

May 2007 Newsletter

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear members and friends of Zion,

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed. Alleluia! The arrival of Holy Week and Easter is the high point of the church year, and it was a high point for the life of our church here at Zion as well. By all traditional measures, proof of Christ's life alive among us was made clearly evident, and in abundance. That's what Jesus promised - *life in abundance* - and that's what we've been blessed to enjoy. Average attendance at our Lenten and Holy Week services - Ash Wednesday, five Sunday Evening Lenten dramas, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday - approached 100! Average weekly attendance at worship during the months of March and April exceeded 200! Offerings to support the operating budget were nothing short of astounding, averaging \$24,000 each month! And we were able to raise more than \$5,000 for the Sanctuary Renovation Fund! The Lord provides, through the generosity of His people. Thanks be to God, and to you.

With the arrival of May, it seems that winter's spell may finally have been broken. Plans for the Mother's Day Breakfast have taken the place of worrying about gas bills and boiler pumps. The Festival of Pentecost is not far away, and that means we will be planting geraniums around the church and celebrating Confirmation before long, on the Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend to be exact. We've got a Congregational Meeting coming up in the middle of the month, and that means we'll be electing members to serve with Council, the Deacons, and the Trustees, while also discussing plans to add some color and continuity to the look of our Sanctuary. In the meantime, softball has begun, plans for our second mission trip to New Orleans move forward, and we get ready to wrap up another program year as we head into the summer. But that may be moving too fast, since we've still got some great weekends in Easter to enjoy.

The Good News of Easter has focused our attention on the fact of the Resurrection of our Lord. We've talked about the empty tomb, the sign given to Thomas, post-Resurrection appearances to Peter, the Twelve, and hundreds of others, including those who were slow to believe like James and persecutors of the church like Paul. We've enjoyed the humor depicted with those *Signs of the Times* sent with a Suzanne Walters email, and the serious case offered by Jim Fidler, an attorney by profession, with thirty-one years of experience as a criminal investigator, who led us through a brief history of martyrdom among first-generation Christians as a way of providing proof of our Lord's Resurrection. Using every which way we can, our goal has been (and is) to celebrate the Easter proclamation: *Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!*

Jim said it so well. "*Christ is risen! Alleluia!* We say it, we proclaim it, we shout it and with all the fervor we can muster, we say we believe it!" The way we believe this Good News is to live it. That is precisely what we invite you to do, what we need you to do, as we move through some important times and face some important challenges in the life of our church. We have a number of opportunities for service that call for your time and commitment - the Food Pantry & Clothing Closet, a Cleaning Day for the outside of the church on May 12, a Congregational Meeting on May 16, a Mission Trip to New Orleans in June, Vacation Bible School in July, with worship every weekend, and so much more. Come, and celebrate Christ's life alive within you by sharing in Christ's life alive among us. The Lord is calling. Your church is inviting. Make the connection between what we say we believe and how we actually live. Let your words and deeds proclaim the Good News that *Christ is risen. He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!*

In His service, and yours,

Pastor Sherwindt

Sounds of the Caribbean, II: A Great Success!

There were two-hundred-and-fifteen in attendance. Chairs were set up along the pews in the center aisle! Betty Dague recruited a bus-load for residents from *The Danbury* to join us for the fun. Sue Everhart oversaw the sale of well over three-hundred-and-fifty tickets! Chuck Danner sold the most. Pastor Sherwindt and Jim Fidler were right behind. Beth Heller, Dean Yoder, Darlene Milavickas, Brian and Kelly Walters, Mark Votaw, Debbie Fox, Steve Ross, Laura Thompson, Bob Lancashire: all helped in the process of distributing tickets far and wide. Brian Walters, Darlene Milavickas, Marilyn Espe-Sherwindt, Dale Jacobs, Beth Heller, Mark Votaw: all helped in getting ready for the Ice Cream Social. And let's not forget our connection to the Rittman High School Steel Drum Band - Dean Yoder made the contact and covered the contract that made it possible to enjoy an unbelievably great success with this second edition of our *Sounds of the Caribbean*.

