

GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR:

The Internship Proposal passed; the 2014 Budget passed; and the Faceted Stained Glass Windows Proposal for the east wall of our Sanctuary passed, all with ease, and all sure to add more than a touch of celebration to our schedule of Bicentennial Anniversary events next year. Each of these proposals means something special for Zion. The Internship Proposal makes it clear that we want to improve what we are doing in the area of Youth and Family Ministries. This is not only our future, but our present as well. The 2014 Budget maintains our strong commitment to mission, while also looking to celebrate yet another year of budgets in balance, small surpluses, and our many special funds well funded for added emphasis and outreach, too.

I am especially heartened by the acceptance the work of the Faceted Stained Glass Windows Task Force has received, and I extend heartfelt thanks to the help offered by Carol Rossbach, Nick Lanzalotta, Mary Jo Robbins, Brian Walters, and Laura Thompson in pulling together hundreds of hours of investigation, conversation, exploration, imagination, and consultation as we came up with a unique set of faceted glass windows to add a finishing touch of beauty to the worship space we have come to call home in our Sanctuary. Our five windows follow the narrative of the church seasons. The Advent Window is pictured here on this page. It features the familiar symbols of Advent candles and the base of a wreath. The darker and lighter blues complement the colors of our Chancel Window. These colors also provide a common background for all five of our windows, adding an element of continuity that will visually strengthen the connection that extends from Advent through Pentecost.



The Christmas/Epiphany Window proclaims Jesus Christ as the light of the world, with the star over Bethlehem, the Babe in the arms of Mary and Joseph, and the gifts of frankincense, gold, and myrrh given by the Magi. These gifts point to the Lenten Window, which will display the upside-down world of a crucified Savior, with the palms of Palm Sunday and the crosses of Golgotha in view. The Easter Window proclaims the glory of the Cross and the victory of our Risen Lord, with Easter lilies and butterflies complementing the Good News of this message. This leads to the Pentecost Window, which connects the work of the Holy Spirit with the mission of the Church and God's embrace of the world. The symbols of heavenly dove, tongues of fire, and the earth embraced by God's love and glory are featured with this window.

We have selected Marchione Studios, located in Canton, to design, create, and install the windows. Each window will cost \$5,880.00, to be donated as bicentennial gifts in praise to God for two hundred years of growing in love and service through grace. These gifts will be placed in our newly created Bicentennial Gifts Fund, which will also help us fund the Intern we are hoping to get, along with some additional projects we have yet to approve. This is an exciting time for Zion, and our decisions on October 30th are signs of hope for a great year, along with evidence of the joyous gratitude that moves us to action as we thank God for all He has done for us, for all He has done in us, and for all He will continue to do through us in Jesus' name. Amen

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

Mark Votaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members in attendance: Juanita Cignetti (Council Secretary), Dave Palumbo (Treasurer), Cathy Harvey (Caring), Beth Shaheen (Resource), Carol Rossbach (Worship), Renee Keith (Learning), Vicki Givler (Parish Life), and Pastor Sherwindt. Brian Milek and Todd Elsass were excused.

The September Treasurer’s Report showed that we have now enjoyed surpluses for the last twenty-one consecutive months. Income for September exceeded expenses by \$615.84, which means that our year-to-date Operating Budget surplus has grown to \$3,588.49. While income is less than this time last year, expenses have been reduced by even more. We maintain healthy balances in all of our special funds. All is well. TBTG!

There were three main items of business on our agenda as we get ready for our *Fall Congregational Meeting*. We are again seeking congregational approval for moving ahead with our application for an Intern; we are seeking congregational approval for our Faceted Stained Glass Windows Proposal; and we are looking for formal approval of our 2014 Proposed Budget. So, join us for dinner and a meeting on Wednesday, October 30th.

FINANCIAL FACTS FOR SEPTEMBER

September Income	17,738.73
September Expenses	<u>17,122.89</u>
September Surplus	615.84
Income thru September	170,799.78
Expenses " September	<u>167,211.29</u>
Surplus thru September	3,588.49
2013 YTD Surplus	3,588.49
2012 YTD Surplus	6,187.91

We thank you for your generous support!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We began with a truly exceptional dinner, prepared by Dave Palumbo, with help from the Church Council. We stayed with the theme of pork left over from the Oktoberfest German dinners, and prepared them with a shake-and-bake flourish. A vegetable medley was added, along with warm-from-the-oven French bread. Tony Niesz added lots of pizzazz to our Council desserts with his special touch of cheese cakes and pies, along with a wide variety of cupcakes and cookies.

