

# The Messenger

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church March 2015



Snow, it always fascinates me on how it can elicit such a wide range of emotions and opinions. Whether it be days off school, sledding or other winter games, or even simply the beauty of it, children and some adults hope for and enjoy a snow-filled winter day. Yet some kids and many adults do not like snow even to the point of getting angry or condescending if someone says they like snow. Often fear of injuries, the costs of clearing the driveway, (physically and financially), and the impact on activities provide ample reason for dislike of snow and winter. **Now for the tough question, which group is right?**

If we are honest with ourselves, we answer both are correct in their assessments on snow and its effects. All of the various reasons and feelings are valid, and yet we have an overwhelming need to be right as if it would be morally wrong for there to be helpful and unhelpful aspects to a subject that would prompt valid but different viewpoints. In today's society, you can only have one viewpoint so you either dislike snow or love it. Any shades of gray are not to be tolerated, and if you are friends with someone who thinks differently than either the friendship has to end or your group views you with suspicion.

That works well in the political sphere as Putin and both of our political parties know all too well. If the other side is a threat to your way of life than you can disparage or even attack their values, their intelligence even to the point of holding rallies and/or physically attacking your "enemy". It works well for fundraising, getting power and feeding your ego, but does not work well in building up your neighbor, accomplishing the mission God gives you or loving God and your neighbor.

Jesus points out in Matthew 20, Mark 10 and Luke 22 that gentiles lord things over each other, but that we are not to be like our political leaders. We are to serve one another in mutual love and respect even when we disagree. Paul goes further in Romans 14, when he encourages us to welcome others, but not for "the purpose of quarrelling over opinions."

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." <sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God. Romans 14:7-12

We all have different ideas on programs, music, worship styles, budgets, etc., but are we brothers and sisters owned by the Lord, or are we not the Lord's and each other's family? Is it impossible to have different views on different subjects and still not be family? Why grumble about what one group does or thinks? Why not find a way to make whatever it is successful even if it is not your preferred choice? Not everyone has to like snow, but what is the harm in encouraging someone else in their love of sledding or skiing? Is it accurate that because someone likes to build a snow man that they want someone else to fall and get hurt? Would it be accurate or faithful, for someone to like a different music style or have a different program idea, and because they do, someone insinuate that they want Zion to fail? Why do we feel the need to re-crucify our Lord every time we do not agree on something? Jesus spoke about all of us when on the cross he prayed, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

In this Lenten season may we pray for a change of heart in all of us! May we find ways to build up rather than tear down whether we like snow or not!

*Pastor Joe Schrock*



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

**Wednesdays, February 25 thru March 25**

- Dinner..... 6:00 p.m.
- Bible Study..... 6:30 p.m.
- Worship..... 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, March 22**

Cantata at 10:30 service

**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

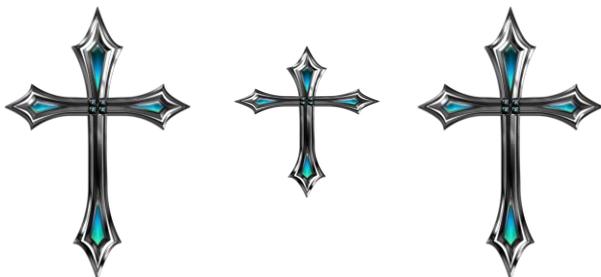
**April 5<sup>th</sup> 9:15AM – 10AM**

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



## LILY ORDERS

We are taking orders for Easter lilies to beautify our sanctuary on Easter weekend. The cost for a lily is \$9. Please fill out the attached form and put it in the collection plate or return it to the church office. Checks should be made payable to Zion Lutheran Church and marked for lilies.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

How Many \_\_\_\_\_

Given in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given in Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

## Lenten Bible Study

**Wednesdays thru Lent - 6:30 p.m.**

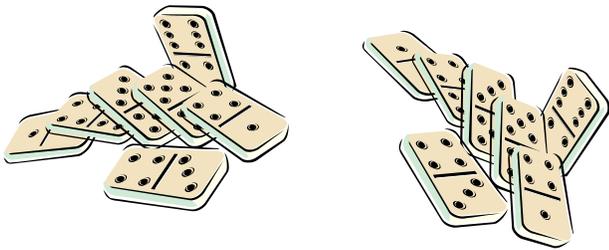
**We are studying "The Cost of Discipleship" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.**

One of the most important theologians of the twentieth century illuminates the relationship between ourselves and the teachings of Jesus in this classic text on ethics, humanism, and civic duty.

