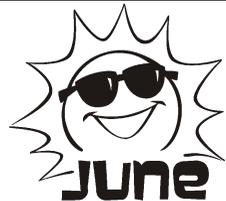


ZIONEWS

JUNE 2011



A publication for the family of Zion Lutheran Church
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PASTOR'S DEVOTIONAL

"Give Me A Call Sometime"



"Give me a call sometime if you'd like to talk," I said to one of my parishioners. Her reply was one that I've heard many times during my 27 years of ministry. "Oh, Pastor Doug, you have so many more important things to do than talk with me!" That response and many like it have always surprised me. Sometimes, to be honest, they have even bothered me.

I entered the ministry because I felt called to serve people, I also genuinely like people, and I am open to being with them in the length and breadth of their lives. Indeed, the greatest privilege that a priest or pastor is given is the chance to share in peoples' lives both in good times and in bad.

I realize that the priest or pastor is often seen as the CEO of the parish, working in a multi-faceted position that includes administration, teaching, worship, leadership and preaching, counselling and more. True as that may be, the chief role of the pastor is to be a shepherd among the sheep, to be with the people of God. For that reason, a pastor always has time for people, even if the people think that the pastor has more important things to do.

So, when should you call the pastor? You should call:

- > when you have a problem in your life and need someone to be your sounding board.
- > when you want to have your house blessed.
- > when a loved one or a friend dies.
- > when you need help.
- > when you want to share something new and exciting in your life.
- > when you are concerned about a family member, a friend, or a neighbour and you need to talk, in confidence with someone, about that concern.
- > when someone you know wants to be baptized.
- > when you have a theological question or a question about the Bible.
- > when there is a need for a mediator in one of your relationships.

- > when you have a concern about the congregation or the parish.
- > when you are struggling with your faith.
- > when you want someone to pray with you or to pray for you.
- > when you or a loved one are going into the hospital.
- > when you need to hear words of encouragement, forgiveness, or hope.
- > when you've heard something in a sermon that you didn't understand or didn't like.
- > whenever you feel the need.

No matter the time or circumstance, contact your pastor. After all, your pastor is called to be with and among you, in all times of life.

Peace be with you,

Rev. Douglas Reble
Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church

STAFFING DECISION MADE



As some of you will be aware of, there were no seminarians from Waterloo Lutheran Seminary available to be placed as a full time vicar, at Zion Church, for the coming 2011-2012 program year. Recognizing that Pastor Doug could not carry the full time pastoral load alone, Zion Church Council has contracted with Steve Hoffard, a member of Zion and currently serving as part-time vicar at Trinity Lutheran Church, Tavistock to assist the parish and Pastor Doug on a part-time basis. His responsibilities will include teaching of the Grade 7 Confirmation Class, delivering home communion to our sick and shut-ins under the guidance of Pastor Doug, preaching one Sunday in three.

Though not an ideal situation, it will still provide much benefit to Zion and allow Steve to gain further experience which will enhance his future ministry. Of course, Steve is no stranger to Zion. Blessed with many gifts, it will be a privilege to have him on staff, even on a part-time basis.

Steve's time with us begins August 1, 2011 and will continue to next spring when he is available for full-time call and ordination.

June 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

SPECIAL JUNE EVENTS

During the month of June, we have a number of special things happening in our worship life at Zion. We share them with you now so you can mark your calendar and make every effort to attend. Please spread the word.

Sunday, June 5: Today, at our first 10 AM service of the summer season, we say farewell and godspeed to Vicar Bruce Thompson who has served us so faithfully and well since last September. Soon it will be time for Bruce to receive his first call. Plan to be with us. There will be cake, fellowship, and an opportunity to share a personal word with Bruce and Charlotte after the service.

Sunday, June 12: On this Pentecost Sunday, a red letter day in the life of the Christian Church, Bishop Michael Pryse of our Eastern Synod of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, comes to Zion for his biennial visit. He will preach at this service. As well, we thank Robert Bartman who served us so faithfully and diligently as one of our co-organists, until he moved to Waterloo this past winter. Following our worship celebration, we will have our traditional and informal summer kick off BBQ.

