

The Messenger

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church March 2016

Pastor's COLUMN

“Who do you say that I am?” Jesus asks his disciples then and now. Last Saturday, several of your fellow disciples met with Pastor Bob Abrams, Sr Pastor, Resurrection, Hilliard and Assistant to the Bishop for Congregational Health and Constitutions. Undergirding our conversations that day was that very question for how we relate to Jesus and to each other defines who we are as a church and as individuals. We began to talk about who we are as a church, as a community and where we go forward. We also continued the rebuilding of our relationship with the Southern Ohio Synod. Letting go of the past, relearning how to trust and walking together into the future are essential steps as we discern where God is calling us to go and how we proceed. The body of Christ just like our own bodies work better when they work together. I speak from experience when I tell you that an uncoordinated body may be able to accomplish the mission, but it can be painful to watch. (Even more painful to be the uncoordinated body.)

Change in habits, culture and restoration of relationships takes time. Lent is a perfect time to start answering the question and to renew all of our relationships. Much like the weather in February and March, we have rainy days, cold, snowy days and 70 degree sunny days. The challenge is to react calmly, support each other and know that the Holy Spirit guides us through the ups and downs of our relationships and discernment process. The road to Golgotha is long, winding and painful, but so is the path from the empty tomb. Discipleship remains a tough but rewarding way to live. Together we will enjoy those rewards as our relationships with each other, our community and the Synod grow and deepen. Come, let us walk together, eat together, play together, grow together, serve together all the way to the cross and the empty tomb all the while bringing new disciples along for the journey!

See you at the empty tomb, but join me at the Last Supper and at Golgotha as well!

Pastor Joe Schrock



PLEASE HELP US FIGHT HUNGER!

Did you know 1 in 6 people in Ohio struggle everyday with hunger? Zion is hosting an “Empty Bowls” soup and bread meal on Saturday, April 9, 2016, from 11:00-2:00 to benefit Open Door Pantry. We will be serving the soup in hand decorated bowls created by our congregation and other community organizations. Our guests can keep the bowls following the event as a special souvenir and reminder of the struggle our area faces with hunger.

HOW CAN I HELP?

You can help us create these beautiful bowls.

March 19, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

Adult Fellowship and Bowl Painting
Hosted by Mike and Tammy Adams
Please bring an appetizer to share and beverages.
A great night of fellowship for a great cause!
Babysitting provided.

Visit emptybowlsbutlercounty.com for information on this wonderful organization!



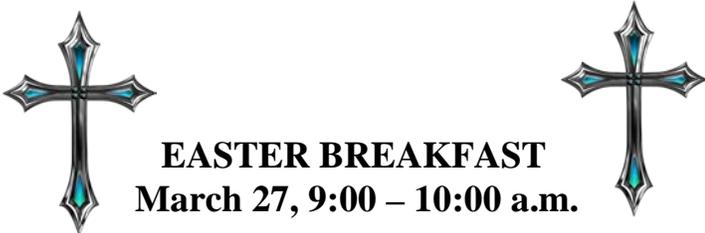
Say
“Hello”
to Our
Visitors



The Young at Heart, a social group for those 55 and over, will eat lunch at the Chinese Lantern on Main Street in Hamilton on Tuesday, March 22. We'll meet at the restaurant at 11:30 a.m. Please sign the sheet in the great hall if you would like to go along.

Looking ahead we're going to Gina's on April 26. Watch for more details closer to the date.

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.



EASTER BREAKFAST
March 27, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Our Youth and Band of Brothers will be hosting our annual Easter breakfast again this year. As in the past it will be for a free-will offering. To offset the costs and make this fundraiser an even greater success we are reaching out to our members asking if you might be willing to provide some of the supplies. If you are willing, please sign up in the great hall. You will receive a call thanking you and reminding you the weekend before. Items should be in the kitchen by Good Friday.

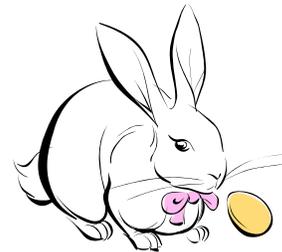
SOFT BALL SIGN UP: Calling all men. If you would like to play on Zion's soft ball team this year please sign up in the great hall. Games are played on Monday nights at North End Ball Diamonds.



