



Zion's News & Notes

A Few Words From Pastor David

JULY 2017

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.zionluth.com.

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It hardly seems like it, but June 1st marked our one-year anniversary together. Reflecting upon the last year, we have moved forward in many ways. For example, our average Sunday attendance has increased by 9 from 86 to 95; we started a *Families with Young Children* group that meets each month and includes 8 families with 14 kids under age 7; we've added 3 new families and welcomed back a few other people; we've begun working with the Johnson Park Center to provide a periodic respite for the women and children there; we initiated two new services, a Blue Christmas service and a quarterly Healing service; we're developing relationships with Hamilton and Utica College and the Greater Utica Interfaith Council; we along with Our Saviour have started a group that includes Utica College and MVCC which is exploring race in America and our community and was involved with bringing the display panels from the National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum to Utica; we are developing a new pictorial directory, website, and Facebook page and beginning to live stream our worship services; we've held several community-building events, such as a Palm Sunday brunch, a movie night, a card playing afternoon, etc. We've also refurbished the Fireside Room and have plans for doing the same for the upstairs bathrooms.

It's been a very busy year indeed! Many, many different people have been involved and I give thanks for, and to, all of you, and for the ways in which you have given of your time, talent, and treasure. As I have said before, the Spirit is certainly moving through Zion and enlivening her. My prayer is that we continue to breathe deeply from God's Spirit, and thereby continue to be energized by Her for there is much ministry yet to be done. This year we celebrate not only the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, but also Zion's 175th anniversary. We have many activities planned. One hope I have is that we will not simply look back and celebrate what Zion has accomplished in its past, but that we also see how our past can provide a strong foundation and a sense of direction for the future, for our next 175 years. These are exciting times. With Christ as our corner and foundation stone for 175 years, and with one year of the next leg of our joint spiritual journey under our belt, our future is wonderfully bright. May we both celebrate and draw strength from our past as we look for ways in which we can share the Gospel and continue Christ's ministry today and for another 175 years.

Thank you for the honor of allowing me to journey with you!

Pastor David

TRANSPORTATION GROUP - We're trying to establish a driving pool to transport people to and from church for worship and other activities. If you are willing to help or have any questions, please contact Pr. David at 315-732-4110. Thank you!



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PLEASE NOTE:
The Newsletter
Deadline is
the **17th of each
month,**
unless otherwise
noted. *Thank you!*



Vignettes From Zion's History: Pastor John Henry Sprock and the New Zion: Part II

The greatest achievement during the Sprock era was the building of our New Hartford sanctuary. Although the Council had discussed relocation since the 1920s, the topic did not reach front-burner status until Edmund Bosch's pastorate.

Council minutes show that constructing a new church requires patience. In 1950, Pastor Sprock suggested the establishment of a building fund; a motion to do so was unanimously carried. Nine years elapsed, however, before our new church opened. Council members inspected the French/Burrstone Road site in April 1953, when it was a part of the former New York State Hospital farm. The pastor and Council expressed interest in the property in a September 1953 letter to the State Department of Mental Hygiene. Two months later, a special congregational meeting approved acquisition and the Council hired the firm of Judson and Cardamone to handle legalities.

While extensive fundraising occurred from 1953 onward, little happened on the legal front until 1955. That year, State Senator Fred Rath and Assemblyman William Calli co-sponsored a bill that allowed Zion to purchase three acres at French/Burrstone Roads. After the bill passed both houses of the Legislature, Governor Averill Harriman signed it in April.

New York's bureaucracy, however, can move glacially. Ten months elapsed before the state offered to sell Zion the land, priced at \$1,500 per acre. A special congregational meeting, called immediately after receipt of the proposal, unanimously approved the purchase. The closing occurred in early 1957. Shortly thereafter, the Council hired the Andrew E. Egeressy architectural firm of Collingswood, New Jersey and, after approving plans, awarded construction rights to the Edward Penzimer Construction Company, of Utica, the lowest bidder. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on June 30, 1958 and the cornerstone cemented during a service the following Columbus Day. On All Saints' Day, November 1, 1959, our congregation dedicated the new Zion.

