

# THE ZION HERALD

Proclaiming Good News

July 2023



*NOW THE LORD IS THE SPIRIT, AND WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS FREEDOM.*

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17

**Message from our President:**

July is the month in which we Americans celebrate freedom. And we appreciate the fact that it is a Blessing from God. The words of Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence ring in our ears: "all men are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Freedom affords us the opportunity to gather together with others, enjoy each other's company, and participate in those activities that enrich all of our lives and help to build a stronger community.

As Christians we are ever grateful to God for His gift to us of free will. This gift affords us the capacity to choose actions conforming to His will that we welcome, support and serve others in furtherance of the Divine plan emphasizing the interdependence of all human beings. Recognizing that salvation and eternal life have been purchased for us by Jesus's death on the cross and resurrection, we are free to ask ourselves whether our individual exercise of free will is consistent with God's expectations and in furtherance of the Divine plan.

What complicates this introspective thought process is the fact that since Adam's fall into sin in the Garden of Eden every human thought and deed is infected with sin. The corrupting influence of sin too often causes us to base our decisions as to whether, and to what extent, we will engage with others on selfish considerations concerning the impact on ourselves rather than the benefit to others. Looking inward rather than outward deprives us of the emotional fulfillment emanating from efforts furthering God's Commandment to love one another.

As Lutherans we at Zion must strive to spread the good news of God's never ending, all encompassing love for the human race. To succeed in this endeavor each of us must shed the sinful, selfish thoughts which hold us back. Only by doing so can we joyfully immerse ourselves in erstwhile efforts to encourage the unchurched to attend worship service; welcome guests; support and participate in the food pantry and events such as the Cruise-in to benefit the Valor Home for homeless veterans and the Bike Rodeo; meaningfully engage in Adult Christian Education and/or Bible Studies; and persuade many of our current Members to take a more active role in Zion's affairs. By full engagement in the life of our church we can demonstrate that "Zion matters to the community by showing the love of Jesus Christ."

*Lord, thank You for the Commandment to love one another. Help us to conquer our sinful, inward looking thoughts so that we may exercise our free will to engage with our fellow beings in service to others. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.*

**Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Fidler  
Council President**



July is the month we celebrate the abundant freedoms we have been given. “We The People” control the fate of Zion Lutheran Church, our Local, State, and US governments, and our personal relationship with our God. Therefore, let us consider how the choices we make not only affect us, but the world community.

### Supporting Teams:

**Handyman Services**, leader - Ken Reinoehl  
Volunteer and Request forms are available on the bulletin board across from Pastor’s Office.

**Visitations** – No Team Leader Assigned.

**Transportation** – No Team Leader Assigned.

**Prayer Chain** – Contact Jayne Schrader and add your name to the chain, Jayne will E-Mail you with prayer request.

**Funeral Reception Meals** – No Report.

**Feed a Friend** – Laura Thompson: 1 meal was served to a family in May.

**Blood Program**—Debbie Fox: The Blood Drive was held Wednesday June 14<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm to 7:00. Thank you for your support.

**Comfort Givers** – Darleen Milavickas. No Report

**Greeting Cards** – No Report.

*O God, rule over our life in Thy kingdom and help us to be obedient servants. Amen.*

G. Scott Gross—Caring Ministry Elder

## Make A Difference



**Chancel Guild**—Connie Riffle and Janet Slease



We are thankful to Maggiore’s Drive Thru for donating wine for our communion. The owner, Terry, has always been so generous to provide our wine. Please make sure to stop by when you’re

in the area to patronize his business at 4040 Portage Street NW - just about a mile west of Zion. We thank the Lord for having such a great neighbor.



**Coffee & Donuts Social** - Darlene Milavickas



There will be a Coffee & Donut Social following the Sunday Worship Service every

Sunday through the summer.



LEARNING MINISTRY– Debbie Fox

### Adult Sunday School

**All** adults are invited to meet in Luther Hall after Sunday service at 10:15am for coffee, delicious treats and Bible discussion. The group will be led by Pastor William. Join us for a meaningful and worthwhile discussion of God's Word.

