

Zion Lutheran Monthly

SEPTEMBER 2016



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Pastor's Corner

“This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased.” The voice from God the Father booms from heaven, revealing Jesus as the Christ to all who had come out to listen to and heed the preaching of John the Baptist that the kingdom of heaven was at hand. Led into the wilderness by the Spirit of God, Jesus is then tempted by the devil after fasting for almost a month and a half. He succeeds where Israel failed, proving his allegiance to God and relying on Scripture to fend off the attacks and temptations of the evil

one. Strengthened by angels, Jesus returns to Galilee and begins preaching, calling disciples and healing those with various afflictions. He heads up a mountain, brings his disciples in close and gives them the Sermon on the Mount. He goes back down the mountain and spends the next two chapters healing, driving out demons, even raising a person from the dead, and calming a storm with a word. Jesus keeps an incredible pace.

And then, when you get to Matthew 10, Jesus tells the Twelve to do what he has been doing. Drive out demons, heal the sick, raise the dead, and preach! Go! Go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Do what I have been doing. What are you waiting for?

Mission accomplished, the disciples come back to Jesus who continues doing what he had been doing. Teaching, healing, traveling around. On mountains, on the water. In towns and cities, close to home and far away. Jesus. Never. Stops. He never quits.

And then he is arrested, suffers and dies. But not even this can stop the only good man to ever walk the face of the earth. Jesus conquers death. Nothing can stop him.

But then Jesus turns to the men who had turned their backs on him when he was beaten and tortured and when he suffered and died and tells them that they are the ones who will do what he had been doing. They will be the ones through whom the kingdom of heaven comes; they will be the ones through whom God works to undo the curse and make right what sin has made wrong.

And now you, the baptized and taught, through the centuries that separate you from Peter, James, John and the rest, have inherited what was given to them: the awesome privilege and responsibility of following in the footsteps of Christ to bring the Gospel to all nations. You have been called, commissioned and equipped to follow in the footsteps of Christ.

The pace you keep is equal to the importance of the mission to which you have been called. There is no other name given to people by which we must be saved than that of Jesus. There is no higher calling that we can have than to represent Christ in the world; to be the people through whom God works to bring salvation.

This is your calling. This is your purpose in life. Christ is with you always—even to the end of the age. Go.

-Pastor Duncan

Vicar's Corner

So often when we encounter a difficult situation we simply can't put together the right words to express how we feel. When a friend's wife has a miscarriage, what are you supposed to say to them? You can't do anything to fix it, and your words of comfort will seem hollow in those first few days as your friend deals with the harsh reality of death. What are you supposed to say to God? When the person (maybe even yourself) who "has it all together" loses their job and the future looks bleak, how do you explain it? Anything that comes out of your mouth is going to be insufficient when it comes to giving them financial assurance. Even speaking of Jesus and what he has done seems to fall flat in terms of soothing their anxiety with their current problem. How do you approach God with this problem?

One option for our personal reflection is to turn to the Psalms, in difficult situations the Psalms of lament are especially appropriate. The book of Psalms is where Christ turned to express his great grief as he bore our sins on the cross, crying out in anguish. Many Psalms start in a very gloomy place. Psalm 22 begins "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" Psalm 12 starts off with "Save, O LORD, for the godly one is gone; for the faithful have vanished from among the children of man." The Psalms are real. When David (or another Psalm writer) is mourning, he MOURNS. He doesn't begin with comforting words but cries out with pain and emotion. The Psalms allow us to grieve, to be sorrowful, to mourn, to beg. They allow us to remain in a difficult situation and call things what they are. Evil is evil, death is brutal and unnatural, sin is oppressive. There is no immediate, artificial leap to relief in a difficult situation. But the Psalms also speak of Christ. While they allow us to sit in our grief and pain, they always turn to the Sovereign God who is in control, the God who we know has acted in Christ to undo sin and death. They point us to God's good desires for us, the saving work of Jesus, the forgiveness of sins that comes in His name, and our identity as children of God. They give us words to speak to God when we can't come up with anything to say. Words that express our pain but also remind us of Christ.

This isn't meant to be a shameless plug for a Bible Study here at church, more of an appeal for the use of the Psalms in your daily prayer life. They give words to situations anguish and pain, but also to situations of joy and thankfulness for God's grace and mercy. And they tell of Jesus who has acted on our behalf. The book of Psalms is a masterpiece of poetry, spanning several genres of Poetry but always expressing praise and thanksgiving of the God who made heaven and earth. Although this isn't (only) a plug for Bible Study, if you would like to get deep into the book of Psalms, beginning September 28 we will be studying through the Psalms after our service of prayer and preaching. Study books will be available coming soon. I would love to have you join with us as we pray, struggle with, and learn from the Psalms.

