

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

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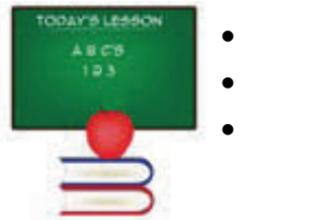
Proclaiming Good

UPCC

SUNDAY, SEPT

- WORSHIP AT
- THE END OF
- LOTS OF DE

SUNDAY, SEPT



SUNDAY, SEPT

- WORSHIP AT

FRIDAY, SEPT



SUNDAY, SEPT

- WORSHIP AT
- GUEST PAST
- PASTOR RO
- CELEBRATI

Worship Services

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

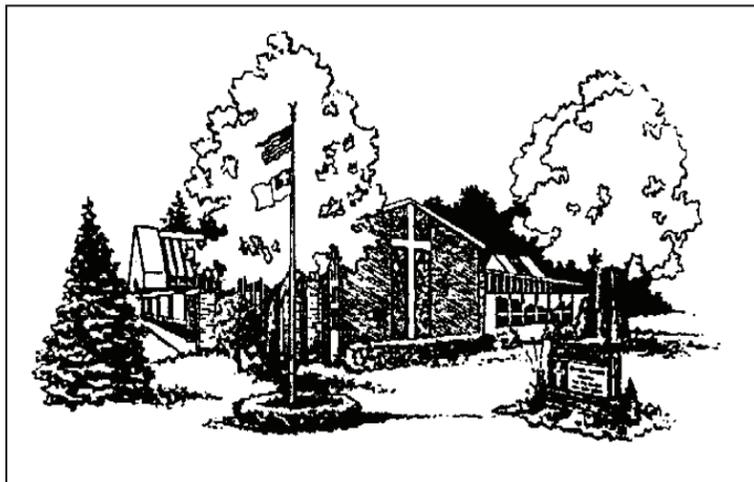
Sunday School Classes

(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: Vicki Givler 330-499-3909
Church Office Fax Number 330-499-0801
Prayer Chain: Kay Davis 330-494-6267
Prayer Chain: Email stitchandsewk810@sbcglobal.net
www.ZionEvangelicalLutheranChurch.org





A Message from Pastor Hal

My Very Best to My Dear Friends in Christ and the disciples and missionaries of Zion,

My message in last month's newsletter was about Jesus' Great Commission to us and meeting people on their turf and making relationships with people outside our church membership. August 20th my sermon was about our prejudice and how we exclude people from the church who are different from (me) us. So, my question is "Who Is Welcome at Zion?"

I will share some of my thoughts about who I would welcome if I were the Called Pastor of Zion and not the interim Pastor. Aren't you glad I'm not your called pastor. I am sure some of you will disagree with me my statements and some will agree and welcome everyone. Our outdoor sign states that everyone is invited and all welcome. I ask that you think about our signage and my statements below and ask, "Who would you welcome; and, who would Jesus welcome?" "Do yours match Jesus?" So, here goes:

I want it to be of public record that those of different colored skin and heritage are welcome here.

I want it to be known that those who suffer from addiction to drugs and alcohol (whether recovering or not), and their families, are welcome here.

I want it to be known that women and children are welcome here and that they will not be harassed or abused here.

I want it to be public record that in this congregation you can bring children to worship and even if they cry during the entire service they are welcome.

I want it to be known that those who are single by choice, by divorce, or through death of a spouse, are welcome here.

I want it to be known that if you are promiscuous, have had an abortion, or have fathered children and have taken no responsibility for them, you are welcome here.

I want it to be known that gossips, cheats, liars, and their families are welcome here.

I want it to be known that those who are disobedient to their parents and who have family problems are welcome here.

I want it to be of public record that those who are gay, bisexuals, lesbians, transgendered and members of their families, are welcome here.

Let it be public knowledge that we at Zion Lutheran Church take it seriously that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. The young and old, the rich and the poor, all of the broken are welcome here.

