



## WHAT'S INSIDE

- 1 Vacation Bible School
- 2 A message from our president
- 3 Car Show
- 4 Learning Ministry
- 5 Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 6 Habitat for Humanity
- 7 Habitat for Humanity
- 8 Finance & Call Committee update
- 9 Parking Lot
- 10 Hunger Walk Wrap up
- 11 Hunger Walk Wrap up
- 12 Witness Ministry
- 13 Witness Ministry
- 14 School Supplies
- 15 Food Pantry
- 16 Blood drive
- 17 Vacation Bible School
- 18 Ministry Schedule
- 19 Speaker Series
- 20 Administration information

*Living in Faith,  
Known by Love,  
Serving like Jesus*

*A community of believers who  
are diverse in background yet  
one in Christ. We serve the  
community and welcome all to  
worship, grow and learn the  
Word of God.*

## Vacation Bible School



It is Time for our Road Trip!

June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>: Monday through Thursday 9 am – 12:30 pm and Friday 9 am – 1pm. Join us as God guides us wherever we go during our trip – and always! Don't forget to invite your friends!

More Details on Page 17

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:**

June is the month we finally become convinced summer is upon us. The warmer weather and longer days make us crave the outdoors and the opportunity to spend more time with friends and neighbors. Our social calendars fill up with additional hours each day blocked out for get togethers. We become convinced this is the time we owe ourselves for rejuvenation and recreation. There is nothing wrong with these sentiments. Taking time to replenish our minds and bodies is essential to our physical and mental health and our ability to relate to others in a positive and beneficial way.

Unfortunately, however, too many of us feel it is a time to “take a vacation” from our Christian Faith. We skip worship services even when we’re in town and don’t bother to visit other churches while out of town. Paul’s writings teach us that the early followers of Jesus met in local churches that the Apostles visited during their travels to spread the Gospel, with great personal hardship and risk of bodily harm. Where would Christianity be today if those followers of Jesus had decided to take a vacation from their endeavors?

When we contemplate God’s sacrifice of His Son on the Cross for us, is it too much to ask that we not abandon our obligation of Faithful Christian Stewardship during the leisure months?

Zion Lutheran Church is a vital, strong and vibrant Congregation dedicated to living Jesus’ Commandment to love one another. Opportunities abound for us to exercise the abundant resources entrusted to our care to demonstrate our love of God and to serve our fellow beings.

There will be Food Pantry distributions on Tuesday, June 2 and Tuesday, June 16. On Sunday June 21 we will celebrate fathers and commission our Volunteers for Vacation Bible School-Road Trip, June 22-June 26. Throughout the summer months there are blood drives, hunger walks and Habitat Builds. And let us not forget the faithful stewardship of the resources entrusted to our care being ably demonstrated by the tireless efforts of all involved with supporting our dedicated Call Committee in their efforts to identify a suitable Call Pastor for Zion.

People of Zion, this will be my final article for the Zion Herald as your Council President. On Sunday, June 28, 2026, we will Install those individuals who will be serving on Council for the term beginning July 1, 2026. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as President for the past five years alongside so many who unselfishly give their time, talents and energy in furtherance of Zion’s Mission. I have learned a great deal and have had my life enriched immensely by my association with such a stellar group of individuals. And I thank all of the Members of Zion Lutheran Church for affording me the opportunity to continue to grow emotionally and spiritually “Living in Faith, Known by Love, Serving like Jesus.”

Respectfully submitted by Jim Fidler, Council President


Zion Lutheran Church  
**Cruise-In**

Friday  
July 17, 2026  
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 the church office at: (330) 499-3909*  
*349 Lindy Lane Ave., North Canton*



LEARNING MINISTRY– Debbie Fox

### Learning Ministry

#### Adult Christian Education – Sunday Mornings at 10:15 am

We will have Adult Christian Education through the summer so stick around after Sunday service and refreshments for a great discussion on the week's lessons and Gospel led by our weekly supply pastors. All are welcome!

#### Confirmation Class

Confirmation class will take a break throughout this summer. They do have their assigned summer homework to do along with their Confirmation project! A big thank you to Cindy Bagocius for leading our young people on this important journey to affirm their Baptism, and to Renee Keith for providing coverage for Cindy when needed!

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

A big thank you goes out to Connie Riffle and Janet Slease for leading our Sunday morning Bible Adventure this school year! Their love and dedication for our kids is so appreciated! The kids had a great time and learned a lot!

