

Dear beloved friends and family in the Lord Jesus,

I hope this letter finds you well and prospering in the heights of Summer! Are you enjoying some lazy Summer days and sultry Summer nights? I certainly hope so! What a gift from the Lord is the Summer. May you have opportunity to enjoy picnics, vacations, bonfires, blooming gardens, and family get-togethers in the name of the Lord who made Heaven and Earth and all that is in it.

Summer, for some of us, can be a slow time (I know I'm very grateful for that), a time to rest and recollect ourselves for the Fall. Certainly things at Zion slow down: the choir and Sunday School programs are on break and with folks heading in and out of vacation, we'll see fewer faces some Sunday mornings.

But Summers are also a wonderful time to catch up on some work and to plan and cast vision for the year ahead. That's certainly one of my goals this Summer. I hope to find time to read up and study on effective church leadership, time to invest in personal spiritual growth (if you aren't growing, you're fading!), and time to think about what comes next.

One thing that my wife Anne and I are planning in July is to start a pilot small group here at Zion. The aim of this group is to gather like-minded people in our church to become familiar with small group ministry and to prepare to launch small groups on a broader scale this year. I believe this will be a very important step in securing Zion's future by investing in developing our relationships with one another and creating spaces where people have a "soft entry" into the life of the church, less threatening than coming in among strangers on a Sunday morning for the first time. If you find this exciting and this sounds like something you'd love to be a part of, please let me know!

Another area I look forward to focusing on this month and forward is developing a greater sense of community and engagement among our younger adults (20s-50s). We want Zion to be a place where people of all ages can find a home and build healthy, successful, spiritually encouraging relationships. So let's start by putting some serious energy into creating spaces and times where these folks get connected and feel valued! And if you have any suggestions about how to make this successful, I'm all ears!

Friends, we have so much potential in our community, and over the greater part of this past year, I have been blown away at how easy it is to love and care for you. I look forward to what God has in store for us, and I know that it starts now. Please join me in praying that His glorious will is done among us!

In Jesus Christ,
Carl

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CUSTODIANS ext. 308

Sunday - Tammy Morris
Mon & Fri - Austin O'Briskie
Tues & Thurs -
Wed - Mike Karam

CHURCH BUILDING & OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Rev. Eli Klingensmith

Pastor to Senior Ministries



June 14 Consistory Meeting Highlights

I read the story about a priest who dies and is waiting in line at the Pearly Gates. Ahead of him is a guy who is dressed in sunglasses, a loud shirt, leather jacket, and jeans. Saint Peter addresses this cool guy. "Who are you, so that I may know whether or not to admit you to the Kingdom of Heaven?" The guy replies, "I'm Jack, retired airline pilot from Houston." Saint Peter consults his list. He smiles and says to the pilot, "Take this silken robe and golden staff and enter the Kingdom." The pilot goes into Heaven with his robe and staff.

Next, it's the priest's turn. He stands erect and booms out, "I'm Father Bob, pastor of Saint Mary's for the last 43 years." Saint Peter consults his list. He says to the priest, "Take this cotton robe and wooden staff and enter the Kingdom." "Just a minute," says the priest. "That man was a pilot and he gets a silken robe and golden staff and I only get cotton and wood. How can this be?"

"Up here – we go by results," says Saint Peter. "When you preached – people slept. When he flew, people prayed."

Proverbs 17:22 states, "A cheerful heart is good medicine."

Now that the COVID restrictions are lifting and people are gathering in public places, it's time that we as a church family can plan some fun activities. The Seniors' Council is hosting a church picnic on July 11th after the morning worship service. We will provide the meat (brauts, peppers and onions), drinks and table service. We are asking you to bring a side dish or dessert. Please sign up so that we will know how much brauts to cook.

Some other fun activities we are planning is a trip to Berlin, Ohio. We will do some shopping and have lunch at the Farmstead. This trip is scheduled for August 4th.

Our first Lunch Away will be on August 8th and we will gather at Mulligan's Restaurant.

On September 16th we are planning a trip to Mansfield, Ohio to see and experience the "Bible Walk" tour.

More information about these and other activities are forth coming.

Let's have some fun as we get back to some enjoyable things.

