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Tidings

The monthly newsletter of Zion Lutheran Church

Zion Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Southern Ohio Synod
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We all have something to give

It is the time of year again to talk about stewardship.

In scripture each of us is called to a deeper awareness of the wonders of God's blessings, the gifts that are showered on us in so much abundance and to the challenge to use those gifts and talents responsibly, freely and frequently.

I know what you are probably thinking: "Oh yeah, Pastor, that is easier said than done." But, consider this parable:

"I am hungry," said the young stranger to the older woman who had opened the door in response to his knock. "Could you please give me something to eat?"

"I'm sorry," said the woman. "I have nothing to give you."

"Well, then," said the young traveler; "could you at least give me a stone?"

"A stone?" said the woman.

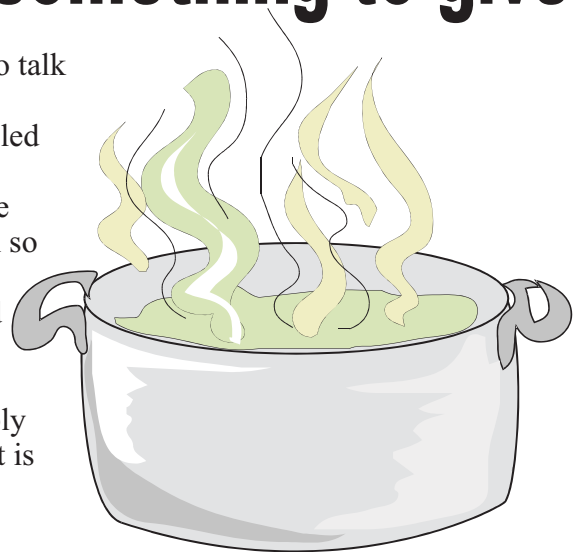
"There are plenty here. Take one from the ground. What will you do with that?"

"I will make some soup," said the young man.

"Soup?" said the woman. "How will you do that?"

"First, I need some boiling water; and then I will make soup from the stone."

Intrigued, the woman allowed the



Man into her house and she furnished him with a pot of water, which was then set to boil.

"It would taste a little better," said the young man, "if there were a carrot in there." So the woman put a carrot in the pot.

"An onion would add a lot to the flavor," said the young man. And the woman dropped an onion into the pot. "It smells delicious," said the woman approvingly. "Come to think of it, though," said the young man, "it would smell even better if we had a rutabaga in it." So the woman found a rutabaga in her larder and added it to the concoction.

And thus it went, with the woman, who supposedly had nothing to

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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."



Harvest Dinner

WELCA will hold its annual Harvest Dinner Friday, Nov. 12, from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The menu includes ham or vegetable lasagna, scalloped potatoes, green beans and corn, cole slaw, rolls, drink and desserts, including scalloped apples. Cost for adults is \$7, children 12 and younger \$3.50. There will also be homemade breads and candy made by church women for sale. Carry-out is available.

Proceeds benefit Montana de Luz, an orphanage for children who are HIV positive in Honduras; Help House and other WELCA projects.

A sign-up sheet to donate items for the dinner, as well as individuals to bake desserts is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Cash donations to purchase meat and other items for dinner is also appreciated.

For advance tickets contact Ginny Fogt, Carol Mahon or any WELCA member.

New WELCA officers

Officers were elected recently at WELCA's general meeting Sept. 12.

President is Carol Mahon; vice president, Lori Feddern; secretary, Anne Marie Lutz; treasurer, Janis Murray; mission growth, Malenie Hadidon; mission community, Joyce Gossett; and council representative, Louise Johnston.

In addition to the Harvest Dinner, other approaching events are:

- ♦ Nov. 21 – Thankoffering Service
- ♦ Dec. 5 – WELCA potluck
- ♦ Dec. 13 – serving dinner at Loving Kindness Kitchen
- ♦ Dec. 19 – cookie/fruit trays, caroling and fellowship gathering

WELCA also plans to participate in the West Jefferson Community Adopt-A-Family in December and will restart its monthly Bible study. For information, contact any officer.

Pantry in need

The West Jefferson Good Samaritan Food Pantry is very low on funds. There is some concern that there will not be enough to purchase food for Thanksgiving meal baskets. Just \$15 provides a Thanksgiving food basket for a family of four.

If you'd like to contribute, place your donation in the weekly offering and mark it for the Good Samaritan Food Pantry.

Family Work Day

Sunday, Nov. 7 is Family Work Day at Zion. Cleaning will begin right after the 10:30 worship, so come dressed to work. The Men's Group will provide lunch.

Exercise class held

Exercise classes meet at church from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$25 per month. For more information, call Deborah Hay at 740-852-3661.

Book available

A new children's book about Martin Luther is available through church for \$10.