### Confirmation & High School Classes

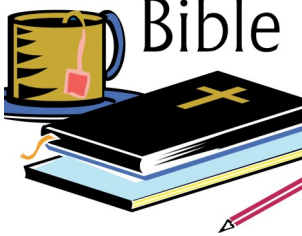
These classes will meet Wednesdays at 6pm throughout the summer. We will gather at the Coffee Exchange for classes.

### Summer Bible Adventure Pre-K thru 6<sup>th</sup> Grades

Join us at Summer Bible Adventure Wednesdays at 6pm. We will meet at the Coffee Exchange and head to class. Each week there will be Bible lessons, games, snacks and more! Our summer Bible Adventure leaders are Cindy Bagocius, Connie Riffle, Pastor Eli Seitz, Janet Slease, Sue Whalen and Debbie Fox. We will see you on Wednesday evening for fun and learning about God's Word.



## Women's Bible



### Women's Bible Study

All women are invited to an at-home Bible Study with Cindy Bagocius at her home on the first Monday of the month starting in August.

August 7, September 4 (Labor Day Brunch-nice!), and October 2. Come to 1600 Chadford Gate SE North Canton to devote an hour from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Word and in the company of each other. The material to be used is from the GATHER Magazine of

WELCA. Call Cindy at 234-207-3638 for more information.

This same opportunity is also offered at the home of Ruth Reinoehl at 7:00 pm in the evenings of those first Monday's. The address is 407 9th Street, North Canton. Her phone contact is 330-284-6068.

### Weekly ZOOM Bible Discussion

Bible discussions for adults are on Thursdays at 9am by Zoom. Please contact Tina Taylor in the church office if you would like the Zoom link to be part of this discussion.

- ❖ The weekly lessons and Gospel message are discussed during this session.
- ❖ If this time doesn't work, contact Pastor William to set up a time that does.

*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 learning your Word every day. Amen*

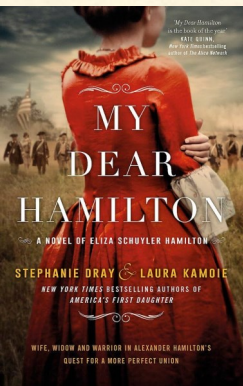


*The Picks are In*

Like to read? Consider joining one or more of our Reading Discussion Group sessions in the 2023-24 season, which opens the first Friday in September, 2023 at 10am and continues through the first Friday of June, 2024 at 10am.

Here's the new picks -

September: *My Dear Hamilton*, by Eliza Schuyler



October: *And It Was Good*, by Madeline L'Engle\*

November: *Dust Child*, by Nguyen Phan Que Mai

December: *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, by Khalid Hosseini

January: *A Stone for a Pillow*, by Madeline L'Engle\*

February: *The Wisdom of Morrie*, by Morrie Schwartz

March: *The Personal Librarian*, by Marie Benedict

April: *The Wright Brothers*, by David McCollough

May: *Dorothy Fuldheim*, by Patricia Mote

June: *The Night of Many Endings*, by Melissa Payne

\*These two stories by L'Engle can be found in a one-volume trilogy called *The Genesis Trilogy*

The meeting place is Zion Lutheran Church, unless otherwise directed. For information, call, text, or email Linda Weidenbach at 850-766-5640 or [lindakjw@gmail.com](mailto:lindakjw@gmail.com).





Virginia Long	July 4	Connie & Rick Riffle	July 10
Louise Lindberg	July 5	Margaret & Clayton Van Scoy	July 12
Carole Singer	July 9	Tina & Michael Linz	July 14
Ron Singer	July 15	Fritz & Sandy Cizek	July 22
Brian Milek	July 18	Lisa & Brian Kay	July 26
Jack Brannen	July 22	Darlene & Steven Dague	July 27
Dawn Tyburk	July 23		
Chris Whalen	July 23		
Edna Smith	July 24		
Sally Bunyan	July 25		



# Outdoor Worship Service

Every Wednesday - 7pm  
In the Pavilion

Child care available—Infant thru Kindergarten



**Paul Bagocius— Worship Ministry Elder**

Our target date for the initiation of the First Sunday Singers has been pushed back to July or August. Our Plan A did not work out as expected, so we are on Plan B. Initially, probably only one Praise Song will be used in the Sunday Service, with the other songs being traditional hymns. Over time, only Praise Songs will be used during the first Sunday of each month. Again, this different musical venue may be appreciated by additional people who want more than traditional hymns every Sunday. God provides individual preferences, we simply follow His lead. The other Sundays of the month will provide traditional hymns with the organ.



