

ZION LIFE NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 5

May 2013

Special Points of Interest:

- **Baptized We Live,**
Wednesday nights,
dinner at 6:30 pm and
study 7:00 pm
- **Bible Study & Velvet
Elvis Discussion,**
Thursday mornings,
10:30 am
- **Worship Cmte.,**
May 2, 7:00 pm
- **Evangelism/Mission,**
May 5, following Zion
Service
- **Ministry Board,**
May 7, 7:00 pm
- **Council Meeting,**
May 9, 7:00 pm
- **Endowment Cmte.,**
May 11, 9:00 am
- **W.E.L.C.A.,** May 11,
10:30 am
- **Taco Night,** May 17,
5:00-7:30 pm
- **Bold Café,** May 18,
9:00 am @ Coby's Café
- **Education Cmte.,**
May 21, 7:00 pm

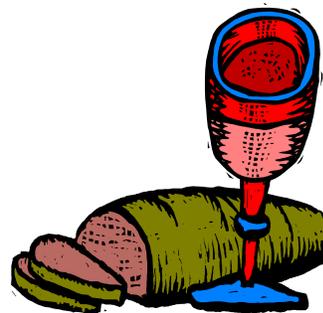
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From the Pastor's Desk

Last night I was helping my son Gabriel get ready for bed. As he was picking out his clothes I noticed that he was a little more puttsy than usual. He kept going into his closet and did not want to come out. As he came out of the closet, he closed the door - which he never does - but before he did I could see something metal in his hand. At first, I thought it was the incense burner that someone had taken out of the prayer chapel up in the sanctuary of Zion - maybe he had grabbed it while we were there one day. Finally, when I was able to go into the closet to check it out, low and behold, there was my home communion kit set up on the floor of

the closet. Gabriel had drank all the wine (I do not think there was much left), and ate all the bread. When I questioned him about why he took the communion kit Gabriel said, "I don't know why, I just like it. I like to have communion." I



can easily envision him acting out the ritual in his closet. Children love rituals, especially rituals that connect them to their faith. We have many rituals that we practice in our home. The rituals mimic the rituals we practice at church: rituals around

baptism, communion, song, light, faith symbols. They help our children connect what we do at church with the rest of our lives. What I have noticed is that my children and all children crave these rituals. They desire to be deeply committed to the faith practices of their parents, and family. Children want to relate, repeat, and reframe faith rituals for their lives. It is natural for them.

The one problem, though, is that many parents do not know how to relate, repeat, and reframe faith for their own children. There are a wide variety of reasons why there is a feeling of inadequacy, and **u n e m p o w e r m e n t** amongst parents. However, when Jesus

From the Pastor's Desk continued

interacted among the crowds of people, he was constantly empowering those who were unempowered, and we have been called to continue this work and ministry. We have been called to empower the parents and children in our congregation to help them relate, repeat, and reframe faith rituals so that they may connect what we do on Sunday with the rest of their lives.

Over the next couple of months we will be planning and organizing a program that is designed to do just that, help families connect faith practices with their everyday lives. As we prepare for this powerful ministry, I want to ask you to holdup many aspects in prayer. Pray about how you might be able to be a part of this important ministry, especially in terms of promises you make to children and parents in the baptismal covenant. Pray also about who might be a good participant in such a ministry – who are some of the children and parents that would benefit from sharing faith practices. Finally, take time to lift up the those planning and organizing for this important ministry with parents and children.

As you bring your children to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

- *to **live** with them among God's faithful people,*
- ***bring** them to the word of God and the holy supper,*
- ***teach** them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,*
- ***place** in their hands the holy scriptures,*
- *and **nurture** them in faith and prayer,*
- *so that your children may learn to **trust** God,*
- ***proclaim** Christ through word and deed,*
- ***care** for others and the world God made,*
- *and **work** for justice and peace.*

Do you promise to help your children grow in the Christian faith and life?

