

# The Messenger

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church December 2016



## Blue Christmas by Elvis

I'll have a blue Christmas without you  
I'll be so blue just thinking about you  
Decorations of red on a green Christmas tree  
Won't be the same dear, if you're not here with me  
And when those blue snowflakes start falling  
That's when those blue memories start calling  
You'll be doin' all right, with your Christmas of white  
But I'll have a blue, blue Christmas  
You'll be doin' all right, with your Christmas of white  
But I'll have a blue, blue Christmas

Many people face conflicting emotions at Christmas. When not smothered by human constructs, the season reminds us and gives us peace and hope even in a turbulent world. Yet the tinge of this world enters in even then because we have empty chairs at the table, lost loves, lost jobs, broken dreams and other similar experiences that intrude on this season of light and hope. Elvis' song, while a bit cheesy, captures some of those mixed feelings. We know that other people are having a good time, and we, through faith, know that loved ones are happy and safe in heaven. However we still miss them and the memories we made with them. The grief and longing provide pause in many peoples' celebrations.

When the angels broke in on the shepherds' peaceful night, they also broke in on the shepherds' daily lives. Lives that also included grief, confusion, pain, anxiety and fear. Not to mention the difficulty of herding sheep while protecting them from human and animal predators. One has to wonder how close the shepherds came to breaking down after a long day, long week or long life and now angels are talking and singing to them! Thankfully before one more stress/straw broke the proverbial back, God's peace intervened. Instead of being overburdened by the shock of a multitude of angels and their own respective lives, they left their fields joyous, at peace and ready to share God's Good News.

I can not promise a multitude of angels showing up at Zion on Christmas Eve, or even that all your sorrow or other burdens will magically disappear. However God's peace will come to you because a child is born who will be called Jesus, Lord, Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Teacher, Son, Brother and Friend. A baby that not only loves you enough to die for you, but walks with and shares your burdens, your sorrows and all that troubles you. Together we commune with all of our loved ones living and dead at Our Father's Table knowing that God transforms our lives and though we still experience loss, it is not the final word. Together we remember through word and deed the hope and joy of truly Good News and we leave our "fields" to share it with a hurting world. God's peace, joy and love sustain and empower you and your loved ones! We have much to share with others in 2017!

Merry Christmas and have a blessed New Year!

Pastor Joe Schrock



## Sunday, December 18

10:30 a.m. .... Christmas Cantata

## Saturday, December 24

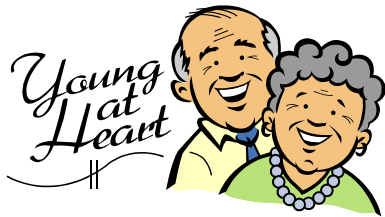
5:00 and 10:30 p.m. .... Christmas Eve Worship

## Sunday, December 25

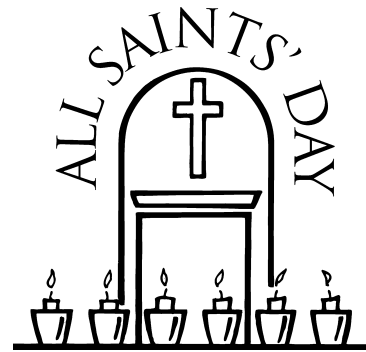
5:00 p.m. .... Christmas Worship (Carol Sing)  
(No morning services on Christmas day.)

## Sunday, January 1

10:30 a.m. .... New Year's Worship (Carol Sing)  
(No 8:00 or 5:30 services on New Year's Day.)



The Young at Heart, a social group for those 55 and over, will get together on December 6. We are going to the Grand Finale in Glendale. Edith and I are in communication with the restaurant to select our choices of food. We're trying to get a nice variety and are considering everyone's food allergies, etc. We do have to spend a minimum to be in their private room sitting together so if you have signed up, please try not to cancel. We made plans according to the list. Also, if you would like to invite a guest, we have room for about five more. Everyone is welcome!



All Saints Sunday was November 6. The list that was included in last month's Messenger was incomplete so I'm including it again. Our saints this year are:

- Bruce Allen 1/12/2016
- Caroline Wendelken 2/10/2016
- Sheri Maffeo 3/7/2016
- Eleanor Hazzard 3/11/2016
- Robert Bunnell 3/12/2016
- Karen Bartels Filipas 3/27/2016
- Jane Day 4/14/2016
- Linda Fisher 5/10/2016
- Larry Moody 5/28/2016
- Mitchell Parker 6/8/2016
- Ellen Fisher 7/2016
- Adeline Maggart 8/1/2016
- Jack Greeley 8/2/2016
- Ethel Kolesar 10/8/2016
- Daisy Border 10/16/2016
- Helen Moody 10/20/2016
- Tom Rentschler 10/25/2016
- Janet Dickersheid 10/27/2016

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



**WE CAN STILL TAKE MORE** orders for poinsettias to be used in the sanctuary for the Christmas season. They may be taken home after the 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service or you can leave them

till after the Christmas Day service at 5:00 p.m. The cost for a plant is \$8.00 and checks may be made payable to Zion Lutheran Church. Please fill out the form below and place in the offering plate as soon as possible.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

How Many Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Congregational Meeting



A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, December 4 at all services. We will be voting on the 2017 budget and new council members. Please plan on being 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.