Darlene Milavickas, Beth Heller &amp; Linda Weidenbach

Our Ministry has planned for a different opening to our Sunday services. On the first three Sundays of the month, Pastor will do the opening greeting instead of the Assistant Pastor, followed by an uplifting Gathering Hymn (no prelude during these services). Reason for this change: to maintain and expand the initial enthusiasm people are coming to church with. The fourth Sunday with Jack at the organ will include the prelude--again to appeal to different preferences of our current and future congregation.

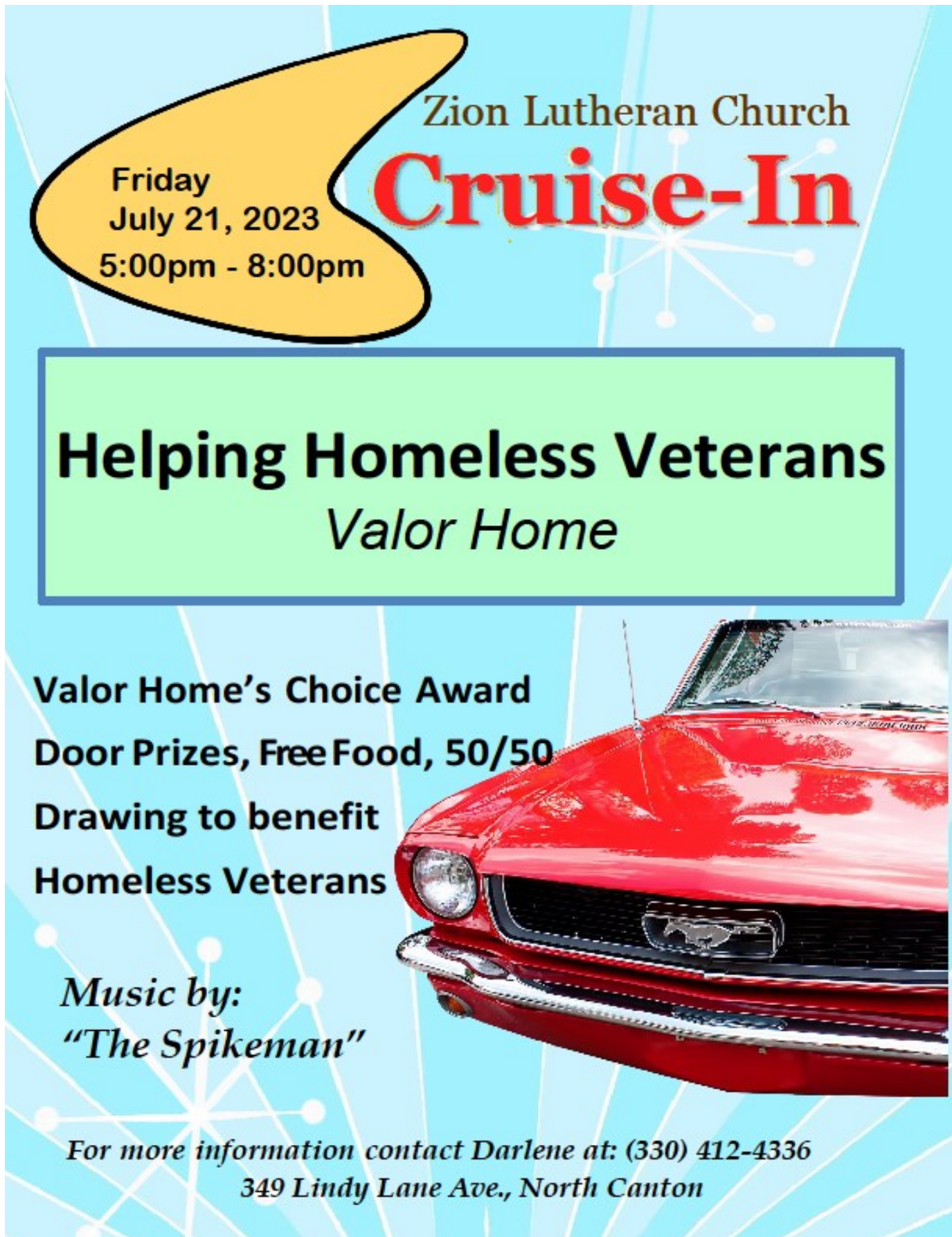
By these subtle changes described above, it is hoped that people will come to church on Sundays with a renewed expectation of excitement and anticipation instead of a continued routine that does not change. Liturgy will remain the same for all services, but the wording in the Liturgy may occasionally change (as has been done over this past year).

