



# THE BEACON

A Ministry of  
Zion Lutheran Church  
2022 Fall Edition

# UPCOMING

## Reoccurring Events and Service Opportunities

September 12 - December 5, 2022

**GriefShare**

**Mondays**  
**6:00pm**

First Thursday of the Month

**Table Talk at Main Cup**

**6:00pm**

August 28 - September 25, 2022

**Women's Bible Study**

**6:30pm**

Last Monday of Every Month

**Hope to Faith**

**2:30pm**

Sept. 12th, Oct. 10th, Nov. 14th

**Council Meeting**

**6:30pm**

September 10, 2022

**Community Day of Service**

September 24, 2022

**Heritage Days**

September 26, 2022

**All Committee Chair Meeting**

**6:30pm**

October 30, 2022

**Combined Worship - Reformation Sunday**

Sept. 5th, Nov. 24th, Nov. 25th

**Church Office Closed**

Visit our website for more upcoming events  
**WWW.ZIONMIDDLETOWN.ORG**

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# Zion Lutheran Church Middletown, MD

**Share Christ's Love, Grow in Faith, and Serve Others**

# A Letter from Pastor Diane

*The Magic School Bus* is a PBS show from my childhood. I confess that I didn't watch it all the time, but when I did, it was always something my sisters and I enjoyed. Miss Frizzle is a fantastic science teacher who loves to help her students learn through experience, but not just any experience. Experience that includes a magic school bus which can change in size, equip itself for any terrain, and well, adapt to just about anything you can think of. One of Miss Frizzle's famous quotes as students try and figure out solutions and make plans for their next adventure is: Take chances, make mistakes, get messy!

Our world is constantly changing. We as the Church greatly lament that things aren't like they used to be with overflowing services and classrooms. We lament Blue Laws being lifted on Sunday and every other activity under the sun being available for folks during the hours we worship. But so it is and so we live in this time. The question we need to ask ourselves is, how can we be faithful with the blessings we have that people may come to know the God who loves them even amongst all these challenges?

Miss Frizzle's "Take chances, make mistakes, get messy!" speaks so well to this. We may not be able to do what we once did, but we can try something else and give our all to see if it will work. We will make mistakes as any of us do when trying and learning new things. We will certainly mess up because we are only human. We cannot just sit around expecting things to change if we aren't willing to give of ourselves to take part in an opportunity to change the situation. God has called us to the important work of making God's love known. How dare we not do our best to play our part in this amazing gift God has invited us into!



This fall we give thanks for the many ways the Spirit has led us to continue to grow in faith together at Zion. Our Vacation Bible School, First Communion class, Sunday School, Footprints Sunday, Confirmation class, special Midweek Advent and Lent learning, Adult Forum, Table Talk, Walk in the Park, Women's Bible Study, and Zoom Bible studies are all places we have been gifted to learn and grow. The Spirit has equipped God's people young and old to lead and learn together of what God has done and continues to do for God's people. We look forward to these continued opportunities as well as new places to encounter God like Youth Group. We have had to learn how to adapt to make these opportunities a reality during COVID and we can use those skills to continue to help others come to know God. Friends, please do not hesitate to take part in these opportunities for learning. Know that no matter what you think you don't know, there is always room for you to share your journey and grow in faith. There is a place for you here and a mission to share the love you have found in Christ. May the Spirit continue to inspire and enliven us as we take chances, make mistakes, and get messy this year!

In Christ,

Pastor Reame Ray



# A Letter From Pastor Matt Day

For two and a half years, Zion has been functioning entirely different from the past. We cut back programming due to the pandemic in order to do our part and try to keep people safe as best we could. We focused on providing basic necessities. For some, this was not enough and I admit, it has been hard saying no to things. For two and a half years, we have struggled at times but at other times, grown in many ways. These two and a half years, while difficult in many ways, allowed us to prayerfully explore what Zion's mission is and to consider our next steps. God gave us a sabbatical of sorts to prayerfully consider this holy work. That time of careful consideration is over and we are back.

Beginning this fall, we have some exciting ministry plans. Of course, Sunday morning worship will continue to happen including Christian Education at 10 a.m., but we are making some exciting additions. We are also planning on bringing back some fellowship activities such as donuts and coffee in between worship. We have created three places for you to gather and enjoy your breakfast: The Living Library, the parlor area directly above the Welcome Center, and the Garden's Edge will all be open. We hope you take advantage of this time to reconnect and create community. Zion has been in survival mode for a long time now. As we come out of survival mode, we need to do one of the things that we do best—establish community in the name of Christ.

While last year we did offer Confirmation Class, we are now looking at expanding this ministry to fit the needs of our kids and create a ministry that will encourage relationships between the kids and the congregation. On the first Sundays of the month starting October 2, there will be Confirmation Class from 4-6 p.m. From 6-8 p.m., there will be youth group for those in 5<sup>th</sup> grade up to seniors in high school with dinner provided at 6 p.m.. Many have asked about Safehouse and its return. After much prayer and deliberation, we have determined that we simply do not have the resources to commit to this ministry, but we do have the resources to make Youth Group happen. Youth Group is not just for the kids of Zion. It is open to everyone in our community and we hope that as this ministry begins and grows, that it will be a place where the youth of our community feel comfortable participating and being a part of our ministry, just as Safe House once did.