We relocated for several reasons. Old Zion's neighborhood deteriorated. Railroad tracks ran in front of the church and the Fay Street warehouse, a five-story concrete eyesore, stood across the street. The sanctuary and School Hall needed expensive repairs. Demographics also influenced the decision. Every year, more members moved from West Utica. The church attracted few newcomers and the rolls, although strong, slowly diminished. Zion's growth potential appeared limited.

The Council sold Old Zion to St. Paul's Baptist Church in August 1958. Four hundred members said "farewell" to the Fay and Cooper Streets sanctuary at a valedictory ceremony on Sunday October 5. One can only imagine the countless memories of that historic building that those worshippers relived. The School Hall at 613 Columbia Street provided space for services and activities until our new facilities opened.

When getting to the new Zion proved to be difficult for a number of West Utica residents, the Council adapted nicely. They purchased a used school bus and developed a pick-up schedule at established points in the old neighborhood. The bus was popular. For example, an average of forty-five members rode it weekly in December 1961; after two years, this number exceeded fifty. The bus was also used to take Luther Leaguers to "rallies" at distant churches such as Holy Trinity in Little Falls and St. Peter's in Verona. Among Zion's drivers were Francis King, George Stein, Elmer Ulrich, Irving Vance, and Eugene White.

Pastor Sprock showcased the new Zion when the United Lutheran Synod of New York and New England held their annual convention here in June 1960. Our church hosted over 600 delegates for the two-day affair. Zion's Lutheran Women and Ladies Aid served lunches and dinners to the attendees and the church's bus shuttled them to hotels. The event culminated with an ordination service for eighteen ministerial candidates. Among that honored fraternity was the Rev. George R. Long, the son of long-time members George and Olga Geiger Long and the Rev. John S. Joslyn, brother of Zion's Pastor Emeritus Paul Joslyn. In 1960, Pastor Long was the third of our congregation's children to be ordained. He joined the distinguished company of the Rev. Reinhold Kessler (ordained 1886), the Rev. Carl Bergner (1892) and, later, the Rev. Mary Etta Skinner (1984).

Events transpired smoothly in June 1960 except for one uncontrollable element: the weather. Heavy rains turned Zion's unpaved parking lot into a quagmire. The *Observer Dispatch* quoted a synod press release: "The 32nd Lutheran synod convention will be remembered as the one where we were stuck in the mud. There was little difficulty parking delegates' cars. Getting them out was another story. Delegates may have been aflame with the Spirit, but they were wet with the dew." Years later, Pastor William Clasen, who was ordained with the Class of 1960, wrote Paul Joslyn: "My four most vivid memories of that weekend at Zion are: water and mud, water and mud."

Vignettes From Zion's History - Continued

Zion's ministry expanded into early childhood education in 1963 when we opened a nursery school, which attracted sizable enrollments. Helma Klein, a kindergarten teacher born in Germany, was the first director. Dorothy Meneses succeeded Helma in 1970 and worked at the school until her retirement in 1990. Dorothy earned her B.A. in early childhood education from the University of Tennessee and completed extensive graduate studies there. Through her guidance, Zion's school earned a superlative reputation in the greater Utica area. New York's adoption of public pre-kindergarten education brought about a drop in the nursery school's enrollment, which caused it to close.

Although Zion's women received the right to vote at congregation meetings in 1900, no woman served on the Church Council until the Sprock pastorate. On February 4, 1965, the *Utica Daily Press* reported: "Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, for the first time in its 123-year history, has elected women to its governing body. Chosen Tuesday night were Miss Ruth Healy, as secretary and three-year trustee, Mrs. Gordon (Jeanne) Trexler, three-year trustee, and Mrs. Earl (Theodora) Pierson, one-year trustee."

