

GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR:

September has arrived, and a new program year has begun, announced with yet another fun and fabulous edition of our End-of-the-Summer Party! Thank you to everyone who found a way to join in this miracle of mutual support. Thank you to the Men of Zion, who grilled some extraordinary combinations of pork (of all sorts), shrimp, perch, and chicken, with hotdogs, brats, and just about everything else imaginable. Thank you to all for the extraordinary desserts, the great sides and salads, the snacks and drinks. Thank you to everyone who helped set up, serve, and clean up. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. And thank you for your generous support of our ministries of local assistance and local outreach, with a special focus on the work of the Stark County Hunger Task Force, our partner for fourteen years in helping neighbors in need through the ministry of our food pantry.

The weather turned out to be pretty much perfect. It was hot, to be sure, but with plenty of bottled water on hand, the cover provided by our pavilion, and a great group of friends and family, we couldn't have stumbled into a better way to spend a Sunday afternoon on Labor Day weekend. Thank you to Dave Palumbo, Dale Jacobs, Mark Votaw, Darlene Milavickas, Randy Cizek for the great tastes that came off your grills, to Tony Niesz for an array of truly incredible desserts, to Cathy Harvey for all she did to keep the kitchen clean and the buffet tables full, and to Todd Elsass for his help with set up and clean up. Thank you, too, to all of our Church Council members for selling and donating tickets; and thank you to all of the members who purchased these tickets, which turned great fun into an even better fundraiser because of the help we were able to offer brothers and sisters in need.

It is hard to put a value on the generosity of our grillers, because they donate all the food they grill, and we rarely see any of their receipts; but what we do know is that Zion's members purchased over two hundred tickets, and helped us raise over \$2,000.00 through our End-of-the-Summer Party! \$1,000.00 will be given to the Stark County Hunger Task Force, which has recently embarked upon a fundraising campaign seeking to raise \$250,000.00! It'll be nice to surprise them with our fair share and a healthy step forward. It is important to remember that one in four children in Stark County is hungry. 10% of our seniors need food assistance. More than 2,200 children are served each month through Stark County Hunger Task Force programs that offer food assistance, and 27,000 individuals total are served each month through a network that involves 30-plus local food pantries all across Stark County, including Canton, Massillon, Canal Fulton, Beach City, Jackson Township, Perry Township, Plain Township, Louisville, Alliance, Canton South, Minerva, Waynesburg, East Sparta, and, of course, North Canton, where our food pantry has been in operation for more than fourteen years.

What a great way to end the summer: having fun, eating well, and doing good, and all for a good cause, assisting neighbors in need as we kick off another program year! Sunday School Classes for all ages begin with class sessions during the Sunday School hour on September 13th. When September gives way to October, there's Blanket Sunday, the Youth Missions Craft Show, Reformation Sunday, and a Congregational Meeting, which leads to All Saints Sunday, Thankoffering Sunday, Christ the King Sunday, and the beginning of Advent. The journey of life in Christ at Zion continues. So let's get focused on the work God is calling us to do.

RALLY DAY AND THE START OF SUNDAY SCHOOL



THE KICK OFF TO A GREAT YEAR: This year's Rally Day will be Sunday, September 6th. It is going to be a great event filled with fun and fellowship! Rally Day will take place between services in the gym starting at 9:15 a.m. There will be games, a service craft, refreshments, and more for the Sunday School kids who join us. We will also have lots of information to share with parents, along with the necessary forms for Sunday School. So, we'll see you at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, September 6th, as we kick off the new Sunday School year!

We are asking all of Zion's older youth (from the 7th through the 12th grades) to help out with this event. (Anyone else who might be interested in helping is also invited.) We will need helpers to set up, to lead our games and activities, and to tear down. Set up will begin at 8:30 a.m., and our activities will start at 9:15 a.m. Any help that you can offer during these times will be greatly appreciated.

THE NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR: We are looking for new volunteers to help with teaching and leading our Sunday School classes and activities. It is always great to have new and fresh ideas for our program. If you are interested in being a teacher, a classroom helper or a substitute for any of our grades (Pre-K thru 12), please contact Debbie Fox at (330) 966-2433. It is such a rewarding and enjoyable opportunity to share God's love and His Word with Zion's Youth!