EASTER EGG HUNT

Palm Sunday, March 20
Directly after the 10:30 Service
Please bring your children and something to collect eggs in.

Lots of fun surprises
Don't miss the fun!



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

Wednesdays, February 17 thru March 16

Book Study.....6:30 p.m.
Worship.....7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday, March 24

Worship (Communion)7:30 p.m.
Includes foot washing and stripping of the altar.

Good Friday, March 25

Way of the Cross.....12:00 p.m.
Worship.....7:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 27

Worship (Communion)8:00 a.m.
Easter Breakfast9:00 a.m.
Worship (Cantata, Communion).....10:30 a.m.
Worship (Communion)5:30 p.m.



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 14, 2016**

- Attending: Gail Heitz, Joan Cunningham, Lori Rehm, Cheryl Griesinger, Anita Snyder, Thelma Martin, Shirley Snyder
- Treasurer's Report: Balance on hand is \$3,085.98. During the month of January a total of \$1480.80 was collected from the Thankofferings and at the Women's General December meeting. This money was donated to Zion's Emergency Fund, Women of ELCA, and Wernle Youth and Family Treatment Center. Total receipts were \$273.00, mainly from soup sales.
- The 2016 ZLCW Handbook has been mailed to Zion's shut-ins.
- Personal items will be collected during Lent to be given to Lutheran Social Services of Southern Ohio.
- 18 lunches were served at the Ash Wednesday noon service.
- Soup sale for this season has concluded. We sold 85 jars of soup. Some money still needs to be collected from people who ordered soup.
- Soup supplies that have a summer expiration date will be donated to Food Pantry
- Monthly pastors' meeting will be held at Zion on March 14th at noon. Women will provide the food and host the luncheon.
- Finalized plans for General Meeting on March 14th. Speaker will be from Living Waters Ministry. Hostesses are Patrice Huston and Leanne Bowling. Light supper will be provided.
- Mother and Daughter Banquet will be on Sunday, May 1st. Program will be "Make Way For Ducklings".
- Next executive board meeting will be Sunday, March 12th.



**Women of Zion March Meeting
Monday, March 14
6:30 p.m.**

Light supper provided.

Speaker: Karen Hester from Living Waters Ministry in Hamilton.

Hostesses: Leanne Bowling and Patrice Huston

All women of Zion are invited to attend.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

To: Thelma Martin, Shirley Snyder, Lynn Alcorn and Joan Boling for preparing food, serving, and cleaning up after the Ash Wednesday luncheon.

To: Lori Rehm, JoAnette Coe, Lynn and Ron Alcorn, and Joan Cunningham who served the bereavement meal for Caroline Wendleken's family on February 18.

To: Marge Withrow for contacting Zion members to contribute food for the bereavement meal and to all those who brought in food.

Still Available!

Thankoffering boxes and the 2016 Zion Lutheran Church Women booklets are still available in the Great Hall. Please help by sharing these with others who might not be able to attend Sunday services.

Still needed

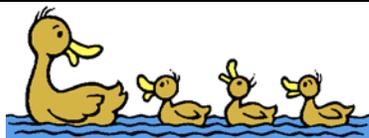
There is still a need for volunteers for the kitchen committee and for the display case in the Great Hall. Please contact a board member or the office for further details.

**Lutheran Social Services of Southern Ohio
Health and Personal Care Items**

During Lent, the Women of Zion will be collecting health and personal care items. These items 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 personal 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. The following items will be collected throughout the Lenten and Easter seasons.

- Bars of soap in original wrappers
- Wash cloths
- Bath towels, light weight, darker colors recommended
- Toothbrushes in original packaging
- Dental floss
- Tubes of toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Combs

There will be boxes in the Great Hall for your donations. Won’t you please add an extra item to your weekly grocery list to aid in helping the people of southern Ohio who are in need.



Save the Date!
“Make Way for Ducklings”
 Mother and Daughter Banquet
 Sunday, May 1st

March Bereavement Team

Members of the March bereavement team are Elaine and Bill Carpenter, Tammy Adams, and Lynn Alcorn.

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



**BOOK OF THE MONTH
CLUB**

On Tuesday, March 1, Zion’s book club will meet to discuss *My Beloved World* by Sonia Sotomayer.