* Vacation Bible School was a great success for the children of Zion and visitors. We offer a heartfelt thank you to Alycia Kakos and her dedicated volunteers.

* We are moving forward with the process of hiring a new Head Custodian. We hope to have the person on board very soon.

* We will be relaxing our Covid 19 restrictions beginning June 15, 2021. Masks will not be required if a person has been vaccinated. Members are encouraged to follow their conscience regarding the use of masks if they have not been vaccinated. We will continue to respect social distancing and only use every other pew row. All members are encouraged to respect the decisions of others.

* We are investigating the possibility of hiring a Youth Pastor. This would be a part time position. We believe we must address the needs of our youth and assist them through their journey of faith.

* We wish to thank Carolyn Chellinsky, Alycia Kakos, Lisa McCleaster and Sarah Popa as they retire from their positions as Deacon and Elder after faithfully serving their three year term. Their dedication and integrity are greatly appreciated. We welcome new Deacons Linda Cronin and Judy McCune along with new Elder Vic Stefan. We appreciate that each of these new Consistory members volunteered their time and talents without being asked. We know they will be great assets for Zion's future.

In God's Love,
Rick Fisher
Consistory President

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Have a happy and safe 4th of July!!



The office will reopen on Tuesday, July 6 at 9 am.

Church Picnic July 11



Join us on Sunday, July 11 at noon for a picnic in the pavilion. We are calling it Casual Sunday so feel free to come to worship in shorts, polos and other summer

attire so there is no need to go home and change before the picnic. Brauts with peppers & onions (with a vegan option as well), drinks and table service will be provided. Sign up sheets are on the information station for side dishes and desserts and to let us know how many to expect.

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Welcome Little One

Lucas Jeffrey Benton was born on May 1, 2021 in Arlington, Virginia. He weighed 8 lbs 8 oz and was 22 inches long. He is the son of Brad & Amanda Benton. Proud grandparents are Scott & Anne Krusemark.



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Church Bus



The Church Bus will be back up and running as long as we have two or more riders. If you need a ride to Church on Sunday Morning please call the

Church Office at 330-499-8191 and let us know by Thursday. You will then get a phone call Friday afternoon to let you know who will be driving the bus to pick you up. Anyone interested in volunteering to drive the Church Bus should call the office.

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Drivers Needed

Several members have reached out in the past seeking help with rides to and from doctor appointments. We would like to start a list with anyone who would be willing to volunteer to drive these members to their appointments. If you are able and willing to help please call the church office at 330-499-8191 and have your name put on a list. If we get a member that needs a ride, we can call people on this list to see if they are available that day to help. Thank you!



A huge Thank You goes out to all the children who came to Rocky Railway VBS, adult volunteers, youth volunteers, people who have donated items to VBS, the monetary donations, and the support and prayers from the congregation. Without all of you, we could not have had a more successful Vacation Bible School. Looking forward to VBS 2022.

Thank You, Alycia Kakos

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A big thank you to Alycia Kakos for putting together another amazing Vacation Bible School!! All of your hard work and dedication.

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Thank you to David Brandau for giving your time and energy to take on as chairperson of the Music & Worship Committee after the passing of our dear Nancy Dively.

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Thank you to Carolyn Chellinsky, Lisa McCleaster, Alycia Kakos and Sarah Popa for your dedication the last 3 years serving on Consistory. Your willingness to step up and serve is greatly appreciated!

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Dear Zion Family,

Your generosity with your gift of prayer and financial support is so appreciated. We really can't thank you enough.

Love,

Chriss Mockridge and Laura Konowal

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Dear Missions Committee,

I wanted to provide a little update how Zion United's donation this past fall has helped the kids at Pathway Caring for Children! Because of your generosity and caring, Pathway kids have been provided opportunities to attend therapy groups to increase connections and friendships. The pandemic caused isolation for the kids and your donation helped these groups to be possible - thank you!

In appreciation,

Deborah Garrott

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We reach out in love to our Church family and friends who have lost loved ones. May God's blessing, comfort and peace surround you and your family.

- ◆ The family & friends of LaVonne Greenho, who passed away on May 29.

Prayer & Praise - Tuesdays at 1 pm

Join us for Prayer & Praise every Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 pm in the Chapel. We will be studying the Book of Mark. Prayer requests can be called into the office at 330-499-8191 or dropped in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Your prayer request will be addressed at the next Prayer and Praise meeting.



many questions about things you've never faced before.