What can the call to discipleship, the adherence to the word of Jesus, mean today to the businessman, the soldier, the laborer, or the aristocrat? What did Jesus mean to say to us? What is his will for us today? Drawing on the Sermon on the Mount, Dietrich Bonhoeffer answers these timeless questions by providing a seminal reading of the dichotomy between "cheap grace" and "costly grace." "Cheap grace," Bonhoeffer wrote, "is the grace we bestow on ourselves...grace without discipleship...Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock....It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life."

*The Cost of Discipleship* is a compelling statement of the demands of sacrifice and ethical consistency from a man whose life and thought were exemplary articulations of a new type of leadership inspired by the Gospel, and imbued with the spirit of Christian humanism and a creative sense of civic duty.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was born in Breslau in 1906. The son of a famous German psychiatrist, he studied in Berlin and New York City. He left the safety of America to return to Germany and continue his public repudiation of the Nazis, Linked to the group whose attempted assassination of Hitler failed, he was hanged in April 1945.



**COME ONE, COME ALL!!!!**  
**To the 3rd Annual**  
**ADULT FELLOWSHIP**  
**Pot Luck Adventure**  
**And Mexican Train Game Night**  
**Saturday, March 14th**

Hosts: Mike and Kathy Frye

Time: 6:30 pm until we finish

Theme: Dress in Black and White

Bring:

- Your favorite Pot Luck dish/Casserole
- Beverage of choice
- A friend or two or three and join in on the fun!
- If you have a Mexican Train set please bring it in case we need it. (Thank you)

Provided:

Salad and Bread

Don't know what Mexican Train is?

It's a Dominos game that can be played with a few or with many.

Don't know how to play?

**NO PROBLEM!!!** We can teach you very quickly and easily!

Sign-up in the Great Hall or contact Mike and Kathy @ [pilgrimspride1@live.com](mailto:pilgrimspride1@live.com) or Julia in the office.

Childcare provided.

A Note  
from our  
Council President



I am excited to begin my year as President of your council. There are many ministries being supported by your elected council members and their teams. I pray that you will consider participating on at least one of these teams or in one of the many activities Zion has to offer.

As part of the executive team, we have started two activities intended to focus on the growth of our congregation. The first is a survey we conducted in council. Its intent is to get input on five questions. We have agreed to use the input in defining and acting on specific goals, objectives and measurable activities for 2015 and beyond.

1. Why do you come to Zion Lutheran Church of Hamilton Ohio?
2. What are her strengths?
3. What are her weaknesses?
4. What should we do differently?
5. What are our risks in the changes?

The second immediate activity is completing personnel reviews for pastor, music director, office secretary and financial secretary. This will be completed by the end of March. The result will be a common understanding about what we can do together to grow the church.

If you would like to share some ideas with me or would like to talk, you can reach me through [ronlynnalcorn@gmail.com](mailto:ronlynnalcorn@gmail.com)

Yours in Christ,

Ron Alcorn, President of Zion Lutheran Church,  
Hamilton, OH

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



*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 February 8, 2015**

- Attending: Gail Heitz, Shirley Snyder, Joan Cunningham, Lori Rehm, Anita Snyder, Thelma Martin, Janet Menke, Cheryl Griesinger
- Treasurer's report: Balance on hand is \$2,993.37. Total expenditures were \$92.61 to cover cost of ingredients for soup. Receipts of \$340 for soup sales and \$6.00 for Portals of Prayer.
- Soup, sloppy joes, and brownies will be served at Ash Wednesday luncheon. There will not be a need to provide a Maundy Thursday luncheon.
- Collection of personal care products for Southern Ohio Lutheran Relief will be collected during Lent. Collection boxes will be placed in Great Hall and information placed in Sunday bulletins and next messenger.
- Board will order chicken for the new member potluck on Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, and help with set-up, serving, and clean-up.
- The next General Women's Meeting will be on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Working on getting a program about therapy pets. Also will look at possibility of getting YWCA for a program.
- Still in need of a person to chair kitchen committee.