I do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture these persons in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

I do.

People of God, do you promise to support name/s and pray for them in their new life

in Christ?

We do.

And later we say:

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:

join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.



I want to thank you very much for the Easter box, I do appreciate it very much. That candy tasted so good, too!

God Bless All of You!

Beverly Waid



Christianity 101

On Easter morning we had two baptisms at Zion, one adult baptism and one baptism of a child. As the water splashed over their heads, I reminded them to think of it as a big wet kiss from God. It is always an amazing and wonderful day in worship when we have baptisms. However, as we approached the event, I was approached with the question, what does it mean to be baptized? What does it do?

Paul writes in the book of Romans, “Therefore we have been buried with him by Baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.” (Romans 6:4). Baptism is about living in forgiveness and

continually experiencing rising again as a new beginning, day after day. But this rising is not just about the way that God sees us as individuals, but also how we see others – especially those



who wrong and hurt us. In baptismal forgiveness, they are new everyday as well. The baptismal grace is for “them” as much as it is for us, which is what is so hard about living “the way,” as Luke and the book of Acts puts it.

As we conclude our focus on Baptism try these things,

- *Continue to take time to pray in quiet and ask to be shown God’s grace in your life.*
- *Spend a few minutes recalling the past few days. What has become important to you? What do you see as your mission in the church? Perhaps there are ways in which you have already been able to respond in your life to this grace. Perhaps God is calling you to new ways and new people.*
- *Spend time offering thanks to God for the gifts that God has given in your life over the past days.*

This monthly reflection was adapted from Praying the Catechism with Donald W. Johnson.

Zion’s Food Pantry

On March 23, our Food Pantry served 32 households (78 individuals). This was a decrease from the usual 40 plus households. We also packed and delivered 10 Easter Food Baskets. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped that day.

As for this year, our orders from the Regional Food Bank have been paid by grants. Forms have been filed with the Regional Food Bank to obtain a HPNAP grant for July 2013—July 2014.

The Pantry will be open the last Saturday of the month starting in April. Volunteers are needed to help on Pantry Day and we could use help with lifting and transporting on pickup days from the Regional Food Bank. Please consider sharing God’s love through this act of serving. Thank you for keeping the Food Pantry, its’ clients, and volunteers in your prayers.

Sandy Deems, Food Pantry Coordinator



From the Zion with St. Matthew's (Zion) Council President...

Spring... is it here... I think so, I'm keeping a positive attitude. New beginnings, new growth, many new things at Zion/St. Matt's. At Zion we have a new cleaning crew, we signed a contract with Schoharie County ARC, a win, win situation. We get a clean church and the ARC consumers have a great learning experience. We have a new sexton at St. Matthew's, Lindsey Monser, David Costello will be moving out of the area in the next couple of months. We cannot 'replace' David', he did so much for St. Matt's. We have a recorder group learning to read music and 'trying' to make good sounds.

We are also giving the office entrance way a new coat of paint. It is a work in progress, so check it out from time to time. In the future I would like to have the conference room painted. I have been gathering all the pictures of Jesus I could find in the church and would like to place them on the walls of the conference room. If anyone has Jesus pictures they are not using anymore and would like to donate them to Zion, please give me a call.

Our Events Committee have

many new activities coming up. Their goal is for one fund raising event each month. If you have suggestions or would like to attend the Events Committee meeting, watch the Sunday bulletins. At our last Council meeting, we have started a new process. Each Committee will have monthly meetings, they will be posted on Zion's calendar and in our weekly bulletins.

So, keep your eyes open, we are doing many new things. Oh, 'we' doesn't mean other people, we all are the 'we'. If you have ideas or just want to jump in, just do it, show up at the committee meetings...

New things are great, but the 'old' things are still going strong. We still have our exciting coffee hours after each service and bible studies Wednesday evening and Thursday mornings. WELCA continues to meet each month, Bold Cafe monthly, St. Matt's Ministry Board... watch the bulletins for dates and time. We would love to have you join us.. please join any of the ongoing groups or our new events.

