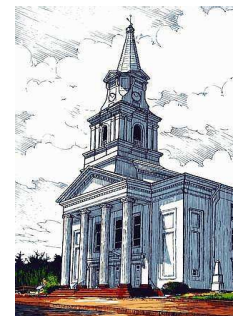


The Zion BEACON

Evangelical Lutheran Church Zion



It's About Time!

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is about time. How we live and move and have our being is about time. The choices we make and the priorities we set are all revealed in how we spend our time. On Ash Wednesday, February 17, we will begin a six week series on the last book of the Bible, Revelation. Much has been written about Revelation including the popular *Left Behind* Series. Through the writings of Revelation we are faced with ultimate questions about time. Picturing the end times, we take another look at our own time and wonder about the way we are spending our time.

When we face the death of a loved one, we often look back wishing for more time. At the end of the day we see how we ran out of time to accomplish everything that we set out to do. As we move on in time, we become nostalgic for the old times. In many ways we recognize that timing is everything when it comes to the happenings of our lives. In the letter to the church of Ephesus, the early Christians are warned to "make the most of the time." Ephesians 5:16. It is about time.

Why is it, therefore, that we seem to have so little time for the things that are most important? How is it that we get ourselves so busy from day to day? Maybe we need to be reminded that time is a gift with limits.

FEBRUARY 2010

Perhaps a picture of the time when there is no time will help us clarify the priorities for our time. The study of Revelation will help us see that "for such a time as this" we have time on our side. On this side of death, time is the where God dwells with us. He loves us, calls us, works through us, and leads us through time to the end of time. And at that time nothing else matters except the One who Is and Who Was and Who is to Come.

I encourage you to take the time to attend mid-week worship. After all, *It's About Time!*

With you in Christ,

Pastor Kathy

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Lenten Worship Schedule

Wednesday, February 17:

6:15 pm
7:00 pm

Ash Wednesday "Once Upon a Time..." (Rev 1.1-3.22)

Lenten Supper (Social Room)
Worship Service

Wednesday, February 24:

6:15 pm
7:00 pm

Midweek Service— "How Many Times..." (Rev 4.1-8.5)

Lenten Supper (Social Room)
Worship Service

Wednesday, March 3:

6:15 pm
7:00 pm

Midweek Service— "Time For a Change" (Rev 8.6-11.19)

Lenten Supper (Social Room)
Worship Service

Wednesday, March 10:

6:15 pm
7:00 pm

Midweek Service— "Time Is on Our Side" (Rev 12.1-14.20)

Lenten Supper (Social Room)
Worship Service

Wednesday, March 17:

6:15 pm
7:00 pm

Midweek Service— "Time's Up" (Rev 15.1-19.21)

Lenten Supper (Social Room)
Worship Service

Wednesday, March 24:

6:15 pm
7:00 pm

Midweek Service— "Time after Time" (Rev 20.1-22.21)

Lenten Supper (Social Room)
Worship Service



Thursday, April 1:

2:00 pm
7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday

Worship Service with Holy Communion
Worship Service with Holy Communion (First Communion)

Friday, April 2:

9:00 am
12:00 noon
5:30 pm
6:00 pm
7:00 pm

Good Friday

Morning Prayer Service
Noon Prayer Service with Community Cross
Vespers Worship Service with Community Cross
Light Dinner (Social Room)
Tenebrae Worship Service

Saturday, April 3:

6:00 pm

Easter Vigil

Easter Vigil Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, April 4:

6:30 am
8:15 am
10:45 am

Easter Sunday—The Resurrection of Our Lord

Sunrise Service with Holy Communion (start in Garden)
Easter Festival Services with Holy Communion
Easter Festival Services with Holy Communion



REVELATION

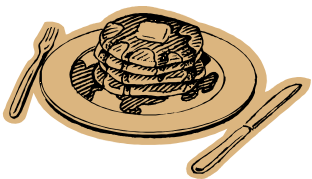
It's About Time 

It's About Time...

Lenten Study to Focus on Book of Revelation

Back in 2000, some people worried that we were about to experience all sorts of cataclysms that would usher in the beginning of the end times. We survived, but we are still fighting terrorism, cancer and AIDS, earthquakes and hurricanes, and fears of a host of other things that can kill us. Global weather patterns appear to be changing and are causing new calamities. We live in a time when technology is becoming more prevalent in every aspect of our lives. It has created global economies, connected us in new relationships worldwide, and provided all sorts of enhancements we daily enjoy, but that technology has also been abused. Terrorists, as well as Christians, use the Internet. Computers can isolate or infiltrate as much as they can integrate and educate. We are being promised hundreds of channels of on-demand, interactive, high-definition television experiences, but such distractions only remind us how much busier we are than we really want to be. There's so much to do and so little time! Yes, we truly live in an age of anxiety about the times.

And so... it's about time that we try to get the big picture of what it all means. The book of Revelation gives us that perspective, and it will be the focus of our Lenten study this year led by Pastor Mark Vitalis Hoffman, a professor at the seminary at Gettysburg. Through our study of this Scripture, we will discover that Revelation is not simply about the end time but is about how we live our lives all the time. The uncertainties and tragedies of this life are set in the context of the ultimate accomplishment of God's will. With this assurance about the future that God intends, we are given the hope and confidence we need to stand firm in the midst of all the anxieties of the present time. Revelation is indeed about time, and we encourage you to make the time to participate in this study at the Lenten services.