The first Hispanic and third woman appointed to the United States Supreme Court, Sonia Sotomayor has become an instant American icon. Now, with a candor and intimacy never undertaken by a sitting Justice, she recounts her life from a Bronx housing project to the federal bench, a journey that offers an inspiring testament to her own extraordinary determination and the power of believing in oneself.

Then, on Tuesday, April 5, we’ll meet to discuss *Whistling Past the Graveyard* by Susan Crandall. The summer of 1963 begins like any other for nine-year-old Starla Claudelle. But Starla never dreams that she’s about to embark on a journey that will change her life forever. When Starla’s strict grandmother and guardian grounds her on the Fourth of July, Starla decides to run away from her Mississippi home and go to Nashville, to seek her mother who had abandoned her. On the road, Starla finds an unlikely ally in Eula—a lonely woman suffering loss and abuse. Through a series of unforeseen events, the black woman and the white girl band together on a path to self-discovery. As they travel, Starla’s eyes are opened to the harsh realities of 1963 Southern segregation. Through her discussions with Eula, reconnection with both her parents, and a series of surprising misadventures, Starla begins to realize that having a life with the perfect family might look drastically different from how she dreamed it would.

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



Luther’s Life

Reflecting on his marriage to Katherine, Luther said, “I would not want to exchange my Kate for France nor for Venice to boot; to begin with (1) because God has given her to me and me to her; and (2), because I often find out that there are more shortcomings in other women than in my Katie.”



Missionary Corner

How do you feed the hungry when they don't come to the table to eat? How do you give living water to those that thirst when the thirsty seek to satisfy their thirst with illusions? How is the fire of love felt when the heart is frozen?

All of these things pop into my mind when we share the gospel of salvation with youth. I'm not sure what happens in the youth group in your church, but in my experience, minds wander and disinterest disguised as a full schedule is something that you can easily find each time they meet. In addition, there's the dangerous idea that true Christianity happens simply by attending the youth group and Sunday worship. I do not know how it is in your church, but it would be worth investigating.

How do we find the words to break spiritual Alzheimer's? What can I say to set their hearts on fire and for them to decide to love just like Jesus has loved them? Maybe I do not have to say or do something. Maybe all they need is to hear the truth, and they will be released. That's how powerful Bible stories are.

Recently we started a Bible study based on the covenants of God, in a local church here in Puebla. This study, designed for youth, allows them to listen to the Bible stories, analyze them, discuss about them and finally apply them to their daily lives. With a Bible in their hands, these young people read and hear what God wants to do in their lives.

Perhaps you are thinking this is not new. And you are right! We don't need to do something new and attractive to present the Bible to young people. The exposition of the Bible does not need make-up. The Word itself is beautiful.

Please pray that more and more young people can hear the stories that God has written for us. Also pray that more churches can use these studies in their own youth groups. Please also pray that young people in Puebla and Mexico would have the passion to share the greatest story ever written with other youth. Imagine young people evangelizing and discipling other young people! Now that you've imagined, could you please pray for that? How about right now? Please, it just will take few minutes. Thank you. We thank God for you for partnering with us so that more young people can be reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ!

Until they all hear,

Jose Luis & 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:

- Mark Ante: died on February 9 from cancer. Our sympathy is extended to his family and friends. (Mother and sisters from Zion are Mildred Ante, Angie Lauer, Doris Musselman, Donna Knodel.)
- Katie Land Brooks: emphysema
- Janet Buchheit: broke her hand when she fell
- Robert Bunnell: cancer
- Jane Day: recovering from lung transplant
- Michael Distelhorst: died on February 17. Our sympathy is extended his family and friends. Michael is the son-in-law of Anna Mae Block.
- Pastor Mark Finfrock (First UMC): health issues
- Steve Fricker: cancer
- Jennifer: mass on liver
- Sheri Maffeo: in rehab at Heartland of Woodridge following surgery
- Magda: complications from surgery
- Chris Martin: upcoming surgery
- Frank Martin: shortness of breath, back problems, teeth and gum problems
- Helen Moody: cancer issues
- Joe Pennington Jr: cancer
- Stephanie Rosen: 8 months pregnant. Gestational diabetes. Lives in the Philippines.
- Patti Sroufe: recovering from a fall. She's at home now.
- Doris Theiss: macular degeneration in right eye
- Caroline Wendelken: died on February 10. Our sympathy to her family and friends.
- Pastor Ed Williams: health issues