We are looking into the feasibility of adding the Bible readings to the up front screen to make it easier for people to follow along. The print will be large enough for those in the back to easily read.

Over the next several months, a portion of our monthly meetings will be devoted to examine and define our Ministry's purpose: To equip people of all ages to respond to God's call by regularly participating in the celebration of Word and Sacrament.

It is so exciting to work with John Long, Connie Riffle, Janet Slease, and Pastor William during our monthly meetings to plan for our Worship services. The Holy Spirit can be felt during these meetings as we discuss, plan, and implement God's call to us. If you want to build upon a very personal relationship with God, get involved in one of our church Ministries. Let God lead you. Prayerfully, you will consider joining the Worship Ministry. We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm at church. Next meeting: July 11 (second Tuesday since July 4 is the first Tuesday). Our meetings are open and focused and last at most 75 minutes (but usually only 60 minutes).



A promotional poster for a 'Cruise-In' event at Zion Lutheran Church. The background is light blue with white geometric lines. A yellow teardrop shape in the upper left contains the date and time. A green box in the center contains the event's purpose. The bottom right features a close-up of a red classic car. Text on the left lists prizes and the music act.

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
**Cruise-In**


Friday  
July 21, 2023  
5:00pm - 8:00pm

**Helping Homeless Veterans**  
*Valor Home*

**Valor Home's Choice Award**  
**Door Prizes, Free Food, 50/50**  
**Drawing to benefit**  
**Homeless Veterans**

*Music by:*  
*"The Spikeman"*

*For more information contact Darlene at: (330) 412-4336*  
*349 Lindy Lane Ave., North Canton*







**Blood Drive Update - Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>**

Thank you to everyone who came out to donate blood on June 14<sup>th</sup>! There were 19 people who came out to donate, and 15 units of blood were collected.



Katy Neff from Vitalant sent this note by email:  
“Thank you so much for continuing with the blood drive yesterday even though we were so short staffed and had no power red machine. We were able to collect 15 blood donations which will be used to sustain or save the lives of up to 45 patients in need!! What an amazing gift to give so many people.”

To date, Zion’s Blood Drives have collected 304 units (38 gallons) helping to save or sustain the lives of 912 people. Thanks be to God for everyone who is willing to donate blood which helps save the lives of so many!

The following are the remaining 2023 Blood Drive dates at Zion:

- Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 4-7pm**
- Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 10am-2pm**
- Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 10am-2pm**

There is still a critical need for blood so please give if you can at our remaining drives. It truly is the gift of life! You can schedule your own appointment, or Debbie Fox can schedule one for you. If the above dates don’t work with your schedule, you can go to the Vitalant Donation Center at 4119 Tuscarawas St West, Canton, OH 44708. Call 877-258-4825 or schedule an appointment online.

- To make your own appointment online go to:
- Vitalant.org
  - Click on “donate”
  - Click on “schedule an appointment”
  - And search by city, zip and date
  - Or use “Advanced Search” and Group code: U1525



**Finance Ministry**

It is so refreshing and uplifting to see the sun shining brightly, pleasant temperatures, sufficient rain but only in the evenings, and nature's colors radiating for all to enjoy. Truly God's blessings are shining on us and I hope you take the time to enjoy them!

By the time you receive this newsletter, several significant ministry events will have been completed. June 10<sup>th</sup> was the date for our 1<sup>st</sup> Habitat for Humanity Faith Build opportunity to help our deserving families erect the walls for their new homes. The normal Zion teamwork and enthusiasm were much in evidence and appreciated by all. The 2<sup>nd</sup> date which will involve siding is in July and the 3<sup>rd</sup> for painting is in August so there is ample opportunity for you to sign-up and contribute to these very important and rewarding Stewardship moments.

