



# ZIONEWS

October 2009 Zion Lutheran's Monthly Newsletter

## TIME...



My grandfather had a clock in the living room that kept time beautifully. That is, if you remembered to wind it! It was a wall clock made of a rich, dark wood that had been rubbed with oil so often it seemed to glow. Two, long chains hung

down from its base, dangling two brass pinecones that begged to be pulled, but were off limits to my inquisitive hands. It was good for eight days, and then, you had to wind it, or it would run down - just stop. You never noticed how loud it was until it was silent. My grandfather would lower his paper, take off his glasses, get this funny look on his face like something was missing, but he couldn't place it. Then, he'd say, "Oh, the clock! I forgot to wind it!" He'd throw down his paper and go through this elaborate ritual involving a key and opening up the glass face and pulling on the pinecones till the clock was wound again.

I seldom see clocks like that now-a-days. Everyone seems to have digital ones that you don't have to wind. You just have to change the battery. The same with watches. Watches used to have a little stem on the side that wasn't just for setting the time - it was for winding it. Most kids today have never seen a watch that needed to be wound. But, the language still reflects a time when that was the norm.

We have several common expressions that have lingered from that time, like, "He was all wound up!" "You need to unwind!" "We're just winding down." "I'm feeling a little

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Pastor Barbara Koch

Address Service Requested

run down." We all know what these phrases mean, though we may never have had to wind up a clock. In his book, Living Water, Francois Fenelon used the language of watches to describe the spiritual life. He said, "You are like a good watch, in need of constant winding." I like the idea that I am like a "good" watch - a precious watch - a watch of worth and value. Some days I really need to be reminded that when God created me, God smiled and said "Good!"

But, like my grandfather's clock, I need that "constant winding" in order to keep going forward on my spiritual journey. I need to pay attention to my inner workings." I last about a week, and then I need to be "wound up" again. This involves an elaborate ritual involving praying, singing hymns, hearing God's Word, communing and praising God with other believers and sharing hugs and handshakes afterwards. I need the "constant winding" I get each Sunday at church, or on the eighth day, I wake up to find I have run down, and the silence is deafening.

How are things at your house? Is it strangely quiet? Are you feeling run down? Is your heart telling you that there is something missing, but you aren't sure what? Well, drop your Sunday paper on the floor, and come on over to Zion! We are waiting to help you, like a good watch, find what you need to get wound up again, and to fill your days with the comforting sound of the heart of God, ticking away in the background - a constant companion as you go about your daily life. It's time you joined us!

*Prayers, Barb- < > <*

*I do not want to see you now just in passing,  
for I hope to spend some time with you, if the  
Lord permits. I Corinthians 16:7*

*(LYO News continued)*

### Plan Ahead

**Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-7:30pm:** Youth Bible Study

**Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>:** Social/Service Project

**Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-7:30pm:** Youth Bible Study

**Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Social/Service Project - Joint Thanksgiving Service at Zion

*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**

All forty-one people at the Senior Citizens gathering in September were spellbound as **Vivian Rogers-Price** told stories about the experiences of our Eighth Air Force soldiers during World War II. She talked about the Museum in Pooler that is preserving this history and she displayed for everyone to see a swastika banner our soldiers captured, signed & brought home after the war. She also mentioned that Effingham County folks can get into the Museum at ½ price during the week of Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>. Vivian is the Director of the Research Center at the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum.

Once again everyone enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by **Charlie & Melinda Heidt**. Thank you to them & all the others who provided food &/or helped clean up. Also, **Emma Lee Dasher** has 2010 Historic Effingham calendars full of old Effingham wedding pictures available for \$6.

Former State Representative **Ann Purcell** will be our guest speaker at our next meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, at 11:30 a.m. Among other things she will be talking about the Vo-Tech School she helped get started here in Effingham County. Come on out for a good meal, great fellowship & a dynamic speaker. – And bring a friend to enjoy it with you!



## Lutheran Youth Organization News

submitted by Dana Lee Smith

### September Highlights

Our 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday night Bible study has started again. As always, all youth are invited and encouraged to participate. There are separate Bible study groups for middle school and high school. We also had fun leading games after the meal on Homecoming Sunday and we enjoyed our "Yard Helpers" service project.

