

The

Messenger

Cruzando: the Spanish word meaning crossing.



Zion Ev. Lutheran Church
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Rev. Raymond H. Vance,
Pastor

A crossing journey from Huron, Ohio to San Antonio, Texas turned into a "Journey with Jesus" for three young men and Pastor Vance this past Fourth of July. They all found themselves in new ways and found out who they are in Christ. Who knew finding a stronger bond to Jesus and the wonders and promises he provides would entail so much fun, so many new experiences, and so many ways to discover their inner faith. They were shown the way to be courageous, hopeful and humble in their everyday lives and their lives with Jesus.

It's very difficult to be different and challenged to "wear your faith proudly and publicly" amongst peers of 15 and 16 years of age. The ELCA Youth Gathering was the ideal place to be who you really feel you are and respect the mutual love for God you really have in your being and soul. 15,000 teenagers and adults can't all be wrong.

Lasting and loving friendships and experiences occurred daily...from the time the first fundraisers commenced to the ride home from Cleveland Hopkins Airport. Our newly made friends from Trinity Lutheran Church in Monroeville were the first in an amazing chain of events and experiences to set us on a new journey and a renewed sense of "all that is good in the world." If you had the opportunity to meet any of these wonderful people you would feel blessed to have them as fellow Lutherans and as good friends.

The three young men, Ian Lyle, Kail Solberg, and Kyle Sommers, and Pastor Vance enjoyed music, worship, lectures, Bible study, fellowship, volunteering, and goodwill projects. The Alamo dome and the Gonzalez Convention Center were the Gathering's anchor locations. The Interaction Center, located in convention center, provided a place to play basketball, miniature golf, and participated in arts and crafts. Friendships were made. Life situations were discussed and compared. They found more things in common with each other than expected. They were not alone.

They participated in the building of a housing structure. A great deal of time, effort and hope was invested in this structure, only to have it destroyed by a simulated hurricane scenario. This taught everyone how it felt to lose everything that you worked so very hard on and had no control of its fate. Hurricane Katrina is the real world example that drew a parallel to this situation. Throughout this devastation, hope, love, kindness, strength and charity were still exemplified through

(continued next page)

many acts of kindness by people from all over the U.S. and other countries. These people, many of whom were complete strangers and volunteers, were mostly unknown to the devastated residents of Katrina's wrath...much the same as how the delegates attending the Gathering felt on day one of the "Journey with Jesus."

Our delegates dined on the Riverwalk, an example of cultural diversity and harmony, and visited the Alamo, a monument to the sacrifices and costs of conflict and cultural incongruity.

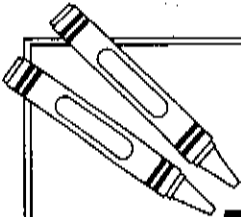
Three important programs that the ELCA Youth Gathering focused on were:

"Hamiltons for Hunger:" The Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) issued the \$1 million challenge to help eradicate hunger. Three Hamiltons (\$30.00) were the requested donation from each attendee.

In-Kind offerings: A \$10 gift card as an "in-kind" offering was requested of the attendees to benefit six San Antonio organizations.

Sunday offering: Worship offerings collected during Sunday morning worship benefited domestic and international ministries that support children, youth and families.

Ian, Kail, and Kyle represented Zion Lutheran in a way we know you would be proud of. The invaluable dedication of Pastor Vance as a friend, mentor and leader of our youth is appreciated greatly. Thank you to Pastor Vance, the Board and to the Congregation. Your donations helped these young men have a wonderful, once in a lifetime experience that would not have been possible without your support, prayers and guidance. It is an experience they look forward to attending again, if at all possible, in three years time.

















Just for **KIDS**

back to school

It is back to school time! You will continue to learn, grow and change. The Bible tells us that we are like clay and that God is forming us everyday.