The book, "Martin Luther: A Man Who Changed the World," was written by Dr. Paul L. Maier, illustrated by Greg Copeland and published by Concordia Publishing House. It regularly sells for \$12.99, but is available if bought through Zion for \$10. Contact Pastor Dennis.

Other dates

- ♦ AA – Mondays, 8 p.m.
- ♦ Adult choir – Mondays, 7:30 p.m.
- ♦ Tutoring – Mondays, Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.
- ♦ Weight Watchers – Thurs., 6:30 p.m.
- ♦ Church council – Nov. 9, 7 p.m.
- ♦ Confirmation – Nov. 14, 21, noon
- ♦ Congregational meeting – Nov. 14

Mourning the death of Common Sense

We mourn the passing of a beloved friend by the name of Common Sense who has been with us for many years.

No one knows for sure how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such value lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm and that life isn't always fair.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults, not kids, are in charge).

His health began to rapidly deteriorate when well intentions but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student only worsened his condition.

It declined ever further when

schools were required to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student; but, could not inform the parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Finally, Common Sense lost the will to live as the 10 Commandments became contraband; churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense finally gave up the ghost after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot, spilled some in her lap and was awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason.

He is survived by two stepbrothers: My Rights and Ima Whiner.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

— Thanks to Lori Feddern for forwarding this essay

Something to give

Continued From Page One
give, adding more and more things to the soup. When the soup was done they both sat down to eat it. They finished it down to the last drop, except for the stone. When the young man prepared to leave, he took the stone. "What will you do with that?" asked the woman.

"It is not boiled enough yet," said the young man, "so I will take it along for my next bowl of soup."

Our first thought on reading the story may be that we think we have nothing to give. But if we say that we have nothing to give, we are lying.

We have ourselves to give. An onion, a rutabaga, some meat, some spices f we are a variety of things that can become our gifts for the nourishment of others.

God endows each person with certain time, talents and material possessions. Christian stewardship reminds us that these gifts are not our own. Stewardship appeals to our noblest instincts to share our gifts with others.

Pastor Dennis

Those who serve

Nov. 7

acolyte, Niki Biler greeter, Melinda Biler lector, Louise Johnston worship assistant, Wesley Porter LSS Food Pantry, Nancy Hoenie in memory of Rev. and Mrs. Tewell.

Nov. 14

acolyte, Libby Lutz; greeters, Karen and Cress Jenkins lector, Linda Koch worship assistant, Susie Taylor LLS Food Pantry, Terry Taylor family in honor of Evan's 12th birthday.

Nov. 21

acolyte, Tyler Hadidon greeters, Bob and Dortha Feddern lector, Susie Taylor worship assistant, Joyce Gossett LSS Food Pantry, Jerry/Joyce Gossett.

Nov. 28

acolyte, Shawna Collins greeter, Joyce Gossett lector, Nathan McNutt worship assistant, Louise Johnston LSS Food Pantry, The Kochs.

November Birthdays

11/3 Jordan Gelber – 11
 11/3 Evan Taylor – 12
 11/4 Faith Hall
 11/4 Richard Taylor
 11/4 Angela Weser
 11/5 Emma Lou Matheny
 11/14 Kate Mahon – 12
 11/16 Jennifer Murray
 11/19 Aaron Bausch – 15
 11/23 Timothy Biler
 11/25 Matthew Gossett
 11/26 Dorothy Weser
 11/27 Nick Hazlett
 11/28 Helen Davis
 11/28 Linda Koch

December Birthdays

12/3 Sally Hurt
 12/4 Melinda Biler
 12/6 Niki Biler – 14
 12/6 John Durban
 12/7 Regan Johnston
 12/9 Ashley Forrest – 12
 12/10 Sally Sindledecker
 12/11 Joie Livingston
 12/11 Derek Taylor – 7
 12/12 Katie Cash – 7
 12/15 Pete Hadidon
 12/17 Trevor Bausch – 12
 12/17 Ashley Biler – 17
 12/17 Jody Taylor
 12/20 Dana King
 12/20 Elizabeth LeFavour – 11
 12/23 Anne Marie Lutz
 12/24 Ron Hilliker
 12/26 Allen Bausch
 12/26 Arlene Castor
 12/28 Daniel Hadidon – 9

November Anniversaries

11/2 Steve and Lisa Sterling
 11/4 Bill and Angela Weser – 5
 11/10 Pete and Malenie Hadidon – 14
 11/22 Richard and Jody Taylor
 11/26 John and Loretta Durban – 39

December Anniversaries

12/8 Larry and Louise Johnston – 31
 12/14 Rob and Dana King – 12
 12/27 Rick and Sonia Hurt

Want to submit an item
 for the newsletter?

Contact Susie Taylor at

879-6414 or sataylor@netexp.net