

The Messenger

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church January 2017



Matthew 4:16

the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and
shadow of death light has dawned."

Some you know about the family from St. Paul, Reading. A family whose furnace died a little over a week before Christmas during one of the cold snaps sat in "darkness" because they could not afford a new furnace and faced freezing pipes among other things. Yet they had enough faith in God that they talked to their pastor, Pastor Emily, and she had enough faith in our conference of Lutheran churches that she shared the need. Quickly, Zion, Good Shepherd, Prince of Peace, Lord of Life, St. Paul and some individuals not only raised enough money, but through contacts placed the family in a hotel and got a high efficiency furnace greatly discounted installed almost immediately. The darkness parted and the family surrounded by God's love as expressed through multiple congregations and individuals saw the light and experienced Christmas early.

Trust and love enabled God's family as expressed by at least 5 congregations and multiple individuals to care for an individual family without hesitation or lengthy discussion. Together we lived out and made tangible God's love. Together we walked as one.

In another example of darkness lifting, our Butler County Cluster of Lutheran Churches expanded to include Trenton, both Middletown churches and Lord of Life. Darrtown will likely join in the spring. Together we began discussing ministry opportunities including possibly having a joint event celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. The early shoots of a closer family began to grow. Together we are stronger, more effective and better in faith and love.

There are more examples, but suffice it to say Zion is not alone. Rather we are surrounded by family if

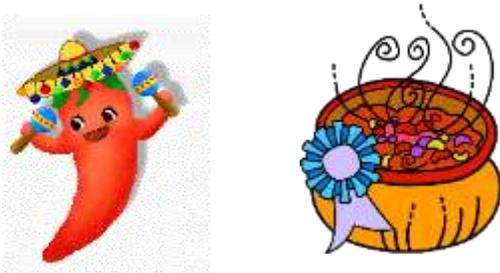
we can realize it. Together, not just in an afterlife, but here and now united by a light emanating from a baby and a cross. The world is surrounded by a great darkness, but we have a great light. The world has no hope, but we have abundant and everlasting hope. The world lives by a dog eat dog motto, but we live by a love even unto death motto lived out by our Lord even in the throes of death. Wherever God's love lives and is shared, nothing is impossible and lives are changed. Together we are unstoppable, not because of money or force, but rather by a love that can't be silenced. A love that sees only people, not nations, colors, gender or any other factor. May we walk with, trust and love our family whether it is expressed in the disciples at Zion, or Lord of Life, St. Paul or Good Shepherd or even at the Synod! God bless your new year, and may we grow in faith and love together!

Pastor Joe



The Young at Heart, a social group for those 55 and over, will eat lunch at Neal's Barbecue on North Third St. in Hamilton on Tuesday, January 24. 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.

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.



Chili Cook Off

Saturday, January 14, 2017
6:00 pm at Zion

Join us for our annual Chili Cook Off filled with food, fun and fellowship!

Bring your favorite chili or any side dishes that you would like. Prizes will be awarded for the top chili recipes. Dessert will be provided.

Don't forget your beverage of choice, favorite game and a few friends!

Please sign up in the great hall so we know how many to plan for.



ANNUAL REPORT

Committee Chair People

Annual Reports are due in the church office by Wednesday, January 11, 2017. If you are the head of any committee, please turn in a report that summarizes your 2016 activities. Thanks for your timely attention to this matter.



Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will take place on Sunday, January 22 at all services. We will be reviewing the 2016 annual report and voting on the 2017 nominating committee.

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



At our congregational meeting on December 4 the budget for the year 2017 was passed. Copies of the budget will be included in the annual reports.

We also elected our new church council, listed below. Ask them what you can do to help. They will welcome the offer. Please pray for them regularly as they work to make the best decisions for our church family.

