

# The Messenger

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church February 2014

## Pastor's COLUMN

Many years ago I served another historic Zion Lutheran Church, but as a deaconess. The pastor's resignation pleased a number of members. A woman approached me at the door following his announcement, and spoke to me gruffly, "This church has survived over 200 years *in spite of its pastors, and we will survive this one too.*" I can't say her tone or words were especially helpful or well meaning...but in a certain way she was right. The Church on earth has prevailed both because of and in spite of all of us. That's a wonder and a marvel. This Zion, your Zion, continues "in the meantime" without a regularly called pastor in office, through "pastoral vacancy." The ministry of this congregation and you, its members, is most certainly NOT vacant, however! The work of the Gospel continues every day in the daily words, deeds, and witness of each and every member. "In the meantime" can be a time of rich reflection, discernment, and growth as we listen carefully to the Holy Spirit's proddings. "In the meantime" can also be a time of thrilling (and) terrifying risk. So much seems to be at stake. We get anxious and fearful, because if we get this wrong, there's a lot to lose. We do not live in luxurious times these days as the Church. "In the meantime" therefore, we live Care Fully. We do not want to see the meantime also become a Mean Time, where in fear and anxiety we press for our way or the highway. This time is an opportunity to care for one another and the congregation we love as Christ has first loved us and his Church. I have been invited to share this "meantime ministry" with you and I am very glad to be here, and grateful for the kindness of your welcome.

I will be in the office Monday/Wednesday/Fridays, 9:30-12:30 and eager to meet you if you are in the building! I am available in the afternoons by appointment, since I plan to be out on visits as often as possible in the afternoon. My husband has decided to sing in the choir for the Faure Requiem, so I am going to "hang around" on Wednesday evenings during choir.

I have served congregations since 1982, first as a deaconess and then as a pastor. My husband Jim and I have two children—David, our 20 year old college student planning to transfer to UC in the fall in Industrial Design, and Carys, (rhymes with Paris) our 10 year old fifth grader at Mason Intermediate. We share our home in Mason with two Australian Shepherds, Ruby and Max. Carys and I are learning how to train Max for agility, and with a friend of ours we dream of starting an agility league for people who use wheelchairs.

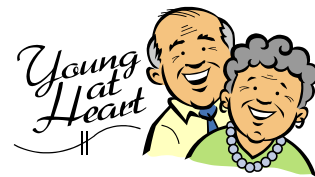
In addition to ministry, I love writing, baking bread, textile arts, and any number of creative enterprises. I'm teaching myself to knit right now. In November I joined a writer's challenge to produce a 50,000 word novel in 30 days. I did it! I also write a blog of musings on the lectionary readings each week, "Not All Who Wander are Lost." You can find both the blog and the novel "The Funeral Preacher" at [www.revbmw.wordpress](http://www.revbmw.wordpress).

You can reach me at the church office or on my phone at 513-348-0401 or by email at [revbmw77@gmail.com](mailto:revbmw77@gmail.com).

I pray for God's blessings to dwell richly among us and between us "In the meantime."

Peace!

*Pastor Betsy*



## Zion Seniors

The Young at Heart, a social group for those 55 and over, will be eating lunch at Applebee's at Bridgewater Falls on Tuesday, February 25. We'll meet at the restaurant at 11:15. 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.



*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.*

### **Women in the Bible**

#### **First Woman on Earth**

*This year's look at Women in the Bible begins with Eve.*

Eve was the first woman on earth, the first wife, and the first mother. She is often referred to as the "Mother of All the Living." Very little is known about Eve. There is not much said of her in the book of Genesis. Like most mothers, even though her accomplishments were great, they were for the most part, overlooked.

God created Adam and found him wanting. Enter Eve, formed from Adam's rib. She was made by God as a reflection of his image to be a helper to Adam. She was also given the power to choose between good and evil.

In the creation story we find a strong, interdependent Eve, fully engaged with the world around her. She explored the Garden, dialogued with a serpent, decided on the forbidden fruit, and liked it enough to share the experience with Adam.

Eve's story reminds us that women can be both creative and destructive. She teaches us to weigh our choices carefully, tempering our desires with wisdom.

Eve also teaches us that God wants us to freely choose to follow and obey him out of love. Nothing we do is hidden from God. Likewise, it does not benefit us to blame others for our own failings. We must accept personal responsibility for what we do. ([www.beliefnet.com](http://www.beliefnet.com))

### **Thankoffering Boxes**

Thankoffering boxes are being made available to all members of the congregation this year. These can be found in the Great Hall.