#### **Still Available!**

Thankoffering boxes and the 2015 Women's booklets are still available in the Great Hall. Please help, by sharing these with others who might not be able to attend Sunday services.

#### **Thank you**

Thank you to the many women who helped at Sunday's potluck with serving the food and kitchen clean-up.

### **Lutheran Social Services of Southern Ohio Health and Personal Care Kits**

Each week during Lent, the Women of Zion will be collecting a different item that we will use to assemble Personal Care Kits. These kits will be given to Lutheran Social Services of Southern Ohio for distribution to families in need in southern Ohio. When natural disaster strikes, families often have little chance to gather their belongings before fleeing danger. These simple items not only allows them to wash away dirt and sweat, but also reminds them of someone's care and concern for their plight.

- Look for containers in the Great Hall for placing your donations.
- Week of February 22 - Bars of soap in original wrapping and wash cloths
- Week of March 1 - Bath towels (light weight, darker colors recommended)
- Week of March 8 - Toothbrushes (in original packaging)
- Week of March 15 - Dental floss and tubes of toothpaste
- Week of March 22 - Deodorant
- Week of March 29 - Combs



### *Women of Zion*

### **Women of Zion March Meeting March 16, 2015**

**6:30 p.m.**

Light supper provided.

Program: Therapy Dogs of Cincinnati. Two women will speak about the program of training and what a vital part therapy dogs play in patient care.

Invite your friends – come and hear about this program and enjoy.

## 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.

## 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](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, 513-889-7770.

**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.



## BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

The Book of the Month Club will meet on Tuesday, March 3, to discuss *Killing Jesus: A History* by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard. The anchor of *The O'Reilly Factor* details the events leading up to the murder of the most influential man in history: Jesus of Nazareth.

Nearly two thousand years after this beloved and controversial young revolutionary was brutally killed by Roman soldiers, more than 2.2 billion human beings attempt to follow his teachings and believe he is God. *Killing Jesus* will take readers inside Jesus's life, recounting the seismic political and historical events that made his death inevitable—and changed the world forever.

Then on Tuesday, April 7, we'll meet 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.

Fabulous, fun-filled, spanning decades and generations, and centered on a little-known aspect of America's twentieth-century story, *The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion* is another irresistible novel by the remarkable Fannie Flagg.

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

## SOUTHERN OHIO INSIGHTS WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Greetings Dear Sisters in Christ!

I pray this note finds you well and ready for spring! Last month you allowed me to begin a conversation about the Women of the ELCA organization. We established that we are by the very nature of our faith and gender women of the ELCA. This month we are looking at what constitutes active Women of the ELCA groups in your congregations. At a recent president's meeting in Chicago, the active unit was defined this way, and I think it gives us lots of flexibility.

1. At least two or more women joining together within a congregation.
2. Willingness to share a contact person's information with the synod/national women of the ELCA.
3. Action beyond the local church, whether attending the spring gathering in your conference, or a retreat and/or working with Lutheran World Relief, local kitchens or shelters (not limited to any one outreach).
4. Supporting the national women's organization with a Thankoffering, or by giving to one of the national women's ministries such as Katie's Fund which helps young women in ministries or with experiences. (For instance there was a group of young women a few years back that went to Burma; or the upcoming group going to Israel. Katie's fund has also helped many women pursue their dream of ministry. Please see the women of the ELCA's website (welca.org) for more opportunities to support.) (Gather Magazine, Women of the ELCA wear, Jewelry, or other items, which support their ministries, to name a few)

Getting back to what constitutes an active group. The reasoning is simple. We need to be connected as a collective group. It is good for us to occasionally come together to share information at Gatherings, it is good to be acting in service to God together through LWR, our local shelters, etc. It says in Matthew 26:10 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." And so by sharing our money with the women of the ELCA, we are declaring our heart is with them in their ministries. This is what our purpose statement means when we say "called to discipleship." Oh ladies the gifts that we get in our lives for making these commitments far outweigh the work!

