

Zion Lutheran Church  
349 Lindy Lane NW  
North Canton, OH 44720  
An ELCA Congregation

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# THE ZION HERALD

Proclaiming Good News

May 2017

JOIN US FOR MOTHER'S DAY  
BREAKFAST, MAY 14, 2017  
AT 9:30 AM

*Happy Mother's*

REMEMBERING OUR HEROS  
MAY 28, 2017



*we remember your sacrifice today. & every day.  
on this memorial day.....*

**THANK YOU!**

**Worship Services**

Sunday Morning: 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
Sunday Morning: 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service

**Sunday School Classes**

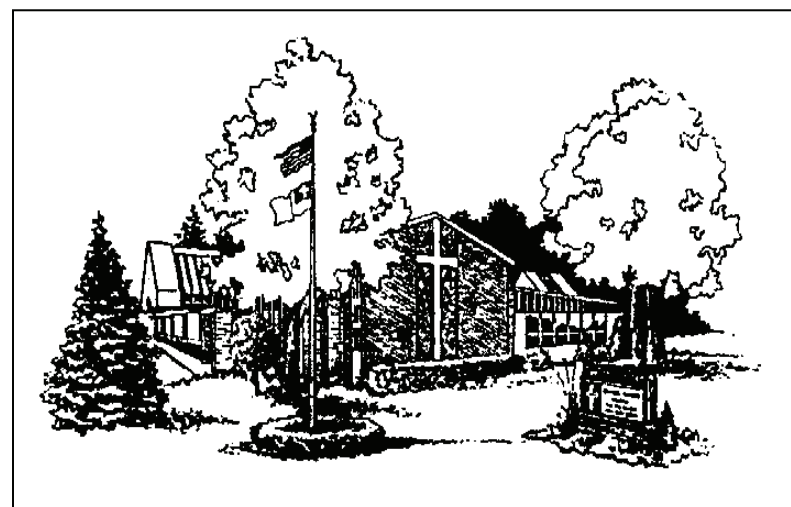
(Adult Discussion) 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.  
(Classes: All Ages) 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

**Church Office Hours**

Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Hal Robarge 330-499-3913  
Church Office Secretary: Vicki Givler 330-499-3909  
Church Office Secretary E-Mail: vicki.givler@yahoo.com  
Praise Team Leader: Suzanne Walters 330-497-8996  
Christian Ed. Director: Debbie Fox 330-966-2433  
Chancel Flowers: Jayne Schrader 330-904-8300  
Church Office Fax Number 330-499-0801  
Prayer Chain: Kay Davis 330-494-6267  
Prayer Chain: Email stitchandsewk810@sbcglobal.net

[www.ZionEvangelicalLutheranChurch.org](http://www.ZionEvangelicalLutheranChurch.org)





*A Message from Pastor Hal*

***My Very Best to You,  
Dear Friends in Christ,***

Wow! What a great week of worship during Holy week and Easter! The problem was that I could not be there to celebrate with you. From what I heard, all went well. See what you all can do even without the presence of your interim pastor. Please don't get any ideas from that statement.

I thank God for the support from the Northeastern Ohio Synod, particularly Pastor Carl Biermann, and the supply pastor Landis Coffman for the great job he did.

I thank you for your prayers, cards, and text messages sent on my behalf. I was diagnosed as having atrial-fibulation and fluid on my lungs. The doctors did a cardiac inversion to get my heart back in rhythm and got most of the fluid drained from my lungs. Margie, my wife, had atrial-fibulation about a year ago. She also had a cardiac inversion and was in and out of the hospital on the same day. Don't know what that means. It is good to be back!

The month of May we will begin to use our Lay Eucharistic ministers to take the Eucharist on the days we celebrate Holy Communion at our worship services to our sick and shut-ins. This is a vital ministry to them – it lets them know they are not forgotten and are still an important part of our family. If you know of anyone who would like to receive this sacrament, please let me or the secretary know and we will be glad to take the Eucharist to them. At other times, during the week, I will take Communion to them. Our Lay Eucharistic ministers are: Mark Votaw, Juanita Bothal, Ron Tvorik, and Miriam Keating.