PRE-K THROUGH 6TH GRADE: As we look forward to Rally Day and the start of the new Sunday School Year, we are planning a year of great lessons and activities, along with our Christmas and Easter Programs. We will have our traditional Halloween Party, service projects at Thanksgiving and Christmas, and other fun events this year! Our children's classes are for kids from age 3 through the 6th grade. We're excited about the lessons and are looking forward to a year full of fun and learning. Classes begin September 13th.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Confirmation Class will start on Sunday, September 13th, 9:15 a.m. in the Resource Center. This class is for all 7th and 8th graders. It is an important time for this age group, and we encourage regular attendance each Sunday for these two years before our younger members are confirmed at the end of 8th grade. We have a nice group, with eight Confirmands returning from last year: Justin Dague, Jeremy Fox, Cassie Frank, Chrissy Nicholson, Emma & Jacob Parkomaki, Marcus Rhodes, and Casey Walters. Wow! Renee Keith will again lead our Catechism class. This year we will begin a new Confirmation program called *Colaborate*. We are very excited about the change. The kids will have great discussions and learn all about our Lutheran faith. Thank you to Renee for her continued support and commitment to our kids.

OUR HIGH SCHOOL CLASS: Our High School Class will also start on Sunday, September 13th, at 9:15 a.m. Laura Thompson and Mark Votaw have signed on to lead our High School Class again this year. As with the Confirmation Class, we will have a new curriculum for this group, too! We encourage all of our High School students to join us on Sunday mornings. You'll be glad you came; and so will we.

AUGUST'S BUDGET SURPLUS

This year has had its ups and downs, with end-of-the-quarter reports helping to push us into the black. So, while July with its four summer Sundays left us in the red, August, with its five Sundays, produced a small surplus; and we look forward to September getting us back into the black for the year. Our August Council meeting was short and to the point: let's make the *End-of-the-Summer Party* count; and let's get to work on preparing our 2016 Proposed Budget Guidelines. President Mark Votaw called us to order at 7:02 p.m. Also present were Dave Palumbo, Jayne Schrader, Randy Cizek, Janet Slease, Jim Fidler, Heather Hoffman, Todd Elsass, Pastor Sherwindt. We adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

July's monthly deficit of (\$962.48) left us with a year-to-date deficit of (\$351.60). When it comes to summing up August, it looks like we enjoyed a small surplus of \$16.93 for the month, which brought the year-to-date deficit to (\$334.67). With your generosity and support, there is a good chance that we will make up this ground as we get things going again in September.

ZION'S FINANCIAL FACTS IN JULY

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| July Income | \$ 15,367.32 |
| July Expenses | \$ 16,329.80 |
| July Deficit | \$ (962.48) |
| Income through July | \$ 114,508.90 |
| Expenses thru July | \$ 130,227.82 |
| 2015 YTD Deficit | \$ (351.60) |
| Food Pantry Fund | \$ 7,885.24 |
| Zion's Youth Fund | \$ 6,889.44 |
| 2015 Advanced Giving | \$ 4,500.00 |

We thank you for your generous support!

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

End-of-the-Summer Party: Randy Cizek, Social Outreach Elder, embraced the role of griller-in-chief; Heather Hoffman, Parish Life Elder, signed on to work with Jayne Schrader on coordinating of sides & desserts; Dale Jacobs, Worship Ministry Elder, offered to add his culinary expertise to the mix; Todd Elsass, Property Ministry Elder, planned to help with set up and clean up; and Mark Votaw, President, was happy to preside over and contribute to what was originally his idea way back when. When all was said and done, we sold a lot of tickets, enjoyed some great food, and raised a good bit of money for neighbors in need.

Caring Ministry: While Ron Tvorik is still recouping from quadruple bypass surgery, he and his family joined us for the big party; and Ron felt great about the attention we were able to bring to the ministry of our food pantry, with quite a few of the persons we serve through this ministry present at this party as our guests! We also made sure that the Stark County Hunger Task Force shared in our success by making them a major recipient of the funds we raised! Cathy Harvey continues to serve as the Director of our Food Pantry; and we are grateful for all that she does to keep everything operating smoothly and efficiently.

