



# ZIONEWS

July 2009 Zion Lutheran's Monthly Newsletter

*And the truth shall make you free....John 8:32-36*



Freedom is a strange thing. There are people walking around free as a bird from outward appearances who are miserable captives on the inside. And there are prisoners who are happy as larks, who laugh and sing, even in the darkest dungeons! Strange, this thing called freedom. How is it that the free can be imprisoned, and the imprisoned can be free? It has to do with Spirit.

Richard Lovelace wrote, "Stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage." We are inspired by stories of political prisoners whose spirits were not broken, who continued to fight for what is right and just and true from their cells. We admire the Christian martyrs who praised and thanked God even as they died! Yet, how often have we seen the walking dead; those in whom the light has gone out in their eyes, though they seem to have everything in the world to live for? What is the difference between these people? It has to do with Spirit.

In this world, there are many things that threaten our freedom and try to enslave us. Some we don't even recognize as threats. Things like our stuff, our work, and our leisure activities are clever and subtle freedom robbers. Busy-ness is another. Addictions or relationship problems can leave us feeling trapped and fearful. Illness, accidents, war, crime, the economic crisis and other circumstances beyond our control can make us feel like captives, if we let them. But, if you feel those prison bars closing in on you, remember that you are not alone in your struggle for your freedom. It has to do with Spirit.

Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." The truth is, freedom has less to do with where you live, and more to do with who lives in you! You are in Christ, and Christ is in you! You are filled with the Holy Spirit! You are a beloved child of God, freed from sin and death, and the things of this world that would enslave you have no power over you!

Address Service Requested



**Zion Lutheran Church**

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Guyton, GA 31312-5735

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Web page: [www.zionlutheranga.org](http://www.zionlutheranga.org)

Pastor Barbara Koch

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Martin Luther said, "Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child or spouse, wrench our life away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever!" *That* is the freedom that no one can ever take from us, no matter what our circumstances!

And that is the secret of this strange thing called freedom. That is how those in prison can sing, those in pain can dance, the dying can live fully each day, the sick can laugh, the addict recovers, relationships are healed, things don't own us and our work doesn't consume us. For, no matter what happens to us in our earthly lives, our *spirits* are free in Christ! And, when Christ makes us free, we are free indeed!

Come. Celebrate your freedom this 4<sup>th</sup> of July with those of us who are learning what it means to be truly free.

***Blessings, Pastor Barb <><***

*Now, the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. II Corinthians 3:17*

Would you be interested in...

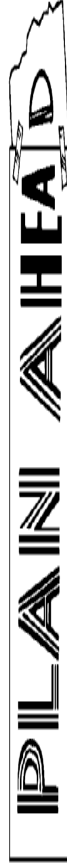
**CPR** class by Karen Warnell to learn or get recertified in CPR.

An **AARP driving class** that could help with your car insurance.

Both would be held at Zion. Get in touch with **Shirley Wright, Craig Pittman**, or **Norma Ralph** for more information.

### **LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION**

The Lutheran Men in Mission meet for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. on the fourth Sunday of the month. Come join in the fellowship of brothers in the Lord.



August 7th-8th-Zion LYO Lock-In  
August 19th-22nd— Pictorial Directory photographs taken  
August 23rd-LYO Beach Trip

**The Social Ministry Committee is responsible for the card ministry. If you know of someone who needs a card for a special occasion or illness, please contact them.**

(LYO news continued)

**Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup> 9:45am-10:45am:** National Youth Gathering Meeting

This will be the final meeting for all who are attending the Youth Gathering. This is an important meeting, please be there!!!

**Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> - Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>:** National Youth Gathering - Jesus, Justice, Jazz

Please say a prayer during the week for those who will be attending this event in New Orleans, LA. Our plane leaves Wednesday morning and returns on Sunday evening. Those attending are as follows: Michael Allard, Lauren Chapman, Colby Conaway, Casey Griffith, Amber & Jason Hall, Jonathan Jackson, Andrew Kessler, Jadelyn Kopf, Melissa Kopf, Melissa Lowe, Ryan Pittman and Dana & Dana Lee Smith.

### **Plan Ahead**

**Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> - Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>:** Zion Lock In

**Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Beach Trip

*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.*

### **Lutheran World Relief Layette Kits**

The Mary/Martha Circle needs your help once again. As we did last year, we will be putting together Layette Kits for Lutheran World Relief. In refugee camps, hospitals and villages around the world, gifts of layettes convey a warm welcome to newborns and their mothers.

