

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 Worship Service
***Services are streamed through Facebook**

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

Zion's Staff
Pastor: The Rev. William Weidenbach, Jr.
Mobile: 850-766-5853
Email: Pastor@zion-nc.com

Administrative Assistant: Tina Taylor
Phone: 330-499-3909
Email: Office@zion-nc.com

IT Manager: Tobias Rhodes
Email: Tech@Zion-NC.com
Website: www.zion-nc.com
Like us on Facebook@zionnorthcanton

Council Members

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

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

THE ZION HERALD

Proclaiming Good News November 2023



**“LET US COME INTO HIS PRESENCE WITH THANKSGIVING;
LET US MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO HIM WITH SONGS OF
PRAISE!”**

PSALM 95:2

Message from our President

November is the month we associate with the onset of the Holiday Season and, of course, giving thanks to our Divine Creator for the Blessings He has bestowed upon us. Our Sunday Worship Service on November 12 will be a recognition of the contributions our veterans have made to the preservation of our freedom and way of life. On Thanksgiving Day we'll reflect on our many Blessings and thank God for all that we truly value in our lives- family, friends, neighbors, pets- and for those activities that stimulate us intellectually, physically, emotionally and spiritually. Zion's Sunday Evening Advent Services will begin on Thanksgiving weekend and continue into December.

As Christians we are thankful for Christ's message of service to others. This Congregation recognizes that our talents, physical capabilities, cognitive capacities and financial assets are all resources God has entrusted to our care with the expectation we will employ those resources in service to others. Our belief that as a church we must look outward and consider the welfare of others is encapsulated in our Statement of Purpose: "Zion matters to the Community by showing the love of Jesus Christ."

We on Church Council are thankful that at the Congregational Meeting on October 22 the Members of the Congregation had the foresight to approve the 2024 Mission Spending Proposal, thereby signaling their faith in the ability of our Ministry Elders to prudently employ the vast resources entrusted to our care in a manner that effectively and efficiently accomplishes our Mission of service to others. What the Congregation approved on October 22 is NOT an inwardly focused prescription for paying bills and maintaining the physical property so that Zion can merely survive. Rather, it is a blueprint for Zion to THRIVE as a vibrant member of the community by making the most of the resources God has entrusted to us.

Zion's successful navigation of the rough seas brought about by the Covid pandemic has taught us that the God of abundance rewards faithful stewardship and will support servants who act upon His Commandment to love one another.

Lord, thank You for making us a Congregation cognizant of the abundant resources You have entrusted to our care and of the beauty of Your Divine Plan calling for all of Your created beings to live lives inextricably intertwined with each other. Continue to instill in us the wisdom and desire to use all that You have entrusted to our care in service to others. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Fidler
Council President



Blood Drive Update - Sunday, October 8th

Thank you to everyone who came out to donate blood on October 8th! There were 12 people who came out to donate, and 12 units of blood were collected which will help up to 36 people.

To date, Zion's Blood Drives have collected 331 units (almost 40 gallons) helping to save or sustain the lives of 993 people. Thanks be to God for everyone who is willing to donate blood and give the gift of life!

Some important facts from Vitalant:

Approximately 50% of donated blood with Vitalant come from mobile blood drives like Zion's. In 2022, over 52,000 new donors donated at mobile drives which helps sustain the stability of the nation's blood supply. Every 2 seconds someone needs blood in the US. Approximately 29,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day in the US./



There is still a critical need for blood so please give if you can. It truly is the gift of life!

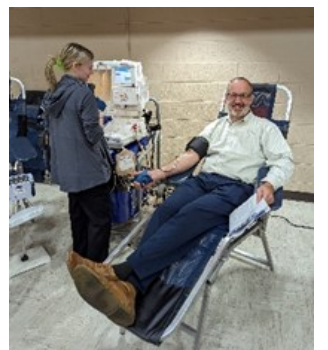


The following is our last Blood Drive for 2023: Sunday, December 17th, 2023 10am-2pm

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



Please mark your calendars for our 2024 Blood Drives at Zion:

Sunday, Feb 18th, 2024 10am – 2pm
Sunday, April 14th, 2024 10am – 2pm
Wednesday, June 12th, 2024 (3:00-7:00pm)
Wednesday, August 7th, 2024 (3:00-7:00pm)
Sunday, October 13th, 2024 10am – 2pm
Sunday, December 15th, 2024 10am – 2pm



Comfort Givers - Darlene Milavickas

I am sending a big thank you out to everyone for all the time and work you put in to making the quilts for LWR (Lutheran World Relief), Refuge of Hope, our Habitat families and our special ones throughout the year. We took 17 boxes to Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Seville, Ohio to be sent to LWR. We had 50 quilts, 10 school kits and 10 personal care kits for them. It was wonderful to see all the trucks and cars lined up to unload their boxes into the large semi truck for LWR.