ZION'S FINANCIAL FACTS IN AUGUST

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| August Income | \$ 16,619.09 |
| August Expenses | \$ 16,602.16 |
| August Surplus | \$ 16.93 |
| Income through August | \$ 146,495.31 |
| Expenses thru August | \$ 146,829.98 |
| 2015 YTD Deficit | \$ (334.67) |

We thank you for your generous support!

SOME PARSONAGE NEWS

We took the time to form a special working group to organize some of the questions needing to be addressed as we consider various options for the next chapter of the parsonage, namely, whether to keep it, or seek authorization to sell it. Preparing to sell the parsonage requires things like appraisals, inspections, decisions about presentation and maintenance related repairs and improvements. Preparing to keep it as an asset and a resource also involves decisions about repairs and improvements. Members participating on this working group include Randy Cizek, Mark Votaw, Jim Fidler, Dave Palumbo, Carl Geib, Todd Elsass, Darlene Milavickas, and Pastor Sherwindt. Gordon Le Beau has also been very helpful in moving the conversation forward. Many members have been consulted in our seeking to understand the history of the parsonage. We appreciate how willing so many have been in sharing their thoughts on how to proceed. Stay tuned. We'll want to make sure that we keep everyone informed as questions explored become clarity restored.

Learning Ministry: Janet Slease reported that Vacation Bible School was a great success thanks to the many members and friends of Zion who contributed to our effort. Turnout was good, support was great, and the week went superbly. The children raised \$389.63 in daily offerings, and the quilt raffle added another \$111.00, bringing our total raised to \$500.63! Half of this will go to the *Make-A-Wish Foundation*, and half will remain here with the food pantry. The 2015-2016 Sunday School year will soon begin with Rally Day set for September 6th, and the beginning of classes for all ages on September 13th. We thank all of our teachers for their dedication and much needed assistance as we turn our attention to the new Sunday School year.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Last year we began September with review of *Luther's Small Catechism*, which was led by Jeff Hissong. Jeff is very engaging and downright exciting in the classroom. He loves to teach; his preparation is simply unparalleled. This year we begin the Adult Class with a series aimed at helping us appreciate Martin Luther's convictional commitment to a defining Protestant principle, *Sola Scriptura*.

Many of us are familiar with a recurrent Protestant refrain, *Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Sola Scriptura*. Luther helped to make this refrain famous. In English, we would say, GRACE ALONE, FAITH ALONE, SCRIPTURE ALONE. The point is to set these theological themes apart as anchors, pillars, foundational principles, affirmations of the highest priority. God's grace, not our religious rituals, is what makes salvation possible. The gift of faith, not our works of obedience to God's Law, is the key to our access to God's gift of salvation. Holy Scripture, not religious traditions or sacred institutions, is the most important guide for faith and life.

Many of us may be more or less aware of the three great SOLAS in the Protestant tradition. What we may not know is that there were as many as five great SOLAS identified among Protestants. In addition to *Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Sola Scriptura*, many Protestants also lifted high the affirmations of CHRIST ALONE and SOLELY TO THE GLORY OF GOD: otherwise known as *Solus Christus* and *Soli Deus Gloria*. Jeff's interest is not in teaching us all Latin; rather, Jeff knows that these themes continue to anchor our lives in the truth of the gospel, and help us to see how central God's grace is to everything we believe. Jeff Hissong can really engage, and he can teach, too. Make it a point to join us for Sunday School. You'll be glad you did; and so will we.

GREAT NEWS FROM ZION'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Sunday, September 6th:** Rally Day Festivities fill the morning. Let's start with a bang!
Sunday, September 13: The 2015-2016 Sunday School Year begins today at 9:15 a.m.
Saturday, October 17th: 2015 Youth Missions Fall Craft Show, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

FALL OKTOBERFEST YOUTH MISSIONS CRAFT SHOW NEWS

The Craft Show will be here before we know it. So we are planning to start working on the youth's projects this month. We will once again put together raffle baskets from the Sunday School classes. Classes will receive their basket themes as we get the new Sunday School year rolling with Rally Day on September 6th, and the start of classes the next Sunday. We would like all items to be donated for the baskets by Sunday, October 4th. Tickets for these baskets will go on sale in October. All of our youth will be asked to donate items to any of the themed baskets. For each donated item, a child will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win one of the baskets or one of the raffle items at the Craft Show. This year's themed baskets are *the Ohio State Fan Basket, the Family Fun Basket, and the Sweet Treats Basket*. By the way, just in case you may not have known, Dave Zastawny, our Thrivent Representative, has already taken the initiative to donate what will become our *Pink Ribbon Basket*. Thank you, Dave Zastawny, and thank you to everyone for any and all donations to these baskets.