There are lots of other things being planned here at Zion that we plan to talk about at worship on the weekend of September 10th. Wendi has also been making a lot of plans for your Youth and Family Ministry Program. Family Movie Night, Day Off Program, and Footprints Sunday are all back on the table. Bobby Staples is also looking at possibly starting a youth choir. We have a lot on the table, but the most important part of ministry is the people. I have been a part of faith communities that insist that the congregation offer a program but nobody participates in it. This is a wasteful use of precious church resources. Instead, we are called to be good stewards of the resources that God has given to us. Ministries are meant to benefit people which means sometimes things do not always look like they did in the past and that is okay. If people are not participating in a ministry, we don't keep offering it and complaining that nobody is participating. Instead, we prayerfully consider if this is what God is calling us to do by asking people what they need to grow in their faith.

We all play a role in the ministries of Zion. You might be an empty nester, but that doesn't mean your skills with raising kids should be tossed away. Perhaps you could offer to be a Sunday School teacher, help with one of Youth and Family Programs, or maybe volunteer to do a Children's Sermon (seriously, we would love to have a rotation of people to do this work). We need everyone in order to accomplish our mission.

One of the most impractical statements I think I have heard in ministry is the idea, "If you build it, they will come." That is purely a Hollywood idea that has wasted so much time and resources. The ministries that we do need to be of benefit, not simply existing for posterity sake. It is my hope that as we continue to live into our mission, that we simply don't do things because we have always done it that way. Instead, we commit to ministries that are uplifting and help people grow in faith, just as our mission states: share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.

In Christ,





# Being the Church...

*An interview with Pauline Zimmerman, aka Skippy*

Thirty five years ago Skippy found herself in a state of deep despair...the death of her dearly loved mother and the end of her marriage came within months of each other. Following such sad events would lead most people into a deep depression but to those like Skippy, although teetering on the edge, she never lost sight of her Savior. Church was the center of life growing up and through lessons learned at Zion through Sunday School, Luther League and the example of a very devout mother, enabled Skippy to stay the course. These events in her life led her to make a very important decision...did she continue to worship in the church she was currently attending, return to Good Shepherd where she was a charter member, or come HOME to Zion, the church of her youth. "Coming back to Zion was the best decision I ever made," she told me. The familiarity of the church and the people in it was so important in making this decision. Being reunited with those who were a part of her faith growth brought much needed peace to her as she struggled to overcome the sadness in her life.

At this time, Zion was starting up the Tape Ministry and Skippy volunteered to help distribute the tapes to the shut-ins which became a ritual every Wednesday evening for many years. Not knowing when she signed up, she found herself delivering these tapes to friends of her mother and many of her Sunday School teachers. This ministry helped her to overcome this deep sadness.

The decision to return to Zion was made based on relationships that were lasting. While Skippy's mother was sick, Blaine Feightner visited every Monday afternoon. Marceline Ifert and Pat Rudy were influential people whose faith had an important impact on Skippy and her faith growth.

Skippy's faith has not been spared of more pain, but in spite of the pain she has not been defeated. With many bouts of cancer and the death of her grandchild, Emily, at a very young age, her faith has not waivered. The fact that her faith still sustains her which is evident by the placement of her tattered and well worn Bible that lays on the table next to her favorite chair.

There are also many highlights of joy and especially humor. Skippy was a charter member of Zion Daughters class and I asked her what were the circumstances of the origin of this class. Simply, she said, "we did not want to go to our mother's class."

I was also curious as to the “aka” Skippy and how it has stuck with her all these years. When asked, she got up and took a picture off the wall of an advertisement of a radio program. “My birth certificate read ‘Baby Girl Buzzard’ and when Pastor Tabor came to visit, the radio was playing a popular children’s program called Skippy. He named me Skippy and it has stuck ever since.” she said.

Skippy is now battling another bout of cancer and has not been able to be with her beloved Zion family but thanks to technology she joins in virtually every weekend for all three services. During the distribution of Communion, she waves to everyone who approaches the altar. She misses all of you and looks forward to the day when she can join us in person.

My takeaway with my time with Skippy is the meaning of ‘Being the church’... that faith was important in her home, the relationships that influenced her faith walk were lasting and served her when she needed it the most. Serving others is a means of healing our broken hearts. This is how Skippy has endured...this is how we all endure.

What Skippy may not be fully aware of is how she has influenced the faith of others. She is not afraid to share the trials and temptations that life has thrown at her and how faith has been her compass through the storms. She knows that through the storm she is not alone; she has a companion in Jesus.

*Interview by Mary Ann Marcantonio*  
Zion Lutheran Church Archivist



# A WORD FROM THE VALLEY

A PODCAST FROM ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MIDDLETOWN, MD

A Word from the Valley is a new podcast that features Pastor Diane and Pastor Matt’s sermons, Pastor Diane’s Lectio Divina, as well as some other special content that we will produce throughout the year. You can learn more by visiting our website, or search for “Word from the Valley” wherever you download your podcasts.



