

# The Messenger

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church June/July 2014



## Traveling Mercies

I have a friend who grew up in Papua New Guinea. The arrival of mail and goods from mainland was a big event. People would rush out to greet the incoming ship with hopeful eagerness. It's a scene repeated often in island life all around the world, and gives rise to the phrase "When my ship comes in." One of my favorite children's books by Robert Mensch is "Waiting for the Thursday Boat." The last giant in Ireland has a grievance against St. Patrick for getting rid of all the snakes and giants in Ireland, because he rather *liked* the snakes and giants and *dislikes* the racket of all the church bells St. Patrick hung everywhere. When Patrick insists God likes it better this way, McKeon, the giant, decides that his grievance is as much against God as with Patrick. They hear that God is coming on the Thursday boat, so the giant stakes out a place to wait for God to come. One boat comes in after another, but God is not the imperial dignitary, the strong army, the man so rich he buys the pavement as he walks on it, or any that one might expect to be God. The giant almost gives up waiting, when a small rowboat arrives with a small girl with infectious laughter arrives. The little girl listens kindly as McKeon unloads his grievance against first St. Patrick, and then God who seems to have not cared about the snakes and the giants.

This is my mental image each week that we sing the Kyrie. I love the Kyrie. I love it even more in Greek (Why Greek? A kid in a children's sermon once said "Latin is like the playground, it belongs to everyone by belonging to no one." Substitute Greek and you have it.) I think we miss the boat (pun intended) when we think of mercy as a legal, penitential matter, as in "to throw oneself upon the mercy of the court." Then it would feel as though we've just confessed our sins and now we're going to grovel some more. It's more like waiting at the end of the dock for the Thursday boat. Good things come on the Thursday boat, and we are eagerly waiting. The lord (Kyrie=Lord, Eleison = Mercy) comes on the Thursday boat to bring them. We can't obtain these things with the limited resources of our island. Even though the island is abundant and lush, we still need medicine and the doctor who knows how to use them, we still need visitations from the ruler to establish order, settle grievances, and be in relationship to us and help us to be in better relationship to each other.

I was completely unfamiliar with the phrase "traveling mercies" until I moved to Southeast Ohio. People would request prayers for those who traveled away by asking for

"traveling mercies." We don't feel the vulnerability of traveling so much anymore with cars that work most of the time, cell phones, rest areas, restaurants at every exit, and hotels easily available. Before all of this came to be, traveling was loaded with danger. One had to depend upon the kindness of strangers if traveling longer than a day's journey, be on guard for robbers who could swoop down on the road from their hiding spots in the caves, bring enough food and water for the trip, and leave the security of home. Travelers would sometimes carry a special paper to indicate the purpose of their journey and the permission of their lord to travel. We call them passports now. To pray for traveling mercies is to pray for God's protection and providence for the one so exposed to danger, illness, vulnerability and famine while on the road.

The kyrie is our prayer for traveling mercies. We gather at the dock, waiting for the ship to come with the One who has all that we need. We ready our requests with eagerness and anticipation, confident that the One who is coming is willing and able to provide for us. By coming, the One reaffirms heartfelt desire to be in relationship with us. The One who is coming could have just sent a boat full of stuff, but it's about more than stuff. It's all we need to be set in right relationship to each other, all we need to travel safely and for life to be good for us on the way.

Oh, the Thursday boat did come. God was on it, but McKeon and Patrick failed to recognize God. (Sound familiar?) Having given up on God's coming, they pour their hearts out to the little girl, who listens intently. She magically takes them to tour heaven, and brings them to her tiny little house. They are shocked to discover that the house is filled with snakes and with bells. She gently chides the giant and the saint, explaining that she likes both bells and snakes, and that she needs a good giant and a good saint around and couldn't do without either of them and asks them to please try harder to get along.

I am grateful for sharing the road with you these all too brief months. I will think of you when I sing the kyrie, and pray for traveling mercies for Zion in the months ahead. We all need to learn the mercies of the Lord as we cry out from our place by the road as those who have gone before us: Bartimeus born blind, ten lepers, a Canannite woman, the crowds that welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem. We are all waiting for the Thursday boat, waiting for God's healing and abundant mercy, and to recognize it when it comes. Who do you think that little girl really was?

Peace and Godspeed!

*Pastor Betsy*



*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

### The Woman Who Shared Her Last Morsel

*Our look at Women in the Bible continues with the Widow of Zarephath. (1 Kings 17:8-24)*

The renowned widow of Zarephath, so sympathetic, kind, and self-sacrificial, must have had a lovely name. Yet both her own name and that of her boy are not given. Instead, attention is focused on what she did, rather than on who she was.

During a time of great famine, God told Elijah to go to Zarephath and he would find a widow who would feed him. As he approached the town, he saw the widow gathering sticks, and called out to her to bring him some water and some bread. The widow had also suffered from the drought. She responded, "As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die". (1 Kings 17:12)

Elijah asked her for something impossible. He asked her to make him some bread first. She went and did what Elijah asked. This woman of true hospitality, willingly shared her only mouthful of food with a stranger. As God promised," the jar of meal and the jug of oil did not fail until the day that the Lord sent rain upon the earth." (1 Kings 17:14)

The widow of Zarephath reminds us that what little we have is sometimes all we need. We need to put our trust in God. Little is much if God is in it. Sharing what she had with another needy one did not impoverish her life, but greatly enriched it.