The youth of Zion will again host a bake sale at the Craft Show. Their project this year will be making items like chocolate-covered pretzels, chocolate-covered oreos, and much more. We will also be asking for additional baked goods from our Zion family to help round out the Bake Sale Table. The youth will also be selling tickets for our delicious German Dinners, which will again be available during the Craft Show. There will be tickets available for pork or brat dinners for \$8.00 each. Our High School youth and Confirmants will also be selling tickets before and after services starting at the end of September. Tickets can be purchased or donated to help those who may not be able to buy their own dinner tickets. Our *Twelfth Annual Craft Show* will take place on Saturday, October 17th, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a great event at Zion, which helps our youth program, and we need lots of help to make it a success. There will be sign-up sheets in Luther Hall later in September for volunteers, bake sale items, and other food items we will need. We encourage everyone to help. We truly appreciate your support of Zion's youth!

AN ACME COMMUNITY CASH BACK PROGRAM UPDATE

It's that time of year again! We are collecting Acme receipts again to help Zion's Youth. This year Acme's *Community Cash Back Program* has already started. It runs from August 20, 2015 through January 6, 2016. A collection jar is located in the Narthex. Please bring in your Acme receipts dated from August 20th through January 6th. Again, thanks for your support!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women of Zion will begin a new Bible study when they meet on the third Tuesday, which is *September 15*. The Rev. Liv Larson Andrews, Pastor of Salem Lutheran Church in Spokane, WA, hopes to take the *rush* out of our experience of time, and replace it with the kind of *Sabbath rest* that brings a sense of refreshment to life. The new series is entitled *Sabbath Keeping*, and Session 1 focuses on *Slow Faith*. I love the funny story that Pastor Liv recalls from 1986. She writes, "When McDonald's planned to open a restaurant on the Spanish Steps in Rome, Italian townspeople took to the streets holding bowls of penne pasta and signs that read, 'We don't want fast food! We want slow food!'" What's the pace we seek in life? The world around us says fast and hectic; but peace within and peace with others requires something other than faster and faster. That's the point of Sabbath rest.

Session 1 begins with the possibility that *slow is the new fast*. Part 1 looks for the rhythm of life given in creation by reading Exodus 20:8-11. Part 2 examines the rhythm of life given with freedom by reading Deuteronomy 5:12-15. *Remembering the Sabbath day to keep it holy* is the challenge posed by Session 1. It seems quite literal in its meaning; but its implications can be more than just squeezing in some time for worship. In *Living the Sabbath: Discovering the Rhythms of Rest and Delight*, here's how Norma Wirzba puts it: "When we become a Sabbath people, we give concrete expression to an authentic faith that is working to deflate the anxious and destructive pride that supposes we have to 'do it all' by ourselves and through our own effort." Faith can help; but we must give God room to operate. Join us in the Resource Center on *Tuesday, September 15th*, 9:30 a.m.

MORE WOMEN'S NEWS

Zion's Comfort Givers return to their regular schedule of meeting on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, *September 10 & 24*, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Luther Hall. We are heading toward Blanket Sunday in October, when we gather up a year's worth of service and send blankets and quilts around the world through the efforts of Lutheran World Relief. We can really use more help, so surprise us with your presence. You'll enjoy the coffee and conversation; but mostly you'll enjoy being filled with the feeling of knowing that we're helping others through the good we do.

The Women of Zion thank you in advance for your help with School Kits and Personal Care Kits. PERSONAL CARE KITS include a bath-size towel (approximately 52" X 27", darker colors recommended), 2 bath-size bars of soap (4 to 5 oz.), an adult-size toothbrush (in its original packaging), a sturdy comb, and a metal nail clipper. SCHOOL KITS include four 70-sheet notebooks, one 12-inch and 30-centimeter ruler, a pencil sharpener, blunt scissors, 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, 5 black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink), a box of 16 or 24 crayons, an eraser 2 ½ inches in length, and a sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps. Don't forget that cash donations are as useful as your shopping for the items. We'll be happy to do the shopping if you provide the cash!

