

ZION LIFE NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 2
February 2015



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Ways to Get Involved

The month of February is shaping up to be a very busy one at both Zion and St. Matthew's Chapel. Mark your calendars and join us for the following events:

Altar Guild

We are still seeking volunteers to serve on the Altar Guild a couple of times a year. Training is available. See Eilene Fisher for details.

W.E.L.C.A.

Saturday, February 14, 10:30. The W.E.L.C.A. group will also be collecting items to assemble Baskets of Promise health care kits. See related article to find out how you can help with this effort.

Vacation Lunch Program

February 16—20, 11—1 pm daily, volunteers needed to prepare and serve the food and to make crafts with the kids

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, February 18, 12:00 at Zion, 3:30 at St. Matthew's Chapel, and 6:00 at Zion

St. Matthew's Cabin Fever Party

Saturday, February 21, 6:00 featuring pizza, games and fun for all!

Lenten Soup and Service

Wednesday evenings during Lent, beginning on February 25 at 6:00. A light dinner of soup will accompany the service.

Community Dinner

Friday, February 27, 5—6:30, you can help by purchasing ingredients or preparing and serving the food, as well as clean-up

Food Pantry & Parson's Closet

Saturday, February 28, 9—12, volunteers are always needed to shop for food, pick up and transport orders from the Regional Food Bank truck, stock the shelves, and assist with filling the orders

W.E.L.C.A. Circle

One quilt was tied off during January. Our next meeting will be on February 14, 2015 when we will be again working on our quilts.

Our Lenten project will be LWR Baskets of Promise (Health Care Kits). See article below about how you can help!

Sandy Deems,
Food Pantry Coordinator

Journey with LWR this Lent!



The Pantry served 51 households, 119 individuals. 4 households came for the first time. We had 16 volunteers assisting for this month. A total of \$1,417.10 in expenses were incurred for January.

Our next Regional Food Bank pick-up day will be on February 11, volunteers will be needed to transport and shelve the food pantry items. Our next Food Pantry Day will be on February 28, 2015. Again, volunteers are needed and welcome!

Sandy Deems,
Food Pantry Coordinator

LWR Baskets of Promise

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21 (NRSV)

Jennifer was 9 years old when Typhoon Haiyan hit her home in the Philippines. "I was afraid," she said. "I went to my grandmother's house when the storm was coming. But we had to evacuate again to a neighbor's house because our grandmother's house was destroyed."

Typhoon Haiyan made landfall on November 8, 2013 as one of the strongest storms in recorded history, affecting 14 million people and damaging more than a million homes. Jennifer's mother, Melanie, went into labor during the storm, later giving birth to her baby sister, Shella.

With their home and all their belongings destroyed, the family didn't know where to start to recover or how to keep everyone healthy and safe. In the midst of the destruction, LWR Personal Care Kits helped this family. "I am very, very thankful for all the things LWR has given. They are very useful for our family.

The simple items we assemble in LWR Personal Care Kits are powerful tools for families to stay healthy when recovering from disaster. The Lent, we are joining Lutheran World Relief's Baskets of Promise campaign. Each week, we'll collect a different item that we'll use to assemble Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations. Our goal is to assemble 20 LWR Personal Care Kits during Lent. Our collection schedule will be as follows:

February 22: bars of soap (4 to 5 oz., any brand, in original wrapping)

March 1: bath towels (light-weight, maximum 52"X27", dark color recommended)

March 8: toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)

March 15: combs

March 22: nail clippers (metal, attached file optional)

March 29 (Palm Sunday): bars of soap



For more information, contact Sandy Deems. We will assemble our

Personal Care Kits on Saturday, April 11, 2015 during our W.E.L.C.A. meeting from 10—12.

St. Matthew's Ministry

The St. Matthew's Chapel Ministry Board, hereafter referred to as "the MB," held its first meeting of the new year on Tuesday, January 12. Six members attended the meeting, which began at 7:02.

The group decided to get rid of our coat rack. Jean Bakkom agreed to clean the wine-stained altar cloth. The MB members also decided that Dave Hayner can have the room dividers back if he needs them as he originally gave them to us.