I will take the last two weeks in May as part of my vacation. We are going to have a garage sale. We have too many "treasures" and other "stuff" about which we need to divest ourselves and in which others may desire to invest.

SUNDAY IS COMING and with it the opportunity to invite others worship, grow and serve... THESE ARE STILL TERRIFIC TIMES FOR WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION ... times we remember that God came to earth as our Savior and rose from the grave in victory over sin, Satan, and death!

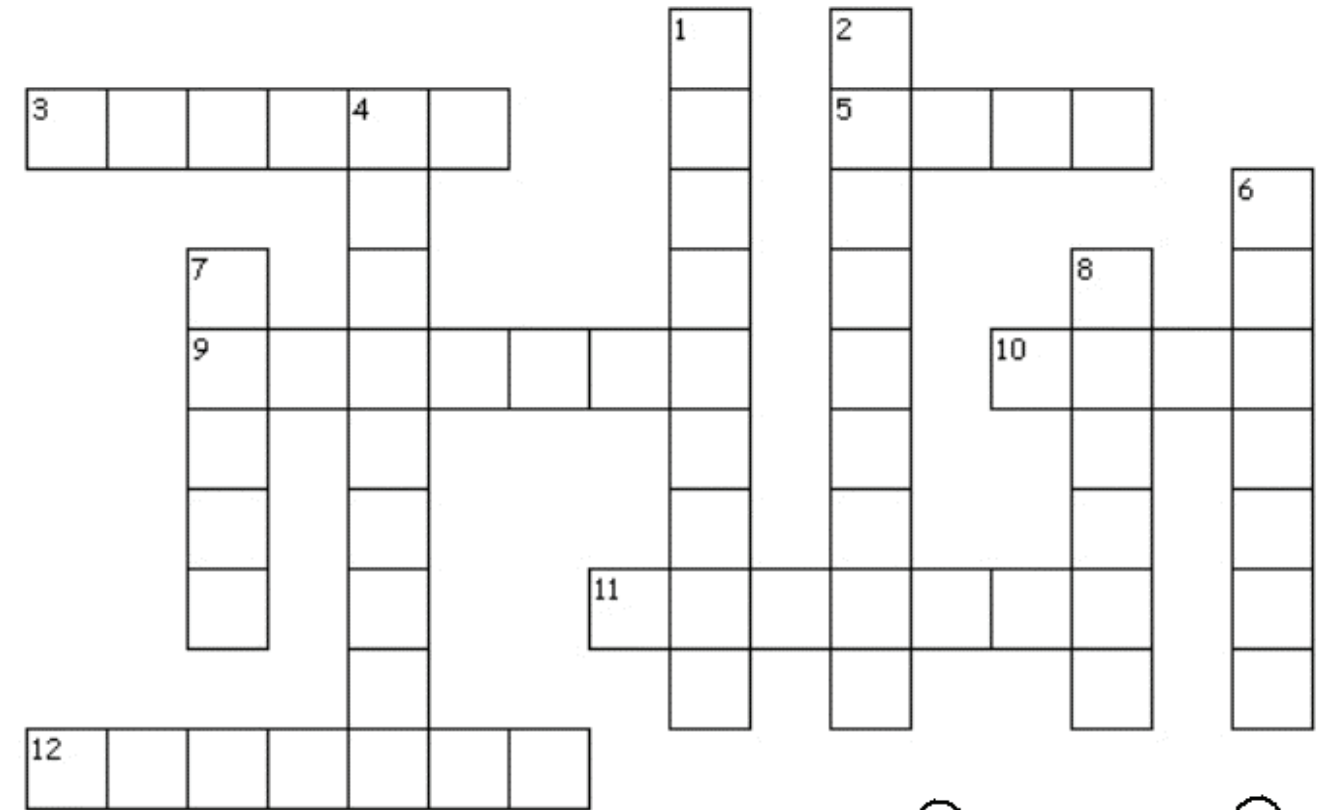
THESE ARE SPECIAL TIMES... it's God's time and GOD'S SPECIAL PEOPLE gather faithfully to worship him each Lord's Day. You are invited and encouraged to be present each Sunday at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. for worship and 9:15 a.m. for study.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our exciting worship services with a smile on your face and a friend by your side whom you brought with you!

