Zion's News & Notes

September Newsletter 2025

Zion Lutheran Church
Zion News & Notes
Published monthly by the church office, newsletters include news of upcoming events, regular and special announcements, photos of current events, and other items of interest.
Newsletter archives are available on our website:
www.zionlutheranNy.org

Circulation - 133
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I wasn't always a dog person. I had dogs…and cats…and a parakeet who doubled as a terrorist in the midnight hour when someone left her door open and closed the door of my bedroom. When I was eight.

When I was five, living in Boulder, Colorado, we had a white husky named Snow. She went to live on a "big farm with lots of other dogs to play with," when we moved back to Detroit, after the 1967 protests.

When I was twelve, we had an Irish Setter named Johnny Walker. Johnny walked away one day never to return. We believe he walked into the nearby woods and hunkered down with fellow vagabonds, perhaps playing poker after hours and drinking Jameson, in memory of his distant cousin, a Spaniel who never quite mastered the command of, Leave It!

Sally was my favorite before Nala. She was an Australian Shepherd I took in as a foster one week to see if I could keep up with her need for daily exercise. I could not.

Sass and I got Nala from a shelter a short while before the pandemic in 2020. She arrived on The Love Train--a bus whose sides are airbrushed with puppies and kittens. Its mission is to rescue young pets from overcrowded shelters where they would not live long. On Adoption Friday, people camp out in the parking lot of the Huron Valley Humane Society, after taking a number that gives them a place in line so they can have the pick of the litter starting at 11 am.

Tiny was the funniest, and most intimidating dog I ever knew. Tiny was a Great Dane – St. Bernard mix. I babysat toddler twins who were born just a few months after Tiny joined this family as a pup. I vividly remember holding one of the twins in the kitchen when Tiny came running in, her huge puppy paws sliding on the linoleum. Her limbs, akimbo, sent metal kitchen chairs skittering and doused my feet with water from her huge dish. I took the baby and flattened myself against the side of the fridge until the coast was clear.

August 20th is the Holy Day of Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153). He was a fierce theological advocate, an eloquent writer — and, unlike many of his contemporaries, a strong critic of Christian persecution of Jews. He is widely considered a Doctor (that is, a preeminent teacher) of the Church. He wrote: "There are those who seek knowledge for the sake of knowledge; that is curiosity. There are those who seek knowledge to be known by others; that is vanity. There are those who seek knowledge in order to serve; that is Love."

And finally, this: "Who loves me, loves my dog."

Imagine being a dog, named after a Saint.

With you, Pastor Marie

September Announcements

Walking With Friends
Zion's Walking Group meets on Thursdays at 11:00 am at New Hartford Town Park or at the Target wing of Sangertown (weather permitting). We stress friendship more than athleticism - please come and join us! Text Kim at 315-794-6233 for updates and walking locations should the location change to outside.

YouTube
Subscribe to Pastor Marie's YouTube channel! www.YouTube.com/@MarieNDuquette.

Women of Faith
There will be a Women of Faith Planning Meeting on Wednesday, September 3rd at 7 PM. Zoom: Meeting ID: 839 5180 2404 Passcode: 166693

Worship Team
We are in need of worship assistants for the month of September. Please take a look at the sign-up sheets and sign up where you can. Thank you!

Happy Labor Day! As we celebrate this holiday, we give thanks for the gift of work, rest, and all who serve in so many ways. Wishing you a safe and restful weekend.

Special Notice

Church Office Phone

Have you ever tried calling the church office and heard that old-fashioned *busy signal*? Here's Why:

Our original church phone number (315-732-4110) has been hanging around for almost 50 years! But it's old, in fact, the phone company we used at the time no longer exists. If we're on the phone, you'll get that dreaded *busy signal*.

To make life easier, we're moving everyone to our Spectrum provided number: **315-765-8035**. This number has call rollover, which means if one line is busy, the call automatically goes to the other line. *No more busy signals, no more waiting!*

Going forward, please use **315-765-8035** whenever you call the church office.

