



Zion Herald

Monthly Newsletter of Zion Leola
August 2017

Celebrating our 200th Anniversary!
“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today and forever.” Hebrews 13:8

What’s Happening in Worship?

By Pastor Bob Lowden

By the time you read this you will almost certainly know that our 10:30 a.m. music and worship leader, Tracy, has had to resign due to health reasons. We are truly sorry that she has had to do this, but she admitted that her current health situation has made continuing in the role impossible, at least for the near future. Please keep Tracy and her family in your prayers.

In the meantime, we (meaning me and your diligent staff) will be making adjustments to worship to fill the gap. And Mutual Ministry will be working hard to find a suitable replacement on a short-term basis. This will give everyone a chance to do a proper search for the right person to fill the role. Considering that a new pastor will likely be coming in the middle-range future—and that a Pastor really needs to be able to work well with a worship leader—it may be wise to fill the position on a temporary or probationary basis anyhow.

That’s where we are right now. As I have said to you in worship: these are the kinds of things that happen when churches find themselves in transition. It is a kind of wandering in the wilderness...but just as God led the Israelites through their ordeal, so

God will bring Zion through. You just need to trust that God wants Zion to be alive and vibrant with grace, for the sake of the community and all of us. God really does want that, and promises it will be so.

But the changes in worship have me thinking that it might be good to use this space to explain just what the Sunday morning worship experience is all about.

In our culture over the last 30-40 years Christian worship has changed dramatically. The rise of contemporary Christian music, the influence of secular music extravaganzas, and the church’s attempts at liturgical renewal have created a chaotic worship landscape in which many people have lost touch with what worship is really all about. Is it about the music? About praise? About contrition? Appeasing God?

So, I will use the next newsletter (or two) to offer an answer to these questions. Perhaps to pique your interest, let me leave you with some questions to ponder (and I really ask you to ponder):

If a truly beloved person from afar were coming for a rare visit to your house/family/community, how exactly would you plan for the event,

and arrange the time together? What steps would you go through? What would happen when the person finally arrived? How would the visit go?

I’ll explain why I ask these questions...next time.

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Social Justice Group

By Sue Orth

The ELCA has a history of being involved in social justice issues and adopted a Social Statement in 1991.

This document says, *“This church shall develop social statements ... that will guide the life of this church as an institution and inform the conscience of its members in the spirit of Christian liberty.”* (ELCA social statement, “The Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective”) You can read the entire statement on the ELCA website.

They have adopted statements on many social issues including, abortion, care for creation, criminal justice, death penalty, economic life, education, genetics, peace, race, ethnicity and culture and others. All of these are on the website to read.

My question is this: Is there any interest in forming a Social Justice Group to read some current books, have discussion, educate people and even protest issues that warrant a voice for the voiceless?

Several books that I have been reading are:

- *Evicted* by Matthew Desmond
- *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- *White Trash. The 400-year Untold History of Class in America* by Nancy Isenberg
- *White Rage, The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide* by Carol Anderson, Ph.D.

The day and time for meetings will depend on those interested. Please see Sue if interested in joining this discussion.



Fall Kick Off Sept 17

(formerly called Rally Day)

By Sue Orth

It is always nice to get back into the swing of the fall season. School starts, the days get cooler and shorter, vacations are over, and for the church – Sunday School starts up once again.

This year due to the Bishop coming on September 10, the fall kick off for Sunday School will start on September 17. Mark your calendars and look for more details in the Sept. Herald.



Leola Community Garden Grows Plentiful

By Sue Orth

The Community Garden has been producing lots of vegetables for the community. There are plenty of peppers, tomatoes, onions and cucumbers. Carrots and corn are growing. If you like to get your hands in the good earth or want to help harvest food for others, contact Sherri Patton at sherri.l.patton@gmail.com or 484.678.5190

Waterslide Day - August 19

By Sue Orth

Everyone is invited to help our neighbors have a vacation day on August 19. This year we would like to add a new component, “Backpack Blessings”, since the date is close to the start of school.

This is an event to show God’s love and grace to many members of our community that may not have a church or church family. People are needed to control the slides, cook and serve food, mingle with our guests and donate backpacks. We are not putting anything in the backpacks due to teachers requesting specific items. Instead, we would like to give a \$10 gift card to one of the dollar stores to purchase items needed.