As Pastor Sara came in, the group was commenting on the temperature in the sanctuary. Members complained that 70 degrees is too warm, but 65 is too cool, so from now 67 or 68 will be the targeted temperature. Pastor Sara gave instructions on how to use the thermostat.

Using the usual round table format, MB members shared concerns or news. First to present was Pam Kostbar-Jarvis, who suggested that we get rid of our land line and replace it with an inexpensive Trac phone. The savings would be about \$400 a year. The group agreed to make the change.

Pam also reminded the group that the new bishop will have dinner at Zion on Thursday. Chili on a cold day will be the entree.

Pam tried to convince the MB to sell 2015 Christmas cards with a picture of the Chapel during the fall months, but there was little interest. Tom Collins suggested that such cards could be sent to local people or former members as a "Come to St. Matthew's for Christmas" invitation.

John Jarvis told the MB members that he would replace

Tom Collins as the St. Matt's Congregation Council rep. At the January 25 annual meeting, he will run unopposed for the St. Matt's seat. Pam has only one year to serve till her term on Council is up. Barb Cousineau will, if needed, provide soup for the annual meeting.

Speaking of food, Barb added that the local fire department will grill 200 chicken halves at May 16's annual chicken BBQ. Additional details about the fundraiser came up for discussion, like from which business we'll buy the halves.

Speaking further about food, Barb wanted to discuss the annual Cabin Fever Party, which will be held on February 21. The group decided to buy eight pizzas from Pizza Shack in Cobleskill. There won't be any salad at the meal, though. As usual, games for attendees of all ages will be available. Debbie Walther can provide the invitations. Barb and Jean will receive the RSVPs by phone.

Tom Collins gave a detailed report on the congregation's finances. The report was a mixture of good news and bad. Tom also thinks that the congregation needs a committee to study future uses of the Zion building.

The meeting was concluded by Pastor Sara with a discussion of "compassionate spirituality" and the Lord's Prayer at 8:20.

There is so much to be thankful at St. Matt's besides Cabin Fever Parties, chicken barbecues in May 2015 and visits from the bishop on January 15.

Thanks be to God!!
John Jarvis,
MB secretary

The President's Page: a one-time report

On January 25 the reorganized Congregation Council elected me Council president for the 2015 calendar year. As president, I feel that I have two major duties. The first is to run Council meetings; the second is to be a cheerleader for activities at Zion and St. Matthew's Chapel.

Both churches offer social activities like the St. Matthew's cabin fever party or service projects like Zion's free Friday evening community dinners and free lunches when the local public schools are closed for week-long vacations. I want to promote such events because they are worthwhile, enjoyable projects that more members of our combined congregation should support, especially the dinners and other social activities. Such activities, for example, give members of the congregation a chance to get to know each other better. I hope that in 2015 more congregation members support such activities than they did in 2014.

Finally, next month the name of my column will change to "The President's Paragraph." Because I am so busy in March, April and May with the 2015 CROP Walk, diversity training and my volunteer duties at the hospital—where I donated 27.7 hours in December and 34.0 in January, I won't have time to write a long monthly column like this one. A single paragraph will get right to the point. :)

John Jarvis,
Council President

Monthly Serving Schedule for February and March 2015

St. Matthew's Chapel

Date	02/01	02/08	02/15	02/22	03/01	03/08	03/15	03/22	03/29
Acolyte	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	John Jarvis	Karl Graulich	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	Allen Graulich	Barb Cousineau	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	John Jarvis	Karl Graulich
Reader	Jean Bakkom	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	Janet Lynk	Tom Collins	Omer Cousineau	Joan Jozifek	Helen Roberts	Jean Bakkom	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis
Greeter	Omer Cousineau	Jean Bakkom	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	Janet Lynk	Barb Cousineau	Omer Cousineau	Jean Bakkom	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	Barb Cousineau
Usher	Tom Collins	Dave Hayner	Suzanne Graulich	Omer Cousineau	Dave Hayner	Suzanne Collins	Barb Cousineau	Tom Collins	Suzanne Graulich
Communion Assistant	John Jarvis	Barb Cousineau	Allen Graulich	Lara Graulich	Lara Graulich	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	John Jarvis	Barb Cousineau	Allen Graulich
Bell Ringer	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	John Jarvis	Karl Graulich	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	Allen Graulich	Barb Cousineau	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	John Jarvis	Karl Graulich

