

Zion Herald

Monthly Newsletter of Zion Leola
July 2017

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

Sunday, July 23 at 10:30 a.m. Zion Leola Presents
The Friendship Community Worship Team

By Milt Stoltzfus

The Friendship Community Worship Team is a group of adults who have developmental and intellectual disabilities and who are associated with Friendship Community, a Christian-based service provider from Lancaster County.

The Worship Team presents a program of music including vocal selections of hymns, gospel songs and praise choruses as well as songs including motion and sign language to taped music.

The team performs an average of twenty programs per year. The team's typical presentation is 50 minutes in length; however the program can be adapted to fit various settings. Programs can be scheduled for Sunday morning services or for other special occasions.

The Worship Team will be at Zion on Sunday, July 23 at the 10:30 a.m. service.



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Now What?

By Pastor Bob Lowden

Before I go on, many thanks to the Council for recommending me to be your Intentional Interim Pastor, and many thanks to the congregation for your warm welcome. I am honored to be with you.

Well, I am here...now what?

The job of the Intentional Interim Pastor is to accompany you on a journey. You are moving from a long period of stability (2 pastors in 52 years!!!!), into an uncomfortable, open-ended wandering in the wilderness. As I have been in this place before with 13 other churches over the years, I can tell that as odd and disconcerting as your position may seem, it is also a great opportunity.

Zion, you have the opportunity to look back at your life together and ponder both the losses and the blessings; but also, this is an opportunity to do some looking ahead and dreaming about what the congregation might do and become. Wandering in the wilderness can be difficult some times, but it also gives the traveler a chance to breathe fresh air and reflect, wonder, and dream about where God is directing you, a new stage in your 200 years of ministry.

So let's walk together. My job is to be your pastor for a while (on a part-time basis, Sunday-Wednesday normally), but particularly to give you a chance to think and dream, to guide you away from some of the pitfalls of wilderness travel, to encourage you to focus on what God wants of you all, and to help you recognize just how precious it is to be a people blessed by God's love and forgiveness, called to pass on that blessing to any/all.

**"When all other doors in life are closed to us, Jesus will be for us the ever-open door. To call any situation hopeless is to shut the door on God."
~Anthony Coniaris**

ELCA Disaster Mission Trip

Information from Pastor Glenn Beard

The fall disaster response trip will take place October 8 - 14, 2017 at Camp Evans in Wall, New Jersey.

The group will again be hosted by Joy Blazak and the wonderful people of the Monmouth County Long-term Recovery Group at historic Camp Evans. It truly is like staying at a five-star resort when compared to many of the other places we've stayed!

We will also be working with SBP (formerly St. Bernard Project) as our construction partner. We are limited in the number of people that we can take on this trip. The first 20 people to sign up will be the ones who can go! (That number does not include the kitchen crew.)

So...our first organizational meeting for the fall trip will be held on Sunday, July 23, at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 600 E. Main Street, Lititz.

Please let Sue Orth know as soon as possible if you would like to participate. These work camps for adults fill up really fast.

Thank You from Gettysburg Seminary

**By Martha Zepp, Friend
Coordinator for Zion**

Many thanks for your generous support of Gettysburg Seminary Students during our "Friends" campaign in. Your contributions towards scholarships and tuition assistance make it possible for students to attend Seminary who would not otherwise be able to obtain the education and training needed to become a pastor or other church worker. In this time of great need for new pastors, we need to support seminary students not only financially, but with prayers and encouragement. Every student that I talk to says "thank you" when they hear that our congregation has a friends program. You are appreciated.

amazonsmile

Easy Way to Donate to Zion

By Sue Orth

Most people order on Amazon.com these days. Now you can direct a percentage of what you spend on Amazon to Zion Lutheran. All you have to do is log on to smile.amazon.com and select "Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Leola". Everything else is the same. A great way to direct money to Zion that doesn't cost you anything except what you were already going to spend!!

Also don't forget we have gift cards for Giant and Oregon Dairy. 5% of the purchase price of these goes to Zion but you still get to spend the face value of the card. Another great way to support the ministries of Zion when you buy your groceries.



Thank You Zion

Dear Zion,

Thank you for your congregation's generous gift to support the Friends of Luther Acres 2017 Project - Duet Wheelchair Bicycle Tandem.

Your donation of \$483.00 will help enhance the lives of Luther Acres residents whose access to outdoor recreational activities is limited because they use a wheelchair. With this "Go-Anywhere" tandem, they will have the opportunity to enjoy a new modified traveling experience and benefit by a freedom of mobility.

