



Zion's News & Notes

A Few Words from Pastor David

April
2019

Zion Lutheran Church

Zion News & Notes

Zion News & Notes is published each month by the church office. It includes news of upcoming events, thank you notes, a calendar, archives, photos and many other items of interest. Our newsletters are also available on our website: www.ZionLutheranNY.org

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Editor: Sara Silva

Contributors: Members of the congregation

E-mail: office@zionluth.com

Website: www.ZionLutheranNY.org
Facebook: Zion Lutheran Church New Hartford, NY

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As I write, the sun is shining brightly, the snow is melting, and the temperatures are mild compared to what we have been experiencing so far this winter. Everyone I talk to is ready for Spring to come and Winter to leave. I, too, am eager for this transition to take place, but, as I suspect may also be the case with some of you, I'm cautiously optimistic. Too often, instead of April showers, we get an April, or even May, snowstorm. Nonetheless, I continue hopeful.

One unfortunate aspect of having such lousy weather on Sun. mornings this Winter is that our worship attendance suffers as people wisely choose not to venture outside. Please don't misunderstand me, if the weather is bad and/or dangerous, I don't want people to try to come to church. It's not worth risking a fall, getting sick, or even worse, an accident. On the other hand, I miss seeing folks. So, while I applaud a decision to not try to come to church when the weather is inclement, I also am saddened, and can't wait until the weather is more consistently favorable so that I get to see you more frequently.

As Lent continues through the first half of April, we still have a significant amount of time to devote ourselves to the components of repentance: 1) self-examination and confession; 2) contrition; in other words, saying, "I'm sorry"; 3) having faith, or trusting, and believing in God's forgiveness; and 4) amending/changing our life so as not to commit the same or similar mistake(s) again in the future. During this remaining time, we have an opportunity to reflect upon our lives to see not just where and how we have turned away from God, but where and how we are turning towards God, how are our hearts and minds are being changed so that we might bear more fruit for God and God's kingdom and show forth the grace that we have received. As the old adage goes, "the more you put into something, the more you get out of it," so it is with Lent and Easter; that is, the more preparation one puts in during Lent, the more celebration and rejoicing one experiences on Easter. May we keep this in mind as we move through the rest of Lent and approach Easter.

Thank you all for the ministry you do, both individually and corporately. Whatever form it takes, it contributes to the ministry that this Body of Christ known as Zion Lutheran Church carries out in the Rome/Utica area. May the Holy Trinity continue to bless you, strengthen you, comfort you, and gently prod you to continue to grow into the fullest stature of Christ of which you/we are capable.

Your brother in Christ and fellow sojourner in faith,

Pastor David



Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn



Pastor Paul and Peggy Joslyn with Zion's First Communion Class of 1984. The children are: lower row (left to right) – Heidi Zech, Timothy Hill, Amy Morrison, Kimberly McLennan. Upper row – Rebecca Wolfe, Laura White, Jackie White, Hetty Irmer.

The Rev. Paul Deforest Joslyn, Zion's eleventh pastor, entered the church triumphant on February 13, 2019. His "celebration of life" memorial service was held at our church on February 23. The Rev. Marie Jerge, retired bishop of the Upstate New York ELCA Synod, delivered the eulogy. Pastors David Cleaver-Bartholomew and Linda Logan were co-celebrants.

Pastor Paul and his beloved partner Peggy served our congregation from 1978 to 1994. Under their leadership, a vigorous Zion Church brought Christian outreach not only to its members, but also to large segments of the greater Utica population. The Joslyns' Zion was a successful, ministry-focused Lutheran congregation.

Many folks harbor wonderful memories of Pastor Paul and countless more remain thankful for his kindnesses, inspiration, and guidance. Several people graciously agreed to share their memories for this tribute. With the exceptions of Gloria Cifonelli and Carl Schmitt's entries, recollections are arranged alphabetically by surname.

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

JOHN BLACKBURN

Before moving to Utica in February 1982, I was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Niskayuna, near Schenectady. Bill Clasen was the pastor at Grace. When I told him I was moving to Utica, he said that he was a friend of Paul Joslyn and suggested I check out Zion.

On my first visit, I recall being warmly greeted by Hank Martens before worship began and meeting Pastor Paul after the service was over. I told him of my connection to Bill Clasen. If memory serves, he introduced me to Doris Miga and she gave me her famous "sanctuary tour." The warm welcome on that first Sunday at Zion is something I will never forget.

When I committed to join Zion in 1983, Pastor Paul called on me at home and we spent time getting to know each other. Over the next eleven years, I had the pleasure to serve on the Church Council, Worship and Music Committee, and as Youth Group Advisor with Pastor Paul. I experienced firsthand the calm, quiet, and wise manner with which he guided Zion.

Carol and I were truly blessed to be married by Pastor Paul in 1993. We were both members of Zion for a number of years and our "paths" finally aligned. Other members of our Zion family had been trying to steer us toward each other for a while, sometimes unnoticed, at least by me. When the day of our wedding arrived, Carol and I stood in front of the altar along with Karen and Katie, my brother and best man Chuck, and family members and friends. Pastor Paul welcomed the gathering and, before beginning the ceremony, looked at us both and said: "I think I can say this for many people. It's about time!" Everyone laughed. We could not have had a better beginning to our marriage.