- President Mike Engel
- Vice President..... Dan Griesinger
- Treasurer..... Renee Beck
- Secretary Patrice Huston
- Elders Lori Rehm, Tammy Adams
Carolyn Soupene
- DeaconsKevin Heitz, Kathy Frye
Ken Gerold, Eric Grunwald, Steve Herget
- Trustees Bennie Bowling, Bob Herold
Nathaniel Kaelin, Karl Waechter



2017 offering envelopes are available in the great hall. Please pick yours up as soon as possible to make it easier on those who count the offering each week. If you son't find yours, please call the church office ad we'll get you some. Thanks.

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 December 11, 2016

- Attending: Gail Heitz, Thelma Martin, Janet Menke, Anita Snyder, Lori Rehm, Cheryl Griesinger, Joan Cunningham
- Treasurer's Report: Balance on hand is \$4,295.24. Total expenses for the month were \$356.34 to cover food for Veteran's Meal, Pastor Abram's reception, and the Women's December General meeting. Total deposit was \$551.30 which was money received from Thankoffering, soup sales, and Portals of Prayer.
- Voted to donate \$500.00 to help with repairs in the sanctuary.
- 32 people attended the Women's General Meeting on December 7. Offering collected will be sent to Wernle Youth and Family Treatment Center.
- Approximately 22 people attended the reception for Pastor Abrams on November 27.
- Discussed changes to Women's Handbook. Will omit addresses of executive board for security reasons.
- Rename Women's General Meetings to Women's Fellowship. March meeting will be on a Sunday afternoon, September meeting will be a Monday evening, and the December meeting will be a Saturday morning brunch.
- Discuss items to continue to include in Women's Handbook and items to delete.
- Prayer Pal information will be included in this year's Women's handbook in the hopes that more women will participate in this program. Deadline for the return of the completed forms will be January 31.
- Next executive board meeting will be Sunday, January 8 at 9:30 a.m.

Time is Running Out!!

You have until January 31 to order and purchase the Women's Famous Shaker Soup Mix. This is one of the Women's major fund raisers each year. You may order by placing your name on the sign-up sheet in the Great Hall or by calling Thelma Martin (897-6088).

Women of Zion 2017 Executive Board Members

All members of the 2016 Women of Zion Executive Board will be returning for 2017. The board works as a team, sharing the workload of each office. The returning officers are:

- President: Gail Heitz
- Vice President: Shirley Snyder
- Secretary: Joan Cunningham
- Treasurer: Lori Rehm
- Mission-Action: Anita Snyder and Cindy Burkhart
- Mission-Community: Cheryl Griesinger
- Mission-Growth: Thelma Martin and Janet Menke

The executive board meets between church services one Sunday each month.

Installation of board members and committee chairs will take place at both morning services on January 29.

A big Thank you to all the 2016 Board Members and the committee chairwomen for all that you have accomplished in 2016.

Portals of Prayer

Copies of this quarterly devotion booklet are available to the congregation in the back of the church, the lounge, and the office. The suggested donation is \$2.00. Everyone is invited to take one, for yourself and to share with others. Copies are also given to our shut-ins.

Thanks you to Heidi Wolfe for being the committee chairwoman in 2016 and for continuing in 2017.

Women's December General Meeting

The December Women's General Meeting was held on Monday, December 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the church gymnasium. The evening began with a candlelight devotional "Preparing Your Heart for Christmas" in the chapel.

The women then returned to the gymnasium for a delicious meal of lasagna, salad, and bread. The meals concluded with a delicious hot chocolate bar.

Prayer pals were revealed and gifts exchanged. Those in attendance also participated in a cookie exchange.

The offering for the evening will be sent to Wernle Youth and Treatment Center. Personal items that were donated will be sent to the YWCA's Dove House.

A big **THANK YOU** to the hostesses for this meeting: Tammy Adams and Terry Haynes-Toney.

Thankoffering Boxes

All members of the congregation are encouraged to participate in the Women's 2017 Thankoffering. Thankoffering boxes are available in the Great Hall or you may choose to use your own container.

It is suggested that you place your Thankoffering container in a conspicuous location, so that it can be a reminder that our family, church, friends, health, and material things are all gifts from God.