*God bless and love you abundantly,*

*Pastor Hal*

# Mother's Day Crossword



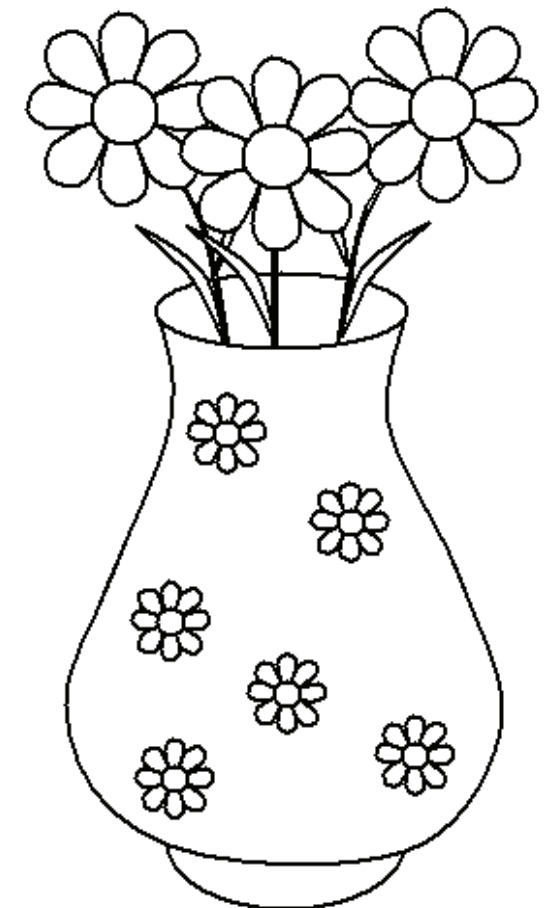
**Word List:** awesome, brunch, candy, celebrate, chocolate, flowers, hugs, love, mother, nurture, present, wonderful

**Across**

- 3. Special meal between breakfast and lunch.
- 5. Tight squeeze.
- 9. Inspiring awe.
- 10. The feeling mom has for her children.
- 11. To help someone grow up.
- 12. A bouquet of these will make mom's day!

**Down**

- 1. Amazing or astonishing.
- 2. Mom's favourite cocoa indulgence.
- 4. To engage in festivities.
- 6. A gift.
- 7. Sweet treats.
- 8. The woman who loves you no matter what!



# Our Sick, Shut-Ins, and Elderly

Listed below are those we know to be sick, shut-in or elderly. They are mentioned in the hope that our members will remember to pray, visit and send cards to them. The list will vary month to month as those who have been ill have fully recuperated from their ailments and others added. This is one way to show our love and concern for them and that they are a vital part of our family. Pray for God's presence and comfort for them and their families. If you know of anyone who should be added to this list, please let Vicki Givler, the church secretary know at 330.499.3909.

## President's Message

### Spring Action Items! Message from Council President

Last week in the car after church, Casey Walters mentioned that he only has six more weeks of school this year. Wow! Time goes fast. Pastor Robarge led us through an interesting investigation of prayer throughout the Lenten season. Culminating with The Passover Haggadah and Seder Meal where we examined the Eucharist through the lens of the traditional Jewish Passover Observation. Thank you Pastor Hal and Pastor Coffman who stepped in to very ably cover while Pastor Hal recovered.



I cannot tell you how good it feels to have folks say things are going pretty well. I agree whole heartedly. Zion is doing Great things during the transition. Council has stepped up. It is now caring for our community. The Call Committee is busy working on the Ministry Site Profile. (See Jim's Message on Page 4.)