Shrove Tuesday Meal Tuesday, February 16th

Join us Tuesday, February 16th at 6:00 pm in the Social Room for our Shrove Tuesday meal. Tickets are \$3.00, children under 12 are free. The Christian Fellowship Committee will be selling tickets after services on January 30/31 and February 6/7. Come out for the fellowship as we prepare for the Lenten season along with enjoying some food...pancakes, sausage, scrapple, pudding, kinklings, coffee, milk and iced tea!

Mark Your Calendar



February:

- 5-7 Confirmation Retreat
- 6 Assemble Donations for Haiti (pg 14)
- 13 Renew Vows (pg 7)
- 13 Valentine Breakfast/Auction (pg 7)
- 15 Mar-Lu-Ridge Day Camp (pg 19)
- 16 Shrove Tuesday Meal (pg 3)
- 17 Ash Wednesday (pg 2 & 3)
- 21 One God One Voice Cabaret (pg 17)
- 22 Grief 2 Hope (pg 8)
- 23 Early Dismissal Safe House (pg 18)
- 24 Mid-week Lenten Meal/Service (pg 2 & 3)
- 28 High School Youth Potluck (pg 18)

March:

- 26-28 IMPACT Youth Conference (pg 19)
- 27 First Communion Retreat (pg 8)

From the Vicar....

The end is near! I'm not trying to proclaim the end of the world like those who stand on the corner of a busy street, or those who are concerned with the end of the Mayan calendar in 2012. I am expressing a profound joy and a little apprehension as I prepare to begin my final semester of studies as a seminarian. I have spent the last month gathering my energy and resting from the academic world as I have enjoyed spending the Christmas season with you in worship.

I have just come home from my adventure to the Gulf Coast of Mississippi as the leader of a Thrivent Builds trip. Thirteen of us spent our week working on two Habitat for Humanity houses and learning about the recovery from Katrina. In the midst of our work there came word of a large aftershock in Haiti and more devastation. I witnessed firsthand what determined efforts by the Body of Christ can do to aid in recovery and would ask you to continue to pray for those who are suffering in Haiti and for those who continue to suffer as they recover from Katrina.

As I boarded the plane for our connecting flight in Atlanta wearing my bright red "Thrivent Builds" shirt, a woman asked if I was returning from Haiti. I told her that I had been in Gulfport Mississippi and groups like ours were not being sent to Haiti, yet. But I know they will go. The Body of Christ will reach out to that nation and its people as it has to those who lost their homes to Katrina. For now, pray for them. Support them with donations. Help gather materials that are desperately needed, and sometimes taken for granted by those of us who live in abundance.

I spent the week swinging a hammer and climbing on rooftops to help me remember the real need for what I am about to study in a classroom. The Body of Christ is needed in the world, now more than ever.

--- Vicar Cris

"And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'" (Matthew 25:40)



CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS, January 4, 2010

1. Staff reported on the upcoming 'Open House,' scheduled youth events (Road Trip, Soup/Sandwich Sales, Valentine Breakfast), and offered appreciation for year-end giving and help for the Christmas Eve services.
2. The Task Force on the Master Plan has begun meeting to review information from various groups and congregational input as initial work on a feasible plan for future ministries. A brief overview will be presented at the Annual Meeting.
3. Annual Meeting agenda will include: 2010 budget, constitutional amendments vote, update on contemporary worship service, mission statement and master plan).
4. Council nominees for four positions to serve a 3-year term: Jo Ahalt, Alissa Burrall, David Gouker, Michael Guckenberger, Pat Rudy. Chris Derr was nominated to fill the 1-year vacancy due to the resignation of Michael Gregory.
5. The retiring council members, Greta Huffer, Ken Lichtenberger and Michael Gregory (who has resigned) were thanked for their service to Zion. (Alissa Burrall is seeking another full term and Chris Derr a one-year term.)

Congregational News





Sharing Christ's Love— For One Another and All The Others

The SHOUT Committee is restructuring into two ministries. The Caring Ministry Committee is focusing on the ways we can care for one another as a community. We are also continuing to grow in our caring ministries that extend beyond our congregation. Would you like to learn more about the possibilities? Could you come and share your ideas? We are meeting on Monday February 1 at 6:00-7:30pm in the Social Room.

Watch for more details about the re-formed Outreach Committee.

Children's Midweek Lenten Program



Anyone interested in helping with the Wednesday evening Children's Lenten program please contact Ginger Trautman. Wanna help with crafts? Read a story? Do a puppet show? Just be a presence? We'd love to have you help. The Children's Lenten Program runs every Wednesday night beginning February 17 and ending March 24th from 7:00-7:45pm. Help with one or all.

Annual Congregational Meeting January 24, 2010



1. Council members elected to a three-year term: Jo Ahalt, Alissa Burrall, David Gouker, Michael Guckenberger. Chris Derr was elected to fill the 1-year term vacancy due to the resignation of Michael Gregory. Retiring council members Michael Gregory, Greta Huffer, Ken Lichtenberger were thanked for their service.
2. **Master Planning Task Force Report:** Brian Carlstrom, chair, reviewed the work of the task force to date: how they have looked at previous groups' work and are beginning to develop a master plan which will make recommendations on the properties of Zion.
3. **Contemporary Worship Task Force Report:** Dee Buchanan shared that the task force has reviewed the discussions at the "Wonderful Wednesday" sessions and spent time visiting congregations with contemporary worship services, pulling together ideas to share with council and Worship and Music Committee in developing a proposal for discussion which was included in the annual report. The proposal calls for the addition of a Contemporary Worship Service at 9:00 AM, with some changes to the 8:15 AM service and the Christian Education hour. Time was spent in small groups sharing ideas and thoughts about the proposal.
4. **Constitutional Amendments:** The two amendments to Zion's constitution were adopted as presented. 2010 Annual Budget was adopted as presented.
5. Acknowledgements were extended to the work of the staff, council, and church members for continued support of the variety of ministries at Zion.