Each kit includes:

- 2 Onesies (sizes up to 24 months)
- 2 gowns or sleepers without feet
- 2 receiving blankets
- 4 cloth diapers
- 1 sweater or sweatshirt
- 2 washcloths
- 1 bath sized bar (4-5oz.) of gentle soap in its original wrapping
- 2 diaper pins

Donations of gently used or new items can be placed in the basket in the entrance of the social hall. Monetary donations can be given to Amber Hall or Dana Lee Smith. Thank you!

*Submitted by: Dana Lee Smith*

## **Lutheran Youth Organization News**

*submitted by Dana Lee Smith*

### **June Highlights**

Thanks to everyone who helped to make our Pork Dinner Sale and Carwash a success! Thanks to all who bought tickets, sold tickets and/or provided desserts. Special thanks to Cheryl Dasher, Gloria Lange and Mary Dasher for making and donating the potato salad. A great big thank you goes to Charlie Pannal for smoking and slicing all of our meat and to Cheryl Pannal for helping out in the kitchen. We raised approximately \$1,700 with this fund raiser.

Special thanks to all of the high school youth who helped with Vacation Bible School. Everyone enjoyed sharing in the Discovery Canyon.

Also during June, ten youth attended AFFIRM at the University of North Alabama. They all returned tired but energized after this week long spiritual adventure. Thanks to Ted Kopf, and Earl and Elizabeth Ralph for helping with transportation to and from the AFFIRM bus at Trinity Lutheran in Lilburn, GA.

### **Welcoming New Youth**

We are glad to officially welcome our new sixth graders into the youth program. Greetings to Autumn Conaway, Luke Dasher and Matthew Ralph.

### **July Events**

**Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> 9:45am-10:45am:** National Youth Gathering Meeting

All youth who will be attending the National Youth Gathering will meet during Sunday School to discuss final details. This is an important meeting, please be there!!

**Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> 12:15pm - until:** Middle School Kayaking Trip  
All middle school youth (including new 6<sup>th</sup> graders and those who have just completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to participate in this special event. Bring a sack lunch and your bathing suit to morning worship. After worship we'll eat and change before heading off to the Ogeechee River. You'll also need a dry change of clothes, towel and sunscreen!

(continued)

### **Inquirer's Class begins in August of 2009!**

Have you been thinking about becoming a member of Zion? Do you have questions about what ELCA Lutherans believe, and why we worship the way we do? Then, Pastor Barb's *Inquirer's Class* is the place for you! Classes will meet August 9, 16, and 23 during the Sunday School hour from 9:45 a.m. till 10:40 a.m. in the Education Building. New Members will be received into our congregation on August 30th at the 11:00 service.

### **VBS 2009**

Zion Lutheran was transformed into Discovery Canyon for the week of June 8th-12th for VBS. An average of 91 youth were in attendance each day. A weekly offering of \$367.60 was donated to Abundant Life to help defray the cost of sending 2 of their youth to camp at Lutheridge. Many thanks to all volunteers for their hard work and special thanks to **Dawn Vorel** for directing VBS.

VBS Planning Team

### **Blood Drive**

A BIG "Thank You!" to all who participated in Zion's recent blood drive. To everyone who was able to give, your donation meant a better chance at life for someone. To everyone who wanted to, but wasn't able for whatever reason, thank you for trying. To everyone who donated the juice and cookies... YUM! To you who cleared your schedules to volunteer your day - you were awesome!

We had 23 pints given! A great success!

### **NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY IN THE WORKS!**

On August 19th-22nd, Lifetouch photographers will be taking pictures of all members in preparation for a new pictorial directory. The times for pictures will be 2:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. We will be scheduling appointments during July. We will also be updating addresses and phone numbers for the directory. We look forward to seeing your smiling faces.

### **Worship Service Volunteer Opportunities**

We are delighted to have so many people actively participating in our worship service. This helps make the worship more meaningful for us all, as well as giving you an opportunity to use your special gifts in service to the Lord.

The committee realizes that everyone has different talents, likes, dislikes, and time constraints. In an effort to match members with the weekly worship service opportunities they most enjoy, members of the Worship and Music committee are calling folks in the congregation to ask, "Would you like to serve the Lord by volunteering to fill one or more of the following worship roles?"