**Messy  
PEOPLE**

LIFE LESSONS from IMPERFECT  
BIBLICAL HEROES

a Bible Study by  
**JENNIFER COWART**

**Women's Bible Study**

**Sundays at 6:30 p.m.**

**August 7th—September 25th**

**Valley Ho Farm Pavilion**

**7800 Picnic Woods Road**

**Questions?**

**Contact Jamie Derr:**

**301-305-9796**



**GriefShare Begins  
September 12th**

The Fall cycle of GriefShare will begin on Monday, September 12th and will end on Monday, December 5th. GriefShare is a support group designed to help and provide encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. The program is non-denominational and features biblical concepts from healing your grief. The group meets weekly for 13 sessions and there are three key parts to each session:

- ✦ Video Seminar
- ✦ Support Group discussion
- ✦ Workbook for personal study

Meetings will be held in the Living Library at Zion Lutheran Church and is offered from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. If you have questions about GriefShare and want to talk with one of the leaders, please call Zion Church at 301-371-6500

**Zion's Safety  
Protocols**

These protocols are designed to help keep everyone safe!

- Facemasks are optional
- Maintain physical distancing of 6 feet
- Please stay home if you are not feeling well

Community transmission rate for COVID-19 unfortunately remains high (14.2% as of July 26th). While people are not as sick with current strains nor requiring hospitalization, it is not the time to let our guard down because there are many vulnerable persons in our community who can still become very ill. Zion's current COVID safety practices will remain the same. We also encourage you to follow the Frederick County Health Department recommendations:

1. Wear face coverings - especially if recently exposed to a person with COVID or you have another high-risk situation.
2. Stay up to date with COVID immunizations and boosters.
3. Get tested and test frequently if you have symptoms.
4. Access treatment early if infected.

If you have any questions, please contact Lois Ahalt at 301-514-5735 or anyone on the task force.

# Worship Opportunities



Mark your calendars!

October 30, 2022

10am

## Reformation Sunday

We will celebrate God's Word living, moving and breathing in our community with special music including both choir and orchestral music, recognition of 50 year members, and celebrating those who will be taking Holy Communion for the first time.

**Sola Scriptura | Sola Fide | Sola Gratia  
Solus Christus | Soli Deo Gloria**

*"From the beginning of my Reformation I have asked God to send me neither dreams, nor visions, nor angels, but to give me the right understanding of His Word, the Holy Scriptures; for as long as I have God's Word, I know that I am walking in His way and that I shall not fall into any error or delusion." -Martin Luther*

### DONUTS??

Have you missed coffee and donuts on Sunday mornings? Beginning on Sunday, September 11th donuts and coffee will be back! We will have two stations that will begin serving donuts and coffee immediately following the 9 a.m. service. There will be one station in the Garden's Edge and one in the hallway outside of the Chapel. There will be three areas to enjoy them: in the Living Library, The Garden's Edge and the parlor area on the second floor, directly above the Welcome Center.

We will need help finding volunteers to pick up the donuts and setup and cleanup of the donut and coffee stations. Are you able to help? If so, contact Wendi: [wendik@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:wendik@zionmiddletown.org)

### Worship Services

Saturday:

5 p.m. Casual Worship

Sunday Services:

9 a.m. Contemporary  
Worship

11 a.m. Traditional Worship

**30 OCT**

REFORMATION

# POTLUCK

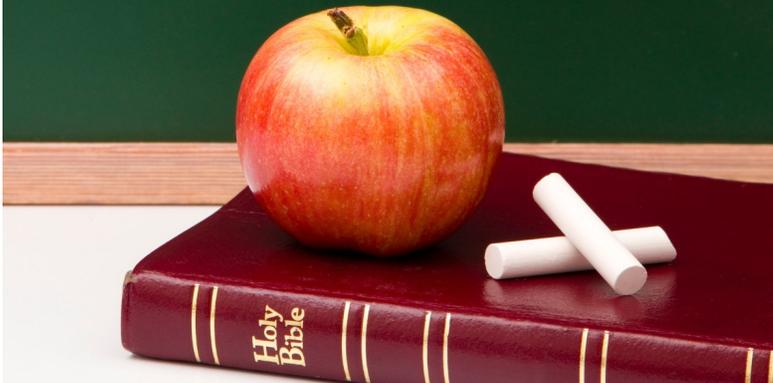
BRING A DISH TO SHARE!

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING  
WORSHIP ON OCTOBER 30

WE HAVE A LOT TO CELEBRATE THIS DAY:  
50 YEAR MEMBERS, FIRST COMMUNION  
RECIPIENTS, AND GOD'S EVER ABIDING  
WORD LIVING AMONG US!

# Christian Education

## SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES



**ADULT FORUM—SUNDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.  
MEETS IN THE CHAPEL EVERY SUNDAY  
&  
MUTUAL CARE AND SUPPORT—SUNDAYS AT  
10:00 A.M. MEETS IN THE GARDEN'S EDGE**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL EDUCATION

SUNDAYS AT 10 A.M.

ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, &  
HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES



Visit our Website:  
[WWW.ZIONMIDDLETOWN.ORG](http://WWW.ZIONMIDDLETOWN.ORG)

Theology and Bible

## TABLE TALK

Food and Drink

FIRST THURSDAY  
OF THE MONTH

6pm at the Main Cup

Have you ever wanted to explore theology in a way that is not intimidating or hard to understand? Do you enjoy eating out with friends? Do you want to learn more about your faith? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you need to join us for Table Talk!