There will be a registration form on our website for anyone that needs a backpack. This will help to know the number needed.

Sign up sheets are on the board and will be in the bulletin for the next few weeks.





Bishop Dunlop Set to Visit Zion Leola



photo by Tom Lesser, LSS-ELCA

The Worship Planning Team and the 200th Anniversary Team are excited to invite you to worship on Sunday, September 10 as Bishop Dunlop presides over the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services. This is a special honor for Zion.

As a special treat, Zion will host a luncheon to celebrate our 200th anniversary with Bishop Dunlop. During lunch, a gift will be given to the bishop. Please watch your mailboxes for an invitation and RSVP that you will or will not be able to

attend the lunch so we can make sure we have enough food for everyone.

Currently when there is a disaster in our synod, in the U. S. or around the world, the Bishop will request money from the churches in the Lower Susquehanna Synod to donate to the disaster. Bishop Dunlop would like to start a special fund for these disasters so that the Synod can send money right away to help instead of waiting for the churches to donate the money. The Bishop will then put out a plea for donations in order to replenish the fund. Zion would like to donate money to start this fund in honor of our 200th anniversary.

If you would like to donate to the Bishop's Disaster Fund, please place your donation in an envelope marked "Bishop's Disaster Fund" and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church.

On Sunday, September 10, let us fill the pews and celebrate our past 200 years of ministry and look forward to the future and many more years of ministry.

Thank You, Zion!

Dear Friends,

It is a time of transition in the story of Lutheran Theological Education in the Northeastern United States. After 153 years of operating just hours apart, the seminaries at Philadelphia and Gettysburg are bringing their very best to the table in order to form a dynamic, innovative, and diverse educational experience for students of theology in the 21st century.

God's peace be with you.

Rev. Dr. Angela Zimmann

Vice President of Advancement

Thanks to your donations, Zion raised \$885.93 through the Friends of the Seminary Scholarship Fund Drive.

Zion,

On behalf of the Clare House, our residents, staff and Board of Directors, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Community partners like you are the backbone of our organization that allows us to continue to serve homeless women and children in Lancaster County.

Thank you for supporting our organization, so we, in turn, can serve the community.

Sincerely,

Beth Valentin

Board of Directors, Clare House

The Problem (and Power) of Money

By Pastor Rob Blezard

[Jesus told the rich man] “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. ... [Jesus taught the disciples,] “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”
—Mark 10:21b-22, 25

During a study on this passage several years ago, a man of means asked, “Why does Jesus hate money?” This man’s family saw money as a good thing, and he couldn’t understand why Jesus seemingly speaks negatively of wealth again and again. For instance, there’s the Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:16-21), or Jesus’ insistence that we cannot love God and wealth (Matthew 6:24).

In fact, Jesus talks about money more than nearly anything else, and it’s often in terms that are hard for us comfortable Americans to hear. Jesus repeatedly warns about the corrupting influence of money on our lives, minds, and souls. He tells it plain in Matthew 6:21: where our treasure is, our hearts are also. (Most of us think it’s the other way around!)

Wealth poses deep spiritual risks

for the people of God. From Jesus’ teachings we know that money has the power to curve us inward on ourselves, obsessed with what we own and how we can accumulate more. Jesus calls disciples to love God with all our being and to love our neighbor as ourselves, but money can get in the way.

That was the issue with the rich man in Mark 10:17-27. The “one thing” he lacks, Jesus tells him, can be satisfied by selling his possessions and giving away the proceeds. Generous giving would break the bond that money has over him and re-center him on loving God and loving neighbor.

Generosity is the spiritual prescription Jesus gives the rich man, and it’s the one for us, too.

When we talk about financial stewardship in the church, it’s often about how our giving benefits the congregation and helps “meet the budget.” Instead, we might teach how generous giving benefits us by breaking the chains that money has on our hearts and souls.

By giving generously we can help the church, our neighbor and ourselves. We can learn what it is to be free to love God with all our heart and our neighbor as ourselves.

--Rob Blezard

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Blezard. Used by permission. Pastor Blezard serves as an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and also works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org.



