

JULY 2005 Newsletter

A PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP COVENANT FOR ZION

FINDING OUR WAY TO BECOMING A HEALTHY CONGREGATION

Having been saved by God's grace through faith in Christ, I feel led by the Holy Spirit to help Zion become a healthy congregation by honoring the covenant God made with me in Holy Baptism. This means that I will live among God's faithful people; hear the Word and share in holy communion; proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed; serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus; strive for justice and peace in all the earth. [*Lutheran Book of Worship, Affirmation of Baptism, page 201*]

Furthermore,

- 1. I will support the unity of our church**
 - ... by acting in love and friendship toward other members
 - ... by refusing to gossip
 - ... by respecting one another as fellow members of the Body of Christ
 - ... by turning God's grace to me into my forgiveness of others
 - ... by encouraging one another with kind words
 - ... (*additional suggestions after cottage meetings*)

- 2. I will support the sense of community in our church**
 - ... by praying for its good health and growth
 - ... by attending our community-building events
 - ... by inviting friends and neighbors to attend
 - ... by warmly welcoming those who visit
 - ... by including others who volunteer their help
 - ... (*additional suggestions after cottage meetings*)

- 3. I will support the ministries of our church**
 - ... by discovering my gifts and talents
 - ... by being equipped to serve in ministry
 - ... by developing a servant's mind, heart, and attitude
 - ... by volunteering to serve when needed, or called
 - ... (*additional suggestions after cottage meetings*)

- 4. I will support the strengthening of our church**
 - ... by attending worship faithfully
 - ... by living a godly life
 - ... by growing in spiritual maturity
 - ... by giving regularly and proportionally
 - ... by offering my assistance to church leadership
 - ... (*additional suggestions after cottage meetings*)

NORTH CANTON'S CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Written by Player/Co-Manager/Staff Writer, Debbie Fox

TEAM ZION is off to a pretty good start this season. After our first five games, we have two wins and three losses. The losses were tough, but very competitive games. We have a great group of players this year, and we are having fun coming together as a team.

Our first game was a loss to *Grace United Methodist Church* and we followed that with a well-fought loss to *Church of the Lakes* in Week 2. In Week 3 we had our first win against *St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church*, followed by a win in Week 4 against *Faith United Methodist Church*. Our 5th game against *Zion United Church of Christ* was our hardest loss yet. We went into the last inning with a lead, but our rivals' bats were hot, giving them the win.

TEAM ZION'S multi-talented members include: Bob Lancashire (pitcher), Mike Aquilo (men's manager, shortstop, extra hitter), Tim Aquilo (shortstop, extra hitter, pitcher), Becky Aquilo (catcher, extra hitter), Steve Aquilo (all around), Valerie Cizek (third base, team spirit leader), Todd Cizek (outfield, first base), Randy Cizek (first base), Todd Elsass (base coach, all around), Dean Fox (short stop, outfield), Debbie Fox (women's manager, outfield, extra hitter), Johanna Henderson (catcher), Mary Humbert (catcher, outfield), Pam Lazarites (catcher), Matt Leasure (outfield, third base), Melissa Riffle (outfield), Alex Robbins (outfield, shortstop), Shelly Rocco (outfield, second base), Doug Roman (first base, outfield), Linda Ross (second base), Steve Ross (first base, outfield), Jon Votaw (outfield), and Debbie Lancashire (substitute, and first base).

We have 2 regularly scheduled games remaining: Sunday, July 10th, when we play Trinity Baptist Church at 5:00 p.m. on Field #1 at Dogwood Park; and Sunday, July 17th, when we play Northminster Presbyterian Church at 5:00 p.m., Field #3 at Dogwood Park. Following our regular season games, we have two round robin playoff games, one on July 24th, and another on July 31st. The times and opponents will be announced when we finish the regular season games.

Our last game on July 31st will be followed by a Family Picnic at Dogwood Park at 5:00 p.m. for all teams and their families to celebrate the season. There will be great food to share since this will be a covered dish event along with great fellowship! We encourage anyone interested in playing for the remainder of the season to let one of our team members know, or come out and join us at the field. We also encourage the Zion family to come out and cheer on our great team!



