



# Zion's News & Notes

## A Few Words From Pastor David

JUNE 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](http://www.zionluth.com).

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Editor: Debra A. Yacovella

Contributors: Members of the congregation

E-mail: [office@zionluth.com](mailto:office@zionluth.com)

Website: [www.zionluth.com](http://www.zionluth.com)



One requirement of my Call Agreement was that Zion establish a Mutual Ministry Team (MMT). In March we fulfilled this requirement by forming a MMT made up of Shirley Eadline, Scott Gwilt, Bob and Bonnie Loomis, Mark Thompson, and me. A primary purpose of the MMT is to enhance communication between the congregation and me, the pastor, as it is well known that good communication must be a high priority for an organization such as ours that is going through changes and transformation. It is hoped that if anyone has a concern about the changes, or the transformation, and they do not feel they can approach and speak directly with me, they can express their concern to a member of the MMT, who can then bring it to the MMT where it can be addressed. The operative assumption being that this will enable us to address any concern while it is still at a low level of intensity, before it escalates and erupts.

In addition, we also envision the MMT as another vehicle for enhancing Zion's ministry, a ministry we share, a ministry I consider to be truly mutual. (It is important to note that the MMT **does not replace** any of the Council's work or its crucial leadership role, **but rather supplements** it.) The MMT will periodically solicit your input regarding the many and different areas of Zion's ministry with the first such question asking how we can improve our mutual ministry. We want to ask this first because we want to include you, the congregation, at the very beginning of the process and allow you to have input into the areas we will address. In other words, we want to include you in setting the agenda. So, when you see requests for input from the MMT in the bulletin or the newsletter, please respond. We really do want to know what you think and how we can better work together to more fully live out Zion's call to Christ's mission and ministry.

Finally, it may be helpful to repeat that one of the foundational texts for my understanding of pastoral ministry is Ephesians 4:11-12 where Paul writes: *The gifts Christ gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the people for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.* I sincerely believe we are all called to, and gifted for, ministry and we have this ministry together, mutually. So, if you have an idea of how we can build up this body of Christ, aka. Zion, and more effectively carry out Christ's mission and ministry, please let me or one of the members of the MMT or the Council know. Thank you for the privilege and honor of letting me join you on your and Zion's journey in faith.

Appreciatively,

Pastor David

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



## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 4th** - please help Zion celebrate this day by wearing red to our 10:00 or 4:00 services!



**WELLNESS & FITNESS COMMITTEE:** We are in the process of developing a "Wellness & Fitness" Committee at Zion. Please contact Alfred Moretz or Pr. David if you are interested.

**LUTHERAN CARE WORSHIP ASSISTANCE:** Pr. Janet Griffiths of Lutheran Care needs the periodic assistance of those who would be willing to be worship assistants on Sunday mornings at the 10 & 11 AM services. Please contact Pr. David, if you are interested.


**ZION'S MEN'S GROUP** will meet at Breakfast at Tiffany's at **9:00 AM on Saturday, June 3.** All men are welcome.

**"LIKE US ON FACEBOOK"** Zion is now on Facebook. Please look us up at **Zion Lutheran Church, New Hartford, NY** and "like" us!

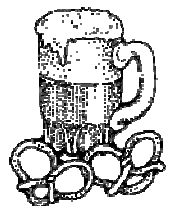
**BIBLE STUDY** for men and women continues on **Wednesdays, at 9:30 - 11:00 AM** in the Fireside Room. Pr. David will lead us. All are welcome.



**PLEASE BRING PLANTS FOR ZION'S PRAYER GARDEN** on **Sunday, June 4th**, and put them on the cart by the door. We'll also need flowers for the planter in the playground area. Planting will take place on **Thursday, June 8th at 10 AM.** Please bring gloves and tools. *"Flowers are God's laughter".*

 **YOUR NEIGHBORS INC.**, an affiliate of LutheranCare of CNY, will be holding a **BBQ Chicken Drive Thru** at Zion Lutheran Church's parking lot on **Saturday, June 24th, from 12 noon until sold out. \$7 for half of chicken - no sides - to preorder, call Your Neighbors @ 315-235-7149.** See Carole Grove for tickets. Contact Your Neighbors at the above number if you are available to help in any way for this BBQ (Set-up, Cooks, Clean-up). *Thank you!*

**OKTOBERFEST PLANNING MEETING** will take place on **Sunday, June 11th** after Zion's morning worship for the 175th Anniversary Oktoberfest Celebration (planned for Friday and Saturday, October 6th and 7th.) Please come if you can help us plan. We'll probably meet in the Fellowship Hall.