GriefShare group meets weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life.

You are welcome to begin attending the GriefShare group at any session. Each is "self-contained," so you do not have to attend in sequence. You will find encouragement and help whenever you begin. You will be able to continue with GriefShare through the next 13-week cycle and view any of the videos you have not seen.

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Youth Group



SWAG (Saved With Amazing Grace) is Zion's youth group for 7th-12th grade youth. Our youth group is engaging in fun activities and discussion of topics chosen by our youth. If you or someone you know is a youth looking to connect here at Zion and build lasting friendships based on the ways of Jesus, come check us out! We will meet:

July 7 @ 7 pm in the Parlor

July 21 @ 7 pm in the Parlor

TBA: bonfire at the Greens' and pool party at the Paces'

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Men's Group

Our men's group (open to all men 18 and up) gathers twice a month to study, reflect, pray, and connect! We continue to meet to build relationships and encourage one another to learn and grow in our Faith. We hope more will come out and join us as we attempt to create a space where we can appreciate what men specifically bring to the life of the Church. We will meet:

July 14 @ 7 pm

July 28 @ 7 pm



Those who attend are also encouraged to set aside time to go out afterward on occasion!

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GriefShare

GriefShare continues through July 27.



It may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. If you've lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel.

This can be a confusing time when you feel isolated and have

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Pilot Small Group



Do you love hospitality, building relationships, and helping make connections happen here at Zion UCC? Are you ready to help the Zion community grow? Then we hope you'll check out our pilot small group starting in July! The aim of this group is to gather like-

minded people in our church to become familiar with small group ministry and to equip others to launch small groups on a broader scale this coming year. We will gather at the Paces' house at 5:30pm on July 9th and July 23rd for dinner, conversation, and prayer. Let's invest in Zion's future by developing our relationships with one another and creating spaces where people have a "soft entry" into the life of the church!

BIBLE VERSES
for the **FOURTH OF JULY**

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
- 2 Corinthians 3:17

Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.
- 1 Peter 2:16

Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.
- Galatians 5:1

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.
- Psalm 33:12

Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."
- John 8:32

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.
- John 8:36

Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free.
- Psalm 118:5

For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.
- Galatians 5:13



- 1st: Norma Ramsey
 - 2nd: Mike McMinn, Tom Stephens
 - 3rd: Dorothy Rambaud, Amy Stephens
 - 4th: Bernice Yoder
 - 5th: Geraldine Bowe, Jamie McCleaster, Homer Richards
 - 7th: Joann Roush
 - 9th: Mary Baab, Ron Karlo
 - 10th: Robert Richards, Melanie Schwartz
 - 11th: Teresa Haren, Charlene Warstler
 - 12th: Paul Roush, Alyssa Schwartz, Kevin Tobin
 - 14th: Carrie Anne Shoop
 - 15th: Dan Howes
 - 17th: Dan Haren
 - 23rd: Sarah Popa, Shirley Sollie, Justin Warstler
 - 24th: Carolyn Chellinsky, Luke Hawkins, Katie Maag, John Royer, Nancy Stimmel, Bill Warren
 - 25th: Tami McMinn
 - 26th: Eric Mulheim, Matt Oatley, Jan Zartman
 - 29th: Edlyn Theiss
 - 31st: Becky Dahler, Matthew McMinn, Madison Okray
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- Shirley & George Daniluk July 2, 1960
- Nick & Karen Stock July 5, 1997
- David & Carol Young July 5, 1959
- Tom & Stephanie Stephens July 8, 1989
- Scott & Anne Krusemark July 12, 1980
- Tony & Bethany Okray July 14, 1989
- Michael & Kimberley Melin July 16, 1994
- Stacy & Brenda Green July 18, 1998
- Paul & Janice Huffman Webber July 18, 1992
- Eric & Rebecca Mulheim July 18, 1992
- David & Edlyn Theiss July 22, 1967

