

ZION LIFE NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 10
October 2015



Ways to get involved at Zion/St. Matt's:

- ◆ **Lifetree Café**, Wednesday evenings at Pizza Shack, 6:00 pm
- ◆ **Bible Study**, Thursday mornings, 10:45 am
- ◆ **Blessing of the Animals**, Sunday, October 4, 2:30 pm
- ◆ **Trash & Treasure Sale**, Saturday, October 10, 9—2
- ◆ **W.E.L.C.A.**, Saturday, October 10, 10:30 am
- ◆ **Food Pantry & Parson's Closet**, Saturday, October 24, 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.
- ◆ **St. Matt's Pumpkin Auction**, Saturday, October 24, 6:00 pm
- ◆ **Reformation Sunday Service & Dinner**, Sunday, October 25, 4:00 pm

The President's Paragraph

I love the cool weather and changing leaves of October. However, I really dislike raking and bagging the leaves that have fallen on my lawn, so October is definitely not my favorite month. Besides the free community dinner at Zion on Reformation Sunday, October 25, October does have something else to cheer me up: the annual pumpkin auction at St. Matt's on Saturday, October 24. This event, preceded by a covered-dish supper, is my favorite social event of the year at either church. I hope that you join me for an evening of good food, fellowship and bidding for Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations.

John Jarvis,
2015 Congregation Council president



From the Pastor's Desk

Some of you have heard of the document, Partnering for Mission. We have talked about it in the congregational council meetings for the past couple of months. The main purpose was for the council members to become familiar with the document and to begin thinking about it. The document, Partnering for Mission, came out of work that was overseen by the deans of the Upstate New York Synod. It comes out of their experience of trying to help congregations navigate ministry in a new and different time. The world is in a state of constant change, and as a result the church is as well. The church of childhood no longer exists in the same way.

As Lutherans, we come from a long tradition of change. When Luther nailed the 95 theses to the church door, he ignited a fire storm of change for the church. We have long been the pioneers of change. It is part of who we are as “claimed by God gathered by the Spirit, and sent. . . .” Especially the sent part.

We are sent out to find out what new things the Holy Spirit is doing and working in the world. The booklet, Partnering for Mission, is designed to be a beginning in the discernment process for a congregation that is looking into renewing its ministry by considering partnering for the sake of mission. Partners can be other congregations, but there are other ways that congregations have partnered for ministry as well. For example, a Lutheran Congregation in Washington that partnered with the VA to provide housing for homeless vets by opening a bistro that served local wines. The bistro provided a gathering place for the community, but also provided the long term sustainability for the VA housing for Vets. It is a time for thinking outside the box. There are a variety of options open, but a passion for mission is necessary for any of them to work. We are NOT partnering for survival. Jesus didn't call us to survive, but to reach people with the Good News of his love and grace.

In order to help us to prepare the soil for Partnership for Mission, we will begin with a bible study. Since bible study has a history of not being overly attended and to include the largest group of people, we will have focusing on some suggested passages of scripture during worship. The passages revolve around questions such as “Who are we as God's people?” and “What does God want us to be doing?” For many, it will be a challenge for folks to move beyond “What do I want for me and my church?” to a much deeper sense of purpose. I hope that you will make an intentional commitment to participate over the next several weeks as we begin this journey of exploring Partnering for Mission. The future is before us, and it is up to us to explore what new things



FOOD PANTRY

We tied off a queen-sized quilt for Teddy Beaver at our September 12 meeting. Our next meeting will be on October 10, 2015. We will be tying off a quilt for Lutheran World Relief. Anyone who would like to learn quilting and tie-off is welcome to join us.

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



There were 44 households served, (95 individuals, and 4 new households) at our August 22 Pantry Day. We had 19 volunteers. Thank you to all who shop, shelve, and serve. The next Pantry Day will be on Saturday, October 24 from 9–12. We will need volunteers on October 14 to pick up our next order from the Regional Food Bank at 8:15 am.



Sandy Deems,
Food Pantry Coordinator

St. Matthew's Ministry

The Ministry Board at St. Matthew's Chapel met for thirty minutes on the evening of Tuesday, September 1. Among the topics discussed were the shortage of volunteers for Chapel projects, toilet repairs, rotted pieces of wood on the ramp and a \$50 donation to Cobleskill Cub Scout Pack 5. The big topic, though, was the September 19 annual ice cream social. The MB also selected October 24 as the date for the annual pumpkin auction, November 21 for the giving thanks service and December 19 as the date for our annual Christmas program.



