



# ZIONEWS

June 2011 Zion Lutheran's Monthly Newsletter



## Homesick Hearts...

It was 50 degrees and raining, the morning of the Blessing of the Bikes near our old hometown in Michigan. The cheery fire in our friend's fireplace made us want to curl up in a corner with a mug of something warm. But we had driven 900 miles to get here, so we set our teeth, determined to get our bike blessed despite the weather. Besides, we had been cold and wet before. We pulled on long johns, heavy woolen socks, gloves, and helmets and rain gear. I felt like the kid in the Christmas Story; whining, "I can't move my arms!" when we finally set out for the hour ride to the airport, where the Catholic priest would make the sign of the cross over the thousands of bikes lined up like chrome sardines in a can. Half way there, the sun smiled on us, the roads dried up, and the day turned perfect. We rode by our old homestead, and I felt that vague, dull ache of homesickness, thudding in my chest. The trees were thinly leafing out, the grass, green and cool. I remembered walking our old dog through the woods, steering clear of the big, black bear that made the hair stand up on his neck, and had him skittering sideways in the brush. I remembered spying out the deer yard, and wading in the stream that ran, cold and clear, through the back of our land. I missed knowing what to plant, and when, and the comfort of being able to turn over a big rock and identify what ever it was you might find underneath it. But, on the ride back, I found myself wondering why there was no moss hanging from the trees, and where all the flowers were, and marveling that the farmers had not yet turned over the ground, although it was mid-May. I found myself looking in every puddle for an alligator, and laughing at myself over it. The only thing in these puddles might be some tadpoles, newly hatched. How odd it was, that when I was in Georgia, I missed the familiar feel of Michigan. But, when I was in Michigan, I had Georgia on my mind. It felt like my heart was in both places at once, and I was homesick, either place. In Bonaventure Cemetery, on a footstone where the Bird Girl statue once stood, before they had to move her to a place free from inquisitive

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Pastor Barbara Koch

Address Service Requested

fingers, a verse from 1 Corinthians is carved. It reads, “ We do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.” St. Paul knew what I was feeling. He loved his life, and his ministry, and his people, but there were times when that dull ache of homesickness thudded in his chest, too, and he longed to leave his earthly home, to be in his heavenly one. And, we, too, know that ache – that restless yearning to be someplace else - no matter how contented we are in this place. Being a believer means that you live with a foot in both worlds. For, while we love the home God has given us in this life, our hearts will always yearn for our heavenly home, until the day we land with both feet on the other side. Back in Georgia, the hundred degree temperature settles on my brow like dust on a melon. I wonder if it is through snowing in Michigan, and if the peepers have begun their evening chorus. But, I dream of what heaven will be like when I get there. And, I learn to live with a homesick heart.

*Summer Blessings, Pastor Barb <><<*  
*Our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you.*  
*Augustine*

**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.

**Red Cross Blood Drive Update**

The Blood Drive went really well. We had about 30 donors and 26 units of blood. **Trey Davis** and **Alex Peth** were first time donors. Congratulations! Thanks to all who dropped in and to **Georgia Foss, Francis Ralph, Sherri Pittman, and Mary Johnson** who made great volunteers. We had a very enjoyable time. Red Cross was very happy and thankful to receive the blood donations. God Bless & Love you all! - **Norma Ralph**

***Evangelism***

Please note - if any committee or group needs advertising for events, please contact Laurie Langston at least 3 weeks prior to the event at laurielangston@gmail.com or call her at 912-272-6440.

*Cont. from page 14*

- 2) Boy Scout trailers: Boy Scouts have a 3-5 year plan that includes the purchase of trailers for hauling equipment.
- 3) Fence Extension: Property committee would like council’s opinion on extending the fence across the Scout area to block parking/driving around the back when children are playing in the area and to discourage vandalism. Property committee will research cost and bring back to council. .

Next meeting date, June 5, 2011. Committees at 6:00pm/ Council at 7:30pm.  
*Sherri Pittman, secretary*



**Zion Fun Day and Ice Cream Churn-Off**

Save the date for **Saturday, July 23rd!** Zion will be hosting a Fun Day that day and everyone is invited to attend! We will be having an Ice Cream Churn-Off, Outdoor Games, some yummy grilled food, our Playground Dedication and be showing “Tangled” on the big screen. So bring a friend and come on out for a day of fun at Zion!