### October Events

**Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-7:30pm:** Youth Bible Study

All youth are encouraged to take part in this Bible Study opportunity and join in the games, music and learning.

**Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> 12:15pm-3:00pm:** Service Project - Super Clean and Youth/Parent Meeting

All youth and parents are asked to meet in the education building for a brief youth/parent meeting. We will update health forms and share information about events. Following the meeting, youth and adults will be divided into teams to clean the education building and the church building. A pizza lunch will be provided for all who are willing to stay and help with cleaning.

**Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-7:00pm:** Youth Planning Team (Please note the date change!)

**Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm-until:** Service Project - Enter Fair Booth  
Youth who are interested are asked to help in putting our booth in the fair. The group will leave Zion at 2:00pm and travel to the fairgrounds to install our booth. If you are interested, please contact Dana Lee Smith by Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to go, you must let her know so that transportation can be arranged!

**Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>:** Youth Bible Study Canceled due to School Holidays

**Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm:** Area Reformation Service at Zion

All youth are encouraged to join with other Lutheran churches in our area for a joint Reformation Service.

(continued)

## Christmas Cantata

The Christmas Cantata is scheduled for December 20th. All who would like to sing for this special worship event are welcome. Cantata practices are each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Dana Lee Smith at 728-3227 if you have any Questions.

## REFORMATION SERVICE HELD AT

### ZION ON OCTOBER 25TH AT 4:00 P.M.

- ♦ Zion is delighted to host this year's Joint Reformation Service for the Ebenezer Conference of the Southeastern Synod.
- ♦ Come and praise God with other members of the churches in the Ebenezer Conference!.
- ♦ Reverend Darrel Peterson, Assistant to the Bishop, will preach.
- ♦ Special music, readings and communion mark the day.
- ♦ Light refreshments will follow.

## ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS

You are invited to a free meal on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at Jerusalem Lutheran Church, Ebenezer – Highway 275. Please RSVP to Ruby Neurath at 826-5621 by Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. Also, members are encouraged to bring to the meeting nonperishable goods or a monetary donation for F.O.R.C.E. to help feed the needy in Effingham County.

## Congregational Meeting

A Congregational Meeting is scheduled after the 11:00 a.m. service on November 15th to elect Ebenezer Trustees for the following term year.

**Congratulations:**

To Zach Conaway and Ashley Jenkins on their wedding, September 26th in Savannah.

**Thanks!:**

To the awesome crowd of 29 who cleaned the cemetery-many hands made quick, easy work!

To everyone who participated, or tried to participate, in the Blood Drive. A total of 11 pints were donated. Thank you for your generosity.

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO:**

Bobby and Dot Zipperer and family on the death of her brother-in-law, Elmer Atkinson on September 14th.

Cheryl Pannal and family on the death of her uncle, George Freyermuth.

We pray God's comfort for those who grieve.

**THANK YOU NOTES:**

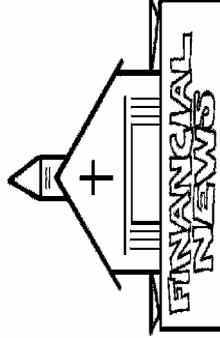
Stephen Ohsiek wants to thank all at Zion for their prayers during his 3 1/2 years of chemo. Treatments for leukemia. He is happy to say that he is a cancer survivor! Praise the Lord!

To Zion's LYO from Leona Helmey for cleaning her yard on their work day.

**Welcome to Zion's Family, New Members!:**

On August 30th, Misti Vandenhousten was baptized and joined with Jamie and Walt Kawalek, Diane Counts, and Bo Fulginiti as members of Zion. We welcome you to the church family at Zion!

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.