- Nursery Attendant
- Special Needs Nursery Attendant
- Greeter
- Usher
- Communion Assistant

If you have not yet been contacted and are interested in serving in one of these areas, please call Gail in the Office at (912) 728-3430 or Phyllis Heidt at (912) 728-3077.

We are truly grateful for the time devoted by all volunteers at Zion, not just those who volunteer in Worship!

Thank you, the Worship and Music Committee



### **Parish Registry**

Stephanie Casto 303 Bristol Drive Bloomingdale, GA 31302	Ms. Whitney Dasher P.O. Box 26 Meldrim, GA 31318-0026
Michelle Smith 1084 Roebling Road Bloomingdale, GA 31302	Ms. Gloria Zipperer P.O. Box 882 Springfield, GA 31329-0882

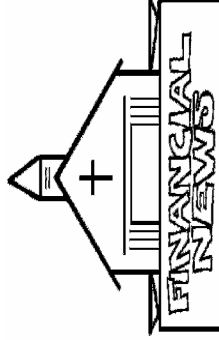
### **Unfinished Business**

1. Code of Conduct/Background Check Policy-First Charity: The policy will be filed in the Secretary's Office.

### **New Business**

1. Girl Scout Request: Council approved a request from the Girl Scouts to use the kitchen in the Education Building on a Tuesday evening in June, July, and August for an activity. A Zion member will be present.
2. Pictorial Directory Dates: The dates selected for the new Pictorial Directory photography sessions are Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, through Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.
3. Lutheridge-Lutherock/Lutheranch: Council does not wish to financially support these camps at this time.

Phyllis Heidt, Secretary



### **May 2009 Treasurer's Summary Report**

Fund	General	Building	Memorial	Bus	Land
Balance	75.88	9,551.60	77,610.86	4,585.76	324,936.83
Income	15,767.35	1,618.14	395.00	-0-	3,566.56
Total	15,843.23	11,169.74	78,005.86	4,585.76	328,503.39
Expenses	15,742.78	1,960.21	326.25	361.00	2,993.15
Balance	100.45	9,209.53	77,679.61	4,224.76	325,510.24

### **Special Contributions and Funds**

ELCA Hunger Appeal	150.00	Manna House	15.00
Missionary Support	-0-	Southern Seminary	-0-
Treutlen House	50.00	Local Mission Account	12,310.12
LSG	-0-	Cemetery Fund CD	15,101.88
Abundant Life Church	1,000.00	Internship Fund CD	10,328.11

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Congregation Council Meeting Highlights - Draft**

June 7, 2009

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

**Reports**

The Minutes from the May 3, 2009 Congregation Council Meeting were approved as printed. The Minutes from the May 17, 2009 Called Congregation Council Meeting were approved as printed.

The Pastor's Report was reviewed.

The Treasurer's Report for May 2009 was reviewed.

**Committees**

1. **Worship & Music:** The committee has tentatively scheduled the Adult Cantata for December 20<sup>th</sup>.
2. **Worship & Music:** The results from Worship Feedback Survey were shared with council and filed with the June 7, 2009 Meeting Agenda. Based on the results, the committee had no recommendations for changing the current worship format.
3. **Council** approved a motion to continue the communion frequency as is and to have a vote on having communion every Sunday or every other Sunday at the 2010 Annual Congregation Meeting.
4. **Property:** The replacement of entry locks and deadbolts on the Pastor's Office and several other doors in the church building will be completed the 1<sup>st</sup> week of June. The committee is continuing their efforts to determine if changes are needed to provide better access to the sound system board for the technicians.
5. **Constitution:** Recommendations from the committee and a copy of previous Constitutional updates from the SE Synod were reviewed. The committee will continue work and report back to council.
6. **Finance:** The committee is in need of someone to assist with sending Contribution Thank You Acknowledgement Notes to individuals making memorial contributions.
7. **Education:** Council approved the committee recommendations to have Promotion Sunday on August 9<sup>th</sup>, and to have an Adult Bible Study lead by Pastor Barb on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday starting on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Confirmation Classes on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday also lead by Pastor Barb.

(continued)

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO:**

The family of **Joyce Maddox** who died on May 27th. Her funeral and burial were at Zion on June 1st.

**Kathy Harp** and family on the death of her mother, **Nelda Perry**, on Wednesday, June 17th in Florida.

We pray God's comfort for those who grieve.