2017 Women's Handbooks

The 2017 Women's Handbook will be available for distribution by the end of January. You will be able to pick up your copy in the Great Hall. The handbook contains information about the programs planned for 2017, a description of our numerous committees, and their chairwomen, a listing of our on-going projects, and a list of the executive board officers.

EVERY WOMAN at Zion is a member of the Women of Zion. Please be sure to get your copy. Contact the church office or a board member if you would like to help on one of the committees or programs.



BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

On Tuesday, January 3, we'll have our annual dinner and a movie in Zion's lounge at 6:30 p.m. I will make barbecue and everyone can bring a side dish to share. The movie will be *The Book Thief*. We read the book a year or two ago and look forward to the movie.

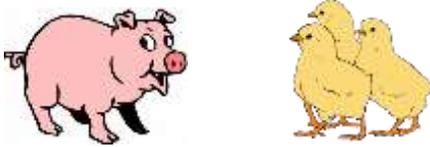
Then on Tuesday, February 7, we'll meet at 6:30 to discuss *The Residence: Inside the Private World of the White House* by Kate Anderson Brower. A remarkable history with elements of both *In the President's Secret Service* and *The Butler*, *The Residence* offers an intimate account of the service staff of the White House, from the Kennedys to the Obamas.

America's First Families are unknowable in many ways. No one has insight into their true character like the people who serve their meals and make their beds every day. Full of stories and details by turns dramatic, humorous, and heartwarming, *The Residence* reveals daily life in the White House as it is really lived through the voices of the maids, butlers, cooks, florists, doormen, engineers, and others who tend to the needs of the President and First Family.

These dedicated professionals maintain the six-floor mansion's 132 rooms, 35 bathrooms, 28 fireplaces, three elevators, and eight staircases, and prepare everything from hors d'oeuvres for intimate gatherings to meals served at elaborate state dinners. Over the course of the day, they gather in the lower level's basement kitchen to share stories, trade secrets, forge lifelong friendships, and sometimes even fall in love.

Combining incredible first-person anecdotes from extensive interviews with scores of White House staff members—many speaking for the first time—with archival research, Kate Andersen Brower tells their story. She reveals the intimacy between the First Family and the people who serve them, as well as tension that has shaken the staff over the decades. From the housekeeper and engineer who fell in love while serving President Reagan to Jackie Kennedy's private moment of grief with a beloved staffer after her husband's assassination to the tumultuous days surrounding President Nixon's resignation and President Clinton's impeachment battle, *The Residence* is full of surprising and moving details that illuminate day-to-day life at the White House.

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



ELCA GOOD GIFTS

Zion is supporting 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. We will leave the tree up until January 15 for anyone who would still like to purchase an animal. All gifts will be mailed to the ELCA after that date.

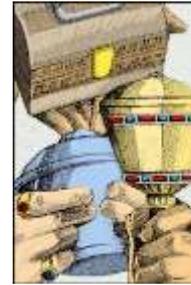


Missionary Corner

Jose Luis and Christy are proud to announce that Eliana Isabel Sanchez Smith was born in Mexico on November 28 at 2:22am. She weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces & was 19.7 inches tall. Thank you for your prayers for us and for what God is doing down here. We thank God for you all.

In Christ's Great Care,

Jose Luis, Christy, Dariel, & Eliana Sanchez



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. If you are interested in attending this event, please sign up in the great hall so we can give them an idea of how many will be there from Zion.

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.

Watch the great hall for sign-up sheets. Sounds like a fun afternoon!

A Resolve for Every Morning of the New Year

I will this day try to live a simple, sincere, and serene life, repelling promptly every thought of discontent anxiety, discouragement, impurity, and self-seeking; cultivating cheerfulness, magnanimity, charity, and the habit of holy silence, exercising economy in expenditure, carefulness in conversation, diligence in appointed service, fidelity to every trust and a child-like trust in God.