*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 November 13, 2016**

- **Attending:** Gail Heitz, Shirley Snyder, Lori Rehm, Janet Menke, Thelma Martin, Cheryl Griesinger, Anita Snyder, Cindy Burkhart, Tammy Adams, Julia Sears
- Treasurer's Report: Balance on hand is \$4,100.28. Total expenditures were \$195.85 which included supplies for the Fall Fellowship Dinner and craft supplies for Thanksgiving gifts for shut-ins. Total receipts for the month were \$999.50 from the sale of soup, craft/bakery items, and donations at the Fall Fellowship Dinner.
- 58 people were served at the Fellowship Dinner and there were 10 carry-out meals. Suggested that mashed potatoes be served again.
- Soup sales are going well. Need to find a new source of Wyler powder beef bouillon.
- Sixteen quilts and 11 boxes of items collected over past 6 months are ready to be delivered to LSSSO.
- Thanksgiving gifts will be delivered to shut-ins during the next several weeks.
- Only need a few more volunteers to help with Thankoffering Service.
- December General Meeting will be Monday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Tammy Adams and Terry Haynes-Toney are hostesses. Planning an advent devotion and candlelight dinner.
- Mini-bagels, cream cheese, fruit, coffee and orange juice will be served between morning services on Nov. 27 as members have an opportunity to meet Pastor Abrams.
- Next executive board meeting will be Sunday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m.

### **Bereavement Teams**

Thank you to the members of the November bereavement team: Ingrid Sanders, Kathy DeBord, Gail Heitz, and food caller, Marge Withrow. These women will also continue as the December Bereavement team.



## **YOU'RE INVITED**

### **Preparing Your Heart for Christmas**

All Women of Zion are invited to attend our December General Meeting on Monday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the church gymnasium.

The meeting will begin with a devotional, "Preparing Your Heart for Christmas." This will be followed by a candlelight dinner. A delicious meal of lasagna, salad, bread, and drinks will be provided.

Please bring 2 dozen cookies to share for dessert and a cookie exchange. A hot cocoa bar will be offered, too!

Following the dinner, prayer pals will be revealed. Please bring a \$5.00 gift to exchange with your prayer pal or other ladies not in the prayer pal program.

Continuing with tradition, the evening's offering will be sent to Wernle Youth and Family Treatment Center and personal care items that are brought will be donated to the Hamilton YWCA's Resident Program and Dove House.

### **It's Back!!**

#### **Our Famous Shaker Weekend Soup Mix**

The Women of Zion are once again selling jars of their Shaker Weekend Soup Mix. Orders are being taken now! Look for a sign-up sheet in the Great Hall or contact Thelma Martin if you would like to purchase a few jars. The jars sell for \$10.00 each and make wonderful Christmas gifts.



Women of Zion

## LOOKING AHEAD

The Women of Zion Executive Board are beginning to plan for 2017. We could use your help, ideas, and suggestions. Women's General Meetings: What programs would you like to have? What day of the week would be best? What time of the day? How often? Volunteers: What would you be willing to help with? Bereavement? Kitchen clean-up? Planning programs? Help with bulletin board or display case? Other ways? Executive Board: Would you be willing to become a member of the executive board? Please contact anyone on the executive board if you have any suggestions or are willing to help in anyway. Thank you!!!



The women of Zion wish to thank the congregation for its generous contributions of baby, school, and personal hygiene items that we have boxed for Lutheran Social Services of Southwest Ohio. Eleven boxes -- including notebooks, crayons, pencils, soap, toothpaste, bath towels, baby blankets, diapers, baby clothes, and much more -- are delivered selflessly by Elaine and Bill Carpenter. These items benefit children and families locally. We also wish to thank our talented ladies who stitched with love sixteen beautiful quilts that will bring warmth and beauty to the recipients. Again, **THANK YOU ALL:** your charitableness is invaluable!