OPEN DOOR PANTRY HELP

Many thanks to all who have donated plastic grocery bags and empty egg cartons for the Open Door Food Pantry and please keep up the good work. You may leave them in the first Sunday school room on the left at the top of the stairs and I will get them to the pantry. I always get as smile when the volunteers there see me coming in with your donations. *Lori Rehm*

Christian Stewardship – *What on earth is it?*

The response of Zion’s Congregation to last November’s stewardship emphasis has been great. We have seen a significant increase in weekly offering receipts, and though harder to measure, I believe increased commitment to the work of the church. One of the concepts discussed in November is that being a Christian Steward is a growth process. One begins by making a commitment to learn more about being a Christian steward, and then through study and prayer moves to higher levels of giving in support of the Lord’s work. Over the coming months, I hope to share with you some meditations that will help your personal growth as a Christian Steward,

When the word ‘Stewardship’ gets mentioned in church it is very easy to simply think...**“oh, they want more money”** – but is that really what it is all about? Christian Stewardship is actually much more than just finance. So what exactly are we talking about...? Christian Stewardship is actually a way of life in which we regard ourselves and our possessions as a trust from God to be used in His service, for what He has done for us in Jesus Christ. This means that we are stewards of everything God has given us: *our time, our abilities, our possessions, our money, our whole lives.*

“But can you define it in one simple sentence?” –
“Yes! In fact, several times over, take your pick...”

Christian Stewardship is...

- Christianity in practice. It’s creative and joyful living as a Child of God.
- The systematic giving of body, mind and spirit to God.
- Being responsible before God for all that I have and all that I am
- The total discipline by which the people of God mobilize their God-given resources to carry out the Great Commission.
- A challenge and a privilege that affects the whole of our lives as Christians.
- Hitching one’s wagon to the power house behind the universe.
- The measure of faithfulness in carrying out given responsibilities.
- Waste-watching!
- The practicing of the gratitude of attitude to God.
- A way of life – not just a program.

- Our complete and joyful obedience to God, who entrusts to us the management of life and possessions, that the world might know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- What I do after I say ‘I believe’.

“Think of it like this...”

Total commitment could turn your ‘collection’ into an ‘offering’. Christian Stewardship is not about making ends meet, it is about looking to an expanding Church, even in difficult times, and especially in Evangelism. Stewardship is not about giving only what is needed, but it is about giving generously of our time, talents, and treasure for the work of the Church.

The Stewardship Committee/Phil Pflaumer, chair



LILY ORDERS

We are taking orders for Easter lilies to beautify our sanctuary on Easter. 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 _____



The Presbyterian Church is collecting used eyeglasses, in any condition, to give to Sears Optical on Route 4. Sears will use them to give eyeglasses to those who can't afford them in our area. Zion will begin helping with this collection. There is a box in the great hall. Just bring them in and that’s all you have to do. Thanks for your help.



Patti Sroufe says thanks a million for all the cards, prayers, and visits while she was hospitalized and in rehab. She's home now and doing much better.

The family of Evelyn DuVall would like to thank the congregation for all the cards she has received and Pastor Schrock for his visits with their mother. They really appreciate it.

Thank you to everyone who worked at the last community meal lunch: Kyle Jewitt, Misty Camp, Ron & Kay Erbeck, Gayle Ford, Bud & Paula Scharf, Kenzie Elliott, Mike Heitz, Tillie & Clarence Adams, Mindy Steele, Josh Steele, Makenzie Steele, Austin Steele, Dennis Steele, Barb & Tom Toman, Adrienne Sander, Bob Herold, David Carson, Karla Schmidt, Roger Johnson, Wayne & Patrice Huston, Leanne Bowling, Gary Kaelin, Richard & Nedda Brown. A total of 365 meals were served. Thanks to those who baked desserts for the meal: JoAnette Coe, Cheryl Griesinger, Adrienne Sander, Carolyn Soupene, and others we're not aware of. Special thank you to Thrivent for providing t-shirts to the workers. The meal was paid for by Thrivent and the Morningstar Grant. Special thanks to Barb & Tom Toman for their continued service in coordinating the meal.