In service to Christ and His Church,
John Jarvis, MB secretary

LAZARUS SEEMS LIKE AN ODD CHOICE FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY.



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

"OH, I DON'T THINK SO. 'LORD, IF YOU HAD BEEN HERE, MY BROTHER WOULDN'T HAVE DIED.' EVERYONE HAS SOMEONE THEY MISS ON ALL SAINTS' DAY."



HEY— THAT'S GOOD! ALL I WAS GETTING WAS "ZOMBIES".



JOHN 11: 32-44

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Monthly Serving Schedule for October 2015

Date	10/04	10/11	10/18	10/25
St. Matthew's Chapel				
Acolyte	Barb Cousineau	Allen Graulich	John Jarvis	Pam Kostbar-Jarvis
Reader	Omer Cousineau	Joan Jozifek	Helen Roberts	Jean Bakkom
Greeter	Pam Kostbar-Jarvis	Barb Cousineau	Janet Lynk	Omer Cousineau
Usher	Pam Kostbar-Jarvis	Suzanne Collins	Barb Cousineau	Dave Hayner
Communion Assis- tant	John Jarvis	Lara Graulich	Pam Kostbar-Jarvis	John Jarvis
Bell Ringer	Barb Cousineau	Allen Graulich	John Jarvis	Pam Kostbar-Jarvis
Zion Lutheran Church				
Acolyte	Ava Philipp	Emma Litzner	Isabella Philipp	Emma Litzner
Reader	Isabella Philipp	Sandy Deems	Ava Philipp	Eilene Fisher
Greeter	Judith Warner	Jeff Markley	Rose Swanhall	Leon Beaver
Usher	Jeff Markley	Judith Warner	Eilene Fisher	Jeff Markley
Communion Assis- tant	Vern Hall	Vern Hall	Vern Hall	Vern Hall
Tray	Andre Nadeau	Eilene Fisher	Judith Warner	Sandy Deems
Empty Tray	Gabriel Litzner	Charlotte Litzner	Emma Litzner	Charlotte Litzner
Bell Ringer	Charlotte Litzner	Ava Philipp	Gabriel Litzner	Ava Philipp
Elevator	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Jeff Markley	Henry Mau
Altar Guild	Eilene Fisher			

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October 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Bible Study 10:45	2 Pastor's Sabbath Day	3
4 WORSHIP St. Matt's Svc. 9:00 Zion Svc. 11:00 Choir Practice 10:15 Confirm. Class 12:15 Blessing of the Animals 2:30	5 Finance Cmtee. 6:30 Boy Scouts, 7:00	6 Stephen Ministry 8:30	7 Lifetree Café, 6:00 at Pizza Shack	8 Bible Study 10:45	9 Pastor's Sabbath Day	10 Trash & Treasure Sale 9—2 W.E.L.C.A. 10:30
11 WORSHIP St. Matt's Svc. 9:00 Zion Svc. 11:00 Confirm. Class 12:15 Council Meeting 12:15	12 Columbus Day Office Closed	13 Stephen Ministry 8:30	14 Lifetree Café, 6:00 at Pizza Shack	15 Bible Study 10:45	16 Pastor's Sabbath Day	17
18 WORSHIP St. Matt's Svc. 9:00 Zion Svc. 11:00 Choir Practice 10:15 Confirm. Class 12:15	19 Boy Scouts, 7:00	20 Stephen Ministry 8:30	21 Lifetree Café, 6:00 at Pizza Shack	22 Bible Study 10:45	23 Pastor's Sabbath Day	24 Food Pantry & Par- son's Closet 9—12 St. Matt's Pumpkin Auction time 6:00
25 WORSHIP St. Matt's Svc. 9:00 Zion Svc. 11:00 Confirm. Class 12:15 Reformation Sunday Service & Dinner 4:00	26 American Legion Aux. 2:00 Boy Scouts, 7:00	27 Stephen Ministry 8:30	28 Lifetree Café, 6:00 at Pizza Shack	29 Bible Study 10:45	30 Pastor's Sabbath Day	31 Halloween

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



*Join us for our Reformation
Sunday Service and Dinner on
Sunday, October 25 at 4 pm!!*



REFORMATION
Sunday