It was great to see the Sanctuary filled. It was great to see the support that was so evident through our congregational family. It was great to feel the joy of gathering at Zion for the sole purpose of having a wonderful time. Between tickets that were purchased for use and donation, we collected a total of \$1,730.00. Several persons just donated money without any tickets in mind, and that totaled \$100.00. We received \$99.00 through the free-will offering that was collected during the Ice Cream Social. Plus, all of the expenses we incurred were covered with personal donations, which meant that everything we raised went directly into the Sanctuary Renovation Fund, namely, \$1,929.00. Zion's local service team of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will provide matching funds of \$800.00, which brings our grand total to \$2,729.00! While we do not yet know the specifics of our plans for the Sanctuary, the fact is that we have already received several contributions of Year #3 of our *Five-year Property Renovation Plan*. We still have \$550.00 as part of a three-year gift given several years ago. \$450.00 has come in through Memorial Gifts (for Armand Lenarz, II). \$1,000.00 came in as part of a gift of gratitude in celebration of a recent wind-fall. We still have around \$500.00 left over from what we raised but didn't spend on the Sound System Renovation. So, without having approved the specifics for the Sanctuary, and without having determined a specific fundraising plan, we presently have somewhere around \$5,229.00 ready to provide a healthy head start as we look ahead to our Congregational Meeting on Wednesday, May 16.

Year #1 of our Renovation Plan focused on the restrooms; Year #2, on the sound system. With Brian Walters overseeing these projects, we saved thousands of dollars by doing much of the work ourselves. That will also be the case with Year #3 and the Sanctuary. First, we will need to do some painting, and once we agree on the colors, this is something we can do to reduce our expenses. Secondly, we want to upgrade our lighting systems. We'll be able to do much of this work. Thirdly, we may want to include some video-projection capability, a common feature in worship space today. Fortunately, we have some expertise to help ourselves in this area. Finally, we have some ideas for adding more stained glass to the Sanctuary. This is an art form that will require professionals. We will wait for special designated gifts and memorials to help with this phase of our renovation plans. Be sure to join us on May 16, as we go over all the particulars.

Zion's Graduates from North Canton Hoover High School

Jon Votaw, North Canton Hoover High School: Jon joined Zion because of our church softball team. Well, actually, Jon joined because the parents in his household, Mark Votaw and Lorraine Weinman, joined Zion. It's not a decision the children often have a lot of input in

deciding, although when kids like the church their parents like, it makes the decision a whole lot easier. In this case, Jon was all for it, partly because of the softball team, and partly because he agreed that Zion was okay. Having Jon join us on our Mission Trip to New Orleans was a great way to get to know him, his strengths, his character, his grit, his sense of humor, and everything else that makes him so likable. He's been a great asset to our work with the Youth of Zion, serving as one of the two youth representatives on our Youth Committee. He's looking forward to joining us on our follow-up Mission Trip to New Orleans in June.

Jon has decided not to go to college right now. "I am just not ready. I don't have any clue about what I want to do, except that right now I do not want to be in school." As soon as we get back from New Orleans, he plans to start a full-time job. He's found an apartment in Canton, which he'll be sharing with a couple of buddies. "I am looking forward to having my own place, even the cooking for myself thing. I like sports - playing, watching, talking about sports. The guys I am rooming with are also big sports fans, so that should work out well. I am looking forward to Zion Softball this year - big time! I am also looking forward to the Lutheran Men in Mission Golf Outing." [That's on the calendar for July.] Congratulations, Jon. We share your parents' pride, and we look forward to being a part of those decisions that shape your future.

Matt Ross, North Canton Hoover High School: Matt also joined Zion with his family, and for some of the same reasons Jon joined. His parents, Steve and Linda Ross, were really attracted by a Confirmation Program that featured a trip to Germany! We may not have made it to Germany yet, but Matt, along with all the Rosses, joined us on our Mission Trip to New Orleans, and loved it. It was a trip that opened our eyes to the needs of others, and our hearts to one another. Matt has been a valuable part of what we have done among the Youth of Zion. He's helped with Halloween parties, had fun with overnights, participated in all sorts of youth dramas during worship, even showed interest in helping with the sound system.