BILL BURNS

Pastor Paul planted the seed of Jesus Christ in my heart during my teen years through witnessing his sermons, his humble strength, his sharing of life lessons, and his genuine concern for his followers and the community that he so graciously served.

I have great memories of the two of us making lumber runs to Stony Lake and repairing his family's barn roof, which always reminds me of one of my favorite sermons from Pastor Paul - about "the farmer and his roof." The parable goes: "When the sun shone the farmer didn't repair his roof, but when it rained he wasn't able to repair it." This sermon taught me to be prayerful and faithful in gracious times in preparation for the tribulations that will surely come. Pastor Paul led me to be still in faith, but to also move forward toward simple and worthy goals. To Pastor Paul I say: "You have been a true shepherd to us all." Romans 12:12 - "Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

PASTOR DAVID CLEAVER-BARTHOLOMEW

My calling to Pastor Paul Joslyn's position, which he held so magnificently from 1978-1994, helped shape my memories of this fine pastor. While Paul's memory has loomed large at Zion since the day he left, he could not have been a more considerate and gracious former pastor. In fact, it wasn't until his granddaughter, Laura, chose to be married at Zion that Paul and I met. Finally, I encountered face to face this legend of pastoral leadership. Paul lived up to his reputation: a person of deep faith who was kind, thoughtful, respectful, open minded, a keen listener, wise, considerate, caring, loving, and possessing a good sense of humor.

During my many visits, Paul would inevitably ask about Zion. Long after he had departed, he continued to care about Zion's ministry and how our church served as the body of Christ in the world. Paul was concerned about our looking and moving forward, and not dwelling in the past. He was also concerned about Zion's relevance in making a difference in people's lives, and in the Utica/Rome area.

DON DESMARAIS

Our family loved Pastor Paul. I served on the Council during his years at Zion and we often enjoyed each other's jokes. He encouraged me to be a reader for Christmas pageants and this meant a lot. Pastor Paul confirmed our sons - Loren, Lance, and Darrin. When Peggy and I decided to renew our vows in 1988, Paul suggested that Darrin and Loren read the Bible passages. What a meaningful service! He structured everything perfectly. We will never forget that blessed day and the great pastor who made it possible.

CAROLE GROVE

Pastor Paul was a positive thinker and a progressive man. The "Your Neighbors" program, started at Zion, wouldn't exist without him. When I approached pastor with the concept, based on a precedent in Philadelphia, he encouraged me. "If you've got a good idea, Carole," Paul asserted, "Go for it. Make it reality."

Former member Julia Berntson experienced Paul's positive thinking. Julia conceived of a "garden ministry" at Zion, whereby members with home gardens would donate part of their harvest to the church. Vegetables would be placed on a large table in the entranceway, along with a basket for donations. Collected monies would be donated to the ELCA's World Hunger crusade. Paul liked Julia's idea and gave her the "go for it" Joslyn seal of approval.

The program enjoyed tremendous success. Zion's "farmers' market" overflowed with vegetables. Our daughter Nancy, who operates an organic farm on Grange Hill Road in Sauquoit, donated surplus crops, and seedlings in spring. Other members joined the movement. Julia's idea, with Paul's strong support, had a positive impact on the World Hunger crusade.

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

VITA HALE

I was Paul's secretary for eight years. When I arrived at Zion in 1979, I was a practicing Roman Catholic who knew little about Christianity. Today, thirty years later, I will soon be ordained in the United Church of Christ. In my ordination paper, I wrote about my Zion experience and explained how it began my spiritual growth. I hold in my heart many stories about Christian kindnesses and love, lived on a daily basis with my Zion family.

You couldn't find a better boss than Pastor Paul. He gave me a Christmas bonus because I couldn't afford presents for my children. He let me take a day off to be with my kids after their beloved dog passed. Peggy hired me to type a booklet for the women's group because I needed money for my children's school clothes. I'm sure that Paul told her about my needs.

Paul's humor blessed my work at Zion. I smiled when we recited the Apostles' Creed during his memorial service. On a Monday morning, shortly after he hired me, Paul walked into the office grinning. "Vita, are you trying to get both of us fired?" he asked. "What is pastor talking about," I thought.

Paul continued: "When you typed the Apostles' Creed, you capitalized the letter 'C' in catholic. This refers to the Roman Catholic Church. A lower case 'c' means 'universal,' which is the Lutheran version. There's a huge difference." We shared a good laugh over my error.

Throughout my life, God has led me on a path to truth, love, and faith. A wondrous part of my journey was my time at Zion with Pastor Paul Joslyn and his congregation. They taught me about true Christian living.

JACK HENKE

Paul Joslyn's ministry and friendship blessed my family. My parents and grandparents revered him. Every pastoral visit, and there were many, was a joyous occasion, especially during difficult times.

I was privileged to enjoy Paul and Peggy's company at Glenfield after I retired from teaching in 2011. These were special occasions with treasured friends, and I shall be forever grateful for their hospitality. During the years when I researched Zion's history, the Joslyns served as an invaluable sounding board. We discussed all aspects of our church's past in depth.

One Glenfield visit stands out. Peggy was at a Constable Hall board meeting, so Paul and I shared his warm, summer sun-bathed living room. The previous week witnessed productive research and I had many stories to tell.

