

# Zionews

## September 2021

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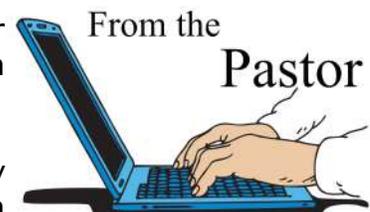
**Grace and peace to you from our God  
who is making all things new.**

Starting up the program year again after we've all had our lives changed by COVID 19 provides a chance for all of us to enter into some new practices. These can be both things we discovered during the lockdown time or things we have discovered we need to do and now have a chance to do.

For me, one of the practices I discovered during lockdown was setting aside an hour in the evening for prayer. It may seem odd to think of this as a discovery, but for me the discovery was that I needed the time blocked out to pray for people on my prayer list and Zion's prayer list. Four to five nights a week, I'm praying for you--yes, by name--as I pray through our directory. The other two or three nights, I'm praying for my family and friends who aren't part of Zion. I have found that the Spirit grounds me in this prayer time in a way different from my regular morning and evening prayers.

Something else we all have discovered, or rediscovered, is the importance of staying connected with each other. More than a few times during lockdown, we who are behind the phones at Zion encouraged you who call to leave a message when you call and no one answered. Please know that this request still continues. We do everything we can to make sure that when you call Zion someone answers the phone, but if no one answers, please leave a message. The message you leave is sent to our email so we can get your message even when we can't answer the phone. Leaving a message will help us stay connected with you.

If you need to talk to someone right away, please call me. My cell phone number is 419-503-5288. If you forget that, it's on every bulletin, every newsletter, the answering machine at Zion if no one answers, and the people in the office can give it to you. If you want or need to talk, please call me. I am on call 24/7. I may not always be able to answer right away, but please leave a message if I don't answer so I can call you back. You can also text me at that same number, or reach out to me on Facebook.



A new practice for me starting this month will be keeping posted office hours. While I'm often in the office Monday through Wednesday, my schedule is a bit convoluted. So starting September 7th, I'll be keeping office hours on Mondays from 1 to 3 and Tuesdays from 10 to noon. You can, of course, stop in at other times, but this way you can know that if you drop in during those times, I'll be around.

One of the practices I know we all need to work on is communicating with each other. The period of lockdown only highlighted this. I've overheard more than a few conversations about having to relearn how to be around people again. Communication, just like prayer, does take practice and effort. Let's take this fall to work together on our communication. When we take time to communicate with each other, we will find that the Spirit is also equipping us with the skills we need to proclaim God's love to the world.

Peace,  
PE



### Nickels and Noses for July

*As a reminder, these numbers are two months behind to account for the bookkeeping schedule.*



#### July Offerings

	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
<b>Actual</b>	\$25,412.05	\$222,586.45
<b>Budget</b>	\$36,575.00	\$256,025.00

While we are a bit behind so far this year, please remember that July marks the middle of the summer slump--that time of year when every congregation notices a drop off in attendance and giving.

#### July Attendance 5 Saturdays, 4 Sundays

	<b>In Person</b>	<b>Online</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	144	98	242	48
<b>8:00</b>	210	112*	322	90
<b>10:30</b>	241	232	473	118
<b>Total</b>	595	442	1,037	256

\*There was one Sunday when the service was not streamed.

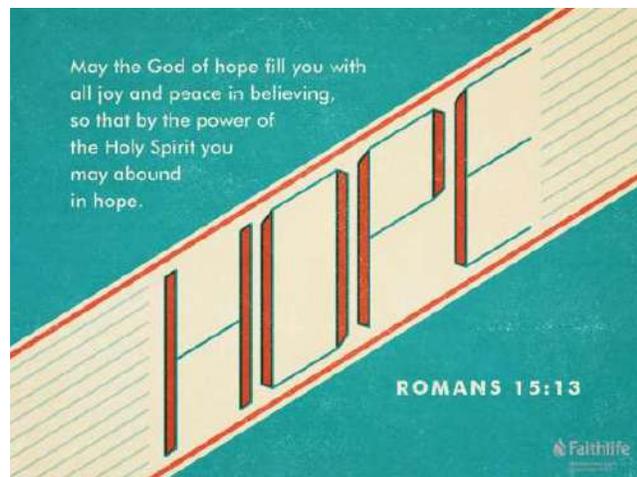
July was a turning point for us. This was the first month since we started live streaming in person services that more people were in person than online. And yes, the summer slump is in evidence even here. Last month's average was 314.