The Rev. Walter O. Huegel, who was hired as assistant pastor in 1966, strengthened John Sprock's ministry. Pastor Huegel, a psychologist at the Oneida-Madison B.O.C.E.S., had previously served Christ Lutheran Church in Little Falls, where he conducted German, as well as English, services. He, his wife Sandy, and their six children endeared themselves to our congregation.

More than 1,000 people attended the unveiling of artist/member Willard Sauter's mural "Christ Triumphant" in December 1966. This magnificent painting, which rises from the altar to the stained glass panels above the chancel, is eight feet wide and twenty-one feet high. Sauter joined Zion during the Bosch era. He taught Sunday school, served on the Council, and often acted as toastmaster at congregational events. A professor of advertising and design at Mohawk Valley Community College, the artist took three and one-half years to complete the mural. Dedicated to the memory of Willard's wife, Muriel, this masterwork of art and love continues to inspire worshipers.

Private Allan T. Youngkrans, Jr., who was baptized and confirmed at Zion, gave his life for our country during the Vietnam War on August 2, 1969. His parents, Allan and Edna, remodeled the Fireside Room in honor of their son. Willard Sauter created two paintings in Allan's memory. Pastor Sprock dedicated these memorials in 1970. A photograph of that ceremony is displayed in the entrance to the Fireside Room. Allan, Edna, and their children were longtime, active Zion members. Allan, Sr., worked as church custodian after retiring from the Utica Fire Department. Pastor Sprock often complimented the superb maintenance that Allan gave to his church.

Faced with a diminishing membership, Holy Communion Lutheran Church's congregation voted to unite with Zion in 1970. Presiding over the merger was John Sprock's last major act of his very positive pastorate. When he retired in 1971, the Church Council awarded him the title of "pastor emeritus." His ministry continued, however. He served as interim pastor of King of Kings Lutheran, Liverpool, from 1971 to 1973 and as pastor of Ascension Church, Rome, from 1973 to 1975. In 1981, John Sprock was Zion's guest of honor at a banquet that celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination.

Marie Sprock passed away in 1972. In the years that followed, Zion's pastor emeritus married Louise Wunderle. They shared golden moments at his home on the Black River in Hawkinsville and, later, in Florida until he entered the church triumphant on April 10, 1994. John Henry Sprock was interred next to Marie in Union Cemetery, Wauseon, Ohio.

The Vignettes articles are researched and written by Jack Henke.

September's article: *Celebrating 175 Years!*

Additional notes: Shelley Wallace, Hartwick College archivist, provided information about the graduation ceremony of 1956. Suzanne Smiles, Archives and Special Collections Librarian/Associate Professor of Library Science, Wittenberg University, contributed the pastor's alumni documents. Oscar Meneses, David and Jacqueline Meenan Meneses, and Lisa Meneses Kinna shared details about our nursery school. Claudia Zoeckler King and Audrey Long Scholl contributed Redwood memories. Pastor Emeritus Paul Joslyn shared the Clasen letter. My sincere thanks go to all. Zion history buffs may enjoy this website about the Sprock family: www.genealogy.com/ftm/p/l/o/Thomas-J-Ploch-NJ



At Right: Baptism and new member reception of Alexander Jacob Snyder and Nicole Rae Snyder on June 4th. Alex really liked the baptismal blanket made by Millie Angeline!