Please notice last month's surplus! A little over \$700. The number of dollars is much less important than the fact that we are Taking Care of Business. Many churches have a big retraction during the transition period. People slow on attendance and in giving. This is not true for Zion. Attendance figures in 2017 have been very similar to 2016. Again, thank you all for your support both financial and personal.

I am a big fan of leaving meetings with Action Items; projects or tasks that folks take ownership of and get things done. So here is my Presidential List:

- Find some new folks to serve on Council.
  - We need at least 3 folks - See me or Carol if you are willing.
- Support the Call Committee in any way that they require.
- Build the "Pass the Baton Fund" to \$5000. This will be used for expenses incurred in order to bring in the new pastor and get his/her ministry off to a good start. That will include travel expenses when they come to interview. There will certainly be moving expenses. There will be improvements we want to make to make Zion attractive to prospective pastors. This is part of the Transition we can all be a part of.
- Plan and execute a Summer Congregation Event for the summer – Something fun to bridge the gap to the Labor Day End of Summer Grilling Extravaganza! Maybe a service day to reach out to the community? Looking for input here.



**The Trustees have scheduled an outdoor work day for May 20<sup>th</sup>.** Nothing beats moving all of that mulch. Life does not get any better than that. I challenge anyone to move more mulch than Christopher Thompson. The boy is an Animal! Come on out, it is a good feeling to making the grounds look so good.

Thank you all for your support. I truly enjoy the time I get to spend being a part of your community. Looking forward to a nice quiet summer and a new pastor in God's Time.

Yours in Christ,  
Mark Votaw

**MUTUAL MINISTRY**

We will be having elections at our May 31st Congregational meeting. The following are the positions that are open on Council.

**Vice President**

The duties of the Vice President are to act for the President in the President's absence, chair the Ministry Development Team and assume such other duties as may be delegated by the President. The Ministry Development team provides annual reviews for the staff and can be a sounding board for Congregational concerns. They present nominations for positions to the Congregational Council and review the Constitution and By-Laws as needed.

**Parish Life**

The purpose of the Parish Life Ministry Team is to strengthen fellowship in our parish; to facilitate the integration of all members into the life of the congregation by encouraging participation in activities that will strengthen the sense of community that exists within this congregation. The Parish Life minister will report to the Council on the activities and needs of their supporting ministries; Women of the Church, Men of the church, Youth, Shepherd Program and LYO.

**Social Ministry Team**

Their purpose is to advocate and express love, justice and peace in the congregation and community at large, and to minister to the social concerns of those in need. The responsibilities of the team are to encourage members of the congregation in outreach, fellowship and benevolence.

As Vice President and a member of the Ministry Development team, I encourage you to prayerfully consider filling one of these positions, which are important to the life of our church. The terms are for 2 years and the Council meets once a month.

Carol Rossbach

**RESOURCE MINISTRY**

It is now four months in a row of budget surpluses! In March, 2017, very generous contributions to the General Fund, Lenten Season offerings and Parsonage rental revenues more than offset increased utility expenses to give us our biggest monthly surplus of the year. We are contributing regularly to the ELCA NEO Synod Benevolence and are poised to support other worthy benevolent endeavors that arise.

The month of April brings Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter, with its message of rebirth and eternal life. For Zion, it is a time to celebrate the blessings of God and the opportunities to sing His praises and do His work that generous giving permits.

Jim Fidler  
Resource Elder

**CALL COMMITTEE**

We have had the first of what will be frequent meetings to chart our path toward finding the individual whose perspective on Pastoral Leadership best aligns with what the Call Process determines is Zion's Mission and Ministry. With that objective in mind, we have established a Ministry Site Profile (MSP) account and have initiated the steps necessary to successfully gather the information so critical in presenting an accurate picture of Zion to prospective Pastoral Candidates and enabling us to better comprehend our history as a Congregation, where we are now and where we would like our Pastoral Partner to guide us in the future. We approach this challenge with the realization of our obligation to keep the Congregation informed of pertinent developments and with the confidence that arises from the knowledge that we will be able to seek the Congregation's input throughout this process. We welcome the suggestions and comments of all during this process and ask that you seek us out and speak with us when you see any of