We already started making quilts for next year's delivery to LWR with plans to make others for the Refuge of Hope and Veterans at Harmonycares.

We would love to have more people to help with making the quilts and comforters. We are trying to expand our ministry to include local charities that need help. Please pray on joining us in this ministry. If you can sew or even if you can't sew we can still use you. We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday from 10 – 12PM. If you can't make Thursdays, there are sewers that work on Mondays from 10 -12PM. You can contact Darlene for more information at 330-412-4336.

Attention!! Looking for individuals that knit or crochet to make a few prayer shawls we can send out to people. Materials provided. Please contact Darlene at 330-412-4336. Thank you!

Dear Lord, We thank you for giving us the materials and talent to do your work and to share our love for others. You ask us to help our brothers and sisters, to provide for them. Please help us to see ways that we can do this, to expand our ministry and show them your love.
In Jesus name we pray, Amen.



ZION LUTHERAN
CHURCH
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NORTH CANTON, OHIO
44720
330-499-3909

Office@zion-nc.com
www.Zion-NC.com

Zion matters to the
community by showing
the love of Jesus Christ

October 24, 2023

Greetings Siblings in Christ at Zion:

Generosity is all around us, sometimes we just have to look for it. In the feeding of the 5,000, God's significant generosity happened when the child shared (John 6:1-14). That is how it is here at Zion. When we share, God is able to do good significant things through us.

Stewardship for All Seasons is the theme of our Fall stewardship season. This theme points us to the generosity that we witnessed around our church over the past year. It also points us to realize that we can grow in even more profound ways.

Three years ago, when the pandemic began and businesses shut down there were serious concerns about what would happen to churches. Many people embraced a scarcity mentality, but that is not what happened here at Zion.

Our grateful response in generosity demonstrates to us and to the world around us that God has provided us everything we need and we have enough, even enough to share. In the weeks ahead, you will hear stories of generosity and how God is at work in and through this congregation. Please engage the materials and pray about how you can participate. We look forward to our future. God is calling us to great new adventures and your generosity will help accomplish all that God desires for us and our community.

Intent cards will be mailed to your home on November 9. We ask to you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to participate in what God is up to here at Zion. On Intent Sunday, November 19, please bring your intent card with you to declare the generosity that you intend to share in God's work.

Thank you for being part of this exciting congregation. Please continue to pray for our common work together as we continue to reach out with the Gospel.

Your servant in Christ,

John H. Rhodes

John Rhodes
Resource Ministry Elder



Adult Sunday School

Calling all adults! Join us in Coffee Connection area after Sunday service at 10:15 am for coffee, delicious treats and Bible discussion. The group, led by Pastor William, is discussing the book, “Autopsy of a Deceased Church (subtitle – 12 Ways to Keep Yours Alive)” by Thom S. Rainer, for 14 weeks. The chapters in this book will give important insight into how we can move Zion forward in positive and meaningful ways that align with our mission!

Confirmation & High School Classes

These classes meet Sunday mornings at 10:15 am. Join us at the Coffee Connection and then we will head off to classes.

Cindy Bagocius leads our Confirmation classes studying the “Here We Stand” curriculum and Renee Keith is our High School leader using t.b.d curriculum. Both curriculum provide age appropriate and relevant topics for their respective groups.

Bible Adventure Pre-K thru 6th Grades

Sunday Bible Adventure meets every Sunday at 10:15 am after service in our classrooms in the back hall. Join us for great lessons from Whirl, games, crafts and snacks and have your kids bring a friend.

We will also be working on Thanksgiving service projects this month along with our regular lessons. These projects will share God’s love with people in need in our community, specifically our friends at Siffrin and the Zion Food Pantry!



Women's Bible Study

Calling all women! You are invited to join our November Bible Study session on Monday, November 6th. Cindy Bagocius will lead one session at Zion from 10 – 11 am. Call Cindy at 234-207-3638 for more information.

Ruth Reinoehl will host a second session from 7- 8 p.m, at her home (407 9th Street, North Canton) Monday, November 6th. Her contact number is 330-284-6068.