Blanket Sunday is Sunday, October 11th.

After that, we'll pack up our blankets and quilts during the week, and, along with our Personal Care Kits and School Kits, drive them to Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Seville on Saturday, October 17th. From there, these items are coordinated by Lutheran World Relief for distribution all over the world.

ZION'S SENIOR CHOIR

 We have been extremely blessed in so many ways, with a wonderful group of singers dedicated to lifting up a joyful noise at worship through the ministry of our Senior Choir, and with so many talented musicians who can lead, direct, and accompany. This past year, after we lost Fred Locker and Phil Lehenbauer to retirement, Jon and Barb Elsass stepped in with the Senior Choir and gave us an entire year of exceptional interim service. Individually and together, they have blessed us with their love for music, their love for singing, their love our Lord, and their love our church. We were blessed with their willingness to step up and stand out during a time of change and transition.

During the summer we spent some time inviting applications, conducting interviews, and making the decision to hire – yet again – Suzanne Walters as Zion's Senior Choir Director. Suzanne is also used to stepping up and standing out when it comes to music at Zion. We're all familiar with her love for Zion and her talents as a musician; but she has added a few things to her resume over the past several years, like earning a Master of Education in Choral Music from the University of Akron, teaching and lecturing at the university level, and becoming a Master Teacher in the State of Ohio. She took on added responsibilities with the Cleveland Orchestra Children's choruses, and with the Ohio Music Education Association, too.

The choral year is set to begin, and the Senior Choir resumes rehearsals on **Wednesday, September 2nd**. Our rehearsals run from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Our first Sunday to sing will be **Sunday, September 13th**. We'd love to have additional voices join us this year. If you're interested, just join in the fun, by joining us on Wednesday evenings. 

MY FOURTEENTH YEAR

When June 15th rolled along this summer, I began my fourteenth year as Zion's Pastor. When July 24th rolled along, yet another milestone arrived: I turned sixty-four. I was nicely surprised to discover, thinking back to an old-time Beatles' hit, that my beautiful wife of almost forty years did, in fact, still need me, or, at least, was willing to still feed me, even at the age of sixty-four. My point is that the year that follows sixty-four is sixty-five, and I will turn sixty-five next July. That means more than including my own name among the *Senior Birthdays*. It means that retirement is just around the corner.

Yes, I know that I look younger ... and I feel great. Still, it is standard practice in the ELCA – expected, although not required – that a pastor will retire at the age of sixty-five. This is especially the case when a pastor has served a longer and stable tenure.

Fourteen years counts as a longer tenure, and eleven straight budgets in balance is about as stable as it gets. Pastors who serve in a congregation for a lengthy tenure display staying power and accumulate influence. So it is especially incumbent on pastors with long and stable tenures to step aside, to retire, and let the congregation move on with new leadership. You have blessed me with your support throughout our many years together; and I want to make sure we are all on the same page as we prepare for these transitions.

I write this now because Council is busy preparing the 2016 Budget; it will soon become common knowledge that we have figured out my pastoral compensation are based on *seven months* of service, and then five months with interim pastoral ministry. This doesn't mean that anything is wrong. It simply means that when I'm 65 next July, God willing, retirement awaits and another chapter in my life begins.

SOME CONFERENCE EVENTS

The Canton-Massillon Chapter of LMM (Lutheran Men in Mission) invites you to an ANNUAL STEAK/CHICKEN FRY at Israel's Lutheran Church in Paris, Ohio on **Saturday, September 19th**, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meal includes a choice of steak or boneless chicken breast, with baked potato, coleslaw, bread & butter, and dessert. The cost is \$15 for steak or chicken. If you plan to attend, call in your reservation to Bernie Bresson at 330-704-3449 (cell), 330-875-2362 (home), or by email: LMM6Bres@gmail.com.

Women's Fall Gathering for the Canton-Massillon Cluster: Saturday, September 26th, from 9:00 a.m. to Noon, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Massillon. Guest speakers will be Pastors Dan Cammarn and Anne Paynter, husband and wife, and they will talk about *Wit and Wisdom*. In-kind gifts of lap robes for St. Luke residents and canned goods for the Stark County Hunger Task Force are invited. The cost for registration is \$8.00.

