

October, 2011



THE BELL RINGER

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Greetings Zion/Clarion Family,

Fall -- a season of change. The corn and beans have been slowly changing for a while. Our tomatoes have greatly slowed their production. (The peppers are still going strong.) I just noticed a few minutes ago there are fallen leaves in our yard. The A/C has been off for a while, and the furnace may have to be turned on in the next few weeks. Within a few weeks, we will have to think about frost protection for our gardens and flowers.

There are even changes within our congregation. The women's organization has changed their name to WOW, Women Of the Word. In recent weeks they have sought your input as to how best help you grow in grace. The youth have changed their name from LYO to Zion Zebras. I'll let them explain that to you. The puppets have returned, and may show up again a time or two yet this year. Lots of change.

The changes in the crops are preparing them for harvest. They know what's coming and they are getting ready. The changes we make in our congregation have the intention of preparing us for harvest, the eternal harvest. Our congregational leadership continually try to make appropriate changes so that God is glorified in all that we do and his love is shared and

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lives are changed; becoming better prepared for that end-time harvest. They want to insure that we are all growing in God's Amazing Grace day after day.

Are you making changes? Are you preparing for that eventual harvest? Acts chapter 1 reminds us that Jesus will be coming again, some believe very soon. It would be good for us all to be ready. Are you making appropriate changes in your life to be ready: repenting of sins, worshipping, studying the Scriptures, growing as a disciple, and living as an apostle - sharing the Good News of Jesus?

Change can be good if it prepares us for harvest. Fall - a glorious time of change. Growing in Grace - a glorious time of change; God changing us to be more like him every day, preparing us for that final harvest.

Shalom,
Pastor Kevin Weeks
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Benevolence Report-August

Beginning Balance, 8/01/11	\$ 929.00
Receipts for August	<u>533.00</u>
Subtotal	1,462.00
Expenses for August:	
Zion Zebras	\$ 15.00
Lutheran Disaster Response	40.00
Lutheran World Relief	130.00
Mendota Lutheran Home	508.50
New Life Africa	408.50
Bur. Co. Food Pantry (LaMoille Food Drive)	50.00
L.A.M.P.	20.00
Mendota Food Pantry	270.00
Transport for Christ	<u>20.00</u>
Total Expenses for August	\$ 1,462.00
Ending Bank Balance 8/31/11	\$ 0.00

Expenses include both July & August monies.
Barb Donahue, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report-August

Beginning Balance 8/1/11	\$ 1,890.31
August Offerings:	8,449.00
Transfer-Special Funds	<u>103.55</u>
Subtotal	\$ 10,442.86
August Expenses:	<u>10,154.83</u>
Ending Balance 8/31/11:	\$ 288.03

Barb Donahue, Treasurer



Celebrating new life:



Hunter James Piller, born on September 2nd, 2011 was welcomed home by his parents Nick & Lynette Piller.

CONGRATULATIONS and GOD'S BLESSINGS

Celebrating new life:



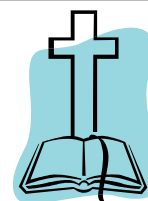
Lydia Jane Kyle, born on September 14th, 2011 was welcomed home by her parents Don & Sheila and her big sister Ava.

CONGRATULATIONS and GOD'S BLESSINGS

Congratulations to
Janelle Rod and
Nathan Ultch who
were united in marriage
at Zion on July 9th, 2011



We Welcome



Hadley Brynn Cole, daughter of Brad and Jenica Cole, born May 23, 2011, was welcomed to the family of Zion through holy baptism on Sunday, September 18th, 2011. Sponsors were Cole Faber & Jennifer Stouffer.

Economic & Investment Outlook

Thrivent is sponsoring a free workshop discussing factors that impact our economy & financial markets on Thursday, October 13th at 6:00pm at St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Princeton. No financial products will be sold. Guests may be invited and a light supper will be served. Seating is limited so RSVP to 815-875-1593 or ohlson77@nbsmail.net by Friday, October 7th.



Please remember our military members in your prayers. They are:
Josh Morehead
John Labriola



Christian Persecution - in the 21st century???

YES!

How do they hold up to punishment & continue trusting in God? How can we support them? How can we prepare for the persecution that is increasing in this country?