Congregational News



Welcome to Our Newest Members!

Welcome to our newest members who joined Zion on **Sunday, January 24th** at the **10:45am** worship service.

Tiffany Ahalt and Logan Wilms
Jeff, Vicki, Hunter, Kiley & Hayley Hill
John, Janine and Conor Page
Edna Peck
Eddie Pulzone
Dianna Roub

(See New Member bio's in the March Beacon)



Thank You Sheila!

A special word of thanks to Sheila Webber who has served as chairman of the Altar Guild for many years. Sheila has decided to take a break from being chairman. Thank you Sheila for all the hard work you have done for Zion especially at Christmas and Easter.



Nursery Scheduler

Are you looking for a way to serve your church in a low-commitment way? A nursery scheduler is needed to make a roster two times a year for scheduling adults and helpers for the nursery during the 10:45am worship service. If you are interested, please call the church office at 301-371-6500. Thank you for your time and commitment to God's work at

Congregational News



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

CALLING ALL SCOUTS:

Boy Scout Sunday will be observed on February 7, 2010 at Zion Lutheran Church.

Zion Church is asking that all boys who are presently Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts wear their scout uniform to Sunday School and church services on that day. Young men and women who are members of a Venture Crew (whether it be the new Crew at Zion or another one) are also asked to wear their uniforms. Former scouts, including adults, are also asked to participate by wearing all or a portion of their uniform.

This Scout Sunday is special for several reasons. One is that the official charter for Venture Crew 121 is going to be presented just before the 10:45 AM service. Another is that the next day, February 8, will be the 100th Anniversary of Scouting in the United States. Last but not least, participation in church services by youth is always special.

Please show your support for scouting, the 100th birthday of the scout program in the United States, and the chartering of the new Venture Crew 121 by wearing your uniform on Sunday February 7th.



***Man's way leads to a hopeless end.
God's way leads to an endless hope.***

Treasurer's Report December 2009

	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Operating Income	\$472,611.78
Operating Expense	497,228.73
Income Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$24,616.95)

Valentine Breakfast and Silent Auction Saturday, February 13th



Join us Saturday, February 13th from 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. in the Social Room for a Valentine Breakfast and Silent Auction hosted by our youth group. Spoil the one you love by bringing them to breakfast for pancakes, sausage, bacon, juice, coffee and tea. Tickets are sold at the door only and are \$7/person, \$20/family, 5 and under are free.

While there peruse a variety of baskets filled with goodies and services that you could win at our silent auction! We'll also be honoring members of our congregation who have been married for 50 or more years! We hope to see you there.



Profits to benefit high school youth Work Camp 2010 to Mifflinburg PA.

Silent Auction Items Still Needed!!



Do you have a service to share? An item to auction? Zion will be hosting a silent auction to support the youth going to Work Camp. Donated items may be **dropped off at the church office no later than Tuesday, February 9th**. Please fill out a "Donation Description Sheet" available at the church office or by emailing Kathy Nickey at groundhogsday62@comcast.net. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Nickey (301-371-4997)

Renewal of Wedding Vows

On Saturday, February 13th during the Valentine Breakfast, from 8:00-11:00 there will be an opportunity for all married couples to renew their wedding vows. Pastor Kathy, Pastor Phil and Vicar Cris will be available in the chapel to give husbands and wives the opportunity to recommit themselves to one another in a brief ceremony. The ceremony will last 5-7 minutes each. A bouquet and snapshot will be provided. This is a gift of Zion Lutheran Church. Please sign up on the youth bulletin board for a designated time if you want to request a specific pastor. We will also accommodate walk-ins.



Renewing Vows



Have you been married 50 or more years?

We want to celebrate the blessing of those couples who have been married for 50 or more years at our Valentine Breakfast on Saturday, February 13th. Please contact the church office at 301-371-6500 and let us know if you or someone you know is celebrating this milestone! We have a special celebration planned for you.



Greeting Cards

Thank you to all those who have donated greeting cards to the church. At this time we have ample supply and do not need any more. Thank you for thinking of us.

Congregational News

"... Grow in Faith..."



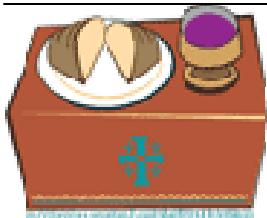
Exodus Study Continues

Join us for the concluding weeks of our six week study on Exodus, Wednesdays Feb 3rd and 10th from 7:00-8:00pm --- **He Parted the Waters through Moses -Come see what God will do through you.**

- **FEB 3:** Laying Down the Law: What does God expect from us? Exodus 21:1-21
- **FEB 10:** Don't Have a Cow! How does God deal with those who fail to meet expectations? Exodus 32:1-20, 30-35

7th/8th Grade Confirmands...

Plan to join us for **NOIZ**, Sunday, February 28th from 5:00-8:00pm.