## *Vignettes From Zion's History: Pastor John Henry Sprock and the New Zion: Part I*

The Rev. John Henry Sprock officially succeeded Edmund Bosch on February 1, 1950. He served until 1971. Zion's congregation made its exodus from the old German neighborhood in West Utica to suburban New Hartford during the Sprock era. This move greatly enhanced our church's potential for growth.

Born in Jersey City, New Jersey, in 1905, Pastor Sprock possessed the most unique lineage of Zion's ministers. His mother, Anna Louise Kupker, was the daughter of William and Anna Kupker, working class Germans who immigrated here in the 1860s. Anna may have named Zion's future pastor for her brothers, John and Henry. The pastor's father, James Francis Sprock, was born "Jaime Francisco" in Cuba in 1866. James' father was Juan Herberto August Guillermo Sprock (John Herbert August William - "August," for short), an import/export merchant in Cuba and, later, Curacao, a Dutch colony in the Caribbean. August immigrated to the United States around 1880 and settled in Jersey City. His father was Cornelius Janszoon Sprock, a wealthy Netherlander who owned three plantations on Curacao in the mid-19th century.

James Francis Sprock and Anna Kupker married in 1888. The union produced eleven children; John Henry was the eighth. His younger brother, Arthur (b. 1908), also became a minister - in the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Censuses revealed that James Francis labored as a milk dealer, house painter, railroad conductor and, in 1930, a "helper at a gas station." The 1940 records stated that he hadn't held a job in a decade. Pastor Sprock's youngest sister, Marie Wilhelmina (b. 1915), was a stenographer at Metropolitan Insurance. She supported her parents during the Great Depression.

John Sprock excelled at Dickenson High School in Jersey City and was admitted to Wittenberg College in Springfield, Ohio, in 1924. After graduating in 1928 as an education major, he enrolled at Wittenberg's Hamma Theological Seminary and completed his Bachelor of Divinity studies in May 1931. Sprock financed his education by working off-campus in Springfield and through a generous Wittenberg program whereby, if an undergraduate declared for the Lutheran ministry, the college loaned him support from a trust fund. After ordination, the debt was forgiven.

He was ordained on October 22, 1931, at the Ohio Synod's annual meeting, held at the United Lutheran Church of New Philadelphia. Prior to this, he served as student pastor of Calvary Church in Springfield and was named "pastor of the charge" there following his graduation from Hamma. Grace Lutheran in North Tonawanda extended Sprock his first call in 1932. He ministered in greater Buffalo until 1940, when he accepted an offer from Epiphany Lutheran in the Bronx. His tenure in New York City lasted until our congregation approved his candidacy in 1950.

John Sprock married Wittenberg classmate Marie Stuckey at her parents' home in Wauseon, Ohio, in 1932. The couple had no children. Marie was a high school English teacher at Utica Free Academy for two decades. During the Sprocks' years at Zion, she was active in all women's organizations, sang in the choir, and accompanied John to Luther League events, among other activities. Like Elizabeth Wetzel, Margaret Nolte, and Peggy Joslyn, Marie Stuckey Sprock was an invaluable partner in her husband's ministry.

Pastor Sprock played important roles in Lutheran synods. While in Buffalo, he served as Vice-President of the Western Conference of the New York Synod. During his Bronx ministry, he was President of the New York City Conference and, in his Zion years, he was President of the Central Conference. He served as President of the Synod's Board of Religious Education and chaired several committees. Sprock strongly believed in interdenominational cooperation and was elected president of the Councils of Churches at Buffalo, the Bronx, and Utica (Zion Pastors William Nolte and Edmund Bosch also served as presidents of Utica's Council in 1933 and 1949, respectively).