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

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Mother and Daughter Banquet a success – the men who served the food, the women who helped prepare food, and everyone who helped with set-up and clean-up. A very special thank you goes to the Committee: Helen Timmer, Shari Gerold, Tillie Adams, and Thelma Martin.

## ZLCW Board Meeting May 12, 2014

- Treasurer's report: Expenses for the Mother/Daughter Banquet were about \$224. Receipts for about \$434 included ticket sales. This gives a balance of about \$5,000.
- Robin Kaelin presented information from the Southern Ohio Spring Conference and gave an up-date on the Red Eye Fund.
- Thelma Martin shared that 57 meals were served at the Mother/Daughter banquet, and six men helped to serve and clean-up.
- It was decided to collect items for Lutheran World Relief baby-kits during the month of June.
- Board offered to assist church council in a going away reception for Pastor Betsy and a welcoming reception for new pastor. The date and time will be decided by council.
- A luncheon is planned on June 15<sup>th</sup> for about 70 high school students from Omaha, Nebraska. Congregation will be asked to help supply food. Congregation is also invited to attend.
- Due to the difficulty of delivering food and concerns about maintaining proper temperature of foods, a change was made in bereavement guidelines. Bereavement committee will only offer the bereavement luncheon to be served at Zion.
- We have a need for a bereavement food caller.
- Board voted to donate \$100.00 to "The Cal Holloway Scholarship Fund for Young Girls in East Lake Victoria, Tanzania.



### Students visiting from Nebraska

Approximately 70 high school students from Omaha, Nebraska will be in Hamilton doing service projects around the city and will be attending our 10:30 church service on Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. The Women of Zion have volunteered to provide lunch for them after this service. We are asking members of the congregation to help supply food for this meal. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Great Hall, or call Thelma Martin (892-6088). Zion members are encouraged to also stay for the luncheon and learn more about the service these students are providing for the Hamilton community.

## Portals of Prayer

*What are the Portals of Prayer?* A small booklet that contains short daily devotions, Bible readings, and prayers

*Where can they be found?* These booklets can be found in the narthex of the church, the lounge, and church office.

*When do new ones arrive?* This is a quarterly booklet, and the next new copies for July-September will arrive by the first of July.

*What is the cost?* The Women of Zion order these booklets. Contributions of \$2 help off-set the cost of publication and are greatly appreciated.

*Are the booklets available in large print?* Yes, there is a large print edition. At this time only a few copies are ordered as they are more expensive than the smaller copies. If you would like a large print copy, please contact Doris Theiss, the chair of this committee.

*How can I help?* These booklets are either mailed or delivered to our shut-ins. Please consider volunteering to help in the mailing or delivery of these booklets.

*Who should I contact if I would like to help?* Doris Theiss has been the chairwoman of this committee for many years. She sees that the booklets are placed around church, and takes care of mailing the booklets to shut-ins. At times, various members volunteer to deliver booklets to shut-ins that they are visiting. Contact Doris, 893-6837, to find out if there is anyone in your neighborhood, or a shut-in that you visit that you could deliver a booklet to or if you could help with the mailings.

*Do you know of someone outside Zion membership who might appreciate this booklet?* These devotional booklets are a wonderful way to reach out to someone - neighbor, friend, family, or members of the community.

## Layette Collection for Lutheran World Relief

Bringing a baby into the world can be a scary thing for a mother living in poverty. We will be collecting items for the Baby Kits for Lutheran World Relief during the month of June. The items included in the kits provide the things a mother needs to care for her baby. Gently used items are welcome (no stains or tears). Each week will feature an item or two for the kits. Feel free to bring anything at any time however. Diapers are the most difficult and expensive item in the kit. If you would like to donate money toward diapers, there will be a donation jar on the counter in the great hall. Thank you in advance for your help in filling these kits for Lutheran World Relief. Any questions please contact Anita Snyder 513-844-8760.

Everything should be sized 6-24 months

- June 8- lightweight cotton T shirts and/or socks
- June 15- sleepers or nightgowns and/or hand towels
- June 22- jackets/sweaters/sweatshirts and/or mild soap
- June 29th- receiving blankets and/or diapers

## Emeritus Cal Holloway Scholarship Fund For Young Girls in East Lake Victoria, Tanzania

Your SOS board created the Bishop Cal Holloway Scholarship Fund to educate young girls in Tanzania as a going away gift to Bishop Holloway when he retired in June 2013. At the September 2013 biennial convention of the Southern Ohio Synod of Women of the ELCA it was decided to turn it into an endowment fund. The Southern Ohio Women of the ELCA began the fund with \$500.00. The goal is to establish a scholarship foundation of \$10,000. To meet that goal SOS Women of the ELCA is asking for donations to this fund. **You can donate by writing a check to "ZION WOMEN ELCA" for any amount and putting in the memo line "Holloway Scholarship Fund"**. Once the \$10,000 is reached the money earned from that fund can educate at least 10 Tanzanian girls each year.