Sunday, June 26: This morning we honour Pastor Robert Hutchison's commitment to the church as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of his ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. Pastor Robert who serves as Bible study leader and Friendship Meal co-coordinator at Zion, will preach with the title of his sermon being "From This Pastor's Heart." After worship we gather in our Fellowship Hall for cake, fellowship and your own opportunity to say thank you to Robert and Lisa for their service to God and the church.

WOMEN OF FAITH NEWS

Please note what our Women of Faith group is up to during the month of June.

Monday, June 6: The board of WOF meets at 7 PM at the church.



Wednesday, June 22: The Gleaners Circle of our Women of Faith group meet on Wednesday, June 22, at 2 PM. The gathering will be in the form of a tea and we hope to see as many ladies out as possible. You are encouraged to bring along a friend. We will have with us from "Change Her World" organization, Carol Hamilton and Linda Willis who will be speaking on changes needed to improve the lives of young girls and women in the African country of Malawi. Refreshments will be

served so please call Doris Bartlett (519-271-9622) or Rita Mueller (519-271-6539) if you can attend. Thank you!

Thursday, June 23: The joint meeting of our two WOF Circles, the Gleaners and Mary Marthas and their friends, husbands, and partners. We gather at the cottage of Wayne and Joanne Young, at 6 PM, for supper and immediately following take in "Hairspray" at the Huron County Playhouse Theatre. Questions? Speak with Mary-Lou Drown at 519-273-2268 or drown_ml@yahoo.ca

P.S. Thank you to everyone who served refreshments after the Gloryland Chorus on Sunday, May 1.

P.P.S. Canadian Lutheran World Relief kits will be sent to Winnipeg in June for shipping around the world. Thank you for your contributions.

P.P.P.S. Women of Faith resume meeting in September, after the summer break. If you are not already a member, consider joining. It is open to all female members and friends of Zion Church.

SENIORS' AT ZION

We have two events, in June, pertaining to our seniors at Zion. Please note:

Zion Table For Seniors: This beloved ministry which promotes fun, food, and friendship takes on a decidedly different "flavour" in June. We gather at the Kings Buffet, on Ontario Street Tuesday, June 21 at 12 noon. Please let Phyllis Jeffery (519-271-3668) or Doris Bartlett (519-271-9622) know by Thursday, June 16 so we can reserve your spot at Kings Buffet.



85+ Birthday: Once again, in what is a beloved tradition, at Zion, we honour our members who turn 85 years or older in 2011 with a birthday party on Thursday, June 16. A wonderful way to celebrate those members of our church family who have been blessed with a long life. There will be cake, special music, and good fellowship. All the fun starts at 2 PM. For more information call AnneMarie Hausleitner 519-271-4265.



FRIENDSHIP MEAL

On Friday, June 24, at 5 PM, Zion hosts our next Friendship Meal, which serves people in need in our community. As we move into the summer months, when our volunteers are away, we could use more help preparing the meal, serving and cleaning up. Please contact co-ordinators Ingrid Fraser (519-271-4382) or Pastor Robert Hutchison (519-271-5808). Thank you for your continued support of this worthwhile ministry which is greatly appreciated by the people of Stratford.



ZION GARAGE SALE

Zion Church is holding a garage sale on Friday, July 15, beginning at 12 noon. We're telling you now so you can think of us when you are doing your spring cleaning. All the proceeds of this sale will be to our own congregational ministries for seniors. The contributions we are looking for are books, glassware, jewelry, dishes, tools, electrical appliances, sports equipment, toys, games, etc. The convener is Terry Faulhafer who can be reached at our church office 519-271-8527. Last day for donations, is Monday, July 11. She has a place to store items and will also arrange pick up, if needed. Thank you!

ZION SLO-PITCH TEAM

Summer is here and so is baseball. Friday, September 2 to Monday, September 5 (Labour Day Weekend) is the annual Brian Sippel Charity CO-ED Slowpitch Tournament in support of the Canadian Cancer Society. Brian, of course, a former member of Zion, the son of Carl and Ethel. It is a very relaxed, fun, and non-competitive weekend. Cost will be around \$20 a person and participants must be 18 years and older.

Rob Illman, a member of Zion, is looking to put together a team with members from our congregation. Please contact Rob at 519-273-3924 or email at rillman@rogers.com to say yes.

P.S. Pastor Doug said yes to Rob. Have you?