Thank you so much for your donation of personal items. Our residents will benefit from your generosity.

The Residence Department (YWCA)

Thanks to our February bulletin stuffers: Joan Boling, Thelma Martin, Tom & Barb Toman, and Lori Rehm. I appreciate you more than you know!

Thank you to our crew who comes and stuffs and mails the Messenger each month. Some of the workers are Lynn Alcorn, Darlene Onyett, Nedda Brown, and others. Special thank you to Karla Schmidt for dealing with the post office each month. It's a big job!

Thank you to Joan Boling for coming in and helping put together the annual report. She is very fast at stacking those pages.

Sincere thanks to Pastor Schrock for his visit and communion. Also thanks to the Agape Committee and others for the cards.

Tom and Sandy Wright

We express our heartfelt THANKS to Pastor Joe and Aga, Phil and Karen, Adrian, Sandy, Lou; Gary, Robin and Nathaniel, to Mike and Gayle and all the congregation for your visits, cards and calls. Thank you especially for your prayers during our recovery from our recent accident.

A special Thank You to our two Guardian Angels that are always with us. (They are doing O.K. too).

Most of all, Thank You Lord for watching over us.

May God's love be with all our family at Zion.

Bill and Elaine Carpenter

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, 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. 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.



Zion
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church
On Facebook

Final Report on the 2015 Meijer Simply Give campaign for OPEN DOOR FOOD PANTRY

This year's Simply Give Campaign in support of the Open Door Food Pantry was very successful, thanks to the generosity of all our donors. Eight Hamilton churches joined telling the members of their congregations of this opportunity to help feed the hungry people in our community. \$12,620 was raised; \$4,490 was given by donors, and an additional \$8,130 was given as matching funds by the Meijer Corporation. The matching funds from Meijer are what makes this campaign such an effective way to help feed the hungry. This year's campaign reached a new high, exceeding the previous high by over \$5000.

THANK YOU!! to each of you who participated in this fund raising drive. The funds are used to purchase essential food items to stock our shelves throughout the year, as well as to purchase turkeys and all the other items for the Thanksgiving meals provided to 230 households. These funds play a major role in helping us feed the hungry.

The need is great. In Butler County, 1 in 7 people are living under the poverty line and unable to afford adequate food. This year the Open Door Food Pantry celebrates its 35th year of serving needy families in our community. Services are provided without regard for race, creed, or national origin. We strive to help individuals and families on an emergency basis, providing 3 to 5 days' worth of food for their household. Criteria for assistance include income and other factors. Our client list is shared with other food pantries in the area to help insure that real needs are being met.

The Pantry is located a few blocks south of downtown Hamilton in a low income racially mixed neighborhood with a high unemployment rate. The Pantry is open 4 days a week (20 hours) providing both daytime and evening options for clients to pick up food. It operates as a "choice pantry" which means that clients have the opportunity to choose foods best suited to their families' specific tastes. Your generous support helps us to fulfill our mission of feeding the hungry in our community. If you would like more information, please contact us at odfp@zoomtown.com, or www.opendoorfoodpantry.org/.



VEIL youth with Presiding Bishop Eaton at the
MYLE and ELCA 2015 Youth Gathering

Wonderful News! The ELCA National Office is sending Rev. Hector A. Carrasquillo to visit VEIL and lead several workshops. He will be bringing Dr. Rev. Justo Espinosa from Texas, whose specialty is Latino Youth Ministry. They will be leading age-specific programs for the parents, young children and adolescents of VEIL. Pastors Hector and Justo come to the VEIL community as part of an ELCA incentive for Ethnic Specific and Multicultural Ministries of the ELCA.

