



Zion Lutheran Monthly



May 2014

WHY DO YOU SEEK THE LIVING AMONG THE DEAD?

This is the question asked to the women who went to Jesus' tomb early on Sunday morning by the two men in dazzling apparel. Ironically, with burial spices in hand, they were actually looking for the dead among the dead, not the living among the dead. But the question by the men is a good one: why do you seek the living among the dead? Or, maybe more accurately: why do you seek life among dead things? And while their question certainly was relevant to the women on that first Easter Sunday, I think it is even more relevant for us today.

Why do you seek the living among the dead? Why do you seek life among dead things? Why do you think pornography, excessive alcohol consumption, avoiding your spouse, cheating on exams, and premarital sex is where you will find life? Do you really think God is hiding true meaning and happiness behind these sinful facades? Or do you think that truly living means violating the will of the one who created life? Why do you seek the living among the dead?

The question isn't "what does it mean to truly live?" but, "where do I go to find life?" Many of us are living our lives trying to answer the first question, but ignoring the second. Truly living isn't an activity. It's not adrenaline, pleasure, or inexpressible calm. It is found in Jesus. Not just in following him—which is simply succeeding to various degrees in doing he says to do—or coming to an understanding of all that he did and taught before he was taken up, although both of those are worthwhile pursuits. But they are not life in and of themselves.

So, Pastor, where do I go to find Jesus and, therefore, life? Is it in church? In praying to him? In reading his word? In attempting to live in obedience to his word? In sharing the Sacrament of the Altar with the Body of Christ? Is it in fellowship with the Body of Christ? Yes. To all of them, YES!



Finding Jesus and life is not an activity or even a lifestyle. The best way I can put it is an identity given to us by Christ, the author and giver of life Himself. An identity you have been given and will have forever.

-Pastor Duncan

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Bowling Schedule

Week 18: Friday, May 2

Note: Please make sure you have paid your \$20 startup fee (that funds the bowling banquet) on or by our final session. Traditionally, this payment is due in January. Janet Oelschlager will be accepting the startup fee if you haven't already paid.

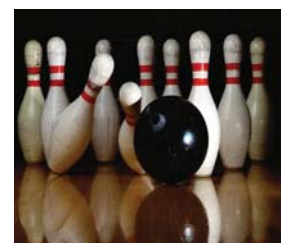
Bowling Banquet:

Friday, May 16

6:30pm at Al's Café

All games are played at 6:30pm at

AMF Mt. Lebanon Lanes



Voter's Meeting

On Sunday, April 27, the Voter's of Zion approved a motion to authorize church Council to apply and get a line of credit or a loan up to \$50,000 by July 1st to complete the Phase II project (tinted windows and air conditioning) if necessary.

With our Phase II fundraising efforts, we are hoping to avoid the need to use the line of credit or loan. We encourage everyone to prayerfully support your church with your prayers and financial contributions as we seek to complete Phase II.

Bob Schmidt
Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS!

May Unit: Breakfast on the Beach

After the Resurrection, the disciples recognized Jesus in familiar places and in familiar activities. We too can experience the hope and love of Jesus in everyday activities such as walking, talking, and eating. Bible Reference: John 21: 1 - 15

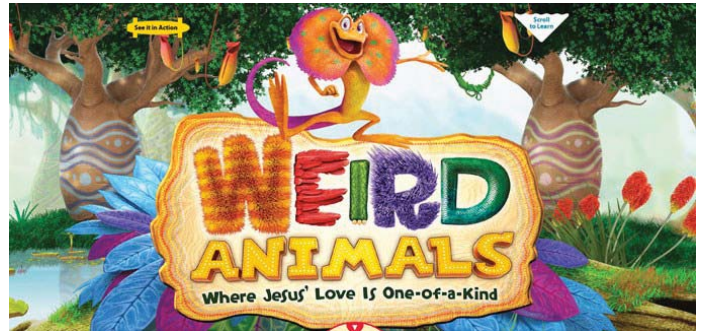
Consider leading a Sunday school station in June!! Contact Katie Gielarowski for more information or to volunteer.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS!

Weird Animals VBS is coming to Zion...and our theme is about how *extraordinary* the love of Jesus is for everyone! Registration is now open for children who have completed at least one year of preschool - 6th grade. Those who have completed 7th grade or higher can volunteer. Check out our website for more information: www.zlcb.org/vbs

Attention Volunteers: Mark your calendars for our Crew Leader and Volunteer meeting on Tuesday, June 3rd at 6:30pm.



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 3. Donimic Derosa | 22. Carly Seibel |
| 3. Janet Hickey | 23. Brooks Huse |
| 9. Rita Sheldon | 24. Amy Morgan |
| 10. Iola Schmidt | 24. Ken Wuerthele |
| 10. Bethany Seibel | 25. Nadine Carswell |
| 12. Ross Chilcott | 25. Norma Lynch |
| 14. Jack Oelschlager | 26. Mary Hutula |
| 17. Tim Fitzgerald | 27. Dorothy Vogel |
| 17. Kari Gresh | 29. Nick Coyle |
| 20. Frank Vallelunga | 29. Curt Watters |
| 21. Irene Bourg | 30. Christa Coyle |
| 21. Stephanie Eckels | 30. Bill Schrag |
| 22. Dan Harris | 31. Melanie Becker |

Happy
Anniversary

- | |
|------------------------------|
| 22. George & Jane Kozak |
| 27. Harry & Paula Jones |
| 28. Michael & Deborah Sterba |
| 29. Duncan & Alissa McLellan |
| 30. Brad & Jessica Boyle |
| 30. Matthew & Megan Monaghan |
| 30. Lawrence & Janet Zreliak |
| 31. Steve & Janet Dibert |