**THANK YOU NOTES:**

Zion Friends and Family-

Thank you all so much for the set of Caphalon pots! It was one of the main things we both were wishing for and we will get a lot of use out of it for many years. Thanks also for the beautiful shower... it means so much to us to have two amazing and supportive church families. Love, **Kelsey & Grant**

To my Zion Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, visits, calls and cards during my recent emergency surgery. Also, to Pastor Barb for her pastoral care at the hospital and at home. God Bless each of you! - **Melinda Heidt**



**Congratulations:**

**Nichole Gordon** on the birth of a daughter, **Aubree Laine**, on May 28th. **Terry Sexton** is grandmother and **James Dasher** is great-grandfather. **Erin, Corey**, and **Hunter** are very proud of their new sister.



**Andrew and Josie Sapp, Lauren Conaway, C.J. and Carter Holton** who received instruction and had their First Communion on May 31st.



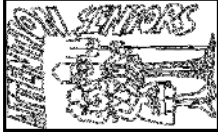
**Grant Anderson** and **Kelsey Gnann** who were married on June 19th at Jerusalem Lutheran Church.



## SENIOR CITIZENS

Taxes! One of those necessary things in life where we pay money in exchange for services provided by the government. **Linda McDaniel**, Effingham County Tax Commissioner, explained to the 40 folks attending the June meeting the role her office plays in receiving & disbursing taxes. Her presentation was very educational & helpful. Thank you to **Charlie & Melinda Heidt**, and **Ethel Fetzer** for preparing the delicious meal that everyone enjoyed. Thank you also to the others who brought food to share & to those who helped clean up afterwards.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 11:30 a.m., **Susan Exley** from the Historic Effingham Society will be our guest speaker. She will be presenting a power point presentation on the Living History site in Springfield. Susan is also seeking Effingham County wedding photographs that are at least 60 years old to consider for publication in the 2010 Historic Society calendar. Bring your old pictures to our July meeting, and she will scan them right there at Zion. Let's try to get some of our folks into the calendar &/or her weekly articles in the Effingham Herald!



## 2009 WELCA SOUTHEASTERN CONVENTION NEEDS!

- Lutheran Services of Georgia/Savannah is the recipient of our 2009 In-Kind Gathering donations.
    - Bring DIAPERS, UNDERSHIRTS, INFANT HATS AND NIGHTGOWNS (ALL INFANT SIZES).** This will help LSG provide their s with infant basic supplies when parents and foster parents are unable to afford them.
  - Please remember that our 2009-2010 Love Offering will be going to prison ministries for women in Georgia. A portion of the offering will provide a much needed communion table/baptistery to replace the multi-use table currently being used at Pulaski State Prison for Women in Hawkinsville, Georgia. The clinical chaplain ministers to approximately 1200 to 1225 female inmates. On an average 6 to 8 baptisms are performed each month at Pulaski.
- Please remember to give as you feel God is calling you to do.

## Serving in July

Date	Flowers	Acolyte *	Crucifer *	Assisting Minister	Nursery	Communion Servers
July 5	(G) Elise Zipperer	Jonathan Jackson	Colby Conway	Richard Hall	Mary Dasher Lauren Chapman	Chuck Prahst
July 12	(G) Mary Lou Thomas	Jordan Jackson	Lauren Chapman	Katherine Ralph	Karen Hall Katherine Ralph	Carolyn Boyd Ruth Pauley
July 19	(G) Cathy Conway	Harold Wheeler, III	Ryan Pittman	Jadelyn Kopf	Carl & Dawn Holton Jordan Jackson	No communion
July 26	(G) Joette Studier	Karnie Wilson	Katherine Ralph	Shirley Wright	Jackie Dasher Harold Wheeler, III	No communion

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

Week of	Clean Church	Clean Education Bldg	Questions/Changes
July 6	Justin Dasher	Andrew Kessler	Contact Dana Lee Smith @ 728-3227 or 665-1377 by Wednesday of the week assigned
July 13	Nicholas Dasher and Casey Griffith	Michael and Mandy Allard	
July 20	Jadelyn and Melissa Kopf	Katherine and Matthew Ralph	
July 27	Jordan Jackson	Taylor Fountain	

Month of	Greeters	Ushers	Visiting Comm.
July	Ethel Fetzer Malah Pack	Roy Clifton Ramona Kessler Francis Ralph	Norma Ralph Ollie Mae Zipperer

