



ZIONEWS

September 2011 Zion Lutheran's Monthly Newsletter



Fruit of the True Vine...

The grapes are coming in. Large, purple globes the color of fresh bruises nestle among dark green leaves, hoping to escape the notice of the bluebirds that perch on the vines to cast a practiced eye upon the ripening fruit. It will be a contest as to who gets them first – the birds, or my neighbor, who is gearing up for his annual wine-making. The sweet, musky aroma of muscadines, warm from the sun, hangs in the air like the morning mist, making my mouth water. No wonder the birds have set up vigil! I, too, know how good it is to bite through the thick skin to get to the juicy pulp. And, I have been the lucky recipient of some mighty fine homemade muscadine wine!

It is no surprise to me that the first miracle Jesus performed was to change water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana. He did this not because he liked wine so much, but because he liked people. And, he loved his mother. She asked him to save a newly-wed couple from the real social stigma of running out of wine at their week-long wedding feast. Mary believed in her son, so much so that she didn't have to ask him *how* he would fix it – she just knew he would. She told the servants to “Do what ever he tells you,” confident that all would be well. And, to please his mother, Jesus changed water into a wine so good even the wine steward was impressed! This tells us two things. First, that Jesus *listens* when those he loves bring their cares and concerns to him. And, secondly, that he has the *power* to change things for the better – even beyond our expectations.

How good it is to know that Jesus is willing *and able* to help us with whatever we bring to him! How good it is to be able to hand our problems over to him, then step back and let him take care of things in his own way, in his own time, believing that he will make something good come out of it all. This is the source of the peace that only Christ, the True Vine, can give. May the fruit of peace gladden your heart like fine wine. ***Fall Blessings, Pastor Barb*** <><

*You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use,
to bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the human heart...*

Psalm 104:14-15

Zion Lutheran Church
121 Noel C. Conaway Road
Guyton, GA 31312-5735



Office Phone: (912) 728-3430
Email: secretary@zionlutheranga.org
Web page: www.zionlutheranga.org
Pastor Barbara Koch

Address Service Requested

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Guyton, GA 31312
Permit No. 5



Movie Nights @ Zion!

Bring a chair or blanket and meet at the big screen on the Zion lawn the following dates to enjoy **FREE** movies, affordable snacks or feel free to bring your own! Movies are every other Friday Night starting at **8:00p.m.**

(Note time change since it's getting dark earlier)

Movies & Dates

September 9 - "Mr. Popper's Penguins"
September 23- "Rio"



Adult Bible Study Resumes In September!

Starting with our 1st Wednesday, September 7, 2011, Pastor Barb will offer a *Wednesday Night Bible Study* with what she hopes will be *lively discussion* on the scripture readings for the up-coming Sunday. We will meet from 6:00 - 6:45 p.m., every Wednesday before choir rehearsal.

We will post the readings for the next Sunday in the bulletin each week, so you can read and pray about them before coming to the study. Then, you can share how God has spoken to you through the texts with the group, so all may benefit from your insights. Or, you may just come and listen. This should prove to be a great way to deepen our understanding of each Sunday's readings!



The women of Zion are invited to a bridal shower for
**Randy Hall and Laura Paul on Thursday,
September 8th, at 7:00p.m.**

Zion's 139th Anniversary Sunday!

On Sunday, September 11th, we will be celebrating *Zion's 139th Anniversary!* Our 11:00a.m. worship service will include special recognitions & a baptism. Following worship, we will celebrate with a delicious buffet luncheon, prepared by Dana Smith and his Committee. Donations to help defray the cost of the meal may be placed in the Sunday offering plate and designated for the luncheon. Please invite family and friends to join us as we celebrate 139 years of ministry here at Zion!

Pastor Barb is in the Church Office:

Tuesdays: 2:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m., Thursdays: 9: 00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.
and evenings by appointment.