It is suggested that you place your Thankoffering container in a conspicuous location, so that it can be a reminder that our family, church, friends, health and material things are all gifts from God.

### **Lenten Luncheons**

This year Lenten Luncheons will be served at noon only on Ash Wednesday, March 5 and Maundy Thursday, April 17. Contact Thelma Martin if you would like to help with these luncheons.

### **ZLCW Board Meeting**

**January 13, 2014**

*The following is a brief summary of the January 13<sup>th</sup> ZLCW Board Meeting.*

A major portion of the meeting was devoted to editing and finalizing the Women of Zion annual program. All committee chair positions have been filled. Bereavement teams for all months have been formed, although there are still a few months that could use a little extra help.

A total of \$342.32 was collected from thankofferings this year. As in the past one half of this will be sent to WELCA and the other half will be given to Zion's Emergency Fund. About \$150 has been received from soup sales. Just a little over \$100 was spent on carnations for the shut-ins and ingredients for soup.

Installation of board members and committee chairs will take place at all services on January 25th and 26th. At that time, the 2014 Women's Program booklet and Thankoffering boxes will be made available in the Great Hall.

Women of Zion will prepare and serve Lenten Lunches on Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday. Plans are underway for our first general meeting on March 16th.

### **2014 Women's Booklets**

The 2014 booklets were distributed at the end of January. Each booklet contains the annual program. It gives information about the Women of Zion organization, the officers, committee chairs and projects. If you are interested in participating in any activity, please contact a committee chair or member of the board. All women of Zion are members of this organization and are encouraged to participate.

### **Thank you!!!**

- Thank you – Joan and Don Boling for taking down the Chrisom tree and ornaments.
- Thank you – Elaine and Bill Carpenter for taking down the "Hanging of the Greens".
- Thank you – Julia Hilbert for helping to put together the Women's Annual Booklet.

**Coming Soon!! Mark you calendars!**

**Women's March General Meeting**

***Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.***

***Pizza and drink provided***

***Program: Speaker from Wernle Home***



## BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

The Book of the Month Club will meet on Tuesday, February 4 to discuss *Alias Grace* by Barbara Atwood. In the novel *Alias Grace*, author Margaret Atwood retells the story of Grace Marks, a real nineteenth-century Canadian woman who was accused of, and spent thirty years in jail for, the murder of two people. These murders were the most sensationalized story of the mid-1800s, and accounts of the trial and aspects of Marks's life were well publicized.

We'll meet on February to discuss *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd. *The Invention of Wings*, a powerful and sweeping historical novel by Sue Monk Kidd, begins, fittingly, with an image of flight: Hetty "Handful", who has grown up as a slave in early nineteenth century Charleston, recalls the night her mother told her that her ancestors in Africa could fly over trees and clouds. That day, Handful's mother, Charlotte, gave her daughter the gift of hope—the possibility that someday she might regain her wings and fly to freedom. Throughout Kidd's exquisitely written story, Handful struggles, sometimes with quiet dissidence, sometimes with open rebellion, to cultivate a belief in the invincibility of her spirit and in the sacred truth that one does not need actual wings in order to rise.

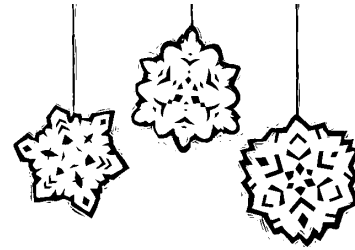
Plan on joining us in the church lounge at 6:30 p.m. for these events. We always welcome new people. Remember, reading and fellowship is good for the mind and soul!



## PRESCRIPTION BOTTLES

Many thanks to those of you who have been bringing your prescription bottles in. The program has been a great success. We hope that you will continue to bring your prescription bottles in. They are taken to Matthew Ministries and used for prescription medicines in developing countries.

**So.....Drop off EMPTY** pill bottles in the container in the Great Hall. We accept prescription pill bottles and over-the-counter pill bottles (such as vitamins). Please be sure to rinse bottles and remove labels. You can also drop a nickel, dime or quarter in them to help with postage. 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 here.



## Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Severe Winter Weather Policy

It has been and will always be the policy of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church to provide members and all others the opportunity to worship at weekly Saturday and Sunday services. However, the church wishes to recognize that circumstances due to severe winter weather conditions may cause the cancellation of a service(s) in order to ensure the safety and physical well-being of all church members.

Therefore, as approved by Church Council on December 10, 2013, it shall become Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church policy to cancel Saturday and/or Sunday worship services due to severe winter weather conditions if the Butler County Engineer's Office issues a Level 2 Winter Weather Alert to all media outlets (radio, TV, Face-book, website, etc.). Level 2 says: "Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads may also be very icy. Only those who feel it is necessary to drive should be out on the roads. Contact your employer to see if you should report to work. Motorists should use extreme caution."

During the winter and especially if inclement weather occurs, Zion's membership is asked to observe all media outlets including radio and television for any announcement issued by the Butler County Engineer's Office. If a Level 2 snow emergency is issued, all church services and events scheduled to occur during the time the alert is in effect shall be cancelled.

Finally, should inclement winter weather occur of a less severe nature than the Level 2 alert, the congregation is respectfully encourage to use their best judgment in terms of attempting to attend scheduled services.



*February Adult Fellowship  
Celebrating God's love with a chocolate  
themed party!*

*February 8th, 2014 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.  
Sign-up sheet to be placed in the great hall.*

*Please join us at our home to share a  
sweet with your sweetie. Whether it's  
marriage, brotherly love, children,  
friendship or your neighbor, we'd like to  
gather together celebrating God's love for  
us. All are welcome to our house for  
chocolate treats and a Valentine's Day  
themed game.*

*Jeff and Adrienne Sander  
5339 Aspen Valley Drive  
Liberty TWP, OH 45011  
513-515-2746 (home)  
(North on 747 to Kyles Station, sub  
division "The Groves of Aspen Trails")*

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

**HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE**

How to Study the Bible, a Bible study led by Derek & Karen Conklin, will start meeting in Zion's lounge on Thursday, February 6 at 7:00 p.m.. Everyone is invited.



**"Encourage and Equip"  
Adult Bible Study Sunday School Class**

We meet Sunday morning at 9:30 - 10:15 next to the nursery.

On January 19<sup>th</sup> we began a new study of Passover. To understand Passover you have to understand the Exodus. Why did the Jews want to leave Egypt, why were they there in the first place? It all starts in the book of Genesis, "IN THE BEGINNING"

Join us, *Kathy and Mike Frye*



**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](http://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, 513-863-0532.

**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.



# Chuck E Cheese

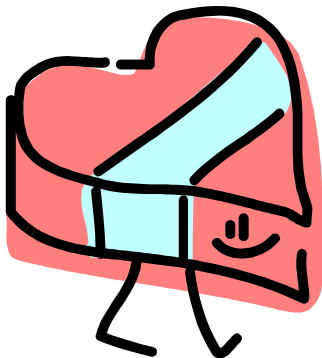
Do we have your attention?  
All boys and girls thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited  
to come to a Valentine's Mardi Gras.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 1**

Yes that's right. We are going celebrate two - two Times in One! You can bring your moms and dads if you want to, but it is not mandatory. We will meet at Zion to caravan to Northgate Chuck-E-Cheese for pizza and games. The caravan will take off at 10:30 – returning by 1:30. Families are welcome to join us directly there from 11-1pm.

Some fun surprises have been included and we hope you can make it.

Still have questions? Contact: Robin Kaelin  
by phone: 513-284-5176 or email:  
[rkaelin6358@yahoo.com](mailto:rkaelin6358@yahoo.com).



## Missionary Corner

Jessica is like many college students in our city who have traveled to Puebla from small villages for an opportunity to earn a degree. They come with so much hope yet often don't think about returning to their villages to help make a difference. They'd rather stay in the city. But when we found out that Jessica's family doesn't know Christ and that there is no Christian church in her village, we couldn't help but think that maybe she is the one God will use to take Christ to them.

Since last Spring we've been mentoring Jessica and teaching her how to use Bible story telling to minister to others. We were ecstatic when she shared with us that she couldn't wait to go home for Christmas and share Bible stories with her family. That she did! Many family members reacted in different ways and it opened up doors for her to talk about her faith. Her grandpa asked if she could come every day to share stories and he ended up praying with her to accept Christ! I picture Jessica with her elderly grandfather, who likely can't read, masters an indigenous language better than Spanish, and has no Christian church in his village. What a gift these stories were to him! What a gift Jesus is to us all!