Recent research has established a strong link between women's education and international social and economic development. According to notable economist Lawrence Summers, "investment in the education of girls may well be the highest-return investment available in the developing world." The above scholarship has been established with that goal in mind. It has been named in honor of retired Bishop Holloway since he was the one who first brought to SOS Women of the ELCA the plight of women in Tanzania after he visited the country.

Since 2005 SOS WELCA has been collecting "Pennies for the Red Eye Fund" to help the women of Tanzania declared witches and tortured and murdered by their communities because of their blood shot eyes from years of cooking over open fires. Since 2005 the Red Eye Fund has collected over \$43,000 to provide a safe house, medicine, community education and occupational training for these women. The next step now is to guarantee that young women will be educated to begin to lift communities out of poverty and superstition.

Questions can be directed to Robin Kaelin, President – Southern Ohio Women of the ELCA

## Bereavement Committee Update

The Executive Board has voted to only provide food for bereavement luncheons at the church, due to concerns of transporting food to homes.

We are in need of a volunteer to contact Zion members to contribute food for bereavement luncheons. Please contact Gail Heitz, (671-6296) if you would like more information or would be willing to be our caller.

Thank you to the bereavement committee and all those who supplied food for the two bereavement luncheons in April.



## BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

The Book of the Month Club will meet on Tuesday, June 3, to discuss *Mary Poppins* by P.L. Travers. The original, best-loved classic is about the world's most famous nanny – Mary Poppins. We're changing things up a bit and will also watch the Disney movie, Mary Poppins, on that same night. We can then discuss the differences between the movie and the book. We'll also have eats and drinks, so everyone please bring an appetizer to share.

When Jane and Michael Banks draw up an advertisement for a new nanny, Mary Poppins, complete with magical travelling carpet bag and talking umbrella, appears out of the sky on a strong wind and ready to take them on extraordinary adventures. Mary Poppins is strict but fair, and soon the Banks children are whisked off to a funfair inside a pavement picture, a birthday party at the zoo, and on many more magical outings with their wonderful new nanny!

Needless to say, when at last 'the wind changes' and she flies away, the children are devastated. But the magic of Mary Poppins will stay with the Banks family forever.

The Book of the Month Club takes a break over the summer so we will not meet again until September 2 when we will discuss *Marjorie Morningstar* by Herman Wouk. *Marjorie Morningstar* is a love story. It presents one of the greatest characters in modern fiction: Marjorie, the pretty seventeen-year-old who left the respectability of New York's Central Park West to join the theater, live in the teeming streets of Greenwich Village, and seek love in the arms of a brilliant, enigmatic writer. In this memorable novel, Herman Wouk, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, has created a story as universal, as sensitive, and as unmistakably authentic as any ever told.

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!



## 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.



## 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.

## 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.

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



### Zion Seniors

The Young at Heart, a social group for those 55 and over, will be eating lunch at Reilly's in Springdale on Tuesday, June 24. We'll meet at the restaurant at 11:15. Then on July 22 we'll eat at Walt's on Main Street in Hamilton. Again, meet at 11:15 a.m. Please sign the sheet in the great hall if you would like to go along on either or both of these outings.

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.

**ADULT FELLOWSHIP  
CINCINNATI REDS -  
BILLY HAMILTON  
BOBBLE HEAD NIGHT  
JULY 12, 2014 7:05PM**



We invite everyone to join us down in Cincinnati on July 12<sup>th</sup> to enjoy a great game of baseball and a possible exploration the Banks afterwards. Tickets are \$23.00 each. We have 30 with an option to get more, but to get more we need to know soon, so if you would like to be a part of this exciting evening please meet us in the great hall after church services. There is no bus down, however if you want to carpool we will help everyone connect if this is wanted. Come see us and let us know if you are willing to be a driver or wish a ride down and we will connect you. Don't miss the fun get your tickets this weekend!

Update – 20 of the tickets have been spoken for, sign up soon!



### REPORT FROM THE MISSION FIELD

### Missionary Corner

How do you keep a pregnant woman comfortable when she camps? You can't! I (Christy) laugh as I write and remember that last month I had to use a walking stick to help as I hiked up to use the facilities (a spot between a rock and a tree) and that my arms kept falling asleep while I was *trying* to sleep. This weekend we're headed to this village in the mountains once again but we'll be staying with a Christian family in a nearby city because camping at seven months pregnant feels impossible! But that's okay. We're praying that it would be a good time to connect with this family anyway. You see, they belong to a church in this city that is just a mere 15 minute drive down the mountain from Tepehican, the village that we've been visiting that has no Christian church. Our prayer is that they would reach out in this village on a regular basis and that we could help equip them to reach the people of the village.

There is currently one Christian family in Tepehican that we've been going to visit and teach Bible stories to. The church down the mountain had sent someone to visit them last year but he gave them homework that involved looking up verse after verse and filling in blanks about what they read. When the family didn't do their homework, this man concluded that they really aren't believers. For us, that's hard to believe as we've gotten to know the family. It also turns out that the mom, Celia, has never been to school and the dad, Angel, has only been to elementary school. We're hosting an English Club at the sons' middle school and found out that it's common for a student to come to middle school not knowing how to read because the elementary school teachers transfer to other schools as soon as they can. Knowing this, we see the need to try to reach this village in a more oral way such as using Bible storytelling rather than giving overwhelming Bible homework to those we meet with.