Let me digress. All of us have expressions that we frequently use. One of Paul's favorites was: "Is that right?" He peppered his conversations with this question, always intently focused on the other person's words. To Paul, it showed how he valued people's ideas and was locked into their narratives.

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

And so, on this perfect summer day, I talked and talked about Zion's history. Story after story, with Paul often adding, "Is that right?" Finally, amused by the umpteenth "Is that right?," I paused and said: "Paul - you can trust me. Everything I've told you is true."

And without missing a beat, with a smile that would stretch across the Black River Valley, Paul said: "Jack, is that right?"



Joslyn teamwork at a church picnic

Here's another story. Paul was an accomplished carpenter. When Zion's altar became freestanding in 1982, the side that faced the cross was bare. In the tradition of Reinhold Pietsch, Paul created and installed a panel on the altar's reverse that exactly matched its front.

Carpentry enhanced his pastorate in other ways. When he arrived, one of Zion's older members was Edna Gliffe, who owned a gorgeous 1956 bright pink, mint Pontiac Bonneville. When age forced Edna to give up her driver's license, she asked Paul to visit and told him that she wanted to donate the car, but needed something in return. However, she felt awkward requesting help from the church.

Edna lived in an older home in West Utica. As she and Paul sat in her living area, he noticed that the room needed work and said: "Don't worry about asking for anything Edna. You've given to Zion for your entire life. How about this? If you donate the car, I'll re-panel this room and install new molding."

An elated Edna Gliffe quickly agreed. Master Carpenter/Pastor Paul Joslyn remodeled her living room - and Zion received a classic automobile.

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

FRAN HOLZBERGER

I remember Pastor Paul as a man of action. Here's a good example. Children were introduced to reading the Bible in third grade, which I taught in our Sunday school. We used the "Good News Bible," written for elementary students, but we only had one copy, so we read to the children. I told Paul that our pupils could easily read this Bible and, if they had personal copies, we could enhance their learning experience. He agreed, brought the idea to the Council, and Zion's third graders had their personal Bibles within a month.

DIANA INSERRA

Pastor Paul excelled at sensing people's talents and inspiring them to use those gifts. Around 1979, he wanted to start a Sunday school class for high school students. One evening, he called John and me and asked if he could visit "to chat about an idea." We were delighted to host him. During our conversation, Paul mentioned the need for a high school class. He encouraged us to become its teachers. I recall him saying, "I believe that you and John have the skills to make this class work." We agreed to consider the idea and, after a few days, joined Zion's Sunday school faculty. We taught that class until 1994, when Paul retired. And he was right - we really enjoyed the teaching!



Conducting the confirmation service in 1991.

Gloria Cifonelli and I choreographed episodes of the "That's Entertainment" production that raised over \$15,000 for the Gilleece family in 1988. This was a huge effort by our congregation that involved over 200 members. Pastor Paul sensed that we needed assistance, so he persuaded Vinnie Coluzza, a well-known Utica choreographer, to help. She was excellent.

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

Vinnie handled the concluding "Dry Bones" number, that involved Paul, Bob Loomis, Jim Parker, Hank Martens, Ralph Youngren, Pete Swanson, Harry Morrison, Tom Hovey, and Carl Schmitt. This song, first recorded in 1928 and based on a story from Ezekiel, was made popular by the "Delta Rhythm Boys" in the mid-20th century. The men dressed in skeleton costumes and danced to the "Dry Bones" tune. It was hilarious and earned loud, sustained applause! I noted that, during rehearsals, you could feel Paul's great sense of pride in his Lutheran flock's magnificent effort, and his delight in being able to participate in the show. He and Peggy inspired one of Zion's finest moments.

PASTOR MARSHA IRMER

I offer this reflection with joy and gratitude for the pastoral partnership I was blest to share with my dear friend and colleague, Paul Joslyn, and the people of Zion, from 1983 to 1988.

I treasured above all Paul's gracious listening presence, humility and serenity, his ease and comfort with himself that created space for others to be at peace with themselves and so, with their neighbors. In *The World According to Mr. Rogers*, the late Fred Rogers said: "Listening is where love begins, listening to ourselves and our neighbors." Paul's ministry flourished because it was grounded in love.

I appreciated Paul's restraint, his pastoral "rhythm" of listening and speaking that reflected the familiar wisdom of Ecclesiastes: "For everything there is a season ... a time to speak and a time to keep silent." Paul paid attention, listening thoughtfully until he was ready to speak. When he did, he spoke from the heart and didn't waste time on idle words to fill in silence. I am reminded of Proverbs 25:11 - "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold."

Paul also honored the necessary rhythm and balance of work and "holy leisure" - times for being fully engaged in ministry and times to get away and listen to God in silence and solitude, as Jesus often did, withdrawing "to a lonely place" for rest and renewal. Paul's "away places" were Glenfield and Stony Lake, where he refreshed his soul by gardening, fishing, and construction projects. In communion with the world of creation, in silence and solitude, Paul was renewed and strengthened for his ministry.



Renewing his spirit at Stony Lake.

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

Paul and I were committed to making our differences work for us as we forged a partnership of mutual respect and trust, which modeled a healthy pastoral relationship for the congregation. We had each other's back! Nor was gender ever an issue. As Paul's first female colleague, I appreciated his eagerness to share full pastoral authority with me. He insured that the congregation regarded us as a partnership of equals.