Our last session for 2023 will be Monday, December 4th. Cindy will host a morning session and Ruth will host an evening session.

Come and devote an hour in the Word and in the company of each other” as we discuss the Bible Study from the ELCA’s GATHER Magazine.

Weekly ZOOM Bible Discussion

Bible discussions for adults are on Thursdays at 9 am 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 the session.
- If this time doesn't work, contact Pastor William to set up a time that does.
- We encourage everyone to join the weekly Bible discussions – please let us know how we can make joining this discussion easier and inviting to you!

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



work, running food to the crafters, and who filled in wherever they were needed. We are so grateful for all of the hours you put in! We could not have such an awesome and successful show without everyone's help! Thank you! Thank you! Thank You! You are all greatly appreciated! Praise God!

Finally, thank you to everyone who supported this year's show by donating items for the bake sale and raffle, buying raffle and German dinner tickets, praying for the show and all involved, coming to



the show and supporting our crafters/vendors, taking care of the administrative duties and/or putting a yard sign out. This event is so important because it raises money to help build safe and affordable homes for the deserving families that are part of the Habitat Faith Builds. Thanks be to God for everyone who had a part in sharing God's love with our community.





Fall Charity Craft Show Update



We had a great day at this year's Craft Show! There were 40 awesome crafters/vendors that filled 56 tables in the gym, Coffee Connection room and Youth Hall. We had steady foot traffic, delicious food from the concession area which included our amazing German dinners, a Bake Sale full of delectable treats from some amazing bakers and fabulous raffle items! We received a lot of positive feedback and compliments about how friendly and helpful all of our volunteers were. We were told the show keeps getting better and better by one crafter and another told us it was the best one we have had! Praise God for the great crafters/vendors, awesome volunteers

and all the people that came out to support the show. We raised \$4850 from all the proceeds this year to support the Habitat for Humanity Faith Build Program – Thanks be to God!!!

Congratulations to this year's Raffle Winners:

Christmas Quilt (crafted by Zion's Comfort Givers) – John Rhodes
Delicious Treats Basket – Vicki Lutz
OSU Fan-tastic Basket – Debbie K.
Lottery Ticket Wreath – Mary Humbert
Puppy Love Basket – Mike F.
Cat-tastic Goodies – Vicki Lutz
Cavs Swag Basket – Gary C.
Equal Exchange Pumpkin – Jen W.



There are so many thank you's for this year's show! First, thank you to Jayne Schrader for being our Craft Show Coordinator. All of your hard work and commitment are so greatly appreciated, Jayne! Second, a huge thank you to Dave Palumbo for coordinating and cooking the German dinners and to Darlene Milavickas for helping him. The dinners were delicious and received many compliments! Thank you to those who donated tickets for these dinners – our Food Pantry friends were very appreciative. Another huge thank you to Connie Riffle and Janet Slease for coordinating and taking care of the concession area with the help of Melissa & Matt Leisure. Everyone was well fed and happy all day long! Next, thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with set up, tear down, loading and unloading the crafters' items, selling raffle tickets, selling the bake sale items, plants and art



November brings back the Holiday season way to soon. It just seems like spring and summer have passed by so fast. Thanksgiving is our largest outreach to our community followed by Christmas. Thanksgiving and Christmas respectively account for our largest Food Pantry client participation. We as a church have a lot to be thankful for and you have always shared your generosity with our community. Thank you for your support.

Supporting Teams:

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

Visitations – Ken Reinoehl - No Report

Transportation – No Team Leader
 Assigned.

Parish Nurse – Not Currently active.

Prayer Chain – Jayne Schrader

Funeral Reception Meals – No Report

Feed a Friend – Laura Thompson
 One family served in September.

Blood Program – Debbie Fox
 The next Blood drive will be Sunday December 17th 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Thank you for your support.

Comfort Givers – Darlene Milavickas
 No Report.

Greeting Cards – No Report.

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

G. Scott Gross—Caring Ministry Elder

Coffee & Donuts Social
 - Darlene Milavickas

Join in every Sunday
 for Coffee, Donuts &
 Fellowship!



Make A Difference



The Community Cash Back program will run from August 1, 2023 – February 15, 2024.