Blessings in Christ Jesus!

Vicar Joshua

Chairman's Report

September Council Meeting

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 8, 2016. At this meeting, the Council will approve the nomination list of officers for the next church year.

August Council meeting

At the Council Meeting held on August 11th, Elder Peter Fisher gave a presentation on stewardship, defined in terms of three "buckets": Regular Giving, Projects and Honoring Life Events. Each bucket is ideally comprised of time, talents and treasures of the congregation as a whole.

Thanks to Peter for his perspective on the subject and his willingness to share it.

Call Process for a New Pastor at ZLCB

While we are saddened by the approaching departure of our current pastor, we can count our blessings at the same time. Under the leadership of Pastor Duncan McLellan, our ears have been filled with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the definitive example of God's love toward us. May we continue to hear and boldly speak the name of Jesus to the world around us. Thanks to Duncan and Alyssa for their nurturing care demonstrating the love of Christ in their words, prayers and actions during their time at Zion Lutheran Church Bridgeville.

As we begin the process that will ultimately result in us calling the next shepherd to lead God's people at ZLCB, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). We do not know the duration of this process, but we will patiently trust in God's grace to see us to the finish.

Everyone at ZLCB can participate in this process by assisting with completion of the Self-Study document. This is the document that will help bring a better understanding of our congregation and prioritization of our needs to the Eastern District as the leaders match us to pastoral candidates who are right for our ministry. Look for details describing how you can contribute to this process in the coming days.

Looking to Scripture, we can find guidance in the fifth chapter of the book of James. In verses 7 to 11, the author mentions patience four times. He exhorts God's people not to grumble against each other. Following the example of those before who have persevered during trials, we can consider ourselves blessed. Focus on the Lord's endless compassion and mercy as you exercise your calling for the good of the church and in support of God's mission.

Finally, please pray for the health of ZLCB during the transformative days ahead.

Christ's Blessings,

Jay Anderson

Food Bank

Collection for this month's Bridgeville area food bank is Sunday, September 11th. The "item of the month" is **personal hygiene products**.

You are also welcome to help at the food bank every third Saturday of the month between 7:45 am and 12:00 pm at Bethany Presbyterian Church.



Zion Youth News and Events

Middle School **NERF**
BLOW DART BATTLE

+

Parent Date Night
Drop your kids off and enjoy a night
without your children!

CHILD CARE PROVIDED
ALL AGES



When? Saturday, September 10

Time? 6-9:00pm

Who? Anyone in middle school

Where? Soccer fields next to Zion Lutheran Church

Address? 3197 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA 15017

Food? Pizza will be provided for all middle school kids

CHILD CARE:

We will provide child care for siblings of all ages!
Due to limited child care, an RSVP is required.

Please contact Joe Faini

CONTACT INFO:

Joe Faini
681-945-5655
joe@zlc.org



The past few weeks Joe Faini has been going to South Fayette High School football practice as a, "Character Coach." He is teaming up with fellow, "Character Coach" Andrew Barney in a program that allows the football students of South Fayette to come and hear about what scripture says about Jesus, character, and how they relate to their life. The program is optional to the students and run through an organization called, "Fellowship of Christian Athletes or FCA." The first meeting starts August 25!

If you would like to hear more about this program
please contact Joe Faini at joe@zlc.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday school resumes on September 11th!

A rotation-based program is available for children in preschool (age 3) – 5th grade. An older youth program is available for kids 6th – 12th grade.



There will be a special opening devotion on our first day! For more information, look up Ministry Fair in the newsletter, bulletin or on Zion's website.

PARENTS AND VOLUNTEERS: Please visit the Sunday school table during the ministry fair to pick up a 2016-2017 calendar of events, to sign up to lead or help in a station, and to get a peek at our new curriculum.



Join us Wednesday evenings starting Sept. 28th for a bible study on the book of Psalms!

-9 week study

-Child care provided

-Meet following Wednesday evening service

-Sign up in the narthex so we order enough books

-Contact Vicar@zlc.org with any questions

Forty Days For Life is holding a peaceful 40-day vigil outside the abortion clinic in the city, asking our all powerful God to lift up his hand and put an end to abortion and providing silent witness. A date for this event has not yet been scheduled, but they are looking for 120 churches to cover 4 hour slots. If we get 16 people that is four 1-hour shifts. Sounds like something Zion can do! Contact Vicar Joshua for more information.