Hear from 6 speakers: 3 of whom have been imprisoned for their faith. Find out more from Voice of the Martyrs "Bound with Them Conference"

Sat., Oct 29, 2011 9:00-6:30

Christ Community Church, St. Charles, IL

FREE - freewill offering

www.vommeetings.com for more info

Evangelism

Anyone who needs a ride or is willing to offer rides to church should contact Carolyn Motter. She will be coordinating transportation for members who need a ride to church. She can be reached at 815-538-2606.

A letter from the editor:

It has been a pleasure to do the church newsletter for the past five years, but now it is time to turn over the publication to someone else. Missy Silfies has graciously offered to start doing the Bell Ringer beginning in November. Please send all future information to her in a timely fashion so she has a smooth start. Her email address is silfies401@yahoo.com and she can be reached by phone at 815 915-5035. You can also put info for the Bell Ringer in the mailbox at church before the 20th of each month.

I also want to thank Lois Slutz and Adella Timm for all of their help with mailing the Bell Ringer.

Thanks, Barb Donahue

Lutherans For Life

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Oregon, IL - 114 S. Fifth St. - Pastor Gary Blobaum,

On Saturday, October 8, please join us at 7:00 PM for dessert, fellowship, and a presentation by Diane Schroeder, president of Lutherans for Life. As you know, Lutherans for Life seeks to apply the Gospel to the life issues and to equip Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices for Life. LFL stands for the value and dignity of all human life from the youngest to the oldest, the pre-born to the elderly.

Should you additionally be able to join us for our 6:00 Saturday service of worship, you will hear Diane address the Gospel to End-of-Life issues.

Thank you. I hope to see you as together we allow God to reconfigure Lutheranism in new ways and in new ministries.





October Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

2 Jeannette Collier
 Paul Furar
 Jacob Rod
 3 Jim Lord
 5 Tedd Lundquist
 Lyle Geuther
 7 Jake Dean
 8 Marilee Block
 Kathryn Lovgren
 Cara Motter
 Janet Stuepfert
 11 Ann Koch
 Sarah Weeks
 13 Cathy Larabee
 16 Ashley Larabee
 18 Matt Stamberger
 21 Ava Grace Kyle
 22 Kim Larabee
 24 Ray Motter

25 Beverly Faber
 Pastor Leo Patterson
 28 Edith Fischer
 Amy Krzyzek
 29 Jonathon Hohertz
 30 Brittany Gascoigne

Baptismal Anniversaries

14 Carissa Wendelken
 21 Marilee Block
 22 Mason Koch
 24 William Stuepfert
 29 Sarah Krzyzek

Wedding Anniversaries

4 Matt and Leslie Motter
 Don and Christy Liesse
 17 Dick and Virginia Gansemer
 Cliff and May Geuther



WORSHIP NOTES

Healing Service - Oct 9, 2011

Once again this year, as we commemorate St. Luke the Physician, we will have a healing service. When we come forward for communion Pastor will use anointing oil and the laying on of hands to remind us that we are in need of healing in some way. When we are injured or ill, we are not able to give our best. Jesus seeks to heal each of us, bringing us to wholeness in order to serve him more fully.

Reformation Sunday - Oct 30, 2011

On this 5th Sunday of the month we will again celebrate the Reformation and the birth of new understandings in Christianity. We will celebrate in many ways: special music by our youth and presentation of Bibles to our 2nd and 3rd graders. Gideons will share their ministry of free Bible distribution around the world, and the difference it makes in the lives of hurting people. We will also have a love offering for their ministry. The Puppets may show up as well.

We will have communion on the First Sunday in November instead of the Second Sunday.

This will help us celebrate All Saints Sunday - remembering those who have entered the Church Triumphant. We will have the opportunity that day to light candles for loved ones as we come forward for communion. The act of communion reminds us that we gather with all the Saints from all time in remembering how dearly we are loved by God. On All Saints Sunday we especially remember that we are all gathered in one great communion under the Lordship of Jesus the Christ.