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEBBIE FOX

Great News From The ZION SUNDAY SCHOOL

UPCOMING EVENTS For JULY

Sunday, July 10th: Sunday Worship, "All Africa All-the-Time!"
Monday, July 11th through Friday, July 15th Vacation Bible School,
from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Kingdom of the Son: A Serengeti Prayer Safari
Sunday, July 18th : Outdoor Worship Service & Church Picnic



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS HERE! WE'LL STUDY THE LORD'S PRAYER!

VBS will be held July 11th thru 15th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This year's theme will be *Kingdom of the Son - A Prayer Safari*. The kids will spend the week learning about the Lord's Prayer. See the next page for a summary of the week's events! Remember to join us Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. for the Ice Cream Social, which is sponsored by Thrivent. The children will perform a short program at 7:00 p.m., and then everyone will enjoy ice cream sundaes in Memorial Hall. We will also be having a quilt raffle to raise money for VBS. Tickets will be available all week for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00, and the winner will be drawn on Thursday night at the Ice Cream Social. The winner will get to pick the quilt of their choice. Zion's Comforter Givers sew these quilts during the week of VBS. The quilts are made from squares the children have created during the week.

Registration forms are available in the Church Office. We ask that you pre-register so that we can make sure we have enough supplies. We look forward to a great week of fun, fellowship, service and learning God's Word. Please invite your friends! Everyone is welcome.

We always need tons of help! If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Debbie Fox at home (330-966-2433), or leave a message through the Church Office (330-499-3909).

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES . . .

We will have planned group activities each Sunday throughout the summer. The children will play games, do crafts, work on service projects and enjoy music! Please join us for the summer fun. The first two Sundays in July will be centered around activities related to our VBS program this year. The children will enjoy our African Safari adventures!

Special Honorees At Zion: THE CLASS OF 2005

Valerie Cizek is a recent graduate of GlenOak High School; and while she hasn't decided on a college yet, she has piled up more honors and extracurricular interests than any one person ought to have on one's plate at one time! Choir, drama, the International Club, the Key Club, the Spirit Club. DECA. with interests in marketing. public speaking. sports of all sorts. and even some time

for fashion and modeling: what a life! With everything to choose from, Valerie's favorite moment in high school was sharing the thrill of victory as GlenOak won in the first round of the Ohio's football playoff. In between traveling everywhere in the state and country, we were happy to benefit from Valerie's acolyting, child-care, assisting at worship in many roles, including singing in the choir from time to time, joining in the Bible Bowl, helping with Vacation Bible School, and handling the hot corner with Team Zion in the North Canton Co-ed Softball League. Her summer activities will continue to include her part-time job at Hollister's outlet in Belden Village, as well as helping out with everything here at the church. What more can we say, except congratulations and good luck. May God's richest blessings keep your feet on the ground, your hopes always in tact, and your dreams firmly within reach.

Annie Forsyth is a recent graduate of Jackson High School, a proud polar bear who is now heading to Kent State Stark Campus, where she will focus on athletic training, both personally and professionally. Annie enjoyed being a part of the bowling team at Jackson, found English to be a breeze, and thought that her junior prom may have been her most memorable moment. Zion has been thrilled to involve Annie in our Passion plays and Christmas readings, in our service weekends and overnights, at the church, in Charleston, West Virginia, and as far away as Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. You can always count on Annie figuring out how to have fun wherever she goes, whatever the circumstances, as we discovered at our LYO Winter Gatherings in Independence. She was even able to finagle a free lunch out of the Lutheran Youth Organization as one of Zion's official youth delegates. Annie is her own person, cutting her own way through life, as has been evidenced by her willingness to cross over to becoming a Hoover booster despite her deep roots in Jackson. It's hard to know what that means, except that Annie - in the true Danner tradition - knows how to live dangerously! Congratulations on your graduation, good luck with your courses at Kent State, and may God continue to bless you richly and in every way.