A HUGE thank you to all the participants in the Women's Thankoffering Service! Honored to have Brandon Huston preach, we are also so proud of the presence and support of the women of the congregation. The following women contributed to the beauty of this service, a tradition of "giving in gratitude for blessings." Tillie Adams, Sandy Ziepfel, Heidi Wolfe, Cindy Burkhart, Donna Wolfe, Anita Snyder, JoAnette Coe, Kathy Debord, Gail Heitz, Kathy Taulbee, Elaine Carpenter, Nedda Brown, Stephanie Heitz, Joni Copas, Julia Hilbert, Lori Rehm, Thelma Martin, Robin Kaelin, Cheryl Griesinger, Gayle Ford, Cindy Herald, Kathy Chambers and Linda Herget. Additionally, thanks to all the members of Zion for their monetary contributions that acknowledge gratitude for God's blessings over the year and that support the ministries of the Women of the ELCA.

## Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Many thanks to the women who helped with the preparations and clean-up for the Veteran's Potluck!!

Thank you to the following people for delivering Thanksgiving Gift Bags to Zion's shut-ins: JoAnette Coe, Kathy Chambers, Joni Copas, Cheryl Griesinger, Robin Kaelin, Daphne Lee, Shirley Snyder, Marge Withrow and John Ziepfel. Your help is greatly appreciated for this important ministry at Zion.

Thank you to all who helped with the Fall Fellowship Turkey Dinner in October. Thanks to the men and women crafters who shared their creations, those who baked for the bake sale, and everyone who helped prepare and serve the food and clean up. It was a huge success and everyone had a good time together.



## ELCA GOOD GIFTS and SALVATION ARMY ANGELS

This year we are supporting two charities for Christmas. The first one is the ELCA Good Gifts -- God's Global Barnyard. An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need. Animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell on the market. With one gift, you can help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good.

We have a giving tree in the great hall with tags representing animals that can be purchased, as well as other things, such as supplying water, sending a child to school, etc. If you would like to help a family or village in need around the world, take that ornament off the tree and put it, with a check, in the offering plate or bring to the church office. After Christmas we'll send them all to the Good Gift's headquarters.

We also received Christmas Angels from the Salvation Army. Each angel represents a child who will receive gifts for Christmas. If you would like to sponsor an angel (or more), please take them from the tree in the great hall. Each child's information and gift suggestions is on the angel tag. Gifts should all be together in a bag unwrapped with the tag attached. Please leave them in the great hall by December 14. Thank you in advance for making dreams come true for a child.





## BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

On December 6 we'll meet to discuss *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance. From a former marine and Yale Law School graduate, a powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town (Middletown, Ohio) that offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America's white working class.

*Hillbilly Elegy* is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis—that of white working-class Americans. The decline of this group, a demographic of our country that has been slowly disintegrating over forty years, has been reported on with growing frequency and alarm, but has never before been written about as searingly from the inside.

J. D. Vance tells the true story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck.

The Vance family story begins hopefully in postwar America. J. D.'s grandparents were "dirt poor and in love," and moved north from Kentucky's Appalachia region to Ohio in the hopes of escaping the dreadful poverty around them. They raised a middle-class family, and eventually their grandchild (the author) would graduate from Yale Law School, a conventional marker of their success in achieving generational upward mobility.

But as the family saga of *Hillbilly Elegy* plays out, we learn that this is only the short, superficial version. Vance's grandparents, aunt, uncle, sister, and, most of all, his mother, struggled profoundly with the demands of their new middle-class life, and were never able to fully escape the legacy of abuse, alcoholism, poverty, and trauma so characteristic of their part of America. Vance piercingly shows how he himself still carries around the demons of their chaotic family history.

A deeply moving memoir with its share of humor and vividly colorful figures, *Hillbilly Elegy* is the story of how upward mobility really feels. And it is an urgent and troubling meditation on the loss of the American dream for a large segment of this country.

Then, on January 3, we'll have our annual dinner and a movie in Zion's lounge. I will make barbecue and everyone can bring a side dish to share. The movie hasn't been determined yet so watch the weekly announcements for the title.

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



## Missionary Corner

A Baby? And the shepherds that visited that very night? This was the promised Son of God that would save the world from their sins. How exciting! No wonder Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

As of November 18 we still await the arrival of our baby here in Mexico and she sure is moving a lot. We are in awe of God as Creator and the ways he has blessed us with her in the past 8½ months. Having a baby around this time of year certainly gives us a glimpse of what Mary treasured up and pondered in her heart, but in reality, nothing compares. This was the promised Son of God that would save the world from their sins! We continue to ponder God who became a baby to reconcile us to himself and we look forward with joy to his second coming.

May your eyes be on Christ this Christmas and always. Come, Lord Jesus!

In His Loving Care,  
Jose Luis & Christy



## COMMUNITY MEAL CENTER December 17, 2016

Zion will be serving at the Community Meal Center at First United Methodist Church on Saturday, December 17. We need many helpers for preparation thru clean-up and people to make desserts. If you would like to volunteer in any way, please see the sign-up sheet in the great hall and sign up wherever you'd like to help. This meal will be partially paid for thru the Morningstar Foundation Grant.



## Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

### WHAT IS MISSION SUPPORT?

Through God's grace, we are freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor. By sharing your God-given time, talents and financial resources with your church, you are participating in God's work in your community and around the world. When you make a financial gift to your congregation, a percentage of that gift is shared with the wider church—with your synod and with your churchwide organization. Each year, during budget season, your congregation pledges to send a portion of the offerings it receives to fund ELCA ministries in your synod and beyond. In the ELCA, we call this Mission Support. Mission Support shows how we are church together—it's essential to who we are as the ELCA.

### COMFORT IN PRAYER

After a long, exhausting day training with a group of U.S. Marine Corps Reserve members, Cris Frigm, pastor of Trinity Lutheran in Taneytown, Md., and a Reserve U.S. Navy chaplain, handed out prayer books and led night prayer in the field. Following worship, members turned in for the night, leaving not one prayer book behind.

**"Every time I train with the group, I try to lead a service out of the prayer book," said Frigm. "Sometimes they take the books with them, and sometimes they don't. This particular night, it seemed they really needed the time for worship. Not one book came back to me."**

Now in his sixth year as a Reserve U.S. Navy chaplain, Frigm has developed a long relationship with a group of residents at Oakwood Lutheran Ministries in Wisconsin who, inspired by the Green Bay Packers, call themselves the Oakwood Packers. During the third Friday of each month, they pack boxes of prayer books and ship them to pastors like Frigm.

"My first deployment was to Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti, Africa. That was the first time I received the books," he said. "They have been a great resource especially with the Marine Reservists because they don't get a lot of support outside their drill weekend. It's helpful for them to take that book with them and have that extra support."

Ron Mach, a retired pastor and Oakwood resident of 14 years, said he has spent the past nine of those years volunteering with the packing group. "This opportunity for serving our sons and daughters in the military with food for the spirit as well as food for the body was the right

mission for our Oakwood Packers," said Mach. "We have a joyful sense of partnership with the ministry of Chaplain Frigm who provides pastoral care in the name of Christ and the ELCA."

To date, the troop has packed approximately 1,000 boxes to send to various ministries throughout the world, and they hope to continue their ministry long into the future.

*A portion of your offering is used by the ELCA churchwide organization to fund ELCA chaplain ministry, including the creation of the prayer book for the armed services.*



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 pray for:

- Daryl Abston: cancer
- Debbie Abston
- Katie Land Brooks: passed away on 11/20
- Janet Buchheit: her sister, Jean Gunderman Gunnulson died on 11/25. She was a former Zion member.
- Cecelia: health issues
- Jeff Christian & Katie Desmond: united in marriage here at Zion on 11/19. Congratulations to them!
- Pastor Mark Finrock (First UMC): second round of cancer treatment
- Nick Ford: deployed to Afghanistan
- Juanita French: pancreatic cancer
- Stephanie Heitz: her cousin died last week.
- Steve Herget: fell and broke ankle
- Frank Martin: finances, relocation and health
- Molly: cancer
- Tom Rentschler: passed away on 10/25. Our sympathy is extended to his family and friends.
- Gloria Sanchez: out of the hospital.
- Howard Scharf: long-term illness
- Pastor Michelle Terry (Bethlehem Lutheran in Middletown): on bedrest during pregnancy
- Juanita Tudor: shingles in eye

### OPEN DOOR PANTRY HELP

The donations of plastic bags and empty egg cartons are so appreciated by the director of The Open Door Food Pantry and his volunteers. Each week when I deliver them, I am greeted by big smiles because if you didn't make those donations, bags would have to be purchased. Thank you so much and please keep up the good work.

*Lori Rehm*



Laverne Stewart thanks the Women of Zion for the flowers that Kathy Chambers brought to her. It really made her day!

Thank you to our November bulletin stuffers. They were Joan Boling, Tom & Barb Toman, Thelma Martin, and Cindy Burkhart. Not only is it nice to have someone stuff the bulletins but I especially enjoy the company.

Bill & Lenora Thomin wish to thank everyone for their cards and prayers and Pastor Joe for his visits.

Thanks to the Women of Zion for their visit and for the Fall decorations. This was very thoughtful and appreciated. Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Sincerely,

*Tom & Sandy Wright*

On Sunday, November 6, Zion again hosted the annual Concert of Spiritual Music to benefit The Open Door Food Pantry. Again this year, the Concert was very well received and people were very generous with their donations. An important part of that success, in addition to the beautiful music and the talented performers, was the outstanding support given by our members who served as hostesses and as assistants during the offering. Many thanks to all of you. Your efforts were appreciated by our audience and by the board of the pantry.