Zion's 1st Ministry Fair - "Branch Out"

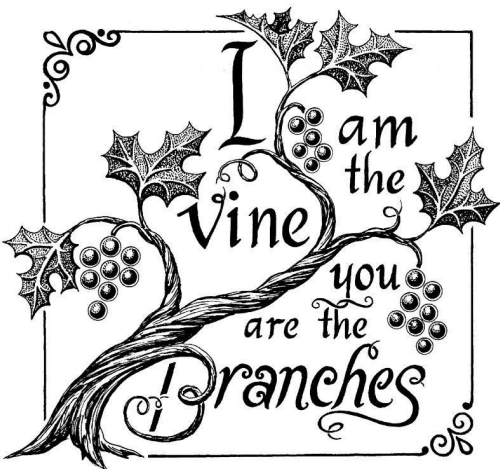
Save the Date: Rally Day

Sunday, Sept. 11th - 9:00 am - 10:15 am

Hot Breakfast Served & Freebee's

20 Booths will be set up!

Come See what's happening at Zion!



September Reading Plan

Read the Bible in a Year!

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1: Job 31-33 | 10: Proverbs 17-19 | 21: Jeremiah 1-3 |
| 2: Job 34-36 | 11: Proverbs 20-22 | 22: Jeremiah 4-6 |
| 3: Job 37-39 | 12: Proverbs 23-25 | 23: Jeremiah 7-9 |
| 4: Job 40-42 | 13: Proverbs 26-28 | 24: Jeremiah 10-12 |
| 5: Proverbs 1-3 | 14: Proverbs 29-31 | 25: Jeremiah 13-15 |
| 6: Proverbs 4-7 | 15: Ecclesiastes 1-3 | 26: Jeremiah 16-18 |
| 7: Proverbs 8-10 | 16: Ecclesiastes 4-6 | 27: Jeremiah 19-22 |
| 8: Proverbs 11-13 | 17: Ecclesiastes 7-9 | 28: Jeremiah 23-25 |
| 9: Proverbs 14-16 | 18: Ecclesiastes 10-12 | 29: Jeremiah 26-28 |
| | 19: Song of Solomon 1-4 | 30: Jeremiah 29-31 |
| | 20: Song of Solomon 5-8 | |



Join us for the 10th annual Chili Cook-off! Zion has a great reputation when it comes to our chili so you will definitely want some. The Cook-off takes place on Sunday, October 2nd at Fairview Park in South Fayette from noon-4:00pm. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids, and kids 5 and under are free. Activities include chili sampling, live music, bounce house, photo booth, face painting, balloon artist, and more! If you would like to volunteer to help at the event sign up in the narthex or contact secretary@zlc.org!



Fifth Annual "Adopt a Grandparent"

During this holiday season, our local group of Mary Kay independent consultants is adopting nursing home residents of Allegheny County. Many of these people have few, if any, visitors and receive little, if anything, during the holidays. Last year, through the generosity of local businesses and customers, we delivered over 700 gifts to residents of John J Kane Regional Hospital, Scott Twp and Concordia of South Hills., and Baptist Home, and Marion Manor. This year we hope to deliver 1,000 gifts and spread cheer to even more men and women who now live in assisted care facilities!

By partnering with me, your \$15 donation will sponsor a very special gift for the residents and enable them to have a very Merry Christmas. Your kind donation will purchase two of our Satin Hands lotions. These items are specifically requested by caregivers for the benefits the residents receive. The lotions will soothe their hands and feet and bring joy as well by the simple "touch therapy" of applying them.

With your help, we look forward to sharing these gifts of joy. The gifts will be hand delivered by consultants and their children to nursing homes in December.

Please consider what a blessing this is for the men and women in these facilities who once lived and worked in our local communities. Let them know they are remembered! THANK YOU!!

Make your check payable to Ginny Granke or if you have questions about how you, your school, or your business can become a sponsor.