Directions: Copy these squares onto the square grid below.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Isaiah 64:8 |  |  |  | The Clay, | |
| E5 | B2 | B3 | D2 | C1 | |
| The Potter." |  |  | You Are |  |  |
| C5 | D4 | D5 | B5 | A3 | C2 |
|  |  | | | | |
| C4 | E1 | | | | |
|  |  | | | | |
| D3 | A4 | | | | |
|  | "We Are | | | | |
| A2 | B1 | | | | |
|  |  | | | | |
| B4 | D1 | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| A | | | | | |
| B | | | | | |
| C | | | | | |
| D | | | | | |
| E | | | | | |

Our Church in Action



FINANCE REPORT

| | <i>July</i> |
|--|------------------|
| <i>Financial Secretary's Report</i> | |
| Received toward budget | \$22,803.54 |
| Needed to meet REVISED budget | <u>22,083.92</u> |
| Difference | 719.72 |
| Building/Renovation received | 2,140.85 |
| Building/Renovation received ytd | 11,741.16 |
| <i>Treasurer's Report</i> | |
| Beginning checking account balance | \$13,138.02 |
| Checking account income & interest | 24,752.86 |
| Expenses paid | <u>15,582.31</u> |
| Ending Balance | 22,308.57 |
| <i>Bills on hand</i> | |
| Benevolence | \$ 388.28 |
| 30 days or less | 3,220.86 |
| Over 30 days | 000.00 |
| Over 60 days | <u>000.00</u> |
| Total bills on hand at month end | \$ 3,609.14 |
| <i>Mortgage</i> | |
| Beginning balance | \$176,761.25 |
| Principal payment | 814.02 |
| Interest payment | <u>846.98</u> |
| Total payment | 1,661.00 |
| Ending Balance | \$175,947.23 |

July Council Highlights

Thanks to Michelle Vance for volunteering to change our message sign!
 A Couple's dinner is planned for fall. This includes a speaker from Marriage Encounter.
 Rodney Biggert will address the congregation on Rally Day.

Dates to note:

8/20 – Book bag blessing; evange cubes handed out to children; signing of Apostle's Creed

8/27 – Rally Day: a magician and a picnic

9/3 – no Sunday School (children will remain in church)

9/10 – First day of Sunday School – bring a grandparent to Sunday School

9/24 – SALM/Habitat chicken BBQ at the OVH from noon-4 p.m.

10/15 – Injili evangelists will visit us

Membership changes:

Baptisms: Charles Norwell, Mackenzie Nevison, Mia Rose Boldman, Ethan Cayton

Moved to "inactive:" the Thaxton family; Melinda, Alex Baun, Michelle Cooper, Doug Nottke

Moved from "active" to associate:" Mark Foxworth

Our Church in Action

Serving this month:



Acolytes

- 9/3 8:00 – Kaitlyn Sommer
10:30 – Emily King
9/10 8:00 – Rachel Wallace
10:30 – Thomas Kyer
9/17 8:00 – Rachel Wallace
10:30 – N. Ponikvar
9/24 8:00 – Emily King
10:30 – Kelsey Solberg

Lay Assistants

- 9/3 - Barbara Vance
9/10 - Florence Chase
9/17 - Mike Amstutz
9/24 - Tom Preston

Ushers

- 8:00 – Mike Hire, Todd Sommer
9:15 - Neal and Pam Gray
10:30 – Karl and Cassa Brodbeck

Altar Care

- Rosalie Hipp
Cassa Brodbeck

Altar & Organ Flowers

- 9/3 - Ruth Ball
9/10 - Paul and Laura Nabors
9/17 - Terry Guzek
9/24 - Bob and Leslie Resley

Communion Elements

- 9/3 - Joyce & Frank Rauschenberger
9/10 - Adult Sunday School Class
9/17 - Mike & Sherry Thatcher
9/24 - Joyce & Frank Rauschenberger

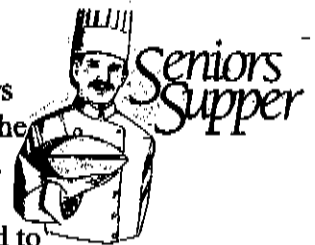
Quiet Communion - 1st Thursday of each month

A "Quiet Communion" service will be held the first Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. This is a short communion service with no music. Everyone is invited. Drivers may be available if needed. Call the church office at 433-4711 with any questions.



Annual Senior Dinner

All congregants who are 60 years of age and above are invited to the annual Senior Dinner, to be held here at the church on Friday, September 22, 2006. We'll need to know if you're planning to attend – please call Amy before September 20th at 433-0538 to RSVP.



Chi-Rho Begins

Our Chi-Rho catechism class for 6th, 7th and 8th graders will resume the first Sunday in October. The parents ONLY of these students are invited to meet with Pastor Vance on Sunday, September 17th, at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the curriculum and schedule.

Crop Walk...

is returning on October 1st at 2:00 p.m. at Columbus Ave. United Methodist Church in Sandusky. We'll meet at Zion at 1:00 and car pool there. Adults and children, individuals or families are invited to participate. If you cannot join in the walk, please sponsor a walker. Three-fourths of funds collected go to World Service Organization, and one-fourth of the funds stay in the Sandusky area to help Care and Share.



Our Church Family

Zion's Prayer List

Members, families, relatives and friends:

Michelle Berry, Lois Braun, Steve Brown, Shirley Carbeno, Stevie Enderle, Bill and Jean Hahn, Bob Hilty, Don Hipp, Sandi Klingel Smith, Edna Leitzke, Ewalt Maurushat, Leota Meyers, Christine Molnar and family, Dominic Myers, Shirley Sheard, Vera Schuh, Pat Tomazic, Carl Vonthron, David Wagner, Otto Wall, Rosa Zimmerman, Helen Bartell, Pamela Jacobs and Evelyn Wiewandt.



Zion's Prayer List

We believe in this parish that prayer is very important - we invite you to call the office so we can pray for those you think are in need of prayer. When you give us a name to add to our Sunday prayer list (names to be read from the altar), we will pray for that person for the month. We look to you to let us know if the prayers need to be continued beyond that time.

Walk With God!

There was concern expressed about using the existing property at Zion. There has been a way presented to utilize the property, stop the paying of taxes, and bringing in the community and prompting people to pray.

There will be a meeting held to discuss and develop the steps for a prayer path and labyrinth on our property. You have only to enter and follow the path, open your heart as your prayer-filled walk embraces life's journey. It may be joyous, it may be somber. It may be used as a walking meditation for petitioning, thanking and praising the Divine Spirit, a prayer of sacred movement of the Spirit in our lives.

Watch the bulletin for more information and meeting dates.



A Prayer for Spiritual Growth

When my spiritual vision is foggy, help me to find my way.
When my understanding is incomplete, open my mind and increase my patience.
When my indifference blocks my senses, touch my heart.

When worry or fear raise their voices, speak to my faith.

Let your spirit permeate my longings as well as my living and my loving. Amen

--Peggy Ferrell, *Prayers and Poems*

Our Church Family

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| Amstutz, Philip | 09/26 | Barcus, Matthew | 09/06 |
| Basting, Nicholas | 09/27 | Basting, Rachel | 09/07 |
| Berry, Michelle | 09/06 | Blevins, Roger | 09/13 |
| Blevins, Allison | 09/30 | Bunsey, Lucinda | 09/19 |
| Bunsey, Robert | 09/23 | Callihan, Dale | 09/13 |
| Carmel, Madison | 09/14 | Carruthers, Adam | 09/27 |
| Chase, Florence | 09/22 | Gilbert, Heide | 09/02 |
| Gilbert, David | 09/11 | Gray, Alexander | 09/04 |
| Grieves, Zachary | 09/12 | Hahn, Christine | 09/15 |
| Hicks, Jeremy | 09/09 | Kraus, Kyle | 09/27 |
| Lash, David | 09/01 | Law, Jennifer | 09/23 |
| Marshall, Todd | 09/04 | Mazza, Christopher | 09/27 |
| Mellein, Connie | 09/04 | Nabors, Haley | 09/08 |
| Pluc, Tony | 09/04 | Preston, Shelia | 09/07 |
| Rathbun, Jennifer | 09/19 | Riemann, Kyle | 09/05 |
| Ritter, Elizabeth | 09/27 | Sams, Dylan | 09/27 |
| Solberg, Michael | 09/17 | Solle, Margaret | 09/24 |
| Sommer, Kyle | 09/21 | Steyns, Kimberly | 09/18 |
| Steyns, Brent | 09/14 | Thatcher, Shane | 09/24 |
| Wenzinger, Rachael | 09/12 | Witt, Arthur | 09/24 |



9/14/57 – Forrest and Carolyn Airhart
 9/16/95 - Carson and Kathie Chlepciak
 9/21/96 – Richard and Lisa Dewey
 9/26/98 – Mike and Amy Hurst
 9/4/92 - Chad and Sherry Law
 9/1/79 – Michael & Rhonda Magovac

9/5/98 – Juliana & Michael Morefield
 9/7/91 – James and Diane Church
 9/9/77 - William and Heide Gilbert
 9/17/49 – Dick and June Klein
 9/6/86 – Rodger and Karen Likes
 9/15/51 – Ewalt & Jocelyn Maurushat
 9/13/69 – Bob and Leslie Resley
 9/13/52 – Ed & Millie Schilman
 9/4/76 – Todd and Miriam Sommer



If you would like to honor or remember a special person or event, dates are available on the Communion Elements chart. A \$15 donation purchases the bread and wine for one Sunday. The chart is located on the bulletin board. Please briefly note the occasion or person being commemorated.

Our Church in the Community

I Stand at the Door and Knock

In Rev. 3:20-22 God's talking to each of us. He's knocking on our hearts to enter into intimate fellowship with us. To those who are for Him, He says, "I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne."

Just imagine – our sitting with Jesus on his throne! We are assured of that. God speaks to us through His word. We respond to Him through our obedience but God has also given us access to His presence through prayer.

Prayer has been defined by Tony Evans as "regular communication with God in which believers develop an intimate fellowship with their Father." Unfortunately, many of us know our prayers so well that we don't think when we pray; the words automatically roll off our tongues reflecting the "depth" of our relationship with God. Prayer is intrinsic to the life of Christ because the growth of our prayer life equals the growth in our spiritual life.

Mark 1:35 describes one of Christ's busiest days on earth. Christ preached in many synagogues, yet on that day He did not sleep to get more energy; instead, He rose before daylight to pray. The busier His schedule, the greater His need for God. When Jesus was on His way to the cross, He prayed in the Garden of Gethesemane. When He was suffering on the cross He prayed.

How do we respond to our busy days? Paul made it clear that Christians can enjoy the things of this cosmos (1 Tim. 6:17) as long as they maintain their dependence on and first love for God. God cannot have an intimate relationship with us if we are having an affair with the world.

We are to be in the world, but not of the world (John 17:15, 16). We have television, drive nice cars, enjoy leisure time, do yard work in the nice house, shop, etc., yet, Paul in 1 Cor. 7:31 "commends those who use

the world as not missing it. For the form of this world is passing away." He is suggesting that we use the things of this world, but warns us not to lose sight of our first priority.

When the television, shopping, cleaning, etc., competes successfully for our devotion and prayer time, God is being left out. When the leisure time and yard work begin to rise toward first place in our life, God is being left out.

We each must examine our hearts if we want to keep our relationship with God vital and flourishing. For one believer, to have a TV in the house is a temptation, for another believer there may be 5 sets and that person serves God faithfully. We each need to be honest and reflect on what is keeping us from God. Another reliable measure of our entanglement with "things" is: how would we feel if we lost these things? Would we gripe and complain or would we thrive in faith? Would we enjoy things and possessions but not cling to them so tightly that we could not survive the loss?

Are we putting the things/events of the world before our prayerful relationship with God? Are we leaving Him at the door to knock and we don't answer because we are toooooo busy?

The Injili Tour

Twelve evangelists from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania will be in the Eastern Conference of the Northwest Ohio Synod to spread INJILI "Gospel of the Lord" at Zion in Sandusky on Sunday Oct. 15th at 7:00 p.m., and at Grace Lutheran Church in Fremont on Monday Oct. 16th at 7:00 p.m. They will share their faith and love of Jesus Christ in song, skits and personal testimony. Come, catch their spirit!



"Gospel of the Lord"

Our Church in Action

News from ZLCW:

We are now collecting items for Lutheran World Relief School kits and health kits. There is a basket in the narthex and also boxes in the collection area for your contributions. If you don't have time to shop, we will do the shopping for you since donations are welcome for this project.

Ladies: The Eastern Conference fall retreat is scheduled for Thursday, September 28th, 2006, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Clyde Community Park main shelter house, South Street, Clyde. Cost is \$10 at the door, which includes coffee hour, lunch and craft. For more info, check the bulletin board.

ZLCW will meet on September 5th, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. All women are encouraged to attend these meetings.

Ladies – save the evening of October 26th, 2006, 6:00 p.m. for the Women's Harvest Gathering. If you enjoyed the salad luncheon earlier this year, you will enjoy this evening. It will be a potluck supper, so check out the recipes in the new SALM cookbook. We will also have a speaker for this evening.

Women's Thankoffering Service (Nov. 19) is fast approaching. We are in need of a coordinator for these services; we also need ushers, readers (perhaps some young ladies would like to participate), greeters. At this point we are also in need of a speaker. If you have any suggestions, questions, or would like to volunteer to help out, please call Florence at 433-4577 (or email at fhase@cros.net) or contact Leslie at 433-4955.

BIBLE STUDY CIRCLES have begun a new study entitled "Living a Life of Balance," from the Women of Faith's Study

Guide Series. Currently we have three Bible study circles: two during the daytime and one in the evening. Another group is in the planning stages – would you like to become a part of a monthly Bible study group? If so, please call Florence Chase, Leslie Foxworth, Phyllis Quaintance, leave a message at the church office, or a note in the ZLCW mailbox in the Upper Room.

Music, Music, Music!

September is here! The music ministry has begun. Are you participating?

Here are some reasons why you CAN:

- 1 – I love God and He loves me.
- 2 – In music, I praise Him.
- 3 – I use my talents for Him, He gave them to me.
- 4 – this way I serve God and my church.
- 5 – I can do church and worldly things; there is enough time for both.
- 6 – I got off the pew and now I do.

Here's the music schedule:

Sunday – **Handbells** at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesdays – **Beginning Chimes** at 4:30 p.m.; **Zion Chimers** at 5:00 p.m.; **915 Song Team** at 6:00 p.m.; **Senior Choir** at 7:00 p.m.

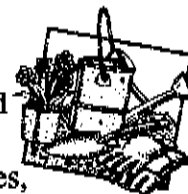
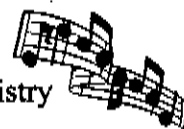
He is the founder of our song, so it's to Him we come!

His Son is the foundation of our song, so it's Him we praise!

His Spirit is the fountain of our song, so we drink of Him!

Request from Trustees

Do you have any new or gently-used garden equipment to donate to the church? Tools such as shovels, rakes, hoses, hand tools, pruning tools, trimmers, etc., are needed and can be stored in our new shed. Call the church office if you have any questions, or call Roger at 433-7710.



Child in our Hands
By Leslie Foxworth

Do you feel the excitement in the air? The Parish Education Committee has been busy getting ready for the new Sunday School season. They have selected a new, engaging curriculum called *Inside Out*. It is very upbeat and has lots of interactive activities. They have also been working with Pastor to have more children involved in the worship service through reading the scripture lessons, acolyting, and being a worship leader.

We have already had the Blessing of the Book Bags to help the children get off to a good start at school. We gave the children key chain Evangeucubes and taught them how to use them to share the Good News of Jesus and to invite others to come to worship with them.

This past Sunday we had an exciting Rally Day with guest Rodney Biggert sharing his message about "Magic and Miracles". Although it had to be an inside picnic, we had lots of fun with games and activities for the children and a great lunch. It was wonderful to see so many families attend and to have the 10:30 worship attendees join us for lunch so that we were a truly intergenerational group.

The first regular Sunday School lesson will be on September 10th. The format is different than anything we have tried before. Everyone will worship upstairs as usual, however, the children will meet in the Fellowship Hall for a large group lesson then break down into age appropriate groups for small group activities. There will also be a class for the 6th, 7th, & 8th grade Chi Rho students. I am enthusiastic about leading Teen Alpha for the high school students. Both of these classes need one or more adults that are willing to team with the teachers.

I know everyone is busy and doesn't need one more thing to do, but feel free to offer your time and your skills whenever and wherever you would like. The more you participate, the more rewarding the experience is for everyone. Your positive attitude is "caught" by your children.

The last few months I haven't had many suggestions for activities. As fall approaches, here are a few:

1. Take walks together and notice the changes in nature. Kids always have fun collecting buckeyes and acorns. Buckeyes can be used to make necklaces. Acorns can be used as the heads for puppets. Collect pinecones for Christmas crafts and decorations. Fall is also a great time for walks on the beach to collect stones, shells and driftwood, which can be used for craft projects.

2. September makes me think of apples (It must be the schoolteacher in me!) As a family, pick apples together. There are several places in Ohio that have fall festivals where they make apple butter and show pioneer life. It is fun to make dolls using apples as the head. As the apple dries, the face gets "old" and wrinkly. A dish detergent bottle can be used as the body and scraps of cloth for the clothes.

3. Notice the way leaves are changing. Collect leaves and press them between sheets of paper and then between pages of thick books. Fresh leaves can be used to make pictures. Place the leaf under a sheet of paper and have the children color over it to make a rubbing picture of it. Collect many different kinds of leaves and talk about the variety in God's creation. If you are up to the messiness, have the children paint the leaves with fabric paint then press them on paper or cloth to make a print of the leaves. These could be used as placemats. The same thing can be done with fruits and vegetables. Older children could do printing on fabric, then place batting and another piece of cloth under the fabric, use an embroidery hoop to hold the fabrics in place and sew around the print to make a quilted piece that could be used for pot holders, pillow tops, or quilted placemats.

4. Plan to join Crop Walk on October 1st. As a family, take an envelope and get sponsors.



Pastoral Ministry Assistant
Leslie Foxworth

Have you ever seen a "Big, Hairy, Audacious Goal?" A number of years ago I went to a church leadership training session in Cincinnati. There was an emphasis on evangelism and serving others. With a good deal of humor the presenter spoke about congregations setting goals. He spoke of taking on a "big, hairy, audacious goal." That is a goal that really causes the congregation to "stretch" to expand their faith and their giving. The SALM Committee did that last year. SALM stands for Sandusky Area Lutherans in Mission. Eight congregations joined together in a covenant to work cooperatively. Those congregations are : Grace – Castalia, Resurrection – Sandusky, St. John – Groton, St. John - Sandusky, St. Paul - Sandusky, Trinity – Sandusky, Zion – Huron, and Zion – Sandusky. We were looking for a mission project that would be significant. A representative from Habitat for Humanity shared with us about their work of providing affordable housing for deserving, hard-working families. The committee decided that helping with a house would be something that the individual churches couldn't do on their own, but when the eight SALM churches combined their efforts, it should be doable.

Our original plan was to get organized and begin raising money toward a house so that we could break ground in the spring of 2006. However, Habitat asked for immediate help with the house that was under construction on Wamajo Dr. We literally jumped right in and begin working and fundraising. The spaghetti dinner at Zion last October was one of the first efforts at raising money. Since then the other churches have sponsored dinners, pancake breakfasts, strawberry festivals, craft and yard sales and published SALM cookbooks. We are in awe of the way God has blessed us in this endeavor. We have earned \$19,500 toward our goal. The cookbooks have been so successful that we have had to run a second printing to meet all our orders. (If you want one, be sure to sign the list on the table in the narthex, and I will see that you get one as soon as they arrive.)

We have one final fundraising event. It is the SALM Chicken BBQ at the Ohio Veterans Home picnic Pavilion on Sunday September 24th from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. The tickets are on sale from Julie Necina, Leslie Foxworth, Matt Wenzinger and the church office for \$10 each in advance and \$12 each at the event. Carryouts will be available. There will also be a special drawing during the dinner. Ask one of the SALM representatives about it. I encourage you to attend. Not only will you get to eat out, but you will also be helping to build a home. Considering that we are celebrating the third anniversary of the signing of the SALM Covenant, it will be a great afternoon.

Now the best part of this big, hairy, audacious goal is not that we will earn \$25,000 and build a house for a deserving family. It is that in the process, eight churches have joined together and grown. We no longer see ourselves in competition with each other, but rather have become friends and partners. We have enjoyed working together and pooling our resources. We have become comfortable in all of the different church buildings. We have met so many wonderful people and have encouraged and supported each other. YOU are a part of SALM, too. If you have yet to participate in any of the SALM activities, there are still more to come!

October 1st is Crop Walk. It will begin at 2:00 from the Columbus Ave. United Methodist Church. Pick up an envelope from the Crop Walk display, ask people to sponsor you. Put on your comfortable shoes and join us for a 2.3 mile walk on Columbus Ave. in Sandusky. This is an event for all ages and for families. The sidewalks are in good repair this year. You will have an opportunity to meet new people and have great conversations while you walk.

October 15th, Injili Evangelists from Tanzania will be visiting with us in the morning and will be presenting a special program at 7:00 p.m. at Zion in Sandusky.

November 12, The Combined Choir Concert of the SALM congregations. Judy Burrows will be coordinating and directing. To me, it is the perfect analogy of SALM. Each choir is wonderful when they sing, but when they combine their voices, the music is truly amazing.

September 2006

Monthly Planner

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

| August | | | | | | |
|--------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

| October | | | | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

1
(office closed)

2

3
8:00, 9:15,
10:30AM
Communion
9:00 AM Marina
Service

4
Labor Day - office
closed

5
9:30 AM Staff
Meeting
2:00 PM ZLCW

6
12:00 PM Ret.
Lunch
4:30 PM Beg.
Chimes
5:00 PM Chimers
6:00 PM Song
Team
7:00 PM Choir
7:00 PM SS Teach.

7
9:00 AM Fitness
1:00 PM Quiet
Communion
7:00 PM GS lead-
ers @ Christian
Center

8
(office closed)

9

10
8:00, 9:15,
10:30AM
Communion
9:15 AM Sunday
School
6:30 PM Handbells

11
9:00 AM Fitness
9:30 AM Staff
Meeting

12
6:00 PM Finance
meeting
6:30 PM Brd of
Fellowship
7:00 PM "Better
Together"
7:00 PM Council
Meeting

13
4:30 PM Beg.
Chimes
5:00 PM Chimers
6:00 PM Song
Team
7:00 PM Choir

14
9:00 AM Fitness
7:30 PM Ruth
Circle

15
(office closed)

16

17
8:00, 9:15,
10:30AM
Communion
9:15 AM Sunday
School
4:00 PM Chi-Rho
Parents
6:30 PM Handbells

18
9:00 AM Fitness
9:30 AM Staff
Meeting
4:30 PM Brownies
@ CC

19
6:30 PM Music &
Worship
7:00 PM Brd. of
Deacons

20
4:30 PM Beg.
Chimes
5:00 PM Chimers
6:00 PM Song
Team
7:00 PM Choir

21
9:00 AM Fitness
12:00 PM Mary
Martha Circle

22
(office closed)
5:30 PM Senior
Dinner

23

24
8:00, 9:15,
10:30AM
Communion
9:15 AM Sunday
School
12:00 PM - 4:00
PM SALM BBQ
@ OVH
6:30 PM Handbells

25
9:00 AM Fitness
9:30 AM Staff
Meeting

26
10:30 AM Trinity
Circle @ CC

27
4:30 PM Beg.
Chimes
5:00 PM Chimers
6:00 PM Song
Team
7:00 PM Choir

28
9:00 AM Fitness

29
(office closed)

30

The Pastor's Page

Not Your Father's Bethel

I've gotten to that place in my life when I can recognize not only one change, but a series of them.