Before arriving in North Canton, where he enjoyed four years of High School, Matt completed Middle School outside of Philadelphia in Perkasio, and made it through the primary grades in places like Pittsburgh, Edmonton (in Alberta), and Mississauga (in Ontario). While at North Canton Hoover High School, Matt has been a moving target (with a bum shoulder) at right wing on the Hoover Vikings hockey team. That has been his passion. He has also played his guitar for years, and is looking forward to making music a minor at the University of Akron, where he will join the Zips as a freshman in the fall.

He's not sure what his major will be, but there will be plenty of time for choosing a major as he grows more familiar with the college routine. We'll have some time to quiz Matt on his interests in June, since he'll be joining us with an encore performance as we head back to New Orleans for this year's mission trip. Congratulations, Matt. We share your parents' pride, and we look forward to being a part of those decisions that shape your future.

ZION'S GRADUATES FROM NORTHWEST AND SOUTH CAROLINA

Amy Porter, Northwest High School: Amy has been a part of the Zion family for years. Her Mom and Dad, Margaret and Steve Porter, introduced her to every aspect of church life through their own involvement. Margaret worked with the Youth of Zion, and Amy was one of our leaders. She has been active in Zion's Mission Trips to Atlanta and Philadelphia, and has enjoyed our many sleepovers, Bible Bowls, Halloween parties, and car washes. Steve was our Head Trustee, and Amy was present here at the church on Zion's Work Days, cleaning out the

Nursery, washing windows, shampooing rugs, sweeping floors. And let's not forget countless hours with the Food Pantry and the Clothing Closet! Amy has grown up in the church, and we are proud of all that she has accomplished as she graduates from Northwest High School and looks ahead to challenges at Malone College.

Amy has been an active student and scholar at Northwest High. She served on the board of the Repository's Teen of the Month, and volunteered with *Ohio Reads*. Her activities include holding down the position of midfielder on the soccer team, playing trumpet in the band, singing in the honors choir, as well as the high school choir, taking advanced placement classes at Northwest and post-secondary courses at Stark State in English, Psychology, and Sociology. English has been her favorite subject while at Northwest High. In the fall, she will enter Malone College as an accounting major and a business minor. Congratulations, Amy. We share your parents' pride, and we look forward to being a part of those decisions that shape your future.

Danielle Frock, University of South Carolina, Class of 2007: Danielle was a 2003 graduate of North Canton Hoover High School, and surprised a good many of her peers by heading to Columbia, South Carolina, where the University of South Carolina Gamecocks make their home. One of Danielle's early challenges involved appreciating the cultural differences between northeast Ohio and the subtleties of southern life in the heart of the deep south. It made college more than interesting, with constant surprises, and a streak of persistence that would serve her well in the Greek world of sorority life and the academic world of the classroom.

Danielle graduates with honors, with a major in Biology, and a minor in Women's Health Studies. Her interests in Women's Health Studies led to research work in the field of Public Health, serving as a research assistant during the summers just south of us in Columbus at the Ohio State University, where she helped with research into patterns of childhood obesity, especially in minority group populations. With graduation ceremonies set in Columbia, SC for the weekend of May 12-13, Danielle is looking forward to pursuing graduate studies in the area of Public Health.

The two universities that have attracted her attention are the Ohio State University in Columbus, and, a bit further south, Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. Emory has a strong connection with the Center for Disease Control, and would make a great place to study in the discipline of Public Health; but Ohio State offers a site closer to home, with professors she knows, and a program she's become familiar with through her summer assignments. As the church family in which Danielle's grown up, we extend our congratulations to Danielle, and share her parents' pride for the great work she's done, and for the person she's become. May God be praised!

GREAT NEWS FROM ZION'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

UPCOMING EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Sunday, May 13th: No Sunday School - Mother's Day Breakfast (between the services)

Sunday, May 13th: Zion's Children's Choir will be singing at 10:30 a.m. worship service

Sunday, June 10th: This is the Last Day of the 2006-07 Sunday School Year

Sunday, June 17th: First Sunday of Summer Sunday School Program: Water Works Park

Week of June 9-16: We head out for our Second Mission Trip to New Orleans

Week of July 16-20: Vacation Bible School at Zion all week long from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Zion's Children's Choir continues

The Children's Choir practices each Sunday from 9:10 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. before Sunday School. Their schedule for singing through the program year is as follows:

Sunday, May 13, at the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday, June 10, at the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday School: Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 6

During the month of May, we will continue our study of the Ten Commandments. There will be no Sunday School on Mother's Day, which is May 13, because we will all be enjoying a wonderful breakfast with our families hosted by the Men of Zion. This is such a wonderful tradition at Zion, and a great way to celebrate the women of Zion.