Silly July Holidays

- July 1 - International Chicken Wing Day 
 - July 3 - Stay Out of the Sun Day
 - July 4 - National Country Music Day
 - July 7 - Chocolate Day 
 - July 9 - National Motorcycle Day
 - July 11 - National Blueberry Muffin Day 
 - July 13 - National French Fry Day
 - July 15 - Cow Appreciation Day 
 - July 17 - World Emoji Day
 - July 18 - World Ice Cream Day
 - July 20 - National Lollipop Day 
 - July 22 - Hammock Day
 - July 25 - National Chili Dog Day
 - July 29 - National Lasagna Day 
 - July 30 - International Day of Friendship
 - July 31 - National Avocado Day
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Benevolent Giving Update







Over the several months since my last update on the use of the Good Samaritan/Deacon Fund, our church has made a difference in the lives of many. Your generous giving to this fund has comforted the sick and those grieving loss and has helped those struggling with housing and utilities to maintain security and shelter. Thank you for partnering with Zion UCC in demonstrating the goodness of God's Kingdom through true charity and respect for the image of God in those around us! Rev. Eli and Pastor Carl.

General Fund Update			
General Fund 5/1/21	May Income	May Expenses	General Fund 5/31/21
142,067.35	22,046.40	18,708.84	145,404.91
2021 Budget Update			
	Income	Expenses	
Budgeted	371,000.00	297,100.00	
Month of May	31,696.22	19,461.92	
Expected Year-to-Date	154,583.30	123,791.80	
Actual Year-to-Date	215,733.60	155,620.85	
Expected % of Budget	42%	42%	
Actual % of Budget	58%	52%	



2021 Zion United Church of Christ Calendar

Phone: 330.499.8191 Email: ZionUCC@gmail.com Facebook: Zion UCC North Canton Website: OurZionUCC.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ROOM CODES BFH - Beck Hall C - Chapel CSR - Cub Scout Rm L - Library O - Office P - Parlor MP - Multi-Purpose S - Sanctuary SR - Scout Room PV - Pavilion	Events and meetings are subject to change. Please refer to the weekly bulletins			1 7 Troop 111 - B12/B13/MP	2 8 AA - MP	3 9-12 C.S.Lewis - BFH 10 Sponsored Group - MP/104/109
4 1030 Worship 630 AA - MP/104/109 	5 Church Office Closed 630 Missions - L 630 Cub Scouts - CSR	6 9 Quilters - 223 915 TOPS - C 10 Staff - P 1 Prayer & Praise - C 1 Executive - 103 6 GriefShare - C 630 Pack Mtg - BFH 7 Troop 1 - SR/MP	7 7 Youth Group/ Bonfire - Green's Home	8 7 Troop 111 - B12/B13/MP 	9 8 AA - MP 530-730 Pace Small Group	10 10 Sponsored Group - MP/104/109
11 Consistory I & O 1030 Worship 12 Zion Picnic - PV 630 AA - MP/104/109	12 630 Consistory - BFH 7 Property - 103	13 9 Quilters - 223 915 TOPS - C 10 Staff - P 1 Prayer & Praise - C 6 GriefShare - C 7 Troop 1 - SR/MP 730 Music & Worship - P	14 7 Men's Group - P 	15 7 Troop 111 - B12/B13/MP	16 8-4 CC - S/BFH 12 August Zeal Infor Due - Office 8 AA - MP	17 10 Sponsored Group - MP/104/109 1-4 Rental - BFH
18 1030 Worship 1-5 BSA - 103/104/110/Parlor 630 AA - MP/104/109	19	20 9 Quilters - 223 915 TOPS - C 10 Staff - P 1 Prayer & Praise - BFH 6 GriefShare - C 6 Troop 1 Comm - MP 7 Troop 1 - SR/MP	21 7 Youth Group - P	22 9-3 CC - S/BFH 7 Troop 111 - B12/B13/MP	23 8 AA - MP 530-730 Pace Small Group	24 10 Sponsored Group - MP/104/109 
25 Summer Communion 630 Oatmeal Breakfast - Canton 1030 Worship 630 AA - MP/104/109	26 	27 9 Quilters - 223 915 TOPS - C 10 Staff - P 1 Prayer & Praise - BFH 6 GriefShare - C 7 Troop 1 - SR/MP	28 7 Men's Group - P	29 7 Troop 111 - B12/B13/MP	30 8 AA - MP	31 10 Sponsored Group - MP/104/109