#FINANCE NEWS

	Income	Expenses	Balance
January - July 2011	\$109,518.77 Note (1)	\$110,787.67 Note (2)	(\$1,268.90)
Weekly Average	\$3,532.86	\$3,573.80	(\$40.93)

**Notes: (1) Includes \$22,400.00 from the Ebenezer Trustees
(2) Includes \$20,000.00 to the Building Fund.**

Church Directory Updates

Kenny Heidt
8171 Hwy 17 North
Newington, GA 30446

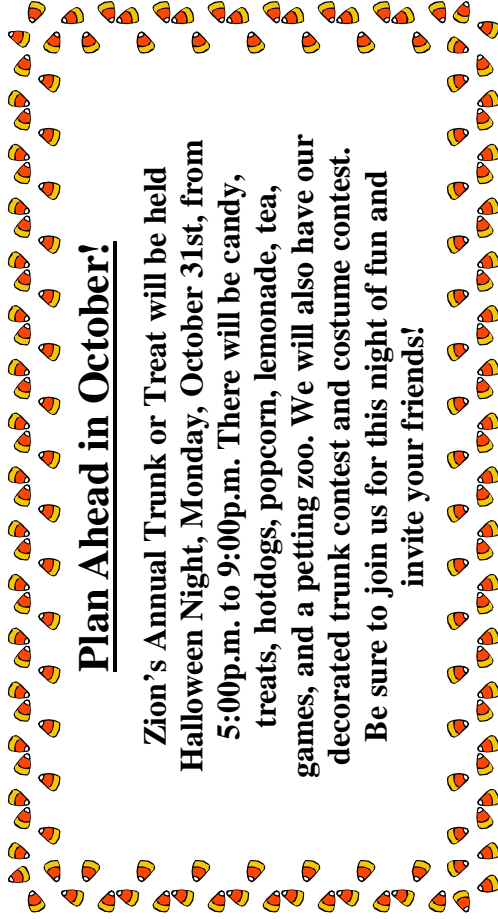
Whitney Dasher
810 Gently Rd.
Statesboro, GA 30458



Plan Ahead in October!

Zion's Annual Trunk or Treat will be held
**Halloween Night, Monday, October 31st, from
5:00p.m. to 9:00p.m.** There will be candy,
treats, hotdogs, popcorn, lemonade, tea,
games, and a petting zoo. We will also have our
decorated trunk contest and costume contest.

Be sure to join us for this night of fun and
invite your friends!



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH Council Meeting Highlights

August 7, 2011

A complete copy of approved minutes will be posted on the Bulletin Board.

The Minutes from July 11, 2011 were approved as printed.

The Pastor's Report for July 2011 was reviewed.

The Treasurer's Report for July 2011 was reviewed.

The Property Committee: Main AC is repaired. Plumbing in men's room in ZFH and gutter are in process of repair. Grounds clean-up Oct. 29th.

Evangelism Committee: 17 people attended couponing class. New visitor kits in process. Request to do fundraising for church programs at Fall Festival with bake sale, mini yard sale, craft sale. See new business.

Stewardship and Finance: Some improvement in giving over June, near break even point.

Worship and Music: 139th Anniversary with lunch 9-11-11 planned. Children's Church during sermon to begin September 11th for 4-5 yr-olds. Children will join congregation at communion time.

Christian Education: Christmas Program simplified this year. Each SS class will learn their parts separately, then meet for one or two group rehearsals before program.

Social Ministry: Blood drive to be held with Red Cross on December 8th.

Unfinished Business

Advance Payment \$25,000 was made to Dick and Mary Lou Barnes from the land fund. Additional Funds needed for Park came from Evangelism.

New Business

Pastor Barb recommended Laura Paul, Lynda, Mike & Aspen Sueirro and Dan Carreri for membership by Affirmation of Faith. Recommendation approved. Upcoming baptisms announced: Jayden Hall, son of Laura Paul and Randal Hall and C.J. Paul, son of Laura Paul.

Use of Zion's Phone System discussed: Will offer broader use to members. Can be used for volunteer requests and reminders of events along with prayers and emergencies. David Harris can make separate call lists so members can choose how they want to be contacted.

Fall Festival organized by SS Class led by Dana Smith. Request for fund raising at event by Evangelism was approved. However, craft sales cannot be considered a part of Youth for Hire Program.

Next meeting: September 11, 2011. Committees at 6:00 p.m. / Council at 7:30 p.m.

Sherri Pittman, Congregation Secretary

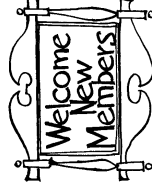
How are your "barns" doing? Getting full? *September 11th* is the turn-in day for your barn shaped coin boxes. The money received will be used through ELCA World Hunger to purchase gift animals to help people in third world countries make a sustainable living.

Questions? Ask Norma Ralph, Social Concerns



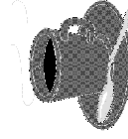
Confirmation Classes to Begin in September!