Ethnic Specific and Multicultural Ministries | Latino Ministry – *We have approximately 147 Latino ministries in the United States, from the state of Washington to Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The people they serve often use Spanish as their primary language and were born in or trace their heritage to Mexico, Central and South America and the Caribbean. Our ministries are growing through the work of faithful, hard-working leaders throughout the church who create and facilitate programs and events to support our pastors and lay leaders. Their work, and that of our congregations and ministries, serves to share the good news of Jesus Christ, encourage our unity in Christ and promote Latino Christian values that unite the Latino community of the ELCA as a "community of communities."* (elca.org)

Dr. Rev. Justo Espinosa is not part of the ELCA central staff and thus will require an Honorarium for his travel and professional expenses. Thus, we are seeking donations. Please consider sending a contribution payable to: Vida Eterna-Iglesia Luterana, and in the "memo" write: Rev. Espinosa. Thank you for enriching and empowering the community of Vida Eterna.

The VEIL Homework Fellowship Program continues with great attendance! Please join us as a tutor for children (primarily) in grades kindergarten through fifth grade. No need to speak Spanish & the time is flexible. Whether you can help once per month or just for one hour, please consider joining us Sundays, from 3pm-5pm at Lord of Life, 6329 Tylersville Road. Any questions, please contact Susan Fox at (513) 288-3451.

The Homework Fellowship & Mother's Ministry programs have specific needs: Baby wipes, diapers (sizes 4 & 5 and Pull-ups), sanitary napkins (no tampons, please), real fruit juice boxes/pouches, snack crackers (peanut butter, cheese, goldfish), apple sauce, pudding cups, and granola/cereal bars. Please place your items in the VEIL basket located in the Gather Area.

Please join us for our bilingual Services of Word & Eucharist on most Sundays @ 5:00pm, at Lord of Life. Sarah Lynch is our pianist. Please contact Pastora Carmen Colón-Brown with any questions: veil2010@gmail.com



**Council Minutes
January 5, 2016**

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

- **Motion** (R Kaelin, K Frye) and passed to accept the agenda with flexibility.
- **Devotion:** led by Pastor Joe on writings by Meister Eckert.
- **Motion** (L Robinson, T Adams) and passed approve minutes from the December council meeting with minor revisions.
- **Motion** (T Adams, S Herget) and passed to approve minutes from the December congregational meeting.
- **Pastor's Report:** Community picnic will be June 11. ELCA VA Program will have special guest, meeting in Lancaster next time.
- **President's Report:** Reminded everyone of upcoming council retreat. It is the start of a stretching exercise to build the body of the congregation and that is how it should be approached.
- **Motion** (L Robinson, P Pflaumer) and passed to adjust 700 account funds.
- **Motion** (K Frye, P Pflaumer) and passed to accept January treasurer's report.
- **Evangelism:** Poinsettias were delivered to shut-ins. National Day of Prayer is the first Thursday in May.
- **Motion** (T Adams, R Kaelin) and passed the Empty Bowls Event on April 19. Donations go to the Open Door Pantry.
- **Visitation:** Carolyn reported they sent 88 cards, and made 6 visits.
- **Stewardship:** Campaign has wrapped up and it is felt the congregation is responding to the request to consider giving more. Also noted good turnout of those who participate in the Meijer Simply Give Drive for the Open Door Pantry.
- **Youth & Fellowship:** shared upcoming events for January.
- **Parish Ed:** VBS will be with the First United Methodist Church. A first communion class is being set up.
- **Public Relations:** Emily met with Julia to show how Google Calendar works so that our website may be updated by the office.

- **Communications:** heard from the Tudors thanking us for the visits and cards; Letter from Graceworks thanking us for supporting them; A thank you letter from Dr. Taylor.
- **Motion** (R Kaelin, P Pflaumer) and passed to adjourn.

Monthly statistics

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

| | Income | Expenses |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2015 | \$13,177.70 | \$30,323.20 |
| 2016 | \$18,974.37 | \$22,746.90 |

YTD Operating Funds

| | Income | Expenses | Balance |
|-------------|----------|----------|-------------|
| 2015 | \$13,178 | \$30,323 | |
| 2016 | \$18,974 | \$22,747 | -\$3,772.53 |

Breakdown of January Total Income

Designated Funds: \$ 1,531.40
Operating Funds: \$18,974.37
700 Funds: \$ 1,221.42
Total: \$21,727.19

Attendance Averages (February)

| Church Atten. | Sun. Comm. | Sunday School |
|---------------|------------|---------------|
| 113 | 103 | |

Death of Member

Caroline Wendelken 2/10/2016

Have you remembered

Zion

in your Will?



