



# Zion Lutheran Monthly



**November 2014**

## Trick or Treat

This Halloween, Thomas, our two year old, is dressing up like Batman. Sarah, his 10 month old sister, is dressing up as an elephant. As they get older, I'm guessing we'll have discussions with them about what they can and can't wear to go trick-or-treating. And, as they get even older than that, discussions about what is appropriate to wear to Halloween parties. I think I've written in this space before about how I simply do not understand the increasing fascination with Halloween.

Traditionally, on Halloween we dress up, pretending to be someone (or something) we are not to scare people into giving us candy. The irony of this is that we'd probably do a better job of scaring people if we took off the masks we wear everyday and simply went as ourselves.

"Trick or treat! I'm your neighbor down the street and I have a pornography addiction."

"Trick or treat! I'm from across the way and I've driven home after having too much to drink on more than one occasion, through the neighborhood where your children play."

"Trick or treat! I'm from down the block and I routinely starve myself because I am fixated on trying to look a certain way."

"Trick or treat! I live next door and I've had to take out a second mortgage to keep up with you and that other family down the street."

Those who know the history behind Halloween know that it is no accident that it comes the day we Christians celebrate as "All Saints Day" on November 1. Usually a celebration of God's grace and salvation in the lives of the faithful departed, All Saints Day also reminds us who we are in Christ. It encourages us to take off the masks... costumes... of self-righteousness and pride and let people see us for who we really are: poor-in-spirit sinners who, thanks be to God, have a Savior.

-Pastor Duncan

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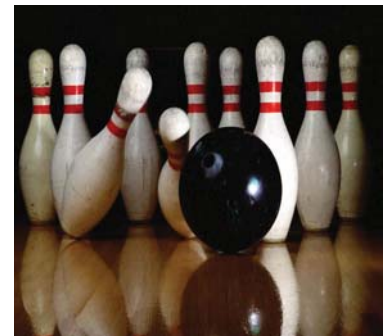
## Bowling Schedule!

Week 5: Friday, Nov. 7

Week 46 Friday, Nov. 21

All games are played at  
6:30pm at

AMF Mt. Lebanon Lanes



# Sunday School News

- Preschool – 5<sup>th</sup> Grades will be learning about the wise men in the November Unit called, Follow the Star. Wise men from the East followed a star that led them to the promised king, Jesus, so that they could worship him. Children will hear the story of the wise men, learn about their reaction when they found Jesus, about the gifts the wise men gave and how we can give, and will connect the story to the celebration of Epiphany. You can read the story here: Matthew 2: 1 - 12
- 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grades – Meet in the conference room with Robb Oelshlager.
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grades – Meet in the school office with Mark Killinger.

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## Sunday School Christmas Pageant!

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, our Sunday school children will present “Christmas by the Book”, a traditional skit telling the Christmas Story as taken from “the Book”, the Word of God, the Holy Bible. **ALL** are invited to join us directly following the Zion Congregation Christmas Dinner.

*For Parents of Sunday school children:*

### Practice Schedule

Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> - Introduction to program, parts distributed (9:20-9:40)  
Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> - Practice songs, Preschool practice separate (9:20-9:40)  
Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> - Practice songs, Preschool practice separate (9:20-9:40)  
Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> - Practice songs with preschool (9:20-9:40)  
Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup> - Full Practice with songs and parts (9:20 – 10:10)  
Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> - Full Practice with songs and parts, costume fitting (9:20-10:10)  
Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> - DRESS REHEARSAL, costume fitting – mandatory (10:00-11:30)  
Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> - Final DRESS REHEARSAL (9:20-10:10), Program following DINNER

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## Thank You!