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Church Council News

Our June Council meeting was another in a series of well-attended meetings. We celebrated the fine results of our South African dinners fundraiser, as well as the strong performance in church giving through May.

We received many new members: Gregg Evanoff, the McCartt Family (Mike, Julie, and Ian), the Morris family (Mark, Tina, McKayla, Mariah, Alayna), Sandra Carrion, and Nikki Kitzmiller. Take the time to get to know these folks: Gregg is Carol Rossbach's son; Nikki is Jim and Stella Smiley's granddaughter; Sandra is Rose Marie Rapp's daughter; the Morris family lives right down the street from Dean & Debbie Fox; the McCartts have been worshipping with us for quite a while, and it is great to welcome them into the family.

Laura Thompson (our President-elect) presented Darlene Milavickas with a gift expressing our appreciation for the selfless service she has offered Zion in her role as Council President for the past six years. Words fall short when speaking of the gratitude and love Darlene has inspired and shared. We have been blessed through the gift of her sacrifice and service.

Zion's Food Pantry

In my quest for solving hunger or just putting a little dent in it, I was deeply saddened to learn that you can live for four days without food. Serving on the board of the Stark County Hunger Task Force as Vice President, I am frequently in touch with the director of the Task Force. She was telling me of a man who had a mental disorder who has frequented her office looking for food. Just this past month his disability money did not adequately cover his expenses, so his only option was to starve. The director fixed him up with a loaf of bread and a jar of peanut butter. He sat on the steps of the office and downed four sandwiches. In her search to feed him, she raided the pantry at her church (which, by the way, is Lutheran), and supplied him with canned good with flip tops. How sad to be aware of the hunger out there. Sometimes it seems better to be oblivious, but it is not; it is only easier.

I have recently joined an organization called NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness). It seems the controversy over NOVA has been the hot topic at meetings, and rightly so. The closing of NOVA leaves many individuals with brain disorders in a panic, for NOVA was a facilitator for mental health treatment. At one of the meetings a representative from the Stark County Mental Health Board came to brief everyone on what was going to happen in Stark County with mental health. He gave all the options and stressed the need for more churches to help. WOW, are the churches letting the poor, the needy, the ill, and the forgotten down. I just felt a need to share that one. In our little corner pocket of North Canton we are helping. If we can supply them with food that frees up their money a little, then we have done our job.

Speaking of jobs, holy moley! Did we ever have a monumental task when we moved the pantry from the old location to the new one. With two fresh coats of paint on the walls, the pantry squad moved all of the room's contents to the other room. We had workers, the usual amount of foremen and team work needed to accomplish the task. We could not have made the move were it not for Tim and Michael Aquilo, Larry and Evelyn Moore, Chuck Danner, Chuck Heller and his brother-in-law who was visiting from Texas, Gary Horton, Charlie and Candice Cavender, Amy and Ashley Porter, and our number one helper George.

God Bless Everyone,
Shirley Cavender and Margaret Porter

THE NEW FOOD PANTRY SCHEDULE:

SUMMER: Pantry is open two Tuesdays this summer, July 19 and August 16, from 1 to 2 p.m.
FALL: Beginning in September, we will be open only the 1st and 3rd TUESDAYS of the month.
1st and 3rd Tuesdays:----- September 6th and 20th,--- 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
1st and 3rd Tuesdays:----- October 4th and 18th,----- 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
1st and 3rd Tuesdays:----- November 1st and 15th,---- 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
1st and 3rd Tuesdays:----- December 6th and 20th,---- 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

July Anniversaries & Senior Birthdays

ANNIVERSARIES FOR JULY

July 2 Ed and Karen Gronow
July 9 Jack and Pat Taylor
July 10 Rick and Connie Riffle
July 10 Pastor and Marilyn
July 19 Charles and Helen Heller
July 20 Brian and Suzanne Walters
July 21 John and Bonnie Farmer
July 26 Ron and Audrey Hartman
July 27 Steve and Darlene Dague

A Note to Our Readers:

If you would like your anniversary information included in The Zion Herald, just let the church office know by calling , 330-499-3909.