MOMS' GROUP AT ZION

To moms of babies and pre-school children, in September 2011 I would like to start a Moms' group at Zion. We would meet once a month to socialize and possibly have guest speakers to come in. In the past, I was involved in such a group at Zion Church. Some of the activities we did were: a cookie exchange in December, a family picnic at Upper Queens Park, and we had a guest speaker talk about income taxes.

I would help run the group based on the moms needs. I would like to meet on a Monday (or whatever the group decides) between 9 AM - 11:30 AM. We would meet either at the beginning or end of the month.

My name is Shirley Bonn and I've been a member of Zion Lutheran Church for over 20 years. I have three children: one in high school, one starting university in the fall and one at McMaster University. I enjoyed the Moms' group years ago because since I didn't know a lot of people, I got to meet other moms who had children the same age as mine.

If you have any questions or have interest in joining the Moms' group, please call Shirley Bonn at 519-271-1631 or call Zion Church at 519-271-8527 and speak with Pastor Doug.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The following may be of interest to you so please note:

Steve's Blog: Steve Hoffard will be Zion's lay delegate at this summer's national convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada meeting in Saskatoon from July 12-15. He writes: "I am both excited and honoured to be able to serve my home congregation in this way. To keep everyone informed before, during, and after, I have created a blog. It can be found at www.graceintheworld.com

Another Women's Retreat: The Congregational Life Committee would like to hear from members of Zion if there is openness to organizing another weekend retreat for the women of our congregation (or men for that matter). The retreat held in late March at Crieff Hills was very well received. To say more, please speak with Kathy Schellenberger (519-393-6613), Dianne Stone (519-271-2166) or Pastor Doug (519-271-8527).

Photo Directory: Th photo directories have arrived! You may pick them up, from the church office, on weekday mornings. If your picture is in the directory there is no charge. For those without a picture in the book, the cost is \$10.



YOUTH ADVISOR OPPORTUNITY

With the “retirement” of Sylvia Hoffard as youth advisor, we are looking for someone to serve as our new adult advisor for our youth age 12-16 years. If you love this age group, are somewhat tech savvy with Facebook and Twitter, and if you love God, why not put all this together and prayerfully consider this volunteer opportunity. A small, honorarium is available. Pastor Doug will assist as he is able. To learn more, contact Pastor Doug at the church (519-271-8527 or zionlc@golden.net).



LUTHERAN/ANGLICAN CELEBRATION

This year, 2011, marks the 10th anniversary of the signing of the “Waterloo Declaration” which embarked our Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and the Anglican Church of Canada on a relationship of full communion. Ten years ago, our two churches pledged our commitment to unity in Christ for the sake of the mission of Christ’s church. It is time to rejoice and give thanks.

To that end, a service of thanksgiving and celebration will be held at Zion on Thursday, October 27 at 7 PM. We will host the people of the three Anglican parishes in Stratford, St. James, St. Pauls, St. Stephens. Special guests will be our own Bishop Michael Pryse of our Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Bishop Terry Dance of the Huron Diocese of the Anglican Church of Canada. All you need to do now is mark your calendar and plan to attend.

In the words of the “Waterloo Declaration”: We rejoice in our Declaration as an expression of the visible unity of our churches in the one Body of Christ. We are ready to be co-workers with God in whatever tasks of mission serve the Gospel. We give glory to God for the gift of unity already ours in Christ, and we pray for the fuller realization of this gift in the entire church.”

THANK YOUS ARE IN ORDER

A special word of thanks to all those who contributed to our Easter celebration by donating towards the purchase of Easter and spring flowers for the church. They are: **Almeda Smythe, Robert Patterson, Verne & Joyce Hammer, Bob & Heather Wickenheiser, Elfrieda Zimmermann, Don & Eva Wagner, Judtith Hammond, Paul & Ruth Illmann, Brian & Barb Gropp, Mike & Cindy Bondi, Bea Huras, Elsie Dahm, Wayne & Linda Faulhafer, Richard & Anne Graul, Brian & Pauline Schade, Jean Weir, Paul & Marilyn Neumeister,**



Olive Siemon, Willard Allensen, Wayne & Joanne Young.

P.S. And special thanks to Dianne and Marten Mann, AnneMarie Hausleitner and Gisela Mueller who did all the arranging and decorating for Easter.