**August 2009 Treasurer's Summary Report**

Fund	General	Building	Memorial	Bus	Land
Balance	3.14	10,286.77	74,133.24	4,364.27	323,112.05
Income	11,577.14	520.26	1,417.00	-0-	3,038.19
Total	11,580.28	10,807.03	75,550.24	4,364.27	326,150.24
Expenses	11,576.10	2,829.60	517.10	1,083.00	2,825.15
Balance	4.18	7,977.43	75,033.14	3,281.27	323,325.09

**Special Contributions and Funds**

ELCA Hunger Appeal	182.00	Manna House	12.00
Missionary Support	-0-	Southern Seminary	-0-
Treutlen House	12.00	Local Mission Account	11,484.12
LSG	15.00	Cemetery Fund CD	15,101.88
Abundant Life Church	1,000.00	Internship Fund CD	10,328.11

**LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION**

**What is Zion Lutheran Men in Mission?** We are a group of men working with the mission of supporting the local Boy Scout troop #691 and the Treutlen House. We also mow the church cemetery.

**Who belongs to the Lutheran Men in Mission?** All the men of Zion Lutheran Church belong. All you have to do is come and get involved. We would love to have you.

The men of Zion Lutheran Church meet the **fourth Sunday** of every month at **8 a.m.** for breakfast, fellowship and a brief devotional. Thank you to all who came out and contributed their time and efforts this past year.

If you are interested in finding out more about LMM, see **Craig Pittman, Harold Wheeler or Andy Dasher.**

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH Congregation Council Meeting Highlights - Draft September 13, 2009

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

### Reports

The Minutes from the August 2, 2009 Congregation Council Meeting were approved as printed. The Minutes from the August 23, 2009 Called Congregation Council Meeting were approved as printed. The Minutes from the September 3, 2009 Called Congregation Council Meeting were approved as corrected.

The Pastor's Report was reviewed.

The Treasurer's Report for August 2009 was reviewed.

### Committees

1. Property: The Committee made a recommendation to proceed with the repairs to the Education Building Built-up Roof. Council tabled this until additional information is received on the condition of the flashing and the shingled roof sections.
2. By general consensus, council approved a request for a Women's Health/Exercise Program to meet on Thursday from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the Education Building.

### Unfinished Business

1. Called Congregation Meeting on September 27, 2009: For clarification, the vote will be by simple majority per the constitution and will be by written ballot.
2. Open Forum Meeting: Council approved a motion to postpone this meeting until further notice.
3. A dedication ceremony for the van donated to Bethel Maritime of Savannah will be on October 11, 2009 at 3:00pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Garden City, GA. Each of the Effingham Lutheran Churches that made a contribution towards the van purchase is requested to send a representative to the ceremony.

### New Business

1. A letter from the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary will be posted on the bulletin board.
2. Pastor Barb made council aware of an \$80,000 Academic Award Scholarship, Martin Luther Scholar Award, for 2010-2011 to Wittenberg University, which is located in Ohio.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

*Phyllis Heidt, Secretary*



## 1st Wednesday

Zion's mid-week program will meet on October 7th. Please come and enjoy the meal, fellowship, Bible study and the ever dreaded clean up. A wise man said "A family that eats together, stays together."

- 2:30-3:30 p.m.....Childrens (Grades K-5) Choir rehearsal
- 3:30-4:30 p.m.....Biblical craft/study hall (Grades K-5)
- 4:30-5:30 p.m.....Faith Weavers (Grade K-5) Bible study
- 5:15-6:45 p.m.....A meal, age 3 & younger eat free, age 4-10 \$2.00 each, age 11 & up \$5.00 each, maximum family rate \$20.00.
- 6:00-7:30 p.m.....Confirmation Classes with Amber Hall
- 6:00-7:30 p.m.....Youth (Grades 6-12) Bible studies
- 6:15-7:00 p.m.....Adult Bible Study with Pastor Barb...meal may be eaten during study

We are encouraging everyone to attend, even if you have not made reservations. You may stay for the program to follow or partake of the meal and leave and your choice will be respected. See you there. Any questions or to make reservations call **Norma Ralph (912) 313-2465**.