Sunday, June 10, will be our last Sunday of the 2006-07 Sunday School Year. We will sing at 9:10 a.m., finish our study of the Ten Commandments, and then have a short celebration to mark the end of a great year. On Sunday June 17, we will begin our Summer Sunday School Program. Join us at *Water Works Park* this summer as the kids ride the wave of God's love! The children will learn five water-based Bible stories throughout the summer. There will be great lessons, crafts, games and snacks! We look forward to a great summer as we enjoy riding the wave in our water park at Zion!

More Great News from Zion's Sunday School

Children's Easter Program & Easter Egg Hunt

The Children's Easter Program, *The Littlest Donkey*, was truly delightful this year! The kids did an outstanding job telling the Easter Story as a group of stablemates who saw the events of Easter unfold and unexpectedly encountered a "stranger" - the risen Lord! The music was also great as always!

First of all, we want to thank the children for all of their hard work and dedication to this year's program. We had a great time working on the play. Secondly, we would like to thank all of our parents for sharing your children and for your flexibility with all of our last-minute scheduling. We have an amazingly wonderful group of parents, kids, and volunteers, too.

Thank you as well to Suzanne Walters for your wonderful direction of the music, and to all of our Sunday School staff for your help! Tina Beaver, Lisa Frock, Ann Lemmo, Connie Riffle, Janet Slease, Melissa Riffle, Courlene Coulter and Vicki Givler - we truly appreciate all of your time and dedication to the children, not only for this year's Easter Program, but for everything you do! Also, thank you to Mary Humbert for helping with the costumes, and thanks to Brian Walters for helping with the sound system. Again, we have a great group of people who make our programs such a great success!

We would also like to thank everyone for their help with the Easter Egg Hunt this year! We hid over 500 eggs, thanks to those who filled the eggs with candy and Easter mementos. We had a great time on Easter Sunday, even with all of the snow! We are blessed to have such great parents and a great Sunday School Staff. Finally, I would also like to thank the Catechism class and High School youth for partnering with our youngest children to help them during the hunt!

Vacation Bible School at Zion

Mark your calendars! Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of July 16th - 20th. from

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join us as we Take the Plunge and make a Splash with Jesus! We will be going on a water park adventure and plunging into five splash points of Jesus' love: obedience, worship, courage, faith and service! It will be a great week of fun, fellowship and learning. As always, *we need plenty of volunteers to make our VBS a success.* Please contact Debbie Fox at 330-966-2433. If you're not available during that week, there are still many other ways to help. We will have donation cans, sign up sheets for food and supplies needed for the week, along with work days, too. We truly appreciate the support Zion's family gives for this great event!

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

We would like to thank everyone for their support of the Acme receipt program. We will be receiving a check for \$226.00 from Acme to go to our youth program. This was a great success in light of the changes that were made to Acme's program. We truly appreciate everyone for saving and bringing in all those receipts.

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

Old news is good news when it comes to great attendance at Council meetings. Laura Thompson, Carol Rossbach, Dave Palumbo, Jayne Schrader, Lorin Beaber, Sharon Stout, Steve Ross, Mary Humbert, Betty Tracy, Renee Schrader, Bob Lancashire, Cindy Ferry, and Pastor Sherwindt: all were present at our April meeting. Our first order of business was to review the *Treasurer's Report* for March. We had great income (\$22,565.55), along with significant expenses (\$21,649.49), helping us to cut our year-to-date operating budget deficit to \$6,398.95 heading into the second quarter.

The *Pastor's Report* documented our great support of the special services leading through Lent to Holy Week and Easter. The Sunday School, the Senior Choir and Praise Team, the Men of Zion, the Chancel Guild, the Youth of Zion, and our Church Council: all have played key roles in making our services great and support strong. With the celebration of Easter, it is on to the Steel Drum Band as our first fundraiser for our Sanctuary Renovation plan. Watch for more information as we move closer to the date for our Congregational Meeting on May 16.