Please bring in your Acme Receipts dated August 1, 2023 through February 14, 2024. Zion will receive 5% of the Community Cash Back amount listed on the bottom of the receipt.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

Lisa Frock	November 9
Tina Linz	November 12
Mark Denman	November 24

WELCOME OUR NEW DISCIPLE

Grant Schilling



**ARE YOU RECEIVING
THE WEEKLY ZION ACTIVITIES
EMAIL???**



If you would like to get on the email list for receiving current Activities, Notices and Updates about Zion, please call the office at 330-499-3909.



Chancel Flowers are available in memory or honor of your loved one (s) or special occasion and are used in the Chapel for any Sunday Service of your choice.

They are only \$20.00 each and you can order as many as you wish!

You also get to take them home after the service and enjoy their beauty and your memories!!

We currently have any Sunday in December available. Arrangements can be made in the front office.

requirements of the program. Once the homes are completed, Habitat families pay an interest free, affordable mortgage for their homes. Habitat is a great organization that equips and supports deserving people in different communities with amazing results! They bring diverse groups together in love and peace for a common cause. Praise God!



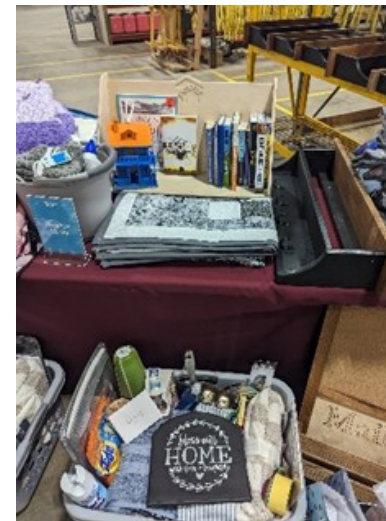
I want to thank Dave Palumbo, Mark Denman, Doug Roman for representing Zion at the dedication. My hope and prayer is that our future Craft Shows and efforts to raise funds for Habitat will be successful so we can continue to support the Faith Build Program in 2024 and beyond. It is such an important project. Diverse Faith groups (all different parts of one body) come together, unified as one for the greater good – to build safe and affordable homes for very deserving people. God's Love in Action! He provides! I think our yellow shirts say it best: God's Work, Our Hands! Thanks be to God for all the talents given to all the people involved with the builds this year, and thanks to everyone for all of your prayers and support for this year's Faith Build!



We are already looking forward to next year's Faith Build and hope you will all consider getting involved!

You can check out more photos from this year's Faith Build at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/habitateco/sets/72177720307150670/>



Habitat Faith Build 2023 Wrap Up

Submitted by Debbie Fox



The final day of this year's Habitat Faith Build was Wednesday, October 4th. The three homes from this year's Faith Build were dedicated that day at 5:30 pm. The three families joined by their friends and extended families, the Habitat Staff, and members of the different Faith Groups that participated all joined together at the Habitat Office on Raff Rd. for the dedication. It was an emotional and uplifting celebration of the families and the new homes they will now have.



During the celebration, a representative from each Faith Group that participated had one minute to speak on one of four topics that Habitat sent. I spoke for Zion and stressed how it was an honor and privilege to be part of the Faith Build – working along side the staff, homeowners and volunteers from the many faith communities all for the same purpose,

all showing and sharing God's love! I told the group that we pray for the health, happiness, safety, stability of each family and that the families know how much they are loved by God and their community!

Being able to witness the joy, emotions, and relief in the three moms' faces as they spoke about their experiences was truly inspirational and heart warming. They each received the key to their home as they handed in their first mortgage payment. The families moved in Friday, October 13th. The three women already have an amazing bond giving them peace of mind and a sense of neighborhood and community knowing that they are there for one another.



This year's build included Faith groups from the Christian, Muslim and Jewish communities all coming together for one common purpose – to build safe & affordable housing for deserving people by sharing love, hope and support for all involved. Many people don't realize that Habitat homes are not free to the families. The people in Habitat's program must have a stable job, have need and agree to participate in all

Community Fun Day September 30th 2023 - Connie Riffle

God blessed Zion with a perfect weather day with blue skies and sunshine. Zion does matter to the community by showing God's love to the people who came to the event. Estimated guess was 75 people who came to enjoy an inflatable bounce house, face painting, bubbles, chalk, yard games, hot dogs, chips, water and an ice cream bar with music. The Stark County Humane Society brought two eight week old puppies.



Pastor William had a pet blessing for 7 dogs and a gaggle of geese.