Please contact:

Ginny Granke-Kimberland

1610 Glenn St, McDonald, PA 15057



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Date	Time	Greeters	Acolytes	Nursery
September 4	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bill & Carole Schrag Darren & Jennifer Elikor & Family	Josiah Ackerman Anna Gresh	Megan Meyer Lara Luedeman
September 11	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bob & Diana Schmidt Elsie Dalla Piazza	Augie Bishop Leah Luedeman	Carley Rockovich Darla Rockovich
September 18	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Shane & Sandy Bryant Robb & Alaina Oelschlager	Ava Pasquini Lara Luedeman	Alissa McLellan Jessica Boyle
September 25	8:00 AM 10:30 PM	Ron & Judy Meier Lee & Megan Glasser	Matt Liberatore Carley Rockovich	Linda Kroeger Tess Carter
October 2	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Brent & Marianne Miller & Millie Thielet Lois Sauro	Josiah Ackerman Anna Gresh	Susie Bishop Adele Godge
October 9	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Megan & Brian Pasquini Rose Steranko	Ava Pasquini Augie Bishop	Carrie Lemonovich Stephanie & Jenna Eckels



Month	Elders	Altar Guild	8:00 AM Ushers	10:30 AM Ushers
September	Rob Oelschlager, Neil Ackerman	Diane Schmidt & Megan Pasquini, Barb Oechslein	Kathleen Conn, Brian Pasquini, Janet & Larry Zreliak	Ross Chilcott, Dan Harris, Chuck LaJeunesse, & Richard Quinlan
October	Robert Schmidt Bill Bishop	Kathleen Conn Mary Hutula	Melanie and Bill Becker, Michael Kozak	Sam Dragan, Loren Luedeman, Kari & 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.

Visit our website for past sermons, informative videos, thought-provoking articles, pictures from recent church events, and updated information about upcoming events. Check it out: zxcb.org

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Evelyn Green	11 Grant Geregach	25 Bernice DeBoe
3 Rita Balach	13 Carl Bauer	27 Marianne Miller
3 Leah Quinlan	14 Nancy Klemash	30 Deborah Scott
4 Jean Blanco	15 Sophia Gielarowski	
6 Rex Carter	17 Catherine Watters	
7 Judith Dames	18 Nancy Koester	
7 Elaine Ivancza	18 Lawrence Zreilak	
8 Andrew Klemash	19 Max Gresh	
9 Tammy Long	19 James Neill	
10 Wayne Conn	21 Cletus Kroeger	
10 Matthew Oelschlager	22 Gene Koop	
10 Ken Schrag	23 Emmett Chilcott	
11 James Eckels	24 Christopher Malachosky	



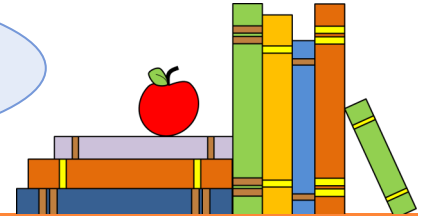
SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

13 Timothy & Rita Balach	29 Richard & Gloria Godfrey
13 Johnathan & Andrea Vogel	30 Robert & Shelly James
16 Craig & Deborah Scott	
17 Lee & Megan Glasser	
18 Robert Liberatore & Jennifer Lewis	
26 Tom & Kim Erbrecht	





SEPTEMBER 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU," DECLARES THE LORD, "PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE." JEREMIAH 29:11</p>				<p>1</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study</p> <p>7:30 pm Elders Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:00 pm 2-10-66</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 am -2.10.66</p>
<p>4</p> <p>8:00 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Class</p> <p>10:30 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>11:45 am Children's Choir Practice</p> <p>11:45 am Board of Education</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 pm Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:00 pm Service of Prayer and Preaching & Small Group Bible Study</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study</p> <p>7:30 pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast</p> <p>10:00 am Men's Choir Practice</p> <p>6-9 pm Youth Event</p>
<p>11</p> <p>8:00 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>9:00 - Branch Out Ministry Fair</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>11:45 am Children's Choir Practice</p> <p>11:45 am Stephen Ministry Meeting</p> <p>FOOD BANK COLLECTION</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p> <p>7:15 pm Farewell Prayer Gathering for Alissa</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 pm Service of Prayer and Preaching & Small Group Bible Study</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast</p>
<p>18</p> <p>8:00 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Class</p> <p>10:30 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>11:45 am Children's Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:00 pm Service of Prayer and Preaching & Small Group Bible Study</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 pm Farewell Party for Pastor @ Southpointe Hilton Garden Inn</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast</p> <p>10:00 am Men's Choir Practice</p>
<p>25</p> <p>8:00 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Class</p> <p>10:30 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>11:45 am Children's Choir Practice</p> <p>11:45 am Events Committee Meeting</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:30 pm Sunday School Meeting</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:00 pm Service of Prayer and Preaching & Small Group Bible Study</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p>	

Sunday morning worship at 8:00am and 10:30am



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3197 Washington Pike

Bridgeville, PA 15017

www.zlcb.org

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