Once we determined that we met our quorum, the business part of our congregational gathering was called to order by Mark Votaw at 7:10 p.m. Pastor Sherwindt opened the meeting with prayer: *“O Lord our God, the heavens and earth cannot contain you, yet you are willing to make your home in human hearts. We are the temple of your presence and this building where we worship is the house of your church. Be present to guide your church and illumine our way.”* The Internship Proposal, the Faceted Stained Glass Windows Proposal, and our 2014 Proposed Budget were introduced, discussed briefly, and passed with ease. The meeting portion of our evening concluded at 7:29 p.m.

We then adjourned into Luther Hall so that we could join our Sunday School leaders and families who were enjoying Zion’s Annual Halloween Party. They took a brief break so that we could pick the winners of our 2013 Themed Basket Raffle. The Sunday School kids then continued with trick-or-treating, while the rest of us left with nothing but fond memories of a delicious dinner and a brief meeting, which put us on course to celebrate the dedication of some beautiful windows in our Sanctuary right around Easter! Our thanks to all who made the evening a great night for family fellowship and church business.

INTERNSHIP UPDATE

So, what did we learn from our experience with applying to participate as a Sponsoring Congregation with the Internship Program last year? First, we learned that we had a strong application here at home, with strong endorsements from the Northeastern Ohio Synod, and strong approval ratings from Trinity Lutheran Seminary. We met with two seminarians, one a single young man, the other, married with a daughter, two excellent candidates for ministry, and discussed the possibility of their serving with us and our serving them as their education in pastoral leadership took a contextual turn. We were deeply gratified for the opportunity, disappointed with the outcome, but encouraged to apply again, which is what we voted to do at the Congregational Meeting on October 30th.

The Internship Committee consists of Brian Milek (Convenor), Debbie Fox, Renee Keith, Connie Riffle, Janet Slease, Nick Lanzalotta, Mark Votaw, and Pastor Sherwindt. We will soon add a couple of new members to help us as we look to improve our application, and the plan we would like to put in place for improving what we are doing in the area of youth and family ministries. We have conducted a couple of workshops thus far to raise awareness about our need to make progress in planning a strategy. Toward that end, we will meet on Saturday, November 16th, in the Resource Center at 9:30 a.m.

The 2014 Budget includes \$11,000 in income for the program: \$4,833 from the Youth Fund, \$3,340 in Mission Support, and \$2,827 from the Pastor's Challenge. Expense-wise, we will have 2014 taken care of before the year arrives; but what is even better news is that we have already received generous donations that make 2015 well within reach!

MORE COUNCIL NEWS

Property Ministry: The stumps from three downed trees have been removed. Three sandstone blocks were replaced on the pillars outside the Narthex. Now, we're looking to replace the 300 watt incandescent bulbs in Memorial Hall with fixtures that will feature more efficient and less expensive florescent lights. Crafters assigned to tables in the gym loved the placement, but not the lighting. Since four of twelve bulbs or fixtures needed repairs or replacements, now seemed like an opportune time to improve our lighting in Memorial Hall. We are also looking ahead to an outdoor workday to collect leaves and clean rooftop gutters. Look for sign-up sheets in the Church Office, and plan to say *YES* when invited to join us.

Worship Ministry: Filling the Sanctuary with red for Reformation Sunday is always a stunning sight at Zion. Then comes the arrival of November and All Saints Sunday (November 3rd), when the bell is rung for all the saints who have been called home to heaven since this time last year. It is always timely to reaffirm the connection between our Lord's Resurrection and the victory of eternal life shared with all the saints. That faith is always tested – and celebrated – when the Sunday before Veterans Day turns our focus to the hard won realities of war and peace (on November 10th) as we do the best we can with the tools God has given in building a good world as we point to a better one with the arrival of God's perfect kingdom. On November 17th we lift up the witness of the women of the church with Thankoffering Sunday. Then, with the Festival of Christ the King Sunday on November 24th, we say goodbye to one more year on the church calendar, and look forward to another with the First Sunday in Advent on December 1st.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Our *Great Turkey Give-Away* is right around the corner, and those who are interested in donating turkeys need to think about getting them to us. We are more than happy to buy the turkeys, since we need so many of them, as in 95 of them this year; but whether you want to donate the cash or the bird, either are fine with us, just so long as we know how many we are going to need to order for the big day, which is Tuesday, November 19th.