## Manna House Food Baskets for Thanksgiving 2009

The following is a list of items that we would like to include in the baskets for families who apply for our Thanksgiving Baskets:

Stuffing Mix	Mac & Cheese
Mashed Potatoes	Canned Cranberry Sauce
Canned Turkey Gravy	Canned Green Beans
Canned Carrots	Yellow Cake Mix & Icing
Canned Pumpkin	Canned Yams

Serving in September						
Date	Flowers	Acolyte *	Crucifer *	Assisting Minister	Nursery	Communion Servers
Oct. 4 (G)	Ramona Kessler	Harrold Wheeler III	Ryan Pittman	Sherri Pittman	Sandra White TBA	Charlie and Melinda Heidt
Oct. 11 (G)	Gloria Sheppard	Luke Dasher	Andrew Kessler	Dana Lee Smith	Cathy Conway Colby Conway	Laurie Langston
Oct. 18 (G)	Amber Hall	Jordan Jackson	Katherine Ralph	Sherri Pittman	TBA Nicholas Dasher	Joe and Joette Studier
Oct. 25 (R)	Michelle Ogle	Harrold Wheeler III	Melissa Kopf	Katherine Ralph	Mary Dasher TBA	Phyllis Heidt
* 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
October 5	Casey Griffith & Nicholas Dasher	Lauren Chapman	Contact Dana Lee Smith @ 728-3227 or 665-1377 by Wednesday of the week assigned
October 12	Alex & Benji Peth	Cassidy & Megan Edwards	
October 19	Colby Conway	Bradley Hall	
October 26	Melissa Lowe	Andrew Kessler	

Month of	Greeters	Ushers	Visiting Comm.
October	Frances and Norma Ralph	Glen Conway Andy Dasher Daniel Dasher Timmy Dasher	Melinda Heidt Cheryl Pannal

Women's Circles	Program	Place
Evening - Oct. 6th 7:00 pm	Phyllis Rollins	Home of Mary Lou Thomas 772-3463
Afternoon - Oct. 9th 2:00 pm	Mary Johnson	Church Education Building
Circle of Friends - Mary/Martha -	<b>NO</b> October Meeting TBA	

## A Note from Pastor Barb

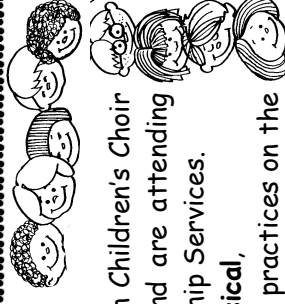
On September 27th, at the 4:00 p.m. Called Congregation Meeting, 147 members voted whether or not Zion should consider leaving the ELCA. The result was 74 votes to consider leaving the ELCA and 73 votes to not consider leaving the ELCA. By a majority of 1, Zion will be studying the option of leaving.

The decision of where to go is not one that can be made in haste, and will take much prayer, research, and deliberation. The Church Council will be appointing a task force to study the pros and cons of various options. Council will be keeping the congregation informed along each step of the way.

While we are studying these options, let us continue to offer our time, talents and tithes to Zion. Benevolence will not go to the Synod unless so designated. During this time, I welcome your questions, comments, and prayers for Zion. My door is always open.

### Children's Choir

Submitted by Melinda Heidt



\* We enjoy working with the 25 children in Children's Choir this year. They are doing a great job and are attending practices and singing every Sunday at Worship Services.

\* We started practicing our **Christmas Musical**,

**"The Christmas County Spelling Bee"**. The practices on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays will now be until 4:00 p.m. We will also be adding Sunday practices on October 4<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup>, and October 18<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. We ask that you please help your child to learn their songs and speaking parts at home, as we have only 6 weeks to practice. They will need to bring their books to every Wednesday and weekend practice.

\* Also, on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m., the children will be singing with all of the children's choirs in Effingham at the Joint Reformation Service at Zion. Please have the children at church ready to practice by 3:30 p.m. This is a special day in the Lutheran Church, so please try to let your child participate in this special joint service.

\* Thanks to all of you for your help and your prayers as we continue serving the Lord with our children's message through their singing.

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH Called Congregation Council Meeting - Draft

September 3, 2009

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

The Congregation Council met on September 3, 2009 at 7:00pm. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss options that the congregation has related to the ELCA the Social Statement on Human Sexuality.

