**PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Pastor Call Committee is continuing due diligence by laying the ground work with an updated Pastor Job Description which has been undergoing Church Council review, finalizing interview questions, and creating a structured interview process.

Meanwhile, back at the Synod, Pastor Ed Williams is actively seeking and contacting potential Pastoral candidates for us to interview.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the process at greater length, please feel at ease to contact any one serving on the Call Committee, including Mike Engel, Barb Toman, Ray Withrow, Dick Ruby, Emily Sears, Ken Gerold and Kathy Frye.

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**PARISH EDUCATION NEWS**

It's almost September and it's time to resume our Sunday School schedule. Here are some special dates -

- **September 08 - Rally Day** - this is when we will look ahead to our teachers and classroom assignments for the coming year. We will meet in the gym at 9:30AM for that event. Please mark your calendars to come and bring your children, grandchildren, neighbors, and friends. Remember - we have an adult Sunday School class as well as classes for young children and teens. Let's make our Sunday School grow in 2013-14!

- **September 15** - the first day of the Sunday School year. We look forward to a good year of teaching, learning, and growing in God's word.

In addition, we will begin a new confirmation class in mid-September. This will happen even though Pastor Dave will have moved to Oregon by that time. Letters will soon be going out to families with young people of confirmation age - that is, the young people of whom we are aware. If you know of a family that should be contacted, please pass that information on to Lori Rehm or Julia in the office. We want to be sure that all interested families be made aware of the beginning of this class. Confirmation education, like Sunday School, is vital to Zion's future. Thank you in advance for your support.

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**September Adult Fellowship Event**

**Picnic and Frisbee Golf**

**Saturday, September 7, 2013**

Meet at the Foxfire Shelter in Winton Woods at 3:00 p.m.

Please bring a covered dish to share and your drink.

Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided.

Please sign up in the great hall so we can get an approximate count for the meat.

Frisbee golf is loads of fun for the novice and experienced player. It’s an easy course, non-strenuous for most, and a pleasant walk in the woods.

Questions: See Wayne or Patrice Huston
Remember your Frisbee...See you there!!
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 of Zion
A Look Back in Time

The following information is taken from the Parish Report in 1959.

With the reorganization of the Women of Zion in 1959, six guilds were formed, each with a chosen project. At the publication of the 1959 Parish Report, the Guilds had only met for three months.

**Guild No. 2:** During the three months in which they had had meetings, the average attendance was 25. They had a membership of 81, including 11 shut-ins. Their project was to assist in any way possible with the church music program (choir robes, choir music and assisting with the children when getting ready to sing for services). It was reported by Mrs. Stanley Haacke, chairman, that during these three months the Guild had served in the following works:
- Assisted other guilds in serving dinner for Rev. and Mrs. Boerger
- Served refreshments after Reformation Day Music Festival in October
- Worked with other guilds in the fellowship hour held after the Advent services
- Repaired, laundered and ironed 50 Parish Choir robes
- Made eight new parish choir robes
- Repaired, laundered and ironed robes for the children’s Carol Choir
- Repaired Parish Choir music
- One member serving as librarian for Chancel Choir
- Each month two members bake cookies to be served to the Thursday afternoon and Saturday morning groups in the Parish Choir.

**Women’s Board Meeting**

The Women’s Board will meet on Monday, September 9 at 6:30 pm. to work on plans for our October General meeting, and Fellowship Dinner.

**Bingo at the Butler County Home**

Monday, September 9, 2013

We are going to the Butler County Care Facility to play Bingo with the residents on Monday, Sept. 9 at 2:00 p.m. Come and join the fun. If you would like to provide a snack or have questions, please call Becky Haacke at 524-4048. We also have need for small gifts for game prizes, especially those appropriate for males.

**Bereavement Committee**

A big thank you to those women who have supplied food and helped serve the bereavement lunches during June, July, and August.

September’s committee members are Thelma Martin, Sandy Ziepfel, Flo Harbin and Lynn Alcorn.

**Women’s General Meeting**

October 7, 2013

6:30 pm

Program to be announced later.

Covered Dish
Hostesses: Robin Kaelin & Caroline Soupene
All ladies are invited!

**Fall Fellowship Dinner and Bake Sale**

Mark your calendars – October 13th is the annual Women of Zion’s fall fellowship dinner and bake sale. The entire congregation is invited to share in a home cooked turkey dinner following the 10:30 service. There will also be a bake sale this Sunday. Members are encouraged to donate baked goods for this sale.

**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.

**Craft Night**

The crafters will meet Thursday, September 26 at 5:30 p.m. in the ladies sewing room near the chapel. Bring your own craft project or come and work on knotting the quilts for Lutheran World Relief.
BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

The Book of the Month Club will meet on Tuesday, September 3 to discuss *The Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. Barcelona, 1945—A great world city lies shrouded in secrets after the war, and a boy mourning the loss of his mother finds solace in his love for an extraordinary book called *The Shadow of the Wind*, by an author named Julian Carax.