Otherwise, we've had some really great support for the ministry of our *Food Pantry & Clothing Closet*. We would like to thank Cathy Harvey for her leadership, and Becky Aquilo, too, for her oversight of the Clothing Closet. The Food Pantry Crew has had to keep up with a larger number of families served, both because we have been heading into the holiday season and because we have seen a decrease in federal and state assistance through programs such as food stamps and the like. As these resources are decreased, the need for the services we offer increase.

One of the interesting sources of donated food items this month came through the efforts of Weight Watchers in the Target Plaza on Dressler Road. They sponsored a program called *Lose It For Good*, where a pound of food was donated for every pound lost. Almost 600 pounds of food were donated to our food pantry through their efforts. What a great surprise! We want to thank Susan Mattingly for finding a great way for motivating her folks to do well for themselves and good for the community at the same time. It certainly is timely, since we are entering into a period of increasing need. On that note, don't forget to help us with cranberry sauce and cranberry jelly as we prepare for our Great Turkey Give-Away.

ADVENT IS COMING!

It's too soon to think about Advent! I know, and I agree; but the calendar is what it is, and the calendar is telling us that our Advent Dinners are right around the corner. We've got a full month in November with All Saints Sunday, Veterans Sunday, Thankoffering Sunday, and Christ the King Sunday. But then with the 1st of December Advent begins. As many now know, for Zion that means the beginning for four Sunday Evening Advent Dinners and Devotions.

The First Sunday of Advent arrives at the end of Thanksgiving Weekend. Our Senior Choir Director, Fred Locker, while officially retired, is very active directing with the music department at Kent State Stark Campus. He has invited the Chorale to join us for the evening of December 1st. It should be a great service. Zion's Chancel Guild has been tapped to host our first dinner. Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m., with our devotional service set to begin at 6:15 p.m. We are making every effort to start this significant bicentennial year on a note of great strength. So stay tuned as details develop and information unfolds.

The Second Sunday of Advent will feature the Youth and Sunday School kids of Zion sharing the story of Christmas through Chrismons. Youth leaders and their families will host our dinner. That's December 8th. The Third Sunday of Advent will feature the Senior Choir and the Praise Team in a service of special music. Church Council will share responsibilities in hosting our dinner that evening, which is December 15th. The Fourth Sunday of Advent will feature the musical leadership of Carole Singer as we enjoy Christmas carols from around the world. The Men of Zion will take the lead in hosting dinner on that evening, December 22nd.

GREAT NEWS FROM ZION'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Sunday, November 3rd:** Celebration of Certificates with the Completion of Communion Class
Sunday, November 10: Thanksgiving Service Project for All Youth during Sunday School
Sunday, December 1st: The Advent Giving Tree is introduced with our First Advent Dinner
Sunday, December 8th: Youth, Parents, and Leaders host our Sunday Evening Advent Service
Saturday, December 14: Dress Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Program and a Pizza Party!
Sunday, December 15: Zion's Children's Christmas Program at the 10:30 a.m. service (only)

PRE-K THROUGH THE SIXTH GRADE

As we look to November and December, we will continue our normal Sunday School lessons at 9:15 a.m. each Sunday. We will also start practicing for this Christmas Program at the end of November. As usual, we will have reading and non-reading parts for all of our youth this year from ages 3 through High School. We look forward to a great program along with the great lessons they will continue to learn during the Sunday School Hour. This is a great time of the year for Zion's Sunday School children. They will have a lot of fun and learn so much. The Christmas Program will be performed at the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, December 15th. We will have dress rehearsal, our traditional Christmas Pizza Party, and wrapping of the Giving Tree gifts on Saturday, December 14th. (FYI: the Youth of Zion, their leaders and their families will host the Advent dinner on the Second Sunday in Advent, which is December 8th.)