While we'll be taking a summer break before resuming this Fall, keep an eye out for details on our special summer projects! We will see you then!

#### Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will meet on Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at Cindy Bagocius's home. This is their final meeting before the summer hiatus. They will start again in September. Stay tuned for dates, times and location!

#### Men's Bible Study

Calling All Men! Join us at Zion on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am for our monthly Bible Study. We continue our study of Paul's Letter to the Romans—come for the food, stay for the great discussion and fellowship!

Interested but can't make the time? Contact Ken Reinoehl; we'd love to find a time that works for everyone. See you there, and bring a friend!

**Dear God**, help us open our minds, our ears and our hearts to what You are telling us, and to do Your will! Guide us in our pursuit of learning and walking in your Word every day. Amen

# Happy Birthday

June 1	Vicki Givler
June 4	Scott Gross
June 9	Susan Heyard
June 14	Linda Smith
June 18	Evelyn Moore
June 19	Tim McCormick
June 20	Debbie Fox
June 20	Fritz Cizek
June 24	Becky Drakulich
June 24	Anna Jones
June 27	Jim Fidler
June 30	Amanda Haga

# Happy Anniversary

June 11	Josh & Renee Keith
June 20	Scott & Kathleen Gross
June 26	Rich & Nancy Biggerstaff
June 27	Nick & Juanita Cignetti
June 28	Neil & Dawn Tyburk



This year's build is well on its way!

I had the pleasure and privilege of attending Youth Night on April 29<sup>th</sup> with Carli Brown and Gracie Haga at the Habitat office! We had a great time meeting other kids from different faith

communities, learning all about Habitat and doing a really cool mosaic project "HOME". What a blessing to see so many kids interested and engaged in serving God and doing His work! Praise God!

We completed our first two work days in May working on laying the decking (subfloor) on May 9<sup>th</sup> and framing and sheeting the exterior walls on May 16<sup>th</sup> in MyQuella's home in Massillon. A big thank you to Zion's two crews who used their hands to do God's work – helping to build a safe and affordable home. These work days were our shared volunteer days on site which means we not only worked alongside the homeowner, MyQuella and the Habitat staff, but other faith communities! Our first day we worked with our friends from Temple Israel, and the second with our friends from North Canton Church of Christ! We had a such great experience both days! We are all working together for one common cause – building safe and affordable homes because everyone deserves a decent place to call home!

Our final work day will be in July at the Canton home doing drywall, and Community Day is in September! There is still time to sign up!

**Here are the remaining volunteer opportunities:**

**Final Work Day on Site**

**Date:** Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>

**Time:** 8:15am-2pm

**Location:** Canton

**Task:** Drywall

**Number of Volunteers:** 7

**Minimum Age:** 18

**Lunch:** Zion's lunch crew will provide lunches

**ALL Community Day**

**Date:** Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 9am-12:00pm

**Location:** Habitat ECO Office - 1400 Raff Rd, Canton, OH

**Number of Zion Volunteers:** 7

**Minimum Age:** 18

**Lunch:** will be provided



Please continue praying for the families, volunteers and staff as the work continues for both Faith Build homes and for all homes being built by Habitat. Thanks be to God for such a wonderful organization!

Mark your calendars for Dedication day - Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm at the Habitat Office on Raff Rd. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this amazing night!

If you have any questions, please see Debbie Fox. We hope you will consider being a part of this important community project where God's work is being done with our hands!



**Financial Update**

- **Through April, our support remains strong allowing Zion to have a surplus of about \$35,000. We continue to demonstrate that we can afford to call a full time pastor.**
- **We pray for a Pastor to hear a call from the Holy Spirit to join us at Zion. To be ready for this, we have set aside over \$32,000 for expenses related to interviewing and moving a new Pastor if necessary. This remains a priority for us.**
- **Our parking lot is an essential part of delivering our mission. It is heavily used all 12 months of the year not only for worship services but for food pantry distribution and many other community services. The surplus this year, plus designated giving of over \$53,000 through April, will be used for this large project which occurred in May. Thank you to the property team at Zion who led this project. It looks fabulous! So much easier to push wheelchairs on and to take food carts to the pavilion! Thank you!**
- **Our long term investment funds continue to deliver returns. We are well prepared to welcome a new pastor and plan for large maintenance projects.**
- **Thank you for your support through healthy stewardship.**

**Laura Thompson  
Resource Ministry**

**Call Committee Report:**

In the May newsletter I stated that we had an in-person interview scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup>- May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The candidate chose to be the primary candidate for another church. It is a disappointment, but we feel that God is telling us this wasn't the one. We know this has been a roller coaster for everyone. God will provide us with the right person. We all need to stay focused and involved in our mission, ministries and activities to keep us vibrant and going. I have talked with Pastor Phillips from the synod and he is actively looking for new candidates in and outside our synod. We ask that you keep praying for the committee and Zion. We will get through this!