## **Carolyn's Corner . . .**

As we move into September and the beginning of our fall activities, I am looking back a little bit to see where we have been, how our world has changed and asking, are the changes temporary or permanent?

We've journeyed an interesting path these last 18 months! We've learned new ways of living, working, worshiping, and being family. Some of these things we like, some we tolerate and some we can't wait to get rid of, but all have taught us that we are a resilient people.

The Bible study in the August Women of the ELCA *Gathering* magazine is "hope." In this study, the author, The Rev. Angela Khabeb led us through a discussion on 1 Corinthians 12 where Paul compares the way the various body parts work together to become one functioning whole to the Church, where we each have a role to be sure the entire body (Church) functions to best serve our God and our neighbor. Then, we heard the story of Ezekiel and the dry bones that come together. Ezekiel saw that the bones had sinew, flesh and skin, but there was no breath in them. "Then he (the Lord) said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude." (Ezekiel 14:9-10)

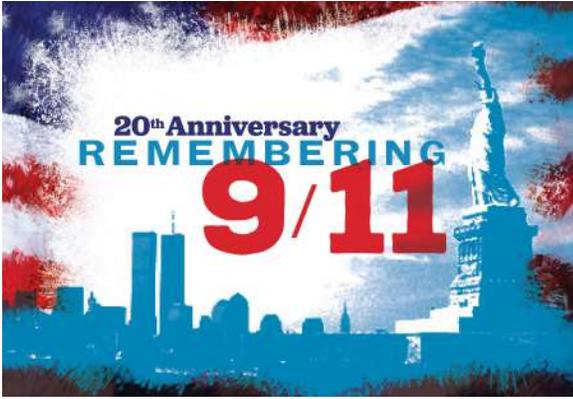


This imagery of breath in Ezekiel's vision reminds us of the Genesis story, where God the Creator blows the breath of life into humanity. And it takes us back to when Jesus breathes on the disciples and says to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit." Both of these Bible reflections remind us that God does bring hope, even in the most dire circumstances.

Biblical hope is the trust that God will fill us with the joy and peace in believing that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior, and in that we will have eternal life with God. As Christians this is our hope.

Blessings,  
Deacon Carolyn

**October Zionews Deadline is Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>  
Please email submissions to [loriwobser@zionsandusky.org](mailto:loriwobser@zionsandusky.org)**



## Special Service Announcement

The twentieth anniversary of the attacks on 9/11/2001 happens on a Saturday. Our Saturday evening service on September 11, 2021, will be a special service of remembrance marking this anniversary. As part of this service, those who remember where they were twenty years ago when they learned about the attacks will have the opportunity to share their memories. We

will wrap our country in prayer, sing songs and hymns and spiritual songs, and celebrate the Lord's Supper. Before the service at 5:30, Randy Koch will make a special presentation of his Flight 93 history. May the Spirit remind us in this time of remembrance of the hope God gives us when we stand together.



## Adult Forum

## Adult Forum Update

Pastor Eric's Tuesday Text Study will be changing meeting time and place. Starting September 7th, the Tuesday Text Study will start at 1:30 and will be hybrid, meeting both on Facebook and in the basement. Hope to see you there!

## Thank you!

**Lori Harris**, who retired as our office administrator last year during the lockdowns, was celebrated after the late service on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Lori and Jeff shared the good news that they are expecting their first grandchild and their son-in-law is now cancer free!