When the boy searches for Carax's other books, it begins to dawn on him, to his horror, that someone has been systematically destroying every copy of every book the man has ever written.

Soon the boy realizes that *The Shadow of the Wind* is as dangerous to own as it is impossible to forget, for the mystery of its author's identity holds the key to an epic story of murder, madness, and doomed love that someone will go to any lengths to keep secret.

Then, on October 1, we’ll discuss *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson. A reluctant centenarian much like Forrest Gump (if Gump were an explosives expert with a fondness for vodka) decides it’s not too late to start over.

After a long and eventful life, Allan Karlsson ends up in a nursing home, believing it to be his last stop. The only problem is that he's still in good health, and in one day, he turns 100. A big celebration is in the works, but Allan really isn't interested (and he'd like a bit more control over his vodka consumption). So he decides to escape. He climbs out the window in his slippers and embarks on a hilarious and entirely unexpected journey, involving, among other surprises, a suitcase stuffed with cash, some unpleasant criminals, a friendly hot-dog stand operator, and an elephant (not to mention a death by elephant).

It would be the adventure of a lifetime for anyone else, but Allan has a larger-than-life backstory: Not only has he witnessed some of the most important events of the twentieth century, but he has actually played a key role in them. Starting out in munitions as a boy, he somehow finds himself involved in many of the key explosions of the twentieth century and travels the world, sharing meals and more with everyone from Stalin, Churchill, and Truman to Mao, Franco, and de Gaulle. Quirky and utterly unique, *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* has charmed readers across the world.

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

A DEVOTIONAL MOMENT

A Devotion for August 2013

Making Worship Count by Emma Crossen

Reading: Isaiah 1:11-17

11What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the LORD; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. 12When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more; 13bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation — I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity. 14Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them. 15When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. 16Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, 17learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

Reflection

These are tough words for anyone who plans worship, sings in the choir or decorates the altar. Sure, we no longer practice animal sacrifice, but God seems to dislike everything about worship and ritual. Does God’s wrath extend to our beautiful music, inspiring prayers and compelling sermons? Should we use our resources for something else? In short, the answer from Isaiah is “yes.” God tells the people to seek justice, rescue the oppressed and advocate for those on the margins of society. The message seems clear: spend your resources on these activities. Yet, God does not say worship is wrong. Rather, God says that he cannot endure being worshipped by people who are not also doing good outside the worship. Solemn assemblies are a problem, God says, when combined with iniquity. In calling the people to rescue the oppressed and defend the orphan, God does not tell the people to forgo worship; God tells them how to make worship count.

Prayer

God of the prophets, we hear your commands. Help us prepare for worship by going out from the altar to wash ourselves in the work of seeking justice.
Lutheran World Relief (LWR) is a non-governmental organization founded in 1945 to respond to the needs of communities devastated by World War II. Since then, it has evolved from a relief agency shipping material resources to war-torn Europe to an agency that works with partners worldwide to respond to emergencies, seek lasting solutions to rural poverty, and work for peace and justice for all. Headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, LWR works to reduce poverty and injustice by helping communities increase and expand the resources they need to live productive, healthy and empowered lives.

Lutheran World Relief seeks lasting solutions to poverty and injustice and in doing so, compels U.S. Lutherans to put their faith into action.

LWR Earns A From Charity Watchdog Group - The American Institute of Philanthropy (AIP), an independent nonprofit charity watchdog and information service recently gave LWR its A rating for maximizing the effectiveness of every dollar contributed.

**Personal Care Kits**
- 1 light or medium weight bath size towel (dark color recommended)
- 2 bars new soap (bath size)
- 1 sturdy comb (remove packaging)
- 1 metal nail clippers (remove packaging)
- 1 toothbrush (in package)
Wrap all items in towel and tie securely with ribbon or yarn.

**Baby Care Kits - (up to size 24 months)**
- 2 lightweight cotton t-shirts
- 2 gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- 1 hand towel (dark color recommended)
- 4 cloth diapers (flat fold)
- 1 sweater or sweatshirt (with hood or baby cap)
- 2 pairs of socks
- 2 cotton receiving blankets or crocheted/knitted blankets out of lightweight yarn (up to 52” square)
- 2 bath size bars of gentle soap
- 2 diaper or safety pins
Wrap items in receiving blankets and secure with safety pins.

**Tips**
- Varying the sizes of the clothing items included will make the Baby Care Kit more useful as the baby grows.
- Sweaters may be knitted or crocheted from yarn, or made from heavy double knits or fleece. Preferred styles have buttons or ties down the front.