Please pray for Tepehican, that the people there would know Christ and grow in Him and pray that God would use the church down the mountain, along with Angel & Celia to minister to them. Pray also for us, as the English club we're hosting will end in July (Yes, they have school until the middle of July!). We need wisdom in the next steps to take. Please also pray for us as our son is due in the end of July. Pray for a smooth birth and to trust God even when Mexican hospitals follow different procedures than in the U.S. Thanks! We so appreciate you and your prayers and financial gifts that are helping to reach even into the mountains of Mexico where hope in Christ isn't yet known!

Until they all hear,  
Christy & Jose Luis Sanchez



## STEWARDSHIP FOCUS

**June 2014**

### Using our Faith in New Ways

What does that mean for me?

With Memorial Day weekend begins the promise of a more relaxed time. A time to sit on the back deck with an iced cold drink, playing Red Light Green Light and catching fireflies. Or fishing poles and those books calling out your name. Not necessarily a time that we think of using your faith in new ways.

It is also one of the few times of the year when we can be introspective.

We can choose to stop and listen to God. Perhaps a decision is made to begin a Journal of your faith walk. Write down what you are praying about and then when the prayer is answered, put a star sticker next to it. A simple notebook would work. Maybe you are more into action. I am sure the food bank would love the offer of fresh fish, (you might want to contact them before you take it to find out the best way to bring it). Or with those vegetables that you grow in the back yard you could bring them to church and we could start a Farmers Market. The vegetables, baked goods, spices, or items that are brought could be sold and the money could go toward world hunger, Malaria or whatever ministry is decided by those bringing the items. God is calling all of us if we are listening, and summer is the perfect time to stop and listen.

### JULY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

For the entire month of July, Zion will be offering a joint Sunday service at 9:15 am. The Saturday service will still remain, beginning at 5:30 pm. The Worship & Music Committee, along with the support of Council looks forward to embracing this exciting adventure for the month of July. See you there! \*The service will be broadcast at its usual time of 10:30 am on WMOH 1450 on your AM dial.

**July 2014**

### Sharing our Gifts with others

Each week part of our liturgy states: "We offer to you our time, talents, and gifts, signs of your gracious love". Last month we talked about using our time introspectively. This month our focus is on sharing our time, talent and gifts with others. July is a month where we have time to look at the last 6 months and see where we have been and what we have done to make our life more meaningful and fulfilling. It is an opportunity to look at the next six months and see where we want to share our talents and gifts with others. Maybe we consider volunteering to listen to children read books at school. Maybe Habitat for Humanity just really sounds like something we want to be a part of. Lutheran Social Services and Thrivent are always looking for those who might be interested in help them maximize their work in the area. God is really good to us and there are ways we can share ourselves that will enhance our lives. It may be a small gift. Maybe you are good at making something. I know a lady who takes old magazine and construction paper and makes the most amazing greeting cards. Her husband died from Huntington's disease and so she makes these cards and donates the money from selling them to help fight this disease. This is not a big thing, but several little things add up in big ways. How will you share your gift?



The following shut-in is celebrating her birthday in June. All members of Zion are encouraged to send a card, make a phone call or visit a shut-in. You'll find that you are being a blessing and receiving a blessing yourself from these contacts.

**Mrs. Pat Davis 6/3**  
114 Edmonton Place  
Hamilton, OH 45013



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  
 Sherri Blakey  
 Lorainne Blanchard  
 Ella Boynton  
 Debby Brady  
 Katie Land Brooks  
 Norman & Cheryl Brown  
 Janet Buchheit  
 Sandy Bunger  
 Linda Campbell  
 Maiya Christiansen  
 Dave Cornett  
 Lucille Cumbers  
 Jane Day  
 Charles Douthit  
 Jack & Evelyn Duvall  
 Lucy Emrick  
 Jennifer Evans  
 Kelly Farler  
 Lyla Follmer  
 Bob French  
 Mike Frye Jr  
 Debbie Gibson  
 Linda Gibson  
 Tom Gibson  
 Lois Godby  
 Wilma Hawkey  
 Jack Hiles  
 Cathy Hoelle  
 Margaret Hunter  
 Marsha & Russell Isaacs  
 Shirley Kaelin  
 Maxwell Keck  
 Debbie Keehner  
 Lee & Melba Keehner  
 Elnora Kehr  
 Ava Kemen  
 Randy Kleinsmith  
 Sadie Knott  
 Kristen Latscha  
 J.C. Lockett  
 Mark Lykins  
 Adeline Maggart