Cottage Meetings

Pastor reminded us of his philosophy of parish ministry: *I cannot accomplish what you are unwilling to do.* We are doing a great job with the Renovation Fund, accomplishing more than even our best estimates. Can we do as well with our desire to put Zion on a path to health and growth? We have to want to grow, in the sense that we're willing to set goals, establish a plan, measure our progress, and stay on course.

Our next step in moving in this direction is to establish a series of *cottage meetings* with the goal of involving 80 to 90 members in our four session crash course. Session #1 will focus on our Membership Covenant. This session will be held in the homes of members. Invitations will be sent. Phone calls will be made. We will not move on to Session #2 until 80 to 90 members have participated in these cottage meetings.





Session #2 will focus on Rick Warren's baseball diamond, which indicated that first base leads to another base, and to another, and to another. Membership leads to a program of spiritual maturity, which leads to using our gifts in ministry, which engages our members in Zion's mission. Session #3 will address the problems we've encountered in trying to grow from within and the challenges that await us as we try to grow from without. Session #4 will begin to lay out Zion's plan of action as we address such topics as making our leadership effective; prioritizing the activities of worship, education, evangelism, service, and fellowship; and improving our building.

In short, Zion is a LAB for the kingdom of God. In order to respond faithfully to God's call, we intend to strengthen the bases of church Leadership, church Activities, and the church Building.

A special word of thanks to the Elsass family

The outside of the church has been looking exceptionally fine this year, and, in addition to many anonymous members who do a good deal here and there, we would like to take this time to offer a special word of thanks to the Elsass family. Verle and Ruth Elsass, along with their sons and daughters, have done more than you might imagine - weeding, feeding, planting, mulching, clearing, cleaning, and hauling away. There is nothing they wouldn't do, and haven't done, to keep things looking beautiful. And while we at it, we can't forget Fred Elsass, whose love for flowers, for weeding and for watering, are clearly evident in the beds that border our church.

Kingdom of the Son, Daily Calendar July 11 - 15

Day of the Week	Menu	Focus	Highlight
Monday - July 11 	Hyena Dogs (hot dogs in a bun) Chimp Chips Mellow Yellow Lion Jell-O Dessert Jungle Juice (punch/cool aid)	God is our loving and powerful Father who listens to our prayers.	Safari Sets out, everyone gets acquainted. Kids make quilt squares & go on a Safari Scavenger Hunt.
Tuesday, July 12 	Serengeti Spaghetti Botswana Bread (Garlic toast) Peaches Dessert Jungle Juice	God meets our needs and uses us to meet others' needs.	T-shirt Day – remember your clean white T-shirt with your name written on the label. Community service project day.
Wednesday, July 13 	Peanut butter & jelly or Cheese sandwiches Rhino Horns (Bugles) Apple Dippers Dessert Jungle Juice	God forgives us and helps us to forgive others.	Pastor Sherwindt will tell us about Africa, bring his collection & even dance! Sure to be fun.
Thursday, July 14 	Wildebeest Burgers (hamburgers) French Foreign Legion Fries Carrot Dessert Jungle Juice	God helps us do what is right.	Wet-N-Wild Water day at VBS, always a favorite. Ice Cream Social & Quilt Raffle @ 7:00 p.m.

Mission Possible, The Northeastern Ohio Synod Assembly

On behalf of the Northeastern Ohio Synod and the Companion Synod Subcommittee, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the good people of Zion Lutheran Church for your support of our

Synod's 2005 Youth Mission Trip to South Africa. Zion was present with support when it all began at the farewell reception offered in honor of Ryllis Guist last May, and we were host to the South African Festival this May, when this final fundraiser for our 21 missionaries raised over \$4,700 for a transatlantic adventure that involved 23 days and 17 separate service projects. Seven adults, including four pastors, and fourteen youth - between their own individual fundraising and our synod-wide appeals - raised over \$75,000 to make this fabulous event a MISSION POSSIBLE. Sincere thanks to all - Pastor Sherwindt

FAMILY NEWS AT ZION

There have been a few changes here at church during the week with the different groups and ministries that rent our facilities. Senior Independence, otherwise known as Rockynol, no longer hosts the seniors who drive over from the WhippleDale Centre. This group, which includes two of our own members, Dick Findlay and Sarah Jane McNamee, has returned to the facilities they enjoy at WhippleDale. Sue Gans and the entire staff of Senior Independence have enjoyed the many volunteers from Zion who have helped with various aspects of their programming, and they continue to invite our interest and involvement. Check with the Church Office if you would like more information about serving these seniors.

Dear Zion Lutheran Church Members, I wanted to let you know that, for right now, I will not be holding anymore classes at the church. As you may know, I have been basically unemployed for the last two years after the downsizing at Hoover. I have completed the required training and received my Class-A CDL, so I am looking to start a new career as a commercial driver. That being the case, I am going to have to suspend (temporarily, I hope!) the Tai Ji Quan classes that I have been teaching here for the past five years.... I hope to arrange things such that I am home on the weekends and will be able [in the future] to offer these classes on Saturday mornings again. Thank you very much for your willingness to work with me, and allowing myself and my students to consider Zion Lutheran Church as our home.

SOME CHANGES OF ADDRESS

**John and Bonnie Farmer
1013 Roda Drive
Florence, South Carolina 29501**

**Mark and Tina Morris
8004 Chatham Drive NW
North Canton, Ohio 44720**

THANKS FROM TEAM ROMAN

YOU HELPED OUR TEAM FIGHT CANCER

Team Roman would like to thank the Zion family & Pastor Sherwindt for all your support this year for Relay for Life! We were able to raise \$10,200 to help fight cancer with your help. and that

number is still growing! This was our 5th year as a team for Relay, and it was our best year by far. The most we have raised in prior years was \$2,500. We are so grateful and overwhelmed by the outpouring of support for this cause! Words can never express how much we appreciate everyone's time to come out to our events, everyone's donations and everyone's support in buying all of our fundraising items! It touched us so deeply, and we know with everyone's help, we have made a difference in the fight for a cure!

Relay for Life took place on June 10th & 11th at Don Scott Field. Despite the weather (a bit of rain and heat), the event was a huge success. The event raised over \$250,000 and that number is also still growing and expected to reach over \$280,000. There were many wonderful memories - the first lap to kick off the relay where the cancer survivors walked around the track carrying balloons and then all releasing the balloons at the completion of the lap, the team parade lap, the touching luminaria ceremony to honor survivors and those who have passed, great music, The Miss Relay competition, volleyball tournaments, basketball, Relay Idol, the children's carnival, hugs and smiles galore, and the many, many laps that all the team members walked non-stop! Team Roman was there selling root beer floats, fun fur flip flops, mardi gras beads and much more! There was little sleep, but lots of support and love and emotion with the hope that there will one day soon be a cure for cancer!

There were 92 teams participating in the Canton Relay this year. At the closing ceremony on Saturday, Team Awards are given for various categories. We are very proud to have received awards this year in all but one category! Because of your support, we received six awards! 4th Place: Top Fundraising Team out of all 92 teams; 2nd Place: Top Fundraising Team size 16 - 30 members; 2nd Place: Top Fundraiser per Member; 1st Place: Best Opening Lap; 2nd Place: Best Team Spirit; 4th Place: Best Campsite and Best On-Site Fundraising.

Because cancer has touched all of our lives in some way, fielding a Relay for Life team and raising funds for the Cancer Society is our way of remembering and honoring, not just Nancy and Commella Roman, but fathers, aunts, uncles, team members, friends, and countless others fighting, and hopefully beating cancer every day. Thank you again, from the bottom of our hearts, for all of your support!

FROM ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF TEAM ROMAN:

**Doug, Lisa, Taylor and Brooke Roman,
Dean, Debbie, Nathan and Jeremy Fox,
David, Lynette, Andrew, CJ and Dana Roman,
Dennis Roman, Cheryl Roman, Jean Brown,
Darlene Milavickas, Lori and Tom Collier,
Janice VanVoorhis, Kathy, Taylor & Matt Chufar**
