THE ZION HERALD

Proclaiming Good News

May 2022

Join us on Sunday, May 8, 2022, as we honor and/or remember OUR MOTHERS





Join us on Sunday, May 29, 2022, as we remember OUR FALLEN HEROES

Message from our President:

Notwithstanding the unpredictable and occasionally turbulent weather in Northeast Ohio, May is the month we associate with the promise of Spring coming into full bloom as we witness the beauty of God's creation blossoming in all its glorious splendor. Though it's the same world, we're able to focus more sharply and develop a better appreciation of how awesome the works of our Divine Creator truly are. Hopefully, the evidence of life renewed will enhance our resolve to be the people He wants us to be—people who love one another and care for the widows and orphans, the sick and distressed, the poor, the homeless, the imprisoned and the oppressed.

Zion's Congregation, as noted in the Statement of Purpose found on the back page of this newsletter, understands that service to others is the means by which we show our love of Jesus Christ. For the past several months the Council has engaged in extensive efforts to ensure we maximize Zion's capacity to allocate and utilize its formidable resources in the most effective and efficient way possible in pursuit of the objective to be a force for good in the community. It is the Council's hope that the events whereby Zion will be reaching out to the community in the coming months will prove those efforts to have been successful.

Lord, thank You for making us people who care for others. Help us to be able to look past our own personal grief that we might be able to recognize and address the grief and suffering of others. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen

Respectfully submitted, Jim Fidler Council President





During March Zion served 32 households with minor children, within this group, 10 clients were seniors and 59 were adults. The combined number of children served was 84. During

March we served 102 households without minor children and within this group 88 clients were seniors and 79 were adults. Therefore, during March, Zion served 134 Households consisting of 320 clients. March accounted for no additional households, but 40 less clients over February 2022. As a comparison in March 2021, we served 124 households consisting of 297 clients representing an 8% increase in households and an 8% increase in clients over last year. The need trend appears to be leveling out for now. Thank you for your continued support.

May Item of the Month – we would like to collect



toothpaste, individual toothbrushes, and bars of soap for our pantry families this month. We always need our staple items – creamed



soups, jelly (except grape), pasta, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, and **boxed cereal** or instant oatmeal

because these items are given out regularly. Thanks for your support!



Prayer Chain—Remember to contact Kay Davis at Prayer@zion-nc.com, if you have any prayer requests.

O God, rule over our lives in Thy kingdom and help us to be an obedient servant, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

G. Scott Gross Caring Ministry Elder

ZION'S SHARED GOODS PLACE

We had a busy April. Shared Goods was open on Tuesday April 5th in conjunction with the Food Pantry and then we had a Bunny Hop, a joint event with North Canton Cares



Team, on Wednesday April 6th from 1pm – 4 pm. The North Canton Cares Team was giving out Easter items to their families, and our Shared Goods was open for shopping. We had about 10 families come through with about 5 or 6 who were new to our Shared Goods. It was great to hear how much they appreciated having a place like this to

shop. They were so thankful and took a lot of clothes and household goods. Tuesday, April 12th we had our Spring work day. Volunteers came to pack up the winter clothes and put out the spring and summer clothes. It is always great to see spring emerge. Our Shared Goods was also open on Monday April 18th from 6 to 8 pm for North Canton Cares Team and any one in the community. We had a very successful Shared Goods day Tuesday April 19th with a lot of people shopping and taking a lot of goods. We had another work day scheduled for April 26th to finish out the month. If there is anyone that would like to help with sorting and tagging clothes and straightening up the racks and shelves, we meet for work days on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 9 am—12 pm. Join for 1,2 or 3 hours. We appreciate any time you can share with us. Hope to see some new faces on our work days.

Items we are in need of are household goods such as pots and pans, dishes, towels, and boy's clothes. Thank you for your continued support.

Dear Lord, You ask us to cloth the naked, be with us as we try to do this for those in our community. Be with us as we try to spread the word that we are here for them. We ask the Holy Spirit to be with us in this mission. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Darlene Milavickas



LEARNING MINISTRY

Vacation Bible School

Join us this year at the Food Truck Party where we will be "On a Roll with God"!