**Requested by:**

Tillie Adams  
 Greg Allen  
 Member  
 Ingrid Sanders  
 Lori Rehm  
 Tillie Adams  
 Gail Konrad  
 Gail Konrad  
 Sandy Ziepfel  
 Nedda Brown  
 Member  
 Elaine Carpenter  
 Patti Sroufe  
 Susie Pflaumer Hassett  
 Gail Konrad  
 Helen Timmer, Erin Sloan  
 Gail Konrad  
 Cheryl Griesinger  
 Members  
 Kathy Chambers  
 Health Issues  
 Member  
 Marcia Helsinger  
 Kathy Frye  
 Member  
 Julia Sears  
 Lindsey Gibson  
 Joe & Lindsey Gibson  
 Gail Konrad  
 Kathy Frye  
 Member  
 Darlene Onyett  
 Lou Robinson  
 Joe Sears  
 Member  
 Jean Keck  
 Melba Keehner  
 Members  
 Member  
 Joe & Julia Sears  
 Vicki Wheeler  
 Kathy Frye  
 Julia Sears  
 Gail Konrad  
 Gayle Ford  
 Member

Frank Martin  
 Mary Martin  
 Fred McCollum  
 Marjorie McGill  
 Joy Merrill  
 Cathy Meyer  
 Danita Mitchell  
 Lawrence Moody  
 Chris Onyett  
 Mitch Parker  
 Sandy Parker  
 Kathleen Peck  
 Terry Pfizer  
 Joyce Pinter  
 Poleti Family  
 Judy Ramsey  
 Sophia Ellen Riggs  
 Candy Robinson  
 Maribeth Robinson  
 Janet Rose  
 George Sanchez  
 Marge Schick  
 Erica Schulze & family  
 Mark Schumacher  
 Frederic Seif  
 Roy Setser  
 Thelma Setser  
 Bill Sharon  
 Ray Shearer  
 Tim Simer  
 Del Smith  
 LeRoy & Mary Snavley  
 Heather Spurlino  
 Patty Sroufe  
 Ruth Stanton  
 Dennis Steele  
 LaVerne Stewart  
 Jackie Isaacs Stout  
 Kaitlin Sunderhaus  
 Janet Thompson  
 Helen Timmer  
 Paul Waechter  
 Robert M. Weidner  
 Caroline Wendelken  
 Carla Weusthoff  
 Harry Whitaker  
 Jim Wilkins  
 Geri Willis  
 Karin Zapf

Member  
 Marjorie McGill  
 Nancy Wenning  
 Member  
 Member  
 Robin Kaelin  
 Doug Edwards  
 Dennis Steele Sr.  
 Darlene Onyett  
 Member  
 Member  
 Libby Huston  
 Helen Timmer  
 Member  
 Frank Martin  
 Kara Konrad  
 Barbara Blair  
 Betty Ross  
 Julia Hilbert  
 Member  
 Member  
 Frank Martin  
 Member  
 Laura McAdams  
 Bob Herold  
 Bob Herold  
 Paul Waechter  
 Barb Shearer  
 Mike Engel  
 Marcia Helsinger  
 Members  
 Member  
 Vicki Wheeler  
 Member  
 Member  
 Member  
 Darlene Onyett  
 Nancy Wenning  
 Member  
 Member  
 Member  
 Julia Sears  
 Frank Martin

Please pray for the family and friends of **Oswald Demmel** who passed away on May 12.  
 Congratulations to Seth & Nikki Wolfe on the birth of a daughter, **Isabella Marie**, on April 23.

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.

# BLESSINGS ABOUND

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

Thank you for all the prayers for Dennis Day. He had open heart surgery and is doing great. Thanks for all the prayers.  
*Kara Konrad Ramsey*



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

Thanks to my prayer pal for the Easter lily and especially for prayer. Thanks to the ones who have planted hosta and mulched to make the church grounds attractive. Shows a caring congregation  
*Carolyn Soupene*

A heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the cards, thoughts, and prayers on our behalf on the loss of our daughter, Rebekah. We know she is at peace with our blessed Lord. God bless you all.  
*Wayne and Alice Shaw*

We would like to thank all who helped serve the lunch after Dad's funeral services. It meant so much to all of us. What a wonderful ministry the church provides at such a difficult time.  
*The family of Edward Schmidt*

Thanks to Bob Herold and Doug Tolley for remodeling the pastor's offices. They put up dry wall, trimmed, and painted. Everything looks great!

Thank you to everyone who has helped keep the church grounds cleaned up and looking good. Thanks to Nathaniel and Gary Kaelin for cleaning up the end of the building by the offices and around the back with new hostas and mulch. Thank you to Leon and Sandy Simpson and the Wayne Town and Country 4-H Club for cleaning up the courtyard and around the front stairs with planting and mulching. Thanks to Doug Edwards and his sons for cleaning the pond in the courtyard and setting up the fountain. Thanks to those who have planted flowers in the various planters around the church. Thanks to Bob Herold for keeping the grass cut and trimmed. It seems as if we don't have any yard to take care of but we do and we appreciate all who have pitched in to help, some known to us and some not known.

Thank you to the following for delivering Meals on Wheels in April and May. Tammy & Mike Adams, Lori Rehm and Carolyn Soupene, Dave & Carolyn Schul, Inas & Carl Clark, Ron & Kay Erbeck and Ray & Marge Withrow. Your dedication is appreciated.