With gratitude,
William C. Snyder
Vice President, Philanthropy &
Community Engagement

Water Slide Day Coming Soon! Saturday, August 19

By Sue Orth

Zion will set up the inflatable water slides- four of them- and provide a day of vacation for the people of our community.

With the number of families entering into the poverty class this is a great way to provide some fun for families that will not put a strain on their already stressed budgets.

Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve food, keep order at the water slides, and socialize with our guests.

We are already getting emails to see when Waterslide Day will be. Watch for the sign up on the kiosk.



Funds Disbursed to Local Ministries

By Rafe Knox and the Stewardship Committee

Earlier this year, the Stewardship Committee -- acting upon suggestions proposed by Zion members -- made recommendations for disbursements from our Endowment Fund that were approved by Council and subsequently made. Donations were made to:

- *Potter's House - \$1,000
- *CV Homes of Hope - \$500
- *Habitat For Humanity - \$500
- *Water Street Ministries - \$1,000
- *CVHS Scholarship Fund - \$400
- *ELCA Disaster Relief - \$500
- *ELCA World Hunger - \$500
- *Clare House - \$1,000
- *Gettysburg Seminary - \$500
- *Zion Youth Group (for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering \$2,000)

What a joy it is to give! If you have suggestions for further disbursements or want to find out how to contribute to Zion's Endowment Fund, please let a member of the Stewardship Committee (Luke Harris, Tony Calderone, Kathleen Bennett, Rod Smith, and Rafe Knox) know.

Honoring Zion's 80+ Members

By Sue Orth

What a beautiful morning to honor the members and friends of Zion that have reached the age of 80 or will do so this year.

The preteen youth of Zion presented each person with a long stemmed yellow rose and read some humorous quotes on aging. After each service, a coffee social was held to honor the people that bring wisdom and love to the body of Christ at Zion.



500th Birthday The Lutheran Reformation!

By Alan Ruby

We continue our study of the Lutheran Reformation and its influence upon the early history of America. Our authority on the subject is the Rev. Dr. Abdel Ross Wentz.

This former president of the Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary (now deceased) enlightens us regarding the Reformation's influence in early America. I quote Dr. Wentz, *"The Reformation was a declaration of the equality of all men before God. That principle of spiritual freedom brought about the renaissance of the individual and so changed the course of political events. The common man was hence forth no longer merely one of a multitude, a pawn on the chessboard of an absolute church or an absolute State. There was awakened in him the consciousness of privilege and responsibility. With that came the yearning for liberty in the widest sense of the word."*

"That every man has certain rights that every other man is bound to respect was more grandly proclaimed or more forcefully exemplified than when Luther stood before the emperor and the Diet at Worms fearlessly insisting upon the right of his conscience and demanding to be convinced of his error from the Word of God alone. Luther was there facing the State that still claimed absolute power over the individual. He stood solely in the moral strength of his own faith and his own personal convictions as a man. He represented the right of individual man generally when he insisted that it is neither right nor safe to act against conscience. He fought that principle through to general recognition. It is the only soil in which the seed of political liberty can take root."

And that my friends is a large contribution of Luther and the Reformation to our American democracy.

Continue Your Offerings Through the Summer

By Pastor Rob Blezard, Lower
Susquehanna Synod - ELCA

We wait all year for those "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer" (as the old song goes), and then we fill them with vacations at the beach, camping trips in the woods and flying to far-off places. It's no wonder that church attendance dips in the summer.

But while you are relaxing, your church continues to be busy – with regular worship, social activities, caring for sick and the homebound members, planning weddings, baptisms and funerals, and ministering to the hungry and homeless in your community. And your pastor and church staff still need to be paid, as does the electric company.

So, here's the problem: The bills continue to roll in even when you're away, and many congregants have not planned to keep their offerings current when they are on vacation. That's why so many congregations face a cash crunch in the summer months.

But here are some ideas for how to help your congregation maintain its finances in the summer months.

Pay it forward: Your congregation would love to receive your summer offerings – or part of them – in advance. If you know you're going to be away, plan ahead by offering more in the weeks in advance of your time away from church.

Make it up: Alternatively, when you get back from your time away, give a little more in the weeks that follow in order to make up for the lost weeks.