- VBS will be June 27th thru July 1st, Monday through Thursday 9 am 12:30 pm and Friday 9 am 1pm.
- "Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11) will be the focus. The kids will be invited to pray as Jesus teaches us. The words from Matthew 6:11 will serve as a



reminder that everything we have comes from God – and that by turning to God in prayer, all of our needs are met.

There are many volunteer opportunities!
 Please contact Debbie Fox if you are able and
 interested. Join us for one day or all week,
 whatever fits into your schedule.

• Registration packets will be available May 1st and sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities and donations will be located in Luther Hall later this month.

Adult Sunday School

Pastor William will continue to lead the group in May. Join us for an engaging and worthwhile discussion each week at 10:15 am after service on Sunday!

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will be taking a break until the Fall. Please contact Sue Whalen at <u>witness-ministry@zion-nc.com</u> with any questions or ideas about future topics of study.

Weekly Bible Discussions

- Discussion of the current week's Bible lessons including the Gospel Reading
- Teen only Zoom meeting Mondays from 5 5:30 pm
- Zoom meeting Wednesdays from 5 6:00 pm
- Zoom meeting Thursdays from 9 10:00 am
- If these times don't work, contact Pastor William to set up a time that does
- In person Bible Discussions are also possible

Sunday School - Pre-K thru 6th Grade

We will finish with our Simply Loved curriculum this month. Our last Sunday morning class will be May 22nd – a celebration day full of fun activities. We will start Summer Sunday School classes on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm on June 1st and will go through Wednesday, August 17th. The classes will be outside weather permitting, and we will meet in the pavilion. If the weather does not cooperate, we will meet in Luther Hall. We hope everyone will join us and bring a friend!

Dear God, Help us to open our minds, our ears and our hearts to what You are telling us, and to do what You want us to! Guide us in our pursuit of furthering our education into your Word. Amen

Debbie Fox Learning Ministry Elder

PARISH LIFE

The Lenten dinners had good attendance with 30-35 members each week. A big thank you to all those who volunteered their time and for those who shared some of their culinary expertise with soups, desserts, sandwiches and crockpot meals.

A special thanks to the team leaders for the Lenten Season: Dave Palumbo, Paul and Cindy Bagocuis, Debbie Fox and Darlene Milavickas.

Dear Lord, may we all come to know your love and have it shine through each of us.

Tina Linz Parish Life Ministry Elder

RESOURCE MINISTRY

He is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Zion's Holy Week services are an invigorating and inspiring time of the year. Our Lord's death and resurrection are reminders of the many blessings God has in store for us every day. Mother Nature has been very fickle with the weather, but Spring is in the Air and it was rewarding to see how many of you attended our services! The sun will shine, the weather will improve, and it is a glorious time to be alive, finding positive examples of God's love and blessings each day and sharing them with others. May the Lord's countless blessings shine upon you and grant you Peace!

Our March Giving results have a more positive message than my February report. Our Giving was 64% greater than February, 42% greater than January and 37% greater than March 2021 producing a reversal of the very disappointing trend starting 2022. These combined positive results produced a March monthly financial result which more than met our monthly expenses and allowed us to positively impact and reduce our 2022 YTD budget deficit. This is a positive signal that needs to occur on a repetitive monthly basis for us to consider it a trend for which we can be confident about our monthly operating budget for the remainder of 2022 and beyond.

Our 2022 budget was developed on assumption that each member would contribute at a rate which would at least equal their 2021 giving level, with an opportunity to increase by 10%. Detailed evaluation of individual giving results through March indicates that approximately 50% of our 2022 contributors are giving at rate greater than or equal to their 2021 rate. If you are in this category, **Thank You** for this positive contribution and we assume it will continue! If you are not in this category, please realize everyone's contributions are important, and though each will be at a different amount, all can have a positive impact to the success of our ministries and operating budget.