There are churches that work with LWR. There are churches that have Bible study. There are churches that do all of the above but do not have a contact person. We want to help you to be an active group. We are appointed so many voting members in our synod at the women's Triennial based on the active units in our synod. If you have ever been to a national gathering (youth or adult) you know how powerful they are and you know how important it is to have a presence there.

Your local areas have been planning their Spring Gatherings this winter, I pray that you will consider attending and if so, may you find them to be full of meaning. It is my hope and prayer barring illness, to be at each and every one and I look forward to learning from you about your congregations. If you would like to comment on this letter or contact me email me at [rbk013@gmail.com](mailto:rbk013@gmail.com)

God Bless You,  
*Robin Kaelin*

## MEALS ON WHEELS

Volunteers are badly needed for Meals on Wheels. We like to have all five days filled with regulars, people who want to deliver each month. We have been fortunate to have all of our five days filled with regulars for quite some time. Some of these individuals have been delivering for years and have done a wonderful job, as well as those we have recruited for this assignment in the past year or two. We have one couple now who are unable to continue in this very worthwhile cause.

Zion is responsible for delivering Meals on Wheels the second full week of each month and the regulars are very dependable and fulfill this obligation. Now and then, of course, a substitute is needed, and we're also fortunate to have several people who substitute regularly and are eager to say "yes" when called upon.

The system will be changing soon. We've been picking up the meals at Partners in Prime on Ross Avenue and in April Partners in Prime will be transitioning this endeavor to Berkley Square Retirement Community. We will pick up the meals to be delivered there and return the coolers they are carried in back to that facility. Aside from your travel time to pick up the meals and return the coolers, you are out delivering meals for about an hour, therefore possibly a two hour commitment including travel once a month.

We like to have two people deliver the meals together, so it can be a couple or two people who have some time to donate to a worthy cause. If you are able to commit your time to this worthwhile cause, please call me at 513/844-6395 as soon as possible. Thank you.

*JoAnette Coe*  
513-844-6395 or [jcoe2@cinci.rr.com](mailto:jcoe2@cinci.rr.com)



### OFFERING COUNTERS

Interested in counting money? If so, council is looking for people to help count the church offering on Sunday mornings after the 10:30 service. There is a lead counter, who is on council, and there needs to be another person to assist in this process. Whether you've helped in the past or not, your assistance will be appreciated. If you would like to help, please sign up on the form that is located on the wall right outside of Julia's office. Please sign on the right side of the form (the left side is for the lead counter). It generally takes around 30 minutes or so and is done right after the 10:30 service is over. If you have any questions, contact one of the lead counters – Gayle Ford, Steve Herget or Nathaniel Kaelin. Thank you!

### WELCA SPRING GATHERING

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. Your church will be receiving a flyer with registration information in the mail in March. For questions or further information, please contact Kathy DeLong: 513-893-0069 or [rkdelong71@aol.com](mailto:rkdelong71@aol.com).

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

### OPEN DOOR PANTRY HELP

An opportunity to help The Open Door Pantry – and it won't cost a thing! The pantry requires many plastic bags (like the ones you get at the grocery store), and when those bags are not donated, they have to buy bags. Please consider saving your plastic bags and bringing them to the church during the first week of each month. The bags should be left in Room 201 of the Sunday School wing and either I or another volunteer will see that they get to the pantry. Also, the pantry can use empty egg cartons if you would save those. Thank you in advance.