I want it to be public knowledge that we are justified by the grace of God, which is a gift through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. All are welcome here to receive God's gift of his love and forgiveness.

We offer welcome here because we believe that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for the ungodly. That's us. Christ did not die for us after we showed signs of "getting it all together." Christ



But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

Luke 10:33



loved and still shows love
Sinners are welcome
world, but let us proclaim
I want it to be of p
to welcome, act, speak as
ness; we need your forgiv
May God give us
given us.

Sunday is coming
serve... **these are still ter**
to earth as our Savior and

These are special
worship him each Lord's
10:30 a.m. for worship.

I look forward to s
friend by your side whom

God bless and lov
Pastor Hal

Pastor Hal, Interim

Lutheran Wor

Boxes of LWR Quilts and
being shipped overseas fr
Tanzania, the Christian C
LWR, packed full of bale
to a variety of ministries a
kits. When the applicatio
city, Dar es Salaam, to Ar

DID YOU KNOW? Visi
traordinary gifts when you
Fund, ordinary dollars can
need RECEIVES \$9 WOR

TAKING ACTION FOR

Assembling LWR Person
disaster strikes to raise fu
ing LWR Fair Trade. The
through Thrivent Financia
all benefit members are el
dress an unmet need.

Members also receive \$25
service projects. In 2015,
Teams were led in suppor
tion Team at Zion?

President's Message

Time for Action!

I have found this month's article hard to get started on. That is probably why the newsletter is a couple of days late in your mailbox. Vicki has been great to work with but this time I know I put her behind the schedule she wanted to keep. **Sorry Vicki.**

I want to thank everyone for their help in the Labor Day Party. This has become a fixture in our calendar. For me there is nothing better than cooking for friends. I think this might be the 10 year anniversary. I love this event because everyone gets to share the best stuff. I have had a ball coming up with weird creations like Stuffed Sloth Arms and Ogre Chicken.



Last year we welcomed Pastor Hal at the Labor Day Party. I had hoped that we could welcome a new pastor this year. We all knew that was a pretty ambitious timeline and of course

it has not played out that way. But I do not count us as behind. We have moved through the process with discernment and grace. The process is in God's hands. Our Site Profile is done and done well. So now the master of the small voice in the night must call our next pastor. That is the difference between calling and hiring. That takes time. Our job now is to be prayerful and patient. Our other job is making sure we are ready. We are working very hard to make sure our community is ready for a new shepherd. We have upgraded much of the office equipment. We have updated the way that



money is handled in the office to meet today's best practices. Council is identifying potential changes to the bylaws to reflect the way our community operates today. All of these are symptoms of the congregation caring for itself. Our house is coming into order ready to welcome a new pastor.

I feel an itch in the congregation to do more for our wounded world. Our outreach to the Wernle Family Treatment Center seems to have been a catalyst; recognizing a desire and calling for action. I had a lot of folks reach out to me to say they were interested in helping but could not get away at that time.

I honor those statements. I think we have started to discover a sense of mission and calling. I think we should ask ourselves, "How can we reach out to our community? What does it mean to serve others? How can we increase our footprint in our community?" I think these are really important questions. I also believe as we increase our focus outward, the inward things kind of take care of themselves.



Check out the Youth Page. They are working on a Gift Card Drive. Our Quilters are looking to send love in the form of warm nights and comforting prayers. There is a lot going on. What other needs can we meet? Who else is hungry? This is a perfect time to start working toward some new projects.

On Labor Day weekend we celebrated all of the work all of us do to maintain this community. Thank you to everyone who pitches in. Thank you to the Thursday Morning Crew! Thank you to the Praise Team! Thank you to the Cancel Guild! Thank you to the folks that put on funeral lunches! Thank you to the Acolytes! Thank you to the Deacons. Thank you to Pastor Hal, Tim, Miriam and Vicki. Thank you to folks that come to church on sleepy summer Sundays. Thank you to the food Pantry folks and the Youth Team. Thank you to everyone that supports our community financially. Every month I say it and every month it is more true. We could not be doing all of the great stuff that we are without the robust support of our members. I thank you all!