We acknowledge that the timing of individual

giving patterns may be inconsistent and that our 3month YTD evaluation may not be an accurate reflection of year-long giving, but please recognize that our monthly operating budget is dependent on a consistent revenue source. To provide you with visibility of your YTD Giving results, Quarterly Giving statements will be instituted so you can confirm that the results reflect your intended pattern for the year, or to make the appropriate adjustments you intend as soon as possible We need your recognition and acknowledgement that sharing your financial resources are the foundation for our church operations and 2022 ministry functions. Positive corrections are necessary, and we look forward to your generosity for resolution. We know that we can count on you and Thank You in advance for your support!

Prayer: Lord, we are humbled by the resources you continue to make available to do your work at Zion and the inspiration you provide to recognize needs in our community and to appropriately respond to them. We do this in honor of your glorious name, Amen.

John Rhodes Resource Ministry Elder

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Hey you guys:

Well men, spring is here and now we get to look forward to all the "stuff" we do outdoors. The fun stuff, picnics, swimming, golf, etc. and the not so fun stuff, mowing, gardening, etc. But let's keep in mind to save one Saturday morning a month for getting together with 'other guys' to talk. Our next *BS session was supposed to be **April 30**th. (In case you get to read this before the 1st of May). But it has been cancelled, due to the scheduled Habitat work day. Otherwise, please note, May's *BS session will actually be on **June 4**th since the last Saturday in May falls during Memorial Day weekend.

BE AWARE, Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM) of Northeastern Ohio will be having a live gathering on May 21st, at Israel Lutheran Church in Paris. Jon Wilson, a local author, will be discussing his book "You Don't Have To Live In The Past" (edited by Andre' Bernier). Breakfast and Registration will be from 8 – 9 am with the program from 9 to 11. Reservations are requested. Please contact me before May 15 if you plan to

attend. (The book is available on Amazon or you can purchase the day of the event.)

Also, coming up in July, our Annual Scholarship Golf Outing on July 16th. Please mark your calendar. Last year, the outing raised over \$7,000 dollars, which allowed us to grant \$1,000 to seven different seminary students from North East Ohio, located in five different seminaries across the nation. Zion was a major contributor last year which allowed our group to give the largest scholarships on record, since we began the fundraiser.

I hope most of you will be signing up for assistance with Habitat for Humanity. We have been given three dates for work. (They were assigned to us, we did not get to choose.) Sign-up sheets are available in Luther Hall. Be sure to check which dates you will be able to assist with this worth while project. A great example of "God's Work, Our Hands."

If you have other ideas of how the men can do God's work, DO NOT hesitate to make suggestions.

*Bible Study

Ken Reinoehl

Women ELCA

The WELCA Spring Gathering held on Saturday March 26th was a success despite the snow that fell and tried to put a damper on things. We have the distinction of being the first WELCA group to have an in person gathering in two and a half years because of covid.

We had in attendance 19 women representing 7 churches. Our speaker Beth Humbert talked about The Whole Latte Love Cafe and how it helps young adults who are handicapped learn working skills. We had a craft time where Lutheran rosaries were made. We enjoyed a lunch of soup and salad and desserts which was perfect for the wintry day. We took in registration and offering of \$205.00. It was then divided up with the Cafe receiving \$164.00. The NEOSWO scholarship for the Triennial Gathering received \$20.50. Zion's Food Pantry received \$10.25 plus 38 food items. Zion's Shared Goods also received \$10.25.

A huge thank you goes out to Pastor Erin Burns who led our worship service. Also to Cindy Bagocius and Mary Humbert for taking charge of the craft project and Darlene Milavickas and Sue Whalen for manning the registration, assisting with communion and numerous other jobs. All are a valuable and much appreciated part of our organization and put a lot of effort into making this an enjoyable event! So thank you!

We are looking forward to bringing more events to Zion starting with the Northeastern Ohio Synodical Women's Organization's (NEOSWO) Biennial Convention October 15, 2022 here at Zion so mark your calendars for this one day event. And just a reminder that the Triennial Convention in Phoenix Az is July of 2023.

Yours in Christ, Ruth Reinoehl



Mark your calendars for Zion's Cruise-In on July 22, 2022 from 5 pm to 8 pm. A 50/50 drawing will be held to benefit Valor Home for homeless veterans. See flyer on page 7.

Laura Thompson Social Ministry Elder

WORSHIP MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY SERVICE—

Outside services begin on May 11.



