



ZIONEWS

June 2009 Zion Lutheran's Monthly Newsletter

Holy Fire...



We sat around a bonfire under the clear night sky. Stars winked at us through the leafy canopy of vines and mossy trees as we watched the flames dancing in the circle of stones. We thought about the marvel of fire, and how dependent on it we humans are, for warmth, for light and for cooking. We remarked on how important an invention was the match - portable fire- and regretted that none of us knew the art of how to create fire from scratch, with flint and steel. "How will we survive when the oil runs out without that basic skill?" we mused. But, that reality seemed far in the future. And we had each other, after all.

There is something about a bonfire that brings people closer together. Gathered in a circle of light, you feel safer, less vulnerable to the darkness at your back. Fire touches something deep within you. The reason we connect so easily with fire is that we have a fire within - the Holy Spirit - that holy fire burning deep in our souls. We are part of a greater reality that we recognize in the blaze of a bonfire on a star-lit night. The fire within meets the fire without, and for a time, we feel complete, relaxed, and whole.

The firelight reflected in the eyes of a friend can cause you to forget yourself for a moment. You open your mouth, and your life tumbles out; hopes and dreams, disappointments and regrets, mingled together. You didn't mean to disclose so much. You wonder if he will laugh. But, remarkably, your friend merely nods, and says, "Yep. I've felt that way myself."

The companionable silence that follows such a revelation is a revelation in itself. How awesome to find that you are not as alone in your thoughts and feelings; that others share your experiences, or at least, can relate. You sit back in your chair and watch the flames turn from red-gold to green to blue. A smile settles in the corners of your mouth. It's good to have someone who really knows you, understands and loves you, no matter what. With a friend like that, you could get through anything.

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Pastor Barbara Koch

Address Service Requested

You have a friend like that! One who understands you like no one else can, because he can look through the windows of your eyes, beyond the curtains you have drawn so tightly, and see into every corner of your soul. He knows all about you, understands and loves you, no matter what. His name is Jesus. He is the Source of All Light. Come. Join us in the circle. Let the holy fire of his love dance in your own eyes.

Happy Father's Day!
Prayers, Pastor Barb <><

**What could be sweeter than to have a friend with whom,
as with yourself, you can discuss all that is in your heart?**
Meister Eckhart



June is Maritime Bethel at Savannah
Love Offering Month

Throughout the month of June, Zion will be collecting a Love Offering for Chaplain Andrew Krey's mission, **Maritime Bethel at Savannah**. This mission provides spiritual and emotional care to seafarers and fishers who come into the Port of Savannah. Donations received will be used to train volunteers, translate materials, cover van expenses, offer a Bible study course, implement the *Holistic Health at Sea* project, and cover general operating costs. On June 21st, Chaplain Krey will be preaching at Zion and provide additional information about the ministry.



July 12th-LYO Beach Trip
July 22nd-26th-ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans
August 1st-LYO Middle School Kayaking Trip
September 18th-20th - WELCA Southeastern Synod Convention in Savannah

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)

The Zion bus will pick up youth from Trinity on Friday, June 19th and return home. We will call as we get close to home. Youth will need money for 5 meals during travel.

Sunday, June 21st 11:00am Worship: Special Father's Day Project All youth are asked to be in Sunday School to prepare special gifts for all the men in the congregation.

Plan Ahead - tentative summer schedule

Sunday, July 12th 12:15pm-7:00pm: Beach Trip
Wednesday, July 22nd -Sunday, July 26th: ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans
Saturday, August 1st -Middle School Kayaking 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.*

Help Needed!!!

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 mother.

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

May Highlights

During May, we had our last Wednesday night Bible study for the year. This program will start again in September. Thanks to all who helped with our special Mother's Day project. Special thanks to the LMM group for purchasing the flowers. We appreciate the youth and all the extra helpers who helped to assemble the flower gifts on Sunday morning: Craig Pittman, Harold Wheeler, Jr., Emma Wheeler and Matthew Ralph. Eleven high school youth had a great time on our first ever high school camping trip. We enjoyed exploring the theme of "Staying Connected to God". We had a good time canoeing, playing games, hanging out and just having fun together. Special thanks to our "camp cooks" Clayton and Emma Lee Dasher. We ended May with our pork dinner sale and car-wash. Thanks to all who supported this effort. A more detailed report will be printed in the July issue of Zionews.