From a Calendar by Bishop John H. Vincent

STEWARDSHIP TALK – 11/13/16

(by Nathaniel Kaelin)

(This stewardship talk was given in church on November 13 and Pastor Joe thought everyone would enjoy reading this.)

I've been asked to reflect on how stewardship has impacted my life. This morning/evening, I would like to think about stewardship in a less traditional sense. Throughout the upcoming stewardship campaign, we'll be revisiting why we offer up our time, talents, and money to the work of the church, to the work of Christ. But a recent interaction has helped me understand how it can help us personally.

Some of you know that I changed jobs recently. In my new position, I share a workspace with a professional planner—a woman who was born in El Salvador, immigrated to Canada in high school, completed college in Vancouver, grad school in Athens (Ohio), worked much of her career in Toronto, and is now back in Ohio to be close to her family that now lives here.

It is safe to say that her life experiences have been extremely different than mine. However, we get along well and I quickly learned that she is a very caring, benevolent person. I learned that one of her biggest passions is volunteering at a women's shelter, where she runs the community garden and rolls up her sleeves a few times each week to do dishes after community meals. I've overheard her on the phone pleading with landlords to rent apartments to women who have fallen into rough patches and cannot find housing after leaving prison.

Therefore, it surprised me when she finally felt comfortable to tell me that she was an atheist. Not just a casual atheist, but someone who strongly resents the church and is highly skeptical of Christians—to put it nicely. I later learned that before I started, my boss had described me to her as “a nice Lutheran boy,” and she was very nervous about sitting close to me.

I was worried when I learned this, because I had shared many stories with her about Zion, some of the trustee projects we had been working on, the God's Work Our Hands project, and number of other stories you might share with a co-worker—acolyte training, kids movie night during Euchre, Oktoberfest preparation. Had I made her uncomfortable?

About a month ago, she came in on a Monday morning to tell me about a conversation she'd had with her brother over the weekend. She admitted to her initial fears about sitting next to me, but she told me that she had been wrong. She told me that she now thought Lutherans were—to use her word—“solid.” She was so refreshed that she felt I never judged her, saying that she felt if she came to my church, she wouldn't be judged.

When she said this, I was really stunned. I had never tried to witness to her, and I had not restored her faith, but apparently the way I had treated her and the fact that I let my involvement here at Zion be a part of my story and interaction with her had changed her mind about the church.

I wrote a short article that was in the Messenger during the 2010 stewardship campaign where I stated that growing up and volunteering at Zion had a significant impact on my life. This most recent experience reminds me that it also had a significant experience on the person I've become. I'm not a perfect Christian or Lutheran by any standard—I've forgotten things I learned in Confirmation, I don't always treat others in a Christian manner, and I sin. However, the imperfect person that I am was able to have an impact on an atheist's view of the larger church.

The values that I bring to the workplace—a spirit of teamwork, respect for different viewpoints, honesty and open communication, the feeling that no task is too small or insignificant for me to take on—were first learned when I was volunteering at Zion. It was here that I first served on committees, participated in formal meetings, worked alongside our members at service events, and other acts of stewardship that seemed less significant at the time.

My stewardship has helped Zion, and more importantly it has helped our mission. But it also helped me to be a better person, a better Christian, and a better witness.

As I said back in 2010, I am blessed to have the opportunity to share the gifts that God has given me with Zion. I hope that you will look at your next opportunity for stewardship as a blessing as well.

Thank you.



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.

ELCAvotes ENCOURAGES CONGREGATIONS TO SPEAK OUT

Lutherans have a unique voice, and it's one that should be heard. That's why ELCAvotes was created, to empower church members to become civically engaged—in local campaigns, the presidential election in November and beyond—by providing faith-based resources regarding voting and public issues.

"The point of this initiative is not to tell people who to vote for... (but to get them) voting on the local level or national level or serving on (their) school board, (so) that we don't live in seclusion in a little cave somewhere, that we're active in our local communities," said Jennifer Manis, a campus minister at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C., and an ELCAvotes ambassador.