LAST CALL--If you would

like a green hymnal for your personal use, you may take one of them from the table in Luther Hall. After May 1, they will be gone.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED--Your service to our church during Sunday mornings is very important. We are seeking volunteers to be trained on our sound board and/or our video tri-caster so those at home can benefit from our worship service. This can be your call as a form to evangelize and be a disciple of Jesus as He has called you. After training, your commitment would be approximately once per month to monitor the sound and/or video (dependent upon your training) with another trained person by your side. See Paul Bagocius (330-329-4678).

COMING SOON--Our Ministry will be discussing restarting the Acolyte program and requesting additional congregational members to be readers during our services.

A BIG "THANK YOU"--During our Lenten and Easter season this year, it took a lot of people, with God's help, to make everything happen. Ministry would like to thank everyone involved, including, but not limited to: church members for a strong attendance showing; Pastor William for his leadership and sermons; Vicki in preparing all the bulletins; Lewis (IT person) for the video and screen projections; the Chancel Guild members; Tina Linz and all those who prepared food and helped with the Lenten dinners; the sound/video team; our music providers (Carol, Suzanne, and Steve); our Choir and its director (Suzanne); and our Trustees and John L. for his coordinating this team. By working together, I am confident God was pleased with His glorification and would say "well done, good and faithful servant" to each of these contributors.

God, provide us with the people and their talents you have given them to continue to implement

worship services that will please You, glorify You, and bring us all closer to You and Your kingdom. Amen

Paul Bagocius Worship Ministry Elder



ZION'S FINANCIAL FACTS IN MARCH 2022

March Income	\$ 30,223.48
Income through March	\$ 70,452.28
March Expenses	\$ 29,943.97
Expenses through March	\$ 97,459.53
We thank you for your	generous support!

Book Discussion Group News

The book discussion group will end its 2021-22 season on June 3 with a discussion of the first Harry Potter book, *The Sorcerer's Stone*. (The original – British version – of the book is titled *The Philosopher's Stone*.) We'll meet at 10 am at the Plain Community Branch of the Stark Library System, located at 1803 Schneider Street NE in Canton.

Our picks are in for the 2022-23 season and we hope you'll consider joining us:

Pride and Prejudice, by Jane Austin September 2, 2022 No One's Home, by D.M. Pulley October 7, 2022 The Weight of Ink, by Rachel Kadish November 4, 2022 *The Authenticity Project*, by Clare Pulley December 2, 2022 The Hope Chest, by Carolyn Brown January 6, 2023 Anxious People, by Fredrik Backman February 3, 2023 The Elephant Whisperer, by Lawrence Anthony March 3, 2023 Life Without Limits, by Nick Vujicic April 7, 2023 The Girl with the Louding Voice, by Abi Dare May 5, 2023 She's Come Undone, by Wally Dare June 2, 2023

If you have questions, please contact Linda Weidenbach 1t Lindakjw@gmial.com or 850-766-5640.



Zion Lutheran Church

Friday July 22, 2022 5:00pm - 8:00pm ruise-In

For more information contact Darlene at: (330) 412-4336

Music by "Spikeman"

5 Awards
Pastor's Choice Award

Dash Plaques, Door Prizes, Food

50/50 Drawing to benefit

Valor Home

Helping Homeless Veterans



349 Lindy Lane Ave., North Canton



Food Pantry Update

Good news from the Food Pantry! We have made some changes to our food distribution process, and our Food Pantry friends are now able to come in to "shop" for their food items on Food Pantry days. Many of the people have expressed interest through surveys and conversations in coming back inside to pick their food items to avoid waste and to choose what they need. Our Pantry friends that are unable or uncomfortable with coming inside still have the option to remain in their vehicles and have pre-packed bags of food delivered to their car.

We started our new distribution process in April and it was well received. All in all, things went pretty well, and we continue to tweak the process and make adjustments as necessary. We appreciate everyone's patience, cooperation and feedback as we are going through these changes. Our main focus continues to be those we serve and how we can best meet their needs!