Welcome New Youth

We are excited to welcome our new 6th graders and their families into the youth program. Autumn Conaway, Luke Dasher and Matthew Ralph will be joining our youth program. We invite you to join us for some special summer events.

June Events

Sunday, June 7th 3:30pm-7:30pm: Set up for VBS & Pool Party
All youth are asked to help set up for VBS. Tables and chairs need to be moved to help set up classroom space. Afterwards, we'll travel to the Jackson's pool for a pool party and cookout. Remember to bring a towel! Youth should be picked up from the pool by 7:30pm.

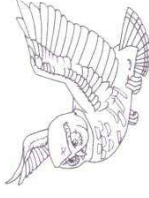
Monday, June 8th-Friday, June 12th 9:00am-12:00pm: Vacation Bible School at Zion
There will be a class for Middle School youth. High School will help with VBS.

Sunday, June 14th-Friday, June 19th: AFFIRM at University of North Alabama
The Zion bus will leave at 4:30am on Sunday, June 14th. We will travel to Lilburn to catch the AFFIRM bus with youth from Trinity Lutheran.
(continued)

Explore the Wonders of the Word!

DISCOVERY CANYON

WHO: Olivia the Owl is looking for YOU--You--You--You!



Wonder-filled things are waiting for you in the majestic and awe-inspiring canyon!

Place: Zion Lutheran Church

Dates: June 8th-12th

Times: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Who: YOU! You must be either 4 years old by September 1st or in K-8th grade.

Grab your hiking boots and join in a week of High-action games, awesome music, wacky Skits, Bible stories, and cool crafts!

Register today! Call Dawn Vorel 507-1876 or pick up a registration form at Church. Discovery Canyon is the place to be this summer!

The closing program and VBS dinner is Friday, June 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Needed for VBS

Cheryl Dasher needs old, worn out jeans (not children's size) for a craft project for VBS. Please contact Cheryl at 728-4791 if you have any questions.

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. We will be scheduling appointments during June, and updating addresses and phone numbers. We look forward to seeing your smiling faces.



Quotes About Fathers

Blessed indeed is the man who hears many gentle voices call him father!
~Lydia M. Child

Dad, your guiding hand on my shoulder will remain with me forever.
~Author Unknown

Old as she was, she still missed her daddy sometimes.
~Gloria Naylor

When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. When I got to be twenty one, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years.
~Mark Twain

A truly rich man is one whose children run into his arms when his hands are empty.
~Author Unknown

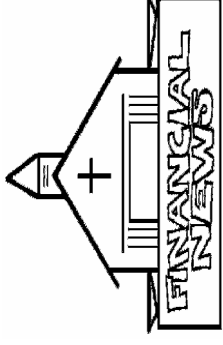
He didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it.
~Clarence Budington Kelland

Dad, you're someone to look up to no matter how tall I've grown.
~Author Unknown

Father! - to God himself we cannot give a holier name.
~William Wordsworth

ELCA Southeastern Synod Assembly -- June 5th-7th

- Pastor Barb and Bob Koch and delegates, Roy and Rhonda Clifton, and alternates, Craig and Sherri Pittman, will be attending this year's Synod Assembly. Pastor Thomas and Mary Lou will also be attending .
- On June 14th, the delegates will be giving their report during the 11:00 a.m. worship service.
- Pastor Barb will be attending this Assembly and will not be in the office June 5th-7th. In case of emergencies, she can be contacted on her cell phone: (912) 677-7011



April 2009 Treasurer's Summary Report

Fund	General	Building	Memorial	Bus	Land
Balance	2,048.68	11,261.67	77,414.61	4,585.76	327,809.78
Income	12,851.27	903.30	196.25	-0-	3,352.20
Total	14,899.95	12,164.97	77,610.86	4,585.76	331,161.98
Expenses	14,824.07	2,613.37	-0-	-0-	6,225.15
Balance	75.88	9,551.60	77,610.86	4,585.76	324,936.83

Special Contributions and Funds

ELCA Hunger Appeal	135.00	Manna House	35.00
Missionary Support	-0-	Southern Seminary	-0-
Treutlen House	20.00	Local Mission Account	12,630.12
LSG	-0-	Cemetery Fund CD	15,101.88
Abundant Life Church	1,000.00	Internship Fund CD	10,328.11

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.)
- **July's Zionews Deadline:** **June 14th** is this month's deadline. With vacations and such, this earlier date was selected to help me get the information to you on time.
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 with changes, information, or articles.

