

ZION LIFE NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 8
August 2013

Special Points of Interest:

- **Bible Study,**
Thursday mornings,
10:30 am
- **Ministry Board,**
August 6, 7:00 pm
- **Council Meeting,**
August 8, 7:00 pm
- **W.E.L.C.A.,**
August 10, 10:30 am
- **Parson's Closet,**
August 13 & 27, 10—12 pm
- **Bold Café,**
August 17, 9:00 am @
McDonald's
- **Food Pantry & Parson's Closet,**
August 24, 9:00—12 pm

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From the Pastor's Desk

On August 4th, a group of three of us will be off to Pittsburgh for seven days of A Leader Training Course for Stephen Ministries. Several weeks ago, the Congregational Council approved enrolling Zion with St Mathew's Chapel in the Stephen Series system of lay caring ministry, developed by Stephen Ministries, a nonprofit religious and educational organization based in St Louis, Missouri. The model of ministry is already working in thousands of congregations throughout North America and is equipping laypeople to minister to others who are in need. At this training course, we will receive the instruction and materials necessary to implement and sustain this program of lay caring ministry here at Zion with St Matthew's. We are really looking forward to this opportunity. Following the one-week Leader's Training Course,

a group of laypeople from our congregation will undertake 50 hours of training in Christian caring skills under our guidance. This training will prepare the participants to care for others, covering areas such as how to listen effectively, how to deal with feelings, how to use traditional Christian resources in caring, how to maintain confidentiality, how to deal with people experiencing crises, and many other areas of concern. A Christ-centered approach to caring and the need to care for the whole person will be stressed throughout the training. Upon completion of Stephen Series training, these lay caregivers will be commissioned as "Stephen Ministers" and will become an important part of our caring ministry throughout Schoharie County. These Stephen Ministers will provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care for

people experiencing challenges in their lives such as hospitalization, loss of a loved one, loneliness, divorce, unemployment, birth of a child, the flooding of a home, and many other life events for which a person could benefit from the effective helping and caring ministry. This will be an exciting time for us. The Stephen Series both multiplies the amount of caring ministry that goes on in our congregation and deepens the level of participation by laypeople in the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. If you have questions about this new form of ministry our congregation is undertaking, please feel free to ask me. In the meantime, I would like you to keep me, Eilene Fisher, and Lisa Borggreen, and our congregation in your thoughts and prayers as we prepare for this major step forward in our lay caring ministry. This training opens up a

Pastor's Desk cont. ed. Zion's Food Pantry

wonderful opportunity for our congregation to serve the people in both our church and wider communities. The training will equip those of us who participate to be Stephen Leaders - those who lead Stephan Ministry in the congregation. These leaders will then select and train members of our congregation to be Stephen Ministers.

Peace,
Pr. Sara

On June 29, 2013, our pantry served 42 households (102 individuals); 6 were there for the first time. They are being referred to us by D.S.S. and Catholic Charities. This may be the result of cutbacks in Food Stamps.

We had 9 volunteers and everything went smoothly. We will need help on July 27 as some of our regular volunteers will be away.

We have received a \$1,500 grant from the Regional Food Bank under the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP) to help defer costs of our orders from July 1—June 14, 2014.

God is good and does provide.

Pantry Days 9am—Noon

August 24, 2013

September 21, 2013

October 26, 2013

November 23, 2013

December 21, 2013

Sandy Deems,
Food Pantry Coordinator



St. Matthew's Matters

The Ministry Board at St. Matthew's Chapel, hereafter referred to as the "MB", met on July 2. Six of eight members were present. Pam Kostbar-Jarvis inquired if a recent donation to SALT was from the proceeds of the spring barbecue.

John Jarvis reported that Sunday School parents expressed support for the youth painting the shed over the summer as he is heading up this event. He also explained that Sylvia Letteron will help in the search for live music at the free community-wide ice cream social in August.

Barb Cousineau continued discussion of the ice cream social. The MB discussed how much ice cream and boxes of condiments

to order as well as how many cups and spoons will be needed.

The MB agreed to provide beverages and bake some brownies and cookies for the event, which will be held from 6-8 pm on a date to be determined later. Barb offered to order ice cream from the Sharon Springs Stewart's shop. John will do PR for the event in local newspapers.

The MB selected dates for coming events:

- * September 8 for the combined service and barbecue
- * September 15 for Rally Day—and more ice cream!!!
- * October 26 for the pumpkin auction
- * November 23 for the community-wide giving-thanks service

- * December 21 for the annual Christmas program

The MB discussed three estimates for indoor painting at the Chapel. By far, the Monsers' had the lowest bid of the three.

The MB also discussed having a hay ride at the pumpkin auction. John said the nights are way too cold in late October, so he suggested a September hay ride. The topic will be discussed again at the August meeting.

There is much to be thankful for at St. Matthew's Chapel besides ice cream, pumpkin auctions, and combined services followed by barbecues. Thanks be to God!!!

John Jarvis
MB Secretary

Thoughts from the Council President

Summer is certainly here, can we say 'HOT' and high humidity? Staying inside with fans is my only relief. Running the Summer Food Service Program for children has been very rewarding for me. These children and their parents are very polite and appreciative of the meals. We always hear the 'please' and big 'Thank You'. This is all made possible by the grant we received from the Department of Education. We also have an amazing opportunity to help Cobleskill/Richmondville Central School by providing lunches to the special needs students who attend school 1/2 days in the summer. God has been very good to us, providing the funding to support these students. Many people have been generous helping with the programs. Next month I'll provide a full report. This month, during my prayer time, a bible verse really spoke to me and I thought of our free lunch program. We all relate to different translations of the Bible, below is 'Good News Translation', the Bible verse is I Corinthians, 12: 1-13.