Also the Community Garden had a table with information and crafts for the kids. A huge Thank-you to the following people who helped make this event a big success: Melissa Leasure, Dave Palumbo, Janet Slease, Susan Whalen, Jim Fidler, John and Tobias Rhodes, Mike and Tina Linz, Mark Denman, Laura Thompson, Harriet Bowers, Carol Rossbach, Cindy and Paul Bagocius, Johanna Henderson, Debbie Fox and Pastor William.





Food Pantry News - Debbie Fox

We continue to see an increase in the number of families we are serving. In October we served 83 and 87 households at our distributions with several emergency food appointments during the month. One person really touched the hearts of our volunteers in October – a single mom who just ran out of food and happened to drive by the church on a Tuesday distribution and see our banners. She was in tears at the end of her shopping experience at the items she received and the help and support we were able to give her! This is truly God's love in action – His work, our hands!

We expect our numbers to continue to rise as we head into the holidays and families continue to struggle with all the costs they are experiencing. Please add 1 or 2 of our most needed items to your shopping list each time, and for November consider adding a jar of turkey gravy, box of stuffing or a can of sweet potatoes to your list. Such a small act can have such a large impact. We always need boxed cereal, spaghetti sauce, hearty soups and canned fruit. Thank you for your support, and we pray that God will help and guide us to do what he wants with this important ministry for our community.

A Wonderful Example of Zion in Action:

On Sunday, October 1st, 11 of Zion's youth and 18 adults went shopping at Aldi to spend the money the children raised on September 10th God's Work Our Hands Anniversary. Each child was given \$20 to spend and a list of the most needed Food Pantry items. The kids and adults partnered to go shopping and did a great job! They purchased a lot of very much needed food that helped us with our Pantry distribution on October 3rd. What a great lesson for the children and adults – putting God's command to feed the hunger into action. I

received a lot of positive feedback from the parents and grandparents. Gracie Haga told her mom – "that was a wonderful experience". Praise God!!! We are definitely planning to do something like this again – and hope everyone will join us!



All Saints Day – What is it?

It might not be what you think! To get some idea of the meaning or purpose of the day, we must understand what is meant by the word saint. English dictionaries tend to give secular meanings to words, so using them for religious understanding is faulty, at best. To get a religious understanding, let us first look to the origin of the word saint. Saint comes from the

biblical Greek word ἅγιος (hagios), meaning: holy or sacred.

Second, in the Bible, saint is used as a reference to someone who is set apart by God to do God's work.

Finally, let us combine the two. The Bible, and we Lutherans, use the term saint to define those who are set apart by God, through Baptism, to live in relationship with God and are called to do God's work.

Therefore, everyone who is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit is rightly called a saint. Notice there is no mention of having to die to become a saint. Well, actually, through baptism, one does die to one's self and is reborn a child of God, but there is no permanent ending of cellular function (death, as the secular world defines it).

So you, yes you, are a saint by nature of what God does to, in, and through you. It has nothing to do with your "saintly" actions. You get to be a saint because God made you holy and sacred.

On All Saints Day, we the living saints, remember the saints who have gone before us. Those baptized children of God who were set apart to do God's work. Those people who taught us about God and showed us the Godly way of life; parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, Sunday School teachers, siblings in Christ at church, and yes, even pastors.

This day is meant to bring us closer to God as we remember what God has done through all the saints in our lives. It is a time to remember the effect the saints had on our lives as Christians. It is a time to give thanks to God for giving us those saints to know and to love. It is a time to remember Christ's promise that he is with us in life and in death. It is a time to renew our commitment to living as the saints God made us.

This year, we will remember the saints by printing their names in the bulletin for all to see. Please be certain you have your form submitted to Tina Taylor by October 31, 2023 Then in worship on Wednesday November 1 and Sunday November 5, we will come forward to light a candle to be a visual reminder of the communion of saints, of which we are also a part.

Pastor’s Ponderings, November, 2023

Our Congregation Meeting on October 22 presented us with the opportunity to discuss our purpose and our intentions for supporting God’s mission here at Zion. The time together left me pondering about the 80% of our congregants who leave the work and giving to others.



Why did so many people leave before the meeting?

Could it be that they don’t care about anything other than the worship service?

or

Could it be that they are so faithfully committed that they ran home to make changes in their life-style to make room for doing more for the good of all and not just the good of them?

Why wasn’t there an outcry about making cuts in order to bring spending in line with lower giving?

Could it be that they don’t care how their level of giving can adversely affect God’s mission at Zion?

or

Could it be that they were pre-occupied thinking about how they can be a part of the solution?

Why was approval of the Mission Spending Plan unanimous after I pleaded with them to consider that voting “aye” means they commit to increasing their giving by 5%?