The VBS Team is excited and prepared for action the week of June 26. I am sure that there will be numerous highlights to report from its educational and entertaining spiritual instruction. The Cruise-In will occur in July to benefit Valor Home for homeless veterans. Each of these ministries provide an opportunity for your stewardship participation by supplying your physical, spiritual and financial resources to make them successful in achieving our mission of "mattering to the community by showing the love of Jesus Christ". We trust you will provide your enthusiastic support and participation to these activities in addition to our monthly Food Pantry and Shared Goods Place ministries. Our 2023 Stewardship campaign, "Building a Culture of Generosity" continues to be a point of emphasis and we will provide you with feedback on your execution of Intent Card commitments with a 6-month Giving Statement at the end of June. It is rewarding to note more than 90% of Zion Intent Card participants are meeting or exceeding their commitments. In addition, most Zion givers in general are participating at levels which exceed 2022. Your spiritual, physical, and financial support is critical for us to accomplish Zion's ministries and share the good News with our community in a fiscally responsible manner. To assist our Stewardship plans for the future, we are embarking on program of "Stewardship for All Seasons" which you will hear more about in coming months. Comparing May 2023 giving results to either April 2023 or May 2022 provides a distorted view since comparing 4-week vs 5-week months. Results are 16% less than May 2022 on an aggregate basis but actually improved by 4.5% on per week basis. Similarly, results were 33% less than April 2023 on aggregate basis but 6% decrease on weekly basis versus April 2022. Giving year-to-date is now 5% ahead of 2022 levels. The positive momentum we had developed in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the year has started to wane and is in need of rejuvenation. May results produced an operating deficit for month and year-to-date deficit as noted below. Your consistent positive financial support is critical to our mission to adequately fund Zion's ministries. Opportunities abound to make 2023 a safe, happy, and healthy year sharing the resources God has made available to us to positively impact our community. God will assist to make your individual contributions compound to ensure it happens.

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

Faithfully yours,  
**Resource Ministry—John Rhodes Elder**

	May 2023	Full Year 2023
Giving	\$21,196.33	\$127,526.31
Expenses	\$28,197.73	\$154,460.63
Difference	-\$7,001.40	-\$26,934.32

10





*The WOW single women's group met on Friday, May 19, in Hartville. A delicious lunch and shopping at Hartville Kitchen and Gift Shop was enjoyed by all.*

*We are planning for an outing to Lehman's Hardware in Kidron, P. Graham Dunn and the Dutch Kitchen in Dalton for some time in July. Look for a sign-up sheet in Luther Hall*

*Anna Erbland, Corlene Coulter, Linda Smith, Lorraine Weinman, Moe Alters, Carol Rossbach, Janet Slease and Sally Bunyan*



**EQUAL EXCHANGE is pleased to welcome back into its fold, the CONGO COFFEE PROJECT.**

"For every bag of Congo Coffee sold, Equal Exchange contributes \$1 to Panzi Hospital and Foundation. These funds have been directed to the Maison Dorcas Aftercare Center, which supports vocational training; for survivors of sexual violence. At Maison Dorcas, women learn skills that help foster financial independence and stability."

This coffee is grown along the shores of Lake Kivu in eastern Congo. Rich volcanic soil and high altitudes allow the "cherries" to mature slowly and sweetly. Savor a cup, after grinding the whole beans yourself, from your \$10 purchase of a 1# bag available right here in our own Zion Equal Exchange Closet. We even have a coffee bean grinder you can check out on loan!!

WELCOME YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL 2023-2024



Jim Fidler	President
Darlene Milavickas	Vice President
Jayne Schrader	Secretary
Beth Shaheen	Treasurer
G. Scott Gross	Caring Ministry
Debbie Fox	Learning Ministry
Tina Linz	Parish Life Ministry
George Miller	Property Ministry
John Rhodes	Resource Ministry
Susan Whalen	Witness Ministry
Paul Bagocius	Worship Ministry

Thank you to Laura Thompson for her tireless dedication and service to the church as 2022-23 Social Ministry Elder.