You may ask, where is the Holy Spirit at Zion, I'm here to say, the Holy Spirit is very much

alive in all our activities, not just on Sunday mornings. In my daily prayers, I read 'Daily Teachings' by Rhonda Byrne. I liked this one:

"There are two words that, when spoken, have the most unfathomable power to completely change your life. Two words that, when they pass your lips, will be the cause of bringing absolute joy and happiness to you. Two words that will create miracles in your life, wipe out negativity, and bring you abundance in all things. Two words that, when uttered and sincerely felt, will summon all the forces in the Universe to move all things for you. There are just two words standing between you, happiness, and the life of your dreams...."

THANK YOU!..."

We are so blessed at Zion and St. Matthew's Chapel for the many things that people do without even being asked, we have so many that serve and help others. A simple 'Thank You' means so much, so I challenge you, this Sunday, see how many people at church, home, store, etc you can say Thank You to. Then just before you go to sleep, think of the day, the people you met, the 'thank you's' you gave and just smile and have a great night's sleep.



W.E.L.C.A. Circle News

At our April meeting, we tied off two more quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Twelve quilts were blessed at the 11:00 am service on April 21 and then packed for delivery to the Church World Service Center in North Syracuse for the annual in-gathering. Thanks to Debbie Nadeau for taking the quilts for us.

From May to August, we will be collecting items for the Personal Care Kits for the L.W.R.

Dates to remember: May 4, 2013—Spring Assembly at Trinity in Amsterdam; June 8, 2013—our next regular meeting; September 13-15, 2013—W.E.L.C.A. Convention at Camp of the Woods in Speculator. (Registration and workshop information is posted on our W.E.L.C.A. bulletin board).

Sandy Deems,
W.E.L.C.A. Leader



Personal Care

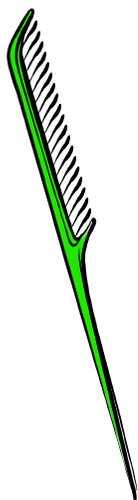
When LWR distributes Personal Care Kits, it's often to people who have lost everything. In the wake of an earthquake, or having fled from violence as their homes were overtaken, they clasp a towel from a faraway place, with a bar of soap, a toothbrush...and washing up, they know that they have not been forsaken by the world.

The very simple gesture of giving a Personal Care Kit can give someone the encouragement to start anew, starting with a bath. **YOU CAN SHARE GOD'S GRACE AND LOVE BY PROVIDING THAT SIMPLE COMFORT.**

What to Include: Please do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

- ◆ One light-weight bath size towel between 20"X40" and 52"X27", dark color recommended
- ◆ One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ◆ One metal nail clippers—attached file optional, remove packaging
- ◆ Two bath-size bars of soap—4 to 5 oz.—in original wrapping
- ◆ One adult-size toothbrush in original packaging—multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap.

WRAP ALL THE ITEMS IN THE TOWEL AND TIE SECURELY WITH RIBBONS OR YARN



St. Matthew's Matters

The St. Matthew's Chapel Ministry Board, hereafter referred to as the "MB," met on the evening of Tuesday, April 2nd. Eight people attended.

The evening began with a reading from John 3 with discussion following. When the business part of the meeting began, the MB used its customary round-table format to discuss plans and topics of concern.