October Services

Date	Greeter	Reader	Piano/Organ	Special Music	Acolytes	Communion
Sun. Oct. 2 9:00 a.m.	Leslie & Cara Motter	George Stuepfert	Myron Goetz	Clarion Choir	Cara & Alan	
Sun. Oct. 9 9:00 a.m.	Jim & Janet Hamacher	Newt Lundquist	Annette Stamberger		Haylie & Cara	Chris & Wilbur Stamberger
Sun. Oct. 16 9:00 a.m.	Jim & Annette Stamberger	Sarah Weeks	Myron Goetz		Lauren S. & Haylie	
Sun. Oct. 23 9:00 a.m.	Elwin Goetz & Ray Motter	Dean Madsen	Kristi Koch		George & Lauren S.	Jim Hamacher Larry Forristall Brent & Cari Becker
Sun. Oct. 30 9:00 a.m.	Don & Christy Liesse	Lauren Motter & Lauren Silfies	Annette Stamberger		Baylee & George	

Women's Activities & News



Tues., Oct. 4th - Taste of Clarion Salad Bar 11:00 - 1:00 pm

Tues., Oct. 4th - Hannah Circle - 7:00 pm

Mon., Oct. 17 - Community Sewing Day for "Little Dresses for Africa" with lunch -8:30 am-see p.6

Sat., Oct. 22 - WOW gathering in Peoria - 9:30

Thur., Oct. 27 - Sewing Day - 8:30 am

Sat., Oct. 29th - Church cleaning - 8:30 am

Ladies: the Salad Bar is very near, if you haven't already done so, please sign up to make salads and/or work that day.

Illinois Women of the Word will be having a Fall Gathering on Saturday, October 22 from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm at Living Waters Lutheran Church in Peoria, IL. The speaker is Lisa Inman who will talk about the Jesus Film Project. Please register by October 16th for fellowship, worship & lunch with our sister ladies from LCMC.

The cleaning day has been changed due to a conflict so be sure to save Saturday, October 29th on your calendar to help clean various areas of the church. If you are unable to attend that day, please come and help on your own time and sign for any completed jobs. A list of chores will be located in the kitchen area. Many hands make fast work.

Little Dresses for Africa Community Sewing Day



The ladies of Clarion will be hosting a one-time community sewing day on Monday, October 17th from 8:30 to approximately 2:00pm. We will be making simple little dresses which will be shipped with missionaries to Africa. We have invited ladies from other area churches to join us for a fun day of fellowship and sewing. The dresses are simple to make and are easily accomplished by a beginner sewer. Anyone who wishes to help with this project may join us on that day or may contribute items needed: 1 to 1 ½ yards of cotton or cotton/polyester blend fabrics and any embellishments like lace, rick rack, etc. that you no longer need. We will have jobs for both sewers and non-sewers, so you can still join in the fun if you don't have a sewing machine. A light lunch will be served.

Deadlines:

Please get bulletin information to Jacob Weeks before Wednesday at 8:00pm. You may put info in his box at church or via email at: j.weeks12@yahoo.com; phone: (815 539-7820)

Material for the Bell Ringer should be at the church or emailed to Missy Silfies by the 20th of each month Email address: silfies401@yahoo.com (phone: 815 915-5035)

A Day in Bethlehem - Nov 19, 2011, 1-3 pm Veterans Park in Mendota - next to Museum

Come journey to Bethlehem on the Saturday before Thanksgiving to remember what the Advent and Christmas seasons are all about. Our congregation has participated in this event for the past two years. We are in need of some supplies, prep work, and volunteers that day. We are looking for the following:

Actors: Mary & Joseph, and Baby Jesus,
shop keepers to run the different activities,
soldiers & shepherds to wander around

Materials: White tee shirts any size
Plain tee shirts in all colors and sizes
Bibles & children's story books about Jesus
Baby food jars with lids
Popsicle sticks
Aluminum cans without sharp edges
Rubber bands
Scoobies - plastic string
Metal key chain rings
Alum - grocery store spice section
Coffee cans

Prep work: Scroll saw operators to cut out lots small nativity scenes before the event - pattern is forthcoming

Please have materials dropped off before Monday, Oct 31, as they will be collected on that day.

Thank You!



LCMC CONVENTION & NEWS

LCMC is having their Annual Gathering and National Convention on Sunday evening through Wednesday noon, October 2-5, 2011 in Des Moines, Iowa. Our congregation is allowed two delegates and as many guests as we would like to send. If you would like to represent our congregation, please talk to Pastor Kevin or a council member.

MASS - Mendota Area Senior Services

MASS is very grateful for the financial support they have received this past year. It has been a difficult year, but with adequate donations they remain in business to assist seniors in the 10 township area around Mendota.