*Dear Members of Zion,*

*Thank you so much for your generous free will offering! We really appreciate your support toward our seminary expenses. Adam was able to get many books that he needs for his studies. We pray that God will continue to bless you and build His kingdom through you. We are looking forward to being back at Zion soon during our holiday visits.*

*Thank you again!*

*In Christ,*

*Adam and Rachael Steinbrenner*

*Dear Pastor, Zion Members and Friends,*

*Our family was overwhelmed by the out pouring support, prayers, many cards, phone calls, flowers and the compassion shown by so many in the loss of our daughter. It is reassuring to know so many care.*

*Pastor McLellan's visits and prayers were greatly appreciated.*

*We are truly blessed to have Zion as a part of our Christian life.*

*God's Blessings,*

*Gene and Sharon Koop*

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- |    |                        |    |                    |
|----|------------------------|----|--------------------|
| 1  | Samuel Bishop          | 23 | William Becker     |
| 1  | Pastor Duncan McLellan | 24 | Jacque Oelschlager |
| 2  | Nikolas Derosa         | 26 | Jennifer Lewis     |
| 2  | Salina Howcroft        | 27 | Marian Siek        |
| 4  | Roland Chilcott        | 28 | Laura Berkebile    |
| 4  | Carol Karmann          | 28 | Brent Miller       |
| 5  | Simon Martin           | 29 | Brian Pasquini     |
| 6  | Loren Luedeman         | 29 | Melissa Radovich   |
| 8  | Julie Huse             | 30 | Adele Goodge       |
| 9  | Vince Kimberland       |    |                    |
| 10 | Rose Steranko          |    |                    |
| 12 | Jared Gardner          |    |                    |
| 12 | Jane Kozak             |    |                    |
| 13 | Sydney Harris          |    |                    |
| 14 | Dustin Geregach        |    |                    |
| 14 | Ruth Trudel            |    |                    |
| 15 | Joan Kovach            |    |                    |
| 18 | Shelly James           |    |                    |
| 20 | Megan Monaghan         |    |                    |
| 21 | Shannon Mance          |    |                    |
| 22 | Marion Oelschlager     |    |                    |



- |    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 1  | Bob & Nancy Spotti   |
| 11 | Bernie & Jean Blanco |
| 20 | Dan & Tracey Harris  |
| 23 | Gene & Sharon Koop   |
| 30 | Loren & Kim Luedeman |

# Chairman's Report

## Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances

September Income	\$55,341.00
September Expenses	<u>47,878.00</u>
Favorable to Income	\$ 7,463.00

As of October 25, we are estimating a negative cash position of \$1,700. All bills through October 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!

## Voter's Meeting

On Sunday, October 26, the Voter's of Zion approved the following slate of candidates.

Vice-Chairman	Vince Kimberland	Elders	Bill Bishop
Sunday School Superintendent	Katie Gielarowski		Neil Ackerman
Treasurer	Kim Luedeman		Mike Sterba
Trustee	Lee Glasser		David Hutula
			Robert Oelschlager

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the previous officers and to thank each of the above individuals for agreeing to serve Zion in one of the four offices. As it is written - If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully. - Romans 12:7

Please provide your support to these new and existing officers. I'm sure throughout the year they will be requesting your support on various initiatives and projects.

## Audit - Financial Review Committee

This committee will review the financial records and processes of the church and school.

Peter Fisher	Dale Miller
Gene Koop	Rich Quinlan
Bob Schmidt	

Let me take this opportunity to thank the committee members listed above for their service on this committee.

Bob Schmidt

Chairman

# SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

## November

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	ACOLYTES
November 2	8:00 AM	Rob Oelschlager	Nathan Morgan
	10:30 AM	Vince & Ginny Kimberland	Chris Yellig
November 9	8:00 AM	Joyce Wood	Augie Bishop
	10:30 AM	Lois Klemash	Jennifer Fitzgerald
November 16	8:00 AM	Shane & Sandy Bryant	Josiah Ackerman
	10:30 AM	David & Penny Miller & family	Lara Luedeman
November 23	8:00 AM	Clara Hayes	Nathan Morgan
	10:30 AM	Kristen Neill	Carley Rockovich
November 30	8:00 AM	Bernice DeBoe	Josiah Ackerman
	10:30 AM	Rose Steranko	Chris Yellig
December 7	8:00 AM	Bob & Nancy Spotti	Nathan Morgan
	10:30 AM	Bill & Susie Bishop & family	Jennifer Fitzgerald
December 14	8:00 AM	Wayne & Barb Oechslein	Augie Bishop
	10:30 AM	John & Kari Gresh & family	Lara Luedeman

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](mailto:secretary@zlc.org) of the change.

### WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?!

It's been four years since our last Church Directory and it's time for a new one. Mark your calendar for November 19-22, the days when family portraits will be taken for the directory. Sign-ups have begun. Go to <http://www.zlc.org/home/2014/9/30/zions-photo-directory.html> for registration instructions.

**The last day to sign ups is November 9, so sign up soon!**

<b>EDERS</b>	Jim Neill John Gielarowski
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Kathleen Conn Mary Hutula
<b>USHERS @ 8:00 am</b>	Bill Becker Shane Bryant Barb & Wayne
<b>Ushers @ 10:30 am</b>	Sam Dragan, Dan Harris, Vince Kimberland, Rich Quinlan

## December

<b>EDERS</b>	Frank Vallelunga John Gielarowski
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Janet Oelschlager Marian Oelschlager Molly Oelschlager
<b>USHERS @ 8:00 am</b>	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop, Ron Meier, Jack Oelschlager
<b>Ushers @ 10:30 am</b>	Josh Gielarowski, Vince Kimberland, Loren Ludeman, Jim Oelschalger



## What Is “Free Coffee Friday”?

Free Coffee Friday is what happens when you connect our desire to make the love of God in Christ Jesus known to the people in our community and the reality that our church is located on a very busy street—one many people take to work early in the morning.

What we want to do is give away coffee and doughnuts to people on their way to work. So far, so good. But how does free food connect people to Jesus? The coffee cups. We want to make our own cups... or at least design our own cups that have a verse or saying about Jesus. As people drink their coffee, they will be given a gentle reminder that they are loved by God and have a Savior in Jesus.

So how do we get from talking about Free Coffee Friday to actually doing it?

First, we need people (YOU!) to come up with designs for the coffee cups. Pictures, words... you name it. We want your designs! Send them to the church office—either over e-mail, or a physical “hard” copy will do.

Second, we’ll advertise what we are doing in the community. Bridgeville News, on our sign board and on the church website, we will be letting people know to expect free coffee and doughnuts in our parking lot on Friday morning.

Third, we’ll need people to make and give away the coffee and give away the doughnuts. We’ll need at least six or seven teams of 2-3 people, serving on a rotating basis, to do this.

Timing. Right now, our best guess is that we will have designs for the coffee cups by the end of the year. We’ll have our teams and supplies and be ready to go by February... if everything goes according to plan.

If you are interested in helping out, please let Pastor Duncan know, or contact the church office. There will be more about Free Coffee Friday in your worship bulletins as well as on the website and church Facebook page.





## School News!

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. The Lord has truly been good to our school. We have been blessed with beautiful children, supportive and loving families, and a wonderful staff.

October has been a month full of excitement and exploration. The children explored so many of God’s creations including October’s most popular creation (at least, according to the children) the PUMPKIN!! I had the pleasure of presenting the chapel lesson this month with the children. The lesson was called “The Parable of the Pumpkin” I wanted to convey the Gospel message in a visual way, so we used pumpkins. Two carved pumpkins were presented side by side to the children. One has a smiling face and a lit candle inside, emitting a pleasant and warm glow. The other frowning pumpkin is dark inside. The children were asked which pumpkin they would rather be. “The happy one” they shouted! The children are told that Jesus is the Light of the World, and that He can provide a light to guide their lives if they love Him with their whole heart. When the children saw the sad and dark pumpkin I explained that life without Jesus would be dark and sad. The children were then asked how they think the “light” got inside of the pumpkin since the top was not cut. After guessing many interesting ways, I turned the pumpkin around and pulled out a heart shape, carved in the back of the pumpkin. The children are told that if they faithfully love Jesus with their hearts, souls and minds He will always be with them. The book “The Pumpkin Patch Parable” was also read to the children. It is our prayer that these two activities help to make the Gospel message more clear and meaningful to the children.