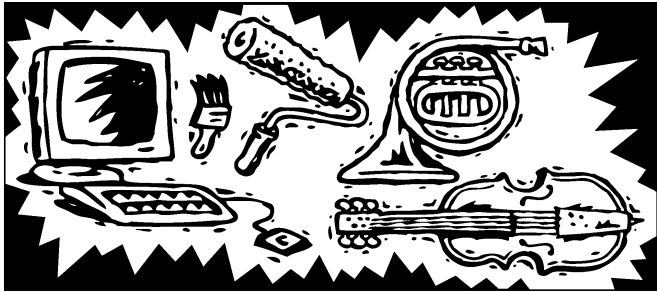
Thanks for partnering with us to reach and help young people grow in Christ! As we're seeing, God uses young people in some pretty neat ways! Please continue to pray for us, for Jessica and for many more to be sent out, taking the stories of the Bible to people who have not yet understood or heard. Thanks!

Until they all hear,  
*Jose Luis & Christy Sanchez*  
Puebla, Puebla Mexico

Have you remembered

***Zion***

in your Will?



## STEWARDSHIP FOCUS

### February Stewardship Focus - "YOU"

Yes, that is right, You! *Oh, not in the, what's in it for me way*, for in the Bible it says "Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Matthew 6:25-27" *and not in the; what am I wearing way*, because it says in the Bible "And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; Matthew 6:27-29". The focus this month is more in the ways the Bible guides us to take care of ourselves.

Consider "Proverbs 3:7-9 <sup>7</sup> Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. <sup>8</sup> It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones." Or "A tranquil mind gives life to the flesh, but passion makes the bones rot. Proverbs 14:29-31" or "A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones. Proverbs 17:21-23" The Proverbs in the Bible are full of messages for good "You" Health.

There are 31 Books in Proverbs. Consider using these books as your spiritual vitamins. Read a book a day, depending on the corresponding day – and consider putting the date next to one that jumps out at you that day. Over the year you will be amazed at how much your spirit will have stretched.

Stretching is not limited to the spirit, once we have put God first we need to make time to stretch ourselves, After all in Romans 12 we are told we are "by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." Imagine that, our body is the temple of God! (Well he does live in our hearts) Are you taking care of your temple? Do you exercise it, bath it, fill it with good things God created like fruits and vegetables, animals and grains, or do you find man made artificial goodies more appealing? I have to

admit there are some I am partial to. I believe in moderation, going back to that tranquil mind in the second paragraph. Stretching is a way to relieve the tension that builds up during our time out in the world. How about going to the gym or playing on our softball team? Dancing in a Zumba Class or biking across town? Finding an exercise routine and a good diet are good ways to take care of ourselves.

An attitude of Gratitude and Self Discipline are the keys to taking care "Ourselves". Check out the bulletin board in the Pastor's hall for more great ideas on taking care of "You".

Till next month,  
*Zion's Stewardship Team*

(All verses used in this were taken from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible)



### 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.



The following gifts have been given to Zion.

In memory of **Marli Rice**

For the Memorial Fund: Dave & Carolyn Schul

In memory of **Jean Mueller**

For the Memorial Fund: Robert Ott and family; Lewis, Bonnie and David Hobbs; Marilyn Huddleson; Friends from February, Cliff, Dave and Jeff



## Zion Adult Fellowship February 2014

Well we've been through the big chill of 2014 and hopefully that is behind us for this year. Clearly with the temperatures outside, I can say with confidence winter has arrived!

Now is a good time to take care of those winter time blues by joining fellow Adult members of Zion and their friends for a fun and relaxing evening.

We have several great activities lined up for this year! Check them out on the calendar below and join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday (usually) of the month.

**January 11<sup>th</sup>** found us returning for our **Annual Adult Fellowship Chili-Off** Hosted by the Sears. We had a TERRIFIC turnout - Over 40 people. THANK YOU Joe and Julia! You did a great job!