Could it be that they are part of the 80% of people who contribute very little and they have no intention to change and have removed themselves from the implication of the plan?

or

Could it be that they are committing to living within their means so they can increase their giving? By this point, I’m certain that I lost some of you; which is either denial or apathy. But I’m hoping the 80% who those at worship each week who leave most all of the work and giving to the 20% were honest enough to see themselves in the “they” language above.

Maybe some of the 80% became angry with me for calling them out, or were angry at themselves for falling into the trap of keeping God’s money for themselves.

Maybe some of the 20% are as frustrated as am I because they are giving abundantly and wish others would see the joy in doing the same.

Whichever category identifies you, let us pray for each other. Let us pray that each of us can grow closer to God by listening to what God wants of us. Let us pray that we will all work together for the good of all.



God trusts us with so much. As we say in our weekly offering prayer; All that I have is yours (God) alone, entrusted, Lord, to my care.

Are you willing to add: help me Lord, to be worthy of your trust?

What will you do to help make God’s mission a reality?

Graciously, Pr. William 16



Veterans Day – Why do we thank them at our worship service?

Let us first define who is a veteran. According to the US Department of Veterans Affairs (and shouldn’t they be the ones to know?) a veteran is a person who served in active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.

Further, according to the DVA, this day was established to be a celebration that honors our veterans for their love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

So how does that fit with our worship service? Well, our worship service is designed to be fundamentally about what God is doing and our response to God’s action in and through us. Worship is intended to be central to everything we do. It is designed to unite us in celebration of who God is and what God does. In worship, we engage in thoughtful dialogue, hear God’s word, participate in the means of grace (Baptism, Communion and Word) and grow in our faith. It is designed to ground us in our Christian roots and demonstrate practical relevance for today’s world as we strive to “work for the good of all” (Galatians 6:10). And serving the good of all is what we have in common with veterans and why we recognize and thank our veterans at our worship service. We are not worshipping our veterans. Instead, we are thanking God for them. We also thank God and recognize veterans’ part in us living in a country where we can openly worship God and lead a Christian life for all to see; serving and sacrificing for the good of all.

Wednesday November 8 and Sunday November 12 we will publicly recognize and thank the veterans of Zion. Our Boy Scout Troop and Cub Scout Pack will participate with us. Be certain to list the veterans you would like to publicly thank on the forms included in the worship bulletins, or email Tina at Office@Zion-NC.com.

WOW (Women of Worth)
Outing to Walnut Creek

The WOW group (Widows, Divorced and Single women) is planning an outing to Walnut Creek, located in Amish country, on Wednesday, November 8. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the church back parking lot. We will shop at the Country Store first and then have lunch at Der Dutchman. If there is time, we can visit other shops in Walnut Creek after lunch. We will depart for home at approximately 3:00 p.m. The sign-up sheet is in Coffee Bar Area.

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 10 am and continues through the first Friday of June, 2024 at 10 am.

Here's the new picks -

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

"ANOTHER TRIUMPH... Powerful, heartbreaking, and deeply empathetic."

—Kirkus Reviews

DUST CHILD

A Novel

NGUYỄN PHAN QUẾ MAI

AUTHOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER THE MOUNTAINS SING

*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.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

November 2023

STEWARDSHIP
FOR ALL SEASONS

	September 2023	Year-To-Date 2023
Giving	\$36,435.90	\$251,766.59
Expenses	\$35,808.99	\$289,424.29
Difference	\$626.91	-\$37,657.70

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.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18 - 4PM

Come join in some fun and fellowship!
And bring friends!!

enjoy family, food, & fun!

WE'RE CLOSED
THANKSGIVING

Re-Open on Friday
November 24

10

15



Resource Ministry October Update - John Rhodes

God's blessings be with you all! Fall's chill in the air and the vibrant color changes are inspiring to see the season change and reflect on God's positive impact on our well-being. It makes for glorious starts to our days.

Our October 22 Congregational Meeting provided an opportunity for you to review the proposed 2024 Spending Plan and demonstrate your support for it. Your positive support and approval were welcome outcomes as it provides a solid foundation for our planned 2024 ministry activities. Also, the Stewardship challenges to support this plan were well documented and the necessary appeal for your participation in our Fall 2023 stewardship campaign, **"Stewardship for All Seasons"** eloquently delivered by Pastor William. Your enthusiastic, prayerful support and Intent Card commitments on Giving Sunday November 19 will allow Council to confidently approach 2024 ministry activities. We are committed to utilize Zion's combined spiritual, physical and financial resources to enable ministry events which align with our mission, "Zion matters to the community by showing the love of Jesus Christ."

