



Zion Lutheran Monthly

JULY 2017

Pastor's Corner

“Everything is Looking Green”

Have you noticed that everything is green? Just outside your window, the bare branches of Winter are gone. Our trees are full of leaves. The grass is green and lush.

But what if things aren't green? Well, this time of year things are supposed to be growing, so we may fertilize our grass a bit, we may mulch around our plants so they don't dry out. We try to keep that beautiful green going as long as we can for the Summer months so we can enjoy it. And, if the roots are well fed and nourished right now, we know these plants will keep growing next year.

Take a look some time in our church. What is the main color you see? GREEN. Everything is green. The paraments on the altar, lectern and pulpit are all green. These colors will also stay green all the way through November when we change them to red for the Festival of the Reformation. For several months we will be green, and for a good reason. During these next several months all of our readings will be focused upon your growth in Christ. Our readings will not necessarily focus upon the return of Christ (Advent) or repentance (Lent) or the resurrection (Easter). Although the readings may touch upon these themes at different times, this will not be the focus. The focus of these next several months will be your growth in Christ.

The readings and sermons will focus upon your life in Christ and growing that life in Christ. Think of it as a time when Christ will be spreading spiritual mulch around you so you may grow deep roots of faith into Christ. Or think of it as a time when Christ will water you with baptismal waters so you may drink deeply and be satisfied, or when you will be nourished even more so with the bread of heaven in Christ's body and blood so that you also may be strong enough to fight off your flesh and the assaults of the devil.

Our plants and grass are not the only things that need tending this time of year. You need to be tended. And thanks be to God, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is here to do that for you! So, allow yourselves to be cared for by Christ in His Word and sacraments this Summer so that you, your family, and your friends may all be nourished in Christ and have roots grown into the ever-flowing fountain of His mercy shown to you in the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

grow

Vicar's Corner

For my last newsletter article here at Zion I don't have much to say other than "Thank you". This year has been nothing short of incredible.

I have to extend a huge thank you to the incredible staff here at Zion. When I told another pastor that I was enjoying vicarage even during a vacancy, he told me "you must have amazing secretaries". We certainly do here at Zion! Megan and Amanda do an amazing job keeping things running around the church and fixing your vicar's mistakes. They go above and beyond routinely (Megan printed a sermon from her house when the printer was down!) and care about their job. They are a pleasure to work with and great friends. It has also been a privilege to watch Tracey run the preschool and work with her as opportunities arose. She does an incredible job with this preschool. You are so blessed with this wonderful ministry and this wonderful woman. She has been a mentor and a friend through the busyness and struggles of vicarage. Joe and I shared an office for about half of vicarage, and I'm glad to say he put up with me well. His passion for youth and families is a blessing to the kingdom. Zion should put into practice what he has taught us about **all of us** pouring into the kids in our congregation. Jim Oelschlager has been a blessing to work with as well. He is such a hard worker and I enjoy our conversations when we bump into each other late at night as I practice my sermons and he cleans the church. I marvel at the work Brent Miller does on the website. I've never seen a church site more faithfully maintained, and it is an incredible outreach tool! You are blessed to be served by such caring and devoted staff here at Zion!

I also need to thank the congregation. The seminary typically doesn't allow vicars to serve a vacant church for many reasons. It can be a difficult situation for the vicar and for the congregation. The reason this year was so successful was because of God's gracious provision, and one of the ways he has provided is through an amazing congregation. When I walk around on Sunday morning, each of you puts a smile on my face. I have trouble making it to Bible Study on time and even starting church on time because I love talking to all of you! I am thankful that God has allowed such incredible relationships to form between us, and I will remember your love and support forever. The board of elders has helped and supported me as I got my feet under me. You are blessed with a group of men who care about God's Word and take their responsibility to the congregation seriously. I'm thankful for the church council, a group full of diverse skills (most of which I don't have) used in service to God's kingdom. The board of trustees has done a whole lot of hard work as well as they prepared for Pastor's arrival and as they keep the church building running. It is very rare that I am at church alone because one of your devoted trustees is normally here working hard. Zion is full of amazing people who care about the kingdom and are willing to dive in, using their time, talents, and treasures according to the gifts God has given them. You have taken amazing care of my family and me this year.