**February 8<sup>th</sup>** Celebrating God's love with a Chocolate Themed party

Hosts: Adrienne and Jeff Sanders

5339 Aspen Valley Drive  
Liberty TWP, OH 45011  
513-515-2746 (home)

(North on 747 to Kyles Station, sub division "The Groves of Aspen Trails")

Time: 6:30 - 8:30

For more details check your weekly bulletin, the website, Facebook, The Messenger or call Julia in the office. Sign-up in the Great Hall

**March 9<sup>th</sup>** Dinner at W.G. Kitchen

Hosts: Hank Goble and Edith Stewart

For more details check your weekly bulletin, the website, Facebook, The Messenger or call Julia in the office. Sign-up in the Great Hall



**April 12<sup>th</sup>** 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pot Luck Adventure and Mexican Train game night

Hosts: Mike and Kathy Frye

Time: 6:30 'til????

For more details check your weekly bulletin, the website, Facebook, The Messenger or call Julia in the office. Sign-up in the Great Hall



**May 10<sup>th</sup>** Still available for a host/hostess

If you haven't joined us for an activity, PLEASE COME AND JOIN US we'd love to have you!

*If you have questions feel free to contact us:*

*Kathy Frye PH: 868-7179 email: pilgrimspride1@live.com*

*Or contact Julia in the office for information.*



### News from Thrivent!

Thank you to all our Thrivent members and Congregational Advocates!

Remember you have until March 31, 2014 to designate where you want your 2013 Thrivent Choice Dollars to go. This is a way for you to support your congregation or many other ministries of the larger church. Just go to [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com) to make your choice. If you need help, see your friendly Congregational Advocate.

Last year your Butler County Thrivent Chapter was able to contribute \$10,553.00 to ministry projects in our community. That is an awesome amount to support our local churches and ministries. We sponsored everything from summer brown bag lunches to low income kids to food pantries and playground equipment in needy neighborhoods.

We have similar funds for 2014, so please bring the chapter your projects. Care Abounds in Communities projects can be either Hands-On Service opportunities or Matching Funds events. The chapter needs your help to give away this money to do ministry right here in our midst. Contact your Congregational Advocate for more information.

**Attention Thrivent Members and anyone interested in Thrivent!** We are holding a 2014 Kick Off Breakfast at Golden Corral at St. Route 122 and Interstate 75 on February 15 at 9:00 am. Meet your chapter officers, find out what's new at Thrivent, and get additional information on the expansion of Thrivent through the new Common Bond. There is **no cost to you** (Yes, that means FREE!) and no products will be sold during this event. Just come for some good food and great fellowship.



## March Adult Fellowship Dinner at Wine Guy Kitchen and Bar Saturday, March 8 at 6:30 p.m.



Meet at Bridgewater Falls Wine Guy (across from Fuji House) for a time of good food, wine and fellowship.

Hosted by Hank & Edith (513-476-8449)

Sign-up sheet will be in the great hall after February 8.

### Letter Received from Heritage Hall

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Heritage Hall Museum is please to invite the members of you congregation to view our current exhibit, *Sacred Spaces*. Telling the story of 16 historic Hamilton churches and synagogues, the display features information about your current historic building. Many of the photographs and artifacts featured have never been available for public viewing until now.

Heritage Hall is located in the Frederick G. Mueller Building at 20 High Street, immediately east of the High Street-Main Bridge. Admission to the museum is free and all ages are welcome. Our regular hours of operation are Friday 9:00-4:00 and Saturday 9:00-2:00. Special appointments ca be made to visit the museum by calling (513) 737-5958. *Sacred Spaces* will be on display through February 2014. Would you please consider including an invitation to your congregation inside your church bulletin or newsletter.

Sincerely,  
Brandon Soale  
Curator





Our prayers for God's healing and strength are offered for those who have been hospitalized or have medical or personal issues:

**Name:**

John Adams  
 Beverly Allen  
 Millie Ante  
 Guy Belew  
 Marge Belew  
 Lorainne Blanchard  
 Ella Boynton  
 Linda Brandt  
 Katie Land Brooks  
 Janet Buchheit  
 Sandy Bunger  
 Nicole Carson  
 Maiya Christiansen  
 Gardner Cole  
 Dave Cornett  
 Dennis Day  
 Jane Day  
 Charles Douthit  
 Jack & Evelyn Duvall  
 Lucy Emrick  
 Quenten Fabiano  
 Kelly Farler  
 Karin Bartels Filipas  
 Lyla Follmer  
 Bob French  
 Mike Frye Jr  
 Debbie Gibson  
 Linda Gibson  
 Lois Godby  
 Wilma Hawkey  
 Jack Hiles  
 Cathy Hoelle  
 Marsha & Russell Isaacs  
 Shirley Kaelin  
 Shelby Kane  
 Maxwell Keck  
 Emma Keck  
 Debbie Keehner  
 Lee & Melba Keehner  
 Elnora Kehr  
 Ava Kemen  
 Brian Kerestan  
 Randy Kleinsmith  
 Sadie Knott  
 Jimmy Kollstedt  
 J.C. Lockett  
 Mark Lykins