***Family Clothing Giveaway***

On **Saturday, July 23rd**, the members of Elam Egypt Baptist Church will host the second “**Family Clothing Giveaway**”. It will be held at the Effingham County Recreation Dept. gym (808 Hwy 119 South, Springfield, GA 31329) from **10:00a.m. until 2:00p.m.** Come and select free good quality clothing, school uniforms, etc. for your family. If you have clothing to donate, please call 772-3987 or 754-6040.

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH** Council Meeting Highlights  
May 1, 2011

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

**Minutes of Previous Meetings:**

The Minutes from the April 3, 2011 Council Meeting were approved after one correction.

**Reports**

The Pastor's Report for April 2011 was reviewed.  
The Treasurer's Report for April 2011 was reviewed.

**Committees**

**Property Committee:** Handed out updated Action list. Cemetery clean up on May 14 from 8:00am – noon. Roof leak over nursery has been fixed and boards installed under the broken area. The new AC unit has been installed in the fellowship hall. Plans for a steel cage and motion sensor alarms are underway. Handed out an updated draft of a new Cemetery Policy for review.

**Evangelism:** Plans for nine movies throughout the summer. Yard sale on May 14. Would like to have a dedication for the playground area with a hot dog supper and ice cream churn off competition on July 23 followed by the regularly scheduled movie.

**Worship and Music:** Asked for evaluations of Lenten Services

**Christian Education:** Would like permission to rent a waterslide for VBS, funds would come from Sunday School. Council approved by consensus.

**Unfinished Business** Church Policies – Reviewed new drafts.

Committee will continue to work on drafts.

**New Business**

1) Money for Playground: A member addressed the council to Request approximately \$762 to purchase an arbor and the pavers needed to construct a fire circle to complete the playground area. A motion was made that Zion go ahead with the playground expansion contingent on obtaining permission from families to use memorial funds to fund the project. The motion was seconded and passed.

*Cont. on page 15*

**“Youth for Hire” Project**

*Submitted by Dana Lee Smith*



The ELCA National Youth Gathering will take place July 18-22, 2012. We have 7 youth and 2 adults that are making plans to attend. The Gathering happens every three years and in 2012 we will return to New Orleans, LA. The theme

will be “Citizens with The Saints”. At the 2009 Gathering in New Orleans, over 30,000 participated in various service projects to help those affected by Hurricane Katrina. The ELCA has made the decision to return and provide more opportunities for youth to help. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity as youth can immediately see the benefits of what can happen when we all work together. It is also an awesome experience to gather in worship and take over a city with over 30,000 other Lutheran youth! We estimate that the trip will cost about \$1,200 per person. So, we need to do a lot of fundraising! Church council has approved for youth to begin our “Youth for Hire” fundraiser this summer. For a donation, youth have agreed to work doing various small jobs such as babysitting, yard work, cleaning, etc. 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. There is a complete list of youth names, contact numbers and jobs on tables in the entrance of the education building and church building. This project will continue through next summer. So, if you’ve been putting off those extra chores because you need an extra hand.....we’ve got “Youth for Hire”! For additional information, please contact Dana Lee Smith at 728-3227. We really appreciate the support from our congregation!!

***Thrivent to Match Disaster Donations***

As a part of a special National Response effort, Thrivent Financial will add \$1 to every \$2 donated to Lutheran Disaster Relief for tornado victims in the U.S. If you would like to help, please make checks payable to Zion for “disaster relief” and put them in the offering plate by Sunday, June 12th. Your donation will be matched and sent on to help those in need.

## *Thank You*



Thank you to all who came out and helped with the mowing and trimming of the Zion Cemetery on May 14th. It looks wonderful!

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

To LYO for the “Kisses” we received on Mother’s Day!

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Kevin Farmer** for making the final four in GHSA Single A baseball and for being selected as the *Savannah Morning News* Coach of the Year!



### **It’s Pentecost Sunday! Wear Red!**

This year, the Day of Pentecost falls on June 12<sup>th</sup>, so don’t forget to wear red to church that day! Pentecost is a “floating” festival, which means it falls on a different date each year. It is celebrated on the fiftieth day after Easter (7 weeks x 7 days = 49 plus Easter Sunday = 50) which is where it gets its name. Fifty days after Jesus’ resurrection, the Holy Spirit came down with the sound of a mighty, rushing wind, and alighted on the heads of the apostles in the form of a tiny flame. (The twelve were no longer called *disciples*, which means followers, but *apostles*, which means ones who are sent.) The apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak in the different languages, or “tongues” of the travelers who had poured into Jerusalem to celebrate the Festival of Weeks. The travelers came to bring their first fruits of the harvest in thanks to God for delivering them out of Egypt, and to remember when God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. They each heard the good news of Jesus’ resurrection in their own language, so they could understand it, and three thousand people came to believe that day! For this reason, the Day of Pentecost is called the birthday of the Church. We will be celebrating Pentecost with candles and flames and red balloons and special music, so be sure to come to church that day and wear something RED! If you want to read about it, this event is recorded in the Book of Acts, Chapter 2.