Yours in Christ,
Mark Votaw

The Impact of the Reformation

Six Wednesday evening lectures, 2020 East Maple Street

• **September 27, 2017 -** "The Reformation: Theology" With reference to his dichotomy that emerged between faith and sacrament, preaching and liturgy, distinguishes between Protestant and Catholic understanding. Dr. The Dutch Republic and the Dutch religious toleration

• **October 4, 2017 - Bar** *Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church.* – "Catholicism Today" Fr. Witmer and Paul Commission of the Young

• **October 11, 2017 - Bar** "Reform Movements in Judaism" confronted modernity and a long history, there have been tilts toward liberalism. As a result through the reforms made in years.

• **October 18, 2017 - Bar** *Reserve University* – "Reformation decline grip parts of the Muslim world" eternal threats to the life of the 18th century, revivalist movement the background and context of the university. The differences between them in differences of interpretative traditionary dialectic that criticized them while also allowing growth which is a movement that reconciled Islamic faith with modernity and progress." It featured a new approach to Islam.

• **October 25, 2017 - October** "Voices of Grace: Musical Sharing" sharing music across the country discuss the lasting effects of the Song has affected sung music

November 8, 2017 - Bar *Museum of Art* – "The Impact of the Catholic Church reached a new nography and church architecture brace the climactic divide between of this discord on the creation of different church styles. Works of church styles.

one of the raffle items at the Craft Show. This year's themed baskets are: *Ohio State Fan Basket, Chocolate Basket, Baking Fun Basket, and Lottery Ticket Basket*. We are so grateful for any and all donations to these baskets.

The youth of Zion will also host the bake sale at the Craft Show. They will be making some delicious items to sell at the table. We will also be asking for additional baked goods from our Zion family to help round out the bake sale table.

The youth will begin selling tickets at the beginning of October for our delicious German Dinners which will be available during the Craft Show. There will be tickets available for pork or brat dinners for \$8.00 each. Please see any of the kids in our High School and Catechism Classes for tickets. They will also be selling tickets before and after services in October. Tickets can be purchased or donated to help those who may not be able to buy their own dinner tickets.

The Craft Show will take place on Saturday, October 21st from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This is a great event at Zion that helps our youth program, and we need lots of help to make it a success. There will be sign up sheets in Luther Hall in late September for volunteers, bake sale items and other food we will need. We encourage everyone to help out if possible. We really appreciate your support of Zion's youth!

Acme Receipts

It's that time of year again! We are collecting Acme receipts again this year to help Zion's Youth. This year Acme's Community Cash Back Program has already started. It runs from August 10, 2017 through December 30, 2017. A collection jar is located in the Narthex. Please bring in your Acme receipts dated between August 10th and December 30th. Thanks for your support!!!

THE CALL PROCESS

The process of identifying the person to partner with the Congregation for the Call Process Administration is well underway. The Synod's Call Process Administrator, David Biermann, spearheads that process.

Our Ministry Site Profile is being completed, demonstrating the exciting opportunities that accepting a Call at Zion will bring. Moving forward to the interview phase, prospective Pastors will meet with the Call Committee to ascertain mutually held values and the most effective means of vision and accomplishing its mission. It is crucial to advance the process with the individual whose perspective best mirrors that of the Congregation.

The Call Committee continues to work at a deliberate speed, while remaining sensitive to Bishop Abraham Allende's assurance that his support is indispensable if we are to have a successful process.

We pledge to keep the Congregation informed of all pertinent developments.

Faithfully,

Your Call Committee:

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

RESOURCE MINISTRY

In spite of low attendance in the month of July, Zion's deficit was \$242.47, bringing our year-to-date deficit to \$1,725.23. Our deficit this time last year was \$4,017.47. Thus, we are doing better than we were at this time last year. We have explored revenue sources, including Parish Fees, and implemented reductions in operating expenses. We are well positioned to pursue a budget that will result in attendance increases in the fall.