**Requested by:**

Tillie Adams  
 Greg Allen  
 Member  
 Ingrid Sanders  
 Lori Rehm  
 Gail Konrad  
  
 Julia Sears  
 Sandy Ziepfel  
 Member  
 Elaine Carpenter  
  
 Susie Pflaumer Hassett  
 Ingrid Sanders  
 Gail Konrad  
 Kara Konrad Ramsey  
 Gail Konrad  
 Cheryl Griesinger  
 Members  
 Kathy Chambers  
 email  
 Member  
 Member  
 Marcia Helsinger  
 Kathy Frye  
 Member  
 Julia Sears  
 Lindsey Gibson  
 Gail Konrad  
 Kathy Frye  
 Member  
 Darlene Onyett  
 Joe Sears  
 Member  
  
 Jean Keck  
 Jean Keck  
 Melba Keehner  
 Members  
 Member  
 Joe & Julia Sears  
  
 Vicki Wheeler  
 Kathy Frye  
 Gail Konrad  
 Gail Konrad  
 Gayle Ford

Jasper Maffeo  
 Frank Martin  
 Mary Martin  
 Fred McCollum  
 Marjorie McGill  
 Joy Merrill  
 Michelle  
 Kevin Miller  
 Betty Mullen  
 Chris Onyett  
 Mitch Parker  
 Sandy Parker  
 Kathleen Peck  
 Terry Pfizer  
 Joyce Pinter  
 Poleti Family  
 Kim Proeschel  
 Judy Ramsey  
 Sophia Ellen Riggs  
 Candy Robinson  
 Maribeth Robinson  
 George Sanchez  
 Ernie Savage  
 Marge Schick  
 Ed Schmidt  
 Erica Schulze & family  
 Mark Schumacher  
 Frederic Seif  
 Ray Setser  
 Thelma Setser  
 Bill Sharon  
 Tim Simer  
 Del Smith  
 Heather Spurlino  
 Patty Sroufe  
 Ruth Stanton  
 Dennis Steele  
 LaVerne Stewart  
 Jackie Isaacs Stout  
 Kaitlin Sunderhaus  
 Debbie Sunderman  
 Janet Thompson  
 Helen Timmer  
 Paul Waechter  
 Robert M. Weidner  
 Caroline Wendelken  
 Harry Whitaker  
 Jim Wilkins  
 Geri Willis  
 Karin Zapf

Mary Snavley  
 Member  
 Marjorie McGill  
 Nancy Wenning  
 Member  
 Member  
 Phil & Karen Pflaumer  
 Angie Lauer  
 Debbie Ferguson  
 Darlene Onyett  
 Member  
 Member  
 Libby Huston  
 Helen Timmer  
 Member  
 Frank Martin  
 Helen Timmer  
 Kara Konrad  
  
 Barbara Blair  
 Betty Ross  
 Member  
 Brenda Savage  
 Member  
 Member  
 Frank Martin  
 Member  
 Laura McAdams  
 Bob Herold  
 Bob Herold  
 Paul Waechter  
 Mike Engel  
 Marcia Helsinger  
  
 Member  
 Vicki Wheeler  
 Member  
 Member  
 Member  
 Darlene Onyett  
 Gail Konrad  
 Nancy Wenning  
 Member  
 Member  
 Robert Weidner  
 Member  
 Julia Sears  
  
 Frank Martin



Our sincere Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Pastor Bob Heiliger** (pastor at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Darrtown) who passed away on January 19; **Robert Reeves** (husband of Elaine Wilson who passed away on January 22; and **Bob Gifford** who passed away on January 27.

Continue to pray for those in the armed forces: **Michael Brown, Alex Duwel, Andrew Copas, Joe Copas, Megan Snyder, Ben Boyce, Justin Follick, Kevin Niemann, Nick Ford, Lisa Johnson Lowery, Dustin Lowery, Bradley Gill.**

As people of God we want to pray for all who are sick or have other prayer requests. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please fill out a prayer request and put it in the offering plate. However, **if you have added someone and they need to be taken off the list, please fill out a request and put it in the offering plate, or call the church office.** Thanks for your help.