Medicare Drug Prescription Plans - enrollment period ---- Oct 15-Dec 7, 2011
THIS IS A CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEARS. Call MASS to make appointment to discuss your options. 815-539-7700.

Fall Newsletter in the narthex with lots more info.

MEMORY VERSE

The memory verse for Pentecost is Matthew 5:16: *Jesus said:* "Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

YOUTH TEAM

The Zion Zebras will be meeting at the church on Saturday, October 8th from 5:00-7:00 pm for a hayride. The Youth team committee will meet on Tuesday, October 25th at 7:00 pm.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to the Evangelism Committee and others who all worked so hard to give us a wonderful church picnic on Rally Day in September. The weather was perfect, everyone had a good time and the food was terrific, as usual.

"Tidbits for the Trail"

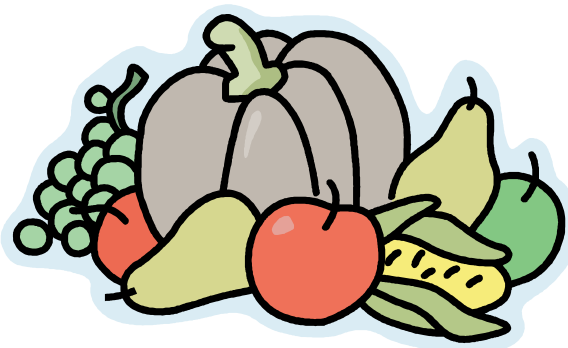
Pastor Kevin is sending a new devotional email with thoughts and tidbits on life's spiritual journey. If you wish to receive it, please send an email to Pastor Kevin at: weeksfour@yahoo.com.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Ron Geuther & sons along with Jason Stamberger who worked in that terrible August heat to put an addition onto the Parsonage shed. Thank you for donating your time, materials and hard labor.

PADS SHELTER

The seasons are changing and it is time for the PADS shelter in Peru to reopen. The services offered to those who need shelter will begin in October. Zion will again serve one meal per month serving on the third Thursday. Please consider helping to provide food or serve the meal. Food contributions can be meat, potatoes, vegetable, salad, or dessert. The serving time at the shelter is from 6:30 p.m. until approximately 8:00 p.m. If you are able to assist in any way, please sign the chart in the narthex. Those who manage the program at the shelter and those who stay there have always been VERY appreciative of Zion's assistance!



Local Thrivent Team Returns from El Salvador

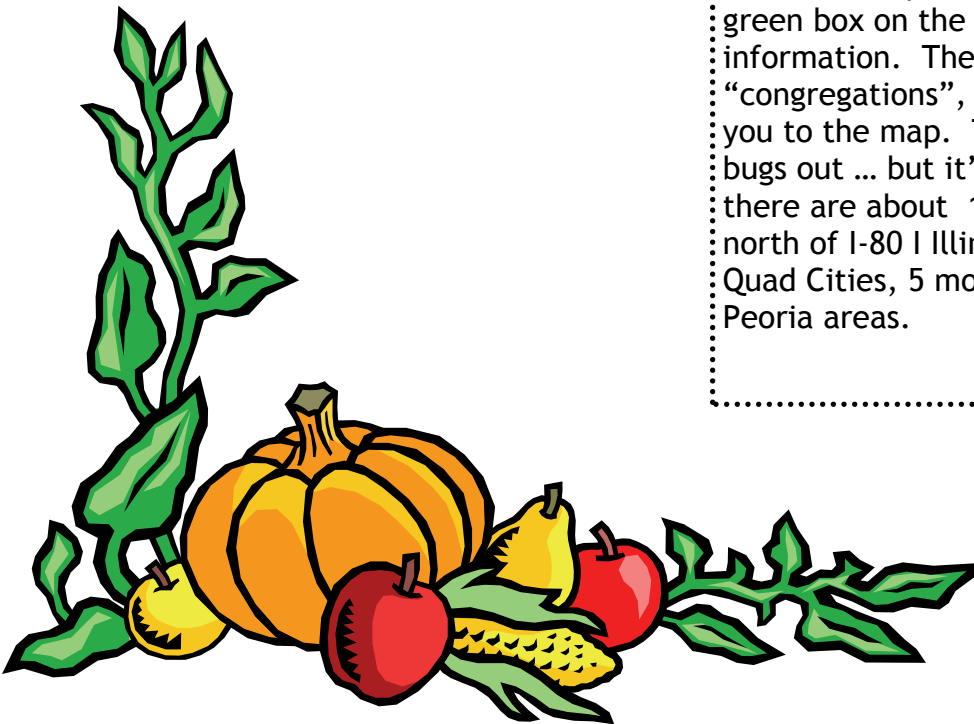
A team of eleven volunteers led by Steven Becker, our Bureau County Thrivent leader, went to El Salvador from July 30 to August 7 to carry bricks, mix cement, move dirt and enjoy building homes with the partner families who will eventually live in this community of Habitat homes.