**Zion
175
years
1842-2017**

175th Anniversary Activities

Saturday, August 19th @ 5 - 8 PM - Music Festival for the whole family. This event will include games for the kids, food, and live performances. *Questions, see Jim Marscher.*

Sunday, September 3rd - Worship & Picnic at Kirkland Town Park. Worship will be at 10 AM, followed by a potluck picnic. We have reserved the pavilion from 9 AM - 3 PM so that we can hang out and enjoy Sabbath time. *Questions, see Ann McCarthy.*

Sunday, September 17th - 10 AM Worship at Zion & 2 PM Rededication of Founders' Gravesite at Forest Hill Cemetery, Oneida St., Utica. *Questions, see Jack Henke.*

Saturday, September 23rd - Part 3 of Reformation Lecture Series at Zion @ 9:30 - 11:30 AM with Trinity - Herkimer, St. Peter's - Verona, & Our Saviour - Utica. *Questions, see Pr. David.*

Friday, October 6th (6 - 9 PM) & Saturday, October 7th (1 - 4 PM): 3rd Annual Oktoberfest Celebration. This event this year will be expanded to include family-friendly activities on Saturday. *Questions, see Kim Marscher.*

Sunday, October 29th - "500th Anniversary of the Reformation" Special Worship Service at 10 AM.

Saturday, November 11th - 175th Anniversary Catered Banquet & Program at Zion from 5 - 8 PM (Dinner @ 5:30). We will invite former pastors and members to return and celebrate with us. There will be an opportunity to hear stories and anecdotes from Zion's past. *Questions, see Claudia King or Pr. David.*

Sunday, November 12th - 175th Anniversary Celebration Service at 10 AM. WWII Honor Roll will be rededicated. *Questions, see Pr. David or Jack Henke.*

*** Please put these dates on your calendars now.** We'll provide additional details in future newsletters & Sunday bulletins. *** Lastly, we will need lots of "worker bees"**, so if you can help out, please call 315-732-4110 or email us at office@zionluth.com. *Thank you from the 175th Anniversary Committee!*

Thank you's & Other News

From the Pen of Mae Parker



The trumpet sounded in the heavenly realm
There appeared a scroll with seven seals
St. John of Patmos wept because
No one could see what the scroll conceals.

Who is worthy to open the scroll?
The lamb of God is the one
Jesus the Messiah comes forth
The ride of the horsemen has begun

The first is a rider upon a white horse
With a crown and carrying a bow
He represents deception of satan to all mankind
As Adam was decided long ago

The second to go down to earth is red
He takes peace from the earth and leaves war
He brings fear of atomic destruction
And of weapons and chemicals never seen before

The third rider is on a black horse
He spreads starvation and hunger over the land
Worldwide famine has already begun
Soon it will get out of hand

The fourth horse has started his turn
To bring pestilence and death to the world
The misery and diseases of men
Are the pale horse's mission unfurled

The hoofbeats are getting closer each day
Closer and closer they sound
If only the world would get down on its knees
The Lord would turn them around

Christians should join with one another
To provide for the betterment of man
To do all they can no matter how small
To work and to change what they can

Dear Zion Friends,

Thank you for the cards and prayers during my recent illness. They were all very much appreciated.

With love,
Lois McAllister



Welcome New Members

Nicole Rae Snyder - June 4, 2017
Ben & Cheryl Edmiston - June 11, 2017

Welcome in the Sacrament of Baptism

Alexander Jacob Snyder - June 4, 2017

Thank you

To the members of Zion Lutheran Church
From the Upstate New York Synod
Of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
In grateful appreciation for giving
\$14,607 for Mission Support beyond the congrega-
tion for synodical and churchwide ministries of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



~ John S. Macholz, Synod bishop
~ Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding bishop

Dear Zion Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your recent gift(s) given to your synod, received by ELCA World Hunger January through March 2017. When you give to ELCA World Hunger, you are joining with the whole church to accompany communities on the long road from hunger and poverty. You are walking with neighbors and strangers in need in this season of new and certain hope. In Jesus' name, you are providing relief, renewal and long-term sustainable development in the form of health clinics, water and hygiene programs, microloans, agriculture, livestock and advocacy for systemic change.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal



Contemporary

Worship Service

Sunday 4:00 pm

Informal Bible Discussion

Contemporary Music



Zion

Lutheran Church

New Hartford, New York



Visit us on the web
www.zionluth.com


Treasurer's Report


May 2017 Treasurer's Report				
	May 2017	Year to Date	Budget	Over/Under Budget
Income				
Giving	\$ 15,813.54	\$ 87,050.30	\$ 74,717.50	\$ 12,332.80
Other Income	\$ 2,160.28	\$ 11,474.02	\$ 10,314.13	\$ 1,159.89
Total Income	\$ 17,973.82	\$ 98,524.32	\$ 85,031.63	\$ 13,492.69
Total Expense	\$ 19,319.86	\$ 97,753.73	\$ 102,118.62	\$ (4,364.89)
Net Income	\$ (1,346.04)	\$ 770.59	\$ (17,086.99)	\$ 17,857.58




BEFORE & AFTER:
The prayer garden at Zion was planted on June 8th by Jan Kowalczyk, Shirley Carlson and Kim Marscher. *Thanks to everyone who donated plants and money for our garden!*






BISHOP'S 3rd ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT - Monday, July 24, 2017. Shadow Lake Golf and Racquet Club, Penfield, NY. Shotgun Start at 12:00 PM. Go to the Synod website at www.upstatenysynod.org and click on the link for the Golf Tournament to register. It would be great if we could have at least one foursome from each congregation in our conference. Not only will we have a good time, but the Tournament benefits the Educational Debt Assistance Fund for new rostered ministers in Upstate New York.



Announcements



COFFEE HOUR - Join us for ice tea, cookies, and coffee and visit our lovely prayer garden. **We're celebrating Jennifer DeWeerth leading our 10 AM worship on Sunday, July 2.** Many of you know that Jennifer's father, Eldon DeWeerth, donated the benches in the garden in memory of his wife, Mary. Eldon and Jennifer helped Zion through a difficult time, and we wish to give them our thanks. Please come to the garden, tell Jennifer how much we appreciate her at Zion, and smell the roses!

PLEASE NOTE: There will be **NO 4:00** Worship service on Sunday, July 2.

ATTN: The church office will be **CLOSED** on Tuesday, July 4 (Independence Day).

ATTN: ON BOILERMAKER SUNDAY, July 9: Our worship services will be at **11:30 AM & 4 PM.**



Bring your Grocery List to Church! Shop at our Fair Trade Booth in the Fireside Room!

Here's the healthy, organic items that are available for you to enjoy or give as gifts: COFFEE – whole bean, ground, decaf, flavored, and single-serve (Keurig), TEA – Rooibos, Vanilla Rooibos, Rooibos Chai, Decaf English Breakfast, Earl Grey, Green Tea, HOT CHOCOLATE, OLIVE OIL from Palestine BAKING COCOA and CHOCOLATE CHIPS, ALMONDS & CASHEWS, CHOCOLATE BARS, GLUTEN-FREE FRUIT AND NUT BARS.

Check out the basket on the bottom shelf that may have some expired, bargain items. *All products are marked with the price. Please put payment in the lockbox on the smaller desk in the church office. Checks may be made out to "Zion Lutheran Church" with "Fair Trade" on the memo line.*

FAIR TRADE is an *authentic* way of supporting the initiative of small farming communities by helping the people to help themselves. **FAIR TRADE** *builds bridges* and connects producers and consumers. We gladly pay a fair price for the hard work and quality products. The funds the farmers earn help them and their families hold on to their land and livelihood and support themselves rather than depending on aid.

The Social Ministry Committee of Zion Lutheran Church thanks you for supporting this ministry.



Kathleen (Marscher) Lockwood, daughter of Jim & Kim Marscher, graduated from SUNY Albany with Masters degrees in public health and social work.

Patrick Smith, son of Jim & Ellen Smith, graduated from Sacred Heart University on May 14 (Magna Cum Laude), with a degree in Computer Science, focus on video game design.

Congratulations to all our graduates!