ZION'S COMMUNION CLASS FOR KIDS



Every fall Zion offers an opportunity for kids during the 10:30 a.m. service: our *Communion Is For Kids* class. Each time we offer this class, we see more clearly the meaning of our challenge that we are not just learning *about the church*; we are learning *how to be the church*. Our sessions have centered on the question, "What do we need in order to be aware that we are ready to celebrate communion?" Our answer: "simply a believing heart."

Thank you to Chuck Danner for doing an outstanding job leading our *Communion Is for Kids Class*. We would also like to thank Debbie Fox, Miriam Keating, her daughter, Ronda, along with Eric Dague and David Pazarello for assisting Chuck during class. The children learn so much about God's love and grace through His WORD and the SACRAMENTS (Baptism and Holy Communion). We can never learn enough about the love God gives. All of us are deeply appreciative of the love that Chuck brings to these classes and to this topic. We will again celebrate our children with certificates on Sunday, November 3rd, during the 10:30 a.m. service.

MORE GREAT NEWS FOR ZION'S YOUTH

NEWS FROM THIS YEAR'S YOUTH HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY

This year's **Halloween Party** was wild & crazy and a lot of fun! We were a small group, but were still full of energy and fun! A big thank you to everyone who helped make the party such a great success – especially Janet Slease, Connie & Jeff Frank, Dean Fox, Cheryl Roman, Mark Votaw, and our youth helpers – Nathan Fox, Mallory Rhodes, Emma Shaheen, David Panzarello, and Matt & Taylor Chufar! We were able to enjoy the great Fall weather and had dinner outside, played some silly games and went on a pumpkin hunt. Then we headed inside to work on some crafts, creative pumpkin decorating, and enjoy a “haunted” maze.



A great big thank you goes out to Brian Walters, Jeff Frank, Nathan & Dean Fox, and Mark Votaw for setting up our haunted maze room. The kids had a great time and always look forward to this part of the party. We ended the night with Trick-or-Treating around our church. It was a great night! We would also like to thank everyone who donated items for the party and helped us Trick-or-Treat at the end. We truly appreciate everyone's time and donations.

THANKSGIVING YOUTH SERVANT EVENT



We will be working on our traditional Thanksgiving Service Projects during Sunday School this month. The kids will be making “specially decorated Thanksgiving bags” for the Food Pantry, which will serve as delivery bags for the holiday meals that go to 95 area families. We will have brown bags for all of the classes to decorate on November 10th during Sunday School; and we will then plan to fill these bags during Sunday School on Sunday, November 17th. As a part of this project, we're asking each family to donate a specific item that is needed for the bags. Also, please don't forget that November's *Food of the Month* for our pantry is canned Cranberry Sauce.

ANOTHER GREAT YOUTH MISSIONS CRAFT SHOW & OKTOBERFEST

Thank you to everyone for all of your help and hard work on the craft show. This year's show was once again a great success! A huge thank you goes out to Connie Frank & Jayne Schrader for organizing and heading up such a great event. They put in a lot of hours, along with Jeff Frank to make this year's show so successful! We would also like to thank our German Dinner Crew for all of their time and hard work as well. Thanks to Dale Jacobs, Dave Palumbo, Mark Votaw, Tony Niesz, Susan Everhart, and Eric Dague. The dinners were a delicious hit!

The Raffle Baskets created by the Sunday School classes were amazing again! We'd like to thank our teachers, the youth, and their parents for their donations for these baskets. We'd also like to extend special thank you's to Evelyn Moore and Susan Heyard for putting together the beautiful *Snowman Basket* and donating it to our youth for the Craft Show, and to Dave Zastawny from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, whose generous support for our youth included donating the Pink Ribbon Basket and renting a Craft Show table to share information about Thrivent. Our thanks to all! All we can say is that our Tenth Annual Youth Missions Craft Show & Oktoberfest was a huge success!