**Youth Spotlight  
Question of the Month**

**What is your favorite thing to do with your mom (grandma)?**

**LJ Brown** - Reading stories before bed

**Mason Howes** - I like when we play together!

**Ben Keith** - Going to the library

**Drew Keith** - Taking walks to the park

**Savannah Schrader** - Baking cookies or bread

**Amelia Milek** - Going on bike rides

**Weston Milek** - Walking together

**Christopher Thompson** - Shopping at places other than clothes and grocery stores

**Justin Dague** - Going shopping

**Jeremy Fox** - Watching movies or making cookies and brownies

**Cassie Frank** - Going shopping together

**Chrissy Nicholson** - Shopping, cooking and baking

**Marcus Rhodes** - Watching movies

**Casey Walters** - Making music together

**Eric Dague** - Going boating and camping with her

**Nathan Fox** - Going turkey hunting

**Carley Frank** - Going shopping

**Summer Heller** - Riding in the car and listening to music with her

**Kathryn Milek** - Looking at magazines at the library together

**Mallory Rhodes** - Going out to eat

**David Panzarello** - Having family time

**HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL MOTHERS!**

work and time!

**THANK YOUs from the Lenten and Easter Season**

There are many thank yous to share that go along with Lent and Easter. We are so grateful to everyone for their time and support of all of our activities during this busy season in the church.

First, thank you again to the youth and their families for hosting one of the Lenten dinners. It was a great night of fellowship with delicious soups, sloppy joes and desserts.

Next, thank you again to everyone who donated candy to help us fill the Easter Eggs for this year's Easter Egg Hunt. We truly appreciate your support and generosity. We would also like to thank the High School and Catechism classes for filling over 600 eggs for the Easter Egg hunt on Easter morning during Sunday School. A big thank you to the Dague and Fox boys for hiding all of the eggs on Easter Sunday!

Finally, thank you to all the kids that participated in our Easter Egg Hunt! With over 600 eggs, the "hunters" were able to find many, many eggs filled with candy and surprises. We were able to hide the eggs inside and outside for a morning of great fun. We finished Easter morning with donuts, juice and milk and a short reading of the Easter Story! He is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!

**Vacation Bible School**

We are still exploring the possibility of having VBS this year. We are short on staffing, especially in the areas of music and teaching classes. If anyone is interested in helping out in these areas, please let Debbie Fox (330-966-2433 or dfox521@sbcglobal.net) know ASAP so we can talk about dates and how you can help! Thank you!



us at Worship. We appreciate the significance of the task the Congregation has entrusted to us. We will proceed quickly, but **not** recklessly, in a focused, deliberative manner. Relying on God's Grace and the power of prayer, we look forward to successfully meeting this challenge.

Faithfully,

Your Call Committee:

- Laura Thompson (Chairperson)
- Rob Frock
- Cathy Harvey
- Marissa Keating
- John Long
- Brian Walters
- Jim Fidler (Council Representative)

**CARING MINISTRY**

The Food Pantry and Closet will be open on May 2nd and 16th. Set-up time is at 9:00 AM and doors open for those in need at 1:00 PM. **The invitation for helping out is always open.** Items needed for the Food Pantry are spaghetti sauce, pasta of all kinds, peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, cereal, vegetable soup, and creamed soups of all kinds. At this time, the Food Pantry has enough of chicken noodle and tomato soup. The Clothing Closet is in need of household items and toddler's clothes, sizes 2 to 4.

A reminder that Prayer Chain requests can be sent to Kay Davis at stitchandsew810@sbcglobal.net. Please let her know if you wish to remove a prayer request.

**Thank You for your support.**

Peace,  
Ron Tvorik

**ZION'S FINANCIAL FACTS IN MARCH 2017**

March Income	\$ 16,871.97
Income through March	\$ 48,604.27
March Expenses	\$ 16,103.32
Expenses through March	\$ 47,820.83

<b>March Surplus</b>	<b>\$ 768.65</b>
<b>2017 YTD Surplus</b>	<b>\$ 783.44</b>

Food Pantry Fund	\$ 8,912.92
Zion's Youth Fund	\$ 7,603.18

*We thank you for your generous support!*

**WORSHIP MINISTRY**

First a great big **THANK YOU** to everyone for all they did to make the Seder Meal, Good Friday, and Easter such great services. The message and music were fantastic.