Pastor Barb is offering Confirmation Classes every other week from September, 2011 to May, 2012 to any Youth, 7th grade and above, who has not been confirmed. The date and time will depend on the schedules of the participants and their parents. The classes prepare the Youth for the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism, in which they take a vow to accept for themselves the faith commitment their parents made for them at their baptism. The Rite of Affirmation will be on Pentecost Sunday, May 27, 2012. See Pastor Barb if you would like to participate.



An Invitation to Become a Part of the Zion Family!

During the worship service on September 18, 2011, we will welcome our newest brothers and sisters in Christ into our faith community! If you would like to become a member of Zion, Pastor Barb will be happy to talk with you about it! Please let her know if you are interested, and she can answer any questions you may have. We invite all of the current members of Zion to be present that day, to welcome our new members in person, to introduce yourself, and to get to know them a little better over punch and cookies after the service. Hope to see you there!



LMM BREAKFAST SOCIAL

Lutheran Men in Mission will host their monthly *Breakfast Social* on **Sunday, September 25, at 9:00am.** Milk, juice, coffee, breakfast sweets, cereal and toast will be served. LMM will also have a short meeting during this time. To help or for more information, contact Clayton Dasher at 728-3222.

Thank You

"It takes a special kind of person to care enough to take the time for others, to do whatever it takes to help somebody out. For everything you have done... For everything you have given... Thank you very much." **Dear Zion Members** - Words cannot express the feelings I have for my Zion Church family. The love and compassion you have shown to me and my family through your prayers, concerns, phone calls, visits, cards, and *generous love offering* are greatly appreciated. I cannot say thank you enough. Please continue to keep me in your prayers. **Love, Amy Young**

Dear Zion Family - We want to thank you all for your continued care, prayer and support. Mike continues to get stronger, which is an added blessing. Blessings to all - **The Sueirro Family**

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Jennifer and Brian Rheburg** at the birth of their son, **Nathan Alexander**, on July 30th.

Zion is glad to welcome **Laura Paul** who became a member of Zion by Affirmation of Baptism Sunday, August 21st. We would also like to welcome **C.J. Paul and Jayden Hall** into the Zion family with their recent baptisms on Sunday, August 21st.

Congratulations to **John Thomas** and Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Atlanta, on winning first place in the congregation category of the ELCA Churchwide Video Contest "LivingLutheran". "House of the Rock" is a campus ministry sponsored by Redeemer. The title of the one-minute video is "Be the change. Be the gospel. Freed in Christ to serve." Odyssey Networks sponsored the video contest and the 1st place prize is a \$3000 ministry grant to Redeemer! The winning videos were announced & shown at the Churchwide Assembly in Orlando in August where John was a part of the elated Southeastern Synod delegation. To view the winning videos, and all the contest entries, visit www.livinglutheran.com/contest. (Yes, that is **John & Jana**'s 3 year-old **Elijah** in the video - and Jana's "photogenic" elbow in the scene with the TV set! **Pastor T & Mary Lou Thomas** aren't TOO proud of the above videographer & "actors"!)

"Youth for Hire" Project Submitted by Dana Lee Smith

Zion Lutheran Youth Group is making plans to attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering July 18th-22nd, 2012 in New Orleans, LA. This event only happens every 3 years and hosts approximately 30,000 youth and leaders.

The theme is "Citizens With the Saints". The Gathering program is built around three core practices in which participants will be immersed. These core practices are discipleship, peacemaking and justice. Part of this experience will include service to others as we continue working to assist with recovery efforts associated with Hurricane Katrina and the Gulf oil spill. Each day of the Gathering, thousands of youth will be out serving others. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to make such a large impact and truly make a difference on such a large scale. The Gathering will also provide opportunities for us to experience worship and renewal as we gather daily. We estimate that this trip will cost approximately \$1,200 per person. Through Zion's "Youth for Hire" project, each youth attending is working to raise \$500 towards the trip. This will also provide an opportunity for youth to experience what it is like to work towards a goal and what it feels like to enjoy the benefits. Please make checks payable to Zion Lutheran Youth. Thanks for helping us to achieve our goal!

As youth information is received, this list will be updated. Please contact youth director, Dana Lee Smith at 728-3227 or 665-1377 if you have any questions about this project.

Alex Peth - 728-3495 Yard Work, Babysitting, Painting, Household Cleaning, Pet sitting

Alex says, "I am willing to do many things. Just call and ask!"