I am also indebted to the three pastors who have served Zion this year. Pastor Duncan taught me a great deal about preaching and teaching, and I am grateful for the time I had watching him lead the people of Zion. Pastor Carlson was a wonderful mentor in an atypical situation. He supported me and gave me advice in difficult situations throughout this vicarage. I will try to replicate his relentless, devoted pastoral care in my own ministry. He is a wonderful servant of the Word. Although my time with Pastor Grimenstein was short, his pastoral heart has made an impact on me, and his advice on preaching will be useful as I look towards my last year of seminary and ordination into the office of the Holy Ministry.

Jesus Christ is alive and is reigning and ruling in His church. His work on the cross and in the empty tomb have won your salvation and restored you to your Father in heaven. And he is still at work today at Zion. His kingdom is growing through the sharing of the word, the preaching of the Gospel, and baptism in the name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The forgiveness of sins in Jesus name remains a powerful, present day reality that defines who you are, even as it is given to you in the preaching of the Word and in the Lord's Supper. You are a forgiven, baptized, child of God who has the promise of eternal, resurrected life with your God. He sustained you by His Holy Spirit throughout this year and will continue to sustain you in the coming years. Thank you for being a family to us while we were here this year. I look forward to maintaining the friendships I have made this year, but most of all enjoying eternity with you. Zion is a special place. Thank you for allowing me, Mary, Hannah, and Joseph to be a part of it for a year. The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you all.

-Vicar Joshua

Chairman's Report



A LOOK at the BUDGET

Voters Meeting - Outcome

On June 25, 2017 the voters of Zion approved the 2017/2018 fiscal budget that included:

- Overall budget *decreased* from last years budget by 2.5%
- Average salary *increases* of 2% for church and school staff
- *New* afternoon classes as well as *increasing* the actual 142 number of students to 147
- Vicar not included (Vicarage program will be reevaluated)
- Youth Director not included (Joe Faini has decide to become a full time Young Life leader). **We thank Joe for his service at Zion and wish him continued success in building his Young Life ministry in South Fayette.**
- The budget does challenge each member to increase their giving by 5%
- Focus on needed on-going *repairs* to the church and parsonage
- Refocus on international and local *missions* support

We were pleased to present surplus budget of \$8,271 (\$616,719 expense compared to \$624,990 revenue). The Council will continue to ensure a strong expense control process throughout the year.

Future major projects fundraising efforts to be considered by the Trustees:

- Replacing the church roof to address minor leaks
- Parking lot space expansion
- Parking lot drainage
- Kitchen renovation
- Concrete work



Just a reminder, July and August are the most difficult times for Zion to cover monthly expenses, so we encourage you to remember Zion while you are away on vacation, since our expenses don't go on vacation. Please continue to pray for Zion that we are able to end this new budget year with a positive cash flow.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Budget Committee for their service on this challenging task. Paul Klemash – Chairman, Bob Bonacci, John Lemonovich, Tom Carthy and Kim Luedeman.

Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances

May Income	\$53,858.81
May Expenses	<u>\$62,476.49</u>
Unfavorable to Income	\$ -8,617.68

Fiscal Year Income	\$627,866.08
Fiscal Year Expenses	<u>\$614,973.92</u>
Income Less Expense	\$ 12,992.16



Two factors caused the unfavorable monthly income: timing of tuition deposits and weekly giving was slightly down for the month. The various growth funds continue to have a strong cash position. Overall Zion's financial situation continues to be good with income ahead of budget year to date.

Please continue to pray for Zion and support our ministries with your time, talents and treasures. May God continue to bless our ministries.

Bob Schmidt
Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



Mighty Fortress VBS was a tremendous success! 117 children and 40 volunteers got together and learned about how Jesus won the victory over sin, death and Satan – and through Jesus we are given that same victory! We studied the Old Testament stories of Jericho, King Hezekiah and King Josiah. We learned about Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey on Palm Sunday. We talked about how Jesus will one day come back and give us the Crown of Life, which is eternal life, a life without sin, trouble or hurt.

A numerous amount of donations was collected for 1st Trinity Homeless Ministry. We also collected \$515.25 for God's Mighty Word, a project that provides books

and Bibles for children in America so they can learn about Jesus.

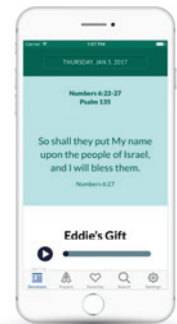
Visit Zion's website for VBS photos: www.zlcb.org/vbs

Sunday school sessions have ended for the summer months and will resume again in **September!**



The daily devotional app for everyone.

Portals of Prayer is now available as an app! You can download the app in the app store on your phone. The cost is \$9.99 per year to have these devotions at your fingertips all the time!