This new process does require more volunteers, and we need your help - especially between 12:45 pm and 2:00 pm! If you are willing and available, please contact Debbie Fox for details, or simply join us on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month. We appreciate any days and time you can give! We start at 9:30 am and usually finish by 2:30 pm. Again, you do not have to be there the whole time. If you can spare an hour or two during that time frame, we can use your help!

Each month we have been asking for one or two items that we have trouble getting from the Foodbank. After receiving some feedback, we will now have signs located by the Food Pantry and in Luther Hall near the collection wagon reminding everyone what the items of the month are. May's items are tooth-paste, individual toothbrushes and bars of soap. Our plan is to put personal care kits together for each person. Thanks be to God for everyone's support of the Food Pantry. With the rise in food costs both at the grocery store and Foodbank, all donations are so important! As we are reminded in Matthew 25: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

Many of our Food Pantry friends tell us they come to us because the food they are able to get each month helps them to reduce grocery costs and pay other bills like medical, rent and utilities. They are so grateful that they don't have to choose between eating or paying their other bills! Praise God that we are able to matter to our community by sharing the love of Jesus!

Fed & Forgiven - Communion Classes

Eli Haga and Ava Medina completed the Fed and Forgiven Communion classes and received their First Communion on Maundy Thursday (April 14th). The gym was full for the Maundy Thursday service – such a great evening for Eli, Ava and their families! We are so proud of Eli and Ava for all of their hard work and participation in class! We appreciate the congregation's support of these two young people as they continue their faith journey into God's Word, and pray that God will guide them and help them to be bold and brave in their faith and go out and share His love throughout the rest of their lives!



Children's Easter Program - The Glorious Rainbow of Easter

We had 14 fabulous kids take part in the "Glorious Rainbow of Easter", a program that used the colors of the rainbow and scripture to tell the Easter story. At the end, we saw a rejoicing rainbow celebrating the good news of Jesus' resurrection. The children's Easter Program was recorded Saturday, April 9th and played on Easter Sunday during service. We hope everyone enjoyed the program, our amazing kids and the keepsake crosses that the kids made for everyone! Thanks be to God for our kids, their families and our leaders!



Palm Sunday, the Easter Egg Hunt & Pizza Party!

Palm Sunday was a joyous celebration and great day! We started with a triumphant parade complete with instruments and Palms to start off service. After service, the kids had a lesson about Holy Week and Easter followed by an Easter Egg Hunt and pizza party! We learned a lot about what Jesus means in our lives – the promise of forgiveness, eternal and new life through Him and the how much Jesus loves us! We even shared a book called "The Sparkle Egg" which has a great Easter message that is perfect for children! There were 400 eggs for our Egg Hunt full of fun surprises hidden inside and outside the church, and we finished with delicious food and fellowship in the gym!





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Vitalant Blood Drive - Wednesday, May 18th 4 - 7 pm

Our next blood drive is Wednesday, May 18^{th} from 4-7 pm in the gym. Please give if you can and schedule an appointment to help sustain or save the lives of others in need. Enjoy a light meal and treats after you donate. Contact Debbie Fox and she can schedule an appointment for you, or schedule your own appointment by following the options below.



To schedule your own appointment:

Go to: vitalant.org/ohiodonorportal

Click on "Make an appointment"

From here there are 3 ways to search for a blood drive:

- 1. Change the date to May 18th and scroll down until you see Zion Lutheran Church
 - Click on the location to make an appointment for to highlight it and click on "Select" below the box with blood drive listings.
 - Click on appointment time
 - Click on "New Donor" to register or "Existing Donor" if you already have an account
- 2. In the next box down you can search by zip code and radius for a blood drive.
 - Click on the location you would like to make an appointment for to highlight it and click on "Select" below the box with blood drive listings.
 - Click on appointment time
 - Click on "New Donor" to register or "Existing Donor" if you already have an account
- 3. Or Go all the way to the bottom of the page to search by Group Code. Zion Lutheran's Group Code is: 1525
 - Click on location to highlight and then hit "Select"
 - Click on appointment time
 - Click on "New Donor" to register or "Existing Donor" if you already have an account

Here are the 2022 dates for our scheduled drives:

Wednesday, July 20, 2022: 3 pm – 7 pm Sunday, September 25, 2022: 10 am – 2 pm Sunday, November 20, 2022: 10 am – 2 pm

Please mark your calendars!