## LUNCH WITH PASTOR FRANK AND SANDY ROTHFUSS

**When:** Friday, June 20  
**Where:** Ainsley's Café  
15179 Old State Rd.  
(765) 458 7474  
**Time:** 12:00 noon  
Sign-up sheet and directions are in the great hall.  
Questions: Call Carolyn Soupene 868-2411

Have you remembered  
*Zion*  
in your Will?





**Council Minutes**  
**April 8, 2014**

**Present:** Barb Toman, Joan Boling, Steve Herget, Pr. Betsy, Joe Sears, Bob Herold, Gayle Ford, Leanne Bowling, Ken Gerold, Shari Gerold, Robin Kaelin, Lori Rehm, Derek Conklin, Ron Erbeck & Kathy Chambers

**Excused:** Mike Frye, Mike Ford

- **Monthly Appreciation Award:** The Call Committee continues to have the award.
- **Motion** (J Sears/G Ford) and passed to accept the March Council Minutes as presented.
- **President:** Ken called for a meeting with Pr. Joe Schrock; executive 4/25 for dinner and council 4/26 for discussion and lunch. We will need to put together a transition team as we move forward.
- **Motion** (R Kaelin/K Chambers) and passed to appoint Elaine Carpenter as our Veil Committee Representative. Robin Kaelin will be the council liaison.
- **Vice President:** Lori reminded us that we need to be asking new people to participate in the works of the congregation.
- **Motion** (J Sears/L Rehm) and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. March 16,000.00 behind in expenses for year. Been a bad winter, hoping for a better spring.
- **Motion** (K Chambers/S Gerold) and passed for one summer service in the month of July at 9:15 a.m.
- **Social Concerns:** Community meal coming up the Saturday before Easter
- **Stewardship:** Working on Building Fund Campaign.
- **Youth & Fellowship:** July Adult Fellowship will be the Reds against Pirates on Billy Hamilton bobble head night. Easter party scheduled for Palm Sunday following church.
- **Parish Ed:** Children's church going well and they are looking at VBS.
- **Trustees Report:** Ron Erbeck concerned about noise. Progressive measuring pipes to order replacements. Work will not begin until after the Easter celebrations. Bob Herold expressed concern about the radio broadcast. Doug Erbeck came in and made corrections to mixer board. There is concern about weddings using the sound system.
- **New Business:** Offering envelopes were brought down and each took some to hand deliver to members who haven't picked theirs up yet.
- **Motion** (R Kaelin/G Ford) and passed to adjourn.

**Monthly statistics**

**Financial Stewardship**  
**(as of April 30, 2014)**

	Income	Expenses
<b>2013</b>	\$16,213.98	\$16,888.61
<b>2014</b>	\$10,695.71	\$17,930.16

**YTD Operating Funds**

	Income	Expenses	Balance
<b>2013</b>	\$72,627	\$80,476	
<b>2014</b>	\$67,190	\$91,664	-\$23,884.48

**Attendance Averages (April)**

Church Atten.	Sat. Comm.	Sun. Comm.	Sunday School
133	12	112	

**Funeral**

Oswald P. Demmel (died 5/12/2014, funeral 5/15/2014)

**CONGREGATION MEETING RESULTS**

On Sunday, May 18, we had a congregational meeting for the purpose of voting to call Pastor Joseph Schrock. We voted to call Pastor Joseph Schrock by a vote of 68 for the call, 14 against, with 1 abstaining. Pastor Schrock will officially start on Monday, June 2. The installation will be sometime in July, at which time we'll have some kind of welcome celebration. Let's all pitch in to help him succeed as our new pastor.



The following gifts have been given to Zion.

In memory of **Ed Schmidt**

For the Radio Fund: Ann Brewer, Barbara Blair, Lou & Paula Dabbelt

In memory of **Oswald Demmel**

For the Memorial Fund: Klara Schumacher

# THE PARISH PAPER

## IDEAS AND INSIGHTS FOR ACTIVE CONGREGATIONS

Coeditors: Herb Miller and Cynthia Woolever - [www.TheParishPaper.com](http://www.TheParishPaper.com)

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### Caring for the Caregivers

Rosalynn Carter pointed to the universal nature of caregiving when she said that there are four kinds of people in the world: those who have been caregivers, those who are currently caregivers, those who will be caregivers, and those who will need caregivers.<sup>1</sup> The church plays a unique role by helping many people realize that they are already engaged in some form of this ministry. Caring for a family member or loved one is a vocation that can be supported and celebrated by the congregation. Still, part of this support requires acknowledging that caregivers often put their own needs last and risk losing their ability to continue as caregivers.

#### What the Caregiver Experiences

Caregivers deal with immense personal stress, and often without much awareness of its effects. In the face of a problem or situation that cannot be fixed, feeling overwhelmed, helpless, and frustrated are common responses. Over time, isolation, loneliness, or depression can surface. All caregivers feel guilty, angry, or resentful at some point. Most caregivers express physical, emotional, financial, and spiritual concerns. Unfortunately, caregivers typically wait too long before seeking out personal medical care too.