God of Tomorrows

By F. B. Meyer

This is the blessed life - not anxious to see far in front, nor eager to choose the path, but quietly following behind the Shepherd, one step at a time. The Shepherd was always out in front of the sheep. He was down in front. Any attack upon them had to take him into account.

Now God is down in front. He is in the tomorrows. It is tomorrow that fills [people] with dread. God is there already. All the tomorrows of our life have to pass him before they can get to us.

Youth Group Kick Off August 27 from 5-8 PM

Parents and Youth are invited to the Youth Group Kick Off
Bring your favorite appetizer to share with the group.
Bring your ideas for events or discussion groups.
We would like your input planning the calendar for the year.
Oh Yeah...we will also do some activities and games just for fun!

Interested in going to Houston for the National Youth Gathering in 2018? Please come to the information meeting on August 13 at 9:15 a.m. (unless you came on July 30).



Celebrating the Lutheran Reformation

By Alan Ruby

We continue to study the 16th century Lutheran Reformation by quoting Dr. A. R. Wentz. His work entitled "Lutherans In Colonial Days" is very insightful even for us 21st century Lutherans.

Dr. Wentz states, "But even more important than Luther's emancipation of the individual, in preparing the way for American liberties, was his proclamation of separate functions for Church and State. It was the unholy alliance between these two institutions and the confusion of their functions that suppressed the individual conscience throughout the middle ages and stifled every effort at civil or religious liberty. The State was only an arm of the Church, to carry out its will. The universal Church in the role of universal empire made the rule

of absolutism complete. The spirit of liberty cannot grow in an atmosphere of tyranny."

"The modern theory of state, so forcefully expressed in the American Declaration of Independence has one of its roots in Martin Luther's insistence that secular rulers must not interfere in religious life, because faith is a personal matter and cannot be made subject to force. Luther insisted upon liberty of thought and speech in matters of religion, apart from civil disability or ecclesiastical censure. In forceful terms he declared that thoughts are free of toll and that in matters concerning the soul's salvation God alone can see, and He alone can judge. Luther believed that the State is a divine institution, but he held that the proper functions of the State do not apply to religion. He

contended that the State is sovereign and independent in its own sphere but that this sphere does not include church control. This idea is one of the foundation stones of modern political theory. It has profoundly influenced the past four centuries of history (editor's note: more than five centuries now in 2017!). It (Luther's thought on the powers of Church and State) has greatly relieved the dwarfed conditions of secular life, has sanctified daily tasks and legitimate duties, and Luther's interpretation guarantees to the modern man both his civil and his religious liberties."

Thus it is quite easy to discern the tremendous impact Luther's teachings have had upon our democratic way of life.

The Power of Weakness

Adapted by newsletternewsletter

In *Tramp for the Lord*, Corrie ten Boom describes traveling to Russia during the Cold War - when Christians were being persecuted - to thank an old woman who'd been secretly translating Christian books (including ten Boom's). Ravaged by multiple sclerosis, the woman could move only an index finger. Yet with it she typed constantly, translating words while praying for people who'd eventually read them.

Ten Boom's reaction was, "Oh Lord, why don't you heal her?" But the woman's husband said God had a purpose in his wife's suffering. Although the secret police closely watched other Christians, they left this woman alone, assuming she couldn't accomplish anything.

Jesus works through our weaknesses, making his power perfect in them (see 2 Corinthians 12: 9). He doesn't ask if we're capable - only if we're willing.

How many times have you needed God's love that came thru the congregation of Zion Lutheran Church? Now Zion needs you to help build the congregation to spread God's love to others. ~A thought by Ted Grumbein



- 6 George & Marilyn Sorensen - 50 years
- 7 Jeff & Cathy Wasilewski - 35 years
- 10 Mel & Mary Eby - 73 years
- 13 Ralph & Phyllis Hutchison - 34 years
- 17 Don & Tara Fausnaught - 26 years
- 18 Bob & Vickie Cunningham - 38 years
- 22 Joel & Barb Miller - 47 years
- 26 Paul & Krysta Barnhart
- 26 Sherwood & Joyce Miller - 61 years
- 27 Zachary & Rachel Fausnaught
- 29 Harvey & Donna Ruth - 58 years
- 30 Alan & Ruth Ruby - 59 years
- 30 Sarge & Ariel Sarandinaki