## 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, 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. 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, 513-889-7770.



## SELF Christmas Dinner Boxes

We have a new way to help our neighbors this Christmas through the SELF (Supports to Encourage Low Income Families) organization. We are looking for 10 families to commit to providing food boxes for 10 families containing items for a Christmas meal. It's very easy, SELF provides a shopping list of things for the box, you do the shopping, bring the items to the church in a box, we deliver to SELF for distribution. Estimated cost is \$50. If you're busy and you would like to have help shopping, we can do it for you, just ask! I need your commitment by Friday, December 2. A list will be provided and the boxes need to be at the church by 12/10. Please consider helping us with this worthy cause! **We only need one more family to volunteer to purchase a Christmas dinner box for SELF to fulfill our obligation of 10 boxes.** The Social Concerns Committee thanks you! If interested, please contact Tammy Adams, [513-379-9883](tel:513-379-9883) or [tadams6157@gmail.com](mailto:tadams6157@gmail.com)

Have you remembered

*Zion*

in your Will?



Watch for new flowers charts in the hallway outside of the lounge. There will be a chart for Altar flowers and a chart for flowers on the pedestals or Chapel. The cost for the two altar vases or the chapel vases is \$30 for both and the pedestal flowers are \$15 each. If you would like to supply flowers for church, please sign up for the dates you would like them and Julia will call you the week before your date.



**Council Minutes  
October 13, 2016**

**Attending:** Pastor Joe Schrock, Sandy Sanders, Lou Robinson, Phil Pflaumer, Bob Herold, Steve Herget, Mike Engel, Bennie Bowling, Ken Gerold, Tammy Adams, Lori Rehm, Carolyn Soupene, Kathy Chambers, Kathy Frye, Eric Grunwald, Bill Carpenter. **Excused:** Emily Sears, Robin Kaelin, Nathaniel Kaelin, Karl Waechter

- **Call to Order:** Sandy Sanders called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval. Motion (Sanders/Robinson) and approved.
- **Meditation;** Tammy Adams presented a reading on “We Are Grateful.”
- **Minutes from September Council Meeting.** Approved with one correction. (Robinson/Frye)
- **Pastors Report:** Pastor presented a written report outlining past months activities and future agenda. Passed around community ministry flyers for council information. Pastor suggested Facebook advertisement for Zion Christmas Season activities. Octoberfest was well attended with many positive comments from guests. Hamilton City Mayor expressed gratitude for Zion's commitment to the community. Pastor stated that Brandon Huston, seminary student, will preach at the November 20 Thankoffering service.
- **President's Report:** Pastor Abrams attended Zion meeting on Sept 21 and expressed confidence in Zion initiatives. Reminded group of ELCA webinar on October 18, 1:00 PM. Discussed new Federal Over-time pay rules. Individuals interested in being involved in 500th Church Anniversary or Zion 175th Anniversary should contact Sandy or Pastor.
- **Evangelism:** 2017 Empty Bowls event is scheduled for April 1, 2017 Also, timing for a “Bring a Friend to Church” event was discussed. A plan to fund Poinsettias for our shut- ins with Band of Brothers funds or through donations was discussed.
- **Worship & Music:** Suggest single Sunday service for Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Discussion followed with suggestions that single Sunday service for Christmas be set at a late afternoon hour and New Year's Day at a midmorning hour.
- **Social Concerns:** Open Door Pantry Benefit Concert will take place at Zion November 6 at 3:00 p.m. Schul House birthday party program for residents is moving forward for 2017.
- **Visitation:** Reported 41 cards sent, 2 phone calls made.

- **Stewardship:** Phil shared 2016 Stewardship Emphasis and Commitment Plan. Volunteers are requested for involvement in 2017 Stewardship program.
- **Youth and Fellowship:** Kathy Frye advised October 22 Fellowship event will be a Halloween Party at the Frye Home. Euchre and Movie event is planned for October 29th. November Fellowship will be at Valley Vineyard.
- **Trustees:** Motion (N Kaelin/K Gerold) presented to purchase replacement copier for the Church office for a cost not to exceed \$3,700. Sandy to obtain at least three competitive bids and proceed with purchase. Motion Passed.
- **Treasurers Report:** Lou presented September financials Discussed YTD operating fund deficit of \$29,297 with a projected year-end operating deficit of \$31,000. YTD giving continues to exceed year 2015 giving. 700 account balance of \$26,056. **Motion** (P Pflaumer/L Rehm) to accept September financials. Passed.
- **Communications:** November Zion Council meeting will be moved to Tuesday November 15th due to conflicts with election day activities. Motion (L Robinson/K Gerold) Passed.
- **Motion to Adjourn:** (L Robinson/K Chambers) Passed