Thanks to our January bulletin stuffers: Joan Boling, Thelma Martin, Tom & Barb Toman, Lori Rehm and Sandy Parker.

To the congregation of Zion Lutheran,

Thank you so much for your support. We couldn't do what we do without you doing what you do. We are humbled to count you partners in the Gospel. I hope to meet you and to connect with you all.

Last semester we baptized an OSU faculty and continued to reach out to the street people and the atheist student group with the love of Jesus. God is doing some great stuff.

Blessings, *Grant Eckhart*  
Pastor at Jacob's Porch



### Luther's Life

On Procrastination, Luther wrote, "How soon not now becomes never."

Martin Luther made such a name for himself that 50 years after his death Shakespeare created his character Hamlet, a student at Wittenberg University, the same university where Luther taught.

Luther wrote, "War is the greatest plague that can afflict humanity,, it destroys religion, it destroys states, it destroys families. Any scourge is preferable to it."

Hi Julia,

Hope all is well on this snowy Friday. I wanted to let you know about the result of the Zion Lutheran community blood drive held yesterday. It was a real success, with 43 registered donors and 42 successful donations. This was the first drive held since we moved to a once-a-month schedule. The donors adapted very well to the change and the result is they exceeded the collection target.

Zion Lutheran provides a very important service to the community by providing a place to hold the community blood drives. Each unit of donated blood may be used in up to three patients, typically within two weeks of donation. That said, the Zion donors helped save or improve the lives of up to 126 patients in need of transfusion. Thank you again for providing this valuable community service.

It occurred to me that Zion Lutheran might want to place a small notice in the bulletin announcing the drive to your congregation a week before each drive occurs. I will send you a flyer that we create for each drive – the February, March, and April flyers are attached. Please feel free to use the flyer in electronic communications, or print it and hang it in the church. I will be happy to send over color prints if you prefer, just let me know.

Thanks again Julia.  
Best regards,  
*Bill Roy*  
Community Blood Center



**Council Minutes  
December 10, 2013**

**Present:** Ron Alcorn, Joan Boling, Bill Carpenter, Lori Rehm, Emily Sears, Jessica Purkiser, Joe Sears, Bob Herold, Mike Ford, Gayle Ford, Robin Kaelin, Wayne Huston, Shari Gerold, Ken Gerold, Barb Toman & Mike Frye. **Excused:** Ron Erbeck, Phil Pflaumer, Leanne Bowling, & Bennie Bowling.

- **Motion** (G Ford/J Sears) and passed to accept treasurer's report.
- **Evangelism/PR Report:** Thanked council for allowing pictures to be taken and handed out forms to be filled out by council. Questioned our Winter Weather Policy.
- **Motion** (S Gerold/R Kaelin) and passed to update our Severe Weather Policy to a level 2 and furthermore for PR to notify the congregation via social mediums (Face book, TV, radio, website)
- **Worship & Music Report:** Cantata will be recorded.
- **Visitation Report:** 12 cards were sent out.
- **Youth & Family Fellowship:** Hanging of the greens was a success. Chili Cook-off is 1/11.
- **Parish Ed Report:** Beginning January, we will be having a church school instead of Sunday school.
- **Trustees Report:** Greg Conrad sent Julia a ballpark estimate from Mobil Comm to fix our security system. Ron Erbeck and Bob Herold have done some electrical work in the Sunday school wing and now the rooms have lights again.
- **Motion** (J Sears/M Frye) and passed to spend up to \$8,800.00 from account 109 to update and upgrade door system as well as fix back door.
- **Joe Sears/Trustee:** There is \$3,600 in the new outdoor sign fund.
- **Mike Frye/Trustee:** Flower Risers are finished. Thanks to Butler County Lumber for supplying the wood. Thank you, Mike, they are wonderful!
- **Unfinished Business:** Council reviewed as per requested by the congregational meeting Julia's salary. We want to honor her with a bonus and feel that 3% is appropriate in conjunction for this year. We will revisit this next budget session.
- **Motion** (D Conklin/S Gerold) and passed with regret removal of membership for Ralph Johnston.
- **Motion** (J Sears/R Kaelin) and passed to adjourn meeting.