- 2 Gary Valinski
- 3 Gerry Devlin
- 3 Kevin Perreault
- 4 Denny Rippy
- 6 Karen Borten
- 6 Melvin Eby
- 6 Ken McCombs
- 8 Tiffany Gehman
- 8 Angie Sieber
- 9 Barry Hoffman
- 10 Amy High
- 11 Eleanor Eisenhower
- 11 Deb Matthews
- 11 Linda Wright
- 11 Verna Youndt
- 15 Brenda Leathery
- 18 Samuel Beitzel
- 18 Virginia Bowers
- 18 Ryan Stevens
- 21 Polly Miller
- 25 Sue Orth
- 26 Darla Stambaugh
- 27 Vickie Cunningham
- 28 David Bruce
- 28 Steve Strohm
- 29 Chris Engel
- 29 Ann Rinier
- 30 Cathy Wasilewski
- 31 Hailey Lehman
- 31 Marisa Onderko

Prayer Requests

Members of Zion

Carol Chilcoat
 Chuck Rathey
 David Eaton
 Deb Matthews
 Eleanor Eisenhower
 Evelyn Brown
 Helen Strouse
 Jeff Hurst
 Jennie Roland
 Joan Wagner
 Judy Bomberger
 Judy Greiner
 Keith Shetter
 Keith Shetter
 Mel & Mary Eby
 Paige Smucker
 Pat Bunker
 Paul Naffin
 Russ Wagner
 Sharon Perreault
 Sister Sandy Lehr

Friends of Zion

Abigail Critchfield
 Adam Mahler
 Anna Mae Moyer
 Art Moyer
 Barbara Byne
 Bob Jacoby
 Bobbie Jo Williams
 Coy McCuiston
 Danny O'Shea
 Dave Meneely
 Denise Rupp

Ella Lochoic
 Evelyn Strohm
 Jack Kehler
 Jack Redcay
 Janet Tomko
 Kathy Pradon
 Kelsey Rhinier
 Linda Stevens
 Margie Maurer
 Mark Rinier
 Michelle & Hope Fisher
 Nathanael Cassel
 Pat Brady
 Robert Estep
 Shannon Horst
 Steve Pradon
 Sylvia Kreider
 Tracy Lash
 Virginia Mosebach

Service Personnel

*Brad Strickler (stateside)
 *Steven Wasilewski
 *Davey Engel (Italy)
 *Rob Devlin (stateside)
 *Nick Chubb (stateside)
 *Matthew Green (stateside)
 *Brandon Devlin (Korea)

Do you have a concern you want lifted to the Lord in prayer? Zion's email prayer partners can be reached through Keri Bloom at bloomkg@lancastermennonite.org. If you do not have email and would like to pray for concerns, please inform Paula McQuate at 717-656-9200.

News From the CVCCS

By Deb Sprunger

CVCCS is in need of volunteers ages 18 and older for Thursday afternoons to load boxes from the cooler and help clients load their cars. Persons volunteering should be able to lift 50 pounds. Thursday hours are 12:30-4:30. They also need persons to help clients shop for clothing. Anyone interested should call Deb Sprunger @ (717) 208-3711, ext. 103.

CVCCS is in need of pancake mix and syrup, canned soups, (not cream of) insect repellent, sunscreen SPF 30, and condiments. Donations can be dropped off on Tuesday through Thursdays.

Please save the date for *Home Runs Against Hunger*, a fundraiser at the Barnstormer field August 11-13.

Please watch the CVCCS website or the newsletter for further details. August 13 is devoted to the hunger needs around us. Consider bringing family, Sunday School classes or youth groups.

It's not too early to think about back-to-school needs for families in our area. CVCCS is running a shoe drive for shoes for students, sizes 12 – 7 adult. Please call 717-490-6423 for a time to drop them off.

Downtown Meals 2017 Schedule

*Carpool leaves at 4:15 p.m. from Zion.
 *Please sign up to donate food and your time.
 *Sign-up sheet is located on the Mission & Service bulletin board.