Lori Rehm



### Zion Seniors

The Young at Heart, a social group for those 55 and over, will be eating lunch at Symmes Tavern in Fairfield on Tuesday, March 24. 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.



The following shut-ins are celebrating their birthdays in March. 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. Carolyn Wendelken 3/6**

Twin Towers  
5244 Southridge Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45224

**Mr. Jack Hiles 3/8**

13326 Creekview Rd.  
Prospect, KY 40059



### WORD OF TRUTH BIBLE STUDY

Word of Truth Bible Study will resume on Thursday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the lounge. Derek and Karen Conklin will be leading this study. All are welcome!



## Zion Adult Fellowship March 2015



The Ground Hog has made his debut and we know it's time to get into March and start thinking SPRING!!!

Soon we'll be enjoying activities outside, preparing our gardens and planning our summer vacations. But let's not forget spending time with our Zion friends. Come join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month for some grown up adventure.

We still need hosts for April and December (the All Church Niederman Christmas Walk). Please, think about it and if you have an idea for a grown-up activity try hosting one of these 2 months.

**February 14<sup>th</sup>** We had a great Valentine's dinner at Casa Bianco hosted by Gayle and Mike Ford. It was a lovely evening with delicious food. Let's give a HUGE THANK YOU to Gayle and Mike. Check out what is coming soon.



**March 14<sup>th</sup>** 3rd Annual Pot Luck Adventure and Mexican Train game night

Hosts: Mike and Kathy Frye **\*\* Childcare Provided (Children will be fed)**

Time: 6:30 'til???

For fun and giggles, Dress in White and Black

What to bring: Your favorite Pot Luck dish/Casserole

- Beverage of choice
- A friend or two or three and join in on the fun!
- If you have a Mexican Train set please bring it in case we need it. (Thank you)

Provided: Salad and Bread

Please Sign-up in the Great Hall

**April 11<sup>th</sup>** Still available for a host/hostess

**May 9<sup>th</sup>** TBA



Hosts: Shari and Ken Gerold

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

Zion's Adult Fellowship is a unique and rewarding way to get to know Adult members of our Zion family and a terrific venue to introduce friends and family to Zion.

When someone joins a new church, it is very difficult to connect in an hour or two on Sunday morning. Activities beyond the structure of a church service lead to a comfort level and make the church a home and family. This has been the experience we've over the years in this outreaching fellowship ministry.

**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](mailto:pilgrimspride1@live.com)

*Or contact Julia in the office for information.*



Thanks to our February bulletin stuffers: Joan Boling, Thelma Martin, and Lori Rehm.

A special thanks to the following individuals who delivered Meals on Wheels in February. Ron & Kay Erbeck, Lori Rehm, Carolyn Soupene, Dave & Carolyn Schul, Inas & Carl Clark, Patty Sroufe & 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 everyone who helped at the Community Meal Center on February 28. They served 301 meals consisting of ham & bean soup, cornbread, applesauce, peaches, salad, cookies, and cupcakes. The helpers were: Tillie & Clarence Adams, Ron & Kay Erbeck, Tammy, Mike & Molly Adams, Dennis Steele, Bud & Paula Scharf, Richard & Nedda Brown, Dave Carson, Ken Gerold, Patti Sroufe, Holly, Tanner, Taylor, & Tiffanie Cope, Robin & Gary Kaelin, Bennie & Leanne Bowling, Carolyn Soupene, Karen & Phil Pflaumer, Linda & Steve Herget, Nathaniel Kaelin, Barb Shearer, Kathy & Michael Chambers, Clint Parker, Arlene Herget, Leslie Jewett. Thank you also to everyone who provided desserts.

A special thank you goes to Tom & Barb Toman for coordinating this every month. They, along with Lou Robinson, plan the menu and do all the shopping. Lucky Lou was in Florida this time so wasn't involved.

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the families here at Ronald McDonald House thank you for your generous donation of pull tabs.