First Communion Retreat Saturday, March 27th 9:00am-3:00pm

Any child wishing to receive their first communion should plan to attend a one-day retreat at Zion on Saturday, March 27th from 9:00am-3:00pm. Experience the Biblical foundations of Holy Communion during this fun-filled retreat. Sense what the Last Supper was like as you'll participate in a Passover Seder, bread making and more. There is no cost for this retreat but we are asking that you let Ginger Trautman know if you plan to attend so that we know how many people to plan for. This retreat is for both the child AND their parents. Their first communion will be received on Maundy Thursday, April 1st. Please contact Ginger with questions or to sign up.

Grief 2 Hope

Grief is a journey that does not have to be taken alone. Our congregation offers support through a get-together called Grief 2 Hope. If you have experienced a loss recently or at any time in your life, please know that you are welcome to attend. The next meeting is Monday **February 22 at 7:00pm** in the Living Library. For more information contact Dixie Eichelberger at 301-371-4232 or Pastor Kathy at 301-371-6500 or khoffman@zionmiddletown.org.

VBS 2010 - Mark Your Calendar...

Vacation Bible School
June 21-25 2010
9:00am - 12:00pm
(Ages 4 - 5th grade)

Middle and High School VBS Outings
June 21-24 2010
12:45 - 4:00pm
(Ages 6th - 12th grades)



Lectionary Text For February

Below are the Gospel texts for each week for the month of February:

Feb 6/7: *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*
Luke 5:1-11

Feb 13/14: *Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*
Luke 6:17-26

Feb 20/21: *1st Sunday in Lent*
Luke 4:1-13

Feb 27/28: *2nd Sunday in Lent*
Luke 13:31-35

Christian Education

Seventh & Eighth Grade Confirmands Help at Soup Kitchen

Have you ever helped at a Soup Kitchen or wondered what it would be like? Just ask the youth from Zion Lutheran Church and they'll tell you it's a great experience! Sunday, January 10th, thirteen youth and five adults from Zion Lutheran church spent an afternoon preparing, serving and cleaning up at the Frederick Soup Kitchen. Here's what they had to say:

What was the best part of the experience?

The best part of the soup kitchen was just helping people less fortunate. –*Jack Williams*

The best part of the experience for me was to see how little those people had. It was a tragic sight to see those people and their kids with the dirt in their hands and clothes. –*Lauren Neary*

The best part of the experience was helping people who are in need. –*Scott Coblentz*

Was getting thanks. –*Andrea Toledo*

Getting to see all the people who need to go there for food. It makes me realize how lucky I am. –*Samantha Yeager*

How happy the people were that we were there. –*Emily Fulton*



What was the worst part of the experience?

There was no worst part –*Jack Williams*

I think the worst part would have to be being around all the food and not being allowed to eat any. –*Lauren Neary*

The warnings about how to be safe at the soup kitchen, what to do and not to do. –*Andrea Toledo*

Looking at some of the people's clothes and

looks, and noticing that some people really need our help –*Samantha Yeager*

The worst part was not knowing what to expect from the people who came in and what my job would be. –*Scott Coblentz*

How sad some of those people looked. –*Emily Fulton*

Was the soup kitchen what you expected?

I've never been to one before so I guess so –*Jack Williams*

No, I thought that it was much bigger and newer. –*Lauren Neary*

It was better than I expected, I got to work behind the scenes washing dishes. –*Scott Coblentz*



I didn't know what to expect. –*Andrea Toledo*

Yes! It was fun and exciting. –*Samantha Yeager*

Somewhat because I read books and they went to the soup kitchen in it so I had an idea. –*Emily Fulton*

Would you serve at the soup kitchen again?

I would definitely serve at the soup kitchen again without a doubt –*Jack Williams*

Yes, I would because I had a fun time and learned how little those people had from just seeing them. –*Lauren Neary*

I would serve at the soup kitchen again since I know how good it feels to give back to a community who needs help. –*Scott Coblentz*