In 1952, during Sprock's leadership of the Utica Council of Churches, he persuaded Zion member Olga Geiger Long to apply for the organization's office administrator's position. Olga's professionalism earned respect and admiration throughout the area. When she retired in 1980, Utica Mayor Stephen Pawlinga declared October 23 "Olga Long Day" and the Council of Churches honored her exemplary service at their annual banquet, held at Zion.

## *Vignettes From Zion's History - Continued*

John Sprock's belief in interdenominational cooperation led to his strong advocacy of Utica's ecumenical movement. He was appointed to the Council of Churches' Ecumenical Committee in 1951; that group's work brought about several unity Reformation services among Utica's Protestant churches. The committee's crowning glories occurred from 1966 until 1972, when it persuaded the Syracuse Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church to allow its Utica parishes to join their Protestant brethren for services under the banner: "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: That They May Be One." On January 20, 1967, Pastor Sprock preached at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Utica, an event that would have been unthinkable two years prior. Three days later, our church hosted a unity service conducted by Baptist, Reformed, and Presbyterian ministers, two Roman Catholic priests, and opened by our pastor. Worshippers filled the nave, balcony, narthex, and overflowed into the Fireside Room for this historic event. These joint services were replaced in 1973 and 1974 by "pulpit exchanges," where priests and ministers preached in their counterparts' sanctuaries. After its glory years, Utica's ecumenical movement faded to memory.

Hartwick recognized Pastor Sprock's achievements and awarded him a Doctor of Divinity degree in 1956. In conjunction, Sprock preached the baccalaureate sermon for the college's graduating class. Among the honorary degree recipients that year was New York's Attorney General Jacob Javits, who later served in the United States Senate.

Changes occurred during Sprock's early years at Zion. The pastor started what must be considered our church's most unique ministry: "Drive-in Lutheranism." Sunday services were held during the summers of 1951 and 1952 at the WGAT Drive-in Movie Theatre on Commercial Drive in New Hartford. Although these events attracted sizable crowds, the church barely broke even. Some folks loved the alternative worship, however. When the Council announced that the 1951 rites ran a \$10 deficit, a member who enjoyed the fresh air liturgy sent Zion a check to cover the "debt."

The pastor rekindled a variation of a John Philip Lichtenberg custom when he started "Memorial Cross Sunday" in May 1951. On Children's Day in June 1880, Lichtenberg initiated a practice whereby the little ones paraded around Zion's nave carrying bouquets of flowers. They placed the sprays in openings on a large cross, creating a magnificent display. John Sprock's cross held over two hundred red and white carnations, each one purchased as a memorial to Zion's members' loved ones. This tradition continued throughout his pastorate.

A small Latvian Lutheran population immigrated to Utica after World War II. When the Rev. Theodore Zarick, of Rochester, asked to use our sanctuary for this group's worship, the Council readily agreed. Latvian Lutheran rites were held at Zion from December 1951 through February 1953. Many of these immigrants arrived in the United States through the efforts of Lutheran World Relief and were funded by families in Central New York.

Claude Zoeckler served as Council President and choir director during John Sprock's pastorate. Claude, his wife Gladys (a substitute organist at Zion), and children Claudia (King) and David, summered at their camp on Lake of the Woods, near Redwood in St. Lawrence County. They attended St. Paul's Lutheran in that community. Claude persuaded St. Paul's leadership to host our choir for weekend retreats every July during the early 1950s. This became a wonderful "choral vacation." Claudia King fondly recalled the welcoming "get together" the church held on Friday evening and the Saturday picnics at Kring's Point State Park, highlighted by luscious local cuisine. St. Paul's members opened their homes to Zion's choristers; some families gladly housed several guests. Our choir performed at the church on Saturday evening and at Sunday's service. Audrey Long Scholl remembered how choir members car-pooled for the two-hour ride to Redwood and sang favorite Lutheran hymns throughout their northerly trek.