Diapers can be made from flannel or even by recycling t-shirts. Visit lwr.org/beinvolved and click on Baby Care Kits for a Tip Sheet with instructions.

- If knitting or crocheting receiving blankets, including one knitted/crocheted blanket and one flannel blanket will provide maximum versatility.

**Fabric Kits**
- 2 pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric, each 3-4 yards in length
- 2 spools of matching or neutral general purpose thread
Wrap notions inside fabric and tie with string, yarn, or fabric strip.

**Mission Quilts**
Imagine the comfort that comes with a hug when someone is in a time of deepest need. Through a simple combination of fabric and thread, you can reach out to those with some of the greatest needs in the world, not wrapping them in your arms, but wrapping them in the work of your hands through an LWR Quilt.

Most often recipients use their LWR quilts to shield against the cold and rain, but their versatility also makes them useful as simple tents, floor coverings, or a wrap to hold a baby on his mother’s back.

Quilts should measure approximately 60” x 80” when finished. The ultimate purpose of a quilt is to provide warmth. Our quilting ladies are seeking donations of fabrics for the front and back and also warmer filler fabrics. Flannel sheets work well for the filler.

**School Kits**
- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper (no loose-leaf paper)
- One 30-centimeter ruler
- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well!)
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure with a rubber band
- Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure with rubber band
- One box 16 or 24 crayons
- One pencil sharpener
One 2½ inch eraser
Pack all the items in the bag and close. One way you can especially help is to sew the cloth bags for the school kits.

They ask that none of the kits be put in plastic bags.
**Zion Drive-In Theatre**

Come celebrate the end of summer with a fun-filled family evening at the movies!!!!

When: Saturday September 21st
Time: 7:00 pm
Where: Zion’s Gym

Bring blankets, pillows or chairs to be comfy and drinks of your choice.

**Popcorn and Candy will be provided.**
**Movie to be determined.**
TAILS FROM GOD

As part of the Tails From God ministry, Zion has a recycling program to benefit the Animal Friends Humane Society. Simply bring in your used printer cartridges, cells phones, toner cartridges, PDAs, and MP3 Players and put them in the recycling box in the church office. They will be packaged, shipped and sent to eCycle Group (www.ecyclegroup.com) and the money given to the Animal Friends Humane Society. This is a wonderful opportunity to be good stewards of God's creation by protecting the environment and the abused and neglected animals in Butler County. If you have questions, please contact Karen Conklin, 513-863-0532.

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.

Pet Services

Tails From God Pet Memorial Service is September 8 in the small chapel at 2:00. Tammy Wynn from Angel's Paws Pet Hospice will conduct the service. We will remember the pets we have waiting for us at the Rainbow Bridge. Webb Noonan Kidd Funeral Home is the sponsor. Please bring a picture of your pet(s.)

The 5th annual pet blessing will be held on October 5 from 4-4:30 in the memorial garden, weather permitting. In case of inclement weather, it will be held in the gym.

Zion Seniors

The Young at Heart, a social group for those 55 and over, will be eating lunch at Pfan Shen in Oxford on Tuesday, September 24. 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.

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

CHIOR PRACTICE BEGINS AGAIN

Adult Choir begins on September 4 at 7:30 p.m.
Bell Choir begins on September 11 at 6:15 p.m.
New Members Encouraged and Welcomed!

Have you remembered Zion in your Will?

SURVEY

A survey regarding the combined service in July will be passed out soon in church. We would appreciate your input. Be on the lookout for the survey. Thanks.
Missionary Corner

When we came to Mexico eight months ago to reach young people for Christ, we didn’t know what we were getting ourselves into. We hadn’t thought much beyond youth, but we’re seeing that when a young person accepts Christ, if the local church isn’t ready to welcome them, they’ll likely not stick around. We’re not just talking about greeting them at the door or having a youth group, but rather a family environment where they are shepherded, encouraged, supported and taught as they grow in their faith. We’re realizing that using some of our time to help build up and train churches could in turn impact youth for the rest of their lives. We imagine you can understand then how excited we are about what we saw God do in Minatitlan, Veracruz in July and August.

We first arrived in this hot city at a church called “Iglesia Bethel” that hadn’t had a pastor in three years. This was a source of complaint and a big excuse for them in many ways. Our first assignment was to lead them in ILAM’s evangelism training, which lasts six hours. Basically it’s a day of hearing, learning and evaluating Bible stories about Jesus’ birth, life, death and resurrection. The church then learns to share a two-minute story we like to call “La Historia” that sums it all up. They go out for 20 minutes to share it and talk with people outside of the church, and then they come back. We couldn’t believe our ears when one man returned, telling the church all that happened when he went out and how this shows us that the need is “out there”. His grown son later told us that he’s never seen his dad so excited about anything related to church.