Contributions to humanitarian

Darlene Milavickas

WOMEN OF ZION

Summer has passed so fast. Lazy, hazy days of summer, vacations, parades, and festivals are over. September is here and time to **focus, to resume, to begin** many scheduled church activities. Come with a new attitude and desire to keep our groups active, of building up the body of believers

- ⇒ Sunday School for all ages starts on September 10, 2017.
- ⇒ Women’s monthly “Gather” bible studies on the “*Apostle’s Creed, Session I: I Believe in God*” begins on Tuesday, September 19, 2017. It will be interesting to hear what each individual believes.
- ⇒ Comfort Givers sewing on Thursday, September 14 & 28, 2017, in preparation for Lutheran World Relief shipping.
- ⇒ In gathering of items for the LWR Personal Care Kits (see display in the Narthex), and Blanket Sunday on October 8, 2017.
- ⇒ Canton-Massillon Fall Gathering on Saturday, October 14, 2017 at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Alliance. Program, bible study, Pastor Paul Lintern, and Lutheran music more information to follow later.

ALL ANEW—Women of the ELCA

“Lord, send forth your spirit...and renew the face of the earth.” Psalm 104:30

In His Service,
Betty Tracy

ZION'S FINANCIAL FACTS IN JULY 2017

July Income	\$ 18,404.98
Income through July	\$116,773.68
July Expenses	\$ 18,647.45
Expenses through July	\$ 18,498.91
July Deficit	-\$ 242.47
2017 YTD Deficit	-\$ 1,725.23

We thank you for your generous support!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Adult Sunday School class will continue with its theme of *Sola Scriptura* as it completes a survey/study of the 39 books of the Old Testament with an examination of the major and minor prophets. After this, we will then begin a similar study of the 27 books of the New Testament with a short introduction to the *Synoptic Gospels*. The class will then continue with a study of each New Testament scripture along with some of Martin Luther’s commentaries, as well as, the book’s connections to the Old Testament.

OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

A CHORUS FOR A CAUSE in concert presents “*Seeing a Difference*”. Concert proceeds to benefit Lion’s Club Sight Programs, “*MEJones Eye-care Foundation of Northeast Ohio*”. Concert dates are September 23, 2017, at Advent Lutheran Church, Hartville, Ohio, doors open at 6:30 pm and concert starts at 7pm and September 24, 2017, at St Paul’s Catholic Church, North Canton, Ohio, doors open at 3:00 pm and concert starts at 3:30 pm. Tickets cost \$15 and are available from chorus members, online at www.achorusforacause.org, and at the door.

News from the Zion

Upcoming Events – Mark y

Sunday, September 3rd: E
Sunday, September 10th: 2
Saturday, October 21st: Y

New Sunday School Year

We are always looking for ne and activities. It is always gre a teacher, a classroom helper Fox at (330)966-2433. It is s with Zion’s Youth!

Pre-K through 6th Grade

As we look forward to the sta sons and activities, along with ity, service projects at Thank are for kids age 3 through 6th full of fun and learning – see

Confirmation Class

Confirmation classes will star for all 7th and 8th graders. It i dance each Sunday for these will lead our confirmation gre our Lutheran faith. Thank yo

High School

Our High School class will al Fox will lead our High Schoo service projects this year! W day mornings and look forwa

Service Project for Septemb

Our Youth will be leading a c ter. We will kick off this gre or monetary donations that w gift cards are needed: McDor uses these gift cards as rewar young people receive a nice t located in the Narthex for mo given to Debbie Fox. We wil one’s support!

Fall “Oktoberfest” Youth M

Looking ahead to October, th projects this month. We wil dren will receive the basket th items to be donated for the ba October on Sunday mornings kets. For each donated item,