

# ZIONEWS

## JUNE 2014

A publication for the family of Zion Lutheran Church  
202 Erie St., Stratford, Ontario N5A 2M8  
Phone: 519-271-8527 Fax: 519-271-8536



www.zionstratford.com  
e-mail: zionlc@golden.net

### PASTOR'S MESSAGE

***"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8***

When I was a university student, I bought a cheap car that lived up to the adage the "you get what you pay for." It was a car that frequently broke down, or needed a jump start from one of my classmates, or began making noises that no one wants to hear from their automobile when they are on the road. My most memorable episode with this vehicle was when I was several miles from campus on a country road when the car suddenly died. In those pre-cellphone days, it meant walking quite a distance to the nearest pay phone and then walking back to wait for the tow truck. As I sat in my disabled car, I learned an important lesson about power: no matter how good or bad any vehicle may be, it is useless without a reliable source of power.

In his final words to his disciples before his ascension, our risen Lord Jesus Christ promises them that they will indeed receive the power that they will need to fulfill their apostolic mission of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth. They have everything else necessary to fulfill this ministry: they have the skills, gifts and talents that people need to do the Lord's work. But Luke tells us that for ten days, they are unable to begin their task because they lack the necessary power to be the apostles of Jesus Christ. That power comes to them on the day of Pentecost, when *"all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability."* (Acts 2:4).



On Sunday, June 8, we will celebrate the Day of Pentecost and remember how it was only through the power of the Holy Spirit that the apostles were able to fulfill their calling to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. On this day that many people refer to as "the birthday of the Church," we remember that as each of us have also been blessed with gifts and talents to fulfill what God has called us to accomplish for the sake of our Lord and

Saviour, our gifts are also useless unless we open ourselves to the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, the means through which we can accomplish far more than any of us could possibly imagine.

In his explanation of the Third Article of the Creed in the *Small Catechism*, Martin Luther teaches us to realize that by ourselves we can accomplish nothing, but through the Spirit all things are possible:

♦ "I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith."

As we celebrate our first Pentecost Sunday together this month, may we pray that our Lord will empower us so that together we may use our God-given gifts and talents in the power of the Holy Spirit so that we may with one voice *"proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."* (1 Peter 2:9).

Your fellow servant,

Pastor Jeff Laustsen

### SENIORS AT ZION

We have two events, in June, pertaining to our seniors at Zion. Please note:



**85+ Birthday:** Once again, in what is a beloved tradition, at Zion, we honour our members who turn 85 years or older in 2014 with a birthday party on Tuesday, June 3. A wonderful way to celebrate those members of our church family who have been blessed with a long life. There will be cake, special music and good fellowship. All the fun starts at 2 PM. For more information, call Mary-Lou Drown at 273-2268 or Jan Bennewitz at 271-6073.

**Zion Table For Seniors:** This beloved ministry which promotes fun, food, and friendship takes on a decidedly different "flavour" as our program year comes to a close. We gather on Tuesday, June 24 for a BBQ, here at Zion. **Please note: We will be doing this Seniors Table differently, entertainment will begin at 10:45 AM**, so come out and have some

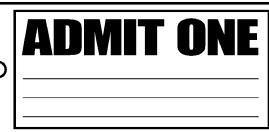
fun, first. Lunch to follow. (For those who just want lunch, please come at 12 noon).

**African Need of the Month: Nail Clippers.** Luncheon cost is \$12 per person. Please let Phyllis Jeffery (519-271-3668) or Doris Bartlett (519-271-9622) know by Tuesday, June 17 by noon at the latest, so we can reserve your spot.

**YOU ARE INVITED!!**  
**TO THE**  
**INSTALLATION OF**  
**PASTOR JEFF LAUSTSEN**  
**ON**  
**SUNDAY, JUNE 22 at 2 PM**

With guest Pastor, Pastor Richard Brown,  
Dean of the London Conference

Reception to follow in our  
Fellowship Hall



## **WOMEN OF FAITH NEWS**

Wednesday, June 25 is our monthly meeting. We will be heading up to Wayne & Joanne Young's cottage for supper from 5:30 - 6 PM. Then go to the Huron County Play House at 8 PM. Please contact Joanne Young (519-271-3225) if you are planning to come.



## **WELCOME SUMMER BBQ, JUNE 8**

Join us after worship on Sunday, June 8 for our traditional summer BBQ. Presented by your Congregational Life Committee. A free-will offering will be gratefully accepted. For further information, contact Linda Weitzel (519-655-2855).



items and will also arrange pick up, if needed. Thank you for your support of this great cause!



to hear from you.

## **FRIENDSHIP MEAL MINISTRY**

Please note: The Friendship Meal, at Zion, will resume in September. This gives our volunteers a well deserved rest. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding this ministry, please direct them to Sister Jean Widmeyer at [srjw@bell.net](mailto:srjw@bell.net) or 519-273-1810. She'd love



**Chloe Arianna Illman**, daughter of Nick & Leigha on May 11



**Carl Pauli**, April 30  
**Alice Malcho**, May 6

## JUNE 2014 VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers assist with our Sunday morning worship services. Listed below are those who serve in June as a reminder and as a thank you for serving.

Date	Communion Assistants	Greeters	Readers	Usher Captains	Counting Captains
June 1	Janet Ahrens & Barbara Higgins	David & Maria Doherty	Marilyn Sylvester	Jerry Terhaerdt	Bill Hoffard
June 8	N/A	Adam Drake	Joanne Wallace	Tom Cosstick	Wendy Holman
June 15	Rob Leifso & Ed Illman	Wayne & Barb Higgins	Curtis Weidner	Tom Cosstick	Wendy Holman
June 22	N/A	Peter & Dianne Hiller	Doug Peterman	Darrell Renecker	Kurt Gough
June 29	N/A	Wayne & Gloria Hinz	Ian Watson	Darrell Renecker	Kurt Gough