Christian Education

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>
	<p>1 9:30am Staff meets (LL) 6:00pm Caring Ministry Committee meeting (SR) 6:30pm Youth Committee meeting (LL) 7:00pm Church Council meeting (CR)</p>	<p>2 9:00am Wisdom Seekers Bible Study (CR) 4:15pm Body & Soul (SR) 7:00pm Handbells (MR) 7:00pm Zion Knitters (Main Cup) 7:30pm Music Jam (Chapel)</p>	<p>3 7-8pm Exodus Bible Study Week 5 of 6 (Social Room)</p>
<p>7 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany <i>Pastor Kathy</i></p> <p><i>Scout Sunday</i></p> <p>8:15am Service of Holy Communion 9:30am Christian Education for all ages 10:45am Service of Holy Communion 10:45am Venture Crew charter acknowledgement 12N Youth Musician's rehearsal (MR) 7pm Children's Choir rehearsal (MR)</p>	<p>8 9:30am Staff meets (LL) 6:30pm Daisy Girl Scouts (SS Rm)</p>	<p>9 9:00am Wisdom Seekers Bible Study (CR) 4:15pm Body & Soul (SR) 7:00pm Handbells (MR) 7:00pm Zion Knitters (Main Cup) 7:30pm Music Jam (Chapel)</p>	<p>10 7-8pm Exodus Bible Study Week 6 of 6 (Social Room)</p>
<p>14 Transfiguration of Our Lord <i>Vicar Cris</i></p> <p>8:15am Service of Holy Communion 9:30am Christian Education for all ages 10:45am Service of Holy Communion</p> <p>12Noon Youth Musician's rehearsal (MR) 7pm Children's Choir rehearsal (MR)</p>	<p>15 9:30am Staff meets (LL)</p> <p>6:00pm Thrivent meeting (SR)</p> <p>7:00pm Christian Education meeting (Living Library)</p>	<p>16 9:00am Wisdom Seekers Bible Study (CR) 4:15pm Body & Soul (SR) 6:00pm Shrove Tues Meal (SR) 7:00pm Handbells (MR) 7:00pm Zion Knitters (Main Cup) 7:30pm Music Jam (Chapel)</p>	<p>17 ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>12Noon Service of Holy Communion 6:15pm Meal (SR) 7:00pm Service of Holy Communion</p>
<p>21 First Sunday in Lent <i>Pastor Phil</i></p> <p>8:15am Service of Holy Communion 9:30am Christian Education for all ages 10:45am Service of Holy Communion 12Noon Youth Musician's rehearsal (MR) 3:00pm "Church Basement Ladies" Play at the Weinberg Center-Frederick 5:00pm OGOV Cabaret (SR/KR) 7pm Children's Choir rehearsal (MR)</p>	<p>22 9:30am Staff meets (LL) 6:30pm Daisy Girl Scouts (SS Rm) 7:00pm Grief 2 Hope (LL)</p>	<p>23 9:00am Wisdom Seekers Bible Study (CR) Noon-3:00pm Early Dismissal Safe House (YH) 4:15pm Body & Soul (SR) 7:00pm Handbells (MR) 7:00pm Zion Knitters (Main Cup) 7:30pm Music Jam (Chapel)</p>	<p>24 6:15pm Lenten Meal</p> <p>7:00pm Lenten Worship Service</p>
<p>28 Second Sunday in Lent <i>Pastor Kathy</i></p> <p>8:15am Service of Holy Communion 9:30am Christian Education for all ages 10:45am Service of Holy Communion 12Noon Youth Musician's rehearsal (MR) 5:00pm High School Potluck (YH) 5-8pm NOIZ Confirmands and Families (Social Room and Sanctuary) 7pm Children's Choir rehearsal (MR)</p>			



Birthdays

Happy Birthday to our FEBRUARY celebrants!

- 1 Tracey Kelley-Franklin, Sara Stream
- 2 James Early, Kathy Nickey, Beth Price
- 3 Lisa Ahalt, Regina Ahalt, Rory McQuillen
- 4 Rich Fulton, Robert Hawker
- 5 Julia Nash, Rudy Slifer, Katelyn Williams
- 6 Kendra Biegalski, Mona Decker, Josh Glessner, Ella Moser, Lynn Palmer, Amy Reynal, Dorothy Schroyer
- 7 Jan Mackley, Heather McCubbin, Ashley Pierce, Carolyn Stine, Diane Summers, Rosella Wilson
- 8 Nicholas Bradley, Brian Thompson
- 9 Kieffer Crummitt Jr., Carl Fry Jr., Krista Geritz, Karen Irgens, Joyce McAllister, Valier Perrin, Peggy Zembower
- 10 Robert Guyton, Ginny Lundregan, Bronwyn Putman
- 11 Jessica Biggs
- 12 Amy Adams, Linda Huckleberry, Kristen Kobylarz
- 13 Donna Darr, Adams Willem, Nichole Willem
- 14 Raymond Breeden, Carrie Bussard, Clarence Lantz Jr., Bernice Palmer, Luann Putman, John Rudy
- 15 Laura Early, Joshua Lewis, Winston Mann, Joey Reef, Ethan Schultz
- 16 Beverly Bidle, Jack Boglitsch, Brandon Dean, Peyton Hollis, Joyce Renner, Amanda Zolfo
- 17 John Buxbaum, Kenneth Crummitt I, Faith Hoover, Holly Jenkins, Bradley Kehoe, Matt Routzahn, Janice Wisner
- 18 Ryan Pearl, Eric Reichlet Sr.
- 19 Dee Buchanan, Wilmer Flook Jr.
- 20 Robert Buchanan, Anna Hoffman, Nic Kobylarz, Dana Lichtenberger, Amber Myers, Ainsleigh O'Brien, Linda Reese
- 21 John Crone, Drew Haines, Cheryl March, Logan Ropp, Susan Warrenfeltz
- 22 Cleta Ahalt, Abigail Anthony, Paula Pearson, Cole Reed, Richard Sheffer, Doris Taylor
- 23 Ruth Barry, Cathy Kehoe, Kristin Neary, Maura Wimsatt
- 24 Sydney Frigm, Judy Rudy, Richard Summers
- 25 Christine Bussard, Chris Derr, William McCutcheon Sr.
- 26 James Allen, Greg Mullen, Jerry Rhoderick V, Kellie Thompson, Skippy Zimmerman
- 27 Kathy Gordon, Mabel Pearl, Crystal Tressler
- 28 Margaret Guyton, Pat Hendricks, Kim Raginski; Matthew Ahalt, Jo Ann Poffinberger



Thank you for all your continued prayers, words of encouragement and kindness, and your cards after the death of our beloved mother, Margaret Schroyer.

Pastor Kathy and Vicar Cris we appreciate and thank you for being with our mother and family in the hospital.

Pastor Kathy, your personal message at the service and your care and concern for our family has been a wonderful comfort to us - we thank you so much. A special thank you to Vicar Cris for assisting in the service and to John Seachrist for providing the lovely music.