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

May

| DATE | TIME | GREETERS | ACOLYTES |
|--------|----------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| May 4 | 8:00 AM | Shane & Sandy Bryant | Carley Rockovich |
| | 10:30 AM | Vince & Ginny Kimberalnd | Lara Luedeman |
| May 11 | 8:00 AM | Joyce Wood | Augie Bishop |
| | 10:30 AM | Elsie DallaPiazza | Jennifer Fitzgerald |
| May 18 | 8:00 AM | Frank & Sandy Hervert | Josiah Ackerman |
| | 10:30 AM | Rob Oelschlager | Chris Yellig |
| May 25 | 8:00 AM | Clara Hayes | Carley Rockovich |
| | 10:30 AM | John & Keri Gresh & family | Lara Luedeman |
| June 1 | 8:00 AM | David & Mary Hutula | Nathan Morgan |
| | 10:30 AM | Bob & Diane Schmidt | Augie Bishop |
| June 8 | 8:00 AM | Ron & Judy Meier | Carley Rockovich |
| | 10:30 AM | Ken & Carol Wuerthele | Chris Yellig |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| ELDERS | Ken Wuerthele, Jim Neill |
| ALTAR GUILD | Barbara Oechslein, Megan Pasquini, Diane Schmidt |
| USHERS @ 8:00 am | Bill Becker, Shane Bryant, Barb & Wayne Oechslein |
| USHERS @ 10:30 am | Steve Gauer, Josh Gielarowski, Dan Harris, Richard Quinlan |

June

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| ELDERS | Pete Fisher, Rob Oelschlager |
| ALTAR GUILD | Elsie DallaPiazza, Bernice DeBoe, Mary Hutula |
| USHERS @ 8:00 am | Carl Bauer, Gene Koop, Ron Meier, Jack Oelschlager |
| USHERS @ 10:30 am | Neil Ackerman, Ross Chilcott, Kari Gresh, John Gresh |

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@zxcb.org of the change.

FOOD BANK

Collection for this month's Bridgeville area food bank is Sunday, May 11. 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.



Confirmation

Our Confirmation Module for May takes us to Deep Creek Lake for a weekend of learning the Apostles' Creed. Pastor and Vicar round out the handful of adults who will chaperone the nine Confirmation students on

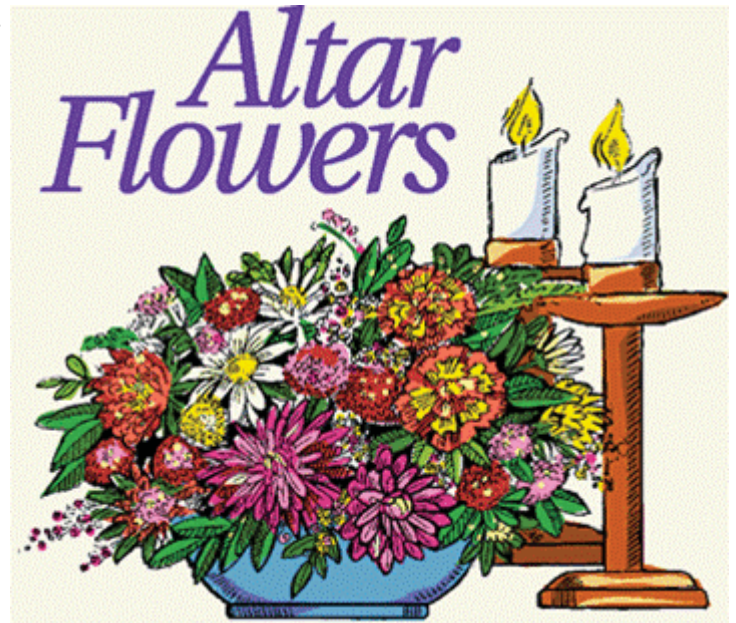


their trip to the Maryland woodlands. Please keep our Confirmation students in your prayers; they are learning the basic doctrine of our Christian faith, which will serve and direct them for the rest of their lives.

Altar Flowers Coordinator

We are looking for someone to volunteer to take over the Altar Flowers coordinator role for 2015. If you are interested in learning more about this role please contact Nancy Klemash.

Bob Schmidt
Chairman



Friendship Sunday

On Sunday, May 11th, Zion is going to have a Friendship Sunday. For the last three months, we've been praying for people who our members intend on inviting to worship for Friendship Sunday. The message will be back-to-basics, the songs will be familiar, and there will be a time for fellowship in between the services so that we can get to know our guests and visitors.

Inviting a friend, co-worker or family member to church can be a daunting thing. Know that your church is praying for you as you share your faith and the good news of Jesus, inviting people to hear the Gospel at Zion and to enjoy our fellowship and hospitality.

Who are you inviting?

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 Reillys 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! Our Stepping Stones class will take a tour of PNC Park. What an exciting way to see the Pirates home field up close. The kids have been talking about it all month...go Pirates!

We will end our year with our closing programs on Tuesday the 20th and Wednesday the 21st. 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.

After our year has "officially" ended, we will hold summer camps for two weeks in June. This year we will have Dirt Camp, Beach Camp, Fun and Games Camp and Book Camp. Our camps are always very well attended and much anticipated. Vacation Bible School is the week immediately following our last camp and equally anticipated by our preschool families. What a tremendous opportunity Zion has to spread the "good news" to so many little ears!

Enrollment is currently at 103. 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 as our school continues to grow.

See you in September!

Blessings,
Tracey Harris