*Congratulations Lori & Jeff!*

To the Members of  
Zion Lutheran Church and  
Church Council

Thank you so very much for the wonderful celebration of my retirement. The kind words, cake and cards are very much appreciated. It was so nice to see everyone, I appreciate you all very much. May God bless Zion and the mission and ministry.  
With warm regards,  
Lori Harris

# WORSHIP HELPERS SCHEDULES

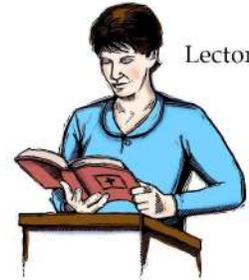
## Prayers of the People



September	5	Rose Marie Jonas
	12	Carla Mitchell
	19	Betty Bickley/Sarah Mears
	26	Judy Burrows

## Lectors

		8:00 am	10:30 am
September	5	Mark Stuckey	Vicki Boesch
	12	Jarrod Todi	Madison Yontz
	19	Addison Stradtman	Cole Burger
	26	Andy Gundlach	Judy Mears



Lectors

## Children's Message



Children's Message

September	5	Hope Bailey
	12	Laurie Mears
	19	Jon Carver
	26	Pastor Eric/Deacon Carolyn

## Gathering Hosts

September	5	(8:00) Bill & Barb Biehl (10:30) Al & Juanita Mitchell
	12	(8:00) Chris Antel (10:30) George & Betty Bickley
	19	(8:00) Dick & Marlene Long (10:30) Faye Gast
	26	(8:00) Virginia Lillian & Connie Castello (10:30) Al & Juanita Mitchell

## GATHERING HOSTS



Sound Board

## Soundboard

		Saturday	8:00 am	10:30 am
September	5	Andy Castello/Schimmels	Janet	Tim/Sarah
	12	Andy Castello/Schimmels	Andrew Castello	Sarah
	19	Andy Castello/Schimmels	Andy G	Tom/John
	26	Andy Castello/Schimmels	Dean	Andy C

## September Readings

	1 <sup>st</sup> reading	Psalm	2 <sup>nd</sup> reading	Gospel
Sep 05	Isaiah 35:4-7a	Psalm 146	James 2:1-10-17	Mark 7:24-37
Sep 12	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 116:1-9	James 3:1-12	Mark 8:27-38
Sep 19	Jeremiah 11:18-20	Psalm 54	James 3:13-4:3,7-8a	Mark 9:30-37
Sep 26	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29	Psalm 19:7-14	James 5:13-20	Mark 9:38-50

### *Welcome to our new members through letter of transfer:*



**July**

Emily Crawford  
 Peggy Schwanger  
 Linda Skillman  
 Donald Smith  
 Helen Smith  
 Arlene Wahl

**August**

Shirley Donaldson  
 Ruth Glass  
 Daniel Schlick  
 Lori Schlick  
 Charles Showalter  
 Sandra Showalter

## Quilters Need Your Help

Lutheran World Relief: Zion's annual shipment of quilts will be in October. This is the culmination of a year of work by our dedicated quilters. If you would like to help with LWR shipping costs, please put your donation in an offering envelope, mark it LWR shipment, and place it in the collection plate.



## *JOY Time Returns!*

JESUS + OTHERS + YOU = JOY

JOY Time Is Back! Thank you Zion Lutheran for making us one of your ministries.

JOY Time began in 2014 as a project of the Sandusky Area Lutherans in Mission (SALM). COVID-19 kept us from meeting in 2020 but we are now ready to host our meeting at Zion Sandusky on **Tuesday September 21, 2021 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM.**

Our ministry team has members from several area Lutheran churches. We work to build a more inclusive church by bringing together people of all abilities in a shared Christian community. JOY Time is open to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

We will meet at Zion on the third Tuesday of each month offering a short Bible study, music, a craft or game, and a snack for our guests. In addition to sharing the Word of God, we hope to instill a sense of genuine belonging to all of our guests.



JOY Time

We give thanks to God and to the people of Zion for giving us a new home and supporting our cause.

If you have any questions see Vicki Boesch, Julie Kessler, or Judy McEowen.



## Ushers for September

<b>8:00 am</b>	Diane Ernst, Kay Kuzell, Randy Koch, and Patty Pascoe
<b>10:30 am</b>	Al & Juanita Mitchell, Bill Bossetti, and Julie Kessler



**Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at Noon**  
 Shoreline Park Picnic Shelter  
 Shoreline Park, 411 E. Shoreline Dr.

Bring your own table service  
 & a favorite dish to share.  
 Beverages will be provided!