Also, a special thank you to Zion Daughters for preparing and serving a wonderful meal after the funeral.

We are overwhelmed by the love and support shown to our family.

With love,,
Karen, Cathy, Sheri and Tom

Dear Friends at Zion,

Thank you so much for all the visits, cards, telephone calls, flowers and prayers while I was a patient at Frederick Memorial and a resident at Glade Valley. I wanted to extend a special thank you to Pastor Kathy for her visits and prayers. We are all blessed to have her as a part of the Zion family.

Please know how very much I and the members of my family appreciate your support and hope you will continue to remember me in your prayers. Again, thanks and God Bless.

Daisy Thomas and family

MVPHP Christmas Assistance Program 2009



Thank you so very much for the generous gifts from Zion's Sunday School Classes, Individual Families, Thrivent Organization, and cash, gift cards, toys, and clothes donations to Middletown Valley People Helping People Christmas Assistance Program. With your help, as well as others in the Valley, MVPHP was able to provide Christmas for 77 families which included 206 children. Our Beacon in the Valley shone a little brighter this Christmas thanks to your generosity. Even in these tough times, Zion members were a blessing to our community after first being Blessed by God. May God continue to bless us all in 2010.

Again Many thanks,
*Dorothy Moler and
Donna Jean Brandenburg*

We wish to thank Pastor Kathy, Vicar Cris and Pastor Fogarty for their visits and prayers given "Gene" at the nursing home and hospital.

The beautiful service Pastor Kathy gave us and the prayers, cards, flowers and food brought to our home were greatly appreciated.

There were many nice comments made about the delicious meal served to family and friends by the Zion Daughters Class. Our sincere thanks are extended to you.

May God continue to bless each of you as he has blessed us during this difficult time.

The Carroll "Gene" McAllister family

How Can I Serve?



CHANGE FOR LIFE
CareNet Pregnancy Center
Campaign for Lent

Zion is again participating in the CareNet Pregnancy Center "Change for Life" campaign for Lent.

Pick up bottles: Pick up baby bottles in the side windows of the sanctuary or outside the church office any time after Ash Wednesday, February 17th.

Fill bottles: Take your bottles home or to work with you and toss your spare change in the bottles each day throughout Lent.

Return bottles: Remember to bring your filled baby bottle(s) back to church with you anytime on or before **Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010.** Drop off bottles in marked boxes by the church office, or in the front window sills of the sanctuary.

Thank you for your help in supporting the Care Net Pregnancy Center! Questions, please call Joann Stanfield at 301-371-6240.



**Mar-Lu-Ridge Spring
Clean Up
Saturday, March 27**

Many hands are needed to paint, rake, clean, haul, mulch, organize...get the idea? Come out and help care for our camp.. Meals provided. Work begins around 8:30 am. More details to come in the March Beacon.

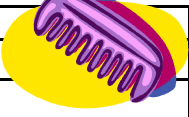
How Can I Serve?



Donations for Haiti Earthquake Victims

Our Sunday school classes will be working together to gather supplies to help our brothers and sisters in Haiti. We invite the entire congregation to help with this effort by donating supplies to put together **health kits and school kits.** Lutheran World Relief (LWR) collects these items year round and their supplies are already depleted. Help us bring relief and comfort to the people of Haiti.

Donations will be collected through February 3rd and can be placed in the LWR boxes outside the sanctuary and in the Living Library.

dark colored hand towels	
dark colored wash cloths	
4 to 5 oz bar bath soap (In original wrapper)	
adult size toothbrush (singles in original wrapper)	
sturdy comb	
metal nail clipper with file attached (no cardboard emery boards)	
1/2" to 3/4" sized band-aids	
Notebooks: 150-200 sheets, wide or college-ruled paper (no loose leaf)	
blunt scissors (safety scissors)	
30 centimeter ruler (or ruler with centimeter one side and inches on other)	
pencil sharpeners	
unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers	
2 1/2" long erasers	
construction paper in assorted colors	
box of 16 or 24 crayons	
sturdy cloth bag approximately 12"x14" with cloth handles or drawstring	



We invite the congregation to **join us on Saturday, February 6th** to help assemble the kits. We will meet in the Social Room at 9:00am and work until the kits are completed. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to do a service project together. Donations will be delivered to the LWR Warehouse in New Windsor, MD. Those able to provide trucks should contact Ginger Trautman.



Hope For Haiti—Ways We Can Respond



As many of you know a 7.0 magnitude earthquake hit the poor Caribbean nation of Haiti causing irreparable damage including the collapse of schools, hospitals, and many other buildings across the country. Initial reports from Haiti are bleak, and the number of victims continues to rise. With no water or electricity, immediate needs are food, water and shelter. First, we have the opportunity to help a school in Haiti called Village of Hope. Please read below:

Dear Zion Family,

....Advent Lutheran Church, my internship congregation in Boca Raton, Florida, has been involved with several programs in Haiti since the church first started 50 years ago. One of these programs is the *Village of Hope* school (www.lazarusprojecthaiti.org) which provides education, life skills, and all around care for several hundred Haitian children. This summer I will be traveling there to run a vacation Bible school program with a group from my internship church.