Thanks for your help... *Sue!*

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH Congregation Council Meeting Highlights - Draft

May 3, 2009

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

Reports

The Minutes from the March 22, 2009 Called Congregation Council Meeting were approved as read. The Minutes from the April 1, 2009 Congregation Council Meeting were approved as corrected.

The Pastor's Report was reviewed.

The Treasurer's Report for April 2009 was reviewed.

Committees

1. **Worship & Music:** Council approved the committee recommendation for Pastor Barb to have a temple talk on "Sharing the Peace" during the May 17th Worship Service, in an effort to provide a better understanding of the practice and its importance during worship.
2. **Social Ministry:** Maritime Bethel at Savannah (MBS) – Council approved accepting a Love Offering for MBS during the month of June.
3. **Property:** Council approved installing four (4) sets of entry locks and deadbolts.
4. **Property:** The committee will be looking at the sound system setup to determine if changes are needed to provide better access to the sound system board for the technicians.

Unfinished Business

1. **Worship Feedback Survey:** Council approved the explanation sheet, which will be distributed at the May 17th Worship service and with the Feedback Survey on May 31st.
2. **New Member Class** – will start on May 10th and receive new members on May 31st.

New Business

1. **1st Communion** - an open policy for scheduling 1st Communion, the readiness of those interested in 1st Communion will be left to the discretion of the Pastor and parents. At least one youth is receiving 1st Communion on May 31st.
2. **ELCA Southeastern Synod Assembly:** The Delegate Report to the Congregation will be on June 14th at the 11:00am Worship Service.

Phyllis Heidt, Secretary

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO:

John and Ruth Phillips and family on the death of her mother, Lucille Cason, on May 10th.

Louise Ullman, Rick Ullman, Shelia Green and Nancy Jue and their families whose husband/father, **Clarence**, died on May 14th. His funeral and burial were at Zion on May 17th.

THANK YOU NOTES:

Jenni (Langston) and **Nate Fichthorn** would like to thank Melinda Heidt, Phyllis Heidt, Ramona Kessler, Barbara Smith, Barbara Barton, Judy Harmon, Mary Lou Thomas, Emma Lee Dasher, Dana Lee Smith, Ollie Mae Zipperer, Minnie Lee Zipperer, Ellen Danker, Bessie Studier, Joy Smiley, Shirley Wright, Norma Ralph, Cheryl Pannal, Joann Conaway, Sandra White, Lida Peth, Ethel Fetzter, Runnelle Scott, Martell Hall, Amber Hall, Margaret Hall, Pastor Barb and Dorothy Zipperer for a wonderful shower, and a very gracious and lovely wedding gift. We are so thankful for the love and support of our church family at Zion!

Congratulations:

To **Nate and Jennifer (Langston) Fichthorn** who were married on May 2nd at Zion.

To **Lauren Chapman** who was recognized by the **National Society of High School Scholars** for her hard work, sacrifice and commitment and superior academic achievement. The Society recognizes top scholars and invites only those students who have achieved this exceptional level of academic excellence.

To **Colby Conaway** whose story was chosen to be published in the SEHS 2009 Young Authors Book. The title is "That's Where I Come From" and is about his family and his life.

We celebrate:

with all the saints, at the new life in Christ **Julianna Brook Heller** received on her baptism May 10th.

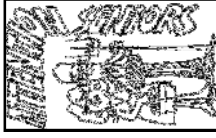
with **Jordan Jackson** who affirmed his faith and became a confirmed member of Zion's church family on May 24th.



SENIOR CITIZENS

Bonnie Dixon, from the United Way, had a very informative program for the large group of 46 folks at the May meeting. She talked about the history of Effingham United Way and the many programs in the county that are now available. She also gave away 20 door prizes which folks were happy to win. Thank you to **Charlie & Melinda Heidt** & their helpers for preparing the delicious meal & to those who brought other food items to share.

The Senior Citizens meeting in June will be the third Wednesday, **June 17th**, at 11:30 a.m. (Please note it is one week earlier than our usual "Wednesday after the 3rd Sunday" meeting.) **Linda McDaniel** is scheduled to come and update us on recent changes in the tax office. The meal will be provided. Come on out & join the many who enjoy visiting with their neighbors while eating a good meal.