Differences in our approaches to ministry posed the inevitable challenges that we met with patience, respect, and humor, mindful of St. Paul's admonition to "speak the truth in love," especially when we had to agree to disagree. One difference that became a standing joke in the congregation was sermon length. Paul's capacity for restraint, his enviable economy with words, earned him the "nine-minute preacher" label. I, however - a wordsmith and talker, was the "twelve (if you're lucky) minute preacher." Would that we took to heart the wisdom of St. Francis of Assisi: "Preach the Gospel and, if necessary, use words!"

The Good News of Jesus Christ crucified and risen gave birth to Zion as a mission congregation 177 years ago. The church's commitment to serving this community is still going strong as Zion continues to entrust the Word and Sacraments to pastors like Paul and me, who were called to tell "the old, old story of Jesus and His love."

To Paul Joslyn, my friend and colleague, a good and faithful servant of the Lord: may your ministry inspire those who will continue the Christian journey, keeping the faith, listening in love, and washing the feet of neighbors in need.

CLAUDIA KING

Paul Joslyn ministered to my family in many ways. He officiated at our daughters' weddings - Denise in 1978 and Jan in 1987. He visited my parents, Claude and Gladys Zoeckler, during their final years and often stayed with them for hours. His ministry didn't end when he retired from Zion in 1994. In 2016, I was in rehab at a Carthage health care facility. One day, Paul and Peggy walked into my room! Can you imagine a pastor visiting a former parishioner twenty-two years after retiring?

Paul was a stickler for details. He always reminded the congregation about service hours, especially when changes occurred for daylight saving and standard times. On a March Sunday in the early 1980s, however, he forgot to set his clocks ahead. The service was scheduled to begin at 9:30, but our pastor was nowhere to be found - and so - Council President Dave Millar began the liturgy. Twenty minutes later, Paul hurriedly entered the chancel, red-faced, apologetic, but smiling. Everyone enjoyed the moment, even Paul, who took a lot of ribbing. He had a great sense of humor.

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

BONNIE AND BOB LOOMIS

Paul Joslyn was, above all, a man of deep compassion who preached, "Help thy neighbor," and practiced that philosophy. Shortly after pastor arrived in 1978, he contacted us. An elderly member of the congregation, who had difficulty walking, lived on the second floor of "The Meadows" apartment complex. The facility lacked elevators and she couldn't use the stairs without assistance. Facing an essential medical appointment, she phoned Pastor Paul who, in turn, called us. Bob and Paul carried the lady downstairs, while I eased her anxiety through conversation. Paul then drove her to the physician's office. Although it wasn't discussed, we knew that he had precise plans for taking the member home. Deeds like this, repeated many times in his Zion tenure, defined Paul Joslyn's empathy for those in need.

We talked with Vivian Deckman before we recorded the following memories. She and her husband Earl, and Carl and Judy Schmitt, joined with us as advisors for Zion's Youth Group in the late '70s and early '80s. We worked closely with Pastor Paul, especially during the retreats to the Joslyn camp on Stony Lake. Through this association, we experienced several of his outstanding qualities.

The Fifth Commandment - "Honor thy father and thy mother" - influenced Paul tremendously. After ordination, he served as assistant pastor for his father, the Rev. John Joslyn, at Atonement Church in Syracuse. John and Ada Joslyn owned the Stony Lake camp and the Glenfield home that Paul and Peggy enjoyed during their retirement. On every retreat, Paul insisted that we observe a time-honored ritual. Before we could leave, Pastor John talked to our children about the retreat experience and the history of his family's camp. He also gave us his blessing for a wonderful Christian experience. Only then did we depart Glenfield for the final "run to the lake." Several adults drove Zion's teenagers to Glenfield. There, we formed a caravan for the journey to the lake.

Pastor Paul knew how to adapt to unusual circumstances. We always celebrated communion at Stony Lake and, on one retreat, he discovered that no one had packed the wine and wafers. Since his supply at Zion sat seventy long miles away, he performed a consecration ceremony on some hot dog buns and fruit juice, which enabled Zion's Youth Group to experience a unique Adirondack communion.

He had a dry, often subtle sense of humor at church, but he could be uproarious in the wild. For example - the Stony Lake experience introduced our children to an artifact of rustic America - the outhouse. Prior to the first retreat, Paul visited the camp and positioned a life-sized stuffed black bear in a strategic spot by this "comfort station," knowing that the first user would stumble upon it. Well, one of the girls was first. She saw that bruin and ran back to camp screaming: "Bear! Bear! There's a bear at the outhouse!" Total chaos ensued - all the kids scrambled for the security of the camp, yelling in terror! When Paul remained outside on the lawn, smiling widely, they realized that their pastor was an imaginative practical joker.

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

Pastor Paul was a sensible, logical man. He thought every action through, from its inception to its consequences. Before the first Stony Lake retreat, we visited him in Clinton and explained our weekend itinerary, filled with activities that were planned minute-by-minute. With a twinkle in his eye and an ever so slight, diplomatic smile, Paul reacted: "Now Bob and Bonnie, this is a good adult itinerary, but we're dealing with children. Let's relax, be flexible, and we'll enjoy a fine retreat." We respected his judgment and, of course, he was right. It was a memorable weekend, despite the occasional harassment from strategically placed black bears.