Gifts from the Holy Spirit

Now, concerning what you wrote about the gifts from the Holy Spirit.

I want you to know the truth about them, my friends. ²You know that while you were still heathen, you were led astray in many ways to the worship of lifeless idols. ³I want you to know that no one who is led by God's Spirit can say "A curse on Jesus!" and no one can confess "Jesus is Lord," without being guided by the Holy Spirit.



⁴There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. ⁵There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. ⁶There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to all for their particular service. ⁷The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all. ⁸The Spirit gives one person a message full of wisdom, while to another person the same Spirit gives a message full of knowledge. ⁹One and the same Spirit gives faith to one person, while to another person he gives

the power to heal. ¹⁰The Spirit gives one person the power to work miracles; to another, the gift of speaking God's message; and to yet another, the ability to tell the difference between gifts that come from the Spirit and those that do not. To one person he gives the ability to speak in strange tongues, and to another he gives the ability to explain what is said. ¹¹But it is one and the same Spirit who does all this; as he wishes, he gives a different gift to each person.

One Body with Many Parts

¹²Christ is like a single body, which has many parts; it is still one body, even though it is made up of different parts. ¹³In the same way, all of us, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether slaves or free, have been baptized into the one body by the same Spirit, and we have all been given the one Spirit to drink.



We are so blessed by the many gifts God has given to our congregation and friends of our congregation. The only way to end the 'thoughts' I have:

Go in Peace, serve the Lord...

Thanks be to God!
Judith L. Warner
Council President

Events Committee

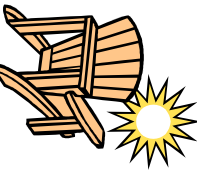
Please join us on Thursday, August 22, 2013 at 7:00 pm as we begin planning events for Fall and Winter.
Eilene Fisher, Events Committee

Serving Schedule for August & September

Date	08/04	08/11	08/18	08/25	09/01	09/08	09/15	09/22	09/29
St. Matthew's Chapel									
Acolyte	Lara Graulich	Allen Graulich	Emma Litzner	Karl Graulich	Karl Graulich	John Jarvis	Emma Litzner	Allen Graulich	Seth Keller
Reader	Tom Collins	Joan Jozifek	Barb Cousineau	Omer Cousineau	Suzanne Graulich	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	Jean Bakkom	Omer Cousineau	Janet Lynk
Greeter	Janet Lynk	Dawn Thompson	Jean Bakkom	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	Dawn Thompson	Barb Cousineau	Janet Lynk	Jean Bakkom	Dawn Thompson
Ushers	Courtney & Robert Keller	Jean Bakkom & Janet Lynk	Suzanne & Lara Graulich	Tom & Suzanne Collins	Tom & Suzanne Collins	Omer Cousineau & John Jarvis	Jean Bakkom & Janet Lynk	Dawn Thompson & Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	Allen Graulich & Lara Graulich
Communion Assistant	Barb Cousineau	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	John Jarvis	Matthew Jozifek	Lara Graulich	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis	Matthew Jozifek	Barb Cousineau	Pam Kosbar-Jarvis
Bell Ringer	Lara Graulich	Allen Graulich	Emma Litzner	Karl Graulich	Karl Graulich	John Jarvis	Emma Litzner	Allen Graulich	Seth Keller
Zion Lutheran Church									
Acolyte	Christina Keller	Judith Warner	Eilene Fisher	Rich Churchill	Christina Keller	Judith Warner	Eilene Fisher	Rich Churchill	Christina Keller
Reader	Bob Holt	Adrienne Madison	Carol McGuire	Karen Scott	Rose Swanhall	Frieda Thorington	Bob Holt	Adrienne Madison	Sandy Deems
Greeter	Judith Warner	Helen Mackey	Brian Swanhall	Eilene Fisher	Judith Warner	Eilene Fisher	Brian Swanhall	Helen Mackey	Judith Warner
Usher	Henry Mau	Deb Nadeau	Rose Swanhall	Deb Nadeau	Henry Mau	Judith Warner	Rose Swanhall	Lisa Borggreen	Deb Nadeau
Communion Assistant	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Judith Warner	André Nadeau	Bob Holt	Adrienne Madison	André Nadeau	Judith Warner	Lisa Borggreen
Elevator	Ed Eldredge	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Ed Eldredge	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau	Ed Eldredge	Eilene Fisher	Henry Mau
Altar Guild	Valerie Becker								

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August 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Bible Study 10:30	2	3
4 WORSHIP St. Matt's 9:00 am Zion 11:00 am	5 Pastor's Sabbath Day	6	7	8 Bible Study 10:30	9	10 W.E.L.C.A. 10:30
		Ministry Board 7:00		Council Meeting 7:00 Photo Club 7:00 pm		
11 WORSHIP St. Matt's 9:00 am Zion 11:00 am	12 Pastor's Sabbath Day	13 Parson's Closet 10—1	14	15 Bible Study 10:30	16	17 Bold Café, 9:00 @ McDonald's
18 WORSHIP St. Matt's 9:00 am Zion 11:00 am	19 Pastor's Sabbath Day	20	21	22 Bible Study 10:30	23	24 Food Pantry & Parson's Closet 9—12
25 WORSHIP St. Matt's 9:00 am Zion 11:00 am	26 Pastor's Sabbath Day	27 Parson's Closet 10—1	28	29 Photo Club 7:00 pm Bible Study 10:30	30	31

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



Community Ice Cream Social



Free to all
Wednesday, August 28
6 – 8 pm



St. Matthew's Chapel, Leesville
Live Music

