



Zionews

September 2019

As schools ramp up again, having been underway in the area—some for several weeks—and as we bless the backpacks on Rally Day, I think of the role of Lutheranism in education. While not originally part of the Sunday School Movement, Lutherans have long embraced education—and especially higher education—as a way of equipping God’s people to make the most of the gifts God has given them for the sake of the Gospel.

One of the two things Lutherans brought to the United States was a desire to build schools. (The other, by the way, was a desire to build hospitals.) With all the educators at Zion, both active and retired, I hope it doesn’t come as a surprise that Lutherans place high value in education. Remember the history of Zion and those days long ago when Zion had a school and the tradition of pastors here being overeducated. (For which I am thankful!) But Luther reminds us that even education has its limitations.

Luther lived in a time of transition as an era grounded in spirituality and mysticism came into conflict with the rising ideals of the scientific method and what would give birth to the Enlightenment. Luther saw that education had its limits because even all the knowledge in the world cannot justify us before God. Neither, as Luther well knew, can any feeling or emotion.

In our day where we are discovering the limits of scientific inquiry and the shortcomings of the Enlightenment as they come in conflict with spirituality and mysticism, it is worth remembering what Luther learned—neither reason nor emotion can save us. This does not free us from learning or from our relationship with Jesus, but does help us focus on why we learn and pray and read the Bible and come to worship.

As one in Zion’s line of overeducated pastors, here’s what I’ve discovered: we don’t have to have all the answers. It’s okay for Christians to not know. It’s okay for us to admit that faith does not provide all the answers—and in some cases may cause more questions. It’s okay for us to ask questions, especially if those questions lead us deeper into the Bible or to wondering about our neighbors in need.

I hope this isn’t news either, but as we turn

Christmas Eve Service Time Change!

As you might have noticed last month, the council approved a time change for our first Christmas Eve service.

The Family Christmas Eve Service will now start at 5:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m.

So our Christmas worship schedule will be:

Family Christmas Eve Service,

December 24th at 5:00 p.m.

Candlemas,

December 24th at 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Day,

December 25th at 10:30 a.m.



back into the annual cycle of academic timing, saying, “I don’t know,” is not a failing. Indeed, those who have been career scientists will tell you that the unknown is the most exciting. Those areas where we don’t know why things happen they way they do, that’s where we can find energy for both scientific and spiritual wonder. God’s creation is so majestic and awesome that we will never be able to understand it all—and that is itself majestic and awesome!

So teachers, teach to the glory of God! Students, learn to the glory of God! Parents, lead in learning for the glory of God! Grandparents, aunts, and uncles, support and praise for the glory of God! Neighbors, encourage for the glory of God! And in all things,

give thanks for God’s gifts of learning and teaching, science and spirituality, athletic prowess and artistic expression. These are all from God’s gifts of reason and faith and can all be used so that we and all those around us, “sing to the Lord a new song!”

Peace,
PE

Nickels and Noses for June

Please note that these numbers are two months behind due to the newsletter publication schedule.

Worship Attendance
(3 Saturdays, 4 Sundays *Kind of*)

6pm	111
8am	333
10:30am	294
Total	738
Weekly Average	194

Offering

Monthly Giving	\$33,315.75
Monthly Budget	\$34,673.00
Year-to-Date Giving	\$240,163.58
Year-to-Date Budget	\$242,711.00

July had some interesting events that directly affected these numbers—which is why numbers can’t tell you everything. The second Sunday in July had both a visiting youth group that almost doubled our normal attendance at the 8:00 a.m. service, and the 10:30 service that same Sunday was when we celebrated Deacon Carolyn’s 20th Anniversary of rostering. The last Saturday in July was when the power outage resulted in damage to our air conditioning system. As a result, the last Saturday service in July was canceled and the two Sunday services were held at and in conjunction with First Congregational.

Given all this, it is remarkable that we’re only \$2,500 behind our offering and gifts estimation for the year, and only \$1,300 of that is from this month of oddness. To give some perspective: at the end of July last year, we were almost \$9,000 behind our offering and gifts estimation.