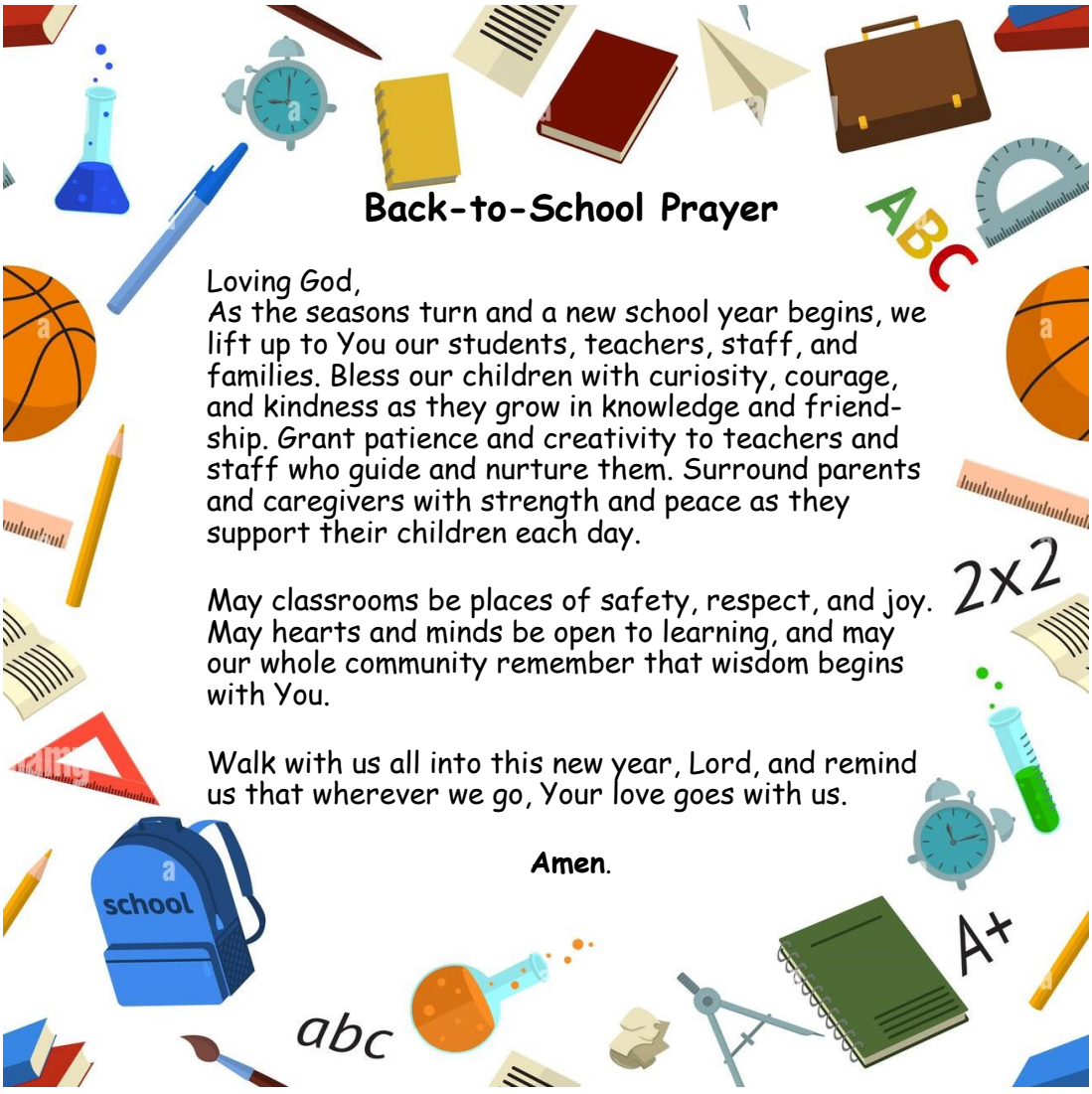
We'll keep this announcement running for a few months. Please save the new church office number in your phone and help us spread the word!

September Worship Team Schedule

Date:	Pastor	Worship Asst.	Greeters	Ushers
Sept. 7	Pastor Paul Dreher-Wiberg		Laurel McCurdy	
Sept. 14	Rev. Imani O'Lear		Darlene Hill	Jeanne Gymburch
Sept. 21	Rev. Marie Duquette		Linda Bennett	Doreen Nicholls & Jeanne Gymburch
Sept. 28	Pastor Jen DeWeerth			Darlene Hill

"May our souls be invigorated by the cooling breeze and our hearts warmed by the coziness of fall."