Our congregation's greatest achievement during the Sprock era was the building of the New Hartford sanctuary. The history column in next month's newsletter discusses the relocation/construction processes, and other major events in this pastorate.

The Vignettes articles are researched and written by Jack Henke.

**Next month:** *Pastor John Henry Sprock and the New Zion: Part II*



**At Left:** Ed and Shari Killian are honored at Coffee Hour on May 28, 2017 (their last Sunday at Zion). We wish them all the best and will miss them greatly!



**IF YOU HAVE A GRADUATE IN YOUR FAMILY** (high school, college, military, other) please call the church office (315-732-4110) or send an email to [office@zionluth.com](mailto:office@zionluth.com). Please include the graduates name as you would like it to be listed, where they are graduating from, their degree, and future plans. This information will be printed in the July newsletter.

### ***Food for Thought***

*Courtesy of Millie Angevine*

Friends multiply joys and divide sorrows

To know is nothing at all, to imagine is every-thing

#### ***The Serenity Prayer***

*God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change*

*The courage to change the things I can  
And the wisdom to know the difference*

When God answers my prayers, sometimes He says "yes", sometimes He says "no", and sometimes He says "You've got to be kidding".

#### ***Native American Prayers***

O great Spirit help me always to spread the truth,  
Quietly, to listen with an open mind when  
Others speak, and to remember the peace that  
May be found in Silence.

♦ *Cherokee Prayer*

Great Spirit, grant that I may not criticize my  
Neighbor until I have walked a mile  
in his moccasins.

May the Great Spirit bless you, your home, and  
those you love with peace and happiness.



## Thank you's & Other News

### From the Pen of Mae Parker



What have we asked the Lord to give us  
Was it eternal life free from strife  
Maybe it was a pain-free existence  
Maybe it was a careful life

Did you remember the poor  
Did you remember the sick and the dying  
Or did you only remember yourself  
And what you could be buying

God didn't send Lord Jesus  
So we could have an easy life  
Jesus gave his life to save us  
So we could have eternal life

So forget your selfish petitions  
And open up your eyes to see  
The many blessings God has given us  
If we bow down in humility

To the Congregation of Zion:

Thank you for your recent donation of \$600.00 to support our work with the Refugee Resettlement Program of InterFaith Works of CNY. Through yours and many other generous donations, people from many nations begin new lives in the United States.

Yours In Christ,

The Rev. Gail R. Wolling  
Dean



We send our deepest sympathies to the family of Ethel Clark, who passed away on April 26, 2017 in California. Ethel formerly was from Whitesboro and was a member of Zion.



### SEEDS OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY OPEN HOUSE

1605 Genesee Street, Utica 13501  
**Wednesday, June 14 at 8:30 AM**

*Continental Breakfast*

Come learn about *Seeds of Hope*! What began with the distribution of government surplus food has grown into a vital community service. We are excited about the many resources that enhance what *Seeds of Hope* offers our neighbors. See behind the scenes, and discover what the food pantry does for those in need. Enjoy a tour and a continental breakfast. All are invited!

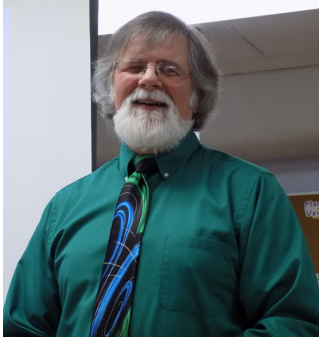
To learn more about *Seeds of Hope* and to R.S.V.P. to this event, please contact us at 315-732-5111.



