



**AUGUST 2006**

Volume 51, Issue 8

# Tidings

*The monthly newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church*

## **Zion Lutheran**

A congregation of the Southern Ohio Synod  
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**Pastor Dennis Koch**

Services every Sunday at  
8:15 and 10:30 a.m.

## **Church Council**

### **Officers**

**Milly McNutt**, President  
**Jerry Paulins**, Vice President  
**Janis Murray**, Secretary  
**Tim Biler**, Treasurer

### **Elders**

**Sally Hurt**  
Congregational Representative  
**Susie Taylor**  
Parish Board/Sunday School  
**Louise Johnston**  
WELCA Representative

### **Deacons**

**Sally Forrest**  
**Dick Fogt**  
**John Hall**  
**Terry Taylor**

### **Trustees**

**Cress Jenkins**  
**Steve Lutz**  
**Richard Woods**

### **WELCA**

**Carol Mahon**, President

## **Jesus took time for prayer; so should we**

When is your time away? Some of you will say, "Friday" or "Saturday." Unfortunately, some will even "Sunday." Many will say, "What time? I am too busy with . . . to make time."

When we read Mark 6:30 to 34, we find reference to Jesus and his disciples going off to a "deserted place." Did you know Jesus took time out regularly from his busy schedule with all its demands and hustle and bustle for some rest and relaxation and some time to re-center his life on God by prayer and quiet meditation?

A retired college professor remembers teaching summer school:

*"As with most Universities, our summer session comprises two semesters crammed into eight weeks apiece and without compromise. Everyone, student and teacher alike, lives submerged in his or her subjects, a book in hand most waking hours.*

*"Summer is the time when the buildings become stale and old and you gather up students to troop outside and discuss Crane and Hemingway and O'Connor beneath cool and ancient trees.*

*"Summer is the time when no one dresses up. Comfort is all, fashion is nothing.*

*"Summer is the time when one focuses entirely on the task at hand. The pervasive polite gamesmanship of academe, the various erudite*

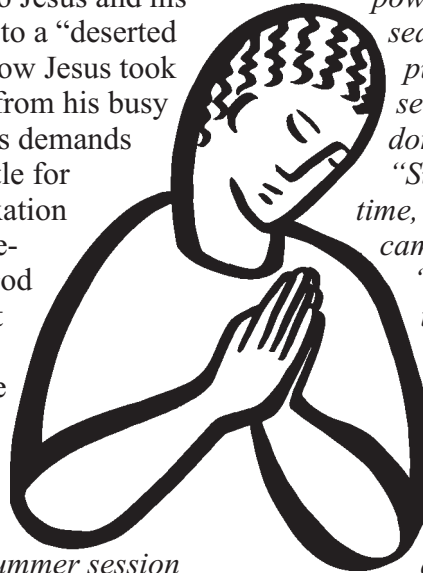
*power plays, take a back seat to the overriding purpose of surviving the semester, getting the work done and staying cool.*

*"Summer is a laid-back time, on university campuses as elsewhere.*

*"I came to love this time that is somehow outside of time, the small but restorative land of summer. I was always sorry to see it go, always looked back with regret: Why can't it always be like that?"*

In inviting his disciples to "a deserted place," Jesus calls us to bring a little bit of summer into every season of the year: a time for quiet; a time for setting aside power and ego and everything except for the tough job of love and service; a time for learning the things of God that we never have time to learn. Throughout the year, Jesus calls us to find "summer" spaces for making

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Zion Lutheran Church  
 Mission Statement  
 "To share the  
 Good News of  
 God's love shown  
 to us through  
 Jesus Christ; in  
 gathering for  
 worship, Baptism,  
 and Holy Communion;  
 through studying  
 God's word in order  
 to share an active  
 faith; providing  
 loving service  
 to our community."



## Open House set

Will you or have you celebrated a birthday or anniversary in 2006? Who hasn't? If so, please come and join us for an evening of fun and celebration, cake and ice cream from 5 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 20, at the Kochs', 341 Parkdale Road. We look forward to having you over!  
 Intern meeting

The Internship Committee will meet for the last time at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 10 at church.

## XYZ News

### Swim Party!

Junior Xcellent Youth at Zion (grades 1-8) will get together at the Baldersons' home (859 Taylor-Blair Road) from 2 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 12 for an afternoon of swimming. Take a break from the summer heat and join your church friends at the pool.

### Fun Evening Planned!

Senior Xcellent Youth at Zion (grades 9-12) will have a Back-To-School Night from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 27 at church. We'll have pizza, conversation and some zany activities. Bring a friend and don't miss the fun!

Want to submit  
 an item for the  
 newsletter?

Contact

Susie Taylor

at 879-6414 or  
 sataylor@agristar.net

## Ox Roast Tent

It's time to sign up for a weekend of fun, rain or shine. Zion again will be pleasing the crowd with its fluffy cotton candy and ice cold snow cones at this year's Ox Roast. We will be open for business Saturday morning through Monday evening Labor Day weekend. There will be plenty of times to work and you will be able to choose as many spots as you wish. We will not limit your hours of volunteering. Come to church and sign up or call or e-mail Lori Feddern at 878-4631 or [LS0757@sbcglobal.net](mailto:LS0757@sbcglobal.net) or Carol Mahon at 879-6032 or [cmrph@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cmrph@sbcglobal.net)

## August Birthdays

8/14 Jeremy Paulins  
 8/21 Mark Forrest  
 8/22 Karen Brooks  
 8/29 Doug Forrest

## August Anniversaries

8/6 Al and Kaye Bausch – 46  
 8/17 Cress and Karen Jenkins – 14  
 8/17 Don and Carol Schiff – 49  
 8/20 Dennis and Linda Koch – 18  
 8/25 Bill and Willie Harrison – 32

## September Birthdays

9/1 Don Schiff  
 9/8 Michael Koch – 15  
 9/11 Bill Weser  
 9/20 Janis Murray  
 9/21 Emilie Harless – 3  
 9/24 Rick Snodgrass

## September

### Anniversaries

9/18 Dick and Ginny Fogt – 24  
 9/27 Mark and Sally Forrest – 26

## Make time for Prayer

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quiet, prayerful time to re-center our lives in the things of God. The time to start is right now!