Gods' Blessings and Love,  
Darlene Milavickas



### PARKING LOT

- We started this project back in 2025
- Getting three quotes on the project
- Picking the best one and taking it to council
- Talked with Resource Elder and finance committee about covering the cost of the project
- Council voted on the quote and how the finances were going to go
- Brought it to the congregation for a vote and was approved
- Signed the contract with S&K asphalt and concrete for the project to be done in 2026
- S&K contacted us to do it May 11, 12 & 13<sup>th</sup>
- Parking lot was completely paved by Tuesday evening
- The lines were put on Friday May 15<sup>th</sup> to complete the project
- The area that is going to be grassed we are getting quotes on

We thank the congregation for their support with this project and thank you for your patience with any inconvenience we may have caused you.

Property Ministry



## Stark Hunger Walk Wrap Up

- Team Zion was 22 people strong and 3 adorable dogs!
- Team Zion raised \$820 for the cause this year. Well done good and faithful servants!
- Zion's Food Pantry received all the food donations that came in the day of the walk. What a blessing! Thanks to John Rhodes, George Miller and Darlene Milavickas for picking it up!
- Totals for the Walk as a whole – 158 walkers, 30 non-walking volunteers, 9 faith communities and organizations participated in raising funds, total funds raised for the Akron Canton Regional Food Bank - \$13,149.
- Thank you to Nikki Milek for face painting this year before the walk, and thank you to Zion's team of bakers that provided over 40 dozen cookies and brownies for the Soup Social that followed the walk!
- Thank you to Community Christian in North Canton for hosting and thank you to Becky Arbogast and Vera Burton for leading the event!
- Next year's Hunger Walk is scheduled for Sunday, May 2, 2027.

Thanks be to God for another successful Hunger Walk in Stark County! We pray that God will continue to lead us on this important journey to end hunger and food insecurity that so many are facing!



### Stark Hunger Walk Wrap Up



## WITNESS MINISTRY REPORT



As you may already know, Mark Denman, Nikki Milek, and Dave Polumbo are now Stephen Ministries at Zion Lutheran Church. On Pentecost, they were commissioned to mentor and comfort those members of Zion who need some *extra help* in getting over a myriad of problems, including (but not exclusive):

Cancer, Chronic Illness, Depression, Divorce, Empty Nest, Grieving, Job Loss, Major Life Circumstance, Medical Crisis, Military Deployment, Terminally ill, Moving, Natural Disaster, Relating to Pregnancy, Rehabilitation, Retirement, Spiritual Crisis, Transitioning, or other troublesome situations.

If you, [or someone you know] are/is experiencing ANY of these characteristics, PLEASE obtain a Referral Form from me (Ken Reinoehl) or the church office. Complete the form as much as possible and return it to me. If you are completing the form for someone else, it is *preferred* that you speak to that person before you turn it in. However, if you do not wish to confront them, turn it in anyway; we can keep the referral confidential. All of our ministers are trained to help you or your loved ones in almost any circumstance you or they are in.

**BE A MESSENGER FOR GOD!!!!**

**Prayerfully submitted by  
Ken Reinoehl**

## WITNESS MINISTRY REPORT



For those of you who attended Laurel Derry's Speaker Series talk on "Behind Bars Yet set Free" back in April, you will recall her announcing an awareness walk scheduled for June 13th in the Silver Creek Metropolitan Park. Your Social Responsibility Ministry is helping to provide snacks and beverages for the hikers that day.

We are also hosting a site for the Walk--our own Price Park. Its walking trail through the park is better suited to wheelchaired walkers. SRM members will take turns having her car parked in the Maple Street side parking lot with its trunk open for snacks and beverages. The times are 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on June 13th. Each walker will be given some sort of Pray-as-You-Walk fact and Scripture sheet.

