

NOVEMBER 2005 Newsletter

A Word Celebrating The Youth Missions Craft Show

[It is almost impossible to name everyone who helped with this year's edition of the Craft Show, but we cannot but begin with Dave Bower, who shepherded us through our online advertising, our newspaper ads, the registration process for crafters, the distribution of signs, mapping out a floor plan, and keeping everyone moving ahead and working together: our heartfelt thanks!]

We raised \$2,275 through the sale of German Takeout Dinners, \$1,125 through Craft Tables, \$1,510 through the Bake Sale, the Youth Craft Table, and our Youth Baskets. Our expenses for everything - food, crafts, snacks, pop and ice - came to \$850. The Total raised through this year's edition of our Youth Missions Craft Show was \$4,160.00 - that is truly phenomenal!

Dave & Cindy Bower kept track of the Craft Tables as registrations came in through the course of the year. Dave reports that he already has his first registration for next year! Helping with the set up of tables for the Craft Show were Debbie Fox, Cheryl Roman, Chris Thomas, Steve & Linda Ross, Chuck Danner, St. Paul's Catholic Church, Jeff Frank, Bob Lancashire, Mark Morris, Adam Schrader. Helping out with the cleanup afterwards were the same cast, plus Renee Schrader, Matt Ross, Lorin Beaber, Corey Beaber, Melissa Riffle, Matt Leasure, along with Nathan and Jeremy Fox.

When it came to organizing our youth for their role in preparing for the Craft Show, we need to thank Debbie Fox, Steve & Linda Ross, Tina Morris, Connie Frank, Lisa Kay, Karen Kirk, Lisa Roman, Beth Heller, Tina Beaber, and, of course, the Youth of Zion. We also need to thank our many members who were so generous in donating items for the Youth Craft Table and the beautiful Youth Baskets. We very much appreciated the commitment of Nicole and Matt Ross, Laura Kay, Taylor & Brooke Roman, Kelly & Kevin Walters, Ben and Matt Mathie, Christian & Savannah Heller. Mary Humbert and Carol Rossbach were helpful in organizing and staffing the Bake Sale table. Renee & Adam Schrader made sure that the Youth tables were staffed and that raffle tickets and crafts were sold during the day of the Craft Show.

Selling the German Dinners involved all of the youth, their parents, and quite a few others of us at Zion. Our thanks to the Kirks, the Walters, the Romans, the Kays, the Foxes, the Votaws and Weinmans, the Bowers, the Cizeks, the Mathies, the Hellers, the Beabers, the Rosses, the Ferrys, the Frocks, the Sherwindts, the Coulters and Thompsons, with thanks to everyone who bought and donated dinner tickets. In addition to the food we sold the day of the Craft Show, we pre-sold 313 dinners, and donated 180 to the Food Pantry, the Siffrin Group homes, and to friends and neighbors of Zion's congregational family. Rob and Jordan Kirk were effective in making sure that our sales remained on track, and that our youth felt supported in their efforts.

In addition to selling dinner tickets, we also want to thank the folks who prepared them. Dale Jacobs, our Singing Chef, did another outstanding job. He had a great team in the kitchen, including Sue Everhart, Roberta Rownd, Marilyn Espe-Sherwindt, Dave Palumbo, and Dave Bower. Our kitchen staff also included those who organized and ran the Concession Stand. Our thanks to Janet Slease, Connie Riffle, Melissa Riffle, Matt Leasure, Shirley Cary, with so many others finding a way to help, contribute, assist, and applaud the efforts of this great event.

Great News form Zion's Music Ministry

Activities in Zion's music department are in full swing now, and things are going very well indeed. Our Senior Choir has been rehearsing for almost two months, and I have been very pleased with the attendance at rehearsal and at worship. The commitment to singing in the choir is big and I very much appreciate the willingness of Tina Beaber, Marilyn Espe-Sherwindt, Joyce Gibeaut, Vicki Givler, Mary Gsellman, Beth Heller, Helen Heller, Dale Jacobs, Darlene Milavickas, Donna Roan, Roberta Rownd, Pastor Sherwindt, Carole Singer, Ron Singer, Wayne Slease, Mabel Snyder, and Brian Walters, to participate in this very important ministry.