Food Bank

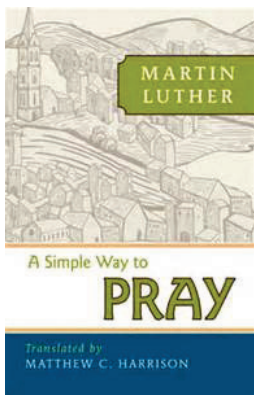
Collection for this month's Bridgeville area food bank is Sunday, July 9. The "item of the month" is cookies.

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.



Vicar's Book of the Month:

Well it is time for the last "Vicar's Book of the Month". I spent a good long time thinking about what the last book I recommend should be. I wanted something theological yet simple, something historical, something practical. So I picked Luther's "A Simple Way to Pray". Luther wrote this little pamphlet (it is only 32 pages!) in response to his friend's request for practical advice about prayer. Luther posits the I.T.C.P method for looking at a Scripture passage or piece of the catechism so that you can pray that passage or catechism portion. This stands for "Instruction, Thanksgiving, Confession, and Prayer". In this book he explains the method and gives examples of how to use it. The one sentence version is this: When you look at a text of Scripture, ask "What Instruction does this text give me?", "What do I have to give Thanks for on the basis of this text?", "What do I have to Confess on the basis of this text?", and then form a Prayer on the basis of the text. I hope you enjoy this wonderful book!



DEADLINE TO RSVP: SUNDAY JULY 2ND

WHO: FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF THE ULM'S

WHAT: GOING AWAY PARTY FOR VICAR AND FAMILY

WHEN: FRIDAY JULY 14TH STARTING AT 6:00PM

WHERE: ZION LUTHERAN PAVILION

WHY: BECAUSE WE ARE GOING TO MISS THEM

DETAILS: DINNER AND DESSERT

\$15—ADULTS

\$10—KIDS

HUUGUUGHG WRRHW
AWWGGGGHHH UGGGUH
RAAAAAHHGH
AARRRAGGHUUHW!



TRANSLATION: COME HAVE FUN WITH THE ULMS BEFORE THEY HAVE TO LEAVE US!

Batter Up!

Softball season is underway and our Zion Lions would love for you to cheer them on at their games! All games are played at McLaughlin Run Park (820 McLaughlin Run Rd, Bridgeville, PA 15017). Games are subject to change due to weather. For up to date game time information, check out the Chartiers Valley Church Softball League's website: leaguelineup.com. See you there!

June Softball Games:

7/12: 7:00pm—Zion vs. Holy Child

7/19: 8:30pm—Zion vs. St. Anne's

7/26: 7:00pm—Zion vs. Westminster



Feel like you are missing out on news from Zion?

Members can sign up for our weekly eBlast at:

www.zlcb.org/join-email-list

And for daily website, like our Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranBridgeville



Mission Corner

What is Bethesda?

Founded in 1904 in Watertown, Wis., Bethesda Lutheran Communities has always strived to fulfill our ongoing mission:



To enhance the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through services that share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Bethesda has always focused on the Christian faith. It is our intent to nurture the faith life of people of all abilities. We believe in the importance of all people having a relationship with our Lord and Savior. Bethesda connects people with disabilities to local congregations, creates devotional and instructional materials for leaders, teachers and Bible classes, and supports congregations as they establish ministry programs to include people of all abilities.

Bethesda empowers people to live a full life, making their own choices about the things that matter to them the most. All people should have a say in where they work, play and worship.

To ask questions, get more information, request our Messenger Magazine, or learn about our faith resources:

Call: 1-800-383-8743

Send: 600 Hoffmann Dr. Watertown, WI 53094

Website: www.BethesdaLutheranCommunities.org

Email: Development@mailblc.org



Zion has adopted a missionary and his mission. Rev. Charles Wokoma will be joining us on Sunday September 10th to preach and teach to Zion. Mark your calendar now so you can join us that Sunday to hear all about the work that is being done in the mission field with Rev. Wokoma.

Rev. Wokoma went as a visiting professor to JEML Seminary, and in Sept. 2013, he accepted a (LCMS) call to be a theological educator. Since this time, he has been teaching at this seminary and preaching at different congregations each week.