CARL SCHMITT

Those Youth Group retreats were memorable. Sometimes fifteen kids would pile into the back of Pastor Paul's 1962 Chevy pick-up for the ride from Glenfield to Stony Lake. Imagine doing that today with a church group? This was a rough ten-mile ride. The first part was on gravel, the last leg on a dirt road that was little more than an improved trail. Bumps and potholes tested that old truck's shocks and suspension. The rougher the ride, the more our kids loved it. Pastor stayed with us through Saturday supper, and then returned to Clinton so he could be at Zion on Sunday. He rejoined us after church for our closing devotions. We always stopped at Mercer's Ice Cream in Boonville on the way home, which made everybody happy.



Paul and Peggy's Glenfield-to-Stony Lake "shuttle."

We held winter retreats at Vanderkamp in the Town of Constantia, north of Oneida Lake. Many of our kids learned to cross-country ski there. Pastor Paul's sense of humor was a highlight of winter and summer retreats. Here's a good example. When our girls set the table before every meal, they always placed over-sized silverware by pastor's place setting, hoping that he would react to their joke. Paul never flinched as he ate his meals with serving knives, forks, and spoons. The girls were disappointed, but they learned that their pastor believed that "turnabout was fair play."

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

KIM MARSCHER

One of Pastor Joslyn's first acts after he began his Zion ministry was arranging an ecumenical marriage ceremony for Jim and me. Pastor Paul and Father William Donovan, the priest at St. John the Evangelist in New Hartford, conducted the ceremony. Together, they helped our two families coordinate the service so that our Lutheran and Roman Catholic relatives and friends felt supported and recognized.

Jim and I have been happily married for thirty-nine years. We learned a lot from Pastor Joslyn about how to support the church and make Christ-based decisions. We pray for God's blessings for him and his family every day.

JIM MARSCHER

When I faced a crossroads in my career, I asked Pastor Paul for guidance. After patiently listening to my story, he advised: "It sounds to me like you should be a teacher." Consequently, I left my position in upper administration and resumed a career as a teacher/therapist. This was a wonderful, satisfying vocation. I will be forever grateful to Paul for directing me down the path that God intended.

HELGA MORRISON

You can't talk about Paul Joslyn without mentioning Peggy. They supported each other in every chapter of their lives. Zion benefited from their involvement in all aspects of congregational life for sixteen beautiful years. We were fortunate. You rarely see this in churches today. Even after they retired, Paul and Peggy worked together. The word "team" describes their marriage perfectly.

Paul Joslyn confirmed our daughters, Maryann and Amy, and was their pastor throughout their formative years. He presided at Maryann's wedding at the Pavilion Restaurant in Pine Lake. Harry and I will never forget how, at the rehearsal, Paul leaned against what he thought was a solid wall and ended up back flipping over a room divider! Everyone rushed over to help, but Paul wasn't hurt. In typical fashion, he joked about his acrobatic talents.

I worked with Paul as Zion's Parish Coordinator for seven years. He was a great boss, and extremely funny besides. I'm sure everyone recalls memorable examples of his humor. I remember my first day in the office. Around noon, he offered to take me to lunch and I accepted. He drove us to Manny's Cheesecake & Delicatessen at the corner of the Parkway and Oneida Street. Pastor Paul enjoyed good food - and pastrami on rye accompanied by cherry cheesecake made him an ideal lunch. Although I was a bit intimidated by the calories, we shared a fine time at the deli.

He had a huge heart and welcomed everyone to Zion Church. He encouraged our congregation to be open and welcoming to all people, like Pastor David does today. Anyone in need could find empathy, counseling, and aid from Paul Joslyn. And when he advised these folks, he spoke with a quiet, contemplative wisdom that inspired confidence and gave hope.

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

Paul thought of Zion Church as a center of the community and encouraged many groups to meet in our facilities. One of these was the Handicapped People of the Mohawk Valley, who held monthly sessions at church. He persuaded the congregation to make our building handicapped-friendly after we renovated in 1982. The elevator and the wheel-chair spaces along the sanctuary's center aisle were his ideas. A proactive thinker, Pastor Paul brought about these changes twelve years before the Americans with Disabilities Act became a national law.



Presiding at the dedication service for a renovated Zion on January 23, 1983.

He introduced the progressive Stephen Ministry to Zion and the Utica area in the 1980s. This good program trained church members to deliver spiritual care and understanding to those in need. Over forty of our people received Stephen training. Newspaper articles cited Zion and described the ministry's growing popularity. Paul was also a strong believer in inter-church cooperation. When the Stephen program began, he persuaded Central Methodist Church's pastor and council to partner with Zion. He maintained lines of communications with the spiritual leaders of many faiths.

Pastor Paul showed Harry and me how funerals could be viewed as "celebrations of lives." We heard that strong message in the eulogies he delivered at these services. Neither of us was surprised when he chose to conclude his memorial with a jazz trumpeter's inspiring, happy rendition of "When the Saints Go Marching In." We have faith that, when Pastor Paul marched into Heaven, the thousands of people whose lives he touched clapped in rhythm with this joyous song.