Christian HeidtHarris - 728-9184 or 601-2469

shootingstars@usebs.net Yard Work, Babysitting, Painting, Household Cleaning, Crafts, Cooking, Office Work, Laundry, Organize Rooms/Closets.

Call and ask about other possible jobs, too!

Anna Lee HeidtHarris - 728-9184 or 601-2469

shootingstars@usebs.net Yard Work, Babysitting, Painting, Household Cleaning, Office Work, Wash Cars, Cook/Bake, Crafts



Lutheran Youth Organization News

submitted by Dana Lee Smith



August Highlights

Thanks to everyone who supported our Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. After expenses, we raised almost \$300! Also thanks to all who helped us raise \$243 at our car wash! In addition to our fundraising activities, we managed to enjoy a "Back to School" pool party and cookout.

Youth Ministry

September Events

Wednesday, September 7th 6:00pm - 7:30pm: *Youth Bible Study*
Wednesday meal and Bible study program begins. Join us for games, music and fun as we kick off our Bible Study program. The meal begins at 5:15pm. Please make meal reservations with Norma Ralph at (912) 313-2465.

Sunday, September 11th 9:45am - until: *Anniversary Sunday*

Join us for Sunday School, worship, fellowship meal and fun as we celebrate Zion's anniversary. Please make plans to attend and join in this special occasion!

Wednesday, September 21st 6:00pm - 7:30pm: *Youth Bible Study*

Join the fun as we continue to grow and learn together.

Sunday, September 25th 12:15pm- 2:00pm: *God's Work - Our Hands!*

Youth will meet to work on the fair booth for the Effingham County Fair. If you are interested in being a part of this special outreach, please join us! Bring your lunch to church, we will meet immediately following the service.

Plan Ahead

Wednesday, October 5th 6:00pm - 7:30pm: *Youth Bible Study*

Sunday, October 9th 12:15pm - 2:30pm: *Work on Fair Booth*

Saturday, October 16th 9:30am - until: *Put booth in the Effingham County Fair*

Sunday, October 23rd: *Social - TBA*

Please Note!!!!

All youth who are assigned as crucifer and acolyte are asked to meet in Pastor Barb's office at 10:50am for a time of instructions and prayer.

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to participate in youth activities. For additional information, contact Dana Lee Smith at 728-3227 or 665-1377.

Christmas Program Plans are Underway!!



Zion's Christmas program for our children and youth is being planned this year by the Christian Education & Music and Worship Committees. It will be performed on Sunday, December 11th at 5 p.m. Using the Biblical story of Jesus' birth from the prophecy of Micah to the visit of the Wise Men, all our children and youth will have the opportunity to share their musical talents. Rehearsals will take place throughout the fall during junior choir rehearsal times on Wednesdays and during short rehearsals in our Sunday School classes. There will be a final total group rehearsal to pull the program together. Costumes will be provided to all participants from our church performance wardrobe. Our goal is to share the Christmas story in a simple and meaningful format. Please invite family and friends to participate and join us for a wonderful celebration of God's love.

Come Sing in the Christmas Cantata!

Rehearsals are beginning for our Senior Choir's Christmas Cantata. *Holy Night of Miracles* will be performed on Christmas Eve as part of our Candlelight Communion Service at 7 p.m. We rehearse for 30 minutes every Wednesday at 7 p.m. and invite anyone who enjoys singing to join us each week. We spend several weeks on each song, going over parts and working together as a group to learn the music. If you have any questions, please share them with our director Dana Lee Smith or any choir member. We'd love to have you be a part of our choir.



Our Church Directory has been updated!

If you would like a copy of the latest edition emailed to you, please check with the church office at 728-3430 or via email at secretary@zionlutheranga.org.



1st & 3rd Wednesdays 2011-2012

Children's Choir, Faith Weavers, Dinner, Youth and Adult Bible Study starts back up in September! Our 1st and 3rd Wednesdays

program returns, following the school calendar. (As before, there is no program when school is not in session.) The tentative schedule for 2011-2012 is:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Time Schedule</u>
September 7 & 21	2:45 - 3:45 Children's Choir
October 5	4:00 - 5:00 Faith Weavers
November 2 & 16	5:15 - 6:45 Dinner
December 7	6:00 - 7:30 Youth Bible Study
January 18	6:00 - 6:45 Adult Bible Study
February 1 & 15	7:00 - until Adult Choir
March 21	
April 18	
May 2	

Dinner is open to all who enjoy great fellowship and delicious food. Dinner is \$5 for ages 11 & up, \$2 for ages 4-10 and free for children 3 and under; the maximum is \$20/family. For planning purposes, we ask that you make reservations with Norma Ralph (912-313-2465). Even if you forget to make reservations, all are welcome, always!