Pastor Dennis

# ***Cruzando! Journey with Jesus!***

For the last year, you've heard about the Youth Gathering in San Antonio. It finally arrived and we were blessed to accompany four terrific youth on the trip. It wasn't your ordinary trip – it was a trip that had experiences that will last a lifetime. Our biggest blessing was watching these four young adults hear, witness, experience and engage themselves in everything that was available to them.

Each morning we gathered for devotions – we tried to do it the first night, but getting to the room after midnight proved too exhausting. After morning devotion and “mail call” (thanks for those notes!), we headed to the Alamodome. Each morning the house band revved up the crowd with music. We were on our feet rocking, jumping, swaying and praising the Lord! The main event each morning was the Bible Study and listening to a guest speaker. The first Bible Study caught the crowd's attention (well, the Bible Study leader zip-lining across the Alamodome the night before caught our attention) when after using the standard flannel board found in Sunday School, the leader (pictured with our group here) used human Velcro body figures who “pasted” themselves against Velcro walls to tell the story of The Good Samaritan.

After the morning sessions, we joined the crowd (16,000 the week we were there; 24,000 attended an identical experience

the week after us) in finding lunch and then we headed off to the Convention Center, which was filled with activities, displays, workshops, basketball and volleyball games, and more. One afternoon we went by bus to a park in San Antonio and painted the outdoor bathroom and all of



***Michael, Danielle, Catherine and Kristin pose with Gathering Youth Pastor Steve Bond.***

the picnic tables and benches. It was unfortunate to find out that the graffiti we painted over would most likely be back that same night. Traveling to the neighborhood where the park was located was eye-opening as the area was poor and depressed. The fresh look given to the park, even if for a brief time, gave our group a good feeling of being able to help those in that community.

Each evening we traveled back to the Alamodome for more music, awesome inspirational speakers, and more. There is just not enough room here to describe the whole event. To give you some idea of the scale of the event, the same company that produces the Super Bowl half-time show produced the ELCA Youth Gathering. Large stages, screens, a huge lighted cross, and

sound systems took over our vision once we entered the Alamodome. Great seats in the Alamodome (thanks to Michael's special passes), meeting people from all over the country, making prayer beads, experiencing different worship styles (when was the last time you heard “Lamb of God” during Communion done by a rapper?) signing up for college mailings, learning more about Christian music and some of the most popular groups, learning the song “ELCA” to the tune of the Village People’s “YMCA,” visiting the historic Alamo, exchanging gifts with other youth, hearing and knowing that God is always with you

wherever you are and in whatever situation you are in, are honestly just glimpses of the things we experienced.

It was the most amazing trip for these kids. You will hear more from them as the weeks and months go on about their interpretation of The Gathering through *Tidings* and in worship. Thank you very much for your support. We could not have done it without you. In another three years we have a big group eligible to attend The Gathering (must complete 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade in 2009). Plan now to make this a part of your child's summer. You will not regret it. Vaya con Dios!

Pastor and Linda  
PS: Visit <http://photos.elca.org> and click on Week One to see photos of The Gathering.

## Vicar Tim bids Zion 'farewell' after a great year as intern

Dear Friends in Christ;

It is hard to believe that my one year of internship here at Zion Lutheran Church is coming to a close. Sunday, Aug. 13 will be Sue's and my last Sunday.

There are many that I need to acknowledge for their participation in this successful internship year. However, in doing so I know I'll leave someone out and I don't want to do that.

There is one person whom I will acknowledge and that is Pastor Dennis. Taking on an intern is a tremendous burden and responsibility. In spite of that, Pastor Dennis graciously accepted me as an intern and for that I am deeply grateful. I have taken up much of his time during the year even to the point that he was hard-pressed to fulfill his normal activities. I am grateful to God that he brought the two of us together for this internship year for we worked together very well to the point where the supervisor became a mentor. Thank you

Pastor Dennis.

The other acknowledgment I'll make is to the members of Zion. You have welcomed Sue and me with open arms. You have made us one of you. You are our home away from home. You have provided us with a tremendous amount of learning opportunities from which we are better prepared for the church we will go to. I have grown so much from what all of you have taught me that I apologize for not giving back to you the same. In other words, I have taken more from you than I have given to you. My deepest apologies for that.

As Sue and I depart Zion, a passage from Hebrews reflects on the journeys all of us are taking:

<sup>NRS</sup> **Hebrews 11:8** *By faith*

*Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.*

One affirmation as a result of this internship from Zion is that

God is calling me to be a parish pastor. It is this call that I accept and with my faith in God, He will guide and protect me to a church where His work will be done. It is also this call by faith that Zion accepts to do God's work here in West Jefferson. What that will look like we do not know. However, with God there leading and guiding you, there is no need for fear. Enjoy the amazing ride and see what God can do through you.

I'm one who does not like to say "good-bye;" therefore, I'll just say: "Until next time." I leave you with this prayer for all of us:

*Lord God, you call your servants to ventures the ending of which we cannot see, by paths yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go with courage, not knowing where we go, but that your hand is leading us and your love and grace supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Lift High the Cross,  
Vicar Tim