## September's Greeters



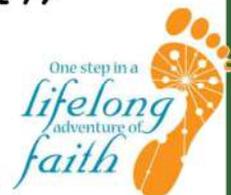
September	5	( 8:00) Darlene Lowery (10:30) Dean & Karen Slater
	12	( 8:00) Dawn McKillips (10:30) Darlene Lowery
	19	( 8:00) Dawn McKillips (10:30) Bill and Joyce Dahnke
	26	( 8:00) Dick and Marlene Long (10:30) Martha Quick

## Confirmation at Zion

*begins Sunday September 19*  
*1:30-2:30 p.m.*

*For all youth in*  
*6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> grade*

*Please contact*  
*Deacon Carolyn or Pastor Fric*  
*to enroll your student.*



Thank you to our Zion family for all of the love, support, prayers, cards, and kindness shown during this time of loss of our mom, Sylvia Wobser, and the hospitalization of Lori's dad. Your thoughtfulness and care has held us up and encouraged us. Those who work behind the scenes in the kitchen and preparing foods for the funeral luncheon, our heartfelt thanks for helping us through this difficult time and demonstrating what it is to give of yourselves for others. You are so appreciated for all that you do.

- In gratitude and love,  
 The Family of Sylvia Wobser



Rally Day @ Zion  
Sunday, September 12  
Special activities for everyone  
at 9:15 a.m.  
Catch the Excitement!

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### Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting August 11, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.

#### CALL TO ORDER:

President, Martha Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL:

Present: Rev. Bodenstab, Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt, Faye Gast, Tom Kinsel, Darlene Lowery, Sheree' Miller, Carla Mitchell, Roslyn Ortigari, Nancy Stewart, Martha Thompson, Kevin Yontz, and Recording Secretary, Lori Wobser.  
Absent: Andrew Castello, Savannah Castello, Jarrod Todi

#### OPENING DEVOTION & PRAYER:

Pastor Eric opened with a reading of Ephesians 4:26-27, 5:1-2 and prayer.

#### AGENDA:

Agenda approved as submitted.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Lori Harris' thank you was read. A letter from Mike Bailey was read.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for the July 14, 2021 Council meeting stand as submitted.

#### CLERGY REPORTS:

**Pastor Eric** – Written report submitted. Verbal report: Thank you to Stan and Sheree Miller for replacing the Bibles in the pews. Pastor Eric was contacted by Deanna Ridenour to see if the St. John's Giving Garden Corn Boil could be held at Zion this year on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. They would need use of the kitchen beginning at Noon. The local Lutheran churches will all be invited. Kit David

will need to be contacted to cancel quilters for that evening.

**Deacon Carolyn** – Written report submitted. Report filed as submitted.

#### OFFICER REPORTS:

**Martha Thompson, President** – No report submitted.

**Vice President, Carla Mitchell** – The phone answering will revert back to the Office answering during office hours and the new answering message to go into effect after hours and on weekend. We want those calling in to be answered by a person and not greeted by a dial by directory.

**Secretary/Treasurer, Tom Kinsel** – Financial reports filed as submitted. Offerings are down and below budget at this time. Though the total income shows an increase of \$8,000 from July 2020-2021, this reflects Capital Campaign donations.

#### MINISTRY TEAMS REPORTS:

**Worship & Music – Sheree' Miller** – Written report submitted. Sheree' reported that a banner has been ordered for Rally Day.

**Faith Formation – Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt** – No written report submitted. VBS numbers were down but the children attending were mainly unchurched. We will follow up with them. Several of our youth volunteered to assist this year. The noisy offering and VBS offerings will be given to the Weller Family. For Rally Day, we want all ministry teams to be represented. We are planning on a fun day of celebration and activities. Pastor

Eric discussed thoughts on a special Remembrance Service for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11.

**Stewardship & Administration –Roslyn Orticari**– Written report submitted.

**Youth & Young Adult – Andrew Castello and Savannah Castello** – Written report submitted.

**Property & Facilities – Faye Gast/Kevin Yontz** – Written report submitted.

**Parish Life – Darlene Lowery** – The Ice Cream Social planning for August 14<sup>th</sup> has been going well. Toft's Dairy has donated 3 of the large tubs of ice cream to us. Darlene has picked up toppings, several members offered use of large coolers. There will be games set up in the parking lot. Several congregational members have stepped up as volunteers for the event. The next event will be our Annual Church Picnic at Noon on September 19<sup>th</sup>, at Shoreline Park.