\*\*\*\*\*  
\* To Zion's Council & Congregation: \*  
\* Thank you all for my lovely African Violet plant \*  
\* and the gift card to Applebee's that you gave me \*  
\* for Administrative Professional's Day. That was \*  
\* so kind of you, and it feels great to be remembered \*  
\* like that. Thank you so much. I greatly appreciate \*  
\* your appreciation! \*  
\* Love, \*  
\* Deb \*  
\*\*\*\*\*



## Events & Photos of Zion



**At Left:** Tom Henry was the guest speaker at the Reformation Lecture at Trinity Lutheran on April 29th.

**At Right:** Jim & Kim Marscher catch up with Patsy Glista.

**Below:** Photos of the Christian Ed Celebration Sunday presentation on May 14th.



**Above:** The Men's Quartet at the Coffee House on April 30th at First Pres.

**The May 20th Talent Show at Zion - at Right:** Evangelina Gwilt, Rosee Head, Josh Abby, Matt Aceto, John Coveleski, James Leddick, Jim Marscher, MC. At the piano: Craig Shuler. **Not pictured:** Abby and David Schiller/Dubeck. Zion's Choir also performed with Mary Senn, accompanist.



## Treasurer's Report

		April 2017 Treasurer's Report		
	Apr 2017	Year to Date	Budget	Over/Under Budget
<b>Income</b>				
Giving	\$ 22,622.00	\$ 71,236.76	\$ 61,132.50	\$ 10,104.26
Other Income	\$ 3,730.25	\$ 9,313.74	\$ 8,251.30	\$ 1,062.44
<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 26,352.25	\$ 80,550.50	\$ 69,383.80	\$ 11,166.70
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$ 18,432.82	\$ 78,436.27	\$ 82,869.22	\$ (4,432.95)
<b>Net Income</b>	\$ 7,919.43	\$ 2,114.23	\$ (13,485.42)	\$ 15,599.65

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**IF YOU WISH TO GET ZION'S NEWSLETTERS ONLINE**, please go to our website, [www.zionluth.com](http://www.zionluth.com) and scroll down to "Newsletters". Click on "Newsletters" and you will find our newsletters that you can open and download as you wish. If you no longer need a copy mailed to you, please tell Debbie, so she can remove your address from the physical mailing list. Please call her at 315-732-4110 or e-mail her at [office@zionluth.com](mailto:office@zionluth.com). **THANK YOU!!!**



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**THE ALTAR FLOWERS CHART** is located on the bulletin board in the narthex. If anyone would like to have flowers in honor of or in memory of someone, please sign on the given date and speak to Gloria Cifonelli or call her at 315-735-8077. The cost is \$68.00 (for the two vases and the delivery charge). You may also call Debbie in the church office at 315-732-4110.

### HELP WANTED: Boilermaker Hospitality Tent

For the past several years, Ed and Shari Killian have coordinated volunteers and food donations for the Hospitality Tent for Boilermaker Sunday. Sadly for us, the Killians will be moving out of the area in June. We are looking for someone to step up and assume the responsibility for this important outreach to our community. Shari has written detailed information about organizing the event. Please contact Carole Grove at 315-737-8947 if you are willing or want more information. Thank you!



## Announcements



### TRIP FOR ALL TO GETHSEMANE PRAYER GARDEN IN SYRACUSE -

On **Monday, June 19**, we'll visit the **Gethsemane Prayer Garden in Syracuse**. We'll carpool from church and plan to leave church at 10:00 AM. The visit to the garden will take approximately an hour. After that, we'll eat lunch at a restaurant in the area. We'll return to church at approximately 2:00 PM. Please bring money for lunch. *Also, donations to this garden are greatly appreciated.*

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**IT IS THE SEASON** to think about gifts for Weddings, Graduations, etc. We have gorgeous scarves, beautiful silver goblets, lovely china items and much more. These items are available for purchase in our **Fair Trade Shop, Stone Presbyterian Church, 8 So. Park Row, Clinton**. Our hours are **every Thursday from 10 am to 6:30 pm and second Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm**. Our unique handmade items are from 37 different countries. Purchasing fair trade items ensures artisans and small farmers fair wages and healthy working conditions, providing dignity, sustainable development, and hope to marginalized people. The entrance to our shop is on Williams Street. For more info, contact Lauralyn Kolb, [lkolb@hamilton.edu](mailto:lkolb@hamilton.edu), 315-725-1326, visit our website at [www.stonepres.org](http://www.stonepres.org) or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/stonepres](http://www.facebook.com/stonepres).