BLOOD DRIVE



Zion Lutheran Church

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18 4 P.M. - 7 P.M. GYM 349 LINDY LANE NW NORTH CANTON

Please make an appointment and earn reward points at: vitalant.org/OhioDonorPortal Group code: 1525

Donate blood. We'll let you know if you have the antibodies to help patients battling COVID-19.

Please eat before you donate.

Bring a photo ID and a list of any medications that you take.







Canton Faith Build 2022

The work has started and the 2022 Faith Build is underway. We received our volunteer work days, and sign-up sheets are located in Luther Hall. We have a few spots left for volunteering on site, and still have need for those who want to help prepare and deliver lunches. Thank you to Cindy Bagocius for leading our lunch crew again this year.

1. Saturday, April 23 from 8:15am – 10:00am

Location: Site BTask: Tar and Brace

o Number of Volunteers: 4-6

o Minimum Age: 18

o No lunch needed as the day will end at 10am

2. Saturday, April 30 from 8:15am – 12:00pm

Location: Site ATask: Deck

Number of Volunteers: 6-8

o Minimum Age: 18

o Lunch: Deliver 12 lunches by 11am

3. Friday, June 10 from 8:15am - 2:30pm

Location: Site BTask: Drywall

o Number of Volunteers: 5-7

o Minimum Age: 18

o Lunch: Deliver 11 lunches between 11:30am-noon



Site A - 427 Crestmont Ave SE, Canton, OH 44707



Site B - 433 Crestmont Ave SE, Canton, OH 44707

We completed our first work day on April 23rd! We had a group of five volunteers from Zion along with the two homeowners, Tessica and British, and two other future homeowners. Together we tarred the foundation of both houses while the construction project leaders braced the houses. It was a beautiful sunny morning, and we all had a great time! It was great getting to know and work with all the homeowners. They have amazing stories, positive energy and are such deserving people of being part of the Habitat build program.

We ask everyone to pray for all involved with the Faith Build – the homeowners and their families, the Habitat staff and all of the volunteers who donate time, materials and money – to support this amazing project! Dear God, please help and guide as we go on this journey with the Habitat staff, homeowners and other volunteers. We pray for good weather, safety and good health for everyone, the knowledge and ability to a good job, and finally two safe, well built houses that will be homes to Tessica and British. Help us to share your love and to do your will in all that we do. Amen

































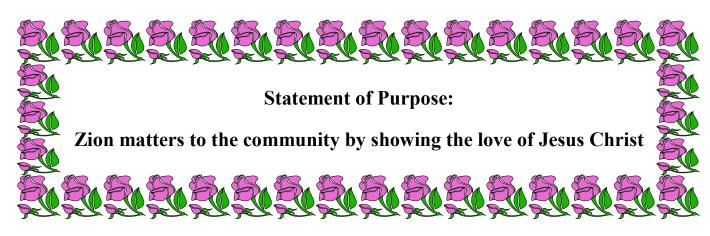






Zion Lutheran Church 349 Lindy Lane NW North Canton, OH 44720 An ELCA Congregation

Return Service Requested



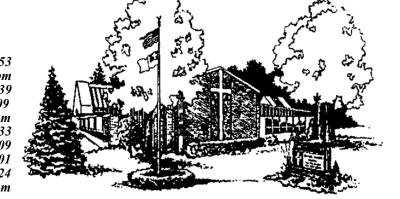
Worship Services

Sunday Morning: 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Wednesday Evening: 7:00 p.m. Casual Service

Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Pastor: The Rev. William Weidenbach, Jr. *850-766-5853* Pastor's E-Mail: Pastor@zion-nc.com Church Council President: Jim Fidler 330-494-7839 Church Office Secretary: Vicki Givler 330-499-3909 Church Office Secretary E-Mail: Office@zion-nc.com Christian Ed. Director: Debbie Fox 330-966-2433 Chancel Flowers: Vicki Givler 330-499-3909 Church Office Fax Number 330-499-0801 Prayer Chain: Kay Davis 330-456-0724 Prayer Chain: Email Prayer@zion-nc.com



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