Our special visitor for the evening was *Brian Walters*, Chairperson of our Property Renovation Task Force. Brian presented a video, which showed what could happen if we changed some of the color schemes in our Sanctuary, suggesting subtle ways of drawing more pop from the side walls, and complementing the strengths that are so evident in the cross and stained-glass that constitute the focal point of worship at Zion. Significant improvements are planned with new lighting and video projection. We could also see some marvelous changes by adding more stained glass in our Sanctuary

Lorin Beaber spoke for the Task Force that is working on coming up with a plan to upgrade our heating system. While we are not yet ready to recommend a specific plan, bids have been submitted that fix different aspects of our rather complex system for heating and cooling the church. Our boiler and hot-water heat is almost fifty years old; but our newer systems using forced-air heating and cooling are also between twenty and thirty years old. The more ambitious plan for fixing our present system involves replacing our boiler and replacing underground piping with above ground pipes. The more ambitious plan for *replacing* our present system involves moving more to forced-air for heating and cooling. It looks like the more ambitious options will enter the six-figure range, which suggests that once we have the bids in front of us, we may need some professional help to sort through a variety of issues like guaranteed performance, realistic expectations, the potential of cost overruns, projected costs associated with running the systems, and legal recourse should we run into problems.

Bob Lancashire indicated the North Canton Ministerial Association Coed Softball League

continues under his direction. We're looking to begin the season on May 6. The cost will again be \$350 per team.

HELPING NEW ORLEANS HEAL

All aboard! We're leaving from Zion on Saturday morning, June 9, and returning Saturday evening, June 16. The itinerary is the same as last year. We'll drive to Nashville on Saturday, and arrive at the Adullam Christian Fellowship in New Orleans on Sunday, where we will find indoor lodgings on site. Our work week begins on Monday. We will help with Operation Blessing, a ministry that serves a hot lunch daily, while also distributing food, drinks, and other daily necessities. There is also a need for construction details, as the rebuilding in Saint Bernard Parish goes on.

Last year's experience has given us the confidence of knowing that we will have a great time and richly rewarding experience. Persons young and old and in-between are invited to join us. The cost will be \$50 per person, with a maximum registration fee of \$100 per family. One of the high points of this year's trip will be our presenting checks totaling \$2,400 to our partners at the Adullam Christian Fellowship. These funds were raised when we *Dunked the Pastor* (and others) at our Pig Roast on Rally Day, and with our *Chili Cook Off* earlier this year.

We are looking for commitments. We hope to have a group of twenty-five missionaries looking to make a difference with time well spent in service to others. We've received interest from folks at St. John's in Canal Fulton, and have most of the folks from last year's trip back for an encore performance. Contact Pastor Sherwindt, Mark Votaw, or Steve and Linda Ross with any questions you might have about joining the group. Registration forms are available in the Church Office.

More Food in May

On Sunday, May 20th, we're looking for folks who would like to become Zion's Sunday Brunch Bunch. Our plan is to leave from church after the 10:30 a.m. service, and head for the Sunday Brunch Buffet at the 356th Fighter Group Restaurant, the area's only authentic WW II restaurant dedicated to honoring the heroes of the war. The all-you-can-eat buffet costs \$13.95 for adults and \$7.95 for children. There's a sign-up sheet in the Church Office for all who are interested in joining us.

MAY SENIOR BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to:

Gladys Miller

May 29

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Anniversary to:

Darlene & Lou Milavickas	May 8
Susan and Jim Whalen	May 9
Debbie & Dean Fox	May 21
Janet & Wayne Slesael	May 22
Evelyn & Larry Moore	May 23
Nikki & Brian Milek	May 24
Beverly & Jim Dansizen	May 28
Cheryl & Herb Beadle	May 30

THE MEN & WOMEN OF ZION

The Men of Zion will meet for dinner on the first Wednesday of the month, which is *May 2*, in Luther Hall, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The main order of business this month is planning our Mother's Day Breakfast. This has become a great tradition at Zion, and we need every-one's help to make it the best ever.

A Chancel Guild Work Day, which is set for Tuesday, *May 8*, beginning at 6:30 p.m., will focus on repairing our hymnals. Also, don't forget to mark Tuesday, June 12, on your calendar, when we will meet at the Waterford for lunch at Noon.