Women's Circles	Program	Place
Evening - July 7th 7:00 pm	Emma Lee Dasher	Home of Phyllis Rollins 748-9034
Afternoon - July 10th 2:00 pm	Mary Johnson	Church Education Building
Circle of Friends - July 20th 7:00 pm	Norma Ralph	Church Education Building
Mary/Martha -		No Meeting This Month

## Women of the ELCA News

By Melinda Heidt

### Women of the ELCA News

- **SOAP!** The Lutheran World Relief is still in need of soap. There is a basket in the Social Hall entrance; please put the soap in the basket. A monetary donation can be given to WELCA Treasurer, **Emma Lee Dasher**. Please make **checks payable to Zion WELCA**.
- In July Circle of Friends will be collecting **white or black polo shirts or a donation** so they can purchase them for **school uniforms** for needy children. If you would like to help with this project you can give the shirts or money to **Ann Lowe**.
- Please remember to make your reservations for the **WELCA Southeastern Synod Convention in Savannah, GA at the Inn at Ellis Square**. The Theme is **"In One Spirit"**. See **Melinda Heidt** for registration forms and deadline information. The Ebenezer Cluster will be the host for this convention. If you can not attend all the convention maybe you can attend part of it.
- All ladies of the congregation are encouraged to attend one of the four (4) circles. The meeting dates and times are listed on the Newsletter Calendar.

### Just three things....

- **Congregational Roster Changes:** If you have a change of address, telephone numbers, or would like to include your email address for future emails (these will be hidden so it is not viewed by everyone), please give that information to me so I may keep the Congregation Roster current.
  - **Birthdays and Anniversaries:** A new feature is being planned for Zionews - a list of birth and anniversary dates will be added to acknowledge your special days. Although information will be collected during the directory appointments, I'd like to get a head start on this information. (The year is not necessary if you choose not to include that information.)
  - **August's Zionews Deadline: July 19th** is this month's deadline.
- To contact me, you may call the office, leave a note in my box or on my desk, or email me at [secretary@zionlutheranga.org](mailto:secretary@zionlutheranga.org) with changes, information, or articles.

Thanks for your help... *Gail*

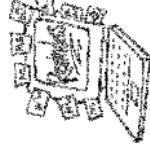
## Children's Choir

Submitted by Melinda Heidt

**Wow!** What a fun day for a summer pool party. We had 26 children and 9 adults to help the children have a safe time playing in the pool. They enjoyed pizzas, chips and dip and some delicious cupcakes. I personally want to thank all who had a part in making their party a successful event.

We honored **Autumn Conaway** and **Matthew Ralph** with a Teen Study Bible for 6 years of singing in the choir. We will miss them but know they will use their talents in service to God through their participation in the Middle School activities.

Mrs. Karen and Mrs. Melinda hope you have a wonderful summer and we will see you for choir when school starts. All children who are in Kindergarten through fifth grade are welcome to sing in the choir. If you have any questions, please contact **Melinda Heidt** at **(728-3288)**.



♦ **Aluminum pop-tops** are being collected for the local Ronald McDonald House. There is a drawer designated in the fabric chest of drawers in the entrance of the Education Building.

♦ Save your **aluminum cans** for Abundant Life's "Trash to Treasure". (Take off the pop-top rings for the Ronald McDonald House.)

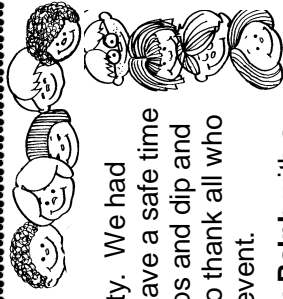
♦ There is also a drawer each for **cancelled stamps, Campbell product labels with bar code, old eyeglasses, soap, and General Mills "Box Tops for Education"**.

### ♦ Manna House Pantry Needs:

rice	dry beans	mac'n'cheese
grits	pasta	corn muffin mix
sugar	cake mix	cooking oil

♦ **Manna House hours** are: Monday 12pm-3pm  
Thursday 2pm-5pm  
Friday 9am-12 noon  
1st Saturday 9am-12 noon  
(closed July 4th)

Their Monthly Board meeting is the 3rd Thursday at 10:00am at the YMCA in Rincon and it is an open meeting.



# Calendar page