The door is always open for interested church members to join our choir. Rehearsals take place on Wednesdays from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. in the choir room. The Senior Choir sings just about every Sunday, alternating between the early and the late services, with a Sunday off just about every month when the Children's Choir sings.

Zion's Children's Choir presented a beautiful anthem entitled "All Things Bright and Beautiful," accompanied by piano and handbells, on Sunday, October 23rd. It was such a blessing to see so many children join us for rehearsals over the last several weeks and for our service on the 23rd. Please encourage your child to participate in this choir and lift young voices to praise the Lord. The children will sing again on Sunday, November 20th, at the Family Service. They will be singing "The Lord Is My Shepherd," accompanied by piano and flute.

The music at our services over the last month has been inspiring and exciting. We have been fortunate to have had several outstanding guest organists play for the early services throughout the months of September and October. Our 10:30 a.m. Family Services have been revitalized with fresh new sounds and songs. Zion is blessed to have a Praise Team of eight very committed individuals who lead the singing at the late service each week. This involves a substantial time commitment, and I am grateful to Marilyn Espe-Sherwindt, Beth Heller, Dale Jacobs, Darlene Milavickas, Matt Slease, Wayne Slease, and Brian Walters, who give of their time and talent so generously and willingly.

An important facet of the worship ministry at Zion is that of the Assisting Minister. In an effort to involve more people in the worship service, the decision has been made to distinguish between the role of the Assisting Minister and that of a Cantor. In November, a training workshop will be held for those interested in becoming Assisting Ministers, a role which will no longer include singing part of the liturgy, but will include reading the prayers and helping to distribute communion. The Cantor, who will need to be a member of the choir, will sing the part of the liturgy formerly sung by the Assisting Minister.

Zion is on its way to becoming a healthy church, and your involvement in our worship can help. Please take a few moments this month to examine your level of involvement in our worship services, and think about whether you could make an increased contribution to our services, for our church's sake and for the glory of God.

Suzanne Walters, Music Director

Great News From The ZION SUNDAY SCHOOL

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 6th----- Our final Communion Class during the 10:30 a.m. Service
Sunday, November 13th----- Communion Class Certificates during the 10:30 a.m. Service
Sunday, November 20th----- Sunday School Choir sings at the 10:30 a.m. Service
Sunday, December 18th----- Our Sunday School presents the Children's Christmas Program

PRE-K TO 6TH GRADE NEWS

The children continue to learn about many great Bible stories and characters. Last month's lessons included The Ten Commandments, stories about Joseph, David's Anointing, and stories about Solomon. The faith traits the children learned were WISDOM, STEWARDSHIP, OBEDIENCE, HUMILITY, BOLDNESS and FORGIVENESS. November's lessons will include stories about Elijah, Elisha and Queen Esther, and Psalm 23.

The children will begin practicing for the Christmas Program on November 6th. This year's program is called *Twas the Night Before: A Christmas Pageant*. Two readers will read a storybook that begins "Twas the night before Christ's Birth..." and tell a beautiful story of the events surrounding Christ's birth. The Christmas Program will be performed during both services on the Sunday of December 18th, which is the week before Christmas.

ZION'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The children's choir sang *All Things Bright and Beautiful* on October 23rd during the second service. The kids did an outstanding job singing and playing the handbells. Thank you to Suzanne Walters for all of her hard work! The children sound beautiful!

As a reminder, the Children's Choir meets each Sunday from 9:10 to 9:30 a.m. before Sunday School. They will sing at the 10:30 a.m. service on the following dates: Sunday, November 20; Sunday, January 29; Sunday, February 26; Sunday, May 14 (Mother's Day); Sunday, June 18 (Father's Day). The Children's Choir will also sing on Christmas Eve at our 6:00 p.m. Family Service. We look forward to hearing their beautiful voices and music throughout the year.