Year of Scripture Readings for September

September 1
September 2
September 3
September 4
September 5
September 6
September 7
September 8
September 9
September 10
September 11
September 12
September 13
September 14
September 15

Ezekiel 9-12
Ezekiel 13-15
Ezekiel 16-17
Ezekiel 18-20
Ezekiel 21-22
Ezekiel 23-24
Ezekiel 25-27
Ezekiel 28-30
Ezekiel 31-33
Ezekiel 34-36
Ezekiel 37-39
Ezekiel 40-42
Ezekiel 43-45
Ezekiel 46-48
Daniel 1-3



September 16
September 17
September 18
September 19
September 20
September 21
September 22
September 23
September 24
September 25
September 26
September 27
September 28
September 29
September 30

Daniel 4-6
Daniel 7-9
Daniel 10-12
Hosea 1-7
Hosea 8-14
Joel
Amos 1-5
Amos 6-9
Obadiah, Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk, Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah 1-7
Zechariah 8-14



God's Global Barnyard
Sunday, September 8 9:15 a.m.

All are welcome to explore where
noisy offerings go and how we do
God's work by serving others!



Deadline for submitting articles and announcements for October's Zionews is Wednesday, September 18th.

Please email submissions to Lori Harris. loriharris@zionsandusky.org

Carolyn's Corner . . .

At the recent Global Leadership Summit, speaker Craig Groeschel who is the founder and senior pastor of Life.Church an online church meeting stated that, "You are a leader. You have influence." I know that some of you will argue that point; that you aren't comfortable being up front, leading a meeting or directing others. But think of other ways you lead. What do you do in your daily activities? Do you organize a home? Plan meals? Have a spouse or children? Do you have grandchildren or a neighbor you assist? Do you work outside the home? Do you belong to organizations or social clubs or volunteer in the community? These are just a few examples of what it means to be a leader – not necessarily being the up-front person, but making a difference. Often you might not even realize the influence you have on others.

Craig suggests that one way we influence others is through the heart. We live in a world where knowledge is important, but when we want to connect with someone on a more personal level, the heart (emotions) becomes the catalyst for change and growth. And, the way we often do this is by sharing our stories. What is your story? Are you able to share it in casual conversation? Think about what you might tell someone about yourself. These are the things we usually ask you to share when we gather in small groups. They may seem like small talk and chatter to you, but they identify who you are, not only to others, but they help us to get to know ourselves better.

As we begin fall schedules, think about how and where you might be a blessing to the family of Zion and the Sandusky community. While we need Sunday School teachers and council members, there are other ministries that might better fit your gifts. We need folks to serve at places like Care and Share, Osborne School, and Nehemiah Center. We need ushers, lectors and crucifers. We need folks who can help us care for the building. And we need folks who can pray. Where do you fit in? I know you do and I know that makes you a leader!

Blessings,
Carolyn



Children's Sunday School

(Children of Zion)
begins fall schedule

September 15 at 9:15 a.m.

Pastoral Acts - July 16 - August 15, 2019

IN MEMORY OF:

Martha Zerger: Karla & David Zilch, Laurie & Bill Hawk, Katy & Mark Weber

Dan: by Mom

WEDDINGS:

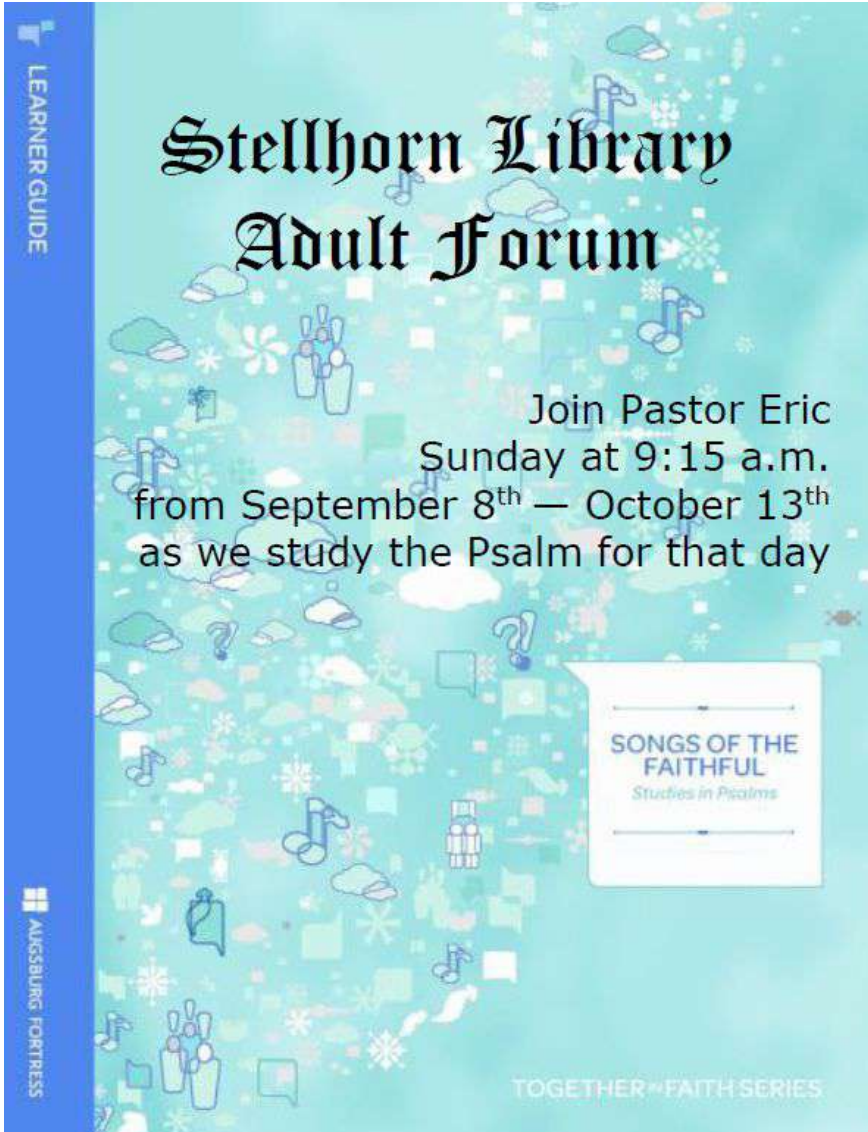
None

BAPTISMS:

None

FUNERALS:

Paul E. Hahn private family service by Rev. Dr. Eric L. Bodenstab



The image shows the cover of a 'Learner Guide' for the 'Stellhorn Library Adult Forum'. The cover has a light blue background with various icons like musical notes, a church, and a question mark. The title 'Stellhorn Library Adult Forum' is in a large, black, gothic-style font. Below the title, it says 'Join Pastor Eric Sunday at 9:15 a.m. from September 8th — October 13th as we study the Psalm for that day'. At the bottom right, there is a white box with the text 'SONGS OF THE FAITHFUL Studies in Psalms'. The left side of the cover has a blue vertical bar with the text 'LEARNER GUIDE' and 'AUGSBURG FORTRESS' at the bottom. At the very bottom of the cover, it says 'TOGETHER ~ FAITH SERIES'.

LEARNER GUIDE

Stellhorn Library Adult Forum

Join Pastor Eric
Sunday at 9:15 a.m.
from September 8th — October 13th
as we study the Psalm for that day