Use your envelopes: Are you a check-writing person? Then simply fill in advance your offering envelopes with your weekly gift. If you have a check in every envelope, then on any given Sunday you need only to bring that day's envelope and whatever earlier Sunday envelopes are there.

Use banking bill pay: Lots of people find online banking services a convenient way to pay their monthly car loan, mortgage, light bill and other routine expenses. Why not your church offering, too? Many online

banking services will cut a check and send it to the church for you.

Enroll in electronic giving: If your congregation subscribes to an electronic giving service, such as Vanco, you can help by enrolling. Your offerings will go right to the church in the amount and according to the timeframe you specify.

Adjust your weekly offering: To calculate a weekly offering amount, most people take their annual donation amount and divide it by 52, since there are 52 Sundays in a year. The problem comes when they miss a Sunday and have to play "catch up." To get around this, instead, estimate the minimum number of those 52 Sundays a year you are likely to be in church and divide your annual amount accordingly.

Of course, these methods are beneficial not only for the summer months, but also for the whole year through. Those who embrace giving as a spiritual discipline often find that their lives of faith are enriched and their sense of joy and fulfillment is deepened. Choosing a regular-giving strategy can help you to discover the joys of generosity.

--Rob Blezard

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You can give to Zion
through our website:
www.zionleola.org,
click on "Donate
Now."

Time to “Think About, Check your Calendar, and Plan” for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston

**Registration opens Sept. 15, 2017
(in 3 months!!)**

Event is held June 27 – July 1, 2018

This event is for youth in 8th – 12th grades (Fall 2017) Two information meetings will be held at 9:15 AM. Sundays, July 30 and August 13 (you only need to attend one of these meetings). This meeting is for parents AND youth. Come and find out what this HUGE event is all about and what we will do in Houston. Bring your questions, thoughts and concerns as we gather.



“Houston – people might know it as Beyoncé’s hometown, others as the world hub of the energy industry, some for its prominence as the flight-control center for NASA’s manned space missions, but we know it best as the host city for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering! We also know Houston is a diverse, multicultural metropolis with thriving performing arts and culinary scenes, more than 55,000 acres of green space, a large and growing international community, and so much more.

The Gathering’s programming will take place in three main venues: NRG Stadium, NRG Arena and NRG Center, all located just outside of downtown Houston in the convention and sport entertainment complex known as NRG Park., as well as the hotels in the surrounding area.”
From ELCA Gathering website



- 2 David Good
- 3 Hannah Almodovar
- 4 Jackie Heise
- 4 Ralph Hutchison
- 4 Martha Lefever
- 5 Tim Horein
- 5 Kyle Perreault
- 6 Kris Gutshall
- 7 Connor Gehman
- 8 Nikki Werner
- 8 Scott High
- 8 Robert Jackson
- 8 Stasia Ries
- 11 Traci Harkins
- 11 Jason Schnader
- 14 Betty Lou Cunningham
- 14 Paige Smucker
- 16 Eric Graff
- 17 Elaine Ressler
- 18 Lauren Cessna
- 18 Tayler Moyer
- 18 Dona Weisbach
- 21 Ralph Brunken
- 22 Kathleen Bennett
- 22 Lynn Eisenhauer
- 24 Jennifer Michael
- 25 Sharon Perreault
- 26 Chuck Rathey
- 27 Cindy Smucker
- 28 Barb Weber
- 29 Joan Wagner
- 30 Joel Miller



- 1 Ralph & Karen Brunken - 50 years
- 5 Bruce & Kathleen Bennett
- 5 Greg & Karen Glaser - 37 years
- 17 Bill & Cherri Snader
- 19 John & Lori Eby - 31 years

Prayer Requests

Members of Zion

Chuck Rathey
 Deb Matthews
 Eleanor Eisenhower
 Evelyn Brown
 Harold Snader
 Jeff Hurst
 Jennie Roland
 Joan Wagner
 Judy Bomberger
 Judy Greiner
 Keith Shetter
 Mel & Mary Eby
 Pat Bunker
 Patty Jackson
 Paul Naffin
 Russ Wagner
 Sharon Perreault
 Sister Sandy Lehr

Friends of Zion

Abigail Critchfield
 Adam Mahler
 Amy Stump
 Art Moyer
 Barbara Byne
 Bobbie Jo Williams
 Brendan Holbriiter
 Charlie Delp
 Charlie
 Cocona Serras
 Coy McCuiston
 Danny O'Shae
 Dave Meneely
 Debbie Gerber
 Earl Ziegler
 Ella Lochonic