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION CLASS

This year's Communion Class has had a great turnout! The children have been eager to learn about celebrating the gifts of God's grace that are shared with the bread and the wine of Holy Communion. Chuck Danner has been working with our 1st thru 6th graders, while Debbie Fox has been working with the Pre-K & Kindergarten class. The kids' final class will be Sunday, November 6, during the 10:30 a.m. service, and the children will receive Certificates of Completion on Sunday, November 13, during the 10:30 a.m. service.



2005 YOUTH MISSIONS CRAFT SHOW

Thank you to all of the youth for their help and hard work for the craft show. This year's show was a great success! The Raffle Baskets created by the Sunday School classes were a huge success. The winner of the

Ohio State Basket, created by the Catechism Class, was won by Cheryl Roman. The Spa Basket, created by the High School Class, was won by Kelly & Suzanne Walters. The Family Fun Night Basket, created by the 4th - 6th grade class, was won by Steve Ross. The Creative Kids Basket, created by the 3rd grade class, was won by Susan Menches. The Chocolate Indulgence Basket, created by the 1st - 2nd grade class, was won by Tommy & Emily Lewis. The Ice Cream Basket, created by the Pre- K & Kindergarten class, was won by Beth Shaheen. Thank you to our teachers, the youth and their parents for their donations, and to Connie Frank and Tina Morris for putting the baskets together!

MORE YOUTH NEWS

As we move toward the holiday season, we are planning many activities for Zion's Youth. We are hoping to do several service projects, one for Thanksgiving and a couple for Christmas including the Giving Tree for needy families in our community. We also have a lot of fun activities planned as well. We will keep you informed as details become available.

We are still collecting Acme receipts to help raise funds for our Youth. Acme receipts dated September 4, 2005 through March 25, 2006 with the date printed on them qualify. Please bring your receipts in and place them in the Acme receipt cans located in Memorial Hall and in the Main Church Office. The youth are also collecting gallon milk, water or juice jugs that are made of clear plastic. The youth will be making luminaries out of these jugs for Christmas in order to line the church property for a beautiful holiday effect. Finally, the Youth will still be selling Cookie & Brownie Jar Mixes for \$5.00 each. These make great teacher or family gifts for the holidays. We have Chocolate Chip Cookie, Country Oatmeal Raisin Cookie and Chocolate Brownie Jar Mixes Available.

Congregational Meeting

The evening began with a delicious dinner prepared by Dale Jacobs, Darlene Mila-vickas and Anna Mae LeBeau. The desserts were provided by members of our Church Council. We had a great crew of helpers. Attendance was astounding, and rightly so with the food we serve! Our meeting was called to order by Laura Thompson. Marilyn Espe-Sherwindt led our singing of We All Are One in Mission, with an impromptu commentary offered by Laura Thompson. Cindy Ferry was introduced as our newest member of Church Council, appointed by Council to fill the seat of Resource Ministry Elder, held previously by John Davis. Cindy introduced the 2006 Proposed Budget, which was approved without amendment almost unanimously.

Pastor Sherwindt, pointing proudly to our newest Carol Rossbach creation, referred to a budget chart that showed our performance of Income related to Expenses. Through September we stood right where we stood last year, with Income short of Expenses by \$3,000. This slight shortfall through September gave way to strong giving in October. We hope to continue this strong giving in November and December to complete a banner year for Zion.

Brian Walters offered a brief update of our Restrooms Renovation project. Our work with the restrooms in Memorial Hall cost \$2,695.22 - and what a makeover can be seen in those restrooms! Thanks to all for a great job. We now move on to the Ladies' Room in the Main Hallway. The work will prove more complicated, involving more time and more money. We invite your willingness to share your time, your talents, and your treasures in moving forward with this phase of our Renovation Program.

Church Council News

The October Council meeting continued the pattern of enjoying great attendance: Laura Thompson, Carol Rossbach, Dave Palumbo, Jayne Schrader, Sharon Stout, Lorin Beaver, Renee Schrader, Pete Fenney, Ann Lemmo, Steve Ross, Cindy Ferry, and Pastor Sherwindt. The Treasurer's Report provided encouraging news about Zion's financial health through September. We have made it through the summer months in pretty good shape, with a year-to-date deficit just about equal with where we stood last year at this point. Plus, we have raised over \$10,000 for our Property Renovation Program.