**Monthly statistics**

**Financial Stewardship  
(as of October 31, 2016)**

	Income	Expenses
<b>2015</b>	\$14,836.61	\$19,864.64
<b>2016</b>	\$19,528.34	\$16,123.70

**YTD Operating Funds**

	Income	Expenses	Balance
<b>2015</b>	\$155,887	\$243,255	
<b>2016</b>	\$179,760	\$213,675	-\$25,951.93

**Breakdown of October 2016 Total Income**

	Receipts	Expenses
<b>Designated Funds:</b>	\$ 6,951.90	\$ 4,115.91
<b>Operating Funds:</b>	\$19,528.34	\$16,183.70
<b>700 Funds:</b>	<u>\$ 1,943.05</u>	<u>\$ 2,629.53</u>
<b>Total:</b>	\$28,423.29	\$22,929.14

**Attendance Averages (October)**

Church Atten.	Sun. Comm.	Sunday School
124	111	

**Death**

Tom Rentschler (died 10/25/2016)

**Marriage (11/19/2016)**

Jeffrey Daniel Christian and Katherine Rose Desmond





### ZION'S HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Listed below are Zion members who are unable to come to our regular worship services and who listen at home on the radio if they are able. Please remember these people with your prayers, cards, calls and visits. The date beside their name is their birthday. If we have missed anyone who should be on our shut-in list, please call the office and let us know.

- Mrs. Mildred Ante  
2248 Mossy Grove  
Hamilton, OH 45013
  
- Mrs. Anna Mae Block..... August 4  
3891 Princeton Rd.  
Hamilton, OH 45011
  
- Mrs. Janet Buchheit ..... July 15  
4904 Hickory Hollow  
Middletown, OH 45042
  
- Mrs. Wanda Cochran ..... December 5  
115 N Washington Blvd.  
Hamilton, OH 45013
  
- Mrs. Pat Davis..... June 3  
114 Edmonton Place  
Hamilton, OH 45013
  
- Mrs. Evelyn DuVall  
Bridgeway Pointe  
165 W. Galbraith Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH 45216
  
- Mr. Jack Hiles ..... March 8  
13326 Creekview Rd.  
Prospect, KY 40059
  
- Mr. Lee Keehner ..... October 25  
Mrs. Melba Keehner ..... October 18  
7300 Leemel Dr.  
West Chester, OH 45069
  
- Miss Elnora Kehr ..... August 16  
The Knolls of Oxford  
6727 Contreras Rd.  
Oxford, OH 45056
  
- Mrs. Jean Henderson .....September 13  
Berkeley Square #453  
100 Berkeley Dr.  
Hamilton, OH 45013
  
- Mrs. Ruth Larson ..... July 31  
Berkeley Square  
100 Berkeley Dr.  
Hamilton, OH 45013

- Mrs. Marjorie McGill.....February 31  
3 Landmark Crescent  
Hamilton, OH 45013
  
- Mr. Charles Menke  
1172 Deerfield Circle  
Hamilton, OH 45013
  
- Mr. Leroy Snavley.....June 15  
511 Valley View Dr.  
Hamilton, OH 45013
  
- Mrs. LaVerne Stewart ..... May 26  
2652 River Rd.  
Hamilton, OH 45015
  
- Mr. Bill Thomin..... September 25  
Mrs. Lenora Thomin  
523 Sanders Dr.  
Hamilton, OH 45013
  
- Mrs. Juanita Tudor ..... June 11  
1579 Woodview Lane  
Hamilton, OH 45013
  
- Mr. Tom Wright ..... June 11  
3883 Ham-Mason Rd.  
Hamilton, OH 45011



## VEIL (Vida Eterna Iglesia~Luterana) NOTES FOR DECEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER



**Giving back to the greater community** — On November 12th, VEIL adults and youth gathered with many other churches and organizations for the “Hands Against Hunger” Meal Packing Event. We had a blast and our table packed 828 meals for hungry children (20%+ of American children experience food insecurity).

**Upcoming events** — On December 3rd, in collaboration with Miami University PreMed students, VEIL will host its first Health Fair. Please help us collect (generic forms are fine): “Ziploc” bags (gallon), facial tissue, rubbing alcohol, “Vicks” vapor rub, cough drops, children’s fever reducer, ibuprofen, & acetaminophen. Please contact Pastora Carmen to arrange the pick-up of these items.

**The Three Kings are expected to arrive January 7, 2017 at 6:00pm, at Lord of Life.** We’ll celebrate their arrival by sharing the biblical story including games, songs, food, piñatas and a traditional German tree burning. VEIL usually hosts between 80 – 85 persons at this event. We invite everyone to a wonderful evening of hospitality and fellowship. **Please come because this celebration means a great deal to the VEIL community.** It is their way a giving thanks to all those (each ELCA church) who support VEIL.