Elliot Helsman
 Gaylon Geiman
 Isaac Orth
 Jack Kehler
 Jack Redcay
 Janet Tomko
 Jeff Groff
 John Denlinger
 Kathy Pradon
 Kim Atkins
 Kristin Petrosky
 Kyle Esh
 Lamonet Dombach
 Linda Armstrong
 Linda Stevens
 Lisa Culler
 Mark Rinier
 Marvin High
 Nathanael Cassel
 Nuria Brenes
 Pat Brady
 Phil Mansi
 Randy Walker
 Sandy Sites
 Shannon Horst
 Sherry Parker Overman
 Tom Garroute

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.

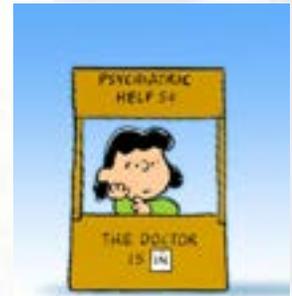
The Pastor Is In

Adapted by newsletternewsletter.com

Every Tuesday morning on New York City's Upper East Side, Gregory Fryer sits in a *Peanuts*-style booth offering prayer and a listening ear to passersby. Initially the pastor wanted to draw attention to his church, but instead he ended up noticing all the "hungry hearts" in the neighborhood. Fryer has been pleasantly surprised by all the people who open up to him. "I think they like the idea of a pastor being on the sidewalk," he says.

Although a sign on the booth reads "Spiritual advice 5 cents," the pastor keeps a plate of nickels handy if people want to put one in his jar. Some people donate much more -- and some even pray for Fryer.

The pastor says he was inspired by *Peanuts* character Lucy van Pelt, who has the "audacity, the courage to brazenly sit there out in public and offer to deal with important matters."



http://peanuts.wikia.com/wiki/Lucy%27s_psychiatry_booth

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)

July 20

Grace Lutheran Church (5th Wednesday of the month)

August 30

Clothing Bank Work Days for Seniors

July 5	Aug. 2
July 19	Aug. 16
	August 30

Leola Community Meal

Friday, July 21
 Served at 5:55 p.m.
 *Held here at Zion
 *Hosted by Salem Hellers

Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 23 at the 10:30 a.m. service -
 Friendship Community Worship Team will provide special music throughout the service.

Sunday, September 10
 Bishop Dunlop will preside at both services and a special lunch to follow.

September - Zion's 200th Anniversary Month

Zion Happenings For July 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 6:30 am Wake Up Call Men's Group 8 am Worship 9:30 am Youth leave for Hershey Park 10:30 am Worship	3 6:30 pm 200th Anniversary Meeting	4 6:30 pm Praise Practice	5 9 am Clothing Bank work day for seniors 6:30 pm Worship in Chapel	6	7	8
9 6:30 am Wake Up Call Men's Group 8 am Worship 10:30 am Worship	10 6:30 pm Council Meeting	11 5:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Praise Practice 6:30 pm Mutual Ministry Meeting 7 pm Prayer Group Meeting	12 6:30 pm Worship in Chapel	13	14	15
16 6:30 am Wake Up Call Men's Group 8 am Worship 10:30 am Worship TBD Youth leave for beach retreat	17	18 6:30 pm Praise Practice TBD Youth return from beach retreat	19 9 am Clothing Bank work day for seniors 6:30 pm Worship in Chapel	20 4:15 pm Carpool leaves to serve meal at Kingdom Life Assembly Church	21 5:55 pm Leola Community Dinner hosted by Salem Hellers	22
23 6:30 am Wake Up Call Men's Group 8 am Worship 10:30 am Worship with special guests - Friendship Community Worship Team	24 6:30 pm Worship Planning Meeting	25 6:30 pm Praise Practice 7 pm Prayer Group Meeting	26 6:30 pm Worship in Chapel	27	28 6-9 pm Dinner & a Movie Preteen Event	29
30 9:15 am Youth National Gathering Meeting	31	<p>Zion's now on Facebook. Follow us at Zion Lutheran Leola</p> <p>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.</p>				



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
Tracy Lash, 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Music Leader

Council

Bob Gates Council President
Ryan Stevens Council Vice President
Jeff Wasilewski Council Secretary
Tayler Moyer, Luke Harris, Martha Lefever,
Jackie Heise, Jimmy Woomer

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

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