Zion Lutheran Church  
North Canton, Ohio

JULY ASSISTING MINISTER SCHEDULE

July 2, 2023 Jim Fidler  
July 9, 2023 Beth Heller  
July 16, 2023 Darlene Milavickas  
July 23, 2023 Linda Weidenbach  
July 30, 2023 George Miller

JULY ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

July 2, 2023 Ava Medina  
July 9, 2023 Ben Keith  
July 16, 2023 Kenadi Medina  
July 23, 2023 LJ Brown  
July 30, 2023 Ben Keith

JULY READER SCHEDULE

July 2, 2023 Ruth Reinoehl  
July 9, 2023 Nick Cignetti  
July 16, 2023 Laura Thompson  
July 23, 2023 John Long  
July 30, 2023 Renee Keith

JULY ACCOMPANIST SCHEDULE

July 2, 2023 Carol McKimm  
July 9, 2023 Carol McKimm  
July 16, 2023 Jack Brannen  
July 23, 2023 Jack Brannen  
July 30, 2023 Steve Moore

JULY CHANCEL GUILD SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

July 1, 2023- Connie Riffle & Lisa Frock  
July 8, 2023– Connie Riffle & Juanita Cignetti  
July 15, 2023 - Connie Riffle & Nikki Milek  
July 22, 2023 - Connie Riffle & Lisa Frock  
July 29, 2023 - Connie Riffle & Betty Tracy

SUNDAY

July 2, 2023 - Connie Riffle & Lisa Frock  
July 9, 2023 - Connie Riffle & Juanita Cignetti  
July 16, 2023 - Connie Riffle & Nikki Milek  
July 23, 2023—Connie Riffle & Lisa Frock  
July 30, 2023 - Connie Riffle & Betty Tracy

9am SUNDAY SERVICE DOOR LOCKERS

July 2, 2023 Paul Bagocius  
July 9, 2023 Janet Slease  
July 16, 2023 Darlene Milavickas  
July 23, 2023 Dave Palumbo  
July 30, 2023 George Miller





**COMMISIONING & BLESSING FOR MEMBERS OF THE 2023 VACATION BIBLE TEAM**



Dave Palumbo, Laura Thompson, Christopher Thompson, Linda Smith, Connie Riffle, Janet Sleese, Cindy Bagocius, Sue Whalen, Ruth Reinoehl, Carol Rossbach, Kenadi Medina, Mary Humbert, Darlene Milavickas, Betty Tracy, Debbie Fox, Jayne Schrader, Moe Alters

**2023 Fall Charity Craft Show**

**All church proceeds will benefit the Habitat for Humanity Faith Build Program**

**Saturday, October 21, 2023 from 10am – 3pm  
Table space cost is \$35 for an 8 foot table**

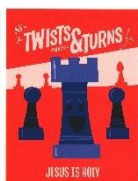
**German Dinners: 11:00am - 3:30pm  
Eat in, takeout or donate a meal**

***God's Work, Our Hands!***



## Vacation Bible School 2023 Twists & Turn June 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

**Memory Verse:** *Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths. Psalm 25:4*



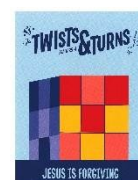
### Monday

- Bible Point: Jesus is Holy and that changes everything!
- Bible Story: Peter Followed Jesus (Matthew 4:18-20; Luke 5:1-11)



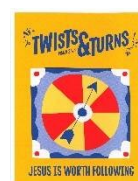
### Tuesday

- Bible Point: Jesus is Trustworthy even when I doubt!
- Bible Story: Peter Walked to Jesus on the Water (Matthew 14:22-33)



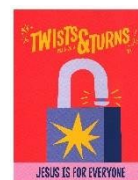
### Wednesday

- Bible Point: Jesus is Forgiving when I sin!
- Bible Story: Peter Denied Jesus and Was Restored (Luke 22:31-34, 54-62; John 18:15-18; 21:1-19)



### Thursday

- Bible Point: Jesus is Worth Following even when it gets tough!
- Bible Story: Peter Spoke Boldly about Jesus (Acts 3:1–4:24)



### Friday

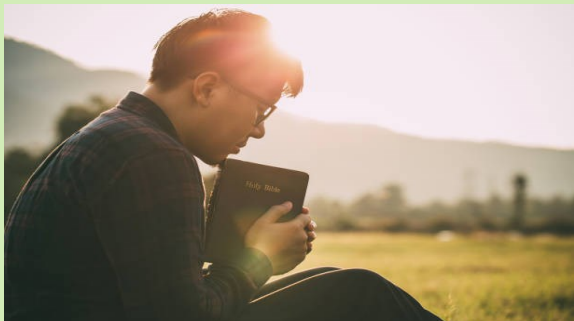
- Bible Point: Jesus is for Everyone, including me!
- Bible Story: Peter Told Cornelius about Jesus (Acts 10)

Check out next month's newsletter for our VBS wrap up and photos. You will see all the exciting things that went on during our week of Twists and Turns!

