Herget, Gayle Ford, Bennie Bowling, Richard Brown, Ken Gerold, Phil Pflaumer, Bill Carpenter Mike Frye.

Excused: Sandy Sanders, Tammy Adams, Kathy Chambers

- **Motion** (M Ford/L Robinson) and passed to approve agenda.
- **Motion** (L Robinson/G Ford) and passed to accept the January 2015 Council Minutes with one correction.
- **Pastor’s Report:** Presented written report detailing current and future activities and events.
- **Treasurer’s Report:** Lou advised Radio Fund is declining and suggested creating Radio Committee to explore funding and quality of broadcast.
- **Evangelism:** Working on May 1 National Day of Prayer detailing future activities to support event.
- **Social Concerns:** reviewing VBS material. Anticipates VBS involvement with First United Methodist Church. Researching Zion involvement with Family Promise program.
- **Visitation:** 29 cards sent, 6 visits and several phone calls.
- **Youth:** Will support pot luck dinner for new members on 2/15. Valentine’s Adult Fellowship will provide baby-sitting. Band of Brothers will support Easter Breakfast.
- **Parish Ed:** Ken advised met with St. Marks UMC for joint VBS activities. Expense to be shared.
- **Fellowship:** Chili cook off and Euchre Night were successful.
- **Public Relations:** Promoting upcoming events via Facebook and website. Attended Chamber of commerce networking meeting. Updated Zion ad with Cox Media Group and working with NovoPrint to design ad for Chamber of Commerce book.
- **Trustees:** Security cameras have been installed. Security door installed leading to nursery. Handicap rest room suggested for 4th floor, room 212. Various doors plus elevator will be locked when outside groups are using Zion facilities. North gym wall is scheduled for repair in spring. Window leaks being addressed.

- **Motion** (M Ford/M Frye) and passed to clean carpets in nursery, Sunday school room/sewing room, lounge, sanctuary, pew cushions at cost of \$1,324.
- **Motion** (L Robinson/M Frye) and passed to increase funding from parking revenue from 15% to 25% to apply toward parking lot repair. Amended to apply 100% of parking revenue to parking lot repair. (M Ford/R Kaelin) and passed
- **Motion** (L Robinson/R Kaelin) and passed to adjourn.

Monthly statistics

**Financial Stewardship
(as of February 28, 2015)**

	Income	Expenses
2014	\$15,135.88	\$23,917.76
2015	\$13,553.05	\$24,356.49

YTD Operating Funds

	Income	Expenses	Balance
2014	\$28,247	\$49,917	
2015	\$26,731	\$54,680	-\$27,814.82

Attendance Averages (February)

Church Atten.	Sun. Comm.	
116	100	

Funerals (Members)

Paul Waechter (died 3/7/2015, funeral 3/13/2015)
Lester Niederman (died 3/24/2015; service 3/28/2015)

Funeral (Non-Member)

Raymond Shearer (died 3/12/2015, service 3/21/2015)

Death of Member (2014)

Richard Corwin

Have you remembered

Zion

in your Will?



**Zion
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church
On Facebook**

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR APRIL

Date	Acolyte 8:00 a.m.	Acolyte 10:30 a.m.
April 5	Usher Team	Alex Bruner
April 12	Usher Team	Eric Bowling
April 19	Usher Team	Marissa Lombardi
April 26	Usher Team	Patrick Huston
Maundy Thurs	7:30 p.m.	
April 2	Eric Bowling Patrick Huston	

Altar Guild: Joan Cunningham

Ushers: Volunteers Needed (8:00)
Volunteers Needed (10:30)

Lectors: Apr 5 Mike Heitz (8:00); Thelma Martin (10:30)
Apr 12 Gayle Ford (8:00); Lisa Gerold (10:30)
Apr 19 Cindy Burkhart (8:00); Phil Pflaumer (10:30)
Apr 26 Peggy Thomin (8:00); Lou Robinson (10:30)
Thursday, Apr 2 Anita Snyder (7:30 pm)

Greeters: Apr 5 Bill & Elaine Carpenter (10:30)
Apr 12 Kelly Platt & family (10:30)
Apr 19 Mike & Holly Frye (10:30)
Apr 26 Greg & Chris Allen (10:30)

Eucharist Assistants: Apr 5 Stephanie Heitz, Tillie Adams (8:00); Phil Pflaumer, Marge Withrow (10:30)
Apr 12 Barb & Tom Toman (8:00); Carolyn Soupene, Kathy Chambers (10:30)
Apr 19 Wayne & Patrice Huston (8:00); Ken & Shari Gerold (10:30)
Apr 26 Anita Snyder, Barb Toman (8:00); Kathy Chambers, Phil Pflaumer (10:30)
Thursday Apr 2 Anita Snyder, Wayne Huston (7:30 pm)

Radio: Apr 5 Lou Robinson
Apr 12 Adam Reed
Apr 19 Ron Alcorn
Apr 26 Charles Kaelin

Nursery: Samantha Bowling

Bulletin Stuffers: Apr 3 Joan Boling
Apr 10 Tom & Barb Toman
Apr 17 Thelma Martin
Apr 24 Lori Rehm, Cindy Burkhart

Offering Counters: Apr 5 Gayle Ford, Lori Rehm
Apr 12 Steve Herget, Bennie Bowling
Apr 19 Nathaniel Kaelin
Apr 26 Gayle Ford, Bennie Bowling

The mission of Zion is to
Encourage
a growing faith in Jesus Christ and to
Equip
all people for witness and service.