Zion Remembers Pastor Paul Joslyn

GLORIA CIFONELLI

I started working with Zion's finance committee during Pastor Paul's first year in 1978. He was a beautiful human being. You didn't notice his clerical collar when you talked with him. Instead, you bonded with his calming influence and quiet, but rich, sense of humor. You trusted him as if he was a beloved member of your family.

My husband Albert suffered a heart attack in 1978. Several years later, his doctors recommended surgery at the Arnot Ogden Medical Center in Elmira, a hundred miles from New Hartford. After the nurses took Albert into the operating room, I sought out the hospital's chapel for prayer. The chapel's doors were left open so people could easily enter and leave. I sat in a pew for half an hour, forty-five minutes, maybe longer.

All of a sudden I sensed that someone had entered the chapel. I slowly turned and there stood Paul Joslyn ... my pastor ... my friend. At this difficult moment in my life, I was not alone.



*In Loving Memory of
The Reverend Paul DeForest Joslyn
April 18, 1931 - February 13, 2019*

Announcements

BIBLE STUDY: Pr. David conducts Bible study Wednesdays, at 10 AM & 5:30 PM in the Fireside Room.

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TITHE.LY: You can give from where you are! Go to our website at www.ZionLutheranNY.org and click on donate to give electronically. It's safe and easy.

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PRAYER GROUP: Pastor David leads a contemplative prayer group on Wednesdays at 12:30 PM, for anyone who wishes to deepen their spiritual life.

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WORSHIP TEAM: Please consider joining Zion's Sunday Worship Team. If you're looking for a way to enhance your worship experience, be a part of it! You can sign up weeks ahead of time. Opportunities exist for Greeters, Worship Assistants, Communion Assistants, and Ushers. We are also looking for a new Greeter & Usher coordinator. Let us know if you can help!

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COFFEE HOUSE: Come out to *open mic* night Friday, April 26 from 7-9pm for some great music & light refreshments, bring the kids, this is a family event! See the sign up sheet if you'd like to come, or bring anything. See Matt Aceto to get involved!



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BOOK CLUB: Thursday, April 4. The book is Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly; the untold story of four African-American women who helped launch our Nation into space. If you have any suggestions for time change, future books, or have any questions contact Kim Marscher or Fran Holzberger. We look forward to having you join Zion's Book Club. It's not just for women, the male outlook is very much appreciated.

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CHOIR: If you like to sing, Zion's Choir practices at 9 AM on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month, plus Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday in April, and we sing for the 10:00 AM service those days. We also rehearse after worship on the third Sunday of the month. You'll be part of a caring group of people, and singing is good for you! Please join us.

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RETIREMENT TEA: Join us in the Fireside Room Wednesday, April 24th at 2pm. Jack Henke will host an update from last year's *History of Zion*, and will cover the years from 1901-1971.

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THE CENTRAL CROSSROADS CONFERENCE SPRING ASSEMBLY: Will be held on Sat., May 11, registration at 9:45am. Cost is \$6.00 for brunch.

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PLEASE NOTE: If you are responsible for a report for the 2019 Annual Report, please send it in to the office by May 1 so that we can begin compiling everything. I need a good head start this year... Thank you. And oh by the way, April fools!

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

THE VIGNETTES FROM ZIONS HISTORY COLUMN WILL RETURN IN MAY

Birthdays & more

April Birthdays

Happy Blessed Birthday!

<i>Darlene Hill</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Brittany Miller</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Norm Glista</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Elizabeth Thompson</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Christine Clark</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>Mark Thompson</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Fran LaGase</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Diana Goewey</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Madison Midura</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>Ethan Myers</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Abigail Schiller</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>Michala Galanti</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Lorraine Dowd</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Doris Hennings</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>Shawn McLennan</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Daniel Loomis</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Sarah Myers</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Alexandria Belmont</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Sarah Tompkins</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Kaitlynn Belmont</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Eugene White</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>Russell Holzberger</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Ann Eadline</i>	<i>17</i>		

*****YOUR NEIGHBORS GARAGE SALE*****

Friday, May 3th & Saturday, May 4th at Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Start now to set aside good used household items to be donated to this annual fundraiser. Items donated can be dropped off at: **Our Savior Lutheran Church**, 1640 Genesee St. Utica, back corner door 9am–3pm **beginning** Monday, April 30 through Wednesday, May 2.

****Or call Your Neighbors at 315-235-7149 to schedule a pick up****

You **can donate**: household items, furniture, lawn & garden equipment, books, toys, games, etc., Your Neighbors is requesting that you do **not donate**: clothing, luggage, sporting goods/equipment, computers or computer parts, Christmas trees, appliances that are not working.

Thank You!!

FOOD DONATION SCALE

Supplies & food totals for
March was 200lbs. Someone can survive a long time without paper towels and napkins, but it's hard without soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toiletries, women's hygiene, TP. Food Pantries have food but never have these. Think NEED.

Continue to bring your cans/bottles to Zion to support the Utica Food Pantries. The bins are in the coat room downstairs.

Ed Grove returns these for us.

Thank You!

Events



What a great group we had on Sunday, March 3!
Thank you to everyone who stayed after church
to help package delicious homemade trays of
food into individual meals for Your Neighbors.