**Remember – Following Jesus Changes the Game!  
It changes everything!**



# Hey you guys:



This book is a VERY enlightening book which challenges all Christians in their daily lives.

## BE SURE TO BRING A FRIEND WITH YOU!

It has been decided to make **GAME DAY** a monthly event, [September thru May], and we will take vacation June, July and August. 'Game Day' will be in hiatus until September.

**MEN**, PLEASE join us at the church on the last Saturday of the month, 8:30 in the morning, as we continue to discuss the book, **“Not in it to win it”** by Andy Stanley. This book is a thought-provoking commentary on how Christians have not been following the Biblical teachings of Jesus since about the first century. Our first lively discussion left everyone wanting to continue well past our quitting time. You are welcome to join us and add your two cents worth to the discussion. At the time of this writing, there are still two copies available in the church office, (no cost) just ask the secretary.

(PS. A “Friend” doesn’t necessarily have to be a member of Zion.)

Also, keep in mind, some of the men have volunteered to give you a hand with any chores you may have. This includes helping to shovel the sidewalks, change your furnace filters, Spring cleaning, etc. (This is to be at no cost to you, but if you wish to pay, donations can be made to the Men’s group.) Sign-up sheets are located on the Men’s bulletin board located in the hallway outside the pastor’s office. Complete the form and give to Ken Reinoehl.

## WE WILL “GIT ‘ER DONE!”



### Busy Bees prepare for Vacation Bible School

Left & Right  
Debbie Fox  
Janet Slease  
Darlene Milavickas

Below  
Sue Whalen, Carli Brown  
Debbie Fox



**Pastor’s Ponderings**  
**July, 2023**

**July is here, soon the corn will be knee high, tomatoes loading the vines, and people on vacation. And that** last part got me to pondering a statement made by an acquaintance of mine: Summer is the time for people to go everywhere but church. Ouch, I thought at first, but then I realized he is right. So, this summer, I challenge you:

- ❖ When traveling to other cities and countries, find a church to attend. Some travelers like to immerse themselves in local restaurants and activities – try a local church, God is already there and will be glad to see you.
- ❖ When going away for the weekend, remember we have Wednesday night worship outdoors. Try it, you might just like it; it’s casual, it’s outdoors, there are children, and some say the best reason....it’s shorter than Sunday’s service.
- ❖ Observe the beauty of the places you visit, make time to give thanks to God for what God created. It was created with you in mind; give thanks to God for thinking so much of you.
- ❖ Another option for keeping connected to God is our live streaming of both Wednesday and Sunday services. But, since we tend to go elsewhere at night and sleep in late on vacation, you can always participate by watching the recorded services at your convenience.

Summer vacation is a time of relaxation, restoration, and rejuvenation. How might your summer vacation be better this year by putting God and the spreading of God’s kingdom first?

- ❖ Flying high above the clouds is a great time to contemplate the majesty of your God who created the world and who loves you beyond measure. Spend some quiet time on the airplane connecting with God. Then, spread God’s kingdom by way of how you treat your fellow passengers and airline staff.
- ❖ Driving through this wonderful country we call the United States of America is a perfect opportunity to contemplate the diversity of creation and the variety of people we call siblings in Christ. Spend some time thanking God for you having the privilege of being born here. This country may not be the greatest in the world, but there is none better. Give praise to God as you drive through God’s wondrousness.
- ❖ Sitting on your front porch is great time to consider all the blessings God presented to you. A home, job, family, neighbors, vegetation, animals, air, rain, and sunshine. Wow, God must really love you! Indeed!



How will you shine your light this summer so others will see your good works and give glory to you Father in heaven?

Connect with God, pray for one another, remain present with people you encounter, and treat one another gently and with the love of Christ.