Pam Kostbar-Jarvis had several concerns:

- the wording of the Chapel's purpose statement
- having a Good Friday service at the Chapel in 2014
- childcare during worship
- the reason for the reference to the red hymnal in the bulletin
- a proposal for a Resurrection Sunday brunch at the Chapel in 2014
- missing music during the Offertory

John Jarvis had numerous topics to present:

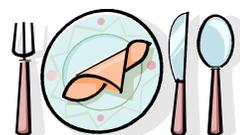
- someone replacing Jackie Costello as our purchaser of SUNY Cobleskill holiday flowers



- getting the recent Confirmands involved in hiding Easter eggs next year
- Red Cross shelter training at Zion St. John's
- how the Sharon-area clergy want to promote each other's events more aggressively
- the Schoharie County Aggie Scott Memorial CROP Walk on May 5 at Cobleskill United Methodist
- having only spring and fall Sharon-area clothing giveaways each year
- recent unfounded rumor that St. Matthew's Chapel will close soon
- discussion of the lengthy process for closing a Lutheran church
- recent phone conversation with Rex Smith about the coming chicken BBQ

Jackie Costello had several property-related topics to share:

- how our new sexton will attend future MB meetings
- emptying our septic system before the April 27 BBQ
- finding a replacement to create our serving schedule



- leaving her sauerkraut recipe in the cupboard for future use
- the need for spices for that kraut

Jean Bakkom had three concerns:

- need for a building key for the non-member organizer of a farewell party at the chapel on the following Saturday
- BBQ tickets needed for pre-sale of meals and halves
- repainting of our chicken BBQ sign

The MB then discussed some BBQ details from our sign-up sheets. The MB also voted to give \$200 as a thank-you gift for Herb Vroman, the man who plows our parking lot at no charge to us. The meeting ended at 8:30 with the Lord's Prayer.

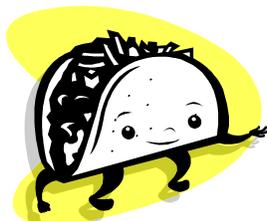
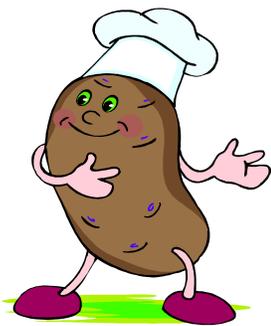
At St. Mathew's Chapel, we thank God from whom our many blessings flow, including barbecues, Easter lilies, and free plowing of our parking lot.

In service to Christ,
John Jarvis, Secretary



Events Committee

On April 19, Zion hosted a Stuff Your Spud Potato Bar with chili as a fundraiser. We experienced much more community involvement with this fundraiser. The monies we are raising from the fundraisers are going to benefit our Youth Ministry. About 30 people were served and we raised about \$170. Keep us on your calendar for Friday, May 17th as we will be hosting Taco Night from 5:00 to 7:30 pm. We hope to see more members from Zion and their families turn out to enjoy the food and fellowship!



Recorder Choir meets on Friday mornings at 10:30. No musical experience is necessary, just bring a recorder.



Thank you for your recent gift of \$190 to ELCA World Hunger. Your faithful generosity makes a life-changing difference for people in need around the corner and around the world. Your gift is greatly appreciated.

As the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we do more together than any of one of us could ever do alone. We are a church that believes God is calling into the world—together. Thank you for your support.