Typically when we’ve done these trainings we don’t get to stick around to see what happens beyond the day of training. But in this case, we were able to stick around for two more weeks as we helped lead a short-term mission group. Bethel, whose evangelism leader had never been out evangelizing, took a turn down a road they’ve never walked before. The lady with whom we stayed seemed like a natural at sharing her faith and we were taking notes from her, only to find out from her later that she’s never shared the gospel as much in her whole life as she has in these two weeks. She said it’s so much easier to start with a story from the Bible. We saw that she wasn’t the only one who felt that way when we helped with a medical brigade. The church estimates that 200 people heard La Historia that day, not because the gospel had been shared over a loudspeaker, but because the church members and our group initiated conversations with people while they waited in line. Who would’ve thought when they came to see a doctor that they’d have an opportunity to meet Jesus, who can not only provide physical healing, but spiritual restoration too!

Thank you for helping to make a difference not only in the lives of young people, but in local churches in Mexico too. We thank God for you often and for the sacrifices you make so that many more would know Christ. We’d love to share more about our trip and plan to do so on Facebook. If you’re on Facebook, friend us: JoseandChristy Sanchez.

Until they all hear,
Jose Luis & Christy Sanchez

NEW BIBLE STUDY

Do you know the difference between Jews and Gentiles and between Law and Grace? Derek and Karen Conklin are starting a Bible study on how to study the Bible. The time and place will be determined by the number of people interested and their schedules. There is a sign-up sheet in the Great Hall. Please sign up by Sunday, September 15. If you would like more information, please call Derek at 513-520-6077.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

The following gifts have been given to Zion.

In memory of Loretta Griesinger
For the Elevator Fund: Bob & Patty Gifford

In memory of Dorothy Jones
For the Radio Fund: Kathy Issenmann, Clyde & Elaine Lapham, Joan Cunningham

In memory of Doris Sanders
For the Elevator Fund: Bob & Patty Gifford
CONFIRMATION

On Sunday, August 25, we confirmed three of our young people who have taken classes for the past years with Pastor Dave Miller. Confirmation was going to be held on Reformation Sunday but the students wanted to be confirmed by Pastor Dave so he did that on his last Sunday at Zion. Below is some information about those who were confirmed, along with their confirmation verse.

Samantha Marie Bowling was born October 17, 1999 in Hamilton and was baptized at Zion Lutheran Church on January 9, 2000 by Pastor Landers. She is a student at Immanuel Lutheran School. Samantha enjoys volleyball, listening to music and going to King’s Island. She would like to graduate from college and pursue a career in the healthcare field. Samantha is the daughter of Bennie & Leanne Bowling and the sister of Eric Bowling and Jessica Purkiser. Her grandparents are Richard & Nedda Brown, Ford & Zella Bowling (both deceased), and Ed & Nell (deceased) Schmidt. 

Deuteronomy 31:6  "Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the LORD your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you."

Tarin Marie Lauer was born July 5, 1998 at University Hospital, then straight to Cincinnati Children’s for 4 ½ months. She was baptized at Zion by Pastor Browning on June 27, 1999. She is a student at Hamilton Freshman School. She enjoys soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball, and hanging out with friends. Tarin’s future plans include college (maybe play soccer) to become either a teacher or doctor and help kids with cancer and then have a family. She is the daughter of Jerry and Angie Lauer and the sister of Nick and Tristan. Her grandparents are Nick & Betty Lauer (both deceased) and Mildred & Gordon (deceased) Ante.

Psalm 139:14  "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well."

Marissa Rachael Jean Lomardi was born June 18, 1999 in Hagerstown, Maryland and was baptized at Evangelical Lutheran Church in Greencastle, PA. She has been a member of Zion since 2002. Marissa is a student at Lakota East High School and enjoys hockey and softball. She would like to attend college and earn a degree in Marine Biology. Marissa is the daughter of Kurt & Cheryl Lombardi and the sister of Nicholas. Her grandparents are Judy Mohrhardt and Mike & Jan Lombardi.