**Monthly statistics**

**Financial Stewardship  
(as of December 31, 2013)**

	Income	Expenses
<b>2012</b>	\$30,192.31	\$24,452.85
<b>2013</b>	\$30,042.23	\$16,553.63

**YTD Operating Funds**

	Income	Expenses	Balance
<b>2012</b>	\$235,060	\$318,278	
<b>2013</b>	\$223,596	\$185,634	-\$16,116.57

**Attendance Averages (January)**

Church Atten.	Sat. Comm.	Sun. Comm.	Sunday School
100	13	85	26

**Member Released (12/10/2013)**

Ralph Johnston

**Funeral (Non-Member)**

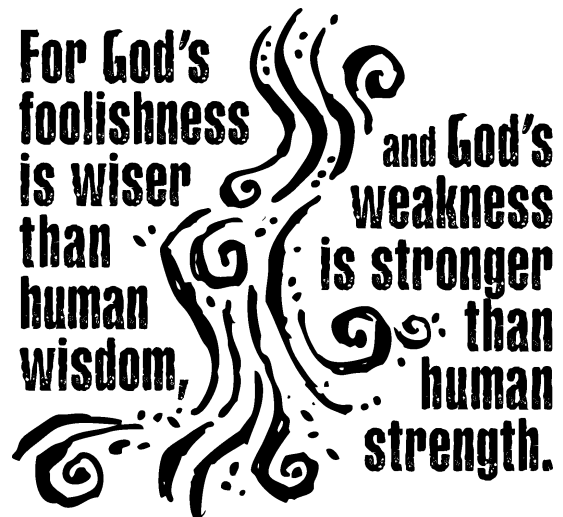
Robert Reeves (died 1/22/2014, funeral 1/24/2014)

**Funeral (Member)**

Robert Gifford (died 1/27/2014, funeral 1/31/2014)



**Zion  
Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church  
On Facebook**



1 CORINTHIANS 1:25, NRSV

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR FEBRUARY**

Date	Acolyte 8:00 a.m.	Acolyte 10:30 a.m.
February 2	Usher Team	Patrick Huston
February 9	Usher Team	Nicholas Lombardi
February 16	Usher Team	Samantha Bowling
February 23	Usher Team	Volunteer needed

**Altar Guild:** Lynn Alcorn, Paula Dabbelt

**Ushers:** Mike Heitz & team (8:00)  
Kaelin Family & team (10:30)

**Lectors:** Feb 2 Stephanie Heitz (8:00); Robin Kaelin (10:30)  
Feb 9 Bethany Allen (8:00); Ron Alcorn (10:30)  
Feb 16 Anita Snyder (8:00); Lou Robinson (10:30)  
Feb 23 Gail Heitz (8:00); Lisa Gerold (10:30)

**Greeters:** Feb 2 Mike & Gail Heitz (8:00); Carolyn Soupene (10:30)  
Feb 9 Ron & Kay Erbeck (8:00); Gary & Robin Kaelin (10:30)  
Feb 16 Don & Joan Boling (8:00); Wayne & Patrice Huston (10:30)  
Feb 23 Bud Scharf (8:00); Thelma Martin (10:30)

**Eucharist Assistants:** Feb 2 Tom & Barb Toman (8:00); Robin Kaelin, Carolyn Soupene (10:30)  
Feb 9 Anita Snyder, Wayne Huston (8:00); Ken & Shari Gerold (10:30)  
Feb 16 Patrice Huston, Tillie Adams (8:00); Phil Pflaumer, Carolyn Soupene (10:30)  
Feb 23 Tom & Barb Toman (8:00); Marge Withrow, Robin Kaelin (10:30)

**Radio:** Feb 2 Lou Robinson  
Feb 9 Adam Reed  
Feb 16 Ron Alcorn  
Feb 23 Charles Kaelin

**Church School:** Feb 2 Jessica Purkiser  
Feb 9 Adrienne Sanders  
Feb 16 Robin Kaelin  
Feb 23 Jessica Purkiser

**Bulletin Stuffers:** Feb 7 Joan Boling  
Feb 14 Barb & Tom Toman  
Feb 21 Ruth Larson, Thelma Martin  
Feb 28 Lori Rehm, Cindy Burkhart

**Offering Counters:** Feb 2 Joan Boling, Shari Gerold  
Feb 9 Gayle Ford, Joe Sears  
Feb 16 Gayle Ford, Steve Herget  
Feb 23 Joan Boling, Kathy Chambers

**Nursery:** Eric & Samantha Bowling

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