ELCAvotes is not about pitting one candidate against another, said Kwame Pitts, pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in South Holland, Ill., and one of the leaders of the movement. It's about educating yourself on public issues and having open, faith-filled conversations about advocacy and justice.

The initiative, spearheaded by ELCA Advocacy, ELCA Racial Justice Ministries and ELCA Young Adult Ministry, launched in February, through work that started in fall 2015.

Pitts, who wrote the ELCA's social policy resolution that calls on churchgoers to protect the voting rights of all citizens, already has written a Bible study that examines what the Bible says about injustice.

The study is one way to participate in ELCAvotes, but congregational members also can make sure their church is

a polling place, contact their representatives in Congress about issues they feel strongly about, or join churches that are doing advocacy work, Pitts said.

"When people just come to church, sit in the pew, hear that God loves them and then go home and don't do anything, that's when everything ceases," she said. "Whatever your (comfort) level is, do something."

A portion of your offering is used by the ELCA churchwide organization to fund ELCA advocacy work in Washington, D.C.



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
- Jessica Baecker: health problems (she's a young mother)
- Bob & Bobbie Beers: health issues
- Cecelia: health issues
- Pastor Mark Finrock (First UMC): second round of cancer treatment
- Nick Ford: deployed to Afghanistan
- Juanita French: pancreatic cancer
- Vera Grissom: stage 4 colon cancer
- Marcia Helsinger: issues with Parkinson's
- Don Keck: had blood clots in lungs. In Berkeley rehab.
- Lee Keehner: health issues
- Linda & Joe Lolly: health issues
- Jackie Loos: health issues, possible cancer
- Greg M: cancer
- Frank Martin: finances, relocation and health
- Molly: cancer
- Penelope Anne and Zachary Elias Ritz: baptized on December 11. They are the children of Adam & Allison (Engel) Ritz and were born on September 9.
- Howard Scharf: long-term illness
- Mary Alice Schmitter: broken bone in back
- Pastor Michelle Terry: on bedrest during pregnancy

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



Leroy Snavley would like to thank everyone for the cards he has received. Thank you also for the Thanksgiving gift and the Christmas poinsettia. It is all very much appreciated.

Thank you to our December 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.

Ruth Larson would like to thank the Women of Zion for the Thanksgiving gift she received. It's very nice to be thought of in this way.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Hanging of the Greens. We had a nice crowd and the church looked beautiful.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the community meal at First UMC on December 17. We served 264 meals, consisting of chicken sticks, French fries, corn, biscuit, salad, applesauce, and dessert. Our workers this time were Barb Toman, Tom Toman, Kenzie Elliott, Dorothy Nixon, Louis Robinson, Ron Erbeck, JoAnette Coe, Adrienne Sander, Charlotte Sander, Frank Martin, Bud Scharf, Nettie Jones, Patti Sroufe, Dennis Steele, Gary Kaelin, Robin Kaelin, Richard Brown, Josh Steele, Mindy Steele, Makenzie Steele, Austin Steele, Eric Grunwald, Preeya Grunwald, Dolores Harper, and Connie. A big thank you to Tom and Barb Toman for coordinating everything.



New flowers charts are in the hallway outside of the lounge. There is a chart for Altar flowers and a chart for flowers on the pedestals. The cost for the two altar 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.

Have you remembered
Zion
in your Will?



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.