Zion Lutheran Church

Acolyte	Emma Litzner	Judith Warner	Isabella Philipp	Eilene Fisher	Emma Litzner	Rose Keller	Isabella Philipp	Rich Churchill	Emma Litzner
Reader	Eilene Fisher	Vern Hall	Sandy Deems	Rich Churchill	Sandy Deems	Vern Hall	Carol McGuire	Sandy Deems	Rich Churchill
Greeter	Judith Warner	Eilene Fisher	Leon Beaver	Teddy Beaver	Brian Swanhall	Judith Warner	Leon Beaver	Eilene Fisher	Teddy Beaver
Usher	André Nadeau	Brian Swanhall	Judith Warner	Deb Nadeau	Henry Mau	Eilene Fisher	André Nadeau	Judith Warner	Henry Mau
Communion Assistant	Ava Prezorski	Emma Litzner	Vern Hall	Charlotte Litzner	Isabella Philipp	Gabriel Litzner	Ava Philipp	Emma Litzner	Vern Hall
Bell Ringer	Charlotte Litzner	Ally Prezorski	Gabriel Litzner	Ava Philipp	Charlotte Litzner	Ally Prezorski	Gabriel Litzner	Ava Philipp	Charlotte Litzner
Elevator	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Eilene Fisher

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February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 WORSHIP St. Matt's Svc. 9:00 Zion Svc. 11:00 Choir Practice 10:15	2 Finance Cmte. 6:30 Boy Scouts 7:00	3 Ministry Board 7:00	4	5 Bible Study 10:30	6 Pastor's Sabbath Day	7
8 WORSHIP St. Matt's Svc. 9:00 Zion Svc. 11:00 Council Meeting 12:15	9 Boy Scouts 7:00	10	11	12 Bible Study 10:30 Photo Club 7:00 pm	13 Pastor's Sabbath Day	14 Valentine's Day W.E.L.C.A. 10:30 Girl Scouts 1:00
15 WORSHIP St. Matt's Svc. 9:00 Zion Svc. 11:00 Choir Practice 10:15	16 President's Day Office Closed Vacation Lunch Program, 11—1	17 Vacation Lunch Program, 11—1	18 Ash Wednesday Vacation Lunch Program, 11—1 Ash Wed. Services: Zion 12:00 St. Matt's 3:30 Zion 6:00	19 Bible Study 10:30 Vacation Lunch Program, 11—1	20 Pastor's Sabbath Day Vacation Lunch Program, 11—1	21 Cabin Fever Party @ St. Matt's, 6:00
22 WORSHIP St. Matt's Svc. 9:00 Zion Svc. 11:00	23 Boy Scouts 7:00	24 Worship/Events 7:00	25 Stephen Ministry, 3:00 Lenten Soup & Service 6:00	26 Bible Study 10:30	27 Pastor's Sabbath Day Community Dinner, 5—6:30	28 Food Pantry & Parson's Closet 9—12
March 1 WORSHIP St. Matt's Svc. 9:00 Zion Svc. 11:00 Choir Practice 10:15 Family Worship 4:30	March 2 Finance Cmte. 6:30 Boy Scouts 7:00	March 3 Ministry Board 7:00	March 4 Stephen Ministry, 3:00 Lenten Soup & Service 6:00	March 5 Bible Study 10:30	March 6 Pastor's Sabbath Day	March 7 Girl Scouts 1:00

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
with St. Matthew's Chapel
615 E. Main St.
Cobleskill, NY 12043

Community Dinner

Sit down with a stranger and leave with a friend

*Come join us on February 27th
for a free community dinner
from 5—6:30 pm!
All ages are welcome.*



Vacation Lunch Program

We will be providing vacation lunch during the week of February 16—20. Please contact me if you would like to provide items for lunch and/or help us serve. I will provide a menu as it gets closer. Of course, we can always accept financial support. Thank you so much for all your support in the past and I look forward for your support for this during the Winter Break.

Judith L. Warner