I am telling you this in order to put a name with the face of this disaster. Currently, there is a community of people on an island just a few hundred miles from here which is filled with many injured, missing, displaced, and dead. It is our responsibility, as Brothers and Sisters in Christ to find a way to care for God's children in Haiti. The best way to do that right now is by raising money for food, water, medicine, clothes, and other supplies. The people of Haiti Need YOUR Help! Please prayerfully consider making a donation. For every \$5 which gets donated for the recovery in Haiti we are posting a paper "brick" on the wall of our Narthex. I will make sure to fill out bricks in the name of Zion for every \$5 which gets donated from you guys as well so that people here know how supportive you are of the community in Haiti. **(If you would like to make a donation, checks can be written to Zion Lutheran Church and ear marked "Haiti-Village of Hope".)**

In God's Service,
Veronica Webber, Intern Pastor
Advent Lutheran Church, Boca Raton, FL

Second, we can help overall relief efforts through Lutheran World Relief:

Lutheran World Relief Is Responding...

LWR has committed an initial \$1,000,000 to the relief effort, and will reevaluate that commitment as new reports emerge. LWR is currently planning a two-phase relief and recovery response through our partners on the ground in Haiti. LWR is also responding through the Action by Churches Together (ACT) alliance to support immediate relief efforts of food, water, medicine and shelter. LWR (www.lwr.org/Haiti) will continue to evaluate the needs on the ground as search, rescue and relief efforts are updated. Every dollar donated to this life-saving effort is critical to providing the necessary emergency support to the people of Haiti. To help in this way, **write a check to Zion Lutheran Church and earmark Haiti-Relief.**

How Can I Serve?

The People

Congratulations to our newly baptized members:



Calina Harris

Logan Wilms

(son of Tiffany Ahalt and stepson of Brad Ahalt)

Meet Our New Council Members!

Jo Ahalt has been a member of Zion for the past 43+ years. She retired from State Farm Insurance Companies in 2005 after 40 years of employment. Her positions were in the departments of Personnel, Executive and Public Affairs. She has served in various capacities at Zion as a choir member, communion assistant, call committee member, lector and wedding assistant. She also helps with apple butter boiling and Heritage Days. Jo and Rudell are proud of their son, Dell, and his family of Michelle, Lauren and Brett. She enjoys golf and attending her grandchildren's sporting events. Jo wants to help in any way with Zion's future.

Alissa Burrall has been a Spanish teacher in Middletown for 11 years and was blessed to find a church home in the same community. "Most of my time at Zion has been spent with the youth. Whether in the high school Sunday School classroom, in the Youth House, or chaperoning RoadTrips, the relationships formed and the stories shared have greatly shaped the person I have become". Although the last few years have brought about a shift in her involvement, Alissa does continue to serve on the Youth Committee. "I see God leading me in other areas of serve as well. As I finish up my first term on council, I am very excited about the ways in which the Spirit is leading our congregation. In the midst of hard discussions and difficult

We keep in our thoughts and prayers the family and friends of:

Robert Burchill

(father/in-law of Rob and Paulela Burchill)

JoAnn Campbell

(mother of Robin Campbell-Krouse)

Bob Falkenstein

James "Coach" Kehoe Jr

(father/in-law of Jim and Cathy Kehoe)

Geraldine Markley

(sister of Gwen Bowlus)

Gene McAllister

Mae Anna Schone

Margaret Schroyer

Phil Wise



decisions, it is the underlying energy and desire to do that which God has called us to do that has me hoping to serve a second term on the council".

David Gouker has long been a member of Zion, being both baptized and confirmed here. Dave serves as an usher and communion assistant, as well as attending Bible Study. He has served in the community as a volunteer firefighter and EMT for 38 years, serving in numerous operational and administrative positions; currently serving as the Director and Safety Officer. Dave is employed at Trans-Tech Inc., a division of Skyworks Intl., in Adamstown, Maryland. He holds certification as a USTAF Track and Field official, having officiated youth, high school and college track meets for the past 18 years. Dave has adult children – son, Mark, and daughter, Rachel, who are both members of Zion.

Michael Guckenberger joined Zion Lutheran in 1999. He is a graduate of Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania and is active in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Frederick County as well as participates in activities which benefit Special Olympics. He will be helping with the February Confirmation retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge. Mike's other interests include playing tennis, table tennis, running and playing chess with Pastor Fogarty.

La Nuit D'Amour IV
Sunday, February 21 @ 5:00pm



The One God~One Voice community choir is planning an evening of dining and entertainment in celebration of Valentine's Day. Their "La Nuit D'Amour IV" cabaret will be held on Sunday, February 21, 2010, 5:00 p.m., at Zion Lutheran Church, Middletown, Maryland. Seating begins at 4:30.

This is a fund raising event to help the choir with its various concert expenses. OGOV members will be providing both the food and the entertainment for the evening. Tickets are on sale at \$18 per person. You may either contact any OGOV member or call David Cutler at 301-371-6232 for tickets.



Members of the Altar Guild will be available to take orders for Easter lilies at Saturday night services and after the Sunday 8:15am Worship Service and before and after the 10:45am service on the weekends of February 13/14, 20/21, and 27/28 by the east side of the Adult Sunday School Chapel. The cost is \$9.00 per plant. Please indicate on your order form whether you are taking the plant to a member of Zion. If you wish to leave your lily to be delivered by the Altar Guild to sick and shut-in members of Zion, please mark your order form accordingly. If you indicate on the form that you will pick up your plant, please remember to do so. **Plants may be picked up after the 10:45am Worship Service on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010.**

If you are unable to attend the services mentioned, please complete the form below and mail with check (made out to *Zion Lutheran Church*) to Zion Lutheran Church, 107 West Main Street, Middletown, MD 21769.