When participants at this first Speaker Series talk were asked what they intended to do with the information they received, the overwhelming response was "I will pray with intention about prison life and those faced with it." Here is a perfect opportunity to "walk the talk."



We are looking toward next school year to help ensure **all** of the children in our community have the supplies they need.

We will be collecting school supplies this summer to help the North Canton City Schools Family Support Specialists with their Back to School Bash where they provide supplies to families who need a little help.

The following is a list of supplies that are needed:

- #2 Pencils - sharpened and unsharpened
- Mechanical Pencils
- Large Erasers – white or pink
- Pencil Supply Box
- Zippered Supply Pouch
- 1-inch 3-ring Binder (hard cover with pockets)
- 2-inch 3-ring Binder (hard cover with pockets)
- Pack of 5-subject Tabbed Dividers for 3-ring binder
- Plastic 3-Prong Folders (red, green, yellow or orange, blue)
- PLASTIC, Two-bottom pocket folder WITH FASTENERS
- Spiral Notebooks
- Composition Notebooks
- Colored Pencils – 12 or 24 pack
- Crayons
- 8 or 10 Box of Classic Markers - Broad Line
- Pack of Washable Classic Markers
- 8 or 10 Box of Classic Markers - Fine Line
- Pack of Highlighters
- Red/Black Pens
- Black Sharpie (fine point)
- Black Sharpie (ultra fine)
- Dry Erase Markers
- Black Dry Erase Markers–CHISEL TIP
- Expo Dry Eraser (for dry-erase boards)
- Pair of Pointed Scissors - 5" or larger
- Scissors – blunt tip
- Glue Sticks
- Elmer's Glue
- Earbuds or Headphones
- Box of Tissues



We will also be collecting school supplies for our pantry families, and school supply collection is one of our service projects during Vacation Bible Adventure. If you are out and about shopping and see some good deals on school supplies, please consider picking a few up. We will have a collection bin in Luther Hall later this month through mid-July. We appreciate your generous support of the kids in our community!

### Food Pantry News

May Pantry service numbers:

- 141 Households served which includes 335 people
- 4,980 Pounds of food ordered from the Foodbank to be distributed in addition to congregational and community donations
- 160 hot lunches served to our Pantry friends

May was a busy month with a lot of good things happening! We received about 900 pounds of food from Stamp Out Hunger this year! Thank you to Jayne Schrader and John & Jerry Rhodes for loading and picking up the food from the Jackson Belden Post Office on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and delivering it to Zion. We are so blessed to be recipients of our community's generosity. A huge thank you to Jayne Schrader, John Rhodes, Darlene Milavickas, Ruth Reinoehl, Janet Slease and Marcia Miller for sorting all of the food on the following Monday. It was a big help for the following Tuesday's Pantry distribution. We are so grateful to the Post Office for organizing such a large food collection across the nation, and to be one of the lucky recipients as part of Stark County Hunger Task Force! We also received a large amount of food from the Stark Hunger Walk in May which again was such a blessing for our May distributions! God is so good – He always provides!

Thank you for your continued donations that help us fill the gaps from what we purchase from the Food Bank! Items most needed at this time include spaghetti sauce, hearty soups, canned fruit, laundry detergent and paper products like toilet paper & paper towels.

Volunteer Opportunities – we appreciate any time you have to give during the following:

- Set up on the Monday before our distribution dates from 9 -11 am.
- Volunteer on distribution days (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month).
- 9am – Unload truck and finish set up
- Lunch starts at 11:30 am for volunteers and 12:15 pm for our pantry families
- Food distribution for our pantry families from 1-2 pm
- Tear down from 2-3pm

Please contact Debbie Fox if you have any questions or would like more information.







### Vacation Bible School

It is Time for our Road Trip!