OUTSTANDING NEWS FROM OUR 2013 YOUTH MISSIONS CRAFT SHOW

- ☛ We extend a big thank you to Jayne Schrader, Renee Keith, Cassie Frank, Laura Thompson & Christopher, Kay Reiss, Shirley Cary, Jeremy Fox, John Rhodes & Marcus, Darlene & Eric Dague, all of whom helped in handling the bake sale and raffle tickets, in the kitchen, and with youth duties during the day of the Craft Show!
- ☛ We also extend another big thank you to the many volunteers who helped with set-up on Friday and tear-down Saturday: the Rhodes family, the Fox family, the Franks, the Riffles, Mark Votaw, Janet Slease, Jayne Schrader, and Bob Lancashire. This event takes a large group of committed volunteers, and we are so very grateful to everyone for their time and hard work.
- ☛ We especially want to give a shout out to Cassie Frank and Jeremy Fox,. They invested \$10.00 in making rubber band bracelets, which wound up adding over \$50.00 to our totals for the day! What a great use of talents! As our Lord once said, “Well done, good and faithful servants!”
- ☛ The Raffle Baskets were amazing once again! Thank you to our teachers, to the youth, and to their parents for donations for the baskets. We extend a special thank you to Evelyn Moore & Susan Heyard for putting together the beautiful *Snowman Basket*, and to Dave Zastawny of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, who donated the *Pink Ribbon Basket*.
- ☛ Raffle Basket winners were drawn after the Congregational Meeting on Wednesday, October 30th: Linda Lenz won the *Kids’ Fun & Rainy Day Basket*; Beth Shaheen & family won the *Sweet Treats Basket*; Linda Ramsell won the *Family Fun Night Basket*; Laura Weltz won the *Ohio State Fan Basket*; Gail Vogt won the *Snowman Basket*; and Edna Fischer was the winner of the *Pink Ribbon Basket*, which honored Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
- ☛ We would also like to thank the members of the congregation who donated items for the concessions and delicious bake sale items to help raise funds for the youth during the Craft Show. Your amazing support is always greatly appreciated! Thanks also to the youth for the delicious *chocolate covered oreos & pretzels* which they made for the bake sale.
- ☛ In terms of dollars and cents, when the final totals were tallied, our income from renting craft tables was \$2,240.00. The Bake Sale contributed \$319.00 to our totals. Tickets sold and donated for our German dinners, along with food sold at the Concession Stand totaled \$2,513.00. Last, but not least, our Themed Raffle Baskets produced \$745.00 in ticket sales. All of this adds up to \$5,817.00. Wow! When expenses are taken into account, our net proceeds from the 2013 Youth Missions Craft Show and Oktoberfest amounts to \$4,522.32! That’s right: over \$4,500.00!
- ☛ It is hard not to stand in awe at what our Craft Show has become. Ten years ago, it was just someone’s idea. Now, with our Tenth Annual Craft Show behind us, we can only praise God for an event that has given us an impressive legacy of funding for youth activities, Sunday School parties, mission trips, fun days, overnights, support for our Vacation Bible School, and now, significant support for our hope to receive an Intern through Trinity Lutheran Seminary!

AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR AMAZING SUPPORT OF ZION’S YOUTH!!!

THE WOMEN OF ZION

BLANKET SUNDAY was a great success when measured both by how beautiful the Sanctuary looked with the many colored quilts draping the pews and filling the Chancel on **October 6th** and by the results, namely, 65 quilts, 24 blankets, 27 school kits and 20 personal care kits. With the help of Carl Geib, Bob Lancashire, and Chris Thomas on Thursday, October 10th, these items were packed into 41 boxes, and readied for delivery to Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Seville by Saturday, where they became part of a larger shipment headed to places all over the world.

The Women of Zion celebrate their annual **THANKOFFERING SERVICE** on the Sunday of **November 17th**. This is an opportunity to lift up the ministry of women in the ELCA, and to honor the work done by women's organizations in ELCA congregations all over the country, including our own. *Love Offering* envelopes will be made available in the bulletin on Thankoffering Sunday. We are all invited to show our thanks with an offering of support for the work that is done by the Women of the ELCA. That's set on the calendar for Sunday, November 17th!

The monthly **Women's Bible Study** meets on **Tuesday, November 19th**, with our focus this month on *The Widow of Zarephath, a Trusted Follower*. This is the poor widow who was called to aid the prophet Elijah with her last bits of food. In response, she was surprised by a miracle. Take a look at the story in 1st Kings 17, and then take a look at Luke 14:16-28 to see what Jesus has to say about it. Please feel free to join the women of Zion in the Resource Center on the morning of November 19th at 9:30 a.m. You will enjoy great fellowship and some good discussion. See you there!