All orders must be received by Monday, March 1st.

EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

Each plant is \$9.00

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

Given By _____

() I will pick up

() Please deliver to shut-in

I will deliver to _____

(Please put in name if member of Zion)

Youth News

Senior High School Youth Group and Pot Luck - Food From Your Heritage



We invite all 9th-12th graders to join us **Sunday, February 28th** for the Senior High youth group and pot luck. We begin at the youth house at 5 pm. Come for fellowship, devotion, and food. We will join the NOIZ group in the social room at 7:15 pm for a contemporary worship service. Our potluck theme for February is "Food From Your Heritage". Please sign up on the bulletin board to deter duplication of food and to make sure we have enough. We will provide drinks. Please contact Ginger Trautman at 301-371-6500 or gtrautman@zionmiddletown.org with questions or for more details.

Snow Cancellation Policy



When FCPS closes school, cancels evening activities or dismisses early due to inclement weather, all youth activities scheduled for that day will be cancelled. If you are unsure whether an event is cancelled or not, please call the Youth House phone at 301-371-3381 to check for a cancellation message.

Need more information....



Contacts: Ginger Trautman,
Phone: Ginger: 301-371-6500 X203
Email: gtrautman@zionmiddletown.org

Youth House Phone: 301-370-3381

If questions ever arise regarding youth events, you can call this number to hear a recording.

Middletown School Early Dismissal Safe House - February 23rd

Tuesday, February 23rd our youth are dismissed from school 2 hours early. Zion is providing a safe, fun house for them to come to from 12:00-3:00. This is for all high school and middle school students. Free food, games, and social time will be available for all youth during this time. Youth are



welcome to walk, ride bikes or be dropped off. Invite your friends to come! Eat before heading back to school for sports practices.

Special Events and Road Trips!



- ⇒ **Senior HS Potluck**
(9th - 12th grade)
Sunday, February 28th
- ⇒ **Early Dismissal Safe House**
(6th - 12th grade)
Tuesday, February 23rd
- ⇒ **IMPACT**
(9th - 12th grade)
March 26-28, 2010
Ocean City, MD
- ⇒ **High School "Burn the Peeps" Bonfire** (8th-12th Grade)
Friday, April 23, 2010
- ⇒ **2010 Work Camp**
(9th - 12th Grade)
July 11-17, 2010
Mifflinburg, PA



**Mar-Lu-Ridge School's Out Day Camp
Monday, February 15th 9am-3pm**

Got the Day off of School? Come on up to the Ridge for a day of fun, games, arts and crafts, nature and a hot lunch. Just \$25 for a whole day with trained Mar-Lu-Ridge staff members. Call the Mar Lu Ridge office (301-874-5544) for more details or go to their website: <http://www.mar-lu-ridge.org>.

**Mar-Lu-Ridge, Conference and Educational Ctr
3200 Mar-Lu-Ridge Rd.
Jefferson, MD 21755**

Work Camp Donations

The youth are beginning to collect items needed to take to Mifflinburg, PA for their Work Camp Mission trip in July. Please prayerfully consider the list below. If you are able to donate (or loan) any of these items please drop them off to Ginger Trautman.

Donations:

- Small, medium, and large paintbrushes
- Paint rollers
- Paint roller cover
- Paint tray, buckets or clean 5 quart ice cream buckets
- Paint scraper and/or wire brush
- Rags
- Spray bottles
- N-95 disposable masks



Wanting to borrow:

- Family-size cooler (on wheels, if possible)
- 5 gallon water jugs



**Impact 2010
High School Youth Conference
March 26-28th**

High School youth...get ready for a great trip to Impact 2010! Sponsored by Metro Maryland Youth for Christ, this year's conference features speaker Justin Lookadoo and the "Skit Guys" and music groups Matt Maher, Hawk Nelson and Pillar. For more information check out www.impactalive.net.



**Valentine Breakfast &
Silent Auction Help
Saturday, February 13th**



We will meet at the church Saturday morning, **February 13th** to help with the breakfast. We need people as early as 7:00am Check the youth bulletin board for signup sheets and specific need times. Silent auction items may be **dropped off at the church office no later than Tuesday, February 9th** . If you have questions, please contact Ginger Trautman



Costs for 2010 Work Camp	Funds Raised by Youth	*Balance Needed
\$11,613.00	\$3,389.09	\$8,223.91

*NOTE: \$6,000 in funds from Zion's 2010 Budget are available to be used toward 2010 Work Camp if needed.

The ZION BEACON

Phone: 301-371-6500; FAX 301-371-8100

gmagnus@zionmiddletown.org and communications@zionmiddletown.org

Please submit your articles **no later than the 18th of the month**. You may fax, e-mail or deposit in The BEACON mail drawer located outside the church office.

Want to see the BEACON in color? Check it out at www.zionmiddletown.org



Children in Church

Children in Church....a little church humor

- A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, 5 and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'" Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"
- A Sunday school teacher asked her class, "What was Jesus' mother's name?" One child answered, "Mary." The teacher then asked, "Who knows what Jesus' father's name was?" A little kid said, "Verge." Confused, the teacher asked, "Where did you get that?" The kid said, "Well, you know they are always talking about Verge n' Mary."
- Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church." "Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked. Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers."



**... As a people of God, we are sent to share Christ's love,
grow in faith, and serve others.**