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## » Footprints «

September 11, 2022  
October 9, 2022  
October 30, 2022  
November 13, 2022

## » Family Movie Night «

October 28, 2022  
5:30pm  
Wallace & Gromit's The Curse of the  
Were-Rabbit

November 18, 2022  
5:30pm  
TBA

## » Day Off Program «

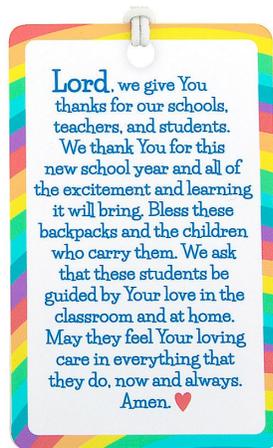
Jumbo's Pumpkin Patch  
October 5, 2022  
9:00am - 3:00pm

# YOUTH & FAMILY

### Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, August 14th

We had our annual Backpack Blessing on Sunday, August 14th. We handed out tags for backpacks and prayed over them for the new school year. Did you miss this? We still have backpack tags that have been blessed—please let Wendi know if you need these; we would be happy to get them to you.

[Wendik@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:Wendik@zionmiddletown.org)



## **Bible Presentation - September 11th**

**Bible**  
Presentation



We will be handing out new Bibles on Sunday, September 11th to all Kindergarteners (and 1st and 2nd Graders who haven't received one yet), 3rd Graders and new Confirmation students. We will also have Bibles for adults if you are in need of one!



**JOIN US ON OCTOBER 5TH**

9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

WE WILL BE MEETING IN THE SOCIAL ROOM AND TRAVELING TO JUMBO'S PUMPKIN PATCH FOR A HAYRIDE, CORN MAZE AND PUMPKIN PICKING! BE SURE TO WEAR CLOSED TOED SHOES, CLOTHES THAT CAN GET MESSY AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED - PLUS GAMES AND FUN!  
REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE: [WWW.ZIONMIDDLETOWN.ORG](http://WWW.ZIONMIDDLETOWN.ORG)

**THIS IS A FREE EVENT!**



**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT  
FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 28TH**

**DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 P.M.  
MOVIE STARTS AT 6:00 P.M.**

Join us on Friday, October 28th for Family Movie Night!  
Featured Film:

Wallace and Gromits Curse of the Were-Rabbit  
Pizza, popcorn and snacks will be provided, along with water and lemonade. Invite your friends and neighbors!  
\*\*Wear your Halloween costumes for extra fun!\*\*



## **Upcoming Events:**

**Family Movie Night—November 18th**

**Family Advent Event—December 8th**

**Children's Christmas Pageant—December 17th**

**Be sure to mark your calendars and look for details soon!**



## 2022 Footprints Upcoming Dates

September 11th    October 9th

October 30th    November 13th

December 11th

Join us on the second Sunday of each month at the 9:00 a.m. service for Footprints! Youth of all ages will gather together after the Prayer of the Day for a lesson, activity and craft. We will return to worship in time for communion. If we have a 10 a.m. Combined Worship—we will also have Footprints at that service. Questions? Contact Wendi: [wendik@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:wendik@zionmiddletown.org)



## Thank You to our VBS Volunteers and Attendees!

We had a great five weeks of Vacation Bible School this year! It would not have been possible without the wonderful and dedicated group of volunteers we had each week and the families that brought their children! Check out some photos below! Our theme was "Rocky Railway" We have had this program for two years and we were so blessed that after years of waiting we were able to hold this in-person event for all to enjoy! We started each evening with dinner at 5:00 p.m. and then began our program with a skit, music, dancing, games, crafts, bible story and lots of fun! Looking forward to next year!



IGNITE YOUR FAITH

# YOUTH NIGHT

BEGINNING OCTOBER 2

YOUTH GROUP WILL MEET  
ON FIRST SUNDAY OF  
MONTH FROM 6-8 P.M.

YOUTH GROUP IS OPEN TO 5TH  
GRADERS, ALL MIDDLE AND HIGH  
SCHOOL AGE KIDS!

An opportunity for the youth to grow in spirit through worship,  
prayer, good food, fun games, and amazing company!



BEGINNING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2ND  
& CONTINUING ON THE FIRST SUNDAY  
EACH MONTH FROM 4-6PM

AVAILABLE BOTH IN-PERSON AND ON ZOOM

And stick around from 6-8 p.m. for  
dinner and youth group.

### First Communion Classes

Each week we celebrate the gift of Holy Communion as a way of reminding us that Jesus is truly present in the wine/grape juice and wafers. On Sunday Oct. 16th and 23rd, we will be hosting classes around Holy Communion. This is for those who are ready to receive their First Communion, those who are exploring but not yet ready, and a refresher course for those who already receive. We will start with a pizza lunch at 12:00 p.m. and then talk and do an activity ending by 1:30 p.m. Those who will be receiving their First Communion will be recognized on Oct. 30th. Please RSVP to the Church Office by Oct. 12th if you will be joining us.

**Did you notice all of the fun youth events planned?**

**Want to Join in the fun?**

These youth events would not be possible without—YOU! We need adults to help with various events throughout the year, interested?

Contact Wendi:

wendik@zionmiddletow.org or  
301-371-6500, ext. 203



**Do you know a college student who would like a care package?**

We will be sending college care packages in mid-October. Please let us know the name and addresses of college students who are Zion youth or friends or family who would like a little pick me up! Email Wendi:  
wendik@zionmiddletown.org



# Congratulations

## Confirmation Class of 2022

Jonathan Basler  
Brady Kishimoto

Allison Beck  
Gavin Witt



### What is confirmation in the Lutheran Church?

Confirmation in the Lutheran Church is mostly an educational based ministry. Since we baptize infants, we needed a way to instruct and teach the faith to Christians as they grew up. In Luther's day, confirmation was done in the home by the parents. Today, confirmation usually happens while in Middle School lasting from 1 year to 3 years and is a church sponsored ministry. Confirmation is typically based in learning the basics of the faith. Most programs in the Lutheran church use Martin Luther's Small Catechism as a guide for structuring classwork. There is no set way that Lutherans do confirmation and it can vary by state and region.

