



Zion Lutheran Monthly



May 2013

Witnesses of These Things

After rising from the dead, Jesus had this to say to his disciples: “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. **You are witnesses of these things.**” And we are witnesses of the witness of the original witnesses.

Starting with our 4th Free Car Wash and Detail on May 18th (details are found elsewhere in this newsletter), Zion is giving you meaningful opportunities to witness to the love of God in Christ Jesus—the forgiveness of sins and eternal life—over the next several months. June 27-30th, the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League will be having this international conference right here in the ‘Burgh; ladies from Zion—you won’t want to miss this powerful call to outreach and fellowship! From July 8th-12th, we will be having our annual Vacation Bible School, and can always use more volunteers! At the end of July (28th- Aug. 3rd), we will be having our annual Mission Trip (CALM) to Camp Pioneer and the Adirondacks (mandatory meeting on May 5th after the Late Service)—all are welcome and invited to take part in this ministry-rich, life-changing event. And once the school year begins in the fall, for the first time, we will have over 100 children in our Early Childhood Development Program (Preschool), who will hear the good news of Jesus on a daily basis!

You are witnesses of these things. And this summer at Zion, you will have opportunities to pass on what you have witnessed: the best news you will ever hear, the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

If you are not able to pitch in and help out with things at the church this summer, please pray about how you can share the good news of Jesus to the people you know, whose paths you cross and for whom Christ died. You don’t have to do it through the ministries of Zion, but you have been called to pass on what you have received: the best gift you have been given, and the only one that will survive the grave.

-Pastor Duncan, a witness of these things.



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The Zion Lions Softball Schedule:

- May 2nd @ 6:45
- May 7th @ 8:15 and 9:45
(Double-Header!)
- May 15th @ 8:15
- May 21st @ 8:15
- May 30th @ 8:15
- June 5th @ 8:15
- June 13th @ 6:45
- June 18th @ 8:15
- June 26th @ 8:15
- July 10th @ 8:15
- July 17th @ 6:45
- July 23rd @ 6:45
- Aug. 1st @ 6:45

Come out and support the team!



Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances



Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances

March Income	\$40,756.00
March Expenses	<u>37,217.00</u>
Favorable to Income	\$ 3,539.00



All bills through April have been paid.

Continue to pray for Zion that we are able to grow our community outreach ministry, support local charities and Christian education for youth and adults. May God guide us in using these gifts and our talents to spread the Good News!

Bob Schmidt

Join the Team!

As our Church grows, so does our need to communicate with new and existing members, as well as our local community and even an international community. We started small many years ago when Pastor Matzat registered www.zlcb.org for the Church and became the site's first webmaster.

When he retired, we still maintained the site, but it didn't expand past his original vision. That is, until Pastor Duncan arrived. Pastor's enthusiasm helped motivate many members to transition from passive membership to active membership. From a passive website to an active website. From a Church with a consistent membership to one with a growing membership.

The website has grown from a handful of pages to almost 30 pages (with a few hundred sub-pages) and from a few weekly views to over a hundred thousand page views in the last two years (and that excludes robot hits). We've added podcasts (audio recordings of the sermon), daily posts, a weekly and monthly calendar, upcoming events, videos, and important matters of doctrine, not to mention "Bible in a Year" and "Bible Memory Verses."

We now have a Facebook page thanks to the efforts of Adele Goodge. Our large photo gallery comes courtesy of Rita Sheldon. Katie Gielarowski just signed on as our VBS editor (for the website) and we're lining up school board members to manage the content for the school website. Dick Wible will be providing softball stats for our new softball page, and we don't want to leave out Elizabeth Mubarek, our Church secretary, who organizes all the content for our newsletter, calendar and bulletin. The site and its contributors continues to grow, and we're looking for other members with good ideas, or video skills, as well as those with social media experience to help us get the word out. To help get God's word out.

If you have an idea to share or would like to be an editor for one of our many webpages, please contact Brent Miller or write to webmaster@zlcb.org.

Thanks,
Brent Miller
Zion's Webmaster

Notes From the Preschool

May? How can it be? It never fails to amaze me that time goes by so quickly. Our school year is almost over, but we still have a lot to accomplish this month. We will start our month with a celebration of moms. Mom and Muffins is a time when moms can come to school and have some special time with their child....and of course...muffins. Each child has prepared something special for their mom, but we can't tell you what it is, it might spoil the surprise. The event will end with some songs we sing in Kids Praise.