- When: June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>: Monday through Thursday 9 am – 12:30 pm and Friday 9 am – 1pm. Join us as God guides us wherever we go during our trip – and always! Don't forget to invite your friends!
- There will be great lessons, crafts, fun games, music, snacks and so much more!
- The week is designed for children ages 4 through those who have completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We also have a class for our Middle School and High School students where they gather for about an hour each day to talk about the daily lesson and mile marker before helping with the younger children throughout the week.
- Registration packets and sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities and donations are located in Luther Hall.
- The Kona Ice Truck and inflatable water slide will be back this year on Thursday for our fun day at the Waterpark.
- Everyone is invited to join us on Friday at 12pm for the Road Trip Celebration and Program followed by a Pizza and Ice Cream Party! You will see all the great things that happened throughout the week

Our friend, Scout, wants to let everyone know what we will be learning about throughout the week



**Monday**



**Tuesday**



**Wednesday**



**Thursday**



**Friday**



**How Can You Help?** We are so excited for our Road Trip and would love for you to join the adventure! There are many ways to get involved, whether you have a full week or just an hour to spare:

**Pray** for our children, families, and volunteers.

**Assist** in a classroom or during a rotation.

**Help** with snacks, decorating, set up or our pizza and ice cream party.

**Donate** supplies to keep our "Road Trip" running smoothly.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Debbie Fox. We look forward to seeing everyone on the road with God this month!

**JUNE 2026 ASSISTING MINISTER SCHEDULE**

June 7, 2026	Beth Heller
June 14, 2026	George Miller
June 21, 2026	Jim Fidler
June 28, 2026	Darlene Milavickas

**JUNE 2026 ACOLYTE SCHEDULE**

June 7, 2026	Ben Keith
June 14, 2026	Eli Haga
June 21, 2026	Maggie McCormick
June 28, 2026	Ben Keith

**JUNE 2026 LECTOR SCHEDULE**

June 7, 2026	Renee Keith
June 14, 2026	Laura Thompson
June 21, 2026	Cindy Bagocius
June 28, 2026	Ruth Reinoehl

**JUNE 2026 ACCOMPANIST SCHEDULE**

June 7, 2026	Digital Music
June 14, 2026	Susan Kaschak
June 21, 2026	Steve Moore
June 28, 2026	Susan Kaschak

**JUNE 2026 CHANCEL GUILD SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY**

June 6, 2026	Sally Bunyan & Darlene Milavickas
June 13, 2026	Darlene Milavickas & Harriet Bowers
June 20, 2026	Jayne Schrader & Harriet Bowers
June 27, 2026	Sally Bunyan & Beth Shaheen

**SUNDAY**

June 7, 2026	Sally Bunyan & Beth Shaheen
June 14, 2026	Beth Shaheen & Harriet Bowers
June 21, 2026	Jayne Schrader & Beth Shaheen
June 28, 2026	Sally Bunyan & Jayne Schrader

**ANNOUNCING OUR NEXT SPEAKER**

**Where's the "Silver Lining" in Redlining?  
Canton Then & Now**

**Chris Smith, Councilwoman Ward 4, Canton**  
Elected 2008 to Present

*Chair: Rules Committee, Member:  
Community & Economic Development,  
Public Property Capital Improvement, and  
Finance Committees*

Knowledgeable, Experienced,  
Dynamic

**THURSDAY, JULY 23**

**5:30 Snack      6:00 Talk**  
**Plenty of time for questions**



**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH SPEAKER SERIES**  
**SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY MINISTRY**  
**PLEASE JOIN US**

**Mark the date, Monday, October 12, for our third speaker, Randi Pokladnik, PhD, Proliferance and Perils of Plastic "How Much is Convenience Worth?"**

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

Return Service Requested



**THE ZION HERALD**  
**JUNE 2026**

**Worship Services**

**Sunday Morning: 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship**  
**Wednesday Evening: 7:00 p.m. Worship Service**  
**Services are streamed through Facebook**

**Office Hours**

**9:00am to 2:00pm M-F**  
**Doors open at 9am**

**Zion's Staff**

Administrative Assistant: Hannah Aemmer  
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Email: [Office@zion-nc.com](mailto:Office@zion-nc.com)  
IT Manager: Ray LePelley  
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Website: [www.zion-nc.com](http://www.zion-nc.com)  
Custodian: Herb Beadle  
Like us on Facebook@zionnorthcanton

**Council Members**

Jim Fidler—President  
Darlene Milavickas—Vice President  
Jayne Schrader—Secretary  
Beth Shaheen—Treasurer  
Debbie Fox—Learning Ministry  
Tina Linz—Parish Life Ministry  
George Miller—Property Ministry  
Laura Thompson—Resource Ministry  
Cindy Bagocius—Social Ministry  
Ken Reinoehl—Witness Ministry  
Paul Bagocius—Worship Ministry