PRAYERS FOR CHERISHING CHILDREN

Middle School years 6-7 grade — I pray that the children will enjoy their increased independence. Please give the parents discernment to know when granting some independence is a good thing for all of the.

High School years — May the child find someone who can be trusted to be an example of serving others as you did.

Lutheran Disaster Response providing tornado relief

On March 3, powerful tornadoes hit Alabama, Georgia and Florida, causing widespread destruction. Lutheran Disaster Response is working with people in these states, including congregations in the Southeastern Synod, to respond with immediate relief. Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for "U.S. tornadoes" will be used to help those affected by tornadoes until the response is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support.

Events



**Free
Events**

Workshop #1
Thursday, April 25th
6pm to 7:30pm
Sherrill-Kenwood Library,
543 Sherrill Rd, Sherrill

Workshop #2
Monday, April 29th
6pm to 7:30pm
CenterPoint Christian
Fellowship Church,
8021 Route 12, Barneveld

Music therapist Adrienne Bornemann & singer-songwriter Donna Mucks will be sharing information on the benefits of music therapy in the treatment and care of a loved one battling cancer.

The workshop is FREE and geared to those battling cancer, those who have a loved one or friend battling cancer and/or caregivers.

To register contact KEYS at 315-363-6446 or info@thekeysprogram.org.

Sponsored by...



Zion has supported the KEYS program in the past

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!!!

Thank you for the many different ways you have been faithful stewards of God's grace and resources. During this Lenten season, please remember the monetary commitment you have pledged for 2019. For Zion to maintain and expand its ministry for the balance of this year, we need your continued support.

Yours in Christ's service, Zion Stewardship Committee

Thank You Letters

From the Pen of Mae Parker

Behold this man the Messiah
What shall be done with him
Shall we ignore Him or listen
To the message about our sin

The Messiah has come to us
To set His people free
To live and die for us
To make the people see

Believe that we are saved
By an unselfish act of love
The Messiah came and was killed
He rose and went back home above

He shall come again someday to get his own
Are you ready? Are you worthy?

Hark! The day is coming yet nearer
When you must meet your creator

We would like to thank all of the wonderful members of Zion for all of the prayers you said, cards you sent, and kind words and hugs that you gave us following the death of my Mom, Julia Stone, and also throughout her illness. My Mom was a remarkable woman who will be missed by so many people. God bless you all, and thanks again!!

Love,
Wendy and Mike Stevens and family

Thank you to Kim Ritchie for helping with Zion's Food Ministry.
We appreciate you!!

Thank you for the cards, the kind words, and for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers. It has been a great source of comfort at this difficult time.
Mary & Roy Senn

Dear Wendy and Zion,
We wish to thank you and the members of the Zion Lutheran Church for your generous donation of \$1,910, which will surely benefit the mission of the Seeds of Hope Food Pantry.

Seeds of Hope continues to experience high demand for basic needs among our visitors, and the generosity of members of our local community such as yourselves, has been impressive and heartwarming. We invite you and other interested members of Zion to visit us during open hours, Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 9:30-1:11:30. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,
Rick/Steering Committee

Dear everyone at Zion,
Thank you for your calls and cards.
I appreciate you guys keeping me and my family in your prayers.
Love,
Lydia Snyder

Dear Wendy & everyone at Zion,
On behalf of Your Neighbors, many thanks for your extremely generous contribution of \$3,622. Your gift means so much and will assist us substantially in our efforts to provide for the individuals in our community whom we care deeply about. As you know, Your Neighbors is community volunteers dedicated to serving the frail, elderly and those with limited independence in the greater Utica area by offering companionship, medical and personal transportation, healthy home-cooked meals and more. Once again, our sincerest appreciation for your very kind and generous gift to Your Neighbors,.
Warmest regards,
Michele Kohl
Administrator, Lutheran Home of CNY

Given to the Glory of God

<u>In Memory of:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Julia Stone, my mom	Building Fund	Wendy & Mile Stevens
Julia Stone	Building Fund	Jim & Kim Marscher
Ellis Rowland	World Hunger	Suzee Rowland
Our Parents	Building Fund	David & Ann McCarthy
Paul Joslyn	Building Fund	Kirsten Soykan
Paul Joslyn	Memorial Fund	Loretta Berie
Paul Joslyn	Endowment Fund	Harry & Helga Morrison
Paul Joslyn	Memorial Fund	Fran & Claudia King
Paul Joslyn	Building Fund	Jack Henke
Paul Joslyn	Memorial Fund	Irma Muehlenberg
Paul Joslyn	Building Fund	The Kowalczyk Family
Paul Joslyn	Building Fund	Jim & Kim Marscher
Paul Joslyn	Memorial Fund	Laura Hilt
<u>In Honor of:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Ellen Smith	World Hunger	Carole Grove
John Blackburn	Easter Baskets	Carol Buchholz Blackburn

ZION'S BUILDING FUND...

Double your donation!

Thanks to a gift from Zion's Memorial Fund, we have an opportunity to double gifts made to our Building Fund to pay back the money borrowed from our savings for the major renovation of the upstairs bathrooms and the Fireside Room.

Here's how it works:

Every dollar you give towards the Building Fund between now and May 1 will be matched, up to \$13,000. Your help is needed to retire this debt for Zion. Wont you help? Please use the green envelope in the pews and mark "Building Fund" on your check.