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Date	Time	Greeters	Acolytes	Nursery
July 2	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Liberatore Family Michael & Deborah Sterba	Joey Ackerman Carley Rockovich	Megan Meyer, Carly & Darla Rockovich
July 9	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Wayne & Barb Oechslein Chuck & Debbie LaJeunesse	Matt Liberatore John Garrubba	Brittany Dill, Sydney Januesy, Susie Bishop
July 16	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bernice DeBoe John & Katie Gielarowski	Augie Bishop Anna Gresh	Nell Wilson & Tess Carter
July 23	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Gene & Sharon Koop Mike & Linda Kroeger	Ava Pasquini Carley Rockovich	Jenny & Jodi Fitzger- ald & Barb Oechslein
July 30	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bill & Melanie Becker Robb & Alaina Oelschlager	Matt Liberatore John Garrubba	Sharon Bogden & Christine Chilcott
August 6	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Brian & Megan Pasquini Janet & Marian Oelschlager	Ava Pasquini Anna Gresh	Carrie Lemonovich & Jenna & Stephanie Eckels
August 13	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Robert & Diana Schmidt Ken & Carol Wuertherle	Matt Liberatore Augie Bishop	Megan & Ava Pasquini & Marian Oelschlager



Month	Elders	Altar Guild	8:00 AM Ushers	10:00 AM Ushers
July	Paul Klemash Mike Kroeger	Clara Hayes & Sandy Bryant	Brian Pasquini, Dale Miller, Barb & Wayne Oechslein	Sam Dragan, Chuck LaJeunesse, Bob Bonacci & Mike Wallace
August	Mike Kroeger Mike Wallace	Janet & Marian Oelschlager	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop, Ron Meier, & Jack Oelschlager	Ross Chilcott, Dan Harris, Mike Sterba, & Ted Siek

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.

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: zlc.org

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Shelley Killinger | 14 Dominic Dibert |
| 3 Karen Bauer | 15 Brad Boyle |
| 3 Joann Brookfield | 15 Robert Liberatore |
| 3 Corey Lason | 16 Timothy Albert |
| 5 Timothy Albert | 16 Tommy Gielarowski |
| 8 Roxanne Burgh | 18 Emily Trentini |
| 8 Valerie Derosa | 19 Lindsay Kovach |
| 8 Megan Hartman | 19 Robyn Reihner |
| 8 Richard Trudel | 20 Paul Hayes |
| 9 Neil Ackerman | 25 Frank Hervert |
| 10 Anthony Vallelunga | 26 Ella Hunsberger |
| 11 Clara Hayes | 26 Kristen LaJeunesse |
| 11 Brenna Long | 30 Tess Conner |
| 11 Dione Vallelunga | 30 Eric Hunsberger |
| 12 Mamie Papeaka | 31 Nathaniel Howcroft |



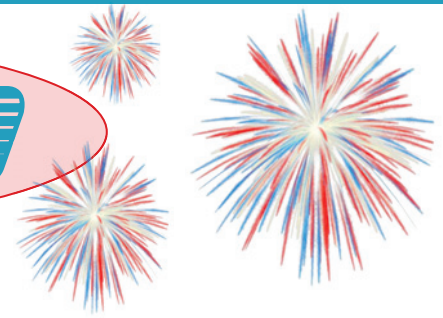
JULY ANNIVERSARIES



- | |
|-----------------------------|
| 7 Vince & Ginny Kimberland |
| 16 Norm & Helen Erbrecht |
| 17 John & Katie Gielarowski |
| 26 Paul & Nancy Klemash |
| 31 Andy & Rochelle Thompson |



JULY 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1>Zion Lutheran Church</h1>						1 8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast
2 8:00 am Worship w/communion 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship w/communion	3	4 Happy 4th of July!	5 7:00 pm Midweek Service	6 10:00 am Bible Study 7:30 pm Elders Meeting	7	8 8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast
9 8:00 am Worship w/communion 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship w/communion 11:45 am Stephen Ministry Meeting Food Bank Collection	10	11	12 7:00 pm Midweek Service 7:00 pm Zion Lions Softball Game	13 10:00 am Bible Study	14 6:00 pm Vicar's Going Away Party	15 8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast
16 8:00 am Worship w/communion 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship w/communion	17	18	19 7:00 pm Midweek Service 8:30 pm Zion Lions Softball Game	20 10:00 am Bible Study	21	22 8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast
23 8:00 am Worship w/ communion 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship w/ communion 11:45 am Events Committee Meeting 11:45 am Stephen Ministry Meeting	24	25	26 7:00 pm Midweek Service 7:00 pm Zion Lions Softball Game	27	28	22 8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast
30 8:00 am Worship w/ communion 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship w/ communion	31	<p>Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is <i>Freedom.</i></p> <p>2 Corinthians 3:17</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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