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**AMAZON'S SMILE PROGRAM**: Hey, here's a great way for all of us, our families, and our friends to support Zion at no cost. How? Just make your Amazon purchases through its Smile program where 0.5% of eligible purchases made through the Smile site go directly to the charity you choose. All we have to do is select Zion as the charity. For additional information, go to <https://smile.amazon.com>

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### ***Zion's Choir Schedule***

*Please come and help the choir worship and praise our God!*



**ON PENTECOST SUNDAY, June 4 - THE HANDBELL GROUP** will practice at 9:15 AM and play for the 10:00 AM service. Zion's choir members who are available are asked to help sing with the Handbell group - *meet in the sanctuary for the Prelude.*

**June 11 - CHOIR** will practice at 9:30 and sing for the 10:00 service.

**GATHERING CHOIR** will meet over the summer - *see the weekly bulletins for announcements.*

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**FOOD DONATIONS**: Food offering total for **APR – MAY 2017** is **185 pounds**. Also, the refundable cans and bottles that were collected since January generated **\$125** given to *Seeds of Hope Food Pantry*. Thank you for your continued support!

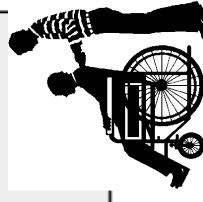
# June 2017

## 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
<b>May 28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Jun 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
				6:00pm 8:00pm Young Families Dinner (FH) 6:00pm 7:30pm Girl Scouts/Brownies (FH) 6:00pm 7:00pm Walking with Friends (Zion)		9:00am 11:00am Men's Group Mtg. (Breakfast at Tiffany's)
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
PENTECOST 10:00am 11:15am Traditional Service 4:00pm 5:00pm Contemporary Service (Zion)			9:30am 11:00am Bible Study Group (FR)	10:00am 12:00pm Planting Flowers (Zio) 6:00pm 7:30pm Girl Scouts/Brownies (FH) 6:00pm 7:00pm Walking with Friends (Zion)	7:00pm 9:00pm RR Hist Soc Mtg. (FH)	
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
10:00am 11:15am Traditional Service 11:30am 1:30pm Oktoberfest Planning 4:00pm 5:00pm Contemporary Service		5:00pm 8:30pm N.A.M.L. Mtg. (FH) 7:00pm 9:00pm Council Mtg. (FR)	9:30am 11:00am Bible Study Group (FR)	6:00pm 7:30pm Girl Scouts/Brownies (FH) 6:00pm 7:00pm Walking with Friends (Zion)		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
10:00am 11:15am Traditional Service 4:00pm 5:00pm Contemporary Service (Zion)		11:30am 12:30pm Your Neighbors Mtg. (FR)	9:30am 11:00am Bible Study Group (FR)	6:00pm 7:30pm Girl Scouts/Brownies (FH) 6:00pm 7:00pm Walking with Friends (Zion)		12:00pm 2:00pm YN BBQ Drive-Thru (Zion Parking Lot)
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Jul 1</b>
10:00am 11:15am Traditional Service 4:00pm 5:00pm Contemporary Service (Zion)			9:30am 11:00am Bible Study Group (FR)	6:00pm 7:00pm Walking with Friends (Zion)		



"RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED"



**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

630 French Road  
New Hartford, NY 13413

**CONTACT INFO:**

**Phone: 315-732-4110**

**Fax: 315-732-0067**

**Email: [office@zionluth.com](mailto:office@zionluth.com)**

**Website: [www.zionluth.com](http://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.*



**Your Neighbors Inc.** an affiliate of LutheranCare of CNY will be holding a **BBQ Chicken Drive Thru** at Zion Lutheran Church's parking lot on **Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**, **from 12 noon until sold out. \$7 for half of chicken - no sides - to preorder, call Your Neighbors @ 315-235-7149.** See Carole Grove for tickets. Contact Your Neighbors at the above number if you are available to help in any way for this BBQ (Set-up, Cooks, Clean-up). *Thank you!*