Faith Weavers is for children grades K-5. This year the children will be divided into two groups (based on age) that will rotate between fun learning activities, crafts, games, and stories as they learn about the Lutheran faith. They will also bless the meal with prayers they have learned during the program.

After the meal, Dana Lee Smith will lead a *Bible Study* class for *Youth* (grades 6-12). Pastor Barb will lead the *Adults* in a Bible Study and discussion of the readings for the upcoming Sunday worship service.

You may stay for the Bible study that follows dinner or you may join us for dinner only. Please mark your calendars and make plans to join us for our 1st & 3rd Wednesday evenings.

Women of the ELCA

Submitted by Dana Lee Smith

The following article was printed in the July issue of *The Southeastern Weaver* - Newsletter of The Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA.



Do you wish you could recycle those empty prescription bottles? **Well, You Can!** An organization called Med Share will take them and send them to hospitals and clinics in developing nations. There are two Med Shares in the U.S.—one in our synod in Decatur, GA, and one in California. Med Share collects unused surgical supplies and equipment from hospitals and clinics in the metro Atlanta area that would otherwise be disposed of in landfills. Volunteers at Med Share sort goods by item type and then pack them in semi-truck-size containers. The medical supplies and equipment are then sent to locations overseas which have requested them. This year two containers will be shipped locally to the Tuscaloosa, AL storm-damaged area. The prescription bottles are one way each of us can help Med Share's ministry. Remove labels completely (If sticky residue remains, pat with flour or baby powder to cut the stickiness). Do not include over-the-counter vitamin and supplement bottles.

Here at Zion, you can place empty bottles in the basket labeled "prescription bottles" in the entrance of the education building. This project provides another opportunity to join with others and make a big difference! If you would like to receive a copy of *The Southeastern Weaver*, you can request a free copy via email by contacting newsletter editor, Ruth Schreiner at fredruths@comcast.net. A hard copy mailed version is available for a yearly subscription fee of \$8.00. Please send your name and address along with a check made payable to Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA to:

The Southeastern Weaver
Ruth Schriener
2201 Oakwood Drive East
Franklin, TN 37064-4917

This month, we have a group of 6 ladies that will be attending the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA convention September 16th - 18th at Guntersville State Park in Alabama. Please pray for safe travels and a good convention experience!

Remember.....all ladies of the congregation are members of WELCA. Everyone is encouraged to get involved. Check the monthly meeting schedules in Zionews.

Serving in September

Date	Flowers	Acolyte *	Crucifer*	Assisting Minister	Nursery	Communion Servers
Sept. 4 (G)	Dawn Holton	Charlie HeidtHarris	None	Elliott Foss	Brenda Pack	Ryan & Katie Pittman
Sept. 11 (R)	May Lou Thomas	Josie Sapp	Alex Peth	Dana Lee Smith	Dawn Holton	Teresa Sikes
Sept. 18 (G)	Judy Hart	Caycee Pannal	Cassidy Edwards	Sean Vandenhouten	Theresa Mobley	Louise Sebastian & Rene Atkinson
Sept. 25 (G)	Dana Lee Smith	Aaron Edwards	Megan Edwards	Sherrri Pittman	Joy Hutcheson	Bryan Vandenhouten

* Acolytes and Crucifers need to meet in the pastor's office 10 minutes before worship (10:50 am).

Week of	Clean Church	Clean Education Building	Questions/ Changes
September 5th	Caycee Pannal	Anna Lee, Christian, and Charlie HeidtHarris	If you cannot clean on your assigned week, contact Dana Lee by Wednesday of the week assigned. Remember, you MUST have an adult present when cleaning!
September 19th	Alex & Benji Peth	Anna Lee, Christian, and Charlie HeidtHarris	

Month of	Greeters	Ushers	Visiting Comm.
September	Bessie Studier Ellen Danker	Joe Studier Mike Suiirro Ronald Hutcheson Charlie Heidt	Dana Lee Smith Emma Lee Dasher

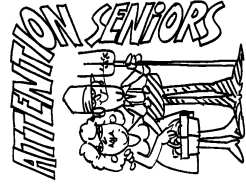
Women's Circles	Program	Place
Evening September 6th 7:00p.m.	Mary Lou Thomas	Home of Emma Lee Dasher (728-3222)
Afternoon September 8th 2:30p.m.	Mary Lou Thomas	Home of Bessie Studier (772-3424)
Sisters of Faith September 19th 7:00p.m.	Norma Ralph	Zion Fellowship Hall
Mary/Martha September 26th 6:30p.m.	Dana Lee Smith	Home of Dana Lee Smith (728-3227)

Senior Citizens!