Serving Schedule for May and June

Date	05/05	05/12	05/19	05/26	06/02	06/09	06/16	06/23	06/30
St. Matthew's Chapel									
Acolyte	Karl Graulich	Seth Keller	Lara Graulich	Karl Graulich	Seth Keller	Allen Graulich	Karl Graulich	Seth Keller	Karl Graulich
Reader	Joan Jozifek	Jean Bakkom	Omer Cousineau	John Jarvis	Tom Collins	Janet Lynk	Barb Cousineau	Pam Kostbar-Jarvis	Tom Collins
Greeter	Dawn Thompson	Janet Lynk	Jean Bakkom	Barb Cousineau	Pam Kostbar-jarvis	Dawn Thompson	Janet Lynk	Jean Bakkom	Barb Cousineau
Ushers	Courtney & Robert Keller	Tom & Suzanne Collins	Omer Cousineau & Allen Graulich	Jean Bakkom & Janet Lynk	Lara & Allen Graulich	Barb Cousineau & Jean Bakkom	Pam Kostbar-Jarvis & John Jarvis	Dawn Thompson & Janet Lynk	Courtney & Robert Keller
Comm. Assistant	Pam Kostbar-Jarvis	Barb Cousineau	Pam Kostbar-Jarvis	John Jarvis	Pam Kostbar-Jarvis	Barb Cousineau	Lara Graulich	John Jarvis	Barb Cousineau
Bell Ringer	Karl Graulich	Seth Keller	Lara Graulich	Karl Graulich	Seth Keller	Allen Graulich	Karl Graulich	Seth Keller	Karl Graulich
Zion Lutheran Church									
Acolyte	Judith Warner	Rich Churchill	Eilene Fisher	Christina Keller	Judith Warner	Eilene Fisher	Rich Churchill	Eilene Fisher	Christina Keller
Reader	Camille Grace	Bob Holt	Adrienne Madison	Carol McGuire	Karen Scott	Rose Swanhall	Frieda Thornton	Margaret Angle	Janice Ashford
Greeter	Janice Ashford	Helen Mackey	Rose Swanhall	Judith Warner	Eilene Fisher	Janice Ashford	Helen Mackey	Brian Swanhall	Judith Warner
Usher	Deb Nadeau	Lisa Borggreen	Judith Warner	Janice Ashford	Rose Swanhall	Deb Nadeau	Lisa Borggreen	Judith Warner	Janice Ashford
Comm. Assistant	André Nadeau	Judith Warner	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Janice Ashford	André Nadeau	Bob Holt	Judith Warner	Eilene Fisher
Elevator	Ed Eldredge	Everett Merrill	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Ed Eldredge	Everett Merrill	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Ed Eldredge
Altar Guild	Valerie Becker				Sandy Deems & Jo Ellington				

Zion Lutheran Church 615 E. Main Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043 518-234-3381
www.zion-coby.org

May 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 St. Matt's Service 9:00 am Zion Service 11:00 am Evangelism/Mission following Zion Svc.	6 Pastor's Sabbath Day Boy Scouts 7-- 8:30 pm	7 Ministry Board 7:00	8 Bible Study 6:30 pm	9 Worship Cmte. 7:00	10 Recorder Choir 10:30	11 Endowment Cmte. 9:00 W.E.L.C.A. 10:30 am
12 Mother's Day St. Matt's Service 9:00 am Zion Service 11:00 am	13 Pastor's Sabbath Day Boy Scouts 7-- 8:30 pm	14 Parson's Closet 10--1	15 Bible Study 6:30 pm Historical Society 7:00	16 Bible Study 10:30 am Council Mtg. 7:00 Photo Club 7:00	17 Recorder Choir 10:30 Taco Nightr 5-7:30	18 Bold Café 9:00 am @ Coby's
19 St. Matt's Service 9:00 am Zion Service 11:00 am	20 Pastor's Sabbath Day Boy Scouts 7-- 8:30 pm	21 Education Cmte. 7:00	22 Bible Study 6:30 pm	23 Bible Study 10:30 am Photo Club 7:00	24 Recorder Choir 10:30 Taco Nightr 5-7:30	25 Food Pantry & Parson's Closet 9--12
26 St. Matt's Service 9:00 am Zion Service 11:00 am	27 Memorial Day Pastor's Sabbath Day 	28 Parson's Closet 10--1	29 Bible Study 6:30 pm	30 Bible Study 10:30 am	31 Recorder Choir 10:30	June 1 Property Committee
	Office Closed					

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

FOOTHILLS WOMEN OF THE E.L.C.A. SPRING ASSEMBLY

May 4, 2013

9:00—2:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

42 Guy Park Avenue

Amsterdam, NY 12010



ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Worship with communion

Program: Cherish Our Children

Speaker: Dianne Klafehn

Business Meeting



Suggested donation at registration: \$5