**Updates** — Homework Fellowship/Tutoring Program (Sundays 3- 5 pm @ Lord of Life, Tylersville Road): The program will meet on December 4th and 18th at the regular time and location. The Miami University student tutors last day with VEIL will be on the 4th. The program will not meet on December 11th. If you want to participate in Christ’s mission, come help elementary students with their homework. No need to speak Spanish.

The VEIL Halloween Fiesta was a great success, with a total of 71 participants. The Fiesta collected \$165. These monies were raised for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston.

The CPR class arranged for VEIL was a tremendous experience. Mobile CE (an EMS Education organization) trained 21 Latino men, women and youth in First Aid/CPR/AED. With the assistance of the MU PreMed student (translators), the instructors effectively certified these individuals. An anonymous donor covered the cost, for each of the VEIL participants.

Please join us for bilingual Service of the Word & Eucharist December 4th & 11th @ 5:00 pm and December 24th @ 2 pm. All services are at Lord of Life. Sarah Lynch is our pianist. If you have any questions, contact Pastora Carmen ([veil2010@ymail.com](mailto:veil2010@ymail.com)).

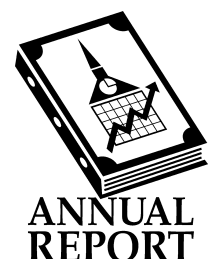
VEIL is leading a cooking class at Zion on February 18 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Sign-ups will start in January. VEIL will provide the food and expertise. We will collect a free-will offering at the event. It will be important to RSVP due to the need to get ingredients ahead of time.

Also, we encourage Zion members to attend the Three Kings Celebration (details above.) Others who have gone enjoyed it very much.