**Mission & Outreach – Nancy Stewart** – Written report submitted. Nancy has assembled a small committee which will meet on August 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Budget Requests:** All budget requests for next year need to be submitted to the office by the end of August.

**Synod Assembly:** This year's Synod Assembly will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 pm via Zoom for business only. We are still in need of two voting members and a High School Youth to represent Zion at the meeting. We have a Young Adult member. Registration deadline is September 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Bereavement Leave:** Stewardship and Administration is working on this as we currently have nothing in place. Tom Kinsel suggested that

we look at this on a case-by-case basis and evaluate the need as it arises. S/A will continue to look at this and create some form of policy/procedure.

**Membership Transfers:** A motion was made to accept into the voting membership of Zion by letter of transfer the following: Shirley Donaldson, Ruth Glass, Daniel and Lori Schlick, and Charles and Sandra Showalter. Motion carried. Council will plan a reception for all new members in October.

**New Member Celebration:** There is planning taking place for a celebration of new members and Council in October. Carla Mitchell will check on availability of clubhouse.

**Office Answering Machine:** In an effort to show care and hospitality to those calling in, the phone will be answered in the office during office hours, with the dial by directory afterhours. This will go into effect in the near future.

**Pandemic:** With the virus surging back and the Delta variant, we will keep monitoring the situation and we will be proactive and ready should we need to take action to protect our congregation.

**Mutual Ministry Committee:** Discussion on the need for establishing of a Mutual Ministry Committee comprised of eight, including the Pastor, for the purpose of discussion regarding the needs and vision of Zion.

**Hiring of Part-Time Office Assistant:** After interviewing several excellent candidates, the committee came to a unanimous decision and offered the position to Kathy Schenk. Kathy is scheduled to begin on August 23, 2021.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Lord's Prayer lead by Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A. Wobser, Recording Secretary



Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup>  
the office will be closed in observance of  
Labor Day

# September

Please check with your ministry team leader to see if you are meeting in person, hybrid, or virtually.  
All Saturday and Sunday worship will be in person and online unless we are at level 4.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 7:30 am Lectionary Study 9:30 am Staff Meeting  6:30 pm Agape—Library 7:00 pm Executive Committee	2 9:30 am Priscilla	3 	4  6:00 pm Worship
5 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Adult Forum w/PE—Library 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am WLEC Broadcast	6 CLOSED 	7 9:00 am Quilters  1:30 pm Text Study—Basement/FB	8 7:30 am Lectionary Study 9:30 am Staff Meeting  7:00 pm Council 	9  6:00 pm Choir Picnic	10	11 <i>In Remembrance of September 11, 2001</i>  6:00 pm 20th Anniversary of 9/11 Service of Remembrance
12 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am RALLY DAY Activities for All 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am WLEC Broadcast	13 10:30 am Praying In Color—Zoom 2:00 pm Temple Caretakers 4:00 pm Foundation 6:30 pm Quilters 7:00 pm Firelands Chorus Rehearsal	14 9:00 am Quilters  1:30 pm Text Study—Basement/FB	15 Zionews Deadline  7:30 am Lectionary Study 9:30 am Staff Meeting	16  7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal	17 	18  6:00 pm Worship
19 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Faith Formation for All 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am WLEC Broadcast Noon Church Picnic at Shoreline Park 1:30 pm Confirmation 	20  2:00 pm Temple Caretakers  6:30 pm Quilters 7:00 pm Firelands Chorus Rehearsal	21 9:00 am Quilters  1:30 pm Text Study—Basement/FB 6:00 pm JOY Time—Basement	22 7:30 am Lectionary Study 9:30 am Staff Meeting  2:00 pm OHgo Food Distribution 7:00 pm Faith Formation	23  7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal	24  6:00 pm Synod Assembly—Zoom	25  6:00 pm Worship
26 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Faith Formation for All 10:30 am Worship 10:30 am WLEC Broadcast 1:30 pm Confirmation 	27 10:30 am Praying In Color—Zoom 2:00 pm Temple Caretakers 5:00 pm Property & Facilities Mtg 6:30 pm Quilters 7:00 pm Firelands Chorus Rehearsal	28 9:00 am Quilters  1:30 pm Text Study—Basement/FB 7:00 pm Stewardship and Admin. Mtg	29 7:30 am Lectionary Study 9:30 am Staff Meeting	30  7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal		