

# The Tidings

The monthly newsletter of  
Zion Lutheran Church  
September/October 2018

## Zion Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Southern  
Ohio Synod of the ELCA  
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Synod Authorized Minister

Jon Meister

Service every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

## *Council Members*

**President** Jerry Gossett

**Vice President** Carol Mahon

**Treasurer** Tim Biler

**Secretary** Karen Brooks

## *Elder*

vacant

## *Deacon*

Vacant

## *Trustee*

Vacant

## *At-Large*

Jodi Taylor

## *From the Pastor's Desk:*

“Vente caramel macchiato for, wait, who?”

When Alex was in kindergarten, he loved going to Panera Bread for dinner. While he enjoyed the broccoli cheddar soup, he also thought it was hilarious when we would make up names for the order we placed. Most frequently used at that time was “Rushmi”, who was his teacher and the owner of the Montessori school he attended. He would laugh for minutes as “Rushmi, your order is ready” would ring through the restaurant, somehow believing his teacher was somewhere wondering “who keeps calling my name?” I hadn’t thought of this in years until recently I read of something a bit similar. Only this time it was at Starbucks, and instead of “Rushmi” it was “The Lord be with you”. The author then wrote that when his coffee drink was ready (it’s never “just a coffee” at Starbucks!) and they called “The Lord be with you”, it seemed that half those around immediately replied “and also with you”. Now that’s what I call a God moment!

While the article I was reading did not address any specific motive behind the person’s unique approach to elicit some public response to his faith, one thing is for certain: God is indeed at Starbucks. And Panera Bread. And the grocery store, work, school,

# Zion Lutheran Church

## Mission Statement

*“Reaching in for the Holy Spirit, Reaching up for God’s Grace, Reaching out with Christ’s Love.”*

## Vision Statement

*Seeking to share the love of Jesus Christ.*

## Core Values

*Share the sacraments;  
Share God’s love;  
Worship together;  
There is a place  
for everyone*



playground, public library, the hospital and of course, at church. Look at an open field and you’ll find Him there, too. Just as you will on a mountain top, farm and the ocean. He’s in the ordinary as well as the extraordinary, everyday miracles and the mundane, things that go perfectly and every bit of the messiness we encounter each day.

God is indeed in all things. We just concluded weeks of discussion around the book of John chapter 6: The Bread of Life. Jesus Himself tells us “Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.” He fills us with Himself as we faithfully believe in Him. Thomas Merton wrote “Guard the image of man for it is the image of God.” Rabbi Rami Shapiro, a regular contributor for Father Richard Rohr’s Center for Action and Contemplation, writes “God is I AM – not a being or even a supreme being, but BEING itself. Each of us is a keeper of the I AM; just as a wave is a keeper of the ocean, in its particular place and time, so are you a keeper of God in your particular place and time.”

The realities around us that we can touch or feel – our relationships, the natural world, even our own emotions – are God’s spirit and presence reaching out to each one of us. We may not get the chance to touch the wound in Jesus’ side the way Thomas did, but through our own experiences we get an insight into who God is and who God is calling each of us to be. Each day we step into a world of wonder and new chances, of friendships and opportunities. Each day God Himself is waiting and walking with us. He is present, in our midst and calling us forward in all that we do. Even at Starbucks.

Blessings,

Jon



Thanks to Don and Karen Brooks for hosting the church picnic on August 19! It was a pleasant time outdoors for all who came, with good food and fun with the paddleboat and kayak.

## *Happy Birthday!*

Rod Hutton	09/02
Tim Reuter	09/13
Emilie Harless	09/20
Janis Murray	09/20
Rick Snodgrass	09/24
Nancy Hoenie	10/06
Jerry Paulins	10/19

## *Congratulations!*

Congrats to Jon on his first anniversary as Synod Authorized Minister at Zion! His first official Sunday with us was September 3, 2017. Thanks for your hard work and a wonderful year at Zion!

## *Ox Roast*

It's time again for the annual Ox Roast – this year will be the 68<sup>th</sup>! The community service will be on **Sunday, September 2**. Zion will be providing coffee and donuts at the service.

## *Happy Anniversary!*

Dick and Ginny Fogt  
September 18



## *Backpack Blessing*

Zion will be having its annual Backpack Blessing on **September 9**. Students, please feel free to bring your backpacks or other student bags. We'll also be celebrating all those who work within the community for "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday.

## *Blessing for Animals*

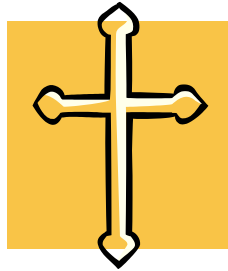
During the **October 7** service, Zion will have a special blessing for animals. If you'd like to bring in pictures of your pets for the service, please give them to Louise by **September 30**.

## *Reformation Sunday*

Reformation Sunday is **October 28<sup>th</sup>**. In addition, Zion will be celebrating the Confirmation of Emilie Harless and Kaleigh Johnston on that day. A reception will follow the service.

## *Breakfast Bunch*

The Breakfast Bunch continues to meet on the first Saturday of every month at 8:30 at Der Dutchman. Everyone is welcome! Join us for a good breakfast and good fellowship. Next breakfast get-togethers will be on **September 1** and on **October 6**.



## *Daily Prayers:*

Please keep these people in your prayers: Esther Mae Baker, Al Bausch, Don Brooks, Dortha Feddern, Bernie Brister, George Wendel, Carol Schiff, and the families of Susan Maggard and Tyson Kauffman.