SONGS OF THE FAITHFUL
Studies in Psalms

AUGSBURG FORTRESS

TOGETHER ~ FAITH SERIES



September 2019 Worship Leaders



	9/01/19	9/08/19	9/15/19	9/22/19	9/29/19
8:00am Wine	Judy Burrows Andy Castello	Tom & Cindy Patterson	Kris Stradtman Jon Carver	Dick & Marlene Long	Dick & Marlene Long
10:30am	John & Judy Mears	Ron Dabs Dan Willey	Lyle Marquardt Carol Albert	Suzanne Jeffery Chet Leser	Judy Burrows Carla Mitchell
8:00am Lectors	Roger Gundlach	Dean Meyers	Jarrold Todt	Laurie Mears	Andy Gundlach
10:30am	Vicki Boesch	Kay Thompson	Suzanne Jeffrey	Linda Reichenbach	Carla Mitchell
8:00am Prayers	Betty Bickley	Karen Slater	Carla Mitchell	Judy Burrows	Betty Bickley
10:30am	Marj Burton				Marj Burton
Children's Message	Pastor Eric or Carolyn	Pastor Eric or Carolyn	Hope Bailey	Marj Burton	Dale Cerny
8:00am Soundboard	Dean Meyers	Janet Stradtman	Andy Castello	Andy Gundlach	Dean Meyers
10:30am	Dan Willey	Tim Kostel	John Nejedly	Dan Willey	John Nejedly
8:00am Gathering Hosts	Jim & Jeanette Toft	Patti Keller & TBA	Chris Antel	Savannah & Andrew Castello	Al & Kaye Kuzell
10:30am	Al & Juanita Mitchell	Al & Juanita Mitchell	Elaine Conley & Amy Baum	Dianne Farrar & Kay Thompson	Earl & Bea Rosen
Greeters	Al & Juanita Mitchell	Al & Juanita Mitchell	Dale & Ann Cerny	Bill & Joyce Dahnke	Earl & Bea Rosen

Ushers:



8:00am Randy Koch, Diane Ernst, Patty Pascoe & Andy Castello

10:30am Earl & Bea Rosen, Julie Kessler

Care & Share:



9/9/19	9/16/19	9/23/19	9/30/19
Kay Eash, Bruce Bravard, and Tom & Nancy Kinsel	Jeannie Johnson, Dick Long, Dean Meyers, and Alan Mitchell	Hope & Mike Bailey and Roger & Barb Newton	Carol & Ron Albert and Barb & Jim Thom

Care and Share is closed on Monday, Sept. 2 because of Labor Day



**Blessing of the Backpacks & Teachers
Sunday, September 8th at 8 & 10:30 worship services
Bring your backpacks
and school supplies
and join in this special time!**



**November 28, 2019 marks the 37th year that
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and Holy Angels Catholic Church
have jointly sponsored the
Community Celebration of THANKSGIVING!**

Help is needed in all areas of this outreach to our neighbors; won't you consider being part of the celebration? God has blessed us with so much, please help us bless others!!



Volunteers are needed in all areas of this project (donation pick up, food preparation, cook a turkey at home, food servers, meal delivery, transportation, greeters, grocery give away, and other duties).

Your help is greatly needed and appreciated!

Please contact Lori Harris 419-625-2112
sign-up sheets will also be available and can be deposited in the
offering plate or sent to the church office.

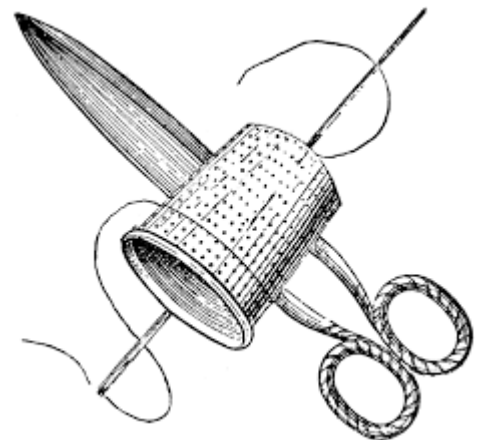
Quilters

The first weekend in October the Zion quilters will be displaying many of the quilts they put together this year.

Due to a generous donation made to the quilters, by Randy Grenier, the quilts this year are very special. Randy's wife, Lynn, was an excellent quilter and she had many small ones already started. The Zion quilters were able to adjust them to meet the standard size needed.

If you are interested in purchasing a quilt this year, only this year, please watch for details in the bulletins. The money earned will go to Lutheran World relief and some much needed batting for future quilts.

The Zion quilters wish to thank everyone for the continued support of this worthwhile project of love..



Why Donate Time in Service to Your Church?

At this time of year, the Nominating Committee asks our members, "Would you consider serving on Church Council?" Before you answer this question take time to pray now about this opportunity, knowing that most times serving your church in this way can bring great joy. And we've been doing this from generation to generation.

Despite having a working day, or giving from your personal time, serving Zion as a council member can be the highlight of your week. Why?