After much discussion, Council reviewed the two (2) proposals presented for their review. Both are filed as attachments to the September 3, 2009 Meeting Minutes.

1. Proposal regarding Benevolence: There was discussion as to whether this action had to go before the congregation. Benevolence has in the past been covered by designated funds and if there was a short fall that was covered by the general fund. Therefore, Council approved the proposal to allow designated funds to go to Benevolence, but any short fall would not be covered from the general fund.
2. Proposed resolution regarding the endorsement of same-gender "unions": Council approved a motion to table the proposed resolution until after the September 27, 2009 Called Congregation Meeting.
3. Council approved a motion to have a Called Congregation Meeting on September 27, 2009 at 4:00pm for the purpose to vote on whether Zion is willing to consider leaving the ELCA. A nursery will be provided and staffed with non-members so all members can attend this meeting. This meeting will not be the place for debate on the Human Sexuality issue. All questions raised at the meeting will be recorded and answered at a separate meeting, if necessary.

If the vote indicates the congregation is willing to consider leaving the ELCA, then the following steps would likely be taken

1. Appoint a committee to research the pros and cons to leaving or remaining with the ELCA and the options for a path forward.
2. Present the results of the research to the congregation at another called meeting to discuss the findings.
3. After the findings have been dissimilated, schedule the congregation meetings as necessary to meet the constitutional requirements for a vote to leave the ELCA.

If the vote indicates the congregation is not willing to consider leaving the ELCA, Council will need to develop a path forward.

Phyllis Heidt, Secretary

\*Please see A Note from Pastor Barb

## Women of the ELCA News

By Melinda Heidt

What a great WELCA Southeastern Synod Convention held in Savannah on September 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. We had 8 women that attended and 1 man.

**Thanks to Cheryl Pannal** who was in charge of the hospitality room and was Zion's representative in helping to plan and make the favors given at Saturday's lunch and evening banquet. All the churches in Effingham helped provide food that was used in the hospitality room. She did a beautiful job with all kinds of goodies. It was great to visit with all the ladies from Effingham and across the synod including Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia. Can you

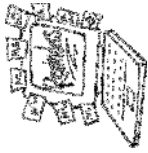
imagine **266** in a room and all participating in singing? **Dana Lee Smith** was our Music Director, including stretch and sing, and the choir special at our Sunday morning worship. She always does a great job. We had 10 workshops, Bible Study, and all the speakers who brought messages carried out the theme of "In One Spirit". You could feel the Holy Spirit moving in that room.

Thanks to all our ladies who participated in helping to make this convention a great one. **Wow!** We sent **60 health kits, 12 layette kits and 80 pounds of soap to Lutheran World Relief** this year. Thanks to all of you who made this possible. We will continue **collecting soap for Lutheran World Relief**. Please help us by placing your soap in the basket in the social hall entrance. Our convention next year will be in Marietta, Georgia **September 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>**. If you have never been to one, you don't know what you are missing. Let's make plans to attend the convention in Marietta next year.

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. If you have any questions you can contact **Melinda Heidt (728-3288)**.



Women  
of the  
EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
IN AMERICA



- ◆ **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".
- ◆ In case you missed it last month, **Angel Food Ministries** at Rincon Church of God, offers meal boxes at reduced prices each month. October 9th by 3:00 p.m., is the ordering deadline with food being distributed on Saturday the 17th. A October menu is posted on the bulletin boards.
- ◆ **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	12 noon-3pm
Thursday	12 noon-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.

Just three things...

- **November's Zionews Deadline:** **October 18th** is this month's deadline.
  - Thanks to all who helped get Zionews out this month.
  - 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... *God*

### **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



**October 25th - Joint Reformation Service at Zion**

**November 14th - Fall Festival**

**November 15th - Congregational Meeting – Election of Ebenezer Trustees**

**November 22nd - Joint Thanksgiving Service at Zion**

**December 13th - Children's Christmas Program -**

**"The Christmas County Spelling Bee"**

**December 20th - Adult Choir Cantata**

**February 7, 2010 - Souper Bowl of Caring**