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Bishop Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt was elected to her first term as Bishop of the Southern Ohio Synod at their Synod Assembly in June (6-8). She has served as an Assistant to the Bishop since 1997, as Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Eaton, Ohio from 1995 to 2005, Peace Lutheran Church in Gahanna from 1990 to 1994, and Christ Lutheran Church from 1987 to 1990. Her Service of Installation took place in Weaver Chapel at Wittenberg University on Saturday, October 26th. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arizona in 1981 and her Masters of Divinity from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in 1986. She is married to the Rev. Brian Dillahunt, who serves as the Pastor of First English Lutheran Church in Lancaster, Ohio. They have one son, Nathanael. Bishop Dillahunt is the daughter of Carol Darcy, and the granddaughter of the late Pastor Walter Ruth. Pastor Ruth served as Zion's Senior Pastor from 1957 to 1968. Suzanne was baptized here at Zion, and spent the early years of her life here at Zion. We congratulate her for her election and calling, and look forward to her joining us as we celebrate some Confirmation Reunions during the Spring of next year.

Closer to home in the Northeastern Ohio Synod, we took some time on the afternoon of Sunday, October 20th, to share our best wishes at a farewell reception for **Bishop Elizabeth Eaton** at Faith Lutheran Church in Fairlawn. The afternoon came to a close with a Service of Evening Prayer during which Bishop Eaton formally removed her pectoral cross and placed it on the altar, a sign that her service as Bishop of our Synod had ended. She began her term as Presiding Bishop of the ELCA on November 1st.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Please help us provide 95 turkeys so we can offer a *full Thanksgiving dinner* for all of our food pantry families. You are welcome to donate turkeys, or cash so that we can purchase the turkeys. We need donations in place by November 17th to give us the time to make sure that our pantry clients receive the gifts we have for them. We also are lacking in the cranberry department. If each family could bring in a can of cranberry gel or sauce, that would be great.

When it comes to Thanksgiving, we not only serve our pantry clients, but also thirty-two of the Siffrin homes in Stark County! Siffrin homes are group homes for individuals with mental or physical disabilities. Our goal for Thanksgiving is *ninety-five 12-pound turkeys*. The turkeys are just a part of what we supply through the ministry of our Food Pantry. Every family is handed bags filled with stuffing, potatoes, vegetables, cranberry sauce, rolls, pies, and something to drink. We know that with your help, and God's, we will achieve our goal. Feel free to ask Cathy Harvey, or call the Church Office with any questions. Thanks for your support.

Speaking of community service, the North Canton Area Ministerial Association hosts our *Annual Community Thanksgiving Service* on Tuesday, November 26th, at St. Paul Catholic Church, which is located at 241 South Main Street in downtown North Canton. A community choir will rehearse at 6:00 p.m. The service begins at 7:00 p.m., with a reception to follow. There will be great music, excellent preaching, and clergy from all the area churches as we celebrate our sense of community and camaraderie in service. The offering will support the work of the Stark County Hunger Task Force.

DATES TO REMEMBER

The Resources of Thrivent: Between the services in Luther Hall on the morning of Thankoffering Sunday, which is November 17, Dave Zastawny from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will share some resources about the challenges of retirement, the importance of volunteer commitments, and the performance of Thrivent's mutual funds. Dave has also pledged to bring with him some resources that help us enjoy our time together, like coffee and donuts!

Don Hertler, Sr. Memorial Service: The North Canton Hoover High School Auditorium will provide the venue for the community to honor the life and remember the legacy of Don Hertler, Sr. Visitation has been scheduled for Saturday, November 30, from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A Memorial Service is scheduled for Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

A VETERANS DAY PRAYER

Today we honor our veterans, worthy men and women who gave their best when they were called upon to serve and protect.

We pray that you will bless them, Lord, for their unselfish service in the continual struggle to preserve our freedoms, our safety, and our country's heritage, for all of us.

Bless them abundantly for the hardships they faced, for the sacrifices they made, for their many different contributions to victories over tyranny and oppression.

We respect them, we thank them, we honor them, we are proud of them, and we pray that you will watch over these special people and bless them with peace and happiness.

In Jesus' name we pray; Amen