## Summer Movie Nights

### at 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! All movies start at 8:30p.m.

#### Movies & Dates

June 3 - “Gnomeo & Juliet”

June 17 - “Surf’s Up”

July 1 - “Despicable Me”

July 15 - “Yogi Bear”

July 29 - “Megamind”

August 12 - “Monsters vs. Aliens”

August 26 - “Legend of the Guardian”



### ***What Makes A Dad***

*God took the strength of a mountain,*

*The majesty of a tree,*

*The warmth of a summer sun,*

*The calm of a quiet sea,*

*The generous soul of nature,*

*The comforting arm of night,*

*The wisdom of the ages,*

*The power of the eagle’s flight,*

*The joy of a morning in spring,*

*The faith of a mustard seed,*

*The patience of eternity,*

*The depth of a family need,*

*Then God combined these qualities,*

*When there was nothing more to add,*

*He knew His masterpiece was complete,*

*And so, He called it ... Dad*



## **Lutheran Youth Organization News**

*submitted by Dana Lee Smith*

### May Highlights

During May we enjoyed serving others with our "Brown Bag Lunch" service project. We distributed 52 lunches to people in downtown Savannah. We had fun working with youth and leaders from Jerusalem Lutheran on this service project. We also completed our last Wednesday night Bible study of the school year.

### June Events

**Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> 12:15pm to 1:15pm:** *Youth Carwash*

Youth will host a carwash fundraiser to raise money for summer events immediately following worship. Come prepared to get a little wet while you work!

**Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup> - Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> :** *AFFIRM at Berry College in Rome, GA*

We will leave Zion at 5:30am on Sunday morning. Youth will need money for a fast food meal traveling to AFFIRM and a meal traveling home from AFFIRM. Also, remember to have money for your key deposit at check in. If you don't lose your key, you get the deposit back! Youth also need to bring the following items; Bible, tennis shoes, bedding (sleeping bag works well), pillow, toiletries, towel and wash cloth. Please note that the pool will be available during free time. Youth will be picked up at 12 noon on Friday for the return trip home.

**Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> 11:00am Worship:** *AFFIRM Report During*

### *Worship*

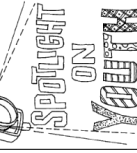
Those who attended AFFIRM will share their experiences as part of worship. Please wear your AFFIRM t-shirts!

### Plan Ahead – Summer 2012

**July 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> , 2012:** *ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA.*

All those entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the Fall of 2012 and those who have just graduated are eligible to attend. If you are eligible and have not talked with Dana Lee, please contact her ASAP!

*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.*



## **Senior Citizens!**

Yes, you can exercise many parts of your body while sitting in a chair! **Didi Sims**, from the YMCA, had the 32 folks at our May meeting doing just that. We all learned many exercises to do at home but Didi also offers classes at the YMCA if you prefer to join with others to exercise.

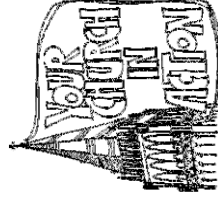
Thank you to **Charlie Heidt** and his kitchen helpers, **Georgia Foss** & **Cheryl Pannal**, for the delicious meal. Thank you also to all those who brought additional food and helped clean up the kitchen.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30 a.m. **April Cory** from Animal Control will be sharing information on what services they provide to the citizens of Effingham. Plan to come on out to enjoy a good meal and good fellowship. Bring a friend with you.

## Evangelism

### **A GREAT BIG THANK YOU!!!**

The Evangelism Committee would like to thank all who helped with the Yard Sale! It is because of you that we are able to use more resources to expand on advertising all of the wonderful



activities that are taking place at Zion. The Evangelism Committee has some BIG ideas and we are refreshed and ready to lead forward with them! Thank you for all of your support.