**Council Minutes
November 15, 2016**

Attending: Pastor Joe Schrock, Sandy Sanders, Lou Robinson, Phil Pflaumer, Ken Gerold, Steve Herget, Sandy Sanders, Bob Herold, Kathy Frye, Robin Kaelin, Carolyn Soupene, and Kathy Chambers, Lori Rehm

- **Call to Order:** Sandy Sanders called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval. Motion (Herget/Rehm) and approved.
- **Meditation;** Robin Kaelin led a devotion on gratitude.
- **Minutes from October Council Meeting.** Approved (Robinson/Herget)
- **Pastors Report:** Christmas Eve broadcast will be re-run on Christmas Morning. The cantata will be re-broadcast on New Years Day.
- **President's Report:** Overtime seminar was attended. 40 hours with flexibility in time will start at Zion on 11/21. A donation has been made to ensure that all shut-ins receive a poinsettia.
- **Social Concerns:** Open Door Pantry concert was a huge success. Lori commented on her wonderful Zion and other helpers and how grateful she was for their help.
- **Visitation:** Reported 32 cards sent, 3 visits were made.
- **Stewardship:** Phil shared the new Time and Talent sheets as well as the list of temple talks speakers planned. December 11 will be commitment day. We will once again be doing closed envelope commitments to be given the next year.
- **Youth and Fellowship:** there will be no Euchre night on New Year's Eve. The Gingerbread house/St Nicholas Day event has been cancelled due to a conflict with another event in town the same day.
- **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:** Noted that we received a refund on our utilities of \$3,155.51 **Motion** (Frye, Rehm) to accept October financials. Passed.
- **Motion** (Chambers, Engel) and passed to approve the budget for 2017 at \$277,420.00
- **Motion to Adjourn:** (R Kaelin/Robinson) Passed

Monthly statistics

**Financial Stewardship
(as of November 30, 2016)**

	Income	Expenses
2015	\$23,074.52	\$31,868.05
2016	\$16,761.56	\$19,448.34

YTD Operating Funds

	Income	Expenses	Balance
2015	\$178,962	\$275,123	
2016	\$196,521	\$233,123	-\$28,638.71

Breakdown of November 2016 Total Income

	Receipts	Expenses
Designated Funds:	\$ 1,346.40	\$ 1,320.00
Operating Funds:	\$16,761.56	\$19,448.34
700 Funds:	<u>\$ 1,401.50</u>	<u>\$ 1,701.14</u>
Total:	\$19,761.56	\$22,469.48

Attendance Averages (October)

Church Atten.	Sun. Comm.	Sunday School
130	115	

Christmas Eve Total Attendance: 238

Baptisms (12/11/2016)

Zachary Elias Ritz (born 9/9/2016)
Penelope Anne Ritz (born 9/9/2016)





Zion Adult Fellowship
January 2017
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

May this New Year bring Happiness and Prosperity to one and ALL.

2016 is now in the record books. We saw many changes, hopefully all were for/to the good. It is a time of new beginnings/do-overs etc. So Come one, come all and join us this year for some great fellowship activities starting with our Annual Chili Cook-off event.

January 14th The ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF and Adult Fellowship sign-up.



Hosts: Julia and Joe Sears and family

When: January 14th

Time: 6:00pm

What to bring:

Favorite Chili or any side dish

And beverage of your choice

And a friend or two

A fun game to play

Provided:

Childcare

Prizes awarded for the top chili recipes

Desserts

During this event, we sign up volunteer hosts for the 2017 year.

So, come one, come all with lots of new and/or renewed hosting ideas and enjoy great food, wonderful fellowship, and games galore. And, start thinking of some ideas for events you'd like to host!!

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



I would like to take this opportunity to THANK EVERYONE
 who has contributed in any way to make Adult Fellowship a Success.

Just what is Adult Fellowship?

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 fellowship ministry. 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.



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.

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 191

Famous Men of the Old Testament

A	H	S	I	L	E	H	F	S	E	L	N	J	A	L
C	Y	R	U	S	L	T	H	A	U	R	A	O	J	E
G	I	D	E	O	N	A	L	A	B	T	H	S	A	B
H	I	H	T	O	D	I	S	E	E	R	T	E	C	A
A	N	S	R	R	H	L	N	S	I	L	A	P	O	A
J	O	A	A	A	D	O	N	O	U	K	N	H	B	L
I	A	C	D	A	S	G	E	O	E	I	E	R	A	A
L	H	U	N	A	C	B	H	L	D	M	R	Z	H	M
E	J	I	M	O	R	D	E	C	A	I	I	A	E	D
Y	E	S	S	O	U	U	M	L	H	M	I	S	D	I
L	O	H	C	H	M	I	I	S	A	M	O	S	I	V
N	E	A	D	A	M	A	A	I	E	C	N	S	V	A
M	I	I	S	A	I	A	H	R	E	N	B	A	E	D
N	O	M	O	L	O	S	E	H	C	O	N	E	L	S
T	A	U	H	S	O	J	S	L	J	J	O	N	A	H