Zion members and friends are invited to the wedding

of

Kelsey Gnann

and

Grant Anderson

on

Friday, June 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

at

Jerusalem Lutheran Church, Ebenezer, GA

The Reception follows immediately after the wedding and will be held in the church reception hall. Kelsey is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Gnann and Grant is the grandson of Joann Conaway.

Serving in June						
Date	Flowers	Acolyte *	Crucifer *	Assisting Minister	Nursery	Communion Servers
June 7	(W) Brenda Pack	Melissa Kopf	Jadelyn Kopf	Jonathan Jackson	Kim Dennis Andrew Kessler	No communion
June 14	(G) James and Mary Johnson	Jonathan Jackson	Brooke Burns	Melissa Osteen	Rhonda Clifton Harold Wheeler, III	Phil and Kathy Harp
June 21	(G) Mary Lou Barnes	Katherine Ralph	Andrew Kessler	Jadelyn Kopf	Dawn Holton Kamie Wilson	
June 28	(G) Robert and Phyllis Rollins	Nicholas Dasher	Casey Griffith	Katherine Ralph	Joy and Ronald Hutcherson Colby Conaway	Bill and Laurie Langston

* 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
June 1st	Alex and Benji Peth	Cassidy and Megan Edwards	Contact Dana Lee Smith @ 728-3227 or 665-1377 by Wednesday of the week assigned
June 8th	Taylor Fountain	Ryan Pittman	
June 15th	Harold Wheeler, III	Erin Pack	
June 22nd	Colby Conaway	Lauren Chapman	
June 29th	Melissa Lowe	Bradley Hall	

Month of	Greeters	Ushers	Visiting Comm.
June	Cheryl and Charlie Pannal	Daniel Dasher Timmy Dasher Walton White	Ann McDaniel Ethel Fetzer

Women's Circles	Program	Place
Evening - - June 9th 7:00 pm	Emma Lee Dasher	Home of Kathy Harp 728-6902
Afternoon - June 12th 2:00 pm	Bessie Studier	Church Education Building
Circle of Friends - June 25th 5:00 pm	Dinner Out	City Market in Savannah (Carpool leaves from Zion at 4:15 pm)
Mary/Martha - June 1st 6:30 pm	Amber Hall	Home of Dana Lee Smith 728-3227

Women of the ELCA News

By Melinda Heidt

A very important date to remember is **June 16th at 2:30 p.m.** We will host the **Effingham County Nursing Home Birthday party.** We need you to help serve the cake, ice cream and punch to the residents. Please bring your children with you so they can help serve the refreshments.

SOAP! Lutheran World Relief still needs soap and with Hurricane season beginning in June, it may make the need even greater. Please help fill the basket in the Social Hall entrance. A monetary donation for soap can be given to WELCA Treasurer, **Emma Lee Dasher.** Please make checks payable to Zion WELCA.

Dates to Remember:

June 16th: Effingham Nursing Home Birthday Party at 2:30 pm.

September 18th – 20th: 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.

All ladies of the congregation are encouraged to attend one of the four (4) WELCA Circles. The meeting dates and times are listed on the Newsletter Calendar.

LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

Lutheran Men in Mission are sponsoring a **Scout Hut work day** on Saturday, **June 13th.** All are welcome to participate. If you have any questions, see **Craig Pittman, Harold Wheeler or Andy Dasher.**

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.

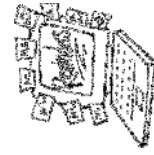
Both would be held at Zion. Get in touch with **Shirley Wright,**

Craig Pittman, or **Norma Ralph** for more information.

Children's Choir

Submitted by Melinda Heidt

A cook out and pool party for all the children's choir members will be on Wednesday, June 10th at the Charlie Heidt pool. We will pick up the children after Vacation Bible School. The party will end at 3:00 p.m. We hope that all our children will be able to attend. If you have any concerns or questions about the party please contact **Melinda Heidt at 728-3288.** The children will be supervised by many adults. This is our way of letting the children know that we appreciate all their hard work during the year. We will be honoring Autumn Conaway and Matthew Ralph. They have been singing in the choir for 6 years. We will miss them, but know they will be active in all the middle school age programs as they continue to serve their Lord.



♦ **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

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



Calendar page