Romans 15:13  "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Spirit."
Our prayers for God's healing and strength are offered for those who have been hospitalized or have medical or personal issues:

Name:                   Requested by:    
John Adams              Tillie Adams  
Beverly Allen           Greg Allen    
Leslie Andrew           Lindsey Gibson 
Millie Ante             Erin Sanchez 
Will Barnett            Ingrid Sanders 
Marge Below             Gail Konrad  
Lorainne Blanchard      Cheryl Griesinger
Verna Botts             Julia Sears    
Ella Boynton            Sandy Ziepfel 
Linda Brandt            Member        
Katie Land Brooks       Member        
Richard Brown           Member        
Janet Buchheit          Elaine Carpenter
Sandy Bunger            Mike Ford     
Nicole Carson           Susie Pflaumer Hassett 
Madison Chambers        Member        
Maiya Christiansen      Ingrid Sanders 
Brad Coffey             Gail Konrad  
Gardner Cole            Kelli Platt   
Dave Cornett            Gail Konrad  
Adam Crosby             Member        
Jane Day                Member        
Oswald Demmel           Cheryl Griesinger
Charles Douthit         Member        
Jack & Evelyn Duvall    Members       
Lucy Emrick             Kathy Chambers
Quenten Fabiano         email         
Ida Fletcher            Member        
Lyla Follmer            Janis Dehner 
Marcia Helsinger        Member        
Bob French              Kathy Frye   
Debbie Gibson           Julia Sears   
Linda Gibson            Lindsey Gibson
Lois Godby              Gail Konrad  
Wilma Hawkey            Kathy Frye   
Ty Hester               Lori Rehm    
Jack Hiles              Member        
Marsha & Russell Isaacs  Joe Sears    
Tabatha Johnson         Jean Keck    
Tammy Jones             Member        
Shirley Kaelin          Member        
Sethey Kane             Jean Keck    
Emma Keck               Melba Keehner 
Debbie Keehner          Members      
Lee & Melba Keehner     Member        
Elnora Kehr             Joe & Julia Sears
Ava Kemen               Member
Janet Thompson  
Helen Timmer  
Paul Waechter  
Bernie Warren  
Caroline Wendelken  
Harry Whitaker  
Jim Wilkins  
Geri Willis  
Karin Zapf  
Nancy Wenning  
Member  
Member  
Member  
Member  
Member  
Julia Sears  
Frank Martin

Our sincere Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Damon Steiner who passed away on August 10.

Pray for our new baby and parents. Amethyst Julia Allen, daughter of Matthew & Patty Allen, born July 29.

Pray for God’s blessings on Justin Cook and Lindsey Huston, who were united in marriage on August 3.

Please keep in your prayers our newly confirmed members: Samantha Bowling, Tarin Lauer, and Marissa Lombardi.

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.

***If you have a joy or sorrow to share and be prayed for, please notify the church office. We strive to include everyone.

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.

Here are blessings members have reported in the last month…


The Wheelers

Join with Meijer Hamilton West To Support the OPEN DOOR FOOD PANTRY

Help us in the fight against hunger

Your $10 donation will be turned into a Meijer gift card and given to the OPEN DOOR FOOD PANTRY. All cards purchased at the Meijer Hamilton West Store from now until Sept. 28 will receive at least a $10 matching gift from Meijer’s, so that each $10 you give results in $20 for the OPEN DOOR FOOD PANTRY.

For three days only, September 5, 6, and 7 Meijer will match your gift 2 to 1. So your $10 gift results in $30 for the OPEN DOOR FOOD PANTRY, $50 becomes $150, and a gift of $100 becomes $300 for the needs of the people served by the OPEN DOOR FOOD PANTRY.

The Open Door Pantry, 800 S Front St, has served thousands of needy families every year since 1981. It receives no United Way funding and is dependent upon donations. Its mission is to help on an emergency, temporary basis and to teach self help to those in need. During our last Simply give campaign, the Open door Pantry received $2900, which included $1270 from our donors, and $1630 in matching funds from Meijer. This money has been used to purchase food, and importantly, personal care items like diapers, soap, and deodorant which are needed but not often donated. Funds from the current campaign will be used to help provide Thanksgiving meals for our clients.

This fundraising event will run until September 28, 2013. Obtain your $10 donation card from the Simply Give display in our Church, or near the checkout at the Meijer Hamilton West Store. The Meijer Hamilton West Store is the only Meijer store participating in the fundraising for the OPEN DOOR FOOD PANTRY. Since 2008, Meijer and its customers together have donated over $3 million dollars to food pantries throughout their market area. Simply Give helps neighborhood food pantries stock their shelves to feed local families that are struggling.
Thanks to our August bulletin stuffers: Joan Boling, Kyle Boling, Thelma Martin, Tom & Barb Toman, Cindy Burkhart, and Lori Rehm.

To the members of Zion,

Thank you so much for the scholarship award. I was truly happy the moment I learned I was the recipient. I absolutely love my major and can’t wait to get back to school for the next semester! Thank you all so much, and God bless. I really couldn’t have grown up with a better church.

Thanks You!
Julie Allen

Thanks to the Women of Zion and others who sent cards, Pastor Dave for his visit, Carolyn Soupene for the produce she brought and a big thank you to Bill & Elaine Carpenter for a ride to my doctor’s appointment in Kenwood. I appreciated it all very much.