St. Jacob Lutheran Church/Mudbrook St. celebrates their bicentennial anniversary on Sunday, September 27th, with a meet-and-greet at 10:00 a.m., worship at 10:30 a.m., and a catered lunch to follow at 11:30 a.m. Tickets for the catered luncheon (\$10 for adults, \$5 for children) are available through their church office. Call 330-833-2960.

NEOSWO Biennial Convention is set for Saturday, October 10th, at Grace Lutheran Church in Wadsworth. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m., with breakout sessions, Bible study, information workshops, and worship with Bishop Abraham Allende preaching and presiding. Registration is \$40.00, which includes lunch, as well as breakfast, and childcare upon request.

MORE IMPORTANT DATES

The Steering Ministry gets us ready for the new program year by meeting in the Pastor's Office on **Tuesday, September 1st**.

Zion's Senior Choir keeps it going by having scheduled its first rehearsal of the choral year on **Wednesday, September 2nd**.

Rally Day kicks off of a new Sunday School year and our **End-of-the-Summer Party** keeps the fun going with good friends and great food on **Sunday, September 6th**.

Zion's Church Council meets in Luther Hall at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, September 8th**.

Zion's Comfort Givers resume by meeting in Luther Hall on **Thursday, September 10th**.

The 2015-2016 Sunday School year formally begins with classes for all ages between the services on **Sunday, September 13th**.

Zion's Senior Choir sings for the first time this year at the 8:00 a.m. service on **Sunday, September 13th**. Suzanne Walters directs.

YOUTH NEWS AND MORE

Sunday Night Live is a collaborative youth ministry in the Canton-Massillon Conference, which invites all youth from 6th grade to the 12th grade to join together and attend a once-a-month gathering that will involve all of our congregations in the Canton and Massillon area. The idea has been in development for over a year; and we've got a full year's worth of dates on the calendar. It's a Sunday evening program, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and while the place will change, the constants will be great fun, creative worship, delicious food, and service to others. On Sunday, October 4th, we'll meet at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Massillon. On Saturday, November 7th, we'll join the youth at St. Stephen Martyr in Jackson, when *Agape* will perform. On Sunday, December 6th, we'll be at Peace Lutheran Church in Canton South. On Sunday, January 17th, we're back at St. Stephen Martyr, but this time without *Agape*. On Sunday, February 14th, we're at St. Jacob's on State Street here in North Canton. On Sunday, March 13th, we'll go to Christ Lutheran Church in Massillon. On Sunday, April 10th, it's Zion Lutheran on Raff Road. Finally, on Sunday, May 1st, it's not a church, but Cliff's Farm for fun with faith and food.

The 2015 Bishop's Gathering will be All Saints Sunday, November 1st, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (2551 55th St. NE). The Rev. Dr. Walter Taylor, Ernst and Edith Orgram Professor of New Testament Studies at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, will be on hand to thank congregations throughout the ELCA, and especially in northeast Ohio, for their support of Trinity Lutheran Seminary, in particular, and theological education in general. He is calling this his THANK YOU TOUR. All of us are invited to attend. It should be really enjoyable.

THANK YOUS TO ZION

Dear Pastor and friends at Zion,

I appreciate so very much your prayers and cards sent to me during my recent hospital stay and subsequent recovery. Ron and I would also like to thank Pastor Sherwindt for his visits and prayers.

*Love,
Carole Singer*

Dear friends at Zion Lutheran Church,

The congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church, Lakeside/Marblehead, Ohio, wishes to thank you for your generous monetary gift in memory of Mrs. Nancy Meuschke.

*Your friends in Christ,
St. John Lutheran Church
Elliot and Stone Streets*

(By the way, we had a nice response to our invitation to combine many individual memorials into one larger gift to St. John's in Nancy's memory. If you'd like to be listed among those who contributed to our gift, simply make a donation to Zion's Memorial Fund in Nancy's memory. It's that simple; and your donation is still invited.)

We don't yet have the official thank you, but I heard through Cathy Harvey, Zion's Food Pantry Director, that when she presented our \$1,000 check to Amy Weisbrod, Executive Director of the Stark County Hunger Task Force, Amy could not have been any more excited and grateful for the strong show of support such a check represents. It was the kind of joy that made Cathy glad that she decided to deliver the check in person rather than send it in the mail. It is very satisfying to know our gifts mean so much to our partners in our fight against hunger in Stark County.