Zion's Comfort Givers meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, *May 10 and 24*, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Luther Hall. We enjoy coffee, conversation, and being filled with the feeling of knowing that we are helping others through the good that we do.

An Outdoor Cleaning Day at Zion, has been scheduled for Saturday, May 12, beginning with breakfast served by our Head Trustee, Chris Thomas. Our plan is to get the grounds looking great for our Mother's Day Breakfast. Everyone is invited to join in the fun, and in the work as well! That's Saturday, May 12, 8:00 a.m. 'til Noon.

The Women of Zion host their *monthly Bible study* on the third Tuesday of every month, which is *May 15*, when the focus will turn to Living Hope. To say that God has entered into our lives is a word of great hope. This means that neither suffering nor evil have the last word. How do we remember to trust that hope during hard times? How do we muster up the boldness to share that hope with others? These are the questions we'll take up when we meet in Luther Hall, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 15.

MANY, MANY THANKS

Dear friends in Christ,

This is just a note to thank Pastor Sherwindt for his visit to our home after my recent surgery. He brought a lot of reading material, a beautiful Easter lily, and Holy Communion. Also, thanks for your cards and prayers. I am slowly healing, with improvements each day. God is good. God bless you all.

*In His grace,
Sue & Al Whitmer*

Dear Pastor Sherwindt,

Thank you for your thoughtfulness. Your attending the Memorial Service for our mother was very much appreciated.

The family of Carolyn Jacobs

Dear friends at Zion,

We extend our thanks to Pastor Sherwindt and to everyone at Zion for praying for Amelia while she was at the hospital. It was a great comfort knowing that so many people were thinking about her. We're thankful that she's home and doing well.

*The Milek family
(Brian, Nikki, Lya, Kat, Wes & Amelia)*

THERE'S AN IMPORTANT RETIREMENT ON THE HORIZON

[Charlie Danner recently heard from Dan Lutz, who had an important announcement to make, and asked if we could help spread the news among those who would like to add to Pastor Lutz' joy.]

Dear Friends and Family at Zion Lutheran Church -

This June, our Dad will retire from the ministry. To commemorate this occasion and his thirty-eight years of service to the church, Sarah and I are putting together a collection of memories. Our hope is to gather reminiscences and well-wishes from the many people whose lives he has touched over the years.

Dad has a particular fondness for letters. In college, he told me, "Don't e-mail. Write me a letter. I like to have something to hold in my hands." Please help us honor him by sending him a letter.

Your best wishes and fond memories are welcome. Perhaps he officiated at your marriage, baptized your child, helped you through a difficult time. Maybe you have a funny story. Maybe you have a touching story ... an old photograph ... a new photograph ... a newspaper clipping ... a bulletin. Regardless of what you choose to send, our plan is to collect your letters, put them in a special collection, and present them to him on his retirement.

In addition to your letters, we need your help in contacting folks. The addresses Sarah and I have been able to find don't even begin to reflect the number of people Dad has pastored over the years. Please share this letter with people who know our Dad. You can find a copy of our letter on-line. Go to www.geocities.com/revlutz07, read the letter, and forward it to friends who may want to contribute to our collection of memories.

Our muse spoke late and time is of the essence. We are trying to collect as many letters as possible by June 1st. You can mail them to Jim Lutz, c/o Dan Lutz, 21 Dixie Trail, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27607. You may also direct any questions to me by phone at 919-538-1220, or e-mail me at daniel.j.lutz@gmail.com.

Thanks so much for your help with this request. Our hope is to present Dad with a special commemoration for his years in the ministry - one which will be a source of fond recollection for many years to come and a reminder of the tie that binds us all in Christian love.

Sincerely,
Dan Lutz

[Pastor Lutz served as Zion's Senior Pastor from 1985 to 1997, following the retirement of Pastor

Kurt Mueschke. These were great years at Zion, which included such highlights as burning the mortgage, purchasing the Reuter pipe organ, expanding the church staff to include a full-time Associate Pastor, celebrating Zion's 200th Anniversary. He left Zion ten years ago when he received a call to serve as the Pastor of Living Word Lutheran Church in Medina, Ohio.]