We are planning a Mother's Day breakfast between the services on May 14th. Watch the news page for more details.

We will be doing something on May 28th to honor our fallen veterans. We are asking you to please sign the sheet in the office with names of our veterans who have died.

God's Peace and Blessings be with you,  
Darlene Milavickas

**GERANIUMS**

Order forms for geraniums are available in the church office. The cost is \$3.50 per plant. These geraniums will be used to beautify our sanctuary on Pentecost. You may pick up your geranium or geraniums after the 10:30 am service on Pentecost, Sunday June 4, 2017.

**THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU**

**Dear Zion Members,** I want you all to know how very much I have appreciated your cards, phone calls, prayers, and support as I have battled this journey with cancer. I am a real believer in the power of prayer.

Pastor Hal, I really appreciated your taking time to visit and say a prayer with me.

I hope to be in church again very soon. I'm so blessed to have my church family.

**Blessings, Moe Alters**

**Dear Members of Zion,** I would like to thank the congregation for the cards and prayers following my recent surgery. I am so looking forward to getting back to church. I am truly blessed.

**Nancy Morrow**

**JOIN US MAY 28, 2017 AS WE HONOR OUR FALLEN HEROS****News from the Zion Sunday School**

**Happy Birthday to:**

**Upcoming Events – Mark your calendars!**

**Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>: Interfaith Hunger Walk (Registration at 2pm, Walk at 3pm)**

**Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>: No Sunday School – Mother's Day Breakfast**

**Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>: Last day of Sunday School for 2016-17**

**Sunday School Pre-K thru High School**

May will be our last month for Sunday School classes this year. We will have regular lessons during the month, but there will be no Sunday School on May 14<sup>th</sup> because of the Mother's Day breakfast. Our last day of Sunday School classes will be May 21<sup>st</sup>. We will have a short lesson and then a year end celebration planned for all of our youth that day! We hope everyone will join us!



We will take a break this summer from Sunday School for all of our youth. We will start the new Sunday School year in September when we kick things off with Rally Day!

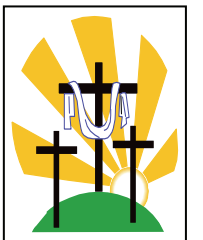
A very big thank you goes out to our Sunday School teachers and staff. We truly appreciate your time and dedication to the children of Zion. This year's staff includes some great teachers and helpers: Corlene Coulter, Vicki Givler, Connie Riffle, and Janet Slease. It is such an awesome group of volunteers that our kids truly enjoy!

Also, many thanks to Renee Keith for teaching the Catechism class again this year. The kids really enjoy their time during Catechism because of the great job Renee always does!

Finally, a big thank you to Laura Thompson for leading the High School Class this year. We really appreciate all that she does!

**Our Easter Program: A Banner Easter**

We hope everyone enjoyed this year's wonderful Easter program on Palm Sunday. The children did a fantastic job! They showed us how each letter of "EASTER" has such important meaning to the Easter Story. With the use of scripture, the empty tomb, the cross and great banners representing some very important words, they spelled out EASTER in a very symbolic way! E for Empty Tomb, A for Arisen, S for Savior, T for Triumph, E for Everlasting Life and R for Resurrection! All of this reminding us of the Good News that after dying for our sins, Jesus rose and triumphed over death promising us the gift of everlasting life!



A big thank you goes out to everyone who helped with our program! Thanks to our Sunday School leaders, Janet Slease, Connie Riffle and Renee Keith, for all their help during Sunday School, rehearsal and the day of the program. Thank you to Suzanne Walters for all of her support with the music and to Brian Walters for his help with the sound system. Last but not least, thank you to all of the kids for their hard