Sincerely,

*Ronald McDonald House families, staff & volunteers*

(Florence Hofmann collected the pull tabs for many years and sent them to the Ronald McDonald House. Since she has passed away, lets continue to collect them and I'll give them to my granddaughter to take to school. They collect and give to the Ronald McDonald House in Cincinnati. *Julia*)

Dear Friends at Zion,

Thanks so much for all the care and concern. And above all – the prayer. Getting stronger, and looking forward to my return. *Paul Stanbery*

Cara Boling would like to thank her prayer pal for the card and book for her birthday.

Dear Friends at Zion,

Thank you so much for the many gifts you sent throughout the past year and for your continued partnership in the gospel in 2015! You are helping to make an eternal difference.

It's exciting for us to be a part of what God is doing to reach people in Mexico with His love. Thanks for being a part of it too by partnering with us.

May the seeds sown bear much fruit for his glory!

Love in Christ, *Jose Luis & Christy Sanchez*

Thank you, people of Zion, for all the cards and visits you have made during my hospital and rehab. I appreciate that so much. *Paul Waechter*

Dear Zion Friends,

Thank you for the cards and well wishes. I'm getting more strength back every day. It's been a long haul!

Your friend in Christ, *Marge McGill*

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent gift of \$275.00 to support the mission and ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) through ELCA Good Gifts.

With your help, the ELCA is sharing the gospel, starting new congregations, preparing leaders, working to overcome malaria, fighting hunger and so much more. Your gifts are truly transforming lives.

Together we do more than we ever could alone. With our hands, we do God's work of restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus Christ's name throughout the world. Thank you for your partnership. And thanks, again, for your generous support. It is deeply appreciated.

In Christ,

*Christina Jackson-Skelton*

Executive Director, Mission Advancement – ELCA  
(We bought a pig, goat, sheep, chicks, honey bees, and school fees and uniform for a girl.)

## 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.



## Missionary Corner

Sixteen pastors left their villages to come to Puebla to learn more about *The Jesus Film* (a movie based on the Gospel of Luke) and to begin translating it into their indigenous languages. They'd been on a bus for 16 hours and hadn't eaten, so we headed to a food court. I discovered they didn't know how to order, so I ordered for them! Later during their stay I was driving them around and heard one of them saying random words. It wasn't until a friend of mine explained that those were the names of the movies playing at the theater, that I realized that he had never seen a movie theater before in his life. Can you imagine how excited people in his village and in even more remote areas will be to go see a movie projected on a big screen? How many hundreds of thousands of people will be exposed to the gospel when this project we're helping with will be done? That's why these pastors and leaders left their villages, families, and crops behind to come to our city. They're now back home continuing their translations and will return to Puebla in April to turn in their work. At that point we'll be helping to check for meaning (from a reverse translation someone from their community will have done from their language back into Spanish) and synchronization with the movie. The whole process is quite an undertaking. They are working hard and we are excited that what once took years to do one translation is now taking just months to do six! This is a new strategy The Jesus Film Ministry is piloting with us in Mexico. Among those speaking each of these six languages are at least 175,000 people (for each language) who are considered unreached and unengaged. No one is currently working to reach them with the gospel. We are so excited that people speaking the same languages as these pastors but living in even more remote villages than they do will have opportunities soon to hear the gospel!

Thank you so much for being a part of this big project. With your help and partnership thousands of people for the first time in their lives will have the opportunity to hear the gospel when the Jesus Film is projected on a screen in their villages. We look forward to telling you more in the future about what is being done to reach people in the

remote places of Mexico. For now, **here are a few ways you can be praying:**

- Pray for the translators, that they'd find time to work on their translations now that they are back home and that God would give them the words to say that would be understandable to the common person.
- Pray that the meaning wouldn't change even when words need to be cut or added to fit the actors' lips.
- Pray for our time with the translators in April, that God would give us wisdom as we check their work and make decisions with them about the best way to say things.
- Pray for God to be softening the hearts of those that will see *The Jesus Film* and those that will hear about Jesus as a result and that there would be much fruit from the work that is being done.

And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation."