I ponder this as I think about leading our congregation through the **Bethel Series** again.

I remember well the two weeks I spent in Madison Wisconsin one Fall, two churches ago. I watched the author, Harley Swiggum, "tame" a room of more than 50 pastors, each of whom thought themselves "an expert in the Bible." It was interesting to watch how he walked among us. How he touched people on the arm. How he made up pet names for some. By the second day we didn't want touches or names. We learned to be quiet and listen. And he began to teach.

When I taught this **in-depth study** the first time, I followed Harley's example exactly. I gathered people who were willing to be future Bethel teachers and I gave them extra assignments and meetings. I taught them how to lead a class themselves after taking the two years of Bible study.

We made memory cards of the hundreds of "concepts" that are really outlines of the content of the Old and New Testament. We learned these concepts together. We kept the cards in our pocket or purse at all times. If I met a student and they didn't have their cards when I asked them, they owed me a dinner. Of course, I had to always have my rubber-banded pile of cards too -- lest they tried to get dinner out of me.

The second time I taught Bethel was here at Zion. I changed it a lot. The extra work for future teachers was not necessary since there were

already trained Bethel teachers here. We didn't do much with the concept cards either, but we spent time learning the meanings of the posters which are the strength of Bethel. For two years we met faithfully downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. The old musty pictures came alive again.

I'm now **ready to teach Bethel again to a new group** (although I hope some of those who attended before might like to study again).

If there is enough interest to start a class, **we will begin on October 19th**. We won't be committing everyone to a two year program and not allow someone who missed the start to join in later. We will be signing up each time for a seven week unit. You can take one unit or all six -- or any combination in between.

Class will be taught differently. We will be adding new things to the strict lecture format of Bethel. One change is that the old, faded pictures have been replaced with new power-point images. Much brighter. Much larger.

The "21st Century" Bethel

October 19 - December 7

(but not Thanksgiving Eve)

Thursdays 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

The Christian Center or
The Fellowship Hall

(depending on group size)

We will divide the **ninety minute sessions** in half. In the first half we won't even turn on the computer. We will be opening our Bibles and I'll take you through the passage under study. We will underline and write notes in the margins and notice parallel passages. You might want to **get a different Bible** to use just for

Bethel so you're not marking up the family heirloom.

Then we will fire up the laptop and see how the "hallowed" Bethel pictures really do help us to remember the main concepts of the Bible text. This should be fun, because it'll be a puzzle to be solved each week. Prizes may be awarded!

After coffee and the **treats that we classmates will bring**, it's time for small group discussion following an outline somewhat like I prepared for Lenten dinners this year.

Then we will join each other again and each **small group** can share the deeper insights they gleaned in their discussion. We will have a brief devotion before we leave promptly at 8:30 for home.

The cost is **\$15** for the first seven week unit because it includes a notebook. After that each unit will be \$10.

I'm asking those who would like to attend or re-attend Bethel to **sign up in the month of September** so we can get the published materials. If you forget to sign up, don't let that stop you from coming. We can order materials at any time.

If we get a group of at least 12 people, we will have enough to begin. More than 12 means we can have more small group units.

As our world seems to go through changes all the time, the Word of God is our one constant.

--RHV

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday Worship Times:

8:00 AM, 9:15 AM, 10:30 AM

Sunday School for all ages 9:15 AM

**Communion every Sunday*

OUR STAFF

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*Office Hours 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday
(New office hours)*

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To the Family of . . .

DARTBALL TIME!

Sign up for Zion's dartball team

**SIGN UP SHEET IS ON THE
BULLETIN BOARD IN THE NARTHEX**

**Experience reality, not fantasy!!
Sign up and watch for details.**