The caregiver is also struggling with the feelings and needs of the care-receiver. Their loved one may experience physical limitations, lack of independence (such as no longer driving or an inability to care for self), poor health, and loss of the family home, church, and friends. Both the caregiver and carereceiver must try to find pathways to acceptance. This acceptance may take the form of understanding that some kind of end has occurred; grieving the loss or change; and feeling a sense of gratitude for what has ended. People fall prey to the “focusing illusion”—focusing on what is lost after a major surgery, illness, or large life change. The illusion neglects the fact that we have extraordinary capacity to adapt and enjoy a new life that is not “perfect.”<sup>2</sup>

Those who care for the caregivers can help them realize that all these feelings are normal. Gently ask

caregivers what they are doing to take care of their own needs. For example: How are you kind to yourself? What do you do or whom do you talk to when you are discouraged? Do you allow others to help you? What blessings have you received as a caregiver? Point them to online resources that identify the warning signs of caregiver burnout.<sup>3</sup> Depending on the circumstances, consider sharing with them the Caregiver’s Bill of Rights.<sup>4</sup>

#### Ideas for the Caregiver

Caregivers need to care for themselves in order to care for others. Starting or strengthening spiritual disciplines such as prayer, worship, meditation, Bible reading, journaling, or singing help family caregivers handle their own emotional needs. Continuing to engage in activities that bring joy such as physical exercise, hobbies, reading, or time in nature also provide some respite. Doing social things like lunch or an outing with a friend, playing with children, going to a movie or concert, or shopping for oneself give people a break from care giving. Time away generates the most benefit if caregivers start early in the care giving process.



BOB REALIZED KAREN WAS APPROACHING BURNOUT WHEN SHE BEGAN SLIPPING INTO CAREGIVING MODE WITH TOTAL STRANGERS.

### Ideas for Church Members

Individual church members can take actions that help caregivers—offering to do grocery shopping, assisting with transportation, or staying with the family member while the caregiver takes some much-deserved personal time. Prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits always bring comfort. Finally, never underestimate the power of listening to the caregiver's concerns.

### Ideas for the Congregations

Beyond what individual, caring church members can do for caregivers, the congregation as a whole can leverage resources and coordinate efforts to support caregivers. Here are some examples of how congregations can support caregivers.

*Develop a Care Team or Stephen Ministry.* Congregations of every size need a care team or system for providing care to one another. Without such a team or system, some members fall through the cracks. Details on establishing a care team are in a free resource on *The Parish Paper* website (Church Effectiveness Nuggets # 9: How to Develop a Congregational Care Team; [www.theparishpaper.com](http://www.theparishpaper.com)).

Thousands of congregations have trained their staff and members to be Stephen Ministers, a way to provide one-on-one confidential Christian care. This nonprofit organization ([www.stephenministries.org](http://www.stephenministries.org)) offers training to equip local trainers, who in turn train others, who offer care and support to people in the congregation or community. After completing the training, a Stephen Minister is assigned to a care receiver, who they visit once a week. Participants who complete the training report that the skills they learned were useful in many other settings where caring ministry was needed.

*Start a caregiver support group.* A staff person or member organizes a group of people who share the common situation of care giving. The group provides nonjudgmental support, and helps participants deal with emotions that accompany the role of caregiver. The group can also be a place to hear about community and governmental resources that could assist in the care of the family member. The group coordinator or convener should not currently be a caregiver and should encourage the full participation of the group members in choosing meeting times, topics, and guest speakers.

*Coordinate a prayer shawl ministry.* Some congregations gather a group of people who love knitting or crocheting to make shawls. Those who make a shawl offer prayers and blessings for a caregiver or their loved one. More information about this ministry is available at [www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com)

*Offer workshops, lectures, or series about care giving.* Caregivers and members who want to support

them benefit from additional information about particular illnesses, conditions, technologies, and other topics related to caring for loved ones. Presentations could range from a single session on Alzheimer's disease to a series on multiple topics related to community resources. Many local social service agencies are willing to send a speaker for such a program.

*Create a resource directory.* Compiling a directory of local organizations or services (such as Adult Day Care, respite care) is a time-saver for caregivers. The directory can also assist members who wish to make contacts on behalf of the family.

*Share weekly worship services.* If worship services are recorded or streamed on the internet, find out if families who can no longer attend services are interested in the opportunity to worship weekly.

*Hold services of prayer and healing.* Many congregations prepare special worship experiences several times a year where time is devoted to prayers for healing. Making extra efforts to invite and include caregivers in these services is greatly appreciated.

*Organize additional outreach at Christmas, Easter, and during other religious seasons.* Holidays and other busy times stress the already overwhelmed caregiver. Conversations with caregivers and their families can reveal ways that the congregation could be part of making rituals surrounding holidays more meaningful and less stressful.

### Who Cares?

When we offer sympathy, empathy, compassion, concern, or the willingness to listen, we show our care and love. In Matthew 19:19, Jesus said, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young lawyer who pressed for the details heard the story of The Good Samaritan. Jesus' story of compassion illustrates how we can overlook the one who cares unselfishly for another.