My cornea transplant surgery was on July 22, but the healing is going to take longer than expected due to some setbacks resulting from a separation of the donor tissue graft to my cornea. It’s been a rough recovery physically and emotionally but I believe that with continued prayer I will do fine.

In Christ’s Love,
Sandy Parker

Thank you to the team who made the July Community Meal a great success. Look for the next opportunity to serve in November. Those helping were: Mike & Gayle Ford, Adrienne Sander, Nick & Dottie Nixon, Clarence & Tillie Adams, Joan Boling, Ken & Shari Gerold, Tracy Tringel, Carolyn Soupene, Cheryl Griesinger, Anita Snyder, Lori Rehm, Steve Herget, Karen & Phil Pflaumer, Gary & Robin Kaelin, Wayne & Patrice Huston, Marcia Helsinger, Joni Copas, Gail Heitz, and Thelma Martin.

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.

ELIZABETH EATON ELECTED ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP

PITTSBURGH (ELCA) - The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Northeastern Ohio Synod, was elected Aug. 14 presiding bishop of the ELCA at the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. She was elected on the fifth ballot. There were 889 votes cast, and 445 votes were needed for an election. Eaton received 600 votes and the Rev. Mark S. Hanson, ELCA presiding bishop, received 287. Eaton is the ELCA's first woman presiding bishop-elect.

The churchwide assembly, the chief legislative authority of the ELCA, is meeting here Aug. 12-17 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. The theme for the triennial assembly is “Always being made new.” This year marks the 25th anniversary of this church.

“We are a church that is overwhelmingly European in a culture that is increasingly pluralistic. We need to welcome the gifts of those who come from different places, that is a conversation we need to have as a church,” Eaton told the assembly shortly after the election.

Prior to becoming synod bishop, Eaton served as pastor for ELCA congregations in Ohio. She earned a Master’s of divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass., and a Bachelor’s degree in music education from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio.

About the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with more than 4 million members in nearly 10,000 congregations across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region. Known as the church of “God's work. Our hands,” the ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world. The ELCA's roots are in the writings of the German church reformer, Martin Luther.
Council Minutes
July 9, 2013

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

- **Motion** (Pflaumer, G Ford) and passed to accept June minutes with one correction.
- The Monthly Special Appreciation Award was passed From Joan Boling to Bill Carpenter who quietly works behind the scenes at church.
- **President Report:** He thanked council for all the positive energy being seen in the church. He invited Parish Ed to come to the next Worship and Music meeting. He shared that Lou Robinson was thru surgery and doing well.
- **Motion** (Boling, Chambers) and passed to accept treasurer’s report.
- **Call Committee Update:** Input is requested from council on Pastor Job Description, with plans to vote on it next month.
- **Evangelism/PR Report:** Our website is in the process of being upgraded.
- **Motion** (E Sears, Kaelin) and passed for up to $1000.00 from our budget to cover costs of food, decorations, etc. for August Event to come from #204 account.
- **Worship & Music:** Still working on the Nursery Job Descriptions. Thanked all who helped with the parade float for the 4th of July parade. Mentioned calling 14 pages of members and getting good feedback – no gripes. Also mentioned that 7/7 there were many positive comments made about going to one Service. Very happy to have our new organist and really appreciate his openness with our members.
- **Social Concerns:** Community Meal 7/20 Hot dogs/beans/chips/cupcakes Need helpers.
- **Stewardship Report:** Working on putting together a stewardship committee.
- **Youth & Family Fellowship:** Bowling and Raymond’s Pizza are the next weekend. In August (3) There will be a Wine Tasting Event. 9/21 We will be having a “Indoor Drive In Event” with a good movie, popcorn & candy.

- **Parish Ed Report:** VBS has started. Avery and Alex are helpers. Looking to re-establish WINGS on Wednesdays. Planning to have a teachers training.
- **Trustees Report:** A leak in the sacristy was fixed and mess cleaned up by trustees. Jessica is going to set up a Fall Clean up Day. There is trouble with the roof and the estimate is 50,028.00. Courtyard has been leaking into the basement. Council member suggested there be a place members could give money toward the upkeep of the church and it was noted that there is already an account: #109 Building Improvement Fund.
- **Motion** (Kaelin, Chambers) and passed to adjourn the meeting.