Revelation 5:9

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:

- Wanda Cochran: Stress fracture. At Westover for rehab
- Kristin Haacke: has mononucleosis
- Tristan Lauer: in Army stationed at Fort Benning, GA for 6 months
- Adela Loge: Brenda Savages's mom. In the hospital in Toledo with blood infection (sepsis) and heart failure
- Lester Niederman: Heart & leg problems. At home now.
- Kelli Platt: pregnant with 4<sup>th</sup> child. Due in May.
- Erin & Ben Sanchez: birth of twin girls, Gloria & Naomi on 2/18
- Paul Stanbery: Had surgery for colon problem. Facing 2<sup>nd</sup> surgery within next month.
- Bill Thomin: death of brother, Calvin Thomin on 2/5

- Paul Waechter: at Hospice of Hamilton for failing health
- Caroline Wendelken: broken fingers
- Family & friends of Jim Mueller who passed away on 2/23



### Council Minutes January , 2014

- Attending:** Pastor Joe Schrock, Ron Alcorn, Sandy Sanders, Lou Robinson, Kathy Frye, Emily Sears, Mike Ford, Tammy Adams, Carolyn Soupene, Steve Herget, Gayle Ford, Kathy Chambers, Bennie Bowling, Richard Brown, Lori Rehm, Ken Gerold, Phil Pflaumer, Bill Carpenter, Mike Frye. **Excused:** Nathaniel Kaelin, Robin Kaelin
- **Motion** (S Sanders/L Robinson) and passed to approve agenda.
  - **Motion** (L Robinson/M Ford) and passed to accept the December 2014 Council Minutes
  - **Pastor's Report:** Addressed upcoming Unity Alliance Picnic on June 20, 2015. Ron advised Kathy Frye she has approval to commit \$100 donation for picnic. Pastor introduced Family Promise Program.
  - **Presidents Report:** Looking forward to a year of working together. Ron spoke of S. W. O. T. format for Goal Setting and Action. Committees must pursue attainable issues going forward to grow our congregation. Executive Committee is not a decision making committee. Committee reports are requested prior to Council Meetings. Reports should focus on what we are doing and plan to do, not on what has been done. Future council meetings to focus on answering questions and presenting motions.
  - **Motion** (S Sanders/P Pflaumer) and passed to accept treasurer's report.
  - **Treasurer's Report:** Lou mentioned Radio Fund is low. 2014 annual expense exceeded income by \$64,000. leaving a deficit of \$44,150.
  - **Motion** (L Robinson/S Sanders) and passed to transfer \$22,075 from Ott Fund and \$22,075 from Zoeller Fund to balance deficit.
  - **Evangelism:** Tammy advised that May 1st is National Day of Prayer. Suggested we have our church opened for those wishing to stop. Suggestion that Public Relations Committee attempt to get the message out.
  - **Visitation:** Carolyn announced her committee members and reported all her team members contributed in

- sending out several cards and seven visits were made to shut-ins.
- **Stewardship:** Phil reminded the council members of the importance of returning a portion the time, talent and resources that the Lord has first given to us.
- **Youth:** Robin submitted a written report. Created a Youth and Family Event on Facebook. Open forum and have encouraged families to invite friends to participate in conversation. Second site planned to target 18 and older single crowd to help facilitate events that would be of interest.
- **Parish Ed:** Ken advised planning of Bible School with possibly the Methodist Church. Also planning Sunday School and a Lenten Study Plan.
- **Fellowship:** Questioned possible co-ordination with Youth Committee. Suggested family oriented activities ie Pot Luck dinners after 10:30 service, Euchre night and movie night. Insure proper announcement of activities.
- **Trustees:** Discussed plan for handicap restroom and mentioned sink drain in kitchen. Advised that a Narcotics group requested use of the church on 2nd Sunday monthly. Security and liability is a concern. Mike to reach out for additional information and advise
- **Motion** (B Carpenter/M Ford) and passed. Patti Eaton; Ernie, Renee, Gabby, Shawn Beck; Eric Grundwald; Preeya Grundwald ( associate member) as new members.
- **Motion** (B Carpenter/S Sanders) and passed to retrn salary of Financial Secretary to 2012 rate, increase annually of \$936.
- **Motion** (M Ford/M Frye) and passed to adjourn.