The team's contributions gave a boost to the community-building efforts of Habitat for Humanity El Salvador. It's very difficult for landless Salvadoran families to own a home, so Habitat El Salvador has developed a more holistic way to help poor Salvadoran families improve their quality of life. This new community—funded and built mainly by members of U.S.-based Thrivent Financial for Lutherans—will provide each resident family with land, a house, basic services and social infrastructure such as green areas and community buildings. Thrivent Builds Worldwide teams like this one will help build as many as 20 homes in the Getsemani Community in Ahuachapan, El Salvador this year.


“Even though it was a week of hard work, it was exhilarating at the same time, knowing we were doing something to make a difference,” said Barbara Rauh. “I went into this knowing that the community of homes would better the lives of those we served, but now it has changed my life, too.” To learn more, visit <http://www.thriventbuilds.com/worldwide/elsalvador> or contact Steven Becker at 309-852-0708 or Steve.becker@thrivent.com.

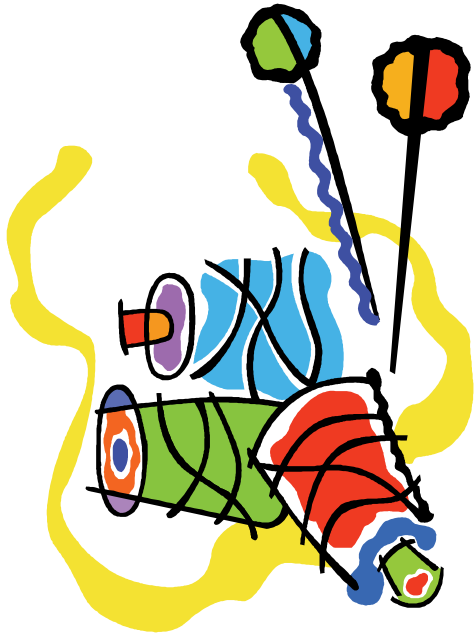
LCMC - Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

Want to see where the 653 LCMC USA congregations are located? Check out the interactive map at www.lcmc.net. The green box on the left will take you to much information. The “Directories” tab, then “congregations”, then “Map View” will get you to the map. They are still working the bugs out ... but it's a good start. It appears there are about 14 congregations on or north of I-80 | Illinois; another 2 in the Quad Cities, 5 more in the Bloomington/Peoria areas.



October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00 am Worship Service 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study	3 Convention in Des Moines Oct. 2-5 LCMC	4 11:00a-Salad Bar 7:00p -Hannah Circle	5 5:30p-Confirmation 6:30p-Prayer time 6:45p-Adult Bible Study	6 7:00p—Parish Ed	7	8 8:00a—Worship Committee 5-7:00p—Hayride
9 St. Luke healing service 9:00 am Worship Service With Holy Communion 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study	10	11	12 5:30p-Confirmation 6:30p-Prayer time 6:45p-Adult Bible Study	13	14	15
16 9:00 am Worship Service 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study	17 8:30a-Little Dresses Sewing Day	18 7:00p—Church Council	19 5:30p-Confirmation 6:30p-Prayer time 6:45p-Adult Bible Study	20 Bell Ringer deadline	21	22 9:30a-WOW Fall Gathering
23 9:00 am Worship Service With Holy Communion 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study	24	25 7:00p-Evangelism Committee 7:00p-Youth Team Comm.	26 5:30p-Confirmation 6:30p-Prayer time 6:45p-Adult Bible Study	27 8:30a-Sewing	28	29 8:30a - Church Cleaning
30 Reformation 9:00 am Worship Service 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study	31 					



A Taste of Clarion Salad Bar

Tuesday, October
4th

11:00a-1:00p

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
27182 3320 East Street
La Moille, Illinois 61330
Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

US POSTAGE PAID

PERMIT NO. 2

LA MOILLE, IL 61330



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