### Monthly statistics

#### Financial Stewardship (as of July 31, 2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$17,911.37</td>
<td>$21,155.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$15,352.99</td>
<td>$16,959.08</td>
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#### YTD Operating Funds

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Balance</th>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>$138,956</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$125,975</td>
<td>$136,163</td>
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#### Attendance Averages (August)

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>144</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>119</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Baptisms

- Alex Charles Hill – 8/4/2013
- Cameron Robert Heitz - 8/11/2013

### Funeral

- Damon James Steiner (Died 8/10/2013, funeral 8/16/2013)

### Wedding

- Justin D Cook & Lindsey G Huston – 8/3/2013

The following shut in is celebrating her birthday in September. 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. Adeline Maggart** 9/25
Westover Retirement Community
855 Stahlheber Rd.
Hamilton, OH 45013
Disaster Relief: Congregations in the Eye of the Storm

An EF level-5 tornado ripped through Joplin, Missouri, killing 158 people, injuring 1,150 others, and causing nearly $3 billion in damage. The storm leveled St. Paul’s United Methodist Church worship center and severely damaged their family life center. Two of their members were among the dead and three members from another area congregation lost their lives. Hurricane Irene caused major destruction along the East Coast of the U.S. and record flooding took many inland communities by surprise. When the Schoharie Creek rose to historic levels, Prattsville and Schoharie, New York were among the most affected—90 percent of the village structures sustained major damage, including local churches. Congregations in the eye of the storm suffer in multiple ways—church buildings may be damaged or destroyed, lives may be lost, members and neighbors may become homeless, and the community and its residents are never the same again. Still, the disaster is not the event—it is what happens afterward.

Immediate Relief vs. Long-Term Recovery

When a community disaster occurs, many agencies and groups swing into action. In the chaotic first few days, inaccurate information flows and media coverage can be intense. People around the country begin to contribute to relief organizations. In fact, 95 percent of all contributed funds are given during this first relief stage. However, the most difficult and expensive aspect of stitching the community back together comes from hard work in the following three to five years. After five years, work groups are still traveling to assist in areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. Both immediate relief and long-term assistance are needed after a natural disaster. Below are ways that your congregation can provide security and hope for a future beyond the storm’s effects.

Immediate Relief Efforts by Churches

People of faith have great potential to lead and minister when the healing work begins.

Donate smart. Make a cash donation to a local church, long-term recovery group, or faith-based organization that already has relationships in the community. Consider giving to those doing the work of recovery because they need more funds and are less likely to receive them after public attention wanes. Look for opportunities to take part in matching grants where every gift is matched dollar for dollar. Above all, donate to an organization that you trust.

Do not send supplies. When disaster strikes, people want to do something! Yet sending desperately needed supplies is simply not practical. Someone in the community has to be set up to receive, organize, store, and then distribute these goods to victims. Often charities partner with companies to acquire what they need in donations such as bottled water, cleaning supplies, new clothing, and gift cards. Have a fundraising event and then donate those funds to a trusted charity.
Provide information and open your doors. Church buildings and parking lots make good locations for the distribution of water, food, and supplies. Congregations can be a clearinghouse for information and space for volunteers and agency staff to meet with affected individuals and families. Church volunteers can gather information about food pantries and about households willing to provide temporary lodging, rentals or hotels with space, and other affordable housing. The church might have facilities to serve as a temporary shelter (this possibility becomes more realistic when mobile units with showers and washing machines are available). Congregations often coordinate community meals with other churches and nonprofits to host multiple feeding sites across the affected area. Finally, churches live out their core mission through opening their building for prayer and by participating in interfaith worship services.

Long-Term Recovery Efforts by Churches

While the short-term efforts matter, what’s more vital is the work toward long-term recovery.

Organize volunteers. Before traveling to a disaster site, make prior arrangements with a local church or agency so they can be ready to put your volunteers to work. All volunteers should arrive prepared to do the work that the local group asks them to do. This includes being appropriately dressed (wearing gloves, long sleeves, work clothes that can be ruined, masks) and bringing their own tools. If possible, volunteers should bring their own food/water. Car pooling or group transportation helps get the group in and out when there is limited road access. Affected areas always benefit from skilled labor but most jobs simply involve removing debris and cleaning up sites. If the disaster is local, congregations can host work groups by providing shelter, meals, or transportation.

What volunteers do is important but showing up and building relationships are equally important. Talking helps traumatized victims who have lost so much rediscover what brings their life meaning and dignity. When volunteers listen, they remind survivors that they are not alone and others care. Unfortunately, volunteers can believe they know what is best. A Schoharie pastor advises: “Come with a servant’s heart.” This means that volunteers should refrain from judging lifestyles or community methods. The volunteer’s purpose is to assist, serve, and bring relief.

Adopt a sister congregation. Congregations can become long-term recovery partners with a disaster-affected church. Through prayer, sending work groups, and meeting specific requests for assistance, the adopted church feels supported and encouraged. Faith communities show strength in their regional and national community-based network of other denominational churches. Most denominations offer opportunities for service, such as Episcopal Relief and Development, United Methodist Committee on Relief, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, Mennonite Disaster Service, Lutheran Disaster Response, and World Renew/Christian Reformed Church.