The following shut-in is celebrating his birthday 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.

Mr. Jack Hiles 3/6
 13326 Creekview Rd.
 Prospect, KY 40059



Zion Adult Fellowship March 2016

Wow!! This year is moving along at a very fast pace! Having an early Easter helped with that. The thought of spring is in the air, crocuses are popping out and soon trees will be budding. While we wait let's have some grown-up fun and head out to some monthly Adult Fellowship Activities.

Remember: Starting in 2016 Adult Fellowship has been moved to the 3rd Saturday of the month. This is our target but as always we can be flexible.



February 27th was our Chocolate and Wine party hosted by Adrienne and Jeff Sander

It was such a fun time with our church family. THANK YOU Adrienne and Jeff!

March 19th Painting Party to support Empty Bowls

Hosts: Tammy and Mike Adams

Bring an appetizer, beverage of choice and your best artistic skills.

Childcare provided.



April 16th Annual Pot Luck Adventure and game night

Hosts: Mike and Kathy Frye

Bring a covered dish, beverage of choice and favorite game.

May 21st TBA

Hosts: Leanne and Benny Bowling

TBA

What to Bring:



Just what is Adult Fellowship?

Zion's Adult Fellowship is a unique and rewarding way to get to know and bond with Adult members from ALL services of our Zion family and a terrific venue for introducing 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 our church a home and family. This has been the experience we've enjoyed 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

Or contact Julia in the office for information.

Community Picnic



Unity
City-Wide Faith Based Alliance
“Building a Beloved Community”

**Save
the
Date**

**5th Annual Community Church Picnic
Saturday, June 11, 2016**

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

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



March 13, 2016

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR MARCH

| Date | Acolyte 8:00 a.m. | Acolyte 10:30 a.m. |
|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| March 6 | Usher Team | Usher Team |
| March 13 | Usher Team | Usher Team |
| March 20 | Usher Team | Usher Team |
| March 27 | Usher Team | Marissa Lombardi |

Altar Guild: Julia Sears, Robin Kaelin

Ushers: Wayne Huston & team (8:00)
Ken Gerold & team (10:30)

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Lectors: Mar 6 Anita Snyder (8:00); Thelma Martin (10:30) Mar 13 Gail Heitz (8:00); Justin Beers (10:30) Mar 20 Mike Heitz (8:00); Lisa Gerold (10:30) Mar 27 Cindy Burkhart (8:00); Phil Pflaumer (10:30)</p> | <p>Lent: Mar 2 Ken Gerold Mar 9 Lou Robinson Mar 16 Lisa Gerold Mar 24 Thelma Martin Mar 25 Lori Rehm</p> |
|---|---|

Greeters: **Mar 6** Ron & Lynn Alcorn (10:30)
Mar 13 Patty Sroufe, Dennis Steele (10:30)
Mar 20 Lou & Paula Dabbelt (10:30)
Mar 27 Karla Schmidt (10:30)

Eucharist Assistants: **Mar 6** Anita Snyder, Patrice Huston (8:00); Phil Pflaumer, Marge Withrow (10:30)
Mar 13 Barb & Tom Toman (8:00); Robin Kaelin, Carolyn Soupene (10:30)
Mar 20 Wayne Huston, Stephanie Heitz (8:00); Ken & Shari Gerold (10:30)
Mar 27 Anita Snyder (8:00); Marge Withrow, Phil Pflaumer (10:30)

M. Thurs. **Mar 24** Anita Snyder, Wayne Huston (7:30 p.m.)

Radio: **Mar 6** Ron Alcorn
Mar 13 Lou Robinson
Mar 20 Greg Allen
Mar 27 Kevin Heitz

Nursery: Samantha Bowling

Bulletin Stuffers: **Mar 4** Joan Boling
Mar 11 Tom & Barb Toman
Mar 18 Thelma Martin
Mar 25 Lori Rehm

Offering Counters: **Mar 6** Eric Grunwald, Tammy Adams
Mar 13 Steve Herget, Bennie Bowling
Mar 20 Eric Grunwald
Mar 27 Eric Grunwald

The mission of Zion is to

Encourage

a growing faith in Jesus Christ and to

Equip

all people for witness and service.