Thank you!

Stewardship committee,

Jim Marscher, Ch.; Kim Marscher, Gloria Cifonelli, Pastor David, Suzee Rowland, Sara Silva

MATCH GIFT

\$13,000

DONATED TO DATE

\$2, 834

NEEDED

\$10,166



Treasurer's Reports

		January 2019 Treasurer's		
	Jan 2019	Year to Date	Budget	Over/Under Budget
Income				
Giving	\$ 14,576.75	\$ 14,576.75	\$ 14,724.60	\$ (147.85)
Other Income	\$ 925.15	\$ 925.15	\$ 2,416.50	\$ (1,491.35)
Total Income	\$ 15,501.90	\$ 15,501.90	\$ 17,141.10	\$ (1,639.20)
Total Expense	\$ 18,614.23	\$ 18,614.23	\$ 20,477.51	\$ (1,863.28)
Net Income	\$ (3,112.33)	\$ (3,112.33)	\$ (3,336.41)	\$ 224.08

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9: 6-8

		February 2019 Treasurer's		
	Feb 2019	Year to Date	Budget	Over/Under Budget
Income				
Giving	\$ 15,211.49	\$ 29,788.24	\$ 29,449.15	\$ 339.09
Other Income	\$ 980.69	\$ 1,905.84	\$ 4,833.00	\$ (2,927.16)
Total Income	\$ 16,192.18	\$ 31,694.08	\$ 34,282.15	\$ (2,588.07)
Total Expense	\$ 15,441.84	\$ 34,056.07	\$ 40,955.02	\$ (6,898.95)
Net Income	\$ 750.34	\$ (2,361.99)	\$ (6,672.87)	\$ 4,310.88

April Worship Team Schedule

Greeters 10:00 AM Service	
April 7	Russ & Fran Holzberger
April 14	
April 19 GOOD FRIDAY	Several readers needed
April 21	
April 28	Darlene Hill

Worship Assistant 10:00 AM Service	
April 7	
April 14	
April 19 GOOD FRIDAY	Several readers needed
April 21	
April 28	

Ushers 10:00 AM Service	
April 7	
April 14	Doreen Nichols & Jeanne Gymburch
April 19 GOOD FRIDAY	Several readers needed
April 21	
April 28	

Communion Assistants 10:00 Service	
April 7	
April 14	
April 19 GOOD FRIDAY	Several readers needed
April 21	
April 28	Darlene Hill

ZION CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SCHEDULE 2019

Students: K – Grade 6 Sundays: 11:15 – 12:00



April

- 7) Christian craft
- 14) No class (Spring Break)
- 21) No class (Easter/Spring Break)
- 28) Dig In-Jesus Describes True Family

May

- 5) Dig In-Jesus Describes True Family
- 12) Celebration Sunday Practice
- 19) Celebration Sunday

Youth Christian Education

Youth, 7th grade through 12th grade, are invited to meet in the youth room following the 10am service on Sundays to learn and grow in their Christian faith.

April 2019

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 12:30 Al-Anon	2	3 10am Bible Study 12:30 Al-Anon 5:30pm Bible Study	4	5 12:30 Al-Anon	6
7 10am Traditional worship service 5pm Contemporary Service	8 12:30 Al-Anon	9 5pm NAMI	10 10am Bible Study 12:30 Al-Anon 5:30pm Bible Study	11 5:30 Council meeting	12 12:30 Al-Anon 6:45-10pm Railroad group	13
14 10am Palm Sunday 5pm Contemporary Service	15 12:30 Al-Anon	16 11:30 Your Neighbors board mt.	17 10am Bible Study 12:30 Al-Anon 5:30pm Bible Study	18 6pm Maundy Thursday / simple supper	19 12:30 Al-Anon 7:30 PM Good Friday	20
21 10am Easter Sunday Happy Easter!!	22 12:30 Al-Anon	23	24 12:30 Al-Anon 2pm Retirement Tea 5:30pm Bible Study	25	26 12:30 Al-Anon 7pm Open Mic night w/Matt Aceto	27
28 10am Traditional worship service 5pm Contemporary Service	29 12:30 Al-Anon	30				

EASTER FLOWERS

The Easter Flower sign up sheet is now up in the narthex. The beautiful flowers will be used to adorn the altar during Easter.



Please see the sign up sheets for Holy Week.
Thank you!



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

630 French Road
New Hartford, NY 13413

CONTACT INFO:

Phone: 315.732.4110

Fax: 315.732.0067

Email: office@zionluth.com

Website: www.ZionLutheranNY.org

Like us on Facebook at:

Zion Lutheran Church, New Hartford, NY.

*The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is to prayerfully
discern God's call to help people
to become more fully devoted followers of Christ.*



HOLY WEEK SERVICES SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY—April 14th at 10am. Followed by a catered brunch.

MAUNDY THURSDAY/SIMPLE SUPPER—April 18 at 6pm. Followed by Table Communion.

GOOD FRIDAY—April 18 at 7:30pm. Readers needed.

EASTER SUNDAY—April 21 at 10am. Followed by a special coffee hour.

SIGN UP SHEETS—Please see the sign up sheets, or give us a call if you can attend or help serve & set up for Holy Week special events. Thank you!