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| AARON | JACOB |
| ABEL | JEREMIAH |
| ABNER | JOB |
| ABRAHAM | JONAH |
| ADAM | JOSEPH |
| BAALAM | JOSHUA |
| CAIN | JUDAH |
| CALEB | LEVI |
| CYRUS | LOT |
| DANIEL | MORDECAI |
| DARIUS | MOSES |
| DAVID | NATHAN |
| ELIJAH | NEHEMIAH |
| ELISHA | NOAH |
| ENOCH | SAMSON |
| EZEKIEL | SAMUEL |
| GIDEON | SAUL |
| GOLIATH | SHADRACH |
| ISAAC | SHEM |
| ISAIAH | SOLOMON |
| ISHMAEL | SIMEON |

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

Psalm 35

MORE PUZZLES AT:
<http://biblewordgames.com>

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 "I Have  a DREAM..."

Martin Luther King Jr
 Joint Remembrance Worship Service

Front Street Church of God and Zion Lutheran Church

Sunday, January 15 – 5:00 p.m.

Held at Zion Lutheran Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JANUARY

Date	Acolyte 8:00 a.m.	Acolyte 10:30 a.m.
January 1	No service	Usher Team
January 8	Usher Team	Michael Chambers
January 15	Usher Team	Marissa Lombardi
January 22	Usher Team	Makayla Platt
January 29	Usher Team	Will Stewart

Altar Guild: Laura Sharratt, Karla Schmidt

Ushers: Volunteers Needed (8:00)
Volunteers Needed (10:30)

Lectors: **Jan 1** No Service (8:00); Gayle Ford (10:30)
Jan 8 Gail Heitz (8:00); Justin Beers (10:30)
Jan 15 Anita Snyder (8:00); Lisa Gerold (10:30)
Jan 22 Mike Heitz (8:00); Ron Alcorn (10:30)
Jan 29 Peggy Thomin (8:00); Lori Rehm (10:30)

Greeters: **Jan 1** Lori Rehm (10:30)
Jan 8 Joe & Joni Copas (10:30)
Jan 15 Volunteers needed (10:30)
Jan 22 Joan Cunningham (10:30)
Jan 29 Volunteers needed (10:30)

Eucharist Assistants: **Jan 1** No service (8:00); Carolyn Soupene, Shari Gerold (10:30)
Jan 8 Tillie Adams, Anita Snyder (8:00); Kathy Chambers, Marge Withrow (10:30)
Jan 15 Tom Toman (8:00); Stephanie Heitz, Erin Sanchez (10:30)
Jan 22 Wayne & Patrice Huston (8:00); Phil Pflaumer, Carolyn Soupene (10:30)
Jan 29 Julia Hilbert (8:00); Ken & Shari Gerold (10:30)

Radio: **Jan 1** None needed
Jan 8 Lou Robinson
Jan 15 Ron Alcorn
Jan 22 Greg Allen
Jan 29 Kevin Heitz

Nursery: Samantha Bowling

Bulletin **Jan 6** Joan Boling
Stuffers: **Jan 13** Tom & Barb Toman
Jan 20 Thelma Martin

Offering **Jan 1** Eric Grunwald, Kevin Heitz
Counters: **Jan 8** Mike Engel, Lori Rehm
Jan 15 Steve Herget, Sandy Sanders

Jan 27 Lori Rehm

Jan 22 Volunteers needed

Jan 29 Nathaniel Kaelin

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.