Participate in a long-term recovery group. Communities affected by disaster eventually organize one or more nonprofit group(s) to coordinate the rebuilding challenge. Homeowners, businesses, and agencies are typically represented. Congregations should be represented in these efforts as well because people of faith bring a commitment to justice and equitable assistance. Pastors and individual members can attend meetings, serve on committees and governing boards, and share information with the congregation.

Prepare a church disaster plan. Gather a team of four to six members and craft a comprehensive but short summary of what the church would need if (1) a local disaster caused damage to church facilities or to the homes of members, or (2) a disaster happened in the county or state. Encourage interested members to get disaster training offered by many denominations and relief organizations.1

A Ministry of Hope

The most recognized work of Japanese art, a woodblock print, depicts a huge wave threatening three small boats. Why has this dramatic scene become an iconic image of impending disaster? At first glance, the fishermen seem doomed. Yet they do not look panicked. Instead, they grasp their oars with determined discipline and use their experience to cope with the flow of life. Although the wave exemplifies the violence of nature, the sun still shines, pointing to resiliency and hope. Floods, fires, hurricanes, and tornadoes rip apart communities and present congregations with the opportunity to be a part of God’s story of hope. In this turmoil, churches can do their best ministry—offer hope, form long-term partnerships, and build communities.

1. Guides for churches ministering in disaster are available online. For examples see these websites: National Disaster Interfaith Network, Be a Ready Congregation and tip sheets about disaster ministry (n-din.org), North American Mission Board (www.namb.net), Church Preparedness for Disaster Relief and Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, Peace River Presbytery (www.peacervinpresbytery.org). Copyright © 2013 by Cynthia Woolever www.TheParishPaper.com
## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR SEPTEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Acolyte 8:00 a.m.</th>
<th>Acolyte 10:30 a.m.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>Usher Team</td>
<td>Nicholas Lombardi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>Usher Team</td>
<td>Alex Bruner</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 15</td>
<td>Usher Team</td>
<td>Ethan Merchant</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>Usher Team</td>
<td>Alex Bruner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29</td>
<td>Usher Team</td>
<td>Samantha Bowling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Altar Guild:** Tillie Adams, Marcia Helsinger  
**Ushers:** Bill Thomin & team (8:00)  
Kaelin Family & team (10:30)

**Lectors:**  
Sept 1 Mike Heitz (8:00); Ron Alcorn (10:30)  
Sept 8 Beth Allen (8:00); Thelma Martin (10:30)  
Sept 15 Cindy Burkhart (8:00); Phil Pflaumer (10:30)  
Sept 22 Peggy Thomin (8:00); Lou Robinson (10:30)  
Sept 29 Anita Snyder (8:00); Ken Gerold (10:30)

**Greeters:**  
Sept 1 Bob & Marcia Helsinger (8:00); Dan & Cheryl Griesinger (10:30)  
Sept 8 Paul Steele (8:00); Bill & Elaine Carpenter (10:30)  
Sept 15 Kathy Debord (8:00); Tom & Sandy Wright (10:30)  
Sept 22 Clarence & Tillie Adams (8:00); Bennie & Leanne Bowling (10:30)  
Sept 29 Ron & Kay Erbeck (8:00); Lori Rehm (10:30)

**Eucharist:**  
Sept 1 Wayne & Patrice Huston (8:00); Phil Pflaumer, Lori Rehm (10:30)  
**Assistants:**  
Sept 8 Tillie Adams, Anita Snyder (8:00); Carolyn Soupene, Donna Wolfe (10:30)  
Sept 15 Tom & Barb Toman (8:00); Rex & Susan Merchant (10:30)  
Sept 22 Anita Snyder, Tillie Adams (8:00); Robin Kaelin, Marge Withrow (10:30)  
Sept 29 Wayne & Patrice Huston (8:00); Kathy Chambers, Ken Gerold (10:30)

**Radio:**  
Sept 1 Lou Robinson  
Sept 8 Adam Reed  
Sept 15 Ron Alcorn  
Sept 22 Greg Allen  
Sept 29 Adam Reed

**Bulletin:**  
Sept 6 Joan Boling  
**Stuffers:**  
Sept 13 Tom & Barb Toman  
Sept 20 Ruth Larson, Thelma Martin  
Sept 27 Lori Rehm, Cindy Burkhart  
**Offering:**  
Sept 1 Joan Boling, Mike Frye

**Counters:**  
Sept 8 Bill Carpenter, Lori Rehm  
Sept 15 Gayle Ford  
Sept 22 Joan Boling  
Sept 29 Bill Carpenter, Shari Gerold

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The mission of Zion is to

**Encourage**

a growing faith in Jesus Christ and to

**Equip**

all people for witness and service.