October was an active month with several important ministry events in addition to our bi-weekly **Food Pantry** distributions. The **Craft Show** was flawlessly and enthusiastically executed by Debbie Fox's "yellow shirts team". After a slow, cloudy, dreary start, traffic was good and crafter responses were very positive feedback. The final tally is not complete, but indications are that this major fund raiser to support our **Habitat for Humanity-Faith Build 2024** was very successful. Thanks to all whose generous support of time, talents, attendance, and purchases made this a successful event. Many positive responses were received about the "yellow shirts team"; keep up the good work!

Trunk-or-Treat is also scheduled for Halloween and has become a major community event with more than 350 attendees last year under ideal weather. Hopefully the weather cooperates this year and your participation makes it a very rewarding activity for the participating community youth, parents, grandparents, etc enjoying themselves and interacting. Many smiles will be in evidence, young and old alike. We can include yours by volunteering and participation. Our September giving results were positive and exceeded our monthly expenses to provide a reduction on our Year-to-Date ("YTD") operating deficit. Our YTD Giving is currently 7% greater than 2022 but it is an insufficient rate to eliminate our current budget deficit. On one hand, 65 percent of Zion members are giving at a rate which is more than 110 percent of their 2022 levels, and 74 percent of members giving rates are greater than 2022. This is excellent and in alignment with our 2023 approved budget of 10 percent increase; however, the current total giving YTD is 10 percent less than our budgeted amount producing noted deficit. Cost controls are being implemented to attempt to minimize the negative impact, but the solution is an increase in Zion total giving rate.

We are encouraged by your support of the 2024 Spending Plan, but we are especially looking forward to your enthusiastic participation in Stewardship for All Seasons to enable our successful execution. Doing so will ensure that we are properly funded to make a difference and matter in our community by sharing the love of Jesus Christ. God bless you for your prayers and support in sharing God's Blessings and improving the lives of Zion members and the community.



The Northeastern Ohio Synodical Women's Organization (NEOSWO) which falls under the auspices of the Women of the ELCA (WELCA) has for the last several months had a Transition Team discerning the fate of NEOSWO. The Transition Team met on Oct 7th 2023 for what we thought would be our final NEOSWO meeting but evidently God has other plans.

At the Triennial Convention which churchwide holds every three years and I attended as a delegate, our own Jennifer Ackerman from Cleveland became the first woman from northeast Ohio to serve on the national board of directors for WELCA. We are thrilled for Jennifer and we say congratulations!

This however made for a unique situation though. Who would Jennifer be representing if we (NEOSWO) disbanded? What would her voice and vote count for? So, the Transition Team has decided that we will keep NEOSWO going for the next three years which is the length of Jennifer's time on the board. Who knows if she is re-elected or someone else is elected we may have to continue longer!

We will not, at this time, distribute any funds (as was decided after our five special Gatherings) to any of the charities but will keep them on file in case NEOSWO once again finds itself unable to go forward and survive. We would love to see NEOSWO not only survive but revitalize!