- Serving with fellow ministry team members strengthens your relationship with Christ and His Gospel lived out.
- Giving time and energy recharges you emotionally and spiritually.
- Finding gifts and talents you've not before recognized in yourself and others reflects the Holy Spirit that is at work here at Zion.
- Contributing to developing and fulfilling the vision of our community called Zion (God calls it His church) is a gift well given.
- Jesus asks us to serve others. If serving on Council has not been part of your experience, you will learn about a culture of caring, sharing, and teamwork that supports all that we visibly see in Zion's ministries and facilities.

And it's all because of caring volunteers. God sent His Son as the ultimate servant. He asks us to follow the example of giving of ourselves.

Your time and talents may be what Zion needs at this time. And you may find it may be just what you need at this time. Please pray about this question, and be open to how the Holy Spirit may move within you. "Would you consider serving on Church Council?"

In faithful service,
Marj Burton, Secretary/Treasurer

1 Peter 4:10-11

10 Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 11 Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting

August 14, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

DRAFT

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER:

President Carla Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Rev. Bodenstab, Carolyn Steinfeldt, Carol Albert, Chris Antel, Marjorie Burton, Andrew Castello, Karen Dehn, Tom Kinsel, Stephen Lippert, Lyle Marquardt, Carla Mitchell, Barbara Newton and Lori Harris, Recording Secretary
Absent/excused: Martha Thompson, Savannah Castello

OPENING DEVOTION & PRAYER:

Pastor Eric led the Council in the devotion by Kristine Hunsinger followed with a prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The amended agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of July 10, 2019 were approved as submitted.

STAFF REPORTS:

Pastor Eric – written report submitted.

Carolyn Steinfeldt – written report submitted.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President, Carla Mitchell – Staff evaluations are coming up and will be conducted by the Executive Committee. Nominating Committee still needs one person from Council. A motion was made, was seconded and carried to allow the Quilters to sell up to (2) quilts this fall to benefit LWR and purchase quilting supplies.

Secretary/Treasurer, Marjorie Burton – The Treasurer's report and financial reports were reviewed and discussed.

MINISTRY TEAMS REPORTS:

Worship & Music – Carol Albert – Cherub Choir Co-directors have resigned; search for replacement will be underway. Proposal for the organ repair has been received.

Faith Formation – Chris Antel – VBS went well, Rally Day and the Christmas Program are coming up.

Stewardship & Administration – Andy Castello – Counters scheduled.

Youth & Young Adult – Karen Dehn/Savannah Castello – There are 5 youth and 2 adults from Zion registered for Fall Into Lakeside.

Property & Facilities – Barb Newton – report submitted.

Parish Life – Lyle Marquardt – The church picnic is this Sunday (8/18) at Shoreline Park.

Mission & Outreach – Martha Thompson & Tom Kinsel – Ministry Team is asking that committees re-focus on original purpose. Next meeting date 8/28/19.

FLAME – Report submitted. Corn pot-luck is 8/19 at Zion Huron. There was discussion on “Burn Pits.”

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Capital Campaign** – Sub-committee has been formed. Garland Group is scheduled to do envelope testing.
- **Funding for church pamphlets** – A motion was made, seconded and carried that the funding for pamphlets will be determined by the Executive Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **New Members** - Pastor Eric made a motion to accept into the membership of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church the following: *Les Dean* – Associate Member, *Penola Jones* – Affirmation of Faith, *Cole Burger* – Letter of Transfer, *Karen Wu* – Affirmation of Faith. The motion was seconded and carried.
- **Meadow Green Burial Plots** - Discussion regarding the Meadow Green burial plots has been tabled until the September meeting pending additional information.
- **Substitute Pastors/Saturday Night Service** – discussion.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Harris, Recording Secretary

**ZION EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**From generation to
generation, we live as
friends following Jesus.**

Non Profit
Organization

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September 2019



Communion is Offered at Each Service

Worship Services: Sundays 8:00 & 10:30 AM and Saturdays 6:00 PM

**Rev. Dr. Eric. L. Bodenstab, Pastor
Carolyn Steinfeldt, ELCA Deacon**



Follow us at ZionELCSandusky

Our 10:30 a.m. service is broadcast each Sunday over station WLEC, 1450 AM