### What is confirmation class like at Zion?

Confirmation at Zion is a three year program that focuses primarily on building relationships between the confirmands and the congregation. We use Martin Luther's Small Catechism as well as teach some basic Bible skills to the confirmands in class. When a young adult is confirmed, they are made active members of our faith community. However, confirmation doesn't mean graduation. It means that these young adults agree that they are ready to become full members, but have so much more to learn just as we all do. **Our Confirmation class meets on the first Sunday of the month from 4-6 p.m. beginning October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Youth group will follow from 6-8 and is open to all youth between 5<sup>th</sup> grade and seniors in high school.**

# Community Events

## HERITAGE DAY LUNCHEON

The annual Heritage Day Luncheon at Zion will be held on Saturday, September 24th from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Soup, sandwiches, desserts and drinks will be available. We will be selling specific desserts at the luncheon. We are limiting the dessert items at the luncheon because of the restrictions placed on us from the Health Department. Based on this, we are asking for help from you to make certain desserts for us to go along with our luncheon. We really do need your help.

The desserts we are asking for are:

Pies: Apple, Peach, Blueberry, Cherry, Raspberry, Pumpkin and Custard  
Cakes: White, Yellow and Chocolate  
Icings: Peanut Butter, Coconut, Chocolate, Vanilla or White Frosting.

\*\*We know there are nuts in the peanut butter icing, but have made arrangements for that provision.\*\*

Cookies: Chocolate Chip and Oatmeal Raisin

Brownies: Plain Brownies, no brownies with nuts or other ingredients.

There is a sign-up sheet posted in the hallway outside of the Chapel.

Food donations may be dropped off between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. on Saturday, September 24th in the Social Room.

**Thank you so much for your help! Middletown  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Zion Heritage Day  
Luncheon Committee**

### **Wondering about apple butter?**

Due to not being able to get the ingredients needed, we will not be able to make apple butter this year.



**Heritage Day Luncheon**

**Zion's Social Room**

**10 a.m.—2 p.m.**

**Menu:**

**Hot Dog/Chili Dog/Kraut Dog**

**Steamer**

**Country Ham Sandwich**

**Baked Ham Sandwich**

**Soups:**

**Vegetable Beef, Bean, Chicken Corn**

**Beverages:**

**Iced Tea, Lemonade, Soda, Coffee, Water**

**Desserts:**

**Pie, Cake, Brownies, Cookies**



**Seeking Volunteers for Zion's Heritage Day Booth!**

**Zion will have a booth in front of the church for Heritage Day. We need volunteers to fill time slots between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. Setup, handing out water/gifts for the kids/giveaways with Zion's logo and handing out information pamphlets/answering questions from visitors. Please consider spending part of your day representing Zion! Contact Wendi if you are able to help:**

**wendik@zionmiddletown.org or 301-371-6500, ext. 203**



ANNUAL  
**Vintage Vehicles**  
 IN THE VALLEY

CAR - TRUCK - MOTORCYCLE SHOW

October 1, 2022

MIDDLETOWN, MD



**FUN FOR THE Whole Family!**

REGISTRATION: **9:00am to 11:00 am** SHOW OPEN FREE TO THE PUBLIC: **11:30 am to 3:00 pm**

**MAIN STREET**  
 MIDDLETOWN



**Dash plaques:** For the First 100 Registered Vehicles

**Registration Fee:** \$15.00 per Vehicle (\$10 for Each Additional Vehicle by Same Owner)

**Live Classic Rock and Roll By:** Faze 4

**Benefit for:** Main Street Middletown and Warrior Canine Connection

**Food Vendors, Games, Raffles and More!**

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE TROPHY:** (Voted by spectators only)

**ENTRY OWNERS WILL VOTE FOR:** Best in Show (Best Total Votes by Owners)

Best Stock Automobile – Best Modified Automobile – Best Stock Truck

Best Modified Truck – Best Motorcycle – Best Specialty Vehicle – Best Import

Register Your Vintage Vehicle Now at: [WWW.MAINSTREETMIDDLETOWN.ORG](http://WWW.MAINSTREETMIDDLETOWN.ORG)



# Middletown Valley Food Bank

301-371-3182



**Monetary and food donations are needed now more than ever!**

### Food items in demand include:

**Canned tomatoes diced or crushed**

**Canned peas**

**Sugar**

**Small cans of coffee**

**Jam or jelly**

**Salad dressing**

**Rice-a Roni**

**Canned fruit**

**Tea bags**

**Crackers**

**Jell-O or pudding mix**

**Instant potatoes**

**Donations can be dropped off in the cart inside the ramp doors off of the back parking lot or taken directly to the Food Bank on Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**



### **Day of Service**

**September 10, 2022**

Did you know that since 2016 the National Day of Service occurs every year on September 11<sup>th</sup>. National Day of Service (in remembrance of Sept 11, 2001 attacks) is the time when all volunteers make a difference in their community. September 10, 2022 is Middletown Ministerium's Day of Service. On this day, volunteers from all over the valley and churches will come together to fulfill service and comfort to our neighbors in need. Please consider volunteering just a little of your time. The more hands we have the lighter the load... Most jobs are fix & repair, painting & clean-up. Just go to this sign-up link, [shorturl.at/iBS07](http://shorturl.at/iBS07) or you can always contact Deb Reichelt at 301-371-6500 or [treasurer@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:treasurer@zionmiddletown.org) for any assistance.