I look forward to hearing how you encountered God this summer.  
Graciously, Pr. William







**What is that red candle and what is its purpose?**



This article will use some words for which it might be helpful to have a definition:

- Sanctuary – the area surrounding the Altar (Lord’s Table).
- Reserved Sacrament – consecrated bread/wine left after a communion service; this is not a Lutheran practice.
- Tabernacle – a box-like or domed vessel where the reserved sacrament is kept; this is not a Lutheran practice.

**What is that red candle called?**

- Its official name is; Sanctuary Lamp. Note; our red candle is in the chancel, not the sanctuary.

**When was it first used?**

- The Roman Catholic Church started using it the 12<sup>th</sup> Century.

**What is its purpose in the Roman Catholic Church?**

- It was placed near the Tabernacle, to be lit when the Tabernacle contains the Reserved Sacrament.

**Why do some Protestant churches use this candle? Here’s what has been said at Zion:**

- Some say it is to signify the eternal presence of God in the church.
- Some say it is because we’ve always done it. (By the way, Lutherans have not always done it – most do not).

**A response to both expressed reasons:**

- “Because we’ve always done it” is not accurate. Lutherans have not always done it. It has no theological basis or sound doctrine for Lutherans. Practices that utilize “we’ve always done it” thinking might be better eliminated, thus removing the temptation to make them sacred practices without biblically grounded meaning.
- “The eternal presence of God” in bread and wine is not a Lutheran tenet, we don’t believe in the Reserved Sacrament concept. It is Jesus’ body and blood only at that setting while we are gathered together to receive it.
- “The eternal presence of God” is a bit trite. Does God go away if the light burns out?
- “The eternal presence of God” is too vast to be limited to a church building. What does God do in the building outside of 9:00 on Sunday anyway? It must get lonely for God to just sit around waiting for us to return.
- “The eternal presence of God” is everywhere; including our work places, schools, homes and restaurants. Why don’t we have these candles burning there too?







2023 Habitat Faith Build Update



We completed our first work day Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. Eleven volunteers from Zion came out to help build and raise the exterior walls on two of the houses from this year’s build. It was an amazing day – the day the builds take shape as houses. All three moms that will be the new homeowners were so emotional and excited to see their future homes take shape! Thanks be to God for the Habitat families, the staff and all the volunteers that came together for a common good – building safe, affordable housing for three deserving families! Our next work day is Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.

How can you help? Volunteer to work on site – no experience necessary! Prepare and deliver lunches for our work days! Pray for the families, volunteers and Habitat staff throughout the build! Check out the Bulletin Board in the hall by the restrooms for more information and photos of the build throughout the summer. You can also check out photos of all three builds at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/habitateco/sets/72177720307150670/>.

CONCEPT DRAWING



Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" – Isaiah 6: 8

Here are our volunteer work dates:

DAY TWO

**Date:** Saturday, July 15  
**Time:** 8:00am-2:30pm  
**Location:** Site A  
**Task:** Siding  
**Number of Volunteers:** 6-8  
**Minimum Age:** 18  
**\*Lunch:** Deliver 12 lunches between 11:30am-noon

DAY THREE

**Date:** Saturday, August 19  
**Time:** 8:00am-2:30pm  
**Location:** Site A  
**Task:** Paint  
**Number of Volunteers:** 8-10  
**Minimum Age:** 14  
**\*Lunch:** Deliver 14 lunches between 11:30am-noon

Sign up sheets for volunteer days and to help with the lunch crew which will be led by Cindy Bagocius are located in Luther Hall. Please consider being a part of this project where we see God’s love in action!



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 Outdoor Service**

**Zion's Staff**  
Pastor: The Rev. William Weidenbach, Jr.  
Mobile: 850-766-5853  
Email: [Pastor@zion-nc.com](mailto:Pastor@zion-nc.com)

Administrative Assistant: Tina Taylor  
Phone: 330-499-3909  
Email: [Office@zion-nc.com](mailto:Office@zion-nc.com)

IT Manager: Louis Varlamos  
Email: [Tech@Zion-NC.com](mailto:Tech@Zion-NC.com)  
Website: [www.zion-nc.com](http://www.zion-nc.com)

Like us on Facebook@zionnorthcanton

**Statement of Purpose:**  
**Zion matters to the community by**  
**showing the love of Jesus Christ**

**Office hours:**  
**9:00am to 3:00pm**  
**M-F**  
**Doors open at 9am**