Georgia Trinity Sood Bartman, daughter of Robert & Tanya May 8
Violet Elizabeth Brace, daughter of Brad & Melinda on May 15
Colin Michael Bundscho, son of Jason & Beth on May 29
Ava Elizabeth Ehgoetz, daughter of Ryan & Christy on May 29



Kathleen Quipp, April 24
Holger Trieselmann, April 9
Marie Edmonds, May 14

JUNE 2011 VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers assist with our Sunday morning worship services. Listed below are those who serve in June as a reminder and as a thank you for serving. All June dates are 10 AM services.

DATE	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	GREETERS	READERS	USHER CAPTAINS	COUNTING CAPTAINS
June 5	Vicar Bruce & Linda Weitzel	Gerald & Janet Ahrens	Sarah Frier	Mike Bomasuit	Brian Stever
June 12	Bishop Pryse & Mindy Gough	Darrell & Judy Renecker	Olivia Steven	Tom Cosstick	Liz Bomasuit
June 19	N/A	Verne & Joyce Hammer	Verne Hammer	Fritz Steigmeier	Liz Bomasuit
June 26	N/A	Jim & Kathy Schellenberger	N/A	Darrell Renecker	Rob Leifso

ZION CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
Monthly Requirements	\$27,419.25	\$4,504.66
April Income	\$27,240.74	\$3,931.00
April Expenses	\$26,886.86	\$3,931.00

CURRENT FUND DEFICIT (as of April 30, 2011): \$18,546.13

A Stewardship Thought from Pastor Doug



I'm asking you to remember a childhood passion. You know what I'm talking about I hope. All of us, at one time or another, have been consumed with a passion. It might have been for stamps or coins or baseball cards or the novels of a certain series (mine was the Hardy Boys). Maybe it was music or dreaming up stories and writing them down. Maybe you lifted up a rock and saw bugs or someone gave you a telescope and the universe opened up before your eyes. I

don't know what it was. You do.

For awhile at least you were consumed by that enthusiasm. For some of us, it might have lasted for a month, or a year, and began to fade away, to be replaced by something else. Maybe you had a different passion each month. For others, we may still have that same passion, molded and shaped by our maturing years. Right now I want you to think about that enthusiasm, and the pure joy it might have brought you.

This year, June 12 is Pentecost Sunday, I didn't have a camera there that day, or a voice recorder, so I can't bring you back a clear picture, but I know one thing – that thanks to God's Spirit the apostles' passion for the good news knew no bounds. They spilled out into the streets and couldn't help telling everything they knew about Jesus of Nazareth, the Word Made Flesh.

Is it too much to ask us all, today, to think what our lives of discipleship would be like if through every offering we spilled the unbridled passion of a child? Are we opening our hearts to the Spirit enough so that this happens?

As you share your gifts of money, time, and talent with God's church, open your hearts to God's Holy Spirit. Let the promise of Pentecost live in your lives.

Blessings,

Pastor Doug

BENEVOLENCE OFFERINGS



The benevolence offerings that we share with the wider church help ensure that we remain a church "In Mission For Others."

These offerings from our congregation of Zion and approximately two hundred other congregations across the Eastern Synod are essential in funding many diverse, exciting, and vibrant ministries – ministries that in most cases would be difficult, if not virtually impossible, for congregations to undertake on their own:

* **Leadership Development and Support** – Funding for Waterloo Lutheran Seminary, clergy and lay retreats, health benefits for retired pastors and other leadership support.

* **Mission Within the Synod** – Funding for Canadian missions, outdoor ministry, campus ministry and chaplains serving in military, health, correctional services and community services.

* **Addressing Human Need** – Funding primarily for Canadian Lutheran World Relief, but also for advocating for justice in areas such as poverty, health, homelessness, human rights and stewardship of the earth.

* **Mission in Canada and Beyond** – Funding provided by the synod for the national church in support of world missions, ecumenical relations, public policy and synodical relations.

* **Support for Congregations** – Funding to support congregational learning, service, support, witness, worship and youth ministries, as well as support from the Bishop, synod office staff and Conference Deans in times of congregational transitions and celebrations.

Keith Myra, Eastern Synod Treasurer writes: "We are grateful for the ways in which congregational offerings and other gifts totaling over \$2.2 million help us carry out so many ministries in support of our vision of being a church "In Mission For Others."