The month was also filled with field trips to local pumpkin farms, the Trolley Museum, picture days, and Fall Harvest parties. What a pleasure it is to hear all of those happy voices each day.

Our Road Rally fundraiser again proved to be a huge success. All proceeds from the Road Rally will go to help fund items for the school including a LED sign for the lobby and choral risers for our Christmas programs and end of year programs. It is my hope that the LED sign will help improve communication to parents on all the things we do....friendly reminders, if you will. It will also be used to wish children “Happy Birthday” when they come into the school...imagine the look on a child’s face when they see their name in “lights”! The choral risers will tremendously improve the visibility of the children to their family when “singing their little hearts out” at the programs.

Spaghetti Anyone? The date for this year’s Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Art Show is Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. We will do a buffet style dinner including spaghetti with marinara and meatballs and spaghetti with sausage, peppers and onions. Finishing off the dinner will be our delicious bake sale. If you would like to donate some “goodies” to the bake sale, please drop them off either Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup>, or Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> before 1:00 pm. Tickets are on sale now. Look for Dwight Weldon on Sundays, or contact the school office.



The Lord is good, indeed!

Blessings,

Tracey Harris

## BRIDGEVILLE FOOD BANK NEWS

Starting November 16, you will have the opportunity to participate in purchasing a gift of clothing or toy for a child registered with the Bridgeville Area Food Bank. If you wish to participate, choose an angel gift tag from the tree set up in the back of the church. Each gift tag is marked with an age and size for clothing. If the tag has child's age and gender only, the gift should be a toy. Your unwrapped gift costing around twenty dollars will need to be returned with the gift tag attached no later than Sunday, **DECEMBER 14**.

Zion Lutheran Church is a part of the area ministerial. The ministerial is formed by many local churches in the surrounding Bridgeville area. Volunteers representing the area churches come together to serve the people in need who live in the South Fayette and Chartiers Valley School districts. Our ministry is ongoing throughout the year and serves around one hundred-twenty families each month.

There are many ways in which you are able to support the food bank throughout the year. You may bring non-perishable food and place it in the Narthex. Financially, you may give a monetary donation with the check written to the Bridgeville Area Food Bank. The third Saturday of the month between 8:00 AM and 12:00 PM is when we set-up and assist recipients in the distribution of food at the Bethany Presbyterian Church on Washington Pike. We would welcome your help.

If you have any questions about the food bank please don't hesitate to ask.

In Christ's Service,  
Barbara Oechslein  
Bridgeville Area Food Bank Representative



## MR@P2



It's not too late to sign-up for our second Men's Retreat @ Pioneer! From the 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> of November, we will spend time in God's Word together, discussing issues common to men, and enjoying the relaxing, outdoor atmosphere of camp. We'll also have a bonfire, grill lots of meat and play paintball. If you can't make it on the 13<sup>th</sup>, come on the 14<sup>th</sup>! The cost is \$150 if you stay from the 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> and \$125 if you stay from the 14<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup>. That cost includes lodging (linens too!), lunches, paintball, recreation, and the program. Additional costs will be incurred for breakfasts and dinners. I hope you can make it on this retreat; it will be a good time of worship, fellowship and time in God's Word with your brothers from Zion!



## Monday Night Football

Join us at Pizzaz (Rt. 19 in McMurray) Monday nights at 8:00pm to watch the game, check our Fantasy Football Scores, and enjoy an evening of fellowship.

# FOOD BANK

Collection for this month's Bridgeville area food bank is Sunday, November 9. The "item of the month" is canned meat and proteins such as tuna, salmon, or nuts. 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.