### Church Directory Updates: New Addresses...

Anson and Lindsey Dasher  
312 Highland Park Drive  
Athens, GA 30605

## **Friday "Drive-In Movie Nights" 8:30 p.m. at Zion!**

Zion will host a "Drive-In Movie" every other Friday Night through out the summer, on Zion's front lawn, starting at **8:30p.m.** For the month of June, we are showing:

**June 3rd: "Gnomeo & Juliet"**

**June 17th: "Surf's Up"**

So, call a friend, call a neighbor, invite your family, for a FREE movie night at Zion. As always, candy, popcorn, water, and soda will be available at minimal cost. Come on out and enjoy the show!



## **ZION'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 13<sup>th</sup> THROUGH JUNE 17<sup>th</sup> -- 9 AM – NOON**

Our theme this year is "SONSURF BEACH BASH." Classes are for ages 4 (by Sept. 1, 2011) through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Please remember to register your children for VBS and we are also asking that you tell your friends &/or bring them with you. We have a week of fun activities planned and would love to share these with the community. Forms will be placed in the rear of the Church and may be turned in to Cheryl Pannal or Teresa Sikes. We are asking for donations of the following items: Peanut Butter (creamy), Jelly, Cookies, Potato Chips/Cheetos. Please see Cheryl or Teresa if you have any questions about donating snacks.

If you wish to volunteer, it is not too late. We will be setting up on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM.

The whole congregation is invited to the Friday night 7 PM closing program & hot dog supper. Please bring a food item to share that goes with hot dogs. Also, "Surf's Up" is the movie being shown that night, planned for outside, at 8:30 PM, so plan to stay for that.

Thank you, and we look forward to having a fun filled week because you know we all love going to the Beach and we are bringing the Beach to Zion with the Bible Beach Bash!

Please contact Cheryl at 772-5465 if you have any questions.



## **Women of the ELCA**

Submitted by Dana Lee Smith

Zion WELCA will host the June birthday party at the Effingham County Nursing Home on Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:30pm. The entire congregation is invited to help with this project. We need your help to distribute cake, ice cream and punch to all residents at the nursing home. This is a great opportunity to bring a smile and share some cheer with others. If you are interested in helping and would like to carpool, please contact Dana Lee Smith at 665-1377.

We are still collecting items for Lutheran World Relief health kits and baby kits. We are in need of bar soap. Donations can be placed in the basket in the education building labeled "soap". We are also in need of t-shirts, sleepers (without feet), gowns and flat fold diapers. Clothing can range from size 6 months to 24 months. We'll take cash and check (made out to Zion WELCA) donations too! Monetary donations can be given to WELCA treasurer, Emma Lee Dasher.

All ladies are invited to attend the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA Convention September 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> at Guntersville State Park in Alabama. The theme is "Renew Your Heart". You are invited to attend and take part in Bible study, workshops and worship. If you would like to register to attend, please see Dana Lee Smith for a registration form. Early bird registration is \$165 (this includes all meals) and must be received by the registrar by June 30<sup>th</sup>. At our last quarterly meeting, Cheryl Pannal was elected to serve as delegate and Norma Ralph was elected as alternate.

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

## **June Usher Dates**

Joe Studier - June 5, 12, 19, 26	Bruce Peth - June 5, 12, 19, 26
Teresa Sikes - June 5	Charlie Heidt - June 5
Ryan Pittman - June 12, 19, 26	Trey Davis - June 12, 26
John Phillips - June 19	

*We thank you all for being flexible and helping serve this month!*

### Serving in June

Date	Flowers	Acolyte *	Communion Helper *	Assisting Minister	Nursery	Communion Servers
June 5 (W)	Barbara Smith	Josie Sapp	None	Sean Vandenhouten	Brenda Pack	Rene Atkinson & Louise Sebastian
June 12 (R)	Mary Johnson	Melina HeidtHarris	Christian HeidtHarris	Sherri Pittman	Joy Hutcheson	Jennifer Fichthorn
June 19 (W)	Brenda Pack	Aaron Edwards	None	David Harris	Jody Dixon	Ruth Phillips & Jessica Phillips
June 26 (G)	Mary Lou Barnes	Devan Funderburk	Cassidy Edwards	Dana Lee Smith	Rebecca Heidt	Cheryl Pannal

\* 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
June 13th	Anna Lee, Charlie & Christian HeidtHarris	Cassidy, Aaron & Megan Edwards	If you cannot clean on your assigned week, Contact Dana Lee Smith @ 728-3227 or 665-1377 by Wednesday of the week assigned.
June 27th	Autumn Conaway	Alex & Benji Peth	