1. Rosalynn Carter, *Helping Yourself Help Others* (NY: Three Rivers Press, 1994), 3.
2. Maureen Dowd, "Decoding the God Complex," *New York Times*, September 28, 2011.
3. <http://www.webmd.com/healthy-aging/caregiver-burnout>.
4. Jo Horne, A Caregiver's Bill of Rights, <http://www.caregiver.com>.

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JUNE

Date	Acolyte 8:00 a.m.	Acolyte 10:30 a.m.
<b>June 1</b>	Usher Team	Patrick Huston
<b>June 8</b>	Usher Team	Marissa Lombardi
<b>June 15</b>	Usher Team	Samantha Bowling
<b>June 22</b>	Usher Team	Nicholas Lombardi
<b>June 29</b>	Usher Team	Eric Bowling

**Altar Guild:** Shari Gerold, Lisa Gerold

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

**Lectors:** **June 1** Gayle Ford (8:00); Ken Gerold (10:30)  
**June 8** Gail Heitz (8:00); Robin Kaelin (10:30)  
**June 15** Cindy Burkhart (8:00); Lori Rehm (10:30)  
**June 22** Anita Snyder (8:00); Lisa Gerold (10:30)  
**June 29** Stephanie Heitz (8:00); Holly Frye (10:30)

**Greeters:** **June 1** Ora & Dorothy Nixon (8:00); Mike & Laura Sharratt (10:30)  
**June 8** Charles & Janet Menke (8:00); Volunteer Needed (10:30)  
**June 15** Mike & Tammy Adams (8:00); Barbara Blair, Christin Blair (10:30)  
**June 22** Bob & Marcia Helsinger (8:00); Kathy Chambers, Barbara Shearer (10:30)  
**June 29** Nancy Wenning (8:00); Phil & Karen Pflaumer (10:30)

**Eucharist** **June 1** Anita Snyder, Patrice Huston (8:00); Phil Pflaumer, Marge Withrow (10:30)

**Assistants:** **June 8** Tom & Barb Toman (8:00); Robin Kaelin, Carolyn Soupene (10:30)  
**June 15** Wayne Huston, Stephanie Heitz (8:00); Ken & Shari Gerold (10:30)  
**June 22** Tillie Adams, Tom Toman (8:00); Robin Kaelin, Marge Withrow (10:30)  
**June 29** Anita Snyder, Patrice Huston (8:00); Phil Pflaumer, Carolyn Soupene (10:30)

**Radio:** **June 1** Lou Robinson  
**June 8** Adam Reed  
**June 15** Ron Alcorn  
**June 22** Charles Kaelin  
**June 29** Adam Reed

**Bulletin** **June 6** Joan Boling  
**Stuffers:** **June 13** Barb & Tom Toman  
**June 20** Thelma Martin  
**June 27** Lori Rehm, Cindy Burkhart

**Offering** **June 1** Gayle Ford, Steve Herget  
**Counters:** **June 8** Gayle Ford, Mike Frye  
**June 15** Joan Boling, Shari Gerold  
**June 22** Volunteers needed  
**June 29** Joan Boling, Lou Robinson

**Nursery:** Samantha Bowling

### VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR RECORD KEEPING

We are seeking volunteers to work with the church office to take care of the record books. We have records of baptisms, confirmation, marriages, and funerals going back to the mid 1800's when our church began. One part of the job would be recording the above mentioned things in the book, so readable handwriting is a must. Another aspect of the job is looking up genealogy for folks who contact us. If you are interested in this important ministry, please call Julia in the church office. We'll train you as much as needed.

<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JULY</b>
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Date	Acolyte 8:00 a.m.	Acolyte 9:15 a.m.
<b>July 6</b>	No Service	Patrick Huston
<b>July 13</b>	No Service	Alex Bruner
<b>July 20</b>	No Service	Eric Bowling
<b>July 27</b>	No Service	Marissa Lombardi

**Altar Guild:** Barbara Shearer, Kathy Chambers

**Ushers:** Wayne Huston & team (9:15)

**Lectors:** **July 6** Ron Alcorn (9:15)  
**July 13** Phil Pflaumer (9:15)  
**July 20** Cindy Burkhart (9:15)  
**July 27** Peggy Thomin (9:15)

**Greeters:** **July 6** Joe & Julia Sears (9:15)  
**July 13** Tom & Barb Toman (9:15)  
**July 20** Karl & Mary Alice Schmitter (9:15)  
**July 27** Lori Rehm (9:15)

**Eucharist Assistants:** **July 6** Marge Withrow, Phil Pflaumer (9:15)  
**July 13** Wayne & Patrice Huston (9:15)  
**July 20** Carolyn Soupene, Tillie Adams (9:15)  
**July 27** Tom & Barb Toman (9:15)

**Radio:** **July 6** Lou Robinson  
**July 13** Ron Alcorn  
**July 20** Adam Reed  
**July 27** Charles Kaelin

**Bulletin:** **July 3** Joan Boling  
**Stuffers:** **July 11** Barb & Tom Toman  
**July 18** Thelma Martin  
**July 25** Lori Rehm, Cindy Burkhart

**Nursery:** Samantha Bowling

The mission of Zion is to

**Encourage**

a growing faith in Jesus Christ and to

**Equip**

all people for witness and service.