A great group of forty-six folks enjoyed the August Senior Citizens get-together. **Lamar Allen**, from Lakeview Manor, talked about assisted living facilities and what they offer for folks who no longer need to live at home by themselves. It was a very informative program.

Thank you to **Charlie & Melinda Heidt** for heading up the delicious meal. Thank you also to **Cheryl Pannal** for helping to prepare the meal & to everyone who provided additional food &/or helped clean up afterwards.

For our next meeting **Tommy West**, from Georgia Power, will present a program on how to save on our electric bills. Plan to join us on Wednesday, Sept. 21st at 11:30 a.m., for a wonderful meal, good fellowship, and a helpful program. Don't forget to bring a friend!

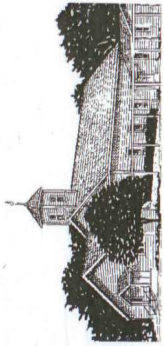


Children's Choir



I hope all the children are excited about beginning choir practice. We are looking forward to having a great year. Our first practice will be September 7th at 2:45 p.m. ending at 4:00 p.m.. Faithweavers will follow with a new program for this year and a meal at 5:15 p.m. If you have not sent your permission slip to Marlow School for your child to ride the bus to Zion, please do it by September 7th. With your permission, we will pick up children at Sandhill or South Effingham, or you can bring your child. You will have to send a permission note by September 7th unless you will be bringing your child. If you need more information, please contact Melinda Heidt at 728-3288. **Remember if you have a child in Kindergarten – 5th grade we would love to have them in choir.**

Please note - if any committee or group needs advertising for events, please contact Rebecca Heidt (728-9184) at least 3 weeks prior to the event!



SEPTEMBER

Each Sunday
 9:45 am - Sunday School
 11:00 am - Worship Service with
 Holy Communion

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 <i>Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	5 <i>Labor Day</i> 7p - AA-ZFH <i>No Eff. County Schools</i>	6 7p - Evening Circle Home of Emma Lee Dasher (728-3222) (Sept. Mag.)	7 2:30p - Children's Choir 4:30p - K-5 Faith Weavers 5:15p - Meal 6p - LYO Bible Study 6p - 6:45p - Adult Bible Study 7p - Adult Choir	8 2:30p - Afternoon Circle - Home of Bessie Studier (772-3424) (Sept. Mag.) 7p - Bridal Shower Paul/Hall - ZFH	9 8:00p - Zion Movie Night "Mr. Popper's Penguins"	10
11 <i>Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 11a - 139th Anniversary Sunday Worship 12:15p - Meal Provided 6p - Committee Meetings 7:30p - Council Meeting	12 7p - AA-ZFH	13 7p - Marlow Farm Bureau - ZFH - meal provided	14 6p - 6:45p - Adult Bible Study 7p - Adult Choir <i>Eff. County Schools 1/2 Day</i>	15 10a - Manna House Board Mtg. - YMCA	16	17
18 <i>Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 11a - Worship with new members received <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> WELCA Convention (Sept. 16 - 18)	19 7p - Sisters of Faith Circle - ZFH 7p - AA-ZFH	20 6:30p - Cub Pack - ZFH	21 11:30a - Sr. Cit. - Meal Provided 2:30p - Children's Choir 4:30p - K-5 Faith Weavers 5:15p - Meal 6p - LYO Bible Study 6p - 6:45p - Adult Bible Study 7p - Adult Choir	22	23 8:00p - Zion Movie Night "Rio"	24 12:30p - W.W. Conway Reunion - ZFH
25 <i>Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9a - Congregation Breakfast - ZFH 12:15p - 2p - LYO - Fair Booth Prep.	26 6:30p - Mary/ Martha Circle - Home of Dana Lee Smith (728-3227) 7p - AA-ZFH	27	28 2:30p - Children's Choir 6p - 6:45p - Adult Bible Study 7p - Adult Choir	29	30 LMM- Lutheran Men in Mission LYO- Lutheran Youth Organization WELCA- Women of the ELCA ZFH- Zion Fellowship Hall CASA - Court Appointed Special Advocates	