-Author Unknown



September Birthdays

Caryn Carlson	1
Carolyn Renno	8
Christopher Lambe	12
Eric Weir	14
Jack Henke	16
Aaron Tompkins	16
Timothy R. Mahay	16
Roger Beiswenger	18
Sarah Bennett	18
Carol Buchholz-Blackburn	28

"By all these lovely tokens, September days are here.
With summer's best of weather and autumn's best of cheer"

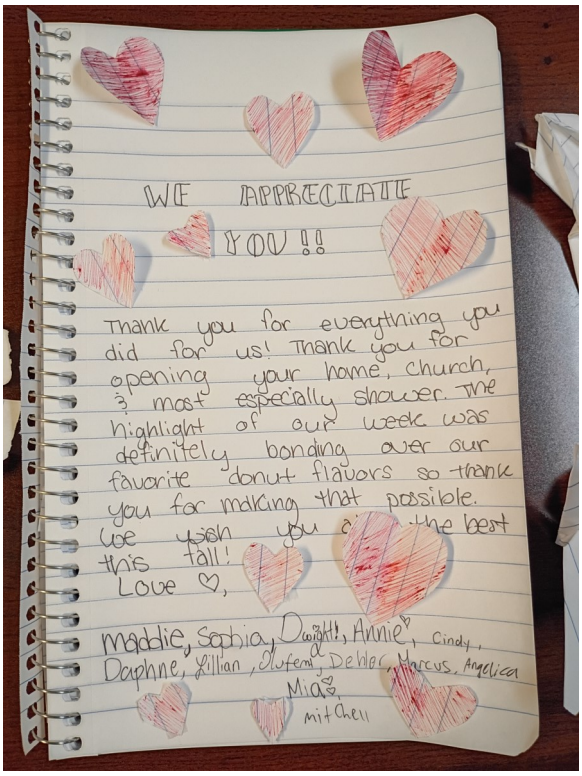
by Helen Hunt Jackson.

Treasurer's Report

		July 2025 Treasurer's		
	Jul-25	Year to Date	Budget	Over/Under Budget
Income				
Giving	$ 17,500.00	$ 91,004.35	$ 91,116.70	$ (112.35)
Other Income	$ 11,772.44	$ 52,402.80	$ 53,917.00	$ (1,514.20)
Total Income	$ 29,272.44	$ 143,407.15	$ 145,033.70	$ (1,626.55)
Total Expense	$ 21,294.14	$ 162,081.15	$ 151,711.10	$ 10,370.05
Net Income	$ 7,978.30	$ (18,674.00)	$ (6,677.40)	$ (11,996.60)

Notes of Gratitude & Other Communications

Dear Zion friends,
Thank you very much for the Amazon gift card that you gave me for college. I used it to buy a hutch that goes over my desk in the dorm. My mom said enough was enough so this came at the perfect time! I loved all the signatures and words of kindness on the card! Thank you to everyone who sent me cards and gift cards—all of it came in handy for my dorm & craft supplies!
Love,
Isabel Silva



Zion Food Ministry

Social Ministry Food Bank Support:

This quarter (July/August/September) Zion is supporting "Seeds of Hope" food pantry located at the former site of the First Presbyterian Church on Genesee St. Our contact, Cindy Molesky, shared the list of their current needs, & the list is now posted in the Narthex next to the food cart. Here is her list of food products most needed: peanut butter, canned vegetables, canned fruits, canned soups, canned pasta dishes, canned tuna, cereals, pastas , packaged pasta mixes, and canned sauces. Most of all they could use volunteers! Cindy would welcome anyone interested in touring the food pantry & hearing about the "Seeds of Hope" operations. If interested, please leave a message with Sara for Cindy.

Zion's Bottle/Can redemption donations so far this quarter:

July: 345 cans/bottles = $17.25

August: 637 cans/bottles = $31.85

Total so far this quarter = $49.10; these funds are added to our Zion Food Ministry collection for gifting to the four Oneida County sites Zion is supporting this year - three within Utica & one rural food pantry. Thank you Zion congregation for your generosity towards our local food pantries!

Zion Lutheran Church

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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.

God's Work Our Hands