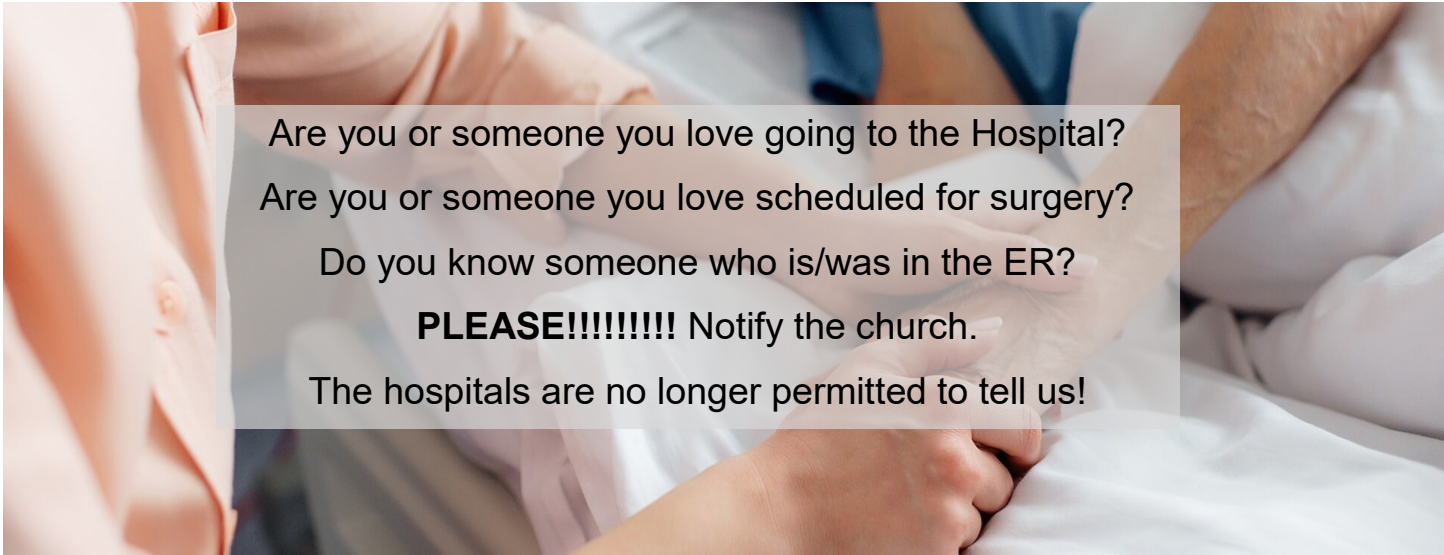
Martha Bishop and myself are the co-coordinators leading our new NEOSWO board (Cathy Byers, Mollie Broadnax, Beth Haas, Sue Whalen, and Katie Danielson). God is giving us another opportunity to revitalize our organization and to go into the future seeking solutions that will not only help our SWO but other SWOs across the country who are experiencing the same difficulties and, believe me, we talked to many at the Triennial who are struggling at this point.

We cannot function like the women's organization of ten, twenty years ago. Unfortunately those days are gone and we must develop our organization to reflect the current and future needs of our women and the communities we serve!

We need your prayers on a constant continuous basis for guidance, wisdom, understanding, and commitment to do God's will in all we do.

We will have upcoming events starting in 2024 and my hope and prayer is that you will join in in our fellowship.

Yours in Christ
Ruth Reinoehl



Zion Lutheran Church
North Canton, Ohio
NOVEMBER 2023

ASSISTING MINISTER SCHEDULE

November 5, 2023 Courtney Brown—
With Habitat for Humanity
November 12, 2023 Linda Weidenbach
November 19, 2023 George Miller
November 26, 2023 Ken Reinoehl

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

November 5, 2023 LJ Brown
November 12, 2023 Ava Medina
November 19, 2023 Ben Keith
November 26, 2023 Kenadi Medina

READER SCHEDULE

November 5, 2023 Laura Thompson
November 12, 2023 Brian Milek
November 19, 2023 Nick Cignetti
November 26, 2023 Ruth Reinoehl

ACCOMPANIST SCHEDULE

November 5, 2023 Carol McKimm
November 12, 2023 Carol McKimm
November 19, 2023 Steve Moore
November 26, 2023 Carol Mckimm

CHANCEL GUILD SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

November 4, 2023 Jane Fairman & Janet Slease
November 11, 2023 Jane Fairman & Janet Slease
November 18, 2023 Corlene Coulter & Linda Smith
November 25, 2023 Corlene Coulter & Linda Smith

SUNDAY

November 5, 2023 Jane Fairman & Janet Slease
November 12, 2023 Jane Fairman & Janet Slease
November 19, 2023 Corlene Coulter & Linda Smith
November 26, 2023 Corlene Coulter & Linda Smith

9am SUNDAY SERVICE DOOR LOCKERS

November 5, 2023 Laura Thompson
November 12, 2023 Darlene Milavickas
November 19, 2023 John Rhodes
November 26, 2023 Dave Palumbo



VETERAN REMEMBRANCE

Let us gather the names of your loved ones who served in the armed forces.
Who would you like to remember this year?
There is no time limit as to how recent or long-ago your loved ones served.

Name of Loved Ones to be remembered:

Submitted by: _____

Please return to the office by Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

ALL SAINT'S DAY

Each year we gather anew, the names of our loved ones who have gone before us to publicly remember them.
Whom would you like remembered this year? There is no time limit as to how recent or long-ago your loved ones joined the Church Triumphant

Name of Loved One or Loved Ones to be remembered:

Submitted by: _____

Please return to the office by Tuesday, October 31, 2023