

# The Tidings

The monthly newsletter of  
Zion Lutheran Church  
July/August 2016

## Zion Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Southern  
Ohio Synod of the ELCA  
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Web; [www.zionlutheranwj.org](http://www.zionlutheranwj.org)

**Pastor Denise Edwards**

Service every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

## *Council Members*

**President** Jerry Gossett

**Vice President** Paula Paulins

**Treasurer** Tim Biler

**Secretary** Karen Brooks

## *Elder*

vacant

## *Deacon*

Vacant

## *Trustee*

Carol Mahon

## *At-Large*

Jodi Taylor

## *WELCA*

Joyce Gossett, **President**

## *From the Pastor's Desk:*

The Good Samaritan Fund that was funded and used by several of the local West Jefferson churches is now no longer operational. In that absence, Council has decided that we do not wish to turn people away who have basic needs for gasoline for their cars, bus fare home, money to avoid their utilities being cut off or for food.

To that end, we will be funding our own fund so that we do not need to turn people away who come to Zion's doors. That said, I do keep limited hours here as I am 50% time - so I don't anticipate a huge wellspring of activity, but if the past is any indicator - we usually have several people each month coming to Zion with needs.

We do not yet have a name for this new fund. Suggestions have been: Zion's Purse, Zion's Samaritan Fund, and Zion's Community Fund. If you have a name to suggest or if you really like one of these, please let me know! We will be determining the name at our council meeting in August. For now - if you wish to give to the account - simply note - 'Samaritan Fund' on your envelope and it will go toward helping those in our community through Zion.

Let us continue reaching out with Christ's Love to our community and neighbors!

In Him,  
Pastor Denise

# 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*



**Thank you** to those who organized the annual Ladies Luncheon! Also to all of you who attended the event. The Purse Auction brought in \$258, which will be donated to the Good Samaritan Food Pantry.

**Thanks** to everyone – both cooks and cleanup crew -- who helped make the Father's Day breakfast so tasty and enjoyable! We enjoyed the food and the fellowship!

**Thank you** to our faithful Sunday School teachers this year, Malenie Hadidon, Rod Hutton, Pastor Denise and to those who filled in as well. Thank you, you taught us A LOT and we had fun doing it. And also thanks to those who prepped coffee and treats for us!

## *From the President's Desk:*

In our efforts to keep you informed of council's progress, I am again writing a brief synopsis of our activities. As you remember, we are addressing the issue of the future of our congregation. Our goal is to exhaust all possible options available to keep our doors open, including reaching out to other area churches, organizations, schools, or any other compatible group that could use our facilities or get us out into the community in some way. At the same time, we are considering what to do should we fail in reaching our goals.

In order to be faithful to our commitment to have options available to present to the congregation, we have deliberately met more frequently than we normally do. During our earlier meetings, we all started out by looking at each other with blank stares trying to come up with something useful to share. And, gradually, ideas did begin to trickle out and develop through our brainstorming discussions. We have learned the power of brainstorming! I cannot say that an 'earth shattering', 'can't fail', 'sure thing' idea has popped up yet. Maybe it never will. But, we have surprised ourselves with the quality of the ideas we did come up with.

In developing these ideas, we began reaching out to other area Lutheran



## *Happy Birthday!*

John Murray	07/03
Lori Feddern	07/05
Tyler Hadidon	07/05
Karen Brooks	08/22

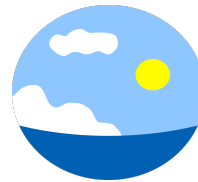
## *July/August Anniversaries*

Donald and Karen Brooks
Tom and Carol Mahon
Don and Carol Schiff
Tom and Pam Price

churches to exchange ideas and share experiences. We have spoken to the president of St Johns in London and Larry Baker of St Paul's in New Rome just to open up conversations in the hope that something good could come from some kind of joint venture with them. I have not yet spoken to Pr. McKee in New Rome, but plan to speak with him and their president. Also, given that we have a considerable property that goes unused for most of the week, we have begun reaching out to local schools, charitable and civic organizations, etc., to see if our facilities could act as a West Jefferson satellite for their missions. We are following up with one prospect in a Plain City organization that seems very interesting.

All in all, we are continually developing new ideas as they come, while at the same time, recognizing that it may not be God's will that Zion Lutheran Church will remain as a part of our community's future. Please continue to pray for your council members, volunteers and pastor that the Holy Spirit will lead them to whatever God has in store for Zion Lutheran Church.

Jerry Gossett  
President, Council



## *Our Graduates*

Due to a conflict in scheduling, we will not be honoring our graduates on July 10th. Please still lift up Tyler Hadidon, Derek Taylor, and Philip Taylor, as they enter into the next stage of their lives in Christ and their futures.

## *Prayer Service*

Sunday, **July 31st**, we will be having a short service of prayer within our regular worship service. All will have the opportunity to write a prayer request that will be prayed for privately following the service and to light a candle if you wish. Bring your prayer concerns, as you'll be invited to fill out a prayer concern form and place it in a box at the candle table.

## *Backpack Blessing!*

Calling all Back Packs! Zion is having a 'Blessing of the Back Packs' on August 21. We are inviting all students to come with their own backpacks or other kinds of student bags. Students of all ages are welcome -- preschoolers through graduate school!

## *Tree Work*

Recent tree work at Zion: Peterman's Tree Service has trimmed the large branch that was hanging over the roof of the church.



## *Daily Prayers:*

Please keep these people in your prayers: Esther Mae Baker, Bob Feddern; and Don and Carol Schiff.