Kingdom Life Assembly (3rd Thursday of the odd months)

Sept. 21

Grace Lutheran Church (5th Wednesday of the month)

August 30

Clothing Bank Work Days for Seniors

Aug. 2	Sept. 13
Aug. 16	Sept. 27
August 30	

Leola Community Meal

Friday, August 18
 Served at 5:55 p.m.

*Held here at Zion
 *Hosted by Zion

Call Committee Selection

If you would like to be **considered** for the Call Committee, please contact Bob Gates by leaving a note in the Gates mailbox in the work room or email bgates987@comcast.net by Aug. 9. (No phone calls please.)

Candidates should be able to commit to meetings over the next 4-6 months. You should also have regular attendance in worship and be a rostered member of Zion.

The Call Committee selection will be finalized on Monday, August 14 at the Council meeting.

Zion Happenings For August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:30 pm Mutual Ministry Meeting	2 9 am Clothing Bank work day for seniors 6:30 pm Worship in Chapel	3 6:30 pm Stewardship Committee Meeting	4	5
6 6:30 am Wake Up Call Men's Group 8 am Worship 10:30 am Worship	7 6:30 pm 200th Anniversary Meeting	8 6:30 pm Prayer Group	9 6:30 pm Worship in Chapel	10	11	12
13 6:30 am Wake Up Call Men's Group 8 am Worship 9:15 am Gathering Meeting for youth 10:30 am Worship	14 6:30 pm Council Meeting	15	16 9 am Clothing Bank work day for seniors 6:30 pm Worship in Chapel	17	18 5:55 pm Leola Community Dinner hosted by Zion	19 Noon to 12:30 pm Backpack Blessing 12:30 to 4 pm Leola Community Waterslide Day
20 6:30 am Wake Up Call Men's Group 8 am Worship 10:30 am Worship	21	22 6:30 pm Prayer Group	23 6:30 pm Worship in Chapel	24	25 6-9 pm Dinner & a Movie Preteen Event	26
27 6:30 am Wake Up Call Men's Group 8 am Worship 10:30 am Worship 5-8 pm Youth Kick Off	28 6:30 pm Worship Planning Meeting	29	30 9 am Clothing Bank work day for seniors 4:15 pm Carpool leaves to serve meal at Grace Lutheran Church 6:30 pm Worship in Chapel	31		

Zion's now on Facebook. Follow us at Zion Lutheran Leola
 Not able to be with your Zion family on a Sunday? Don't want to miss the sermon series? You can now watch the sermons on Facebook Live during the service or at a later time.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
18 QUARRY ROAD
LEOLA PA 17540
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



www.zionleola.org
Email: zion@zionleola.org
Facebook: Zion Lutheran Leola

Worship Services

Traditional Service, Sundays at 8 a.m.
Contemporary Service, Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
Traditional Service, Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Communion is offered at each service.
Wine and grape juice are offered as well as a
bread and gluten free wafers.

We gather to grow; we live to serve!

Staff

Pastor Robert Lowden, Intentional Interim Pastor
info@zionleola.org

Sue Orth, Director of Outreach & Youth Ministry
sueo@zionleola.org

Paula McQuate, Secretary
paulam@zionleola.org

Carol Chilcoat, Coordinator of Volunteers
carolgchil@gmail.com

Forest Troyer, Custodian

Becky Rairigh, 8 a.m. Organist

Leadership

Luke Harris
Norman Weaver
Bob Wilson
Paul Barnhart
Mike Proch
Luke Harris
Sue Orth
Lorraine Smoker
Patty Jackson, Nadine Gladfelter
Cathy Wasilewski
Rod Smith
Kelly Beitzel
Paula McQuate
Bob Gates & Del Bard
Kathy Raffensperger

Church Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Payroll
Property
Cemetery
Stewardship Committee
Christian Education
Social Ministry
Library
Mutual Ministry
Financial Secretary
Altar Guild
Worship Planning
Building Coordinators
Zion Archivist

Council

Bob Gates Council President
Ryan Stevens Council Vice President
Jeff Wasilewski Council Secretary

Taylor Moyer, Luke Harris, Martha Lefever,
Jackie Heise, Jimmy Woomer

Zion Lutheran Church
18 Quarry Road, Leola, PA 17540
717-656-9200
zion@zionleola.org
www.zionleola.org