Our PreK classes will take a field trip to Reilly's Strawberry Farm. They will learn how a strawberry grows and even come home with a plant that they can put into their own garden. Who knows....maybe they will grow enough strawberries to make a pie!

We will end our year with our closing programs on Tuesday the 21st and Wednesday the 22nd. Our closing programs will include several songs that we love to sing during Kid's Praise and a slide show including pictures from the entire school year. They will be held during class time on both days, followed by some fellowship time with some yummy Rita's Italian Ice.

Our school continues to grow. This years' enrollment consisted of 91 students. So far, for the 2013/2014 school year, 101 students are enrolled...and it's only May! I anticipate more registrations during the summer months, so please keep us in your prayers that we can continue to maintain our level of excellence and order with so many wonderful children.

Just one more thing...if you see some new faces in church, especially news faces with small children, please take a minute and introduce yourself. It's very possible that they are a preschool family. We've had a lot of interest in our church from preschool families. What a blessing it is to be able to spread the gospel to the children and have it impact the entire family. Please pray for guidance for these families as they "explore" our church and as they seek to gain knowledge about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Blessings,
Tracey Harris



Happy Birthday!



3	Dominic Derosa				
3	Janet Hickey	22	Carly Seibel		
5	Doreen Carswell	23	Brooks Huse		
9	Rita Sheldon	24	Amy Morgan		
10	Iola Schmidt	24	Kenneth Wuerthele	10	George & Dawn Geregach 1997
10	Bethany Seibel	25	Nadine Carswell	12	August & Linda Seibel 1990
12	Ross Chilcott	25	Sarah Lynch	22	George & Jane Kozak 1953
14	Jack Oelschlager	26	Mary Hutula	27	Harry & Paula Jones 2006
17	Timothy Fitzgerald	27	Dorothy Vogel	29	Duncan & Alissa McLellan 2010
17	Kari Gresh	29	Nicholas Coyle	30	Matthew & Megan Monaghan 2009
20	Frank Vallelunga	29	Curt Watters	30	Lawrence & Janet Zreliak 1981
21	Irene Bourg	30	Christa Coyle	30	Brad & Jessica Boyle 2009
21	Stephanie Eckels	30	Bill Schrag	31	Steve & Janet Dibert 2008
22	Dan Harris	31	Melanie Becker		

Free Car Wash

Looking for a clean car (inside and out) AND a way to serve others in the name of Christ? Zion Lutheran Church will be having its 4th ABSOLUTELY FREE CAR WASH May 18th from 10-2. Set-up begins at 9. And yes, there will be plenty of food and drink on hand ABSOLUTELY FREE as well!



Look for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to volunteer your time and talent.

Questions? Call or e-mail Pastor Duncan or the Church Office!

New Members!



Jim and Adele Goodge



Nancy Gielarowski



Tracy, Christopher, and Alex Yellig



Kurtis, Valerie, Devan, and Kaden Sprague



Terry Hayes



Matt, Meghan, Ella and Alexander Solomon

Service Participants

May

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	ACOLYTES
May 5	8:00 AM	Susen Radovich & Missy	Grant Geregach
	10:30 AM	Chuck & Debra LaJeunesse	Sydney Harris
May 12	8:00 AM	David & Mary Hutula	Anthony Vallelunga
	10:30 AM	Dick & Carolyn Wible	Jennifer Fitzgerald
May 19	8:00 AM	Clara Hayes	Missy Radovich
	10:30 AM	Elsie DallaPiazza	Josiah Ackerman
May 26	8:00 AM	Bill & Melanie Becker	Anthony Vallelunga
	10:30 AM	David & Penny Miller & family	Ryan Harris
June 2	8:00 AM	George, Jane, & Michael Kozak	Missy Radovich
	10:30 AM	John & Kari Gresh & family	Jennifer Fitzgerald
June 9	8:00 AM	Joyce Wood	Grant Geregach
	10:30 AM	Bill & Nancy Koester	Sydney Harris

ELDERS	Ken Wuerthele, Jim Neill
ALTAR GUILD	Barbara Oechslein, Megan Pasquini, Diane Schmidt
USHERS @ 8:00 am	Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag, Janet Zreliaak, Larry Zreliaak
USHERS @ 10:30 am	Neil Ackerman, Sam Dragan, Kari Gresh, John Gresh

JUNE

ELDERS	Michael Sterba, Robert Oelschlager
ALTAR GUILD	Elsie DallaPiazza, Bernice DeBoe, Mary Hutula
USHERS @ 8:00 am	Bill Becker, Josh Gielarowski, Barb & Wayne Oechslein
USHERS @ 10:30 am	Ross Chilcott, Joe Gielarowski, Vince Kimberland, Chuck LaJeunesse
USHERS @ 9:00 am	Ross Chilcott, Joe Gielarowski, Vince Kimberland, Chuck LaJeunesse

If you are unable to participate on the assigned date, please find your own substitute and notify the church office (412) 221-4776 or secretary@zlc.org of the change.

COMING SOON – INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS ON SANCTUARY IMPROVEMENTS

As many of you know, late last year we established a Flooring/Sanctuary Committee to recommend improvements to the sanctuary. The Committee is close to sharing their plans with the congregation prior to scheduling a Special Voters meeting.

The preliminary plan will be presented to the congregation at various informational sessions in May. These sessions will give each member an opportunity to learn more about the planned improvements, provide feedback and ask questions. The plan will focus on a number of sanctuary improvements (like: new flooring, additional pews, etc.). These improvements are in support of last year's congregational assessment survey. That identified "Improving the worship life experience of the congregation", as the key focus area for our time, resources and investments to enhance Zion's Worship, Bible Study, Education and Youth Ministry.

The committee will evaluate the feedback from the sessions and bring their final proposal to the Church Council and Voters for approval.

**Bob Schmidt
Chairman**

Stephen Ministry Corner

Did you know Zion has a ministry available to people inside and outside of our congregation who are in need of Christ-centered care? Eight Stephen Ministers were commissioned in December after completing 50 hours of training on how to administer Christ-centered care according to the Stephen Minister's guiding principles. These principles are outlined in our Care-giver's Compass: trustworthy, compassionate, full of faith, skilled, and Christ at the center of all we do.

As Stephen Ministers, we focus on becoming care givers, not cure givers. Christ is our cure giver and we must trust in His plan and timing when navigating life's challenges. That being said, if you are facing challenging times, it can really be helpful to have a Christian you trust to share your joys and concerns with.

Another important thing to highlight is the role that trust plays in our caring relationships. All of the information shared, including the identity of our care receiver, is kept completely confidential. This allows a care receiver to speak freely with their Stephen Minister without worrying about other people "knowing their business!"

A couple of exciting things are coming up that you should know about:

In the coming weeks, we will host a "Stephen Ministry Sunday" where you'll have the opportunity to meet each of the Stephen Ministers and hear a bit more about the program. We'll also be filling the roles at that Sunday's service. We hope to see you there! It will be a great opportunity to learn more if you think you know someone in need of a Stephen Minister, or if you're interested in serving as a Stephen Minister when we have a new class of care givers trained up next Fall. It will also be an opportunity for everyone to learn more about this ministry, because we need your support to make it successful and as beneficial as possible to the people of Zion.

In October, we have volunteered to hold a Stephen Ministry informational for any congregation in the area to come and hear more about how to start up a Stephen Ministry program. A few people from Zion attended a similar meeting last year, and here we are with a successful program just a few months later! One of the coolest things about Stephen Ministry is that it is not distinctively LCMS—any church can start a program for giving Christ-centered care—but it does have its roots in the Lutheran Church! More than a million Stephen Ministers have been trained since the program's inception in 1975.

If you or someone you know would be interested in being matched with a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Duncan. Stephen Ministry has certainly changed the lives of your 8 minis-



Zion Lutheran Church

3197 Washington Pike



Visit ZLCB.ORG

For updated information throughout the month.

The Rev. Duncan McLellan

Youth News

It's time to register for Vacation Bible School!

You can find registration forms for summer 2013 in the church Narthex or on the church's website



ANNOUNCEMENTS



FOOD BANK

Collection for this month's Bridgeville Area Food Bank is **Sunday May 12**. The "item of the month" is Picnic Condiments. You are also welcome to help at the Food Bank every third Saturday of the month between 7:45 and 12:00 at Bethany Presbyterian Church.

At the 10:30 service on May 12th, 6 of our youth will confirm their faith and become communicant members of Zion Lutheran. Join us as we celebrate this milestone in their faith!

CONFIRMATION

BIBLE CLASS

Starting May 5th, we will be studying the book of 2 Corinthians in the Adult Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning, 9:15-10:15. We hope you can be there as we unpack and learn from God's Word!

There will be a MANDATORY meeting for everyone who wants to go on the Mission Trip on May 5th after the 10:30 service. We will be covering the expenses of the trip as well as a tentative itinerary.

MISSION TRIP