#### Monthly statistics

##### Financial Stewardship (as of January 31, 2015)

	Income	Expenses
<b>2014</b>	\$13,110.60	\$25,999.48
<b>2015</b>	\$13,177.70	\$30,323.20

##### YTD Operating Funds

	Income	Expenses	Balance
<b>2014</b>	\$13,111	\$25,999	
<b>2015</b>	\$13,178	\$30,323	-\$17,311.18

##### Attendance Averages (February)

Church Atten.	Sun. Comm.	
87	74	

#### Funerals

James Mueller (died 2/23/2015, funeral 3/2/2015)

#### New Members (1/13/2015)

Ernie, Renee, Shawn & Gabby Beck  
Patti Eaton  
Eric & Preeya Grundwald

Have you remembered  
**Zion**  
in your Will?

 Zion  
Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church  
On Facebook

CHANGE YOUR  
**Clocks**

**March 8, 2015**



# Unity

City-Wide Faith Based Alliance  
"Building a Beloved Community"



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Church Picnic  
Saturday, June 20, 2015**

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

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

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR MARCH

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

**Altar Guild:** Julia Sears, Robin Kaelin

**Ushers:** Wayne Huston & team (8:00)  
Kaelin Family & team (10:30)

**Lectors:** **Mar 1** Peggy Thomin (8:00); Ken Gerold (10:30)  
**Mar 8** Gayle Ford (8:00); Holly Frye (10:30)  
**Mar 15** Stephanie Heitz (8:00); Thelma Martin (10:30)  
**Mar 22** Anita Snyder (8:00); Ron Alcorn (10:30)  
**Mar 29** Gail Heitz (8:00); Lori Rehm (10:30)

**Lent Wed, Mar 4** Ron Alcorn (7:30 p.m.)      **Mar 18** Gayle Ford (7:30 p.m.)  
**Mar 11** Anita Snyder (7:30 p.m.)      **Mar 25** Lori Rehm (7:30 p.m.)

**Greeters:** **Mar 1** Ron & Lynn Alcorn (10:30)  
**Mar 8** Patty Sroufe & Dennis Steele (10:30)  
**Mar 15** Lou & Paula Dabbelt (10:30)  
**Mar 22** Karla Schmidt (10:30)  
**Mar 29** Lori Rehm (10:30)

**Eucharist Assistants:** **Mar 1** Anita Snyder (8:00); Marge Withrow, Phil Pflaumer (10:30)  
**Mar 8** Barb & Tom Toman (8:00); Carolyn Soupene (10:30)  
**Mar 15** Anita Snyder, Stephanie Heitz (8:00); Ken & Shari Gerold (10:30)  
**Mar 22** Tillie Adams, Tom Toman (8:00); Marge Withrow (10:30)  
**Mar 29** Anita Snyder, Barb Toman (8:00); Phil Pflaumer, Carolyn Soupene (10:30)

**Radio:** **Mar 1** Adam Reed      **Nursery:** Samantha Bowling  
**Mar 8** Lou Robinson  
**Mar 15** Ron Alcorn  
**Mar 22** Adam Reed  
**Mar 29** Charles Kaelin

**Bulletin Mar 6** Joan Boling      **Offering Mar 1** Gayle Ford, Nathaniel Kaelin  
**Stuffers: Mar 13** Tom & Barb Toman      **Counters: Mar 8** Steve Herget  
**Mar 20** Thelma Martin      **Mar 15** Nathaniel Kaelin, Mike Frye  
**Mar 27** Lori Rehm, Cindy Burkhart      **Mar 22** volunteers needed  
**Mar 29** volunteers needed

The mission of Zion is to

Encourage

a growing faith in Jesus Christ and to

Equip

all people for witness and service.