### Middletown Ministerium Garage Sale

Saturday, September 17, 2022

8:00 a.m.

8 Groff Court in the Foxfield neighborhood in Middletown, MD

Help support the Middletown Ministerium and Community Day of Service

For sale – Used tools, garden tools, household items + many more.

Hope  
To  
Faith

## Hope to Faith

If you have experienced a loss recently or at any time in your life, please know that you are welcome to attend for a time of fellowship and food! Contact Dixie Eichelberger at 301-667-7586 for more information. We meet on the last Monday of the month at 2:30 p.m. in the parking lot.



### What are the Quilters up to???

Everyone wonders what the Quilters are up to... We've been busy this summer. We have quilted two quilts for customers. Some of us have been busy designing and piecing a "delectable mountains" quilt. We finished piecing this quilt and it is now in the frames. If you have time, please come down and take a look. Mid-July found us playing Christmas music and

doing a Christmas in July craft. All of us made a medium size wool based feather tree. What a fun time we had working with the wool! Check out the picture. Wasn't long before July turned to August and corn was in season. The quilters got 5 dozen ears of corn and put in the freezer 20 quarts for veggie soup meals. The next week we got another 5 dozen ears and put 26 quarts in the freezer for Heritage Days soup. Not much quilting got done those days. The following week we heard about a fabric sale in Gettysburg. We never pass up an opportunity to look/buy fabric. We stopped for lunch and then dropped in at the orchard and Gateway Candyland. What a surprise, all of the candy from our youth was there. The answer is the Quilters are up to lots of good things. Join us Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays from 8:00-1:30.

**Everyone is welcome!**



## **Calling Everyone Who Enjoys Gardening!**

Come out to Zion's Memorial Garden every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month to help keep our garden tidy! Come any time after 7:30 a.m. and until 9:30 a.m. Bring gloves, pruning shears, hand trowel, buckets or any other tools you enjoy working with.



## **Memorial Garden Project Update**

Did you know that Zion's Memorial Garden was started 40 years ago? The garden has a history of being a place of rest and reflection, a place for worship, a place for enjoying a part of God's world.

The walkway renovation was recently completed. Take a stroll through the garden and see how amazing it looks! You might notice the cross is missing. The original cross had rotted beyond repair. We are in the process of replacing the cross and we hope to have it up soon! With the renovation project, we are looking for donations for this project and for the future maintenance and upkeep of the Memorial Garden. If you would like to contribute to this project, please visit our website and click the "donate now" on our homepage and then select "Memorial Garden Refurbishment". If donating by check, be sure to write in the memo line "Memorial Garden Refurbishment." Your support is greatly appreciated.



## Stewardship Reflection Time 2022- Growing in The Baptismal Covenant

We are called through baptism to be in relationship with God, one another, and this whole world God loves. We are created for connection and are constantly seeking it. We learn from one another by

what we do and say across generations. Starting Sundays, September 25th through October 30th, we will be focusing our stewardship reflection time this year on how we at Zion fulfill our baptismal calling. Our themes each week will be part of worship and will then be the focus of our intergenerational Sunday School hour where all ages will learn and grow together.

We are trying something a little different in regard to pledge cards. Pledge cards will be available beginning Sept. 25th in the Sanctuary and through the month of October. **We will mail pledge cards upon request to folks.** Please call the Church Office if you would like us to do so. Our collection box will return to the Sanctuary this year and will remain throughout our time to collect pledge cards each week. As we did last year, we will bless those cards on October 30th as part of our combined Reformation worship service.

We hope that you will make it a point to come and share your experience and knowledge with your fellow siblings in Christ of all ages at Zion. Everyone has something to share that can help others grow. Looking forward to being reminded that God has called us to connect, share, and love, and we are blessed to do it within this community!



Did you know that the number one most needed item of the homeless is a clean pair of socks? People donating clothing rarely donate new socks. Socks provide a layer of warmth that could be worsened by smoking which constricts blood vessels making toes more susceptible to damage by cold. The homeless are more susceptible to severe frostbite which could lead to amputation. Zion Quilters are sponsoring a Socktoberfest drive for the month of October. A box will be located in the ramp area for new clean packages of socks. Please help us meet our goal of 500 socks. All donations will be taken to the Religious Coalition for distribution to the needy.

# MINISTRY UPDATES



Many thanks for your continued support for the school supply drive. Our Zion Family always gives generously to help our neighbors in need in the valley. May God continue to bless you and keep you safe. Thanks again for all you do.

Donna Jean Brandenburg and MVPHP



## He's Almost There!

**Lee Ropp is crushing cans for our youth!**

**Lee Ropp has crushed and recycled over 195,000 aluminum cans for Zion's Youth and Family Ministry! Cans can be dropped off on the deck of the Clothes Closet.**

**Lee says, "Keep 'em Coming"!**

**Lee has a goal of 200,000— Let's help him reach it!**

## Clothes Closet Update

Attention men of Zion! It's time to clean out your clothes closets and drawers! The Clothes Closet is in need of all sizes of men's dress and casual pants, dress shirts and t-shirts, workout and work clothing, pajamas, coats - pretty much everything! Please drop them off at the Clothes Closet. Open for donations on Saturday mornings from 9 - 11 a.m. If you need to drop off after hours, there is a drop location below the front porch. Thank you!