Month of	Greeters	Ushers	Visiting Comm.
June	Lida Peth (June 5th) Bessie Studier Ellen Danker	Joe Studier, Bruce Peth, Ryan Pittman, Teresa Sikes, Charlie Heidt, Trey Davis, John Phillips (See page 11 for dates of service)	Emma Lee Dasher & Dana Lee Smith

Women's Circles	Program	Place
Evening June 7th	7:00p.m.	Barbara Smith Home of Lida Peth (728-3455)
Afternoon June 9th	2:30p.m.	Bessie Studier Home of Bessie Studier (772-3424)
Sisters of Faith		No meeting this month
Mary/Martha		No meeting this month

### Ann Purcell to speak at Farm Bureau

The congregation is welcome to bring a covered dish on **Tuesday, June 14th at 7:00 p.m.** to the June Farm Bureau dinner at Zion Fellowship Hall. **Representative Ann Purcell** will be speaking and all are invited to attend.



### Invitation - 50th Wedding Anniversary

The family of **Lowell & Naomi Dasher** invites you to come celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary with an informal, drop-in reception at their home (5165 Hwy 17 S.) on **Saturday, June 18th from 3:00p.m. to 5:00p.m.** *No gifts please.*

**Cemetery cleaning and mowing** will be held at

8:00 a.m. on the following Saturdays,  
**June 25th, and July 30th.**

We appreciate your support in helping keep our cemetery tidy.



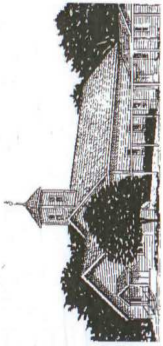
### LMM CONGREGATIONAL BREAKFAST SOCIAL

**Lutheran Men in Mission** will host their monthly "Congregational Breakfast Social" on **Sunday, June 26th, at 9:00am.** Milk, juice, coffee, breakfast sweets, cereal and toast will be served. LMM will also have a short meeting during this time. For more information or if you would like to assist with this project, contact Clayton Dasher at 728-3222.



### Amy Counts Young Love Offering

**Amy Counts Young** is receiving treatments to fight Colon Cancer. A love offering is being received during the month of June to help cover ongoing expenses. (She is unable to go to work at this time.) Please make checks payable to Zion (for Amy) and place them in the regular offering plate or put donations in the offering plate in the narthex. Thank you. Please keep Amy, Roger, and R.J. in your prayers.



# JUNE

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
LMM-Lutheran Men in Mission LYO-Lutheran Youth Organization WELCA-Women of the ELCA ZFH-Zion Fellowship Hall			1 7p - Adult Choir	2 <i>Ascension of Our Lord</i>	3 8:30p - Zion Movie Night "Gnomeo & Juliet"	4  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">             Synod Assembly - Atlanta, GA              June 3rd - June 5th           </div>
5 <i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i> 6p - Committees Meeting 7:30p - Council Meeting <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">             Synod Assembly - Atlanta, GA              Ends @ Noon           </div>	6 7p - AA-ZFH	7 7p - Evening Circle - Home of Lida Peth (728-3455) (May Mag.)	8 <i>No Adult Choir</i>	9 2:30p - Afternoon Circle - Home of Bessie Studier (772-3424) (May Mag.)	10	11
12 <i>Day of Pentecost - Wear Red</i> 12:15p - 1:15p - LYO Carwash - Zion Lawn 3p - VBS Set-up	13 VBS 9a - 12p 7p - AA-ZFH	14 VBS 9a - 12p 7p - Farm Bureau - Covered Dish - Ann Purcell speaker	15 VBS 9a - 12p 7p - Adult Choir	16 VBS 9a - 12p 10a - Manna House Board Mtg. - YMCA	17 VBS 9a - 12p 7p - VBS Closing - Hot Dog Meal 8:30p - Zion Movie Night "Surf's Up"	18 12:30p - Fetzer Reunion - ZFH 3p - 5p - Drop-in 50th Wedding Anniversary Lowell & Naomi Dasher at their home
19 <i>The Holy Trinity</i> <i>Father's Day</i> 5:30a - LYO leaves for AFFIRM  <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	20 7p - AA-ZFH	21 2:30p - Birthday Party Effingham Nursing Home - Zion Host	22 11:30a - Sr. Cit. - Meal provided - ZFH 7p - Adult Choir	23 10a - 1p - CASA - ZFH	24 LYO returns from AFFIRM in p.m.	25 8a - Cemetery Mowing
26 <i>Second Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9a - Congregation Breakfast 11a - Worship - LYO AFFIRM highlights	27 7p - AA-ZFH	28	29 7p - Adult Choir	30		