Much of the evening's business focused on preparations for the Congregation Meeting, with the presentation of the 2006 Proposed Operating Budget our main item of concern. Final adjustments were made, a time-table for mailing the Proposed Budget to our members was reviewed, and our discussion of additional business followed: we were pleased to appoint Cindy Ferry as Resource Ministry Elder; adjustments in the rent of our parsonage were discussed and approved; interest in locking in a three-year rate on natural gas was discussed, but put off until we had a better understanding of the direction of rates and charges; progress on our Action Plan was reviewed, with special mention made of the involvement of our families in Sunday School and at worship.

Zion's Food Pantry

THE NEW FOOD PANTRY SCHEDULE:

FALL: Beginning in September, we will be open only the 1st and 3rd TUESDAYS of the month.

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.

November Anniversaries and Senior Birthdays

NOVEMBER SENIOR BIRTHDAYS

November 22 Elsie Earles

November 27 Ruth Elsass

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

November 18 Ellis & Anna Mae LeBeau

November 21 Richard & Karen Kolarik

November 25 Michael & Carol Wasara

November 26 Randall & Terri Cizek

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.

The Men of Zion

The Men of Zion invited men and women to join us on Saturday, October 15, for an out-door clean-up day. While we were small in number, much was done to clean the yard, the gutters, and the flower beds. We will meet again for a clean-up day on Saturday, November 12. Men and women are invited to take another shot at cleaning the leaves from our gutters as we get ready for winter.

The Men of Zion will meet for dinner at 6:00 p.m. in Luther Hall on the third Wednesday of November, which is November 16. Tina Beaber has volunteered to prepare her world-famous lasagna. All men are invited. Also, we continue to encourage all men from Zion to buy the Men of Zion short-sleeve shirts, which celebrate our mission to strengthen Zion's mission to grow in love and service by grace.

New Doors: Communion Class Update

There's a cliché that says when God closes a door a new door (or is it a window?) opens. This year the new door leads our Communion Class from the Sanctuary to the Resource Center with one word ringing in our ears: GRACE. Fifteen children gather around the baptismal font in front of the table God has set for us on the Sundays of October into November. In class, the number "2" is our special memory device: two means of grace (Word & Sacrament); two sacraments (Baptism & Holy Communion); two directions for love (God's love for us & our love of neighbor). Each Sunday we are learning, exploring, and enjoying more and more of God's grace. Your children's responses have been phenomenal. It has been a privilege to teach this communion class again. With thanks to you and praise to God - Chuck Danner

The Women of Zion

The 2005 shipment for Lutheran World Relief included 106 quilts, 58 blankets, 71 school kits, 34 health kits, with a total weight of 595 pounds. These items were boxed and weighed on October 13 with the help of many, and delivered to Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Seville on October 15 by Verle & Ruth Elsass, and Faye Shankle.

The Women of Zion will celebrate their annual THANKOFFERING SERVICE on the weekend of

November 12-13. This is an opportunity to lift up the ministry of women in the ELCA, the work done by women's organizations in congregations throughout the country. Love Offering envelopes will be made available in the bulletin on Thank-offering Weekend. Women and men are invited to show their thanks with an offering of support for the work of the Women of Zion and the Women of the ELCA.

The monthly Women's Bible Study meets on Tuesday, November 15, with its focus on Acting Boldly with the fruit of the Spirit. Peace is the fruit of the month. Many stories in the Bible highlight women acting boldly, even when resistance was called for. The story of Rahab is one such example; but there are many examples, even today, of brave women of peace acting beyond their comfort level as a witness of God's strength working in us and through us.

As long as we are talking about Bible study, we have very nice group that meets every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Resource Center. We focus on the Gospel from the previous Sunday's worship service. Some background and questions are provided through an online resource of the ELCA. Between these resources, worship the previous Sunday, our own curiosity and good humor, we have a great time. Join us.

Spotlight On A Teacher

November's Sunday School Teacher Spot-light is on Renee Schrader who currently teaches the 4th thru 6th grade class. Renee is a lifetime member of Zion. She has been teaching Sunday School for ten years in many different classes, from age 2 to 6th grade. She enjoys watching the kids' excitement as they learn new things. The kids look forward to being in her class. They are always asking when she will be their teacher. Renee's birthday is April 7th, and her family includes mom & dad - Jayne & Mike Schrader - brother, Adam, and grandmother, Edna Fischer. She also has 2 cats, Boston & Willow.

During the week, Renee is a 2nd grade teacher at Northwest Elementary. Her hobbies include reading, gardening, swimming and scrap-booking. She also has an elephant collection with over 150 elephants. Her favorite foods are all kinds of pastas; her favorite musicians are Matchbox Twenty and Rob Thomas; and her favorite movies are The Pirate Movie and Speed. We would like to thank Renee for her dedication and great work with the youth of Zion throughout the years!

The Zion ConnectionProgressive

A key aspect of creating a healthy Zion involves the art of volunteer coordination. We now have the makings of an effective team that is set on making our Volunteer Coordination Network state-of-the-art. We have three team leaders, Nick Lanzalotta, Shirley Cary, and Julie McCartt, a good mixture of longer-term and newer members. Each team leader has a team of phone callers, who will begin their work of calling you during the month of November.

Darlene Kail, Linda Lancashire, Chuck Danner, Mary Gsellman, Flo Jensen, Cora Lanzalotta, Ron Singer, Betty Tracy, Jane Fairman, Cindy Ferry, Evelyn Moore, Shirl Hertler, Sandra Hilson, Mabel Kolarik, Edna Smith, Tina Beaver, Pat Stayer, Kay Davis, Helen Ballentine, Jayne Schrader, Carol Rossbach, Karen Kirk: these are the callers who will help us make a connection with all of our members, becoming living proof of the fact that Zion appreciates your being a part of us. Our health as a church depends on your involvement in our life. We know that you'll enjoy the connection. Our hope is that you will welcome the call, and encourage our callers with good, old-fashioned hospitality.

FYI

FYI: Zion is looking for a Church Office Secretary. This position involves a little bit of this 'n that: communications, volunteer coordination, office management, clerical and receptionist responsibilities. The position requires computer skills, telephone and people skills, organizational skills, interest in desktop publishing, and a desire to help Zion grow in love and service by grace. The hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Let us know of your interest by leaving your resume at the Church Office.

Youth Spotlight

THANKSGIVING MEANS TURKEYS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

We're looking for a few good turkeys - not the human kind, but the poultry kind!

Please help us achieve our goal of providing 73 turkeys so that we can offer a full Thanksgiving dinner for all of our Food Pantry clients. You are welcome to donate turkeys, or, if you prefer, cash so that we can purchase the turkeys. We need for the turkeys and the cash donations to be in place by November 6th. That will give us the time we need to make sure that our pantry clients receive the gifts we have for them.

We are now accepting Cash Donations or the Actual Frozen Bird!

When it comes to Thanksgiving, we not only serve our pantry clients, but also all the Siffrin homes in Stark County! Siffrin homes are group homes for individuals with mental or physical limitations. Our goal for Thanksgiving is seventy-three 12-pound turkeys. The turkeys are just a part of what we supply through the ministry of our Food Pantry. Every family is also handed bags filled with stuffing, potatoes, vegetables, cranberries, applesauce, noodles, muffins, pies, and something to drink. We know that with your help, and God's, we will achieve our goal.

**The North Canton Ministerial Association presents our -
COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, at 7:00 P.M.
HOSTED BY COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
210 North Main Street in the heart of downtown North Canton:
Come, and enjoy our joint choir, clergy from all of our churches,
As we celebrate our sense of community and camaraderie in service,
With the offering designated to support the Stark County Hunger Task Force**