Announcements

2017 World Hunger Campaign

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY! Our congregation raised over \$1,400 for the World Hunger Appeal at Synod. That amount will feed 7 families for a month. **Zion's annual World Hunger goal is \$4,000.** We are well on our way to meeting that goal. Please remember those who have been displaced by unrest and war, and contribute to the World Hunger campaign through October. \$200 feeds 1 family per month. **Please use the green envelopes, or collect change to donate.** The 'Feed the World' change boxes are in the narthex, so you can start saving at home. Thank you for your kind contributions, and please keep refugees in your prayers as we continue to support them monetarily.



Above: The Youth Group filled change boxes for the *World Hunger 2017* campaign which began before the Synod gathering in June.



SUMMER NIGHTS - LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION! Please join us for movie night at Zion on **Friday, July 14 at 6 PM.** We will be showing "Simon Birch" at 6:30 in the air conditioned comfort of the Fireside Room. Light refreshments will be provided, so just bring yourself! Of course you may bring a snack to share if you like. Sign up in the Narthex or call/e-mail Debbie. **Questions, please contact Linda Lambe at 315-601-6011.**



Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you for allowing us to use your classroom and fellowship hall for our Girl Scout meetings. We really appreciate it!

Linda Hill and Girl Scout troop 20681



FOOD DONATIONS: Food offering total for **MAY - JUNE 2017** is **170 pounds.** Thank you for your continued support!

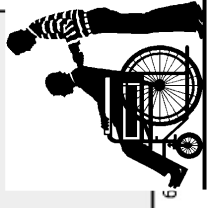
July 2017

Sunday Worship Schedule

10:00 AM Traditional Worship
Christian Ed on Summer Vacation
 4:00 PM Contemporary Worship

Nursery Care is available from 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM for children up to age 5

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jun 25	26	27	28	29	30	Jul 1
NO 4:00 Service 10:00am 11:15am Traditional Service	12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)	INDEPENDENCE DAY OFFICE CLOSED	9:30am 10:30am Bagels & Coffee w/ Pr. David (FR) 12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)	6:00pm 8:00pm Endow/Knobloch Mtg 6:00pm 8:00pm Young Families Dinner (FH) 6:00pm 7:00pm Walking	12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)	9:00am 11:00am Men's Group Mtg. (Breakfast at Tiffany's)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
6:00am 10:00am Boilermaker Hosp. Te 11:30am 12:30pm Traditional Service 4:00pm 5:00pm Contem	12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)	5:00pm 8:30pm N.A.M.I. Mtg. (FH) 7:00pm 9:00pm Council Mtg. (FR)	12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)	6:00pm 7:00pm Walking with Friends (Zion)	12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR) 6:00pm 9:00pm Movie Night (FR) 7:00pm 9:00pm RR Hist	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:00am 11:15am Traditional Service 4:00pm 5:00pm Contemporary Service (Zion)	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)	11:30am 12:30pm Your Neighbors Mtg. (FR)	12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)	6:00pm 7:00pm Walking with Friends (Zion)	12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:00am 11:15am Traditional Service 4:00pm 5:00pm Contemporary Service (Zion)	12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)		12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)	6:00pm 7:00pm Walking with Friends (Zion)	12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)	
30	31	Aug 1	2	3	4	5
10:00am 11:15am Traditional Service 4:00pm 5:00pm Contemporary Service (Zion)	12:30pm 1:30pm Al-Anon Mtg. (CR)					



"RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED"



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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New Hartford, NY 13413

CONTACT INFO:

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Email: office@zionluth.com

Website: www.zionluth.com

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



SAVE THE DATE!

Outdoor Music Festival

at Zion

Saturday, August 19th, 5-8 PM.

Performances by Zion members and guests from the community. Activities for children.
A free event for families - invite your friends and neighbors! Yes, we rented-a-tent!
Mark your calendars now, and plan to attend!