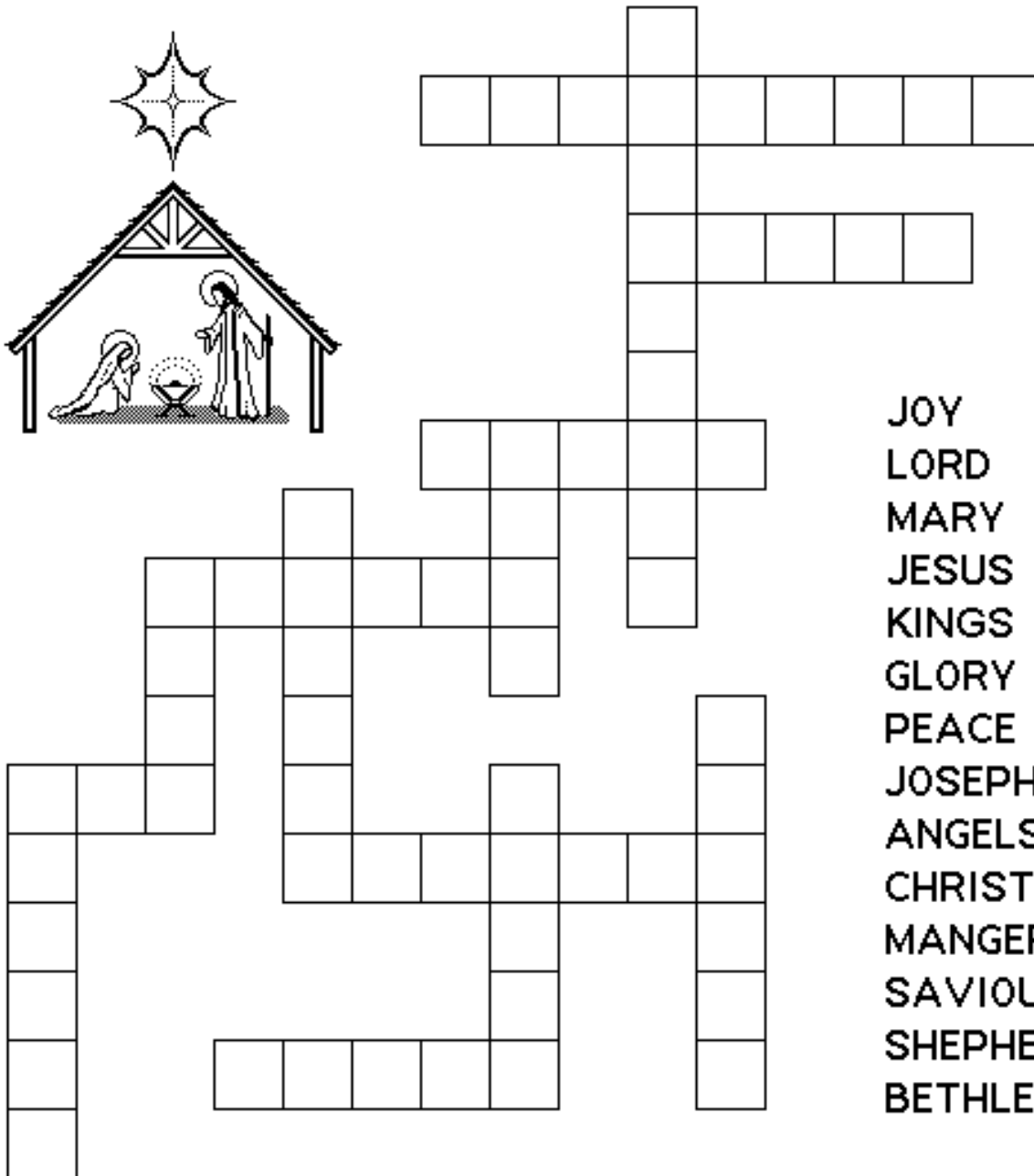
### Committee Chair People

Annual Reports are due in the church office by Sunday, January 10, 2017. Thanks for your timely attention to this matter.



# Christmas Crossword

Make all the words fit into this crossword.  
Each word is only used once.



- JOY
- LORD
- MARY
- JESUS
- KINGS
- GLORY
- PEACE
- JOSEPH
- ANGELS
- CHRIST
- MANGER
- SAVIOUR
- SHEPHERDS
- BETHLEHEM

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Our mission is to nurture all people  
in Christ's Love and Grace,  
through the guidance of the Holy Spirit,  
and to serve God and Community.

<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR DECEMBER</b>
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Date	Acolyte 8:00 a.m.	Acolyte 10:30 a.m.
<b>December 4</b>	Usher Team	Charlotte Sander
<b>December 11</b>	Usher Team	Makayla Platt
<b>December 18</b>	Usher Team	Marissa Lombardi
	5:00 p.m.	10:30 p.m.
<b>December 24</b>	Makayla Platt Charlotte Sander	William Stewart Michael Chambers
<b>December 25</b>	Usher Team	

**Altar Guild:** Cheryl Griesinger

**Ushers:** Volunteers Needed (8:00)  
Kaelin family & team (10:30)

**Lectors:** **Dec 4** Cindy Burkhart (8:00); Erin Sanchez (10:30)  
**Dec 11** Mike Heitz (8:00); Lisa Gerold (10:30)  
**Dec 18** Gail Heitz (8:00); Stephanie Heitz (10:30)  
**Dec 24** Thelma Martin (5:00 p.m.); Ron Alcorn (10:30 p.m.)  
**Dec 25** Lou Robinson (5:00 p.m.)

**Greeters:** **Dec 4** Volunteer needed (10:30)  
**Dec 11** Carolyn Soupene (10:30)  
**Dec 18** Dan & Cheryl Griesinger (10:30)  
**Dec 24** Volunteer needed (5:00 p.m.); Gary & Robin Kaelin (10:30 p.m.)  
**Dec 25** Ken & Shari Gerold (5:00 p.m.)

**Eucharist Assistants:** **Dec 4** Tillie Adams, Anita Snyder (8:00); Marge Withrow, Erin Sanchez (10:30)  
**Dec 11** Tom & Barb Toman (8:00); Carolyn Soupene (10:30)  
**Dec 18** Tillie Adams, Patrice Huston (8:00); Kathy Chambers, Erin Sanchez (10:30)  
**Dec 24** Barb & Tom Toman (5:00 p.m.); Phil Pflaumer, Marge Withrow (10:30 p.m.)  
**Dec 25** Ken & Shari Gerold (5:00 p.m.)

**Radio:** **Dec 4** Lou Robinson  
**Dec 11** Ron Alcorn  
**Dec 18** Greg Allen  
**Dec 24** Lou Robinson  
**Dec 25** Replay of Christmas Eve service

**Nursery:** Samantha Bowling

**Bulletin:** **Dec 2** Joan Boling  
**Stuffers:** **Dec 9** Tom & Barb Toman  
**Dec 16** Thelma Martin  
**Dec 23** Cindy Burkhart  
**Dec 30** Volunteer needed

**Offering:** **Dec 4** Eric Grunwald  
**Counters:** **Dec 11** Steve Herget, Lori Rehm  
**Dec 18** Mike Engel, Eric Grunwald  
**Dec 25** Steve Herget

**For Communion Assistants:** Recently the grape juice used for communion was spoiled. Let's all make a special effort to remember to refrigerate grape juice after each use, whether using it for the first time or the second or the third. Poured grape juice should be consumed after the 10:30 service; it should not be left to stand. Thanks for your help in resolving this matter.