## Noisy Offering Updates



June—Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$287.60
July—Student Homelessness Initiative Partnership (SHIP)	\$220.72
August—Community Day of Service	\$258.36

Thank you to all who donated!

## Upcoming Noisy Offerings

September 17th & 18th	Heartly House
October 15th & 16th	ELCA World Hunger
November 19th & 20th	Habitat for Humanity
December 17th & 18th	Frederick Rescue Mission



## **Decorate a Window in the Sanctuary**

Individuals, families and/or groups within our church are invited to decorate windowsills in the Sanctuary!

Decorations will be on display from September 17th through November 27th. The sills will be covered to protect the paint.

Decorate anytime before September 17th. Displays will need to be removed by November 28th.

Display size is approximately 16” deep by 54” wide

Contact Wendi Kishimoto: [wendik@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:wendik@zionmiddletown.org) or 301-371-6500, ext. 203 to reserve a window. Windows will be reserved on “first-come, first-served” basis.

**Don't miss this opportunity to be creative, have fun and work together to decorate the church!**



## **Zion's Car Magnet Available!**

Support Zion by displaying this magnet on your car!

Magnets are available in the Welcome Center—there is no cost, but donations are appreciated. All donations will go towards wrapping the van in a Zion logo.

BECAUSE CHILDREN ARE  
HUNGRY  
ON THE WEEKENDS TOO!



## **Weekend Backpack Ministry**

The Weekend Backpack Ministry will be meeting the needs of students on the weekends when they do not receive food at school. The critical need item for September is canned spaghetti, ravioli or macaroni and cheese. For October, the need is individual fruit cups or pudding cups. For November, the need is granola bars. Please consider donating one of those or writing a check to Zion and put “Weekend Backpack” on the memo line to help children throughout the school year. Food donations can be dropped in the collection boxes in the hallway outside of the Chapel.

# Music Ministry



Join us for...

## ZION'S WORSHIP CHOIR

Rehearsals resume Thursday,  
September 1, 2022  
7:00 - 8:30 pm

All ages and skill levels are welcome, as the music is approachable and fun! Fluent music-reading is not a requirement, just the ability to listen and follow along with a part.

Anyone interested or with questions, please contact Bobby Staples at [rstaples93@gmail.com](mailto:rstaples93@gmail.com) or via text at 240-315-7708



## Zion's Handbell Ringers

Rehearsals Resume on Tuesday, September 13th at 7:00  
in the Music Room!

Reasonable music-reading fluency is required in both rhythm and notes. Treble or bass clef space is available if desired. Rehearsals are every other Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 8:00 during the academic year. Visitors and interested persons are welcome to stop by at any rehearsal if interested in finding out what we're all about!

Questions? Please contact Bobby Staples at [rstaples93@gmail.com](mailto:rstaples93@gmail.com) or via text at 240-315-7708

## Zion's Music Ministry

The psalmist says, "Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing."



The music ministry at Zion helps us express ourselves that spoken words alone cannot always do. The worship experience is not only about hearing a message from a minister or learning a new interpretation of Scripture; and also a complete and fulfilling worship experience that involves community-building, bonding and creating atmosphere through physical vibration as only music can.

God has blessed us all with the gift of music. Perhaps you feel called to share your gifts with others and help us make a joyful noise. Consider joining our choir, playing in our worship band, or participating in special orchestral ensembles. More information can be found at [www.zionmiddletown.org/music-ministry](http://www.zionmiddletown.org/music-ministry)



## Join the Worship Choir for Refreshments! September 1st at 6:00 p.m.

To start off the new choir season and celebrate the first rehearsal, you are invited to join them on **Thursday, September 1st at 6:00 p.m.** for light refreshments and fellowship!

If you are interested in more information, contact Bobby Staples: [rstaples93@gmail.com](mailto:rstaples93@gmail.com)

# 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

## *Celebrating Pastor Ron Reaves*



On Sunday, July 4 after postponing from the prior week because of a Covid diagnosis, Pastor Ron preached at our weekend services in celebration of his 50th anniversary of ordination into Christ's church. During the worship services, Pastor Ron was presented with a resolution the Council adopted celebrating his 50 years of service. There was also a reception held at 10 a.m. on Sunday in the Social Room. 50 years ago, Pastor Ron was ordained at Elias Lutheran Church in Emmitsburg, MD which was his home congregation. He served several congregations in the Maryland area before retiring to this area. However, his retirement was short lived here at Zion. He eventually served on the staff of Zion from 2013-2019 on a part-time basis under Pastor Kathy. Pastor Ron and his wife, Lucretia, remained as members here at Zion following his second retirement. They are a wonderful addition to our membership and ministry work at Zion. We thank Pastor Ron for being willing to accept God's call to ministry so many years ago. He remains a blessing to Christ's church and to us here at Zion.

### A NOTE FROM PASTOR RON

Thank you, dear Zion, for the wonderful remembrance of my 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination. I am overwhelmed with your kindness. Especially I thank pastors Diane and Matt for initiating this event and inviting me to preach, for the Church Council and its Certificate of Recognition, for Maryann Marcantonio, our wonderful archivist, the Christian Fellowship Committee for the beautiful cake and reception at 10 a.m., for the kind gift of the Lighthouse Cross based on Psalm 27:1 "The Lord is my Light and my Salvation, Whom Shall I Fear?", for the lovely flowers and for all your personal congratulations, photos taken and cards. I'm very fortunate to be part of this caring community. You are truly wonderful friends!

Pastor Ron Reaves

Zion Staff and Members,

Thank you for all your prayers, flowers, cards and visits during our mom's recent surgery and hospitalization.

We truly appreciate all from everyone.

All Our Love,

Evelyn Hawker, Debbie Smith, Kitty McKenzie, Pam Moser and Dawn



Congratulations to:

Carolyn Toledo and Rick Milauskas  
on June 18, 2022

Emily Fulton and Matthew Hopson  
on June 25, 2022

Julie Rockwell and Donald Moeslein  
on June 25, 2022

*With Sympathy*



*With our deepest sympathy we keep in our thoughts and prayers the families of:*

**John Graybeal  
Brendan Kinna  
CJ Minnick  
Gertrude Reichelt  
Phyllis Thompson**

**News to share?**

**Please let us know of important events that have happened over the past few months? Email or call Wendi:  
wendik@zionmiddletown.org  
301-371-6500, ext. 203**

*The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.*

*Psalm 28:7*



### **Zion Prayer List 8-25-2022**

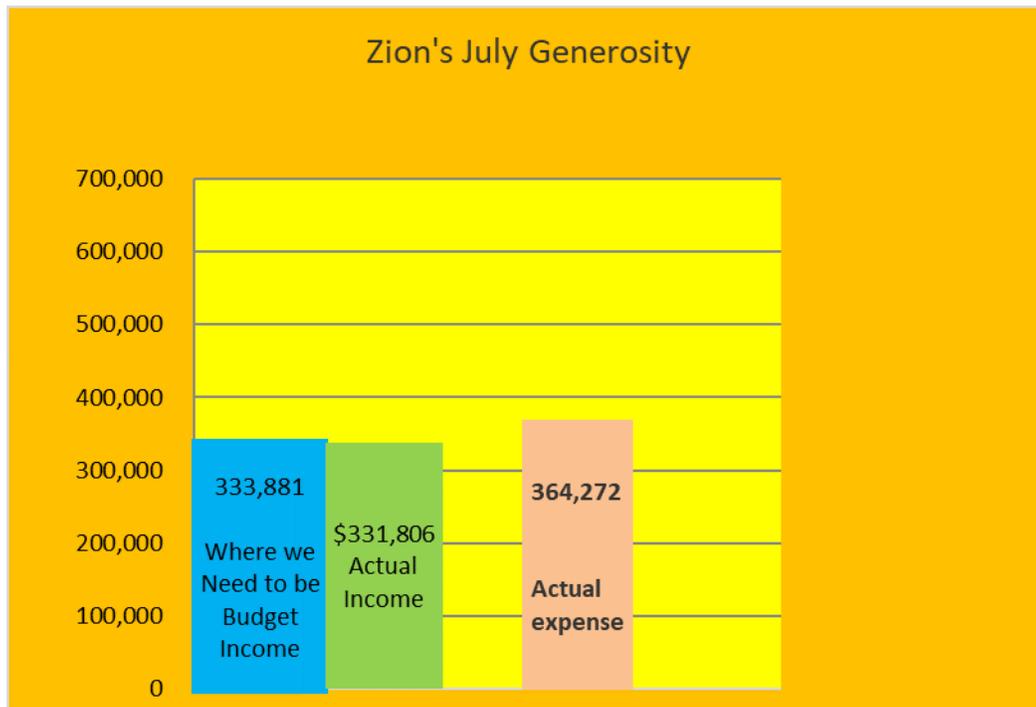
*Requests remain on the prayer list for 30 days unless requested otherwise.*

Steve Henry, Donna Musser, Monique "Emma" Craft, Matthew Schantz, Janet Young, John Bagent Jr., Evelyn Hawker, Otilie, Erika, and Otto Bergh, Dolores Para, Frances Eaves, Jackie Bello, Carol O'Brien, Billy Poffenberger, Jim Pearson, Sarah Gladhill, Chuck Rapp, Wayne Smith, Nancy Coppola, Kathy Gordon, Bob Guyton, Skippy Zimmerman, Anna Hough, Kathi Hayter, Shirley Smith, Anna Kepler, Wanda Watson, Marianna Bere, Marty Appleby, Ruby Pyles, Jessica Catechis, Gene Appleby, Addison Hopson, Kevin Kinna, Deb Kahihikolo, Janice Wisner

*Please be sure the church is notified if you are hospitalized and if you wish to be placed on the prayer list or would like visitation.*

# Zion's Financial Update

## Zion's Giving Update: Year to Date ~ July 31, 2022



### Budget/Income Information– YTD as of July 31, 2022

YTD Proposed Budget income \$333,881 vs. YTD Actual Income \$331,806.  
 YTD Proposed Budget Expense \$374,278 vs. YTD Actual Expenses \$364,272.  
 \*\*Actual Income YTD is less expenses by \$31,928\*\*



The work and mission at Zion can only happen through your gifts of time, talent and treasure. We cannot do our work without your support. To give today, scan the QR code and you will be taken to our online giving portal